

TO INFORM AND AMUSE ~ TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM January 26, 2005

### Loop Says Hello **To 2005**

by Marie Browne

People, people, people. Settle down! There is a rumor making the rounds that we are hanging up our typewriters and ceasing publication. Nothing could be further from the truth. I don't know what started this typical-of-a-small-town rumor, but I suspect it might have been a headline in our year-end issue: "Loop Says Goodbye." I guess some readers didn't make it to the subtitle: "To 2004." What a commentary on attention span; clearly some of us were raised on too many thirty second Sesame Street soundbites.

Continued on page 13

### A Stay of Execution for Maury Island

by Marnie Jones

On Friday, January 21, King **County Superior Court Judge** Sharon Armstrong heard arguments from Preserve Our Islands attorney John Arum on why she should grant a stay which would put off King County's issuance of dock permits to Glacier NW until after the appeals are heard. And she heard from Glacier's attorney, Bill Cronin on why she shouldn't.

# Full House Seeks Water Answers

#### Story and photos by Peter Ray

Hyperbole is not something that one often associates with the Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust, but it does seem to get results. Proof of this was found at the Land Trust building on the morning of January 15th and again on Thursday the 20th when the first two lectures in the three part series focusing on Island water issues drew capacity crowds who wanted to hear what Islanders Kevin Freeman and

Chris Konrad had to say about Vashon's geologic history and its complex and not-so-wellunderstood system of water recharge and storage. Without accurate exit polling, it was uncertain if the bold-faced title at the top of the flyer advertising the series, "Is Vashon Running Out of Water?" was the draw, or if it was just another example of Island curiosity and concern.

### Continued on page 12 Islanders Help Tsunami **Relief** Effort

#### **Benefit Show**

Here's how to help the tsunami relief effort and have a great time doing so: Come to Bishop's this Friday, January 28 to hear four bands play a benefit show, from 7 pm to close. The lineup includes Tiny Bit O' Love, Chomage, Trolls Cottage, and N.O.M. As music aficionado Pete Welsh says, "Tell me this show won't kick ass." Every penny of the \$10 cover will be donated to Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières. This wellrespected relief organization has sent more than 160 aid workers and 400 tons of materials to help people affected by the tsunami in South Asia. MSF is focusing efforts in Indonesia and Sri Lanka, two of the hardest-hit areas.

#### **Vashon Relief Volunteer Going to** India

#### By Linda Ceriello

I am traveling to Southern India to contribute to the

### KC Gone Amuck

by Marie Browne

By now you should have received King County's slick mailer defending the CAO. I don't mean 'slick' literally; it is printed on politically correct recycled paper, with soy based ink, no doubt. It's a damn fine piece of propaganda; who could argue with bucolic cows grazing against a backdrop of Mt. Rainier, a tow-haired kid drinking clean tap water, and happy teenagers basking in the sun by a pristine stream? King

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Submitted by Lea Gaskill, VIF&R **Public Information Officer** 

Announced on January 21st was the 31st round of grant aids distributed to 141 departments across the United States from the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) Fire Act Grant program. In this most recent round was a \$412,000 grant to Vashon Island Fire & Rescue. Chief Wilson wrote a grant application requesting financial aid in the "Firefighting Vehicle" category to purchase a Quint fire apparatus to fill a critical void in the department's current fleet.

"With our island isolation, Vashon has no immediate mutual aid from our friends and

Ralph Palumbo was there representing neutral King County and yielded his time to Mr. Arum.

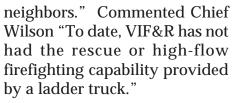
Each side discussed "damages." POI asked for a stay based on the damages to the Island and Glacier's neighbors, while Glacier declared that a delay meant they deserved a bond worth \$5 million. They also called King County's decision to deny permits as "politically motivated" and gave as "Exhibit 2" the example of several pages from POI's website, including their call for letters to King County. There was no bond mentioned in Glacier's brief.

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Scouts help, too. Story on page 23

tsunami disaster relief efforts, through an organization called Asha For Education. This organization supports community-based schools and centers for needy children all

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#### **Michael O Bradley** 'Geomet r a'

The geometra in Italy performs roughly the combined functions of an architect, site foreman, and engineer in charge of buildings and land use issues. He or she is also the person who liaisons with the building authorities, public bodies, and local councils and is expressly authorized to draw up the plans or renovate buildings up to a certain size limit, without calling on the services of an architect. The geometra produces working drawings, deals with building contractors, suppliers, and all the paperwork and building permits. The geometra should know the correct people at the building department that make the important decisions and all the tricks for getting around burdensome regulations. Did I hear 'CAO' anyone?

Let's make your project happen.



#### **Council Meeting Packed**, **Council Packs**

The Vashon Maury Island Community Council is changing its meeting place and will begin meeting at the courthouse in Court House Square in February. The board meeting will be February 7 and the community council meeting will be February 21.

The agenda was packed and so was the room for the January 17 meeting. The discussion about a public restroom resulted in the formation of a task force to continue pursuing financing, design and other issues. Those interested in joining the task force or giving information may attend the first meeting Wednesday, January 26, at 5:30 pm at Cafe Luna or call James Dam, 567-5279.

An emergency motion regarding exclusion of critical

Community Council respectfully requests that the Vashon-Maury Island nearshore, including the Extreme High Water line (to capture foraging fish spawning areas), be designated as critical habitat for Chinook." The motion was passed by a majority of those attending the meeting.

Armen Yousoufian presented a motion for the community council to endorse his petition to recall King County Councilman Dow Constantine, which will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting, February 21.

The impact on Vashon of the 2005 King County Comprehensive Plan update was explained by Paul Reitenbach, the county comprehensive plan project coordinator. Sharon Nelson, Constantine's senior staffer explained the King County Council Redistricting and some of the methods used to establish the new boundaries. The redistricting will go into effect on January 1, 2006.

### Get in The Loop

#### **Short Term Disaster Preparedness Volunteers Needed**

won't be used unless there is a disaster, are needed right now. In the event of a disaster, such as a major earthquake, a very important, but simple, job needs to be filled by a few volunteers who live within a five-mile radius of downtown Vashon. Living close to downtown is important because these few volunteers will be needed at the Emergency **Operations Center at the Fire** Department. Others on Maury or either end of Vashon may also wish to volunteer but the roads may be blocked by fallen trees or other damage and it could be difficult to reach downtown.

The immediate need is for close-to-center volunteers who are willing to help in the Community Liaison/Situation Section to identify and record points of concern on maps, situation boards and logs, as information comes in. This will enable those responsible to more effectively deploy and coordinate the response activities of available resources on Vashon. Although this sounds like a small

Short-term volunteers, who job and requires very little training, it will be critical in the early stages of a disaster and enable people to take over 8 hour shifts on a rotating basis, perhaps for several days.

> There is also a need for other short term volunteers who won't be called on unless a disaster occurs and who will thus only require an absolute minimum of familiarization training and expenditure of time. These include messengers, personnel willing to assist the VEPC (Red Cross) in setting up shelter and feeding areas, etc.

> If you want to help in Vashon's disaster preparedness effort call Catherine Cochrane (206) 463-4558 for the Community Liaison/Situation vacancy or Mary Swanson (206) 463-3545 for all other vacancies.

> (Ed: I resisted my urge to edit 'downtown' to say 'uptown.' No matter what you call it, I encourage you to sign up. Both Allison Arthur and I serve on the Public Information Committee of the Disaster Preparedness Team, and we haven't once thrown spitwads at each other.)

#### DSHS Change

This month only, the DSHS worker will be at VYFS on the second Wednesday of the month, February 9, from 10 am to 1:50 pm The DSHS staff member is here to handle food stamp applications for \$10 each or \$35 for the entire day and answer questions. This is a chance for Islanders to find out about DSHS services without having to leave the Island, and no appointment is necessary. Clients should plan to arrive no later than 1:30, as the DSHS worker leaves VYFS promptly at 1:50. For more information, please call the local Community Services office of DSHS at 341-7430. DSHS is located in White Center, at 9650 15th Ave SW. Access is easy: Take either Metro #54 or Sound Transit #560 southbound, and get off at the White Center Transit Center. The DSHS office is less than a block away. (VIVA staff at Vashon Youth & Family Services can provide bus tickets for clients who need to go to DSHS.)

#### Yoga Rave!

Island Yoga Center is holding a "Yoga Rave!" to benefit The Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust on Saturday, February 12, between 8:00 am - 2:30 pm.

People can attend yoga classes and 100% of all the money donated goes to the Land Trust. In addition, businesses and individuals have contributed generous gifts for a raffle. Each raffle ticket is \$5 and offers the opportunity to donate to the Land Trust and possibly win massages, gift certificates, books and other prizes.

Schedule: 8:00 - 9:00 am Pranayama (Breath)

Give a Kitty a Home!

Vashon Island Pet Protectors will host an Adopt-A-Cat Day Saturday, January 29th from 11 2p.m. and Sunday, January 30th from 12:30-3p.m. at Pandora's **Box**. Please stop by or call VIPP at 206-389-1085.

9:15 - 10:15 am Core Awareness & Warm-up 10:30 - 11:30 am **Yoga Flow** 11:45 - 12:45 pm **Restorative & Meditation** 1:00 - 2:00 pm Intro 2:15 - 2:30 pm

#### **Raffle Drawing**

Classes are for all levels; however the Yoga Flow is more challenging. To register, indicate class or classes you plan to attend, make checks payable to VMILT and drop payment in the red box next to the studio or mail to PO BOX 2062. For more information call 463-2058 or visit www.islandyogacenter.com. You can buy raffle tickets at the studio or at Books-by-the-Way.

habitat for Puget Sound Chinook salmon on the near shore marine area of the Island was presented by John Gerstle. The motion said "The Vashon-Maury Island

#### **Thank You!**

On behalf of the Kiwanis Club and Youth and Family Services, we would like to thank all those who participated in the 2004 Island Toy Drive!

To the Fire Department for the use of the Association Building. To the businesses and individuals for their generous donations. To the shops and stores for allowing us room for our "drop off" boxes. To the Girl Scouts and Campfire for "manning" those boxes. To all who bought gifts, toys, clothing, bikes, gift certificates and much more for the children. And to Santa's "elves" whose hard work helped make it a wonderful success. Thanks again and have a Happy New Year!

(Ed: And thank YOU, Kiwanis and VYFS for your community spirit. Sorry this notice missed our last issue; my mistake.)

The Vashon Loop, p. 3

January 26, 05

#### This Just In: Keller Williams **Opens Vashon Office**

currently the 5th largest real and 60 agents. Fred and Carolyn estate company in the world, is believe that their affliation with expected to become the 3rd a large national company and a largest by the end of this year. In large local office will give their support of this growth, they sellers more market exposure, searched for the most qualified while retaining their local real individuals and offices in the estate expertise of 10 years. Northwest to join their "family". Recognizing the importance of way Keller Williams places an the unique Vashon Island emphasis on ethics and a goal community, Keller Williams of creating "win-win" between committed to having an office on buyer and seller. Also, each Vashon Island.

enticed Fred and Carolyn Steen family. Fred and Carolyn have to join Keller Williams and have moved their office to the town their Simpliphi Real Estate office center, next to Robinson as a branch of the Seattle Metro Furniture. Their phone number West office in West Seattle, which remains 206.463.7677.

Keller Williams Realty, has an excellent support team

Fred and Carolyn like the agent is valued as a person and They are pleased to have treated like the member of a *aaa* 





with your hosts Chris & Jon

An hour of comedy talk radio. Wednesday Nights at 7pm on the Voice of Vashon

www.voiceofvashon.org

#### **Childbirth and Early Parenting** Classes

Planning natural childbirth? Fun, intimate class explores pregancy issues, nutrition, physiology & hormones, navigating choices, hypnotherapy, ecstatic birth, procedures & complications, preventing depression, baby care & supplies, breastfeeding and enjoying your "babymoon." With Shaheeda Pierce & guest presenters Debra Wagner & Debra O'Conner. Runs 7 weeks Mon 7:30 - 9:30 pm. One scholarship available to low-income. Begins Monday, February 7 at Human Touch Studio. \$100, or free to clients. Call Timia 817-5039 to register.

The Offices of U.S. Senator Patty Murray And U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell Invite you to a Federal Funding Symposium

Session #1 Tuesday, February 1, 2005 - 10:00 am - Noon **IKEA Performing Arts Center** 400 South 2nd Street, Renton WA 98055

Session #2 Wednesday, February 2, 2005 - 10:00 am - Noon University of Washington, Bothell Campus 18115 Campus Way NE Rm UW2-005 Bothell, WA 98011

Session #3 Thursday, February 10, 2005 - 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Port of Seattle-Pier 69 2711 Alaskan Way Seattle, WA 98121 Workshop located in the Commission Chambers

This invitation is extended to any government or non-profit agency that would like to be educated in the intricacies of accessing federal funding.

Topics to be covered include:

- How to identify and apply for federal grants
- How to request federal funding
- · The realities of the availability of federal funds

#### Please RSVP to:

Ce'cilia\_Valley@cantwell.senate.gov (206) 220-6400 (206) 553-5545 Or Tony\_Cube@murray.senate.gov

Please include this information in the RSVP: Names of all attendees, organization you represent, phone number, email address and workshop attending,



### Loop **Letters From the** Edge

Editor,

presidential and general elections last Fall, the King County Council did an end-run around the property rights of citizens in rural King County. Now you may say, "So-what?" But what Ron Sims, Dow Constantine and the other urban members of the King County Council did will have farreaching implications on urbandwellers like us in West Seattle. Private property is the bedrock of our constitutional foundation of personal rights to free speech, the right to assemble, the freedom to practice religion (or not), the right to play your bagpipes on the front *reconcile our development regulations* porch of your house, paint your shutters purple, or put "Impeach Bush" signs on your front yard. In the name of the "common good" they have put more power into the hands of a few anointed elite. Regardless of the potential benefit, we should act on a moral imperative to challenge new laws that whittle away at our personal rights. Now a number of citizens

During the political heat of the of rural King County have collected a vast number of signatures to put the Critical Areas Ordinance on the next ballot for a general vote. But Sims, Constantine et al want to prevent that from happening. This is what you're not hearing about CAO. In the following, I quote arguments in favor of CAO taken from "Protecting critical protects water areas for Islanders," by Dow Constantine, Nov 12, 2004. His statements are in quotes [and italics]. And my rebuttals follow each time.

> 1. "[The CAO is intended] to with that state mandate [of the 1995 Growth Management Act] and modern scientific understanding of the land around us."

> I personally heard several King County Council (KCC) members, among them Steve Hammond, challenge Dow to show where the County was out of compliance with the Growth Management Act, with no

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	Yes! I love being in The Loop! my check for a year's subs	

response from Dow or the other backers of CAO.

"Best Science" is debatable at best, even by the groups who are backing CAO. It seems a terrible injustice to use it to trample over the property rights of our citizens.

on clear-cutting in most of rural King *County. A 5-, 10-, or 20-acre forested* parcel could be completely, permanently cleared, and its rainabsorbing soils compacted with heavy machinerv."

In personal testimony given by residents of rural King County which I heard, all spoke passionately of a common theme: protecting the native environment and NOT rampantly clearing their properties.

There are few if any examples of the kind of wholesale clearcutting, except of course for developments authorized and sanctioned by local suburban governments under existing zoning laws.

3. "[The] science that was submitted with the Critical Areas package [made it] clear that a minimum clearing requirement was needed to protect not only forests, but aquifers, streams and downstream neighbors."

Again, the scientific studies which were used as the basis for the CAO ordinances have been shown to be full of flaws. To quote Dr. Robert N. Crittenden, the "studies which provide the basis for the clearing, grading, and storm water ordinance, and which also pervade the rest of King County's CAO update, contain enough errors, gaps, and omissions that they do not meet the standards of Best Available Science nor are they scientifically valid." Property rights are the bedrock of our constitutional rights. Any basis for infringing on those rights should be a "slamdunk" in showing collective the great disparity in population benefit to all.

*4a. "But many owners, once they* walk through the legislation and see what it actually does, find their questions answered:"

"Rural landowners will not have

Any resident of urban King County, who has remodeled their home, or even done the most mundane changes to their property, knows how quickly the red tape and costs stack up.

So yes, in theory what Mr. 2. "Until now there were no limits Constantine says is true, but in reality the cost-prohibitive process shackles these land owners from legally and rightfully using their properties.

> *4b. "The adopted wetland buffers* are reasonable and based on science."

The issue of what constitutes "best science" was always debatable throughout the multiple hearings in 2004.

5. "Opponents have charged that King County had some of the strictest wetland standards in the state, and that no further changes were needed. In fact, the standards were some of the weakest among 24 Washington counties surveyed."

Does Mr. Constantine compare apples and oranges? Are wetland standards for urban and suburban areas [in the other counties] comparable to those in rural King County? This is a shell game, and we are being made the fools.

6. "The amended ordinances set buffers that recognize the lowerintensity land uses in the rural area, strengthen protection in urban areas, and are supported by science."

First of all, the CAO ordinance (which is really one of three parts of the total package we call "CAO") is 262 pages – not exactly what we would expect for "lowerintensity land uses." I wonder also how Mr. Constantine justifies up to 300 foot setbacks on land which is subject to low-impact use.

7. "Urban dwellers, like those in West Seattle and White Center, already have far more restrictions on our property."

As they should, considering densities.

8. "We have a moral and legal mandate to protect wetlands, streams, and drinking water for future generations."

Now we get to the crux of the to "abandon" 50 to 65 percent of their matter. The "best science" to Mr. Constantine who voted for CAO, and the "You can continue existing interested parties such as Thousand Friends, had a goal in mind and then used biased information to support their objectives. 9. "Opponents have painted the The new bureaucracy of state critical areas mandate as 'optional.' In fact, they are mandated by the state Growth Management Act."

I will pick up my own paper at one of the fine establishments that distribute it

### OR

For \$50 or more, please mail my paper to:

Send this form to: The Vashon Loop PO Box 253 Vashon, WA 98070 Thank you for your support of independent media on Vashon Island, West Seattle, and points beyond. Marie and Troy

property. The legislation we adopted which preserves your ability to keep horses, continually refers, is missiongrow crops, clear blackberries, harvest oriented, instead of being neutral. timber, and do all the other things He, the other council members typically thought of as rural."

activities in wetland buffers. Even near sensitive features such as wetlands, you can continue farming, maintain existing lawns and gardens, remodel your home, and rebuild after a fire."

permitting and the respective costs to do these things puts them out of reach of the rural KCC residents. A permit is required even to clear blackberries - a non- County was out of compliance. native invasive species!

It was never proven that King

Tom Shafer, West Seattle

#### January 26, 05

#### **KC Gone Amuck**

#### Continued from page 1

County is claiming that the CAO will preserve all the things we love about the Northwest. My problem is that it erodes one of things I love about this country: freedom.

OK, that is a little melodramatic. Maybe I am just overly sensitive to our shrinking liberties in the name of Patriotism and Home Land Security, and maybe the CAO is just the wrong government intrusion in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Scientists can wave their conflicting studies and disparage one another's credentials all day long in the name of identifying Best Available Science. Whatever. The thing that bothers me is the growing layer of inefficient bureaucracy, conflicting information, and unreasonable rules that turn reasonable citizens into innocent lawbreakers. Oxymoron?

Jennifer Sutherland, the energetic, creative young couple who bought the Jesus Barn house a year or so ago. The house is a landmark, an original homestead on the Island. The barn is long gone, but is still used to give directions. "Go half a mile past the [non-existent] Jesus Barn ... " These crazy kids have been working their tails off to restore the house and land, and King County has not exactly been helpful. They hassled Craig when he was clearing the field of blackberries and turning the soil to re-plant it in grass. They fined him when he unknowingly cleared blackberries and Japanese knotweed (both invasive, intrusive non-native plants) too close to Judd Creek. They're telling him that if he wants to re-build the barn it will have to be sprinkled—with a system installed by a licensed King County contractor. Or, as an alternative, he can put in a twenty foot wide road. Just so long as the road and barn do not create more than 10,000 feet of impervious surface. Or if they do, then he can pay an engineer to prepare a "large site drainage review" and get more permits from the County-a total cost of about \$16,000.

Mike Bradley is a local contractor, consultant, and long time Islander who specializes in helping people wade through the mounds of paperwork and avoid the landmines when applying for permits. Mike is trying to get clarification from DDES about some things in the new ordinances that seem to be in conflict with existing regulations. For example, he has a client who has a 5 acre totally wooded parcel. Their well is sited, their drainfield approved, their proposed three bedroom home ready to go. According to King County's Surface Water Design manual, they can only clear 2 acres or 35% of the site, whichever is greater. For those who are math challenged, the correct answer is "2 acres." But wait-the new CAO was modified to allow clearing of up to 50% of the property, or 2.5 acres. So which set of rules apply? For an answer, Mike has called King

County's new information desk, staffed by two folks whose job (according to the CAO brochure) is to "provide free informal help to landowners to meet the new standards." Unfortunately, these two people seem to be having a hard time getting around to answering the thousands of questions this new layer of rules has created. As of this writing, he had not yet received a call back, after leaving three messages in a week.

Mike says that the biggest impact of the CAO is on the waterfront, where buffer zones used to range from 20 to 50 feet. Now they are all 180 feet. He points out that the vast majority of waterfront homes on Vashon could simply not be built today under the new regulations; they have to be 180 feet from the water, and you can't put a septic system in a critical area.

breakers. Oxymoron?If you already have a<br/>waterfront home, you'd better pray<br/>waterfront home, you'd better pray<br/>that your bulkhead holds up. To<br/>replace it will require about two<br/>years of your life, \$30,000, and<br/>approval from the Department of<br/>Fish and Wildlife, Corps of<br/>Engineers, and of course, the<br/>Department of Dysfunction,<br/>Extortion, and Sadism. (I know; I<br/>am not likely to be granted a permit<br/>to put in a sandbox the way I am<br/>carrying on.)

The not-slick CAO brochure touts the County's Rural Stewardship Plans, Farm Plans, and Forest Management Plans as the way to "make it possible to tailor environmental protections to a landowner's goals and the conditions on a specific property." Craig and Jennifer Sutherland signed up for the Farm Plan, and have been pleased with the help they have received —though Craig points out that, ironically, the Farm Plan allows him to put a fence *closer* to the creek than before. And me, I wonder how much it would cost if every landowner in King County decided to take advantage of the



County's generous services. I won't be calling on them; I don't have a forest, I can't grow anything except blackberries and Japanese knotweed, and I am afraid of horses. Maybe I am unfit to own property on Vashon.

But I'm not moving, because I believe there is room for people in

this community besides farmers and foresters. And I believe those of us who are neither are still part of the community, and that most of us have enough common sense to protect our land. And I *don't* believe that our government is entitled to tell us what that means to the extent that they have done with the CAO. *mom* 



Photo by Jim Jenkins



January 26, 05

### Spiritual Smart geady-made frames~ Prints~ Cards~ Mirrors~ Good ideas~ Custom g



by Mary Litchfield Tuel

#### Walking Humbly

The Vashon Loop, p. 6

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?' — Micah 6:8

Back when I was enrolled at the Diocesan School of Theology, my Bible teacher told us that this verse sums up the entire Old Testament.

That's a pretty sweeping statement, don't you think?

Still, this verse says a great deal more than your average complex declarative sentence.

Today I am concentrating on the "walking humbly" part. I've been feeling a tad despondent lately, and I find that a walk can have amazing curative powers. So I went down to the KVI beach.

It was raining when I arrived. I followed a mother and her preschooler son, who was carrying a fearsome plastic battle axe, down the path to the bridge over the tidal creek.

That is where the memories began to unwind in my mind.

About thirty years ago I came down to this beach one day with a black Lab. I had a red Frisbee to throw for him. He loved to fetch the Frisbee, but on this particular day when I threw it, it skittered across the sand and fell into the creek.

20

The tide was rushing in at the time, and the Frisbee floated under the bridge and sailed off into the marsh, with the dog in hot pursuit. He never caught up, and the Frisbee never came back. To this day when I cross that bridge I look into the marsh and wonder whatever happened to that red Frisbee.

When the boys were little we went to the KVI beach often. We tried to fly a kite one spring, but the winds were whimsical, changing direction, gusting up and dying down. The kite crashed and did not fly.

One summer a large tree came to rest slantwise near the bridge, and when the tide was in kids would jump off the log into the water. I have a snapshot of my older son making that leap. He's in midair, face scrunched in a grin, eyes closed in anticipation of hitting the water.

I took my mother to the beach for a walk once. She said later that it was the first time I'd taken her anywhere. It's true. I'm a real poop as a hostess, and as a guest. I don't want to entertain and I don't want to be entertained. I have enough to do as it is.

As I walked down to the shore today, I looked up at the KVI radio tower and pondered the irony of Puget Sound's conservative talk radio station broadcasting from

13

Down

1. Very reluctant

4. Put mournfully

Part of a house

7. Lawyer (abbr.)

8. Didn't smell good

5. Greenwich Mean Time

2. Ms. Winfrey

3. Steam bath

12



what is possibly the most liberal community in Puget Sound. If that radio tower knew, I thought, it might say, "eek," and pick up its skirts and wade offshore.

Once on the outer beach I looked out at the water, and the mainland, and the sky, which were all varying shades of gray, and thought about the recent tsunamis in the Indian Ocean.

Today small waves tamely lapped at the KVI shore. I thought about how peaceful and beautiful it must have been that day on the shores of the Indian Ocean, before the earthquakes, before the waves. How heedlessly people walked and played.

I thought about walking humbly with God, and how

26. Mother's brother

30. Computer part

33. Parts of plays

28. Southwestern Indian

23. Rush

31. Nation

34. Other \_\_\_\_

36. Toboggan

37. Beads

35. Fizz

seldom I seem to be mindful of doing SO.

I walked back to my car feeling my windbreaker becoming soaked in the steady rain, and knowing that the things that kept me awake last night, worrying, were not that important in the big scheme of things.

Oh, I'll worry again. It's my nature. But it's good to take a break and walk humbly with God, and remember that my troubles really aren't the center of creation. What a relief. *@@@* 

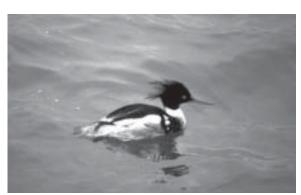


52. Cheep 53. Strong rope fiber 55. African nation 56. Marry secretly 57. Heavenly light 58. Big sandwich 60. Naught 61. Lilt 63. Linden 65. Henna

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### Don't Forget the Birds

Common and Red-breasted Mergansers provide some of the more entertaining saltwater ducks in winter around Vashon. Both often cooperatively hunt for fish. They move together across the water in one or more lines abreast other each and dive simultaneously when a fish is found, chasing it to each other. As they swim along, their heads often dip down perpendicular to the water so that they scan the water below and ahead of their line. As a fish is spotted, the mergansers frequently shoot forward suddenly with bursts of speed.



Jim Rosso photo of Red-breasted Merganser

Red-breasted Mergansers make up the majority of mergansers seen in winter. They are one of the first of the waterfowl species to leave in the spring and

are the first to return after the scoters in fall. Usually they spread fairly evenly in small groups all around both Islands. However, large numbers may sometimes be seen at the mouth of Quartermaster Harbor just before dark as they fly in for shelter during the night. There are almost always four or five at both ferry docks, Tramp

Harbor and the straightaway Harbor.

to be much more common this

By Ed Swan

However, the breast and sides of the male Common Merganser appear very white while the Redbreasted shows brownish-reddish breast plumage and medium grey along its sides. The females look very similar to each other with brown heads and gray bodies. However, the Common is somewhat larger and longer. Its head presents itself as a richer, redder brown and some contrasting white occurs at the top of the breast and chin.

In recent Island bird news, the fluctuating cold and warm weather haven't produced any unusual birds so far in 2005. But

> Shirley Ferris still saw the odd sight of Buffleheads swimming in her driveway during all the heavy rain. A few more Brant geese began to show up with twenty seen recently off Portage in Tramp Harbor by Joy Nelsen. Rich Siegrist heard a Northern Sawwhet Owl, which seem to be less heard and seen

these last two winters. If you have an interesting bird sighting to report or a question about local birds, call me at 463-7976 or email at edswan@centurytel.net.

*@@@* 



Jim Rosso photo of Common Merganser

Upcoming February bird south of Burton in Quartermaster events are few but the monthly on-**Island Audubon Society field trip** Common Mergansers appear will take place on February 12. It meets at 8:00 am at the Ober Park year than in the previous four fall park and ride and returns there about 10:00 am. On March 12 occurs a great opportunity to help Island youth learn more about science. The science fair takes place that day and the Island Audubon chapter is looking for volunteers to help at its presentation table that day. Contact Sue Trevathan at 463-1484.



At last...small wrestlers are done. Congratulations to all. What will Chris do now? Cheryl says, don't forget to register for baseball. Stop in and see how she did in Vegas!





#### Human Choice, Humane Choice; February is "Fix-a Cat Month"

Submitted by VIPP

Whether an exact count or not, the statistics are daunting.

Although there's no equivalent to a US Census Bureau statistics count for homeless cats and dogs in the United States, most national animal protection agencies agree that the numbers are in the tens of millions with un-neutered and unspayed cats accounting for the majority of these animals.

Additional reports estimate that over half of all stray and feral cats are pregnant at any given time with the result being anything but kind; many kittens born to a feral mother die at birth while those living to adulthood often roam wild, falling pretty to predators, poisons and highway deaths.

On Vashon Island, dogs and cats - both feral and those lucky enough to have loving homes have options available that many big-city and rural community animals don't. Even as Pierce County recently announced the closure of their Humane Society shelter and that budget cuts would prohibit them from responding to feral animal calls made to county animal control, Vashon Island Pet Protectors (VIPP) and Fair Isle Animal Clinic are assuming an

by partnering with VIPP to offer deeply discounted spay/neuter services to all pet owners wanting to better ensure a healthy, happy life for their feline companions.

There are limited appointments available and are assigned to pet owners on a first-come, first-served basis. With a significant portion of the normal spay and neuter surgery costs being subsidized by the two organizations, owners receive a discounted price of \$42 for spay and \$28 for neuter procedures. Appointments should be made directly with Fair Isle Animal Clinic at 463-3607.

Since its founding in 1984, VIPP has placed more than 3,200 stray, abandoned or relinquished animals with adoptive families and reunited more than 800 lost pets with their owners. During February's "Fix-a-Cat Month," Vashon residents can take an active role in keeping their own family pets safe and can also participate by making a taxdeductible donation to VIPP towards the cost of a spay or neuter procedure on behalf of a feral feline.

Vashon Island Pet Protectors is a twenty-one year old 501c3 non-profit organization that is privately funded and volunteer staffed. All monies received by VIPP are used to continue the services that VIPP provides to Vashon Island animal residents including neuter/spay services, shelter services for lost or unwanted animals, lost/found postings and animal foster care and adoption services. More information about VIPP can be found online at www.vipp.org. *@@@* 



and winter seasons I have lived here. Unlike the Red-breasted Merganser, they often appear on fresh water in Western Washington but on Vashon, none of the ponds is big enough to appeal to them. The least common of the mergansers on the Islands, the Common Merganser is primarily seen in migration. This fall and winter many have been cruising up and down Colvos Passage and others hunted along Tramp and Quartermaster Harbors.

The males of the two species contrast sharply with the females and each other. Both possess dark green heads and red bills.



active role in Vashon's well-being by subsidizing spay and neuter services during February's "Fix-a-Cat Month."

Last year alone, VIPP spayed or neutered more than 200 domestic animals and during "Fix-a-Cat Month," Fair Isle Animal Clinic is showing community commitment



I'll do my best for you!

# Island Life

Text & photos by *Peter Ray* 

#### Home Cookin'

"The medium is the message." Marshall McLuhan, **Understanding Media** "Don't hate the media, become the media." Jello Biafra *Effigy- a crude representation* of a person who is hated or held in contempt- Webster

I have never felt compelled to create a likeness of someone in order to destroy it—until now. It just always used to seem like such a waste of time and effort. Current rhymes with the shorter word for events have, however, served to change matters. Protestations of any magnitude against the people and actions responsible for the growing rift in common sense and decency in higher political places seemed somewhat pointless as a response, since there is this quote floating around out there attributed to our newly recoronated chief executive, that had him saying "...who the hell cares what you think ... " to a fellow American back in 2001. It seemed that this particular sentiment has not been altered in the last four years, so any outward and public manifestation of my displeasure with things would pretty much be a waste of time as well. That is when I decided that it would be best if we burned something here.

and, of course, some sponges. I learned in Cub Scouts about flag etiquette, and knew that hanging one upside down was a form of distress signal, which seemed highly appropriate in this case, and the car flag decals we found were just the means to this end. As for the sponges, I originally conceived of this creation with the name Sponge George Burning Pants in mind, focusing on that pants-on-fire reference which one who indulges in prevarication. Things actually went together fairly quickly, and nearly the way it all had been imagined. Once the last staple and bit of wire were in place, Sponge George was allowed to stand in the corner. In response, one of our dogs began barking at him incessantly. Good dog, bad man. I then sat down to compose an email that went like this:

hello.....the truth is....the bulk of the day set aside for the coronation of king/president pants-on-fire was spent here dealing with monsters.....the morning and midday were occupied by writings about an important new film, the future of food, that documents many of the



#### January 26, 05

january at 1pm....you are invited missed it as well, its message is to join in the ceremony and this: U.S. DEAD in Iraq 1,369. It is encouraged to bring along any a sheet of white paper printed in message you'd like to send to him plain type. U.S. is in blue, dead is *which can be stuffed in his pockets* in red and the rest is in basic black. or elsewhere and transformed into It is in a clear plastic cover so that smoke without mirrors through it stays dry and can be changed as the miracle of petroleum the death count on "Mission accelerants and the power of Accomplished" continues to rise. flame.....at this writing it is still It hangs in the now bare limbs of uncertain whether this latter a maple, so it is fairly easy to see. element will be in the form of a And there is something else—it single match or my favorite hangs right next to a house and

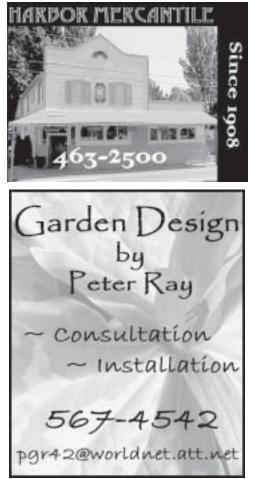


incendiary dragon.....this *immolation will take place here,* rain or shine.....hope to see *you.....>p<* 

As it turned out, the ceremony had a small but enthusiastic audience. It was decided at the last minute that the burn would be initiated by a single lighter and not a large, pressure-driven flaming apparatus. I liked the symbolism of small efforts having wide reaching results. The flames raced up and consumed the sponge, which fairly quickly served to render our faux leader headless, which once again seemed to strike a significant metaphorical chord. The fire raged on and outward to consume his arms and legs, but as the flames turned to smoke and a charred wooden framework, the flag that had been held aloft in his left hand

propane accessory, capt. weed houses that years ago served as homes for those who were assigned to operate and oversee the Nike missile defense system that, at least in part, once called Vashon home. I am not so sure that the sign in the tree is a symbol of change, or a reminder that in actuality, the more it changes, the more it stays the same.

> Two dollars will get you both postcards in this week's mailing, one buck for either one, or if you'd like, send any amount you'd like to receive these cards and more in the future. Make sure you include your mailing address. Send all requests to 10322 SW 165th St., Vashon Island, WA 98070



There was this moth-eaten suit that would have otherwise added to the space and weight of an off-Island transfer load of solid waste. And I had been collecting presidential images from my ISP's homepage news supplement, so the suit would have a readily identifiable head to wear. We had the shirt and tie and plenty of stuffing and sticks. All that was left was to go get some American flags

'what we don't knows' in the land of genetically engineered foods and shows that, indeed, they can (and have) hurt us...... the rest of the day was consumed by the stitching together of my own monster (see attached) which we had hoped to burn in his honor on his day, but we ran out of daylight pictorial *for* documentation.....SO.....we have decided to put flame to his royal pantsness this sunday, 23

remained mostly unscathed. This turned out much better than I had hoped.

While this had been a fairly elaborate but private protestation, I had noted the day before, while on one of my Island bicycle outings, that a simple and public statement about an action championed by our leader was lurking out on the main highway. In many ways, it is an affirmation that less is more. I had seen it on another occasion while passing by in my truck, but in mentioning the sign and its message to people at the burn it seemed that its subtlety is perhaps a roadblock to its effectiveness. No one I talked to had seen it. In case you have



#### Today is Soylent Green Day

Because of its cult status, I had always thought that the film *Soylent Green* was one of those low budget classics from way back when, with Jack Webb dialogue and monsters controlled from just off screen by rope, dollies and two by fours. For some reason. I missed it when it originally splashed across the silver screens in 1973, so when it appeared on the 'asked for' rack at our local video emporium, I decided to fill in one of my cinematic blank spots. To my surprise, inside this scifi-eco thriller we get to see not one but two Chuck gun guys, Heston and Connors, as well as the last—if necessarily the best not performance by Edward G. Robinson, in this rather bleak look into our not too distant, overpopulated and hyper-polluted future world. President Heston, once again, gets to play the almostmessiah in his struggle to reveal the truth about what is in those variedcolored food cubes that the corporate state offers as sustenance to the groveling, huddled masses. It is worth a look, not only to find out what the video games of the "future" will look like, but also to find out the real main ingredient of Soylent Green. (Hint: it has nothing to do with tofu.)

As we press our personal forward and the rewind buttons and find ourselves back at the now actually last Friday—we look around

and see that we are surrounded by hundreds of concerned citizens seated in Kane Hall at the Seattle premiere of *The Future of Food*, a film by Deborah Koons Garcia. Yes, she is the widow of the late Grateful Dead guitarist Jerry Garcia, but no, it is not about music and, unfortunately, it is not fiction. While *The Future of Food* does share the aspect of *the look* ahead with Soylent Green, the

documentary about what the genetic engineers are doing with our basic foodstuffs is that, in this case, the future is now. As with many of the documentaries emerging these days, what we find in the interviews and overviews that *The Future of Food* puts on our table is that we just aren't being told anything close to the truth about genetically modified organisms (GMO's), and contrary to that old platitude, what we don't know CAN hurt us. There is a lot packed into this Label hour and a half journey. In the history of modern farming at the beginning, we learn that the transformation of swords into ploughshares is not necessarily always a good thing. We are shown that in spite of genetic engineering's high tech, squeaky clean appearance, the reality behind the

current release of GMO's into the environment more closely resembles the string and stick nonsense of the 1950's horror flicks, with much more frightening results. We also get to look in on the plight of the small farmer in their struggle with the King Kong and Godzilla of this whole mess, Monsanto, whose omnivorous appetite for corporate acquisition has monopolized the chemical and seed distribution end of agri-business. It has recently surfaced that one of the "freedoms" being offered the democratically liberated farmers of Iraq is that they will not have to (as in, will not be allowed to) save seed for their next year's crop and can cheerfully pay the Monsanto piper to stay in the food producing business. This particular aspect was not directly covered in The Future of Food, although we are shown that the rest of the world has a more unadulterated and skeptical view toward GMO's than the one we have been spoon fed. One of the reasons for this information rain shadow might just lie in the comprehensive listing we are shown here of all the Bush friends, cabinet members and department heads who were at one time or another blessed with pecuniary alms and remuneration from the Monsanto godhead.

To the best of my knowledge, *The Future of Food* does not have a distributor and is being shown primarily at film festivals, private gatherings and special events.



Photo Courtesy of Lily Films

most disturbing part of this Indeed, the Seattle based national documentary about what the organization, the Campaign to genetic engineers are doing with Label Genetically Engineered Foods,



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Deadline to get in *The Loop* is Friday, Feb 4. Email editor@vashonloop.com or, if you MUST, snail mail PO Box 253, Vashon, WA 98070

Vashon Loop Staff

Writers: Kathy Abascal, Deborah Anderson, Teri Byrd, Marie Browne, Eric Francis, Jeff Hoyt, Troy Kindred, Melissa McCann, Rex Morris, Jessie Preste, Peter Ray, Jonathan Shipley, Ed Swan, Mary Litchfield Tuel Guest writers: MEarth, Orca Annie, Susan Wolf

Photographers: Troy Kindred, Peter Ray, Pete Welch

Original art, comics, cartoons: Richard Carson, Tristan Davis, Ed Frohning, Rick Tuel, Jeremy Gregory

Ad sales and design: Troy Kindred (layout too!) and Marie

whose message and intent was mirrored and emphasized in this film, had teamed up with PCC Natural Markets to make this screening possible. I (and perhaps others) have dropped **The Future of Food** in the suggestion box up at the Vashon Theatre for a possible special engagement. Information on **The Future of Food** can be found at **http://thefutureoffood.com**. Information about the Campaign to

Label can be found at *www.thecampaign.org* where you can also discover more about the urgency behind encouraging our state representatives to work toward the passage of a bill to make the labeling of genetically engineered foods mandatory. After all, one would like to think that it is our future, too. *www* 

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Thanks for reading!

### Dating on an Island

by Jessie Preste



You know how some folks play that party game, "Six Degrees of Separation"? It's where you try to, say, connect Denzel Washington to John Wayne by relating each to other stars they have worked with in other films until you get a connection, within six people of course. Well, living on an island is much the same. If somebody wants to know something about somebody else for business or personal reasons, and for whatever reason, they can't speak to that person directly, then they can call up a friend or two, and usually within two connections they can usually find out something; could be the truth, a partial truth, or a downright untruth, but definitely something. Hmmm...good thing or bad thing? You decide. Anyhow, I was thinking about this because using a pseudonym, it is a wee bit more difficult to get info on me. I have been told through the Island grapevine that I'm a guy, that I'm cute, and that I'm new to the Island. I'm pretty sure that only one of these is reasonably true! Naturally, I out myself whenever I meet people in person, so I'm not that secretive; however, I like the anonymity it gives me when I write. But with dating, or just being single trying to get out and try new things and meet new people, being anonymous doesn't really work that well! Therefore, I have to get out there if I want to meet more and more people, and there are so many get togethers and events going on at the moment so I can! If you feel like you are ready to get out and about, see below for some of the things which are coming up soon.

I am going to her Chef's Night Cooking Extravaganza tonight (Friday) and the wine-tasting on Sunday, and I am tremendously looking forward to both!

Also, we would like to see how many people are interested in a couple of rounds of speeddating in February. We would probably need about 30 people to make it worth your while. If you are interested, email me at jessiepreste@hotmail.com or Jane, and let us know the ages and gender of whom you are looking for, and your age, (or a rough approximation thereof).

We have really been blessed with single folks who are ready and willing to get out and comingle and create a wave of energy that makes Vashon a good place for singles to live, and for that I just want to say "thank-you!" And as one of my heroes, Buckaroo Bonzai, says, "Hey, no matter where you go, there you are."

#### Upcoming Singles Events

Friday, January 28, 7pm at Bishops: informal get together of The Group (just show up!) Jane's Fun and Adventure Club (email islandjane@comcast.net): January:-Ravenna Hike, Saturday, Jan. 29 February:Comedy Night in Tacoma – Feb.8 Jazz at Tulas Jazz club in Seattle Magic Show (moved from January) – Feb. 17 Valentine's Salsa Dance Cruise Korean Spa Time (for ladies) Ethnobotany Hike



#### THE DORSAL SPIN: A Bigger Picture



By Orca Annie Stateler, VHP Coordinator

January 8 was an exceptional day on Vashon. Early in the morning, our skilled diver Todd Gateman and our tech guru Joe Olson spent several hours doing essential repairs and upgrades on the hydrophone. A large, curious California sea lion inspector made Todd's underwater work more stimulating. Joe's wise decision to switch to a higher frequency interface would soon bestow huge rewards.

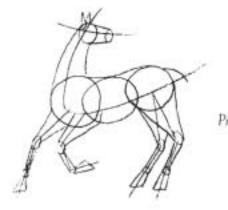
When Odin and I arrived at the Oil Spill Training, we felt proud to see about 40 committed Islanders and several expert presenters devoting a Saturday to this worthy mission.

At day's end, we paid our respects at Joel Kuperberg's remarkably lovely and touching memorial gathering. To leave a fraction of his conservation legacy would be а considerable achievement. The Shotridges sang two beautiful Tlingit songs at the gathering. I appreciated Israel's reference to killer whales, which struck me as quite fitting to honor a man who helped save so much precious habitat. Gunalcheesh. The killer whales seemed appreciative as well. Some of the Kuperbergs had splendid encounters with K Pod at Pt. Robinson. A visit with orcas can be deeply healing and comforting. K Pod also validated the success of our hydrophone improvements with a breathtaking, hour-long symphony of orca calls and echolocation clicks that began at 5:00 AM on January 10, the oneyear anniversary of VHP installation.

Mark Sears photo-documented K Pod in East Passage later that day. Those busy orcas were making the rounds. Preserve Our Islands might be interested in Mark's video of K Pod traveling by Glacier's dilapidated dock.

We are extremely grateful to Islanders like Suzanne who called us on January 12, when we got an afternoon recording of K Pod as the orcas traveled north in Colvos Pass. They were foraging intensively.

We detected clicks and calls on spectrogram and the the hydrophone nearly fifteen minutes before blows or fins were visible. We could barely contain our excitement about this great opportunity to match acoustic cues with observed behavior. Judging by the click trains, fish were meeting their Maker, getting munched by hungry killer whales. Now we have really cool sounds to put on the ACS/PS website. www.acspugetsound.org! PLEASE REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS ASAP TO 463-9041. Participate in the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP) and support grassroots, on-Island whale research. Contact Orca Annie at 463-9041 or Vashonorcas@aol.com. *@@@* 



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#### **Tears and Laughter**

Watching your children convulse themselves with laughter is one of a parent's cherished moments. The fact that they were laughing at my self help book library added a bit of edge to the humor but I delighted in their wit. With lightening speed, they fired off fake self help book titles, first my son, then my daughter, then back again. The favorites that were remembered? Scary Loving; Lasting Love and Loving Your Own Self-Discipline. Actually, until I verified the title I thought it was Loving Your Unselfdiscipline which I thought was best seller in the making.

I would like to defend myself. Unlike many who needed a parent manual for raising children, I needed a manual for knowing and being myself.

Although my daughter calls my generation of women 'Whiny man haters' and declares she wants to neither 'burn my bra or give away my ovaries' (they made her take feminist literature this semester), the truth is we middle aged women were just given two different sets of directions when we were young. At birth, they told us to stand by our man . When we were well on our way to doing that, they told us to be all we could be. Well, good grief, who wouldn't need a manual for that lane change?

And after my ex husband's response to my question "Will you ever be able to perceive some of my needs without me having to tell you everything?" was "Huh?!" followed by the smoking of a very long cigar while he took a two hour walk (him, not me), it was anybody's guess how to sort it out. Why not read some books?

I like it that I can laugh about stuff I cried about before. Like the time I walked into the kitchen and my daughter, then two, was sitting underneath the table happily dipping into a bucket of Country Crock buttering the legs of said table as carefully as Picasso ever painted any canvas. I have this tape of Candid Camera episodes I keep for certain occasions. My favorite piece of research is the one that found that people who were severally depressed weren't suffering cognitive distortions; they were seeing life more realistically than anyone else. So, when I'm seeing life really, really realistically, I remember the episode where the CC plant gets into an elevator and turns to face the rear wall and everyone coming in after follows him. So you end up with this elevator full of people facing the rear. Do you know, right now while I'm typing this I'm laughing out

loud with a big grin just thinking of it. It's followed by the stunt where a CC plant asks a stranger with help driving a car forward a few feet. Only they don't know the car is sawed in half, so when they drive it forward the back falls off. Again with the lol! I'm going to have to pull those out tonight.

One of my favorite photos taken on a trip to Vancouver one time is a sign that says: "Boy Scout Manure Sale". Maybe in addition to the Christmas tree sale? They could have a contest..... Nah....better not go there.

Want to know my simple anti war plan? We have to laugh more, together. Big belly laughs. Laurel and Hardy trying move a piano. Brett Butler (remember her?) doing a whole routine about her sister who insisted on speaking French dealing with her child who picked up a doll displayed in a mall and the head falls off . It rolls under a bunch of dressing rooms. Her sister starts running after her yelling in French with a southern drawl chasing the head crawling under the curtains.

Personally, I miss Erma Bombeck more than I can say.

Laugh till we cry. That's what we need to do. More international puns.

Oh, let me tell about the time our dorm in college was asked to be the dance partners for a French Embassy party for this ship that had just spent seven months at sea. Free party at Charles in San Francisco. So all dolled up in my size ten Rudi Gernrich (remember him?) orange, purple and red chiffon number, I say 'yes I'd loved to dance' and when we get to the middle of the floor, I realize that my ever so cute ,small patent leather handbag is wrapped around my ankle. And the officer is trying to pretend he doesn't notice, and I just keep kicking it out of the way and drag it all the way back to my seat





Local photographer BEB C. REYNOL Will present a lecture and slide show of

### AFGHANISTAN

February 04, 2005 from 8-10PM Vashon Cohousing Common House 10421 SW Bank Road Entry: \$5

#### A Stay of Execution for Maury Island

Continued from page 1

About 20 Islanders attended early part of this week. As soon

afterwards. Yeah...good times.

If you haven't laughed till the tears roll down your cheeks and your sides ache, then you're too intense. Simple. Toxins building. Red warning light on...Go find something funny. Think it's silly. Smile. Right now, smile. See????? Your heart wants to follow. *aaa* 



the brief hearing and were united in their delight when the judge announced she would "likely grant the stay."

The "short letter" from Judge Armstrong was due out in the as it is received, details of the decision will be posted at preserveourislands.org. *aaa* 

Support *The Loop*! See page 4 for details



#### Full House Seeks Water Answers

#### Continued from page 1

While those seeking a hard and fast answer to this big question may have left disappointed, the wealth of visual and statistical information offered by both of these speakers about the Island's water workings should have left even the modestly curious more than satisfied.

Kevin Freeman, a consulting geologist, started things off by giving an overview of Vashon's humble beginnings as a part of the advance outwash plain left by six glacial advances over some two and a half million years. A revelation here was that Vashon is not a terminal moraine left by the great glacier's last advance, but rather that the Island was given shape by ice-melt rivers generated by the big thaw responsible for the glacial retreat. It was this deep carving action, especially on the Colvos Passage side, that makes any connection to the Kitsap and Olympic aquifers seem highly unlikely. This is also the reason Vashon has been given the sole source aquifer designation, signifying that the only way additional fresh water gets into the hydrologic system here is through infiltration, or more simply, rain.

Natural disasters in the news as of late also found their way into the talk, with overviews and warning signs that are indicators of potential mudslide areas being discussed. And with a trench existing off the Washington coast, similar to the one that spawned the tsunami in the Indian Ocean recently and capable of generating a quake and wave of equal magnitude, it was comforting to learn that such a wave would not reach this far down the Sound. The Seattle Fault however, just north of the Island, does have the potential to

wreak tsunami havoc within the Sound.

Moving on from this bigger picture, an overflow crowd watched as USGS hydrologist Chris Konrad demonstrated with transparencies, sponges and colored water how Vashon gets, stores and gives up its fresh water resources. Here we learned that of the Island's nearly forty inch annual rainfall, a third is lost to the air through plant transpiration, a half winds up as stream runoff and only about a fifth ends up in the ground for eventual aquifer storage. Once again, the possibility of the existence of an aguifer connection with the Olympics was seen as highly unlikely by Konrad, since it would have to be more than six hundred feet below the surface and subject to saltwater incursion along the way. Through sponges and a Pyrex pan we learned of the importance of deep forest soils and their ability to retain and slow the runoff of rainwater. A lively and sometimes contentious batch of questions and statements from the audience extended the talk to two hours and set the stage for part three in the series.

On Thursday night, January 27th at 7:30 pm at the Land Trust Building, there will be a panel discussion that will include two scientists and two 'knowledgeable Islanders' who have been asked to consider the question: "What do we know about total sustainable ground water availability on Vashon-Maury?" Given the tenor of last Thursday's audience participation, one can no doubt expect a lively and informative discussion from these upcoming proceedings. *@@@* 

#### **Samuel Sagan To Give Rare Meditation** Workshop In Seattle

Vashon's Jeffrey Lorien is hosting a two-day workshop at the Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center on Feb 12th and 13th. This workshop, entitled "Awakening The Third Eye" will be presented by Samuel Sagan, MD, the founder of the Clairvision School, an international non-profit School of meditation, with headquarters in Sydney, Australia.

Since its foundation in 1987 by Samuel Sagan, M.D., the school has grown to worldwide proportions, with more than 200,000 books in print and thousands of hits daily on its website. Born in Paris, Samuel Sagan started practicing meditation during his teens. This early passion for meditation led him to study medicine at Paris Faculty of Medicine and Sanskrit at Censier Sorbonne Nouvelle University. He first geared his medical studies towards neurosurgery and psychiatry, but soon became uncomfortable with the practice of conventional medicine. After completing his medical degree he studied under a Taoist master, approximately 5 million words. He and homoeopathy and practiced medicine in France with a focus on alternative therapies and healing.

After several long trips to India, he wrote a thesis for a Doctorate of Medicine on the topic of chakras and subtle bodies in the Hindu tradition. For this voluminous work, supported by original Sanskrit translations, he was not only awarded the title of Doctor of Medicine but also a silver medal medical thesis in France), and the title of 'faculty prize-winner'. He was elected to the French Society completed a Master of Sacred Science, and a Doctorate of Gnostic church.

impressed with the results obtained through regression therapy that he made it his main therapeutic work directly with Samuel himself modality when working with in an introductory workshop which patients. Over a period of fifteen will cover such topics and practices years, this would lead him to as; third eye meditation and develop the iSiS technique of development, enhancing intuition, regression and the Vision Healing conscious sleep, energy management style of alternative therapy. From & protection, subtle body building 1983 to 1987, he stopped all and inner alchemy, dowsing earth activities to practice full-time lines, and much more. meditation. Feeling the need to establish a center where genuine Vashon could not be found, the seekers could receive real training in meditation – with techniques that work! - Dr. Sagan chose to migrate to Australia. In 1987 he arrived in Sydney, where he founded the Clairvision School. He became an Australian citizen in weekend is \$190, with student rates 1989. Since then, Samuel Sagan's life has been dedicated to teaching meditation and Vision Healing. He has trained hundreds of past-life therapists, taught the Clairvision techniques of awakening the third eye to thousands of people, and it. I rate Samuel Sagan's work more given more than 2,000 lectures, highly than that of any other teacher transcripts of which amount to I have ever met."

Clairvision School Awakening

Weekend Workshop in Seattle February, 2005

Techniques you'll learn: Third eye meditation Dynamic awareness Energetic protection Conscious sleep Energy management Dowsing earth lines Subtle body building and inner alchemy Direct perception Info about the school ...and more



Conducted by Samuel Sagan wo international director of the Clairvision School of meditation.

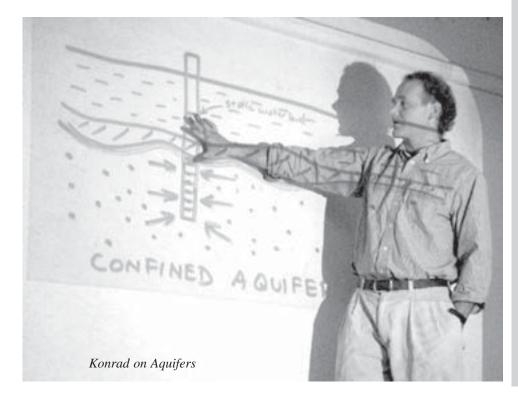
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#### www.prophesight.com

acquired degrees in acupuncture is the author of fifteen books. Some of them are manuals, such as A Language to Map Consciousness, Awakening The Third Eye, Regression, Past Life Therapy for Here and Now *Freedom*. Others are novels, using the storytelling format to pass on teachings about meditation: Sleeper Awaken! The Return of the Flying Dragon. Works by Samuel Sagan have been translated into several languages.

In 1997, Dr. Sagan was awarded (2nd highest possible award for a the International Cultural Diploma of Honor by the American Biographical Institute acknowledgment of the foundation of History of Medicine. He also of the Clairvision School and the Clairvision style of psychotherapy and healing. In 1999, he was Divinity from the International included in the International Who's Who of Intellectuals published by the In the early 1980s, he was so International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, England.

This is indeed a rare treat to Since a suitable venue on workshop will be held in Seattle. However, there will be many folks from Vashon attending, so carpooling will be available. Please, feel free to call Jeffrey at 463-5683 for any questions. The cost for the available.



This from the illustrious Karen Kingston, author of Creating Sacred Space with Feng Shui:

"If you're looking for the most advanced school of meditation in the western world today, you just found *@@@* 

#### Vashon Library February 2005 Programs

#### Tuesdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 10:40am- 11am

#### **Toddler Story Time**

A 20-minute program of stories and songs just right for toddlers. For ages 21 months to 3 years with an adult

No registration required.

#### Wednesdays, February 2, 9, 16, 23, 10:40am-11am Lapsit Storytime

A 20-minute program of stories, songs, rhymes and bounces for babies and a caregiver.

For ages birth to 20 months, with an adult.

No registration required.

#### Wednesdays, February 2, 9, 16, 23, 11:30am-12 noon **Preschool Storytime**

Join us for 30 minutes of stories, songs and fun! For ages 3-5. No registration required.

#### Thursday, February 3, 7:00-7:45pm

#### **Family Story Time**

This cozy evening Story Time includes stories, songs and a simple craft for children and parents to enjoy together. For ages birth-6. No registration required.

#### Saturday, February 5, 6pm-10pm Late Night @ the Library with 3D Bugs!

Christine Bosa and Marlin Peterson

Have you ever seen a 3D slide show? If not, then prepare yourself for a visual feast of images that leap out of the screen and pull you in. Put on a pair of polarized glasses and join us for a photographic exploration of amazing insects. You can also surf the World Wide Web or play a game of chess, cards, Magic or Monopoly. Refreshments! Door Prizes! Security will be provided.

For teens only. (6th-12th grades.)

Sponsored by Vashon Kiwanis, Friends of the Vashon Library,

Connections and Vashon Park District. Wednesday, February 9, 6:30-8:30pm

#### Best of the Web: Finding the Info You Need on the Internet

Want to get directions to the mall? See what's playing at Benaroya Hall? How to buy airline tickets? Find out if a car is a "lemon"? Get a recipe? You will learn how to find "The Best of the Best" sites. This is not a class for beginners; you will need some previous Internet searching skills, and you need to know how to use a mouse. Pre-registration is required. Please call 463-2069 to register, and when you do, tell us what you would like to learn at this class. Our instructor extraordinaire, Bobbi Hurst, will tailor the class to your needs.

#### Monday, February 14, 7pm-8:15pm

#### Young Writer's Rendezvous

Come be a part of this on-going group and experience writing for fun in a social atmosphere. Pizza will be served! For ages 10-14. No registration required, just come when you can. Sponsored by Friends of the Vashon Library.

Saturday, February 19, 9-10:30am

#### **Microsoft Excel, Level 1**

This is a basic course in Excel, a spreadsheet program with multiple columns and rows that allow you to create tables and perform calculations. Prerequisite: Intro to Computers or basic skills. Preregistration is required; call 463-2069.

#### Sunday, February 20, 2pm

#### Long Ago in Benin and Liberia

Presented by Won-Ldy Paye and Etienne Cakpo

Two African boys meet and comically instruct each other in the skills of dancing and storytelling. As they share their talents, they learn to encourage and support each other and to work together. This performance was recently held at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

This show will be held in the Ober Park building performance room next door to the library. For all ages. No registration required.

#### **Upcoming Meetings** on Ferry Service



#### Loop Says Hello To 2005

Continued from page 1

and we will most definitely carry on. received, but appreciated the Without effort from those who took the Congratulations Rachel! time, as well as the thoughtful of you said we are doing a great Or are doing. Others said we should love to hear from you.

Troy and I definitely have a quit trying to report the news love/hate relationship with this completely and just write paper. It's been that way from the commentary and opinion. (I'll be beginning. We love being a forum happy to tell you what I think!) for the community; we love And one person said that calling printing the work of our talented Troy 'Ass Ed' shows that I am contributors; we love being in the immature. I know you are, but what loop (pun fully intended). We am I? (Seriously now-this all hate not having enough money to started when my darling husband do an outstanding job; we hate tried to abbreviate his Associate bickering about what to print; we Editor title, and ended up with hate the occasional hate mail. But Ass Ed. We thought it was funny. the good by far outweighs the bad, We also like South Park.) And as promised, we entered all the surveys in a drawing for a And speaking of good and free subscription. And the winner bad, thank you to those who is....Rachel Bard, local author and completed our Reader Survey. We really nice lady whom I met last were pretty disappointed by the year. (She wrote a delightful low number of responses we historical fiction book called Queen *Country.*) а If you'd still like to put in your comments on many of the surveys. two cents' worth, find an old copy No clear message emerged; some of *The Loop* and fill out the survey. just email job and just keep doing what we editor@vashonloop.com. We'd

public meeting on Vashon: Tuesday, February 8th at 7:00 pm at McMurray School

"Gathering of public opinion. . ." about proposed fare increases and electronic fare collection system. (Regularly scheduled South Sound Ferry Advisory Committee meeting for this date has been cancelled.) **February** 28th

#### **Transportation Committee** meeting:

**Ray Deardorf and WSF planners** discuss their proposed scenarios for the 25 year long

**WSF Tariff Policy Committee** range plan for the Fauntleroy/ Vashon/Southworth triangle. March 21st Community Council meeting:

> Ray Deardorf of WSF presents proposals for long range 25 year plan for community input.

> "... feedback from the above meetings will be used to refine the plan."

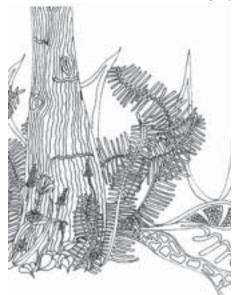
WSF public outreach on the long **VMICC** range plan should occur in April. A draft final plan is expected in June, and a final plan ready in December.

> For times and locations, contact Marilyn Omey at 463-3259 or email marilynomey@peoplepc.com.

*@@@* 

### LIVING WELL WITH PLANTS

Text and drawings by Kathy Abascal (AHG)



#### Preparing for Allergy Season

It may be hard to believe at this time of year, but allergy season is right around the corner. And if you are among those who overreact to tree pollen, it is time to take action to lessen the runny nose, the red, itchy eyes, and the irritated sinus membranes that you will experience a month or two down the road.

The first step is to strengthen your intestinal flora. There are studies showing that yoghurt in the diet reduces allergy symptoms. The people in these studies ate around 2 cups of yoghurt daily for 1 to 4 months before symptom relief was measured. It is the bacteria in the yoghurt that cause the positive responses. Taking a probiotic supplement regularly may actually be better than eating yoghurt because dairy often aggravates allergic symptoms. Probiotics are freezedried bacteria that 'reseed' the intestine with the right flora.

Another good way to improve your intestinal health is to eat a lot of prebiotic foods in the months preceding allergy season. Prebiotic foods balance and sustain a good flora. These foods include miso and burdock root. There are cookbooks at your local health food store with wonderful recipes for these tasty but largely unfamiliar ingredients.

The second step is to strengthen your liver. The liver helps mop up the waste created by allergic reactions to pollen, and needs to be working well to prevent a waste build up that may aggravate your symptoms. Two herbs used in Western herbal medicine to stimulate the liver in allergies are eyebright (Euphrasia spp.) and ragweed (Ambrosia spp.). Eyebright is often used as a topical treatment for red, itchy eyes. However, it is more effective when used internally to stimulate the liver and help avert the itchy eyes in the first place. However, it is a tiny North country plant and its global use is really not sustainable. Ragweed is a prolific herb that strongly stimulates the liver and can be substituted for eyebright. It is also a plant whose pollen causes allergic reactions in many people later in the season. Nonetheless, people are seldom

allergic to ragweed tincture and instead benefit from its effect on the liver. Often these herbs are combined with Oregon grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*), another liver stimulant, and a good adaptogen to strengthen the person overall.

The third step is to increase the amount of nettles in your diet. One small study showed that freezedried nettles were beneficial in allergies. Many assume that freezedried nettles work better than other forms of nettle but there is no evidence that this is true. In my opinion, young, fresh nettles as a food are the very best. Dried nettles as a tea or a supplement (freeze-



dried or not) are a good second choice. Simply drinking a daily cup of a nice herbal tea that contains nettles can be an effective and inexpensive preventative measure. During allergy season proper, you may need to increase your dose of nettles to get greater symptom relief. Next, get a Neti pot and begin rinsing your nasal membranes regularly with a salt solution. Studies suggest that this treatment, which provides a lot of symptom relief during the worst of allergy season, is most effective after several weeks of use. The warm water is soothing to the sinus membranes and also has the benefit of washing away the offending pollen. During the height of allergy season, nasal irrigation should be done frequently. Early in the season, when it starts warming and the trees start thinking of budding, a single daily rinse is probably sufficient.



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Other helpful remedies include quercetin. Citrus fruits, apples, onions, parsley, tea, and red wine are the primary dietary sources of quercetin, and it is a good idea to increase the amount of these foods in your diet. However, you will not get large amounts of quercetin from diet and people with allergies seem to benefit from more quercetin. A supplement will ensure that your body has enough quercetin to lessen your allergic reaction right from the beginning.

Some people also benefit by taking a homeopathic remedy made from the local plants that cause them grief. Homeopathic remedies are diluted tinctures of the plant that causes the symptoms in the first place. These remedies are so diluted that they may not contain a single molecule of that plant. Nonetheless, a recent study showed that they reduced allergy symptoms in close to a third of the people in the study and were far more effective than placebo. It is not clear that homeopathic remedies need to be taken before the onset of symptoms. However, in the study, improvement was greatest after the participants had taken their remedy for two weeks. So, if you follow these steps, will you be allergy free? I am afraid not. However, they can reduce and lessen those maddening allergy symptoms. This in turn may enable you to make it through this allergy season without relying on drugs that provide symptom relief but also can have some adverse side effects.



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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 Tuesdays 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



#### THE TRICKSTER Part 1

I have written now about the Seedbearer, one of the primeval Men's archetypes. In keeping with the tone of the Kokopelli story I offered you last time, here is an analysis of another of the men's tales; the story of the Trickster.

> It was believed among the Lakota and other tribes that if you had a dream or vision of birds, you were destined to be a medicine man; but if you had a vision of the Thunderbird, it was your destiny to become something else; heyoka, or sacred clown, the Trickster. Like the Thunderbird, the heyoka were at once both feared and held in reverence.

The Trickster has a connection to mankind from long before civilization's dawn and is a wellknown figure in myths all over the world. He is usually presented as a being from early mythological time, often human in his thinking and animal in form, full of pranks and wiles, with enormous sexual appetite but often at a loss for a meal. The Trickster has been our companion from the beginning and he will be there at the end. Someone once suggested that the Trickster will probably cause the end accidentally.

The Trickster is an old, deep archetype, say the Jungian scholars. Jung himself said: "[the trickster] is a forerunner of the savior, and, like him, God, man, and animal at once." The Trickster appears in the cave paintings of the early European tribes about 18,000 about years ago. Warriors don't appear until about 9,000 years ago.

Most accounts portray him as half magician, half idiot. Many depict him as a transformer and culture hero who is more or less successful in his tasks. He is not only a fool but also a changer; a being who has molded the earth since its creation. Behind the fool's mask, he is a mythic being and a supernatural figure. Don't be fooled by the jokes and blunders; there is great power in Trickster stories. Maui, from the Polynesian tales, steals nothing less than the sun; yet, with all his enormous power, he is enormously stupid, the fool of the ages, the epitome or personification of human absurdity.

Stories underline the trickster's uninhibited urges but also his ability to perform great deeds which, sometimes inadvertently, serve mankind; the liberation of the wild game, the theft of fire or light and victory over monsters. However, the significant element in all these deeds is trickery.

He is always eager to use magic on bigger and smarter animals and usually meets with comic failure, he is envious of the powers of others and strives to outdo them in what they do best; he's a selfish clown who engages in practical jokes that usually backfire, and exploits his sacred powers for selfish and ignoble ends.

The Trickster brings change: Prometheus steals fire for his poor creations and pays a terrible and eternal price for it. In addition to Maui, mentioned above, Coyote also steals fire for humans; as do Anansi, Raven, and Loki. There are nearly twenty stories from different cultures on this topic alone. In the Northwestern tribes there is a popular trickster figure, mostly known as Raven, Blue Jay or Mink and one of the most popular tales is How Raven Stole The Sun.

The Winnebago hero cycle (called by critics The Radin Cycle after the man who first wrote about it) tells the stories of four sorts of heroes: the Trickster, the Hare, Red Horn, and the Twins. The Trickster begins as an unlucky fool who is always the brunt of practical jokes. In the end the Trickster is the bully and plays the jokes on others.

In the Hare stories, the hero blunders and struggles but, in the end, sacrifices himself for the good of mankind. Moses, Jesus Christ, and Prometheus are all seen as Hare types.

Red Horn is the hero that goes out and conquers the evil in the world and comes back changed; like Luke Skywalker, Ulysses, and the Blind Swordswoman. Joseph Cambell has much to tell us about the Hero's Journey: see *Hero With A Thousand Faces.* 

The last story is that of the Twins. They are the heroes that make the earth a place fit for human habitation. The Twins of Navajo and Hopi stories (slayer of Enemy Monsters and Born Of Water) are good examples, and Gilgamesh and Enkidu, from Northern Europe, also represent this type. Dr. Radin believes the Trickster represents our earliest mental development and the Twins our last stage. That seems an optimistic view but I pray it's a true vision.



An Appreciation for the Ridiculous

#### by Susan Wolf

People have lost their sense of humor these days—have you noticed? They get upset because an election didn't turn out the way they wanted or someone exhibited a personal flaw and they whine all about it. Humor just flies out the window.

When I grew up, humor was a standard issue, run of the mill, every day occurrence. "You don't have to be crazy to have fun," my mother used to say, "but it helps." She should know. She was bi-polar. In fact, many of the people in my family are certifiable Looney-Tunes. If not for humor and a cock-eyed look at the world, the few of us who weren't already, would have rocketed down the short path to genuine insanity.

First, there was my grandmother. One day, as a teen, I complained about the sad state of my life and she said, "It's all those scientists' fault. They're just waiting around and watching to see what you do with the problems they've given you. It's all just a grand experiment." "Never mind," I thought, "maybe my life isn't so bad after all."

My dad left a lot to be desired in a parent, but he, too, had his moments. After coming home drunk one night, my dad woke up with a hangover. He showered and

shaved but after splashing with the aftershave, he did a double-take in the mirror. "I've turned into a Goddamned chinaman!" he bellowed. "No, dad," my brother replied, "I just put yellow food coloring in your aftershave." Speechless, my dad managed, "Why?" Hey, who needs a reason?

When my mother

depressed and took it out on his roommate and his room.

The landlord shook his hand with unexpected fervor and said, "Your roommate was my exbrother-in-law. I've been wanting to give that sorry SOB an asskicking for years." My brother protested, "But what about the damage to the apartment?" "I was planning to renovate that old apartment," he replied, "and this way the insurance paid for it. Hell, you don't owe me a thing; in fact - I should probably take you to dinner!" Go figure.

When you get to be the age of a grandparent, life has oftentimes beaten you up pretty bad. We're tired, we're sick, we no longer look great; maybe we're poor, too. It takes the newest generation to make us remember that fun, excitement and joy still exist – if you know where to look.

My granddaughter, Angel, was savoring McDonald's McNuggets when her grandfather informed her they come from chickens. (At least we think they do.) She looked at them, thought for a moment, wrinkled her little nose and said confused, "What?" He began to chuckle and then she put it all together as a preschooler would, and said, "Oh, I know, Poppa. Like eggs! I like eggs."





suffered a heart attack and was comatose, all of us daughters were crying around her hospital bed. My daughter was there

with her new baby. "I so wanted a four-generation picture with mom and the baby," I sobbed. "Well," said my littlest sis, carefully avoiding the tubes and stepping behind the head of the bed to lift mom up, "We can just prop her up like this and put the baby in her arms-" We began to guffaw.

Life just isn't that bad. Even when it's plain awful, things usually get better without your help. My poor brother has had major problems all his life. The last time he got out of jail, he went to see his former landlord and asked if he could make restitution for the apartment he trashed when he got

Her little sister Abby, on the other hand, is a little closer to the ground. She notices every insect that crosses her path. She drew a spider on her etch-a-sketch the other day and I had Grandpa put it on the computer. I printed it out and hung it over my monitor at work to remind me even a common insect can invoke a smile if you see it with the right kind of eyes.

So here it is so you can have a smile today, too. If you're breathing, you can laugh. And for Gosh sake, don't lose your sense of humor! It might disappear for good. *mmm* 



#### Double Crostic by Richard Carson

#### **VIF&R Receives Grant**

#### Continued from page 1

A Quint is a hybrid vehicle with capabilities of both an engine and a ladder truck. It is traditionally smaller than a ladder truck, which allows for better access in restricted space, but still carries water like an engine and has a 75-foot aerial ladder.

On Vashon, the unit – which will most likely take on the name Ladder-55 – will be utilized as the first due engine. Its capabilities include residential and commercial structure fires where high-flow water from a raised platform would most effectively battle the blaze; provide elevated exposure protection to structures such as Thriftway, True Value and various other commercial and residential incidents; heavy search and rescue activities from 2nd and 3rd floor structures, such as Chautauqua Elementary School; as well as extrication and over-the-embankment scenarios where a firefighter could rappel from the platform, extricate the patient, and bring them to safety.

USFA, and their peer review panels, identified VIF&R as a department with a critical need due to the island's natural isolation, growing commercial district, and critical life safety issues. VIF&R's grant occurred about mid-way through the selection process.

Approximately 8,000 awards worth \$750 million in direct assistance to firefighters throughout the country will be awarded by USFA in 2004 application period. VIF&R will have the calendar 2005 year to utilize the grant, after which Chiefs Fowler and Whitney will be charged with developing a competency-based training program for our volunteer and career staff before the unit can be placed into service.

The grant requires rural fire departments with less than 50,000 in population to provide for a 10% local matching of the funds. Potentially, the Board of Commissioners will be asked to release up to \$41,200 for the purchase of the new apparatus.

"This is an exciting opportunity to maximize our investment that will result in necessary equipment that will last us at least 20 years." Fire Commissioner Chairman Sharon Lee Nicholson stated, "In my opinion, this purchase is a natural extension of the planning process to better anticipate the needs of the community, which started with the building of main fire station under the leadership of former chief Craig Harmeling."

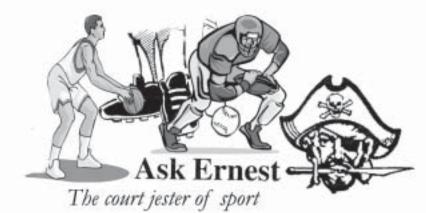
Chief Wilson's 2005 grant application will be written towards the "Operations and Firefighter Safety" category. "My primary goal next year will be to secure grant funding to retrofit two engines with compressed air foam, install MDC (Mobile Data Computers) in our first due apparatus, and purchase at least six new hand held radios for fire entry teams."

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).

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January 26, 05

LOP ~ Sports



First off, Ernie, can you put these ads in the papes?

For Vashon Wrestling News visit the website: www.eteamz.com/ rockislandsports

And come out for one of the biggest Dual Meets of the Year! Thursday, January 27 against Klahowya. Match will start at 7:00 (Or a bit sooner). Vashon and Klahowya are both 6-1 this year. Thanks, Mikey Salinas

#### Mikey,

I will print the ads, but will need to charge you: 20 buck an ad, or a ham 'n cheese croissant at Bob's Bakery, or you can donate your new Ludicrous CD to the *Loop* Sports office.

Your choice, (Not so Easy) E Ps: here are some wrestling results from the Hoquiam Wrestling Tournament, featuring 15 of the best 2A teams in the state.

The Pirates finished the weekend strong, winning 14 of their last 15 matches (4 of those matches were exhibition) to crown one champion and many placers.

**Micah Air Jordan Sohl** won his first (of many future) championships, defeating his Elma opponent 7-1 in the finals. He breezed through the competition like it was a breakaway finger roll.

Alex "Getting my groove on" Gateman capped possibly his best tournament ever with an overtime victory over his Sunnyside opponent for a well earned 3rd place. **Dominatrics Wolzckito** placed 3rd and dominating all his opponents but one. "My key to success," Dominatrics said, "is my Polish background, my black tights and my stinky armpits."

**Stevey Wolzckito** placed 3rd as well, having the match of the tournament (that every fan is still talking about today) on Friday night. (This match was reminiscent of Alex Laughlin's match in Sequim) Down 17-4 in the 3rd round, Stevey pinned his Othello opponent to reach the semis. The fans went wild and the ladies swooned. He came back to take 3rd.

**Duncan "Half Man Half" Mayshark** placed 5th and is getting better every week. "I like to treat the mat like an aquarium," Mayshark says. Whatever that means.

**Tech Fall Phillips** and **Wiley Volker** placed 7th **and Casey the left handed landlord Ligrano** placed 8th.

(Other highlights: **E. Anderson** beat one of the **evil Descher twins** (previously Alex Stemer's nemesis), and **Laughlin** pinned **The Animal** and **W. Olsen** major decisioned a horse.)

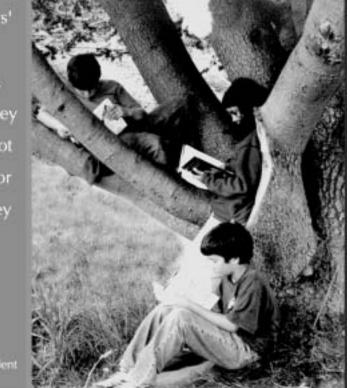
#### **Quick Basketball News:**

Vashon Boys are rocking the body that rocks the body this year. They are 9-1 and ranked 7th in the state. Most recently, the Big B-Boys beat North Mason 61-56. Pay attention for future home games.



Faculty and Alumni Presentation at 7 pm

"The 8th graders' speeches were really inspiring. They all said they had learned a lot from The Harbor School, and they were ready for any challenge. I know I will be ready too." — Lower School Student



### The Harbor Schoo

An independent, non-profit school for grades 4-8. Outstanding academic program. Hands-on, experiential learning. Individual attention through small class size. Student/teacher ratio 10:1. Excellent preparation – both academic and social – for high school.

For directions: www.harborschool.org and click on Open House link. THS is a non-discriminatory institution and welcomes students of any race, religion, gender, nationality, or ethnic background.

Wrestling League Title Match on Vashon! Vashon vs. Klahowya on Thursday, January 27 in VHS Gym starting no later than 7:00. Get there early to get a seat! Both teams are 8-1 this year and it should be a **humdinger**!



### SPECIAL 18 x 21 Steel Buildings 30 x 40 Steel Buildings 40 x 60 Steel Buildings 60 x 120 Steel Buildings Factory Priced BLOWOUT: Call: BERGIN CONSTRUCTION

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Breakfast 7am - 11am



Lunch 11am - 3pm Dinner 5pm - 9pm 463-6302 The Vashon Loop, p. 18



Plagiarism saves time. Often it is fatal to live too long. Boycott shampoo... demand REAL poo! There is no right way to do a wrong thing. Anything free is worth what you pay for it. What if there were no hypothetical questions? Unless you're the lead dog the view seldom changes. I used to think I was indecisive, but now I'm not so sure. Never engage in a battle of wits with a person who is unarmed. The two most important senses we have are horse and common. I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. She gets mad if I interrupt her. The most precious thing we have is life. Yet it has absolutely no trade-in value.

I do not like work even when someone else does it. —Mark Twain

When men are pure, laws are useless; when men are corrupt, laws are broken.— «Benjamin Disraeli

There is more money being spent on breast implants and Viagra than on Alzheimer's research. This means that by 2030, there should be a large elderly population with perky boobs and huge erections and absolutely no recollection of what to do with them.

A blonde went into a pizza parlor. When she said that she'd like a medium pizza, the clerk asked her how many pieces she'd like to have it cut into: six or twelve. "Six please," said the blonde, "I can't finish twelve."



Thought for the day: Men are like fine wine. They start out as grapes, and it's up to the women to stomp the crap out of them until they turn into something acceptable to have dinner with.

The man approached a very beautiful woman in a large supermarket and asked, "You know, I've lost my wife here in the supermarket. Can you talk to me for a couple of minutes?"

"Why?" she asks.

"Because every time I talk to a a beautiful woman, my wife appears out of nowhere."

A man walked into a bar with his alligator and asked the bartender, "Do you serve lawyers here?" "Sure," replied the bartender. "Good," said the man. "Give me a beer, and I'll have a lawyer for my gator."

> Old people shouldn't eat health foods. They need all the preservatives they can get. -Robert Orben

#### Fax of Life

Three numbers, 19, 33, and 42, are considered unlucky in Japan. 19 is called juku, meaning sorrows; 33 is san zan, meaning disasters; and 42 is shi ni, which means death.

How would you define "Mixed emotions?" It's like seeing your mother-in-law drive over a cliff in

> your new Porsche.

I have failed over and over again in my life; that's why I succeed.— Michael Jordan

#### WILD WORLD / Ed Frohning





#### January 26, 05



Plavef Waves

by Eric Francis http://www.PlanetWaves.net

#### Aries (March 20-April 19)

In this world, belief is nothing, and it's everything. It is nothing because what we believe often has exceedingly little to do with what is true. It is everything because once we make up our minds to believe something, it has a way of becoming true. You are in the process of making a truly significant decision about what is true for you. Every ounce and measure of your faith is coming up for question; your system of ethics; all your beliefs about power. In this process, remember: what is not true is just as important as what is true. As long as you sort out which is which.

#### Taurus (April 19-May 20)

Professional matters have been building toward a revelation for a long, long time. Now, you must do something typically not Taurean: reach for the future like it's all that matters. You'll still get to keep your rock collection. Your plants and garden will do just fine. But you, your role in the world, and your entire concept of who you are, are about to be run through the divine galactic computer and given back to you with seemingly new goals, ideals and a mission in life. But not really new: updated, adjusted and designed from the heart and soul of who you are.

#### Gemini (May 20-June 21)

The astrology this week cautions you to be extremely careful about what you think others believe, feel or are motivated by — particularly if you view it as dark or sinister. You still have far too many areas where you haven't made up your mind about yourself to be making up your mind about others. Under the best circumstances, it's truly challenging to discern what motivates people, but on the whole, you will know them by their fruits. We get to know ourselves in many other ways, but at the end of the day it's always fair to look at what you've accomplished and who you've loved.

#### Cancer (June 21-July 22)

What you learn about a particular relationship — or all your relationships — will fill in the missing pieces on many mysteries of recent years. The issue had nothing to do with others, and it had everything to do with you. This should stand as proof of the extent to which people will cooperate with what you want, if only you will be clear about it yourself. The more clearly you can articulate your secret desires to yourself, the more this will work. Be mindful of

#### Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)

How do you escape from a trap? First, it helps to know you're in one. Second, it's crucial to understand the psychological dimension of the situation. Think step-bystep, forward and backward, and you will see that there is a specific logic even to events that seemed to make no sense at all. The best way to trap someone, low budget, is to make them think they're in a situation they cannot get out of. This is an unfortunate relic of your past. Fortunately for all of us, God made you extremely intelligent. If you drop your prejudices and simply apply your reasoning skills, you'll open the way, seemingly by a miracle.

#### Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)

The decision you're making is as important as you think — and as much a matter of faith. You're at one of those junctures where, in fact, faith is just about everything. The challenge you face is sorting out your emotions from what you might call your 'higher angel'. If you think of your situation as one involving your personal security, you will get caught on the low side of the process; if you recognize that your safety comes from your power to decide based on the larger picture, you will find the meeting place where your needs and the world's needs form a perfect partnership.

#### Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

Does the date Feb. 16, 2003 mean anything to you? Loosely, two years ago, you're likely to have undergone some kind of process, reality-shift or through something conclusive. I wonder what it was, and what you learned. You are now at a similar juncture, but the world is a different place — or rather, is about to become one. You are in the heart of the moment where choosing is not only possible, but inevitable. The only thing in question is what you choose, and on what basis. Look carefully at your options. Look at the value you have placed on yourself, and imagine something better — far better. Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)

You're going through one of your high impact phases. Since you cannot change the impact part, the best you can do is be aware of how you contact people, and make those interactions as conscious and as intentional as possible. Look for hidden motives operating. And do your best to let people have a voice, and have their way. Since you are in control of your life, you can afford to let others be in control of theirs. Live with their decisions — as they when you're thinking about 'what other will have to live with one truly people said is not possible'. monumental choice you are about to make. Acknowledge it and set it aside — it is Choose well, and you will benefit



### Free Delivery Call 56-PIZZ Now Open Every Day Noon- 9pm Fri-Sat till 11

#### Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

In a short time, your life will bear exceedingly little resemblance to what it is today. In both form and content, you are poised for one of the most radical shifts ever, which is saying a lot — because the past five or ten years have come with some significant developments. The first clues are arriving in these very days. You now have what I can only describe as a new and unusual ability to see the bottom line. Focus on that: everything in this world adds up to, or comes down to, something that should be obvious — and worth noticing

Eric Francis has more to say at PlanetWaves.net.

#### **Solution to Double Crostic**

A. FLATTERY H. NORTH POLL

O. OKLAHOMA

#### Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Keep your focus. What you are being asked to do, or expected to do, may not be comfortable, and neither is it simple. A great deal seems to be at stake. You are quite possibly being pushed to see the world from an entirely different viewpoint than you think you're accustomed to. None of this should matter, because the goal is so important. It may help you to recognize that rather than trying to achieve something, you are really working to resolve or complete something. Know, above all else, that you are not alone; if you feel you are, that's merely fog and mist. Burn it off with the heat of the Sun.

#### not true.

#### Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)

Well, the Sun is in your 7th house, and Jupiter has aligned with Mars. And Pluto, too. There is, in truth, a kind of Age of Aquarius dawning in your life. Leo is quite naturally at the center of things, but what few recognize is how important this is to everyone else. You have the gift of being able to hold your awareness of who you are even as you interact with others. This is precisely the skill you teach. It's not always easy, but I am sure you'll agree that it's worth the effort. World history is entering a phase where the concept of 'we' is becoming more important than ever. We need you, and we need your example.

#### everyone. Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Every now and then, it's worth looking back and saying out loud, "Wow, that is what I went through — and I survived." You did go through it all, and you did survive. Now, you have an opportunity to consider what it means. In this life, interpretation is everything. Events have little meaning of their own. The changes that have shaped you, the experiences you've had in your relationships, who you have lost and who you have gained, are waiting for you to look at them objectively, with some distance, and reinterpret them entirely. This is an act of freedom — and it will help set you free.

(*it's a little black box*) (just like in an airplane)



B. REISSUE	I. CHATTY	P.OVERWEIGHT
C. ATTU	J. HASTE	Q. DESKTOP
D. NEWSPAPER	K. IOTA	R. INSET
E. KICKOFF	L. LEWD	S. NUTHATCH
F. LATTE	M. DAWBER	T. CHEST
G. IMAGERY	N. HOST	

The kids are actually pretty good at bucking themselves up, or at least they know how to fake it for the cameras; it's the parents who can't hide their flop sweat. -- [Nancy] Franklin, "Childhood Inc."



The Vashon Loop, p. 20



#### Julius Carlson Performs at Vashon Co-Housing

Island with his unique mix of classical, folkloric and Tango guitar studied in Spain and Argentina, music for a solo performance at the developing a passion for the latter Vashon Co-housing Common House country's music during his on **Saturday, February 5th** at 8 pm.



include Baroque and contemporary classical guitar music. Julius' Island performance will be among a series of concerts he will give this winter in Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles, including a performance at 8 PM on March 5th at the West Seattle Puget Ridge Co-Housing.

Julius, 24, grew up on Vashon Island and began playing the Ukelele at the age of four, making his first public appearances on the guitar at the Strawberry Festival and the Blue Heron. He graduated from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music (206) 463-9754.

#### Hush Hush Brings a Taste of **Class to Bishop's** With **Free Peoples**

On Friday, February 4th, fashioned rock and roll blossom, Hush Hush Productions will be sending you on your way past the putting on their first show of the tumbleweeds and cactus until year at Bishop's. The band is Free your next twist. They have been Peoples. You may not have heard likened to a cross between JJ Cale of these guys before but you will and Mark Knaufler. Free Peoples be hearing of them in the future. has something for everyone who Free Peoples is the Hush Hush loves music. Dance or just kick pick right next to the fabled back and soak it all up. In addition to this fine evening Railroad Earth. They are a four piece from the Bay area. Their of music, the fabulous Sarah roots run deep into the families Christine & Guests will be and colors of the past. opening the show at 9:00 pm. Like a fine wine, Free Peoples Don't miss this unique start with a nice smooth entry, full evening. Tickets are \$10 and can of body in the middle, and set you be purchased now on line at down with a wonderful bouquet ww.hushhushticketing.com, or of roses to finish. Speaking of live at Bishop's behind the bar, roses, none other than the great will call only. Learn more about Stanley Mouse, of Grateful Dead Free Peoples at fame, has taken a liking to these www.freepeoples.com or go to folks and has done the artwork for www.bishopscafe.com. Hoping to not only their last two albums but see you all there with your also the poster for this national dancing shoes! tour.

Julius Carlson returns to Vashon (2002) where he studied classical guitar and music history. He has apprenticeship with Tango master The concert will highlight Argentine Aníbal Arias in Buenos Aires and

> his travels through the musically rich province of Santiago del Estero. He is currently a graduate student at the University of Chile, Santiago, where he is completing a degree in Musicology and a thesis on the cultural origins and influences of Argentine folk music. In his performances, Julius interweaves stories of the regional

Tango and Folklore and will also and cultural context of the music he plays, invoking the passion if the music and its people.

> Concert tickets are \$15, available in advance at Vashon Island Music and the Vashon Bookshop or at the door the evening of the performance.

> Vashon Island Co-housing is located at 10421 Bank Road, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mile off Vashon Highway. Puget Ridge Co-housing, host of the March 5th concert, is located at 7020 18th Ave. S.W. (West Seattle). Questions? Email Valseana@yahoo.com or call *@@@*

Free Peoples will take you on a journey through the old west and lead you down that dusty trail to the club on the corner where the sweet sounds of jazz and good ol'



The evening will also include a raffle for several stunning, one-ofa-kind handbags, created by Hedy Handbags especially for "The Sweethearts' Hangover Ball."

Robbie Fulks, a singer/ songwriter who hails from Chicago, is renowned in alt-country and Americana music circles as an irreverent and irreplaceable maverick. His musical genius and generosity knows no bounds. Lost in the deserved accolades for being a fabulously unique, clever, and heartfelt writer is the fact that he's also one of the best guitarists around. The chameleon-like tall guy can whip it out in honky-tonk, country, bluegrass, power pop, or whatever strikes his ample whimsy at the time. Robbie and his band play by nobody's rules—except the ones they hear in their heads. Robbie recently produced Touch My Heart - A Tribute to Johnny Paycheck (Sugar Hill Records, 2004), which was called "a country music masterpiece" by Billboard

January 26, 05

Mountain Stage, all on NPR. Robbie's monthly radio show, Robbie's Secret Country, will make its debut on January 24, on XM satellite radio's alternative-country channel, X Country.

Opry, Austin City Limits (PBS),

Western Beat (CMT) and Late Night with Conan O'Brien (NBC). Radio

appearances include Fresh Air,

World Café, Acoustic Café, and

Tickets to "The Sweethearts' Hangover Ball" are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Doors open at 6:30 pm. An opening act will be announced soon. Robbie and his band will play at 8 pm. Alcoholic beverages, soft drinks, Frito Chili Pie, Funyons, and finger foods will be available. Tickets may be purchased in advance at Vashon Bookshop, Books By the Way, and Vashon Island Music.

#### Visualize whirled peas

The Vashon Loop, p. 21

#### January 26, 05 Emily, Emily

by May Gerstle

"Emily, Emily," a musical about the life and times of Emily Dickinson was written by Islander Bill Wood. It will be performed on **Saturday, February 5 and Sunday, February 6** at the Blue Heron as part of Vashon Allied Arts' 2005 New Works Series.

Wood admits to being extremely proud of this piece, which demonstrates both his skillful writing and strong attraction to Dickinson and her poetry. "I think it is one of the best pieces I've ever done," he said recently. Originally staged at Theater West in Los Angeles, the production has been

reshaped for Vashon audiences. It will be performed in concert style. **Cornish School** theater instructor Kathryn Mesney is directing the production with Gaye Detzer serving as music director.



literature.

Stephen Siegel as the others actors.

The cast includes singers Jeanne

Dougherty, Adrienne Mildon, Pat

play, Dickinson scholar William H.

Matchett, professor emeritus of English at the University of

Washington, will give a short, informal talk prior to the Sunday

performance on Emily Dickinson and her place in American

Blue Heron on Saturday, February 5, at 8:00 pm and Sunday, February

6, at 5:00 pm. Tickets are \$7 for seniors, students, and VAA

members and \$10 for nonmembers. They may be purchased at VAA or

at the Vashon Bookshop.

Performances will be held at the

To enhance the experience of the

Bara, and Randy Bruce.

Lisa Breen has been cast as Emily, with

Caryl Greene, Joan McCabe and

*@@@* 

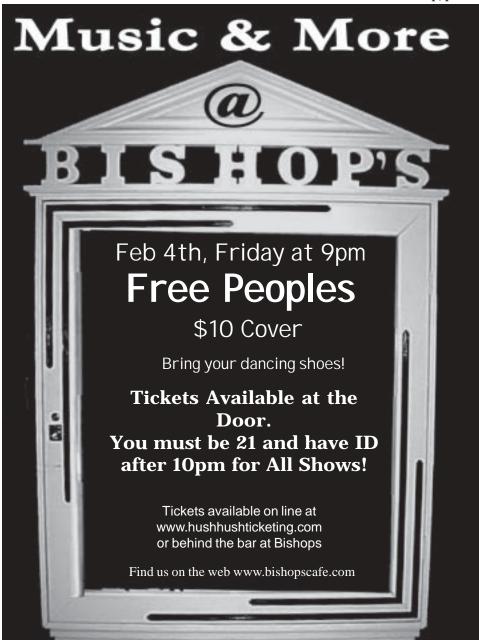
#### What's Happening at Vashon Bookshop

#### by Devon Atkins

Here, at the Bookshop, we've got good stuff coming up; music, poetry, storytelling, art, and even books!

And, speaking of books, we started something new called the Author's Table. Each month, we feature one Island author, and his or her framed biography and latest book. (Living on an island like Vashon, demands it; we're chock full of writers!) Since the days of Olinda and the Betty McDonald, this Island has been a refuge for those who love the written word. And, this month, the Table features Ina Whitlock, a lovely Island woman who has a new book, fresh

February 5th, "Karen Cushman Day," and Karen will stop by the Bookshop at 9 or 9:30 to chat-up The Secret of Castle Can't with the Original Book Group kids. The book's a winner, and Karen, who wrote the back cover review, donated a bunch of free copies to the kids because she liked reading it that much. (Pick up a copy at the Bookshop, or at the Library, and join us for this special hour with Karen.) Then, at about 10 o'clock, Karen will talk about writing, why she writes historical fiction for children (The Midwife's Apprentice and Catherine, Called Birdy, to name two), and what her newest book is all about.



#### Benefit Concert for Heartstone Center

Acoustic folk-rock band **Great Rain** will perform at a benefit concert **Friday, January 28th** at the **Vashon Hardware Store**, 6-10 pm. Opening the concert will be **Caterpillars of the Commonwealth**, an Irish-Klezmer band composed of Island youth, and Kim Thal and Rick Vanselow on mandolin and violin.

The concert is a benefit for the Heartstone Center, a children's educational program focusing on sustainable living skills, storytelling, natural crafts and play for ages 2-7 in a forest on Vashon's Westside. Tickets are \$12/adults, \$5/children and are available in advance at Vashon Bookshop. For more information contact Heather Masters, 463-4644.



off the presses; Ina write poetry, and you won't want to miss it.

And, speaking of poetry, everyone is welcome to the Poetry Salon, a monthly gathering of folks who love words, the first Thursday of each month. The Salon features original poetry, and poems by vintage and contemporary notables, read and shared by some of the most interesting folks on Vashon. Everyone starts drifting in at about 7 pm, Thursday, February 3rd, and Ina Whitlock will be the Salon's featured poet. (Call 567-4886 if you'd like your name on the mailing list.)

And then, there's Karen Cushman, Newbery Award and Honor Award- winning author, who just happens to live on Vashon. We've decide to make Saturday, (It's not even in stores yet, so it will be fun to ask her about it!) For more information, call 463-2616.

So, we've covered Okay. authors and poetry and famous Island writers. I guess that leaves art and Greg Burnham, who will fill the Bookshop with the kind of art you can't look at without thinking and smiling. We like his art so much, we've asked him for an extended stay, and luckily he's agreed. There are assemblages, mixed media collage, painting and photography, and you're not going to want to miss this. Which only goes to prove, once again, folks, that Vashon Bookshop isn't just about books!

(And, what about the storytelling? You're gonna have to wait until *The Loop's* next paper for that!)

**Vashon Bookshop** 

Overheard at Vashon Bookshop....

"Karen Cushman's going to be here, Saturday, February 5th!"
"Didn't she win the Newbery Award for A Midwife's Apprentice?"
"That's the one!"

> Mon-Sat 9-7, Sun 9-5 463-2616 17612 Vashon Highway

# E R

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# no limits-no exceptions JO KIDDING!!

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**31**57 !! PERIOD !! NO EXTENSIONS NO EXTRA DAYS THE NEXT FEW DAYS ONLY WHEN ITS DONE ITS DONE ! DON'T WAIT! DON'T BE LATE IT MAY BE A YEAR OR EVEN MORE BEFORE ANOTHER SALE LIKE THIS COMES THUROUGH THE DOOR





Dear Madame Toujours,

Recently, at my high-school reunion, I got reacquainted with one of my old high-school boyfriends. I haven't been seeing anyone seriously for a couple of years, and it was kind of fun to get back together with Josh. I have been looking for someone to settle down with, and it seemed like all the old chemistry was there. We went out on several dinner-and-amovie type dates, and everything seemed to be going extremely well until last night. Josh turned to me and said, "Hey, I've got a great idea. My girlfriend is working late. Let's go have sex in the utility closet across the hall from her office."

I muttered something about having a headache and wanting to go home. Josh did not seem at all put out with me for turning him down and was very nice about it, but I am starting to wonder if he would really be such a good choice for committed relationship. For one thing, I am a little put off by the girlfriend. It seems like the kind of thing he should have mentioned before he asked me out the first time.

Should I take this as a sign that Josh is not a suitable candidate for marriage and children, or am I missing something?

Sincerely,

Seeking Commitment

#### Chere Mlle. Commitment,

You are being correct to think that the girlfriend is the very important detail to be mentioning before anybody is going out on the dates with anybody else. The courteous thing is to go to Mlle. le Girlfriend and introduce yourself. Explain that you have been dating *M*. Josh and that he has forgotten (no doubt accidentally) to introduce you to one another.

When everybody is done chuckling and rolling the eyes over the forgetfulness of *M*. Josh, inquire politely if *Mlle. le* Girlfriend is objecting to your having the sex with *M*. Josh in the utility closet. Usually, it is polite to invite Mlle. le Girlfriend to join you. Possibly, she may wish to bring a date of her own. Possibly even her husband.

From North End to South End From Dockton to Burton Come see Dr.Basile If you're tired of the "hurtin"!



Vashon Family Chiropractic Dr. Thomas Basile 463-1850



#### Vashon Relief Volunteer Going to India

#### Continued from page 1

over India. The Seattle chapter of Asha for Education is sponsoring the rehabilitation of a village called Vellapallam in Tamil Nadu, one of the hardest hit areas of India.

In this small fishing village, only 10 of 200 homes were left standing after the tsunami. Asha volunteers like me will help provide temporary shelters and rebuild homes, rebuild boats, set up a fresh water source, and start a children's center.

The local coordinators have requested that I bring art supplies to give the children something to occupy themselves while their homes and schools are being rebuilt. If you would like to help Vellapallum get back on its feet, please consider doing any of the following:

Contribute light weight art materials (best if non-toxic and biodegradable) or toys. I will be bringing over as much as I can carry.

Kids could **send a message of support and friendship by** drawing a picture or signing a photo of themselves and their families or friends (put those Photoshop skills to work!). I will bring them with me to put in the children's center. The children in this village do not speak much English, but a picture would be well received. If you would like to **make a monetary donation** to this nonprofit organization's efforts, you can do so by following the recommendations for donating on their web site, www.ashanet.org. Please contact me if you have any questions or to donate items. I will be leaving the first week of February. 206-390-4184.

#### **Scouts Help Relief Efforts**

Be prepared for

Mlle. le Girlfriend to

indicate that she

prefers you no

longer date M. Josh.

yourself.

your life.

By Bruce E. Cyra, Troop Leadership **Council member** 

Scouts from the Vashon Baden-Powell Scout Troop recently took part in two successful efforts to aid the Indian Ocean tsunami victims.

On Sunday January 2, 2005, Scouts from the Troop made a presentation to the Disaster Relief Fundraiser sponsored by the Unitarian Fellowship. The presentation focused on the standard U.N. daily rations for one person, and the need for donations to supplement those rations. The entire Fundraiser resulted in a total of \$8,500 raised.

On Saturday, January 8, 2005, B-P Scouts collected donations of food, clothing, and goods to assemble Disaster Kits outside Thriftway Vashon's Store. Organized by Troop Leadership Council member Jon Whalen, in only four hours the Troop collected a pick-up sized truckload that was delivered the next day to an airlift effort associated with the Northwest International Health Action Coalition. A cargo plane will take off for Indonesia, where the goods will be delivered to victims of the disaster that struck the region. The truckload, amounting to over \$1,100 worth of goods weighing over 600 pounds, included 40 Disaster Kits, 10 blankets, 6 sleeping bags, and 200 pounds of non-perishable food (mainly baby food). "I was stunned at the response to our efforts, and the donations that people made

show the generosity of the Vashon Community," said Whalen.

The Vashon Baden-Powell Scout Troop is an independent Scout troop, registered with the World Federation of Independent Scouts, and modeled after the Baden-Powell Scout Association of British Columbia. Scouting was started in the late nineteenth century by Robert Baden-Powell. Baden-Powell developed the "Patrol" method to develop selfreliance and leadership skills. The Vashon BP Scout Troop is a youthled organization, open to all Island youth from 11 to 18 years old, regardless of gender, religious belief, or sexual orientation. The purpose of the BP Scouts is to support the healthy development of Island youth through a traditional Scouting program using outdoor skills and experiences. The troop, currently numbering seventeen girls and boys ranging from 11 to 14 years old, is supported by the adult Troop Leadership Council. The Troop meets the first three Monday evenings at the Methodist Church Annex, and schedules on an outing for the fourth weekend. To request more information, attend a meeting, or to join the Troop, leave a phone or fax message at 206-339-4342. or email us at VashonBPSouts@hotmail.com. The Troop's website is http:// vashonbpscouts.tripod.com.



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