In This Issue:

Vashon as Garden of Eden, Bring Back the One Room Schoolhouse, Black Iris, Food with a Face, Licorice, a Good Read, Clean and Sober Teenagers, Great Leaders, and more!

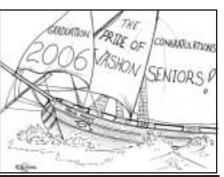


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Page 5



THE VASHON COPY

Vol. 3, # 12

TO INFORM AND AMUSE ~ TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM

June 7, 2006

School Board Digest:

Gifted and Talented Debate; \$310,000 Settlement; New Bus

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

The Vashon School Board met on Thursday, May 25.

Gifted and Talented: The biggest problem several people have with this proposal is the words, "gifted" and "talented." "Every child is gifted," said audience member Deborah Anderson.

About thirty-six members of the public showed up to comment (as compared to about 100 people at the last meeting who showed up because they thought sports might lose some funding).

"Meeting the needs of gifted children does not deprive other children," said one audience member.

Laura Wishik said that she went to high school with Bill Gates, and he was not a top performer in school. "We need a philosophy that all students are gifted. We need to find each child's ability and challenge it."

Ken Pritchard expressed his concerns that the program would deprive some students of resources, and create grouping and exclusivity among students.

Continued on page 4



Photo © C. Lee MacFarlane

Stalking the Elusive Volcano

By Ray Pfortner

Question: What do you get when you mix together 20 photographers of all different levels, one assignment, 4 classroom meetings, 3 group field shoots (two at 5:30 a.m.), 90 days and 5 jurors?

Answer: 34 glorious prints of one of Vashon Island's most beloved and most omnipresent landmarks, Mount Rainier.

The assignment seemed foolproof enough: to capture Mount Rainier as seen from Vashon-Maury Island in a photograph. After all, the participants had all spring to create one good photograph.

But who would know that spring, 2006, would be so filled with rain and clouds? The Mountain was not even visible for 15 days all spring, and many of those days offered uninteresting lighting and no chance for a good photograph. No wonder Mt. Rainier is called the "Mother of the Waters (*Tahoma* in the Puyallup language)!

Continued on page 13

Vashon College:



Then...



...and now. Top photo courtesy University of Washington; bottom photo courtesy of Vashon College

First Course Starts September 11

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

The first course offered at Vashon College is Vashon 101. It begins on **Monday, September 11, 2006**, 7 to 9 p.m., and you can't beat the registration fee: free. It will be a ten week course on the ecology of Vashon-Maury Islands, including flora, fauna, geology, and history. You can read the syllabus online now at the College's website, www.vashoncollege.org.

Continued on page 5

We Remember Thee, Remember Thee...



A large crowd of Vashon Islanders came out for the Memorial Day ceremony held at the Vashon Cemetery on Monday, May 29, to honor and remember fallen comrades, family, and friends. Photo by Daniel Brown.

Get in The Loop

Help Wanted Red Cross Shelter and Food Volunteer Staff STARTING PAY: The gratitude of your 10,000 Island neighbors UPSIDE POTENTIAL: The satisfaction of helping your community survive a devastating crisis STARTING DATE: Sign up immediately. Training available. POSITION REQUIREMENTS: · Ability to fit into an existing team of high energy, totally passionate volunteers. Calm demeanor in crises Methodical approach to following procedures Friendly and helpful attitude ARE YOU INTERESTED? Call Vashon Disaster Preparedness Coalition to set up an interview Ask for Mary at 463-3545 or Kate at 463-5117 VashonBePrepared 8

Have You Signed Up for Your Festival Booth?

The Vashon Maury Island Chamber of Commerce and the Strawberry Festival Committee 2006 invite local artists to display their creations at Ober Park during the 2006 Strawberry Festival (July 7th through July 9th).

To secure your spot, local artists may pick up an application at the Vashon-Maury Island Chamber of Commerce, and then send to P.O. Box 1035, Vashon, WA 98070 or fax: 206-463-7590. Booths are reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis.

...And Your Island Earthfair Booth?

Time to sign up for Island Earthfair now! If you are interested in singing your songs, selling your crafts, saving the world or at least the Island, and having a great weekend, you can download applications at the Island Earthfair's website, www.islanderearthfair.org; or write to P. O. Box 404, Vashon WA 98070; or leave a message at (206) 463-1725. Earthfair will be in August.

Plan Now for Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will run from **August 7 through 11** this year. The theme will be *Under Construction*. Students entering First through Sixth Grade will meet at the Vashon United Methodist Church from 9:30 a.m. to Noon, and the Youth Program for Middle and High School students will meet at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit each evening at 7:00 p.m.

The Youth Group of the Maple Valley Presbyterian Church will once again lead the Bible School and Youth programs. All Island children and youth are welcome. Registration begins in late June.

Plan Vashon's Health Care Future

Continue the discussion about health care needs on the Island. Come to a public discussion on **Wednesday**, **June 21** at 7 p.m. at the Courthouse. For more information, call Hilary Emmer, 463-7277.

Sing at Festival with Island Chorale

Vashon Island Chorale is seeking singers interested in joining the group for the annual summer "pops" concert at Ober Park on **Friday, July 7**. The 7 p.m. concert is part of the music program for Strawberry Festival and is free to the Vashon audience. Rehearsals take place on **June 26, 27, 29** and **July 5 and 6** from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the VHS band room. Dues are \$25 plus music costs. Voices for the tenor and bass sections are especially needed. For information or to sign up, contact Jo Ann Bardeen, 567-5841 or jbardeen@yahoo.com.

Get A Job

JobFind will meet at the Vashon Library from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on **Thursday**, **June 8.** This informal meeting is open to adults who are seeking employment assistance, including those who are currently working but are considering a career change. This is a VYFS program offered at no charge and no appointment is necessary. Job seekers can receive assistance with job leads, interview skills, resume preparation or other job search necessities. Library meetings are currently planned for the **2nd and 4th Thursday** of each month. For more information call VYFS at 463-5511.

Scholarship for Returning Students Returning Available

Vashon Presbyterian Church is accepting applications for the annual Heindsmann Family Endowment scholarship award. Applications must be completed and returned by **Thursday**, **June 29**, **2006**.

Application packets can be obtained at the church at 17708 Vashon Highway SW (463-2010). Office hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This award, endowed by Ted and Virginia Heindsmann, is given based on financial need, academic promise, and dependability. Consideration will be given to students planning to return in the fall to a program of study whether currently enrolled or returning after an absence.

An announcement of the recipient of the award will be made on Sunday, July 30, 2006.

A prominent doctor discovered that cheerful people resist disease better than chronic grumblers. He concluded that the surly bird gets the germ. - Lorin D. Whittaker. M.D.



Arline Abrams Courtesy Photo

Islander Specializes in Downsizing Seniors

By Mary Kay Rauma

Arlines Abrams will give a free workshop for seniors and their families that will provide an overview of how to traverse the complex terrain of downsizing and making a later life move. All are invited to attend this free workshop: **Monday, June 19**, 7:00 p.m. at the Vashon Book Shop. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Abrams at 206-264-4400.

Abrams also will be holding a fourpart seminar series on the six chief components of a successful housing transition; downsizing strategies to help you sort through a lifetime of belongings; understanding how to establish a timeline for a downsizing; navigating the financial terrain of a housing transition.

Classes will be held 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. **Wednesdays, June 14** — **July 13** at the Windermere Training Center. The cost for this four week class is \$60.00 and the class size is limited. Call 206-264-4400 to make your reservation.

Abrams has made helping seniors a life-long focus and is the author of the nationally recognized book, When It's More Than Just Stuff: How to Downsize Your Personal Belongings and Manage A Later Life Move. She has assisted hundreds of seniors and their families through the process of downsizing.

Abrams' says, "Taking the time to prepare for a later life move is critical. Planning ahead, because one chooses to, versus waiting until a crisis forces one to act, is the best thing people can do for themselves." She adds, "Moving from a lifelong home can be overwhelming, but it is often the necessary road to a better, easier life."

Morgan Wegner Begins Loop Internship



The Loop is pleased to welcome VHS student Morgan Wegner as an intern. Wegner plans to make writing her life work, and we are pleased that she is working us into her schedule.

She begins her senior year at Vashon High School next fall.

Because *The Loop* has never had a student intern before, a major part of her job will be to assist us in figuring out what the heck an intern does. We hope she learns as much from us as we will learn from her.





Adopt-A-Cat Day

Vashon Island Pet Protectors will host an Adopt-A-Cat Day **Saturday**, **June 10** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and **Sunday**, **June 11** from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Pandora's Box. Please stop by or call VIPP 206-389-1085.

2007 VIPP Calendar

Be part of Vashon Island Pet Protectors 2007 Pet Calendar. You can either mail your pet's photo to Kathy Chappell, P.O. Box 13182, Burton, WA 98013, along with your pet's name, a tag line about your pet, your phone number and a self-addressed stamped envelope or email your photo to kchappy@msn.com. All are welcome—cats, dogs, pigs, goats. Don't delay! Photos must be received by July 15. For more information, call Kathy 463-9203.

Featured VIPP Cats Available for Adoption



2

Jasmine is a lovely Siamese mix with gorgeous blue eyes, white feet, and a happy personality. 2-plus years spayed female.

Koko is sweet. *Koko*She starts off shy but quickly makes fast friends. Short hair, 8.5 year old tortoiseshell.

•The Vashon Loop

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Fran Gordon, Jeff Hoyt, Troy Kindred, Melissa
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Peter Ray, Weslie Rodgers, Jonathan Shipley, Ed Swan,
Mary L. Tuel, Marj Watkins

Guest writers this issue: Rayna Holtz, Kara Jones,

•Janice Randall.

to • Intern: Morgan Wegner

•Photographers: T Kindred, Peter Ray, Jc Kindred, Alex Kindred, Andrew James, Mary L. Tuel

Original art, comics, cartoons: Ed Frohning, Rick
Tuel, Jeff Hawley, Jeremy Gregory, Maggie
Bumgarner

Ad sales and design: Troy Kindred and Marie

Browne; Email: ads@vashonloop.com

•(206) 463-9207

Editor: Mary Litchfield Tuel

•Email: editor@vashonloop.com; (206) 463-3327

Publishers: Marie Browne and Troy Kindred

•PO Box 253, Vashon, WA 98070

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The Vashon Loop, p. 3 June 7, 06



Troy and Marie Share Zillow Talk

Talk about a busy month ahead! Not only is our youngest graduating from High School this month (thank God!) but we also bought Glendale Realty and will be expanding and growing our Vashon business. We are excited about the opportunity to provide more people with the Keller Williams standard of service, and we genuinely appreciate the support of our clients and other agents; there are some very skilled Realtors on this island, and we are honored to work side by side with them.

value.



Seattle Metro West

Marie: Troy, do you think we should tell people about our expanding business Troy: and our plans for the Glendale Realty building that we just bought?

Sure thing. We can tell them that the building is getting a complete facelift, and that when we open in mid-June we will have 15 agents available to serve our customers. And that we have some innovative services that we will be offering. But since you swore me to secrecy I won't say more about that.

Marie: Good - we'll want to surprise everyone. But we can tell people that even though we are remodeling, all agents are available. People who need real estate services can call their agent directly, and if they need help finding an agent they can call the West Seattle Keller Williams office at 206.935.3442 to get the number. Or they can call us at 206.463.LIST.

Troy: We should also tell people that we will be having a Grand Opening on July 1, starting at 3:00.

Marie: And that your band, Loose Change, will be playing! And that Loose Change is Vashon's funnest dance band, and that the lead singer is really hot.

Troy: Aw, shucks. If you insist, we can mention it. In the interest of full disclosure, we should probably also mention that I am the lead singer and you are married to me, so you are not exactly an impartial judge.

Marie: Consider it disclosed! Speaking of disclosure, let's talk about the dizzying array of information available to consumers about house valuations.

For example, Zillow. For our readers who don't know about Zillow, it's a wildly popular website (www.zillow.com) that says it can help consumers estimate the value of a house based on the sale prices of comparable houses in the area. The theory is good, and on the surface, the site looks pretty cool. You type in the address of a house, it searches for comparable homes that have sold in the area, and it comes up with an estimate of

Marie: Right. Too bad the valuations are so suspect. For example, there is a house just south of town that has been on the market for almost 7 months. It's a fixer, and was originally listed at \$249,950. The price has been reduced to \$232,950, and it just recently sold, though we won't know the final selling price until the deal closes.

But we do know that Zillow says it's worth \$270, 241! That's over \$37,000 more than the list price! Either Zillow is wrong, or the hundreds of buyers and their agents who saw that house just didn't realize the house was an underpriced gem. I'll go out on a limb and state that Zillow is wrong.

Marie: I'd have to agree. Computer generated estimate of value can sometimes be helpful, but can just as easily be way off. Garbage in, garbage out. The best way to get an estimate of your home's value is to ask a real estate professional. It goes without saying—but we'll say it anyway—that if you are considering selling, we would be happy to give you a price opinion based on all the factors that determine value. Just give us a call at 206.463.LIST.

If you have suggestions for topics to cover in Tips For Homeowners, or if you want to receive your copy via email, please write marie @kwvashon.com. And if you need real estate services, please give us a call at (206) 463-LIST.We would love to work for you.

Your Home Team Realty On Island Properties (206) 463-LIST (5478) Cottage Charmer! 13513 SW 170th Street View Home! 9225 SW 274th Street

Darling updated Beulah Park cottage at a very affordable price! Hardwood and Pergo flooring throughout, stainless appliances, stacking W/D, jetted tub, newer roof, and a mature and charming garden complete the very functional two level floorplan. \$295,000

అం 2 BR

1 bath ஒ

840 sq ft ஒ Built in 1926

MLS 26044175

On sewer **Beulah Pk Water** Two Level

Taxes \$1,999



1946 Sq Ft

3 bedrooms

3.75 bath

Come home to a completely remodeled spacious and serene home with a stunning view of that famous mountain and an easy-to-care-for landscaped yard.

Everything is updated and fresh throughout, with your comfort and easy living in mind - Viking stove, Bosch dishwasher, new refrigerator and trash compactor, new cabinets, new bathroom fixtures, tiled floors with in-floor heating in the bath, fully wired for cable and home networking, whisper quiet automatic **▶ Breathtaking View** garage door, propane fireplace insert,

> and much, much more. \$610,000 MLS 26034820

Fairy Tale Charm

17921 Westside Hwy SW

Waterfront! 22908 Vashon Hwy SW

This retro chic house calls for clambakes, cocktails, and cabin cruisers!

It's 3200 square feet of living space on 75 feet of low bank inner Quartermaster Harbor waterfront. It's picture windows from the floor to the high ceiling to take full advantage of the light and the view of the busy harbor. It's a home for entertaining guests and family, with two large decks practically over the water, plenty of bedrooms and bathrooms, and a separate guest cabin. \$999,000.

→ 3240 Sq Ft

3 bedrooms

2.5 bath

75 feet of low bank waterfront

Check out the virtual tours of these properties at www.kwvashon.com



MLS 26015188



Fairy tale charm abounds in this Tudorstyle home on a shy three acres of Vashon's highly desirable sunny Westside with a view of Colvos Passage. Inside, the wellthought out floor plan allows for plenty of private and communal space in beamed

high ceiling rooms that blend outdoor and indoor spaces with French doors and balconies. The grounds include a willow-

surrounded pond, cottage garden flower beds, a fenced vegetable garden, paddocks, and a separate garage and workshop with guest quarters. \$689,000



MLS 26047640

LoOpEd

Editorials and Letters to the Editor: We welcome your contributions! Submit them by email to: editor@vashonloop.com

Vashon as Garden of Eden

By Tom Herring

Sadness over greed at the top me to imagine that Vashon-Maury could become a Garden of Eden. The idea fits the moment because high oil prices have concurred with a view of worse, bad news for Islanders.

Here and now we could begin changing Vashon-Maury into an ecologically whole Eden instead of a bedroom community in which the rising cost of beds is making us the just waiting to be done, a big part of Mercer Island of the west. Some of the changes can be put into effect within ten years.

In the home, modern techniques are available to truly manage use of water and energy. Picture a kitchen in which utility rate of use and totals are displayed alongside the fridge magnets and the satellite clock. The placard on your new hot water heater says 237 therms a year; what it does use is on the readout. Or, as your spouse tried to tell you, that comfy gas insert does indeed use less gas than the furnace.

Have you just put in hydronic energy? Let now the rosy words meet the real therms. Have you a microwave? Then compare it with the cook top as to the cost of porridge. Hmm. Same rate, one kilowatt, but the total use for the microwave is half that for the cook top. In the garden, if you are watering by automatic, then the kitchen readout will tell exactly how much those white rhodies are getting. As to a leak, the water company will hug you if you nail a leak with that readout. All these readouts use available technology. Gas and electric use is already telemetered to Bellevue. So let that information be duplicated in your kitchen. Water will take a bit more effort as the water gods don't live in Bellevue. But I have a modern meter that could telemeter its data via a simple clip-on addition.

School Board

Continued from page 1

Susan Dufresne read a parent letter aloud that said in part that the schools need to "meet the needs of the children, not the egos of parents." Parent Nancy Kappelman said that it is wrong "...to exclude children who are beyond their grade level. It always comes down to funding. We have funding for special education. We have to educate these children."

The Board agreed to put off making a decision on adopting the program until they have more input from the community.

Settlement: Bassetti Architects, the designers of the Chautauqua Elementary facility, reached an outof-court settlement with the School District on May 25. Bassetti agreed to pay the District \$310,000, about the amount the District could expect to recover in the lawsuit. The money will go to pay down the bonds passed last November. Board Stackhouse

Rainwater catchments are and gullibility elsewhere has forced controversial in part because they poorly understood. Groundwater hydrology should be studied by every Islander, beginning at kindergarten.

Veggie scraps are grist for the grinder where they can become sauce du jour for the pile out back instead of work for the aerobic athletes in the septic tank.

Nearing the end of good things the charm of Eden should be reinstated. I refer to the composting toilet, nee outhouse. Modern versions trying to look like a W.C. only smell, but the real ones, the nopretense one-holers, do not smell. The cost is a load of dimes, yes, but compared to a DDES septic or a sewer assessment the clinking sound is comfortably muted.

Finally, we should require that new homes get at least half their energy demand from the sun. Gridtie is not necessary, and most of the gain can be gotten by passive construction means. Hot water panels work just fine.

Energy conservation and the wisdom of the ages are only part of life support for the Vashon-Maury organism. The rest is transportation. Heard it all, more boats, bridge, etc? Not quite. We must figure out a way to work where we live. We must form new contracts for every social structure on the Island. Kindergarten, senior center, and adults pried out of their car seats, all must do their life-thing without gasoline.

Starting now.

I'm not making this up: it has all been worked out in the charter of the Apollo Alliance, a new movement to make environmental work profitable.

Check out the Apollo Alliance at www.apolloalliance.org

emphasized that this was the smaller of two lawsuits the District had brought as a result of design and construction problems Chautauqua. The lawsuit against Wick Contractors continu

Vashon and Burton **Elementary:** Board Directors Bob Hennessey and Jake Jacobovitch and Vashon Parks Board members David Hackett and Bill Ameling met at the old Vashon Elementary Gym on May 19 to inspect it. Their consensus was that the old gym's fate should be decided by the community. The Parks District wishes to lease both the old Elementary School properties.

New School Bus: Jake Jacobovitch, Cathleen Cowan, and Char Phillips purchased a new school bus for the District. It carries 84 passengers, and the interior is "Pirate green."

In other business, the Board approved a meeting schedule for the next school year, and released a list of capital projects for the next year.

4th Annual Vashon "FRIENDS OF NRA



BANQUET AND AUCT

/ashon Sportsmen's Club

5:30 P.M. SOCIAL HOUR 7:00 DINNER AND AUCTION

THE HRA FOUNDATION (FRIENDS OF HRA) IS A 501(c)2 **NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

www.vashonsportsmensclub.com

Loop Letters

Editor, The Loop:

Hawe! Wolftown needs your help with our wildlife rescue! Are you wondering what to do with all that spare time! Come clean cages! Form lasting friendships and help YOUR Wolftown!

Call us! 206-463-9113 and Thanks!

T Martino, Wolftown

Editor, *The Loop:*

The Vashon YMCA would like to thank all the donors in the community who so graciously gave to our 2006 Partners with Youth Campaign. Your generosity and goodwill allowed us to raise \$45,000 for programs for youth on Vashon.

Your donations have many impacts on Vashon families: 54 parents go to work each day knowing their children are in safe hands, experiencing new activities and making friends at the School Age Childcare at Chautauqua, 72 kids were able to explore the Island, jump in a cool pool, and engage in fabulous hands-on projects at Summer Enrichment, 136 youth had a fun evening at the Y while their parents saw a movie, had a quiet dinner or took in the monthly gallery walk.

In its fifth year in existence, the Vashon YMCA has much to be proud of. We are committed to meeting the changing needs of children on the Island and creating programming that meets the needs unique to the Vashon community.

This year's Partners with Youth Campaign involved more campaigners than ever before. These spirited volunteers have helped all of us at the Y continue to work hard on maintaining and building on our successes. We are

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\$8.95 Domain Registration 1/yr Hosting, E-mail & Tools to Build your Web Site On-Line as low as \$2.49/mo http://www.RegisterExp.com

Discounted rates available for Non-profits www.DomainDiscountProgram.com

excited about new or expanded program opportunities.

If you haven't had an opportunity to give, your contribution is still needed. Drop by the Y or call Shelly at 463-0551 to find out how to make a pledge to Partners with Youth Campaign. We thank you all for supporting your Vashon YMCA.

Lindsay Aickin, Vashon YMCA

Memorial Day Color Guard Marches In



Left to right: John Burke, Roy Bumgarner, Burdell Hollis, Kenneth Van Fleet, Martin Teachout. Photo by Daniel Brown.

Advertise in The Loop!

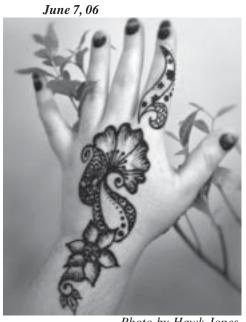


Photo by Hawk Jones

Henna as Art and Healing

By Kara Jones

Henna has been used as a body art for thousands of years. Traces of henna have been found in the fingernails of Egyptian mummies, and archaeology has shown that henna was used late in the Neolithic period. It has utilitarian uses, decorative uses, and in some cultures it is believed to

have healing properties. Though it can be used to "try out a design" that you might want eventually as a permanent tattoo, it is not

just a temporary tattoo.

As henna has migrated to America, henna body art has spread with more and more people seeing designs, getting henna'd, and learning more about it. In our culture you are likely to come across an artist doing henna at fairs, festivals, theme parks, sometimes beauty salons or tattoo parlors. But you can also find artists who do private studio sessions or who come to your location. Many are available for private parties and events.

So how do you find them?

The internet or entertainment companies are a great place to start. There are several artists in the Puget Sound area I know of who are known in general for excellent designs and using all natural henna.

And there are many more artists out there who don't yet have websites. You can try the local yellow pages. Search online directories which will often list an artist's name and phone number even if they don't have a website. Check in with local bellydancers who are likely to have had henna done for performances. If there is a retail store near you that sells bellydancing clothes or saris, you might ask the proprietor if they know of anyone. And check out entertainment companies for



reputable artists through places like: About Faces Entertainers at www.AboutFacesEntertainers.com

So what do I mean by "reputable?" Well, there is a key question you should ask an artist before you let them do henna on you. Ask them if they know what "black henna" is. If they do, they should warn you that "black henna" is an unsafe product that can cause permanent chemical sensitivity, has been known to burn people, and cause infection. If they don't know what "black henna" is or if they offer "black henna" as one of their services, be VERY wary and run the other way! HennaTribe.com offers a very thorough lesson on all-natural vs. "black" henna www.HennaTribe.com/ppd.php

Once you are certain they are using all natural products, ask to see their portfolio and designs. If you have a specific design in mind, get a copy of it to the artist before your appointment so they can work with it a bit. If you like what you see of their work, then go for it!

The henna paste will be applied to your skin — please note that where you put henna will have an effect on

Henna Artists in the Puget Sound Area:

Maya Vajra at www.AjnaHenna.com

Kara Jones (me) at:

Dagmar Peterson at:

www.HennaStar.com

www.HennaHealing.com

how it stains! The hands and feet will usually stain the darkest and last the longest because you have the most layers of skin cells there

that can take up the Lawsome molecule of the henna plant which is what stains. You do not have very many layers of those cells in places like neck, chest, lower back, so the stains there may not get very dark and definitely won't last very long.

The artist may have you wait while the paste dries from a shiny to a matte texture. Once it is matte (but before it is cracking), the artist may use lemon/ sugar mix or one of those new liquid adhesives like Nu-skin to seal the paste to the skin. They may wrap the design in paper towel for you. They



Photo Courtesy Vashon College

Vashon College

Continued from page 1

The College is located at the J. T. Sheffield Industrial Park south of town.

Ask Tom Bangasser, "Who is J. T. Sheffield?" and his face lights up.

"My grandfather. He believed that once you have an education, no one can take it away from you. He was a guy with a seventh grade education who made sure that all 15 of his grandchildren went to college. He had a passion for education."

Bangasser's mother Sheffield's daughter. "She would have been happy to go to college her entire life. She loved to learn," Bangasser says.

located just south of Vashon town, in the J. T. Sheffield Industrial Park.

College Board President Ted Clabaugh, Vice President Barbara

should tell you to leave the paste on

Gylland, and Bangasser are telling the Island their good news: we have a new college, on the Island, in a facility with state-of-the-art technology, and it will be whatever we, the people of Vashon, make it.

So what do we want to make it?

"The inaugural course will be like throwing seeds into a garden," Gylland said. "We are trying to inform the community that the college is a resource, and that it will complement other organizations on the Island."

The organizers are keeping options for the College open at present, hoping that it will be able to provide continuing education, certification courses, vocational training, and partnerships with other colleges, such as the UW, the Seattle Community Colleges, Antioch, and Seattle University.

"We can raise everybody's boat," says Bangasser.

Course and enrollment The new Vashon College is information will be posted at the website at www.vashoncollege.org, or call (206) 408-8000. Go to college. Find out what a syllabus is.

> these designs have been blooming and fading for thousands of years! That's quite a lineage to become a part of as you discover henna in your life!! About the author: Kara Jones co-founded

> KotaPress.com after the stillbirth of her son Dakota in 1999, and for

the last six years, she has worked as a MISS Foundation certified facilitator offering grief support families and

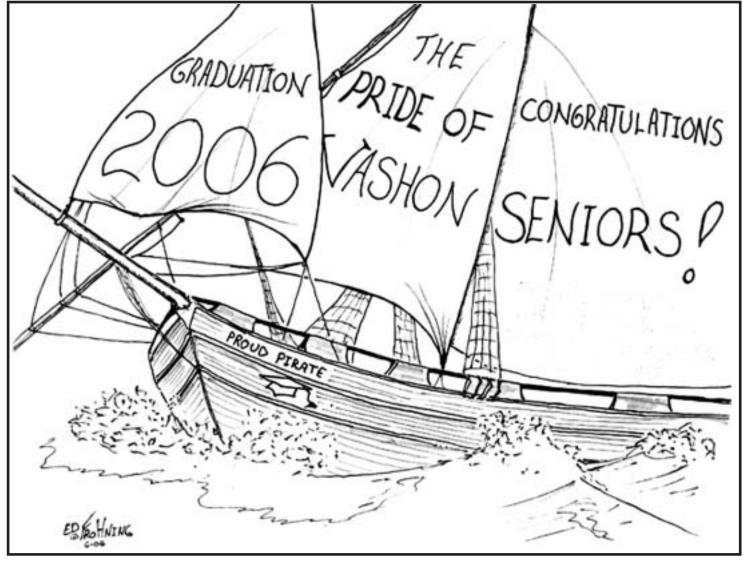


Photo by Nan Joy

educational sessions to caregivers. She is an expressive artist working in many formats from henna art to ATC, from altered books to handmades, from poetry to prose. With her HennaHealing.com adventure, she explores intentional henna art as an expressive tool for everything from celebration to grief, solace to release. You can be in touch with her via kara@hennahealing.com — please put "VASHON LOOP" in the subject line of your email so it doesn't get lost in the spam!

for as long as possible — at least 6 hours — overnight would be best. And when you remove the paste, please note that the design color will probably only be a bright, light, pumpkin orange color. This is normal! The henna stain on your skin now has to oxidize. Think of an apple when you first cut it open. Think of how it oxidizes and turns brown after a little while. Henna in your skin cells works the same way. It needs to be exposed to air & light for 24 to 48 hours after you've removed the paste in order to fully oxidize to the coffee brown or reddish color it will be. Be patient. The magic of henna is that its color will bloom and fade.

Though the temporary nature of henna art can be appealing as a "temporary tattoo", remember that



I have a modest proposal for the School District: give up.

Start over. Close the school buildings or convert them to high-density dwellings and rent them out, or sell them and the prime real estate they sit on for a few gazillion dollars.

Use that money to fund one-room K-12 schoolhouses all over the Island, either in separate buildings or rented parts of private homes, enough of them so that every student can walk to school (see, you like this already).

Why do I suggest this? I once heard a story about a new teacher in a one room schoolhouse who listed subjects, and asked students to raise their hands if they were good at a subject. Some raised their hands for math, some for language, some for social studies, some for sports and games. While most students raised their hands more than once, none of them was in all of the groups. The teacher asked the class why that was. One of the kids said, "Because everyone is good at different things. Everyone knows that."

OK, let's get real.

The Vashon School District has a mission statement: "Our mission is to provide educational resources and opportunities for students to become selfreliant lifelong learners with the knowledge, skills, habits, values and attitudes for living responsible, productive and satisfying lives.

The reality of this District is that it strives to produce students who can get into a nice four-year college. This is the District's big brag, and major selling point. It is hard cheese for the students and families who can't afford a four-year college, or don't think it's a disgrace to go to a community college or vocational school, or to join the military, or to get a

A lot of children fall through the cracks here on Vashon. Many of them cushion the fall with drugs and alcohol. The present proposal to give more attention and funding to "gifted and talented" children raises fears of "elitism and stigma" for some parents. If you believe that elitism and stigma do not exist in the schools right now, I congratulate you on the high level of enlightenment on your planet.

Why are so many families forced to like for you if someone had cared. home school, or send their children

somewhere else, in an effort to get an education for their children? Why do so many kids drop out? Why are some parents told, "Public school isn't for

My older son is in the Naval Reserve now. When he takes training courses he's always at or near the top of his class. This amazed him at first, because the main things he learned in school were that he was stupid, that he was not worth teaching, and the only reason the administration wanted him in school was for the funding they could get for having him there. Now he knows he's intelligent and capable, but he didn't learn that in

I asked him what the difference was between school and the Navy.

"First of all, the Navy realizes that everyone has a different learning style," he said. "Second, if you don't walk out of the class smarter than when you walked in, the instructor will get his butt chewed. They're in it to teach you, not for the money.'

Ah, money. For those of you who don't attend School Board meetings, money is most of what gets discussed. The Board and Administration are like Mom and Dad, trying to figure out how to pay

In a few days another class will graduate from Vashon High School. I know the exhilaration, pride, and relief parents feel watching their child walk across that stage. Students and their families are justifiably proud. I say congratulations to students and families who have worked so hard for such a long time. Congratulations especially to all you students and families who have persisted despite lack of support.

Every parent knows that every child is gifted and talented, whether they are headed to a nice four-year college or not. The proposed Gifted and Talented program is an attempt to honor that and not lose so many children through the cracks. Let us honor, respect, and teach every child, even the ones who don't fit a conventional mold, who aren't going to a four-year college, or who are "good at different things.

Just imagine what it could have been

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That wooshing sound you hear is the population of D.C. moving somewhere else.



Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is

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The Vashon Loop, p. 7



Tibetan Eared Pheasant Photo by Linda Barns

Don't Forget the Birds **Birding in Tibet**

By Ed Swan

I recently had the opportunity to visit Tibet. One of the many pleasant surprises included the amount and variety of birds to be found. The Lonely Planet guide that we brought along gives the impression that not much wildlife can be found except away from the more traveled areas. I found something new to see at just about every stop. Even though I spent much of the time bouncing along in a tourist bus, I managed to see some great birds while driving along at 80-90 kph on a two-lane road passing two vehicles on the right with a third coming head on to pass on the left.

The Tibetan adventure started on the way to Lhasa just minutes out from the airport with a Lammergeier, the huge Eurasian vulture, standing in a field and then a little farther on Barheaded Geese along bars in the flood plain of the Lhasa River. I was trying to figure out some gulls with my binoculars jolting up and down 2-3 inches when several of the Chinese tourists on the bus began yelling. The bus stopped and it turned out that the cargo bay had opened and we had been dumping luggage out on the turns for a while. While the bus left to go search for bags, leaving many of us alongside the road bewildered in the high altitude air, I took the opportunity to identify Brownheaded and Pallas's Gulls, Common Terns (the same species we get here in the fall) and Hoopoes. When we rolled into Lhasa, a tour-group screw-up meant we were staying in a second-rate hotel on the edge of town. This placed us across the street from the Lhalu Wetland Preserve, so I wasn't complaining. Though a Chinese guard wouldn't let me in, I walked along a fence looking in, seeing Common Coots, Common Redshanks, Ruddy Shelducks, Spotbilled Ducks, Grey-backed Shrikes, and a touch from home: Mallards.

In almost 30 years of birding, I find that if you go to a beautiful and interesting place, you will find beautiful and interesting birds. As we went next morning to the Portala, the palace of the Dalai Lama, I gazed up at this stunning building and saw a great place for birds. It sits on a low hill and then rises up above the hill to stand out over the city. After taking in the pilgrims making their clockwise way around the site, I saw a pair of Red-billed Chough flying along the walls. These are black crows with a long, bright red bills looking like ovstercatchers working the rocks as they moved along the white and red walls of the Portala. I haven't had time to research it yet, but these birds seemed closely associated with all of the monasteries we visited. Along the winding path up, around and then into the palace, Russet Sparrows and Blandford's Rosefinches entertained me when I stopped to catch my breath. Inside the courtyard we looked up to see and hear a crew of Tibetan women singing rhythmically as they worked their tools together to the music as they repaired the roof. Beneath them curtains hung open to the main entrance with Eurasian Crag Martins, a Eurasian swallow, swooping in to nest within the building.

The following morning we ditched our tour group and hired a Tibetan driver to take us to Ganden monastery, about 40 km from Lhasa. We took the highway along the river and then turned off onto a bumpy unpaved road to a small village. From there, uncounted switchbacks brought us 1500m up to the monastery at 4500m. The mist and rain of the valley turned to snow as

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The Portala, palace of the Dalai Lama. Photo by Linda Barns.

we explored. Entering the main temple, we could see Tibetans repairing and restoring one wall as a hundred monks chanted together in the middle. On the opposite wall,

bullet strikes were still visible from when the Chinese bombed the Ganden monastery from the air and struck with ground troops in 1959 and

Continued on page 10

ACROSS

5 Green seedless plant 9 Stake 13 sketched 14 Film brand 15 Cut of beef 16 Pineapple brand

1 Account (abbr.)

- 17 Giant in 'Princess Bride' 18 Allow to borrow 19 Internal organ 21 Wood particles
- 23 Project 25 Animal group 26 Enemy
- 29 Animal's hind part
- 31 Wilting
- 34 Licensed practical nurse 35 To that time
- 37 "Cheers" regular 39 Fable writer 41 Elver
- 42 Fit in 43 African antelope
- 44 Stuck up people
- 46 Pose 47 Factions

- 50 Monetary unit 51 Vane direction
- 52 Old 54 Daddy 56 Donors
- 59 Tidy up 63 The other half of Iwo 64 Chaos after alarm
- 66 Unmannerly 67 Change
- 68 Time period 69 Bite 70 "as you _
- 71 Wet 72 Christmas meats

DOWN

- 1 Totals 2 Prune 3 Jail room 4 Baby bird sound 5 First day of wk.
- 6 Chances of winning 7 Biblical woman 8 Veered

9 Referring indirectly

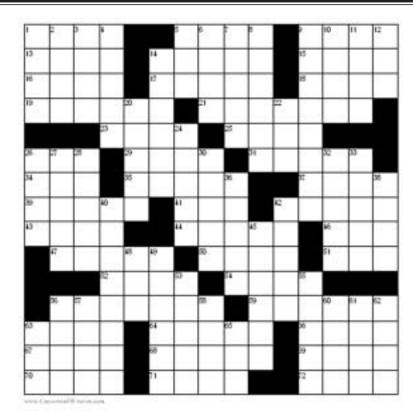
- 10 Opp. of yeses 11 Color
- 12 Goal 14 American 20 Devour (2 wds.)
- 22 Lose moisture 24 Flying toys 26 It's a grand old
- 27 Golf tournaments 28 Result
- 30 Legal claim to property 32 Scandinavian
- 33 Unripe

40 Kiss

- 36 Architect Frank __ Wright 38 Dole out
- 42 Side note 45 Shrink back in fear 48 Teaspoon (abbr.) 49 Oozed
- 53 Hang 55 Express disgust

60 Sandwich fish

- 56 Conceal 57 Native ruler 58 Frozen rain
- 61 Swiss-like cheese 62 Information
 - 63 Semite 65 Stiff



The Vashon Loop, p. 8 June 7, 06

Island Life

Text & photos by Peter Ray



Iris chrysographes

Black, White and Red All Over

No, this isn't another nun joke, nor does it have anything to do with humorous anecdotes about zebras or newspapers, especially since the printed media (and the broadcast one as well) are for the most part jokes enough in themselves these days, to the point where we don't need to concoct any stories on their behalf. I am of course ignoring the fact that these words are appearing on newsprint stock. And since the garden is a place of refuge from most worldly troubles, we will leave those other concerns at the gate as we step back into the world of seeds and flowers.

To start out, we will state that anyone who has planted a seed and watched as it grew has been complicit in an act of magic. Regardless of the science involved,

transformation of what appears to be a speck of dust or a shiny organic pebble or some dried out pit or bean into a delicate woodland flower or a towering tree, for me is nothing short of magical. A seed is Ravenswing



like a portal through which a life force passes. In many ways a seed is a bit like one of those diminutive clown cars, spinning around out there till it parks and the door opens and whoa, where did all those clowns come from and how did they fit in there, anyway? It's always fun to take tree seedlings to market and to witness the blank stare when someone is told that that little potted plant could be a hundred feet tall someday. Perhaps it is that jack-and-thebeanstalk thing that has many people confused and detached from that growing thing that plants do while we're not looking, and most certainly not waiting.

Patience is, of course, one of the biggest lessons in gardening. Where seeds are concerned, I have learned that there are two kinds of patience — active and passive. For years I got

along with planting seeds and waiting for them to sprout with a minimum amount of effort on my part. Then something shifted, and freshly planted flats of potentially choice plants were torn up and harvested by late night visitors. Flats of seeds that were just germinating, as evidenced by the few sprouted bits left by these raiders, were rummaged through as well. In an effort to reap the rewards of sometimes two or three years of waiting for a select group of seeds to germinate, an active form of patience was a necessary path to stomp down. Mouse traps, hardware cloth-covered frames and regular slug patrols with pruners at my side became the active rule in the waiting game of patience with

There are a number rewards for being This act of poking up through soil and mulch has never ceased to excite me. For

and the Dove Tree (Davidia), this appearance above the soil line is a on me that it was not a description, two to three year ordeal that doesn't always result in much of a performance. Then, in the case of the lily, it can be another five to seven years before the flowers appear — that they show up as fragrant twelve- to fifteen-inch white trumpets on the top of eightto ten-foot stalks gives ample reason for enduring this delay in gratification. In the case of the Dove Tree it can be seven to ten years before the white flower-birds take roost in its branches. This is why we wait.

There is a crap-shoot element to this that adds a little something to the mix. Throwing out the seeds onto the field of soil is a bit like a rolling of the dice- in many ways we are gambling here. First of all, there



is always the uncertainty as to whether or not they will even come up. This is usually the least of the gambles involved. In getting one's seed from various sources, trueness to name can be a bit of a problem, but not generally a huge worry. Then, as the seeds are coming up, there is the mutant factor that one scans for in search of variegations or deviations from the standard leaf color. Then there is the wait to see what the flower colors are. This is where we get to the first part of this column's title. Four years ago I sowed seed of the black iris, Iris chrysographes. We are now seeing the first flowering on many of these seedlings and the verdict is they're pretty black. There is more coal than purple in the ones that have flowered so far, and this, as

they say, is a good thing. Our next example is one where randomness of color is much more prevalent. My original seed for these patient particular plants came in a packet with seeds, the from gardening friends in England. first of which is I briefly questioned the depth of this the germination. friendship when I first examined the writing on the envelope the seeds came in. Below the plant name were three words that gave me pause, and those were "Junk Green Seedlings". My mistake was some plants like to interpret this message as a the Giant Lily description of what was contained (Cardiocrinum) therein and my immediate thought was: "Gee, thanks." Then it dawned but an action to be taken. As it is, beyond its many umbels of small white flowers, Anthriscus "Ravenswing" is known for its dark lacey foliage - the species from which it was selected normally has green foliage. Obviously it was being stated here that in order for one to have the best forms of "Ravenswing" one needed to act with selective and destructive discrimination. What comes to mind here is that line from Coppola's film Apocalypse, Now, where the order is given to "terminate with extreme prejudice." Sometimes it is necessary, and okay, to be ruthless. It was Anthriscus "Ravenswing" that taught me a few lessons in garden photography as well because the darkness and fineness of leaves make it is nearly impossible to photograph — I'm still working on that one.

With the last bit about red in the title we kind of had our way with the truth. As it is, the flowers that recently started to open on my Beschorneria plants aren't really red. In truth, the stalks that bear the flowers a couple feet above the yucca-like foliage are more of a glowing magenta-red. As the tubular flowers break from their buds they continue that color almost the entire two inch length and then



Beschorneria

finish off with a green lip — it's really quite showy. Actually, that they're here at all is kind of amazing since Beschorneria plants are found in Mexico and are mostly not that cold hardy. These plants came from seed that formed on a plant growing in Madison Park. This was one of three plants that had come from a hybridizer in San Francisco and were the result of a cross between Beschorneria yuccoides and B. septentrionalis. With one species flowering green and the other red it was uncertain as to which way these seedlings would go. Rather than blending, in this Beschorneria we find that we have the distinct colors of both parent flowers, which to my mind was completely worth the wait.

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The Vashon Loop, p. 9 June 7, 06



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Community Supported Agriculture: We Grow It Here for You

By Lisa Mathias

Vashon's own Bob and Bonnie Gregson wrote the book that inspired many to try their hand at small-scale farming. In Rebirth of the Small Family Farm, the Gregsons chart their growth from farmer wannabe's to serious innovators leading the Vashon community to a new understanding of local food production and distribution. Jeff and I read the book right after our first experience raising a batch of twenty-five chicks. Those amazingly industrious creatures convinced us that producing our own food was not only possible but also inspiring and joyful and fulfilling. However, farming during the evenings and weekends between full-time jobs can be less joyful and fulfilling and more exhausting and injury prone. The Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model appeared to be an excellent method to begin full-time farming immediately.

Community Supported Agriculture began its modern incarnation in Japan. A group of women dismayed by the increasing anonymity of the food system organized producer/consumer cooperative associations called *Teikei* - "seeing the farmer's face on the food." This model, called Community Supported Agriculture in the US has been sweeping across the country since the late 1980s. Although the CSA model now has many variations, the basic agreement of support between a farmer and those who will eat the fresh produce is key. Before the limited number of member shares in the upcoming production. Each member is then given a portion of what is ready for harvest every week of that season.

True to the original motivation, CSAs emphasize accountability. Members know exactly how their food is grown, how the farm land is stewarded, and what can be produced locally because they see it first-hand every week. For growers, our economic welfare depends not an arbitrary commodity valuation but on the strength and awareness of our community.

Four Island farms offer CSA subscriptions this year.

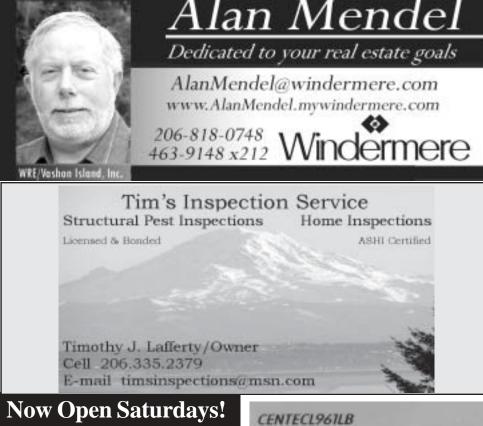
Excited to be entering their eighth CSA season, Amy Bogaard of Hogsback Farm states, "We love providing this service to the

community and have been grateful each and every year for the support the community has shown. It is wonderful that our subscribers appreciate seasonally fresh local produce." Hogsback Farm CSA is usually a 20-week season that begins the end of May and goes to the second week in October. They provide a wide variety of vegetables throughout the season and a u-cut bouquet of flowers from July to October. Cost is \$450 for vegetables and you can add eggs for \$80. Contact Amy at 206-463-1896 or hogsback@centurytel.net

New to the CSA model but certainly not to farming on Vashon, Timken Farms offers beans, broccoli, cabbages, carrots, cauliflower, cucumbers, chard, corn, kale, leeks, lettuce, mustards, collards, onions, dill, cilantro, parsley, chives, basil, pumpkins, peas, radishes, spinach, tomatoes, peppers, and squash from mid-May through September. Their twenty shares have already been purchased for this year and members will enjoy weekly boxes that start out around 5 pounds per week and grow to more than 20 pounds at the peak. Looking forward to future CSA seasons, Mark states, "We welcome you to join our CSA and be guaranteed to receive the finest quality produce weekly with easy pick up times at an affordable price. We would love to be your personal farmers!" Check out their website more information www.timkenfarm.com

Island farm, Zilla Copper offers a fresh bouquet CSA for twenty-six weeks, early April to early October. The full subscription is \$468 and a half subscription of thirteen weeks for \$234 with deliveries on Monday mornings. If your day has ever been brightened by the lovely flowers at Harumi Hairstyling or the Vashon Athletic Club, you can attest to the value of this service! Both are subscribers for the third year. Contact Zilla at 463-4790 or Zillacop@yahoo.com.

Jeff and I are growing on two Island farms this year and have changed the name of our CSA to reflect our core goals. Journey School Community Food acknowledges that food is the foundation of health - for our own families, for our community, and for





the earth itself. We are inviting thirty families to join us this Summer for a twenty week CSA, June 13th to October 24th. Every week, you'll receive a selection from each of these categories: greens for eating raw, greens for cooking, root vegetables, berries, herbs, and classic summer vegetables as well as a loaf of organic Essential Baking Bread. Shares cost \$500 and egg shares are also available. Register now at our website www.luckyfarm.us or call 206-498-0986.

And here's another idea... By Kara L.C. Jones

This summer/fall season, we are doing a farm share with Lucky Farm. Bounty of fresh, organic veggies, yummy bread and 1/2 dozen eggs each week, now till end Nourishing the soul with of October. But for several of the growing season, a farmer sells a flowers grown lovingly on her weeks of the subscription, Hawk and I will be out of town. So at first, I thought about cancelling the farm share idea all together. Then, we happened upon a great thought: what if we could donate our shares in those weeks to the Food Bank!! So we talked with Yvonne at the Vashon Food Bank, and she loved the idea. So now, we get to have wonderful Vashon-grown food during the weeks we are here — and we get to share our share with others on the weeks we are not here! Maybe there are others who would want to donate a week or two of their shares if they are going to be away at different points this summer??

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Master Gardener Clinics

Information on scotch broom and other invasive plant identification and control is available at the free Plant Clinic located in the breezeway between True Value Hardware and Thriftway. Master Gardeners will be there from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Fridays, June 2 and 16, and Saturdays, June 3 and 17, to identify mystery plants, diagnose plant problems and answer your gardening questions. Bring samples or cuttings for help with specific concerns.

There is no time like the present to halt the spread of scotch broom on your property, remind WSU trained Vashon Master Gardeners. Seeds and other parts of these plants are toxic to humans, horses and other livestock. The golden flowered shrubs, considered potential fire hazards, are at their blooming peak, already forming the seeds that explosively spread these plants. Each plant can produce 10,000 seeds that can remain viable in the soil for years. Removing the shrubs before the seeds form will prevent additional production of new plants.

Help is available outside of Vashon Master Gardener Clinic hours through a master gardener help-line from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at 296-3440 or online at gardening.wsu.edu.

The clinic is part of the Washington State University King County Extension Program serving gardeners in Western Washington with science based horticultural information.

The Vashon Loop, p. 10 June 7, 06

The Dorsal Spin:

Orca Annie and Odin are in Juneau this week.

Please support the eco-friendly work of the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP) by reporting local whale



sightings ASAP to 463-9041. Contact Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com.

Birding in Tibet

Continued from page 7

through the mid-sixties. From being almost totally destroyed, the monks and others restored much of Ganden to a new beauty and calm. I didn't see many birds besides Red-billed Chough and the ever present Eurasian Tree Sparrows (the Chinese and Tibetan counterpart to the House Sparrows we have). The snow damped the bird opportunities but it was worth it to experience the atmosphere of peace and quiet of the monastery in the gently falling flakes.

Because of the weather, our driver

when the temple gong sounded. Up we went, with the nun taking pity on us and stopping about every 50m for us to catch our breath. The mountain side possessed a network of trails through a very dry low brush. I heard a lot of birds but saw only a few: White-throated Redstart, Great Tit, Oriental Turtledove and a large Upland Buzzard gyring from high above us to far below. To the side, an almost dry stream produced a Brown Dipper. Occasionally, kids chased along donkeys with loads making sure the beasts took the right trail up and down the mountain. When we reached the top and entered said he would take us to another the village, I immediately saw so



Prayer flags at Kambala Pass. Photo by Linda Barns

village where there were "many many birds it was hard to know birds." It was on the other side of Lhasa, up a side valley from the Lhasa River. We certainly wouldn't have driver and probably wouldn't have had access without a Tibetan guide if we had. We drove to the base of a mountainside with a temple barely visible 500m up. The driver told my

which to identify first. One of my hoped-for species, Tibetan Snowcock, walked by in a covey up a dirt path heard or found this place without the in between a small temple and the houses of the village. Rosefinches, Plain Mountain Finches and Godlewski's Bunting competed for attention. Meanwhile, many of the villagers were wondering what I was wife Linda (which through one of the doing. My field guide with pictures many ironies of Tibet had to be a of the local birds provided a means conversation in Chinese, since we of minimal communication and much knew no Tibetan and he spoke only a amusement as they told me the few words of English) that we should Tibetan names of the birds. Too soon, follow this nun up the trail and return the gong sounded, monks blew on



Horns signaling time to leave. Photo by Linda Barns

June is for weddings - is your pet planning one? We can help. Lots of gift ideas, catering ideas for canine guests -

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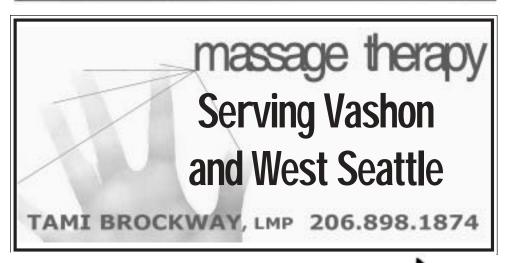
Horus' question of the week:

The return of Jenny - the greatest provider (push-over?) of bonita flakes.

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their long, deep horns and we began our descent. Escaping the tour group to explore Ganden and this village on our own was one of the highest points of the trip (almost literally, though our drive with the tour group to Kangbala Pass at 4990m was higher than Mt. Rainier).

Meanwhile, back on Vashon, I'm still saying to myself, so what was I doing before I left? A few interesting birds popped up to report. Steve Caldwell found a Western Kingbird, the fourth record for Vashon, by Maury Island Regional Park. Moria Robinson saw Turkey Vulture keeping pace with her car window for a ways along Vashon Highway. Four juvenile Brown Pelicans visited Pt. Robinson for the Low Tide Festival. Vashon gets at most one pelican sighting a year, usually of single birds. This is the first spring and multiple bird record that I know of. All other sightings have been in late summer or early fall. If you have an interesting sighting or question about local birds call me 463-7976 or email at edswan@centurytel.net. Be sure to



catch the next on-island field trip by the Audubon Society on Saturday, June 10, meeting at Ober Park park and ride at 8 a.m. and returning at 10 a.m.

 $\omega\omega\omega$

What magic there is in a girl's smile. It is the raisin which, dropped in the yeast of male complacency, induces fermentation. -- P. G. Wodehouse

June 7, 06

The Vashon Loop, p. 11



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

Happy Birthday Gemini!

The main thing you have to depend upon is your experience. Lately you've not only gained new experience, you've seen just how much you have in the way of past experience, and how valuable it really is. Perhaps the most potent lesson that's come home to roost is to not let others decide how you feel about yourself. The second most potent lesson is not being too hard on yourself. It's a psychological and emotional policy that quite literally gets you nowhere, which very much contradicts the fact that you really do have somewhere you need to get to, but more than that, there is something you believe in passionately that it's come time to dedicate yourself to.

Aries (March 20-April 19): Courage is your first, middle and last name right now; you are living the power of your heart. This is a tremendous gift, and it's never bestowed upon someone for no reason at all. Soon enough you will encounter the situation that you will need to rise up and meet, and I trust that you will find yourself fully capable of doing so. At the same time, your selfsacrificing tendency may distract you from an important personal goal, but this is not necessary. When you finally balance your own needs against those you perceive in others, you'll make real progress — and it will come at nobody's expense. Everyone will gain, and that is the essence of the issue.

Taurus (April 19-May 20): People are growing accustomed to how accommodating you're being, but they won't mind if you take some elbowroom for yourself. In fact, there is enough room for you, and that means room for what you feel and what you believe. Imagine these are like plants, and to keep them alive, you need to give them water and light, and tend to them daily. This is not a matter of getting permission, it's a matter of directing your creative energy to where you know it needs to go.

Gemini (May 20-June 21): Your finances run in cycles, and you can now take special care to make sure they're on the upswing. Your money habits are anything but haphazard, and it would be wise of you to see the cycles and notice the thoughts that lead to them. I suggest you do at least a medium-range study, perhaps going back a year or so. In our society there's very often a link between how we feel about ourselves and how much money we have, and another between how we feel about ourselves and

how much we spend. Rather than making extra cash, I would say the premium is on feeling safe, sane and like your contribution matters.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): So much that you've held inside is rising to the surface of life. It's as if you can finally feel the power to become the living embodiment of your dreams. What else is life for? Well, I am sure you could come up with a few other potential purposes; but I'm not sure you've ever quite felt so strongly that you simply had to do what was right for you. That motivation is a precious gift, and you're heading for a breakthrough that will permanently change the way you think about yourself and what you have to offer the world. It's so much more than you think.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23): Mars is about to enter your birth sign, and I can translate that into plain English. To feel your power, you'll need to face your fears — the classic success formula. The few days that Mars is transitioning, particularly June 3 and 4, may feel like you're giving birth to yourself, with all the attending sense of danger and transition, and these are a real moment to face your fears. Of course, this is one of the scariest things most people can think of, but if you've got one thing going for you right now that is boldness. Get on top of this game. The rewards will be worth it.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22): Those who know what they want are more likely to get it. Currently it seems you're making up your mind about what that is, and it wasn't what it was yesterday. One hindrance to making a decision is that you may feel that deciding what you want will shape the course of your life. Everything hinges on one choice you have to make, and that may feel overwhelming. In such a moment, awareness counts the very most. Any decision you really need to make now can be made now. Everything else can wait.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23): All that matters now is that you know what's true for you. If you're feeling some fear, that's a good sign because it means you're in touch with just how momentous the moment is. You have every reason to be confident, yet at the same time, the dimensions of what you're aware of will keep you humble and remembering how delicate the world is, and how gentle you need to be all the time. You don't have to push your agenda on everyone. You just need to know it in your heart.

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Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22): Suddenly there's far less difference between what's the most meaningful for you and what is most meaningful for everyone else. So recently it seemed like everyone had separate interests; today the ground we share is wide enough to hold everyone, and what we all feel, and what we may believe. It's true that most people have lost all contact with the notion of the 'common good" but your charts are speaking boldly on this subject at the moment. You are a natural born leader, which is lucky for you in times when all the world needs is confident leadership. Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22): You've put up with plenty of uncertainty lately, which is never easy for a Sagittarius who likes to keep things moving in that one definite direction. Now, a rare planetary alignment is reminding you that more than you need to do anything, you need to make a decision involving a partner or a loved one that will resolve certain lingering issues once and for all. The initiative in this equation comes from you; you set the process in motion. Just be gentle — this person is more sensitive

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20): A partner or loved one is in a delicate position, one that they didn't bargain for and may not understand. They're making a decision on which their entire world seems balanced. Is this drama, or is it real? Is every decision one that our world hinges on, or are some more important than others? You may sense the intensity, and you'll go a long way toward helping by forgiving past conflicts and being with them in the here and now, right where they need you. Remember, it's their life, not yours, so all you need to do is be present and loving.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): I'm sure you'll agree, these are some of the most interesting years of your life. They have also brought some real tests, which is another way of saying you're gaining experience and learning to put it to work. This week, though, you will begin to see the advantage of all you've been learning, a process you've undertaken with no

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definite promise of a reward. A rare planetary alignment is reminding you that you really do get back all that you put out in life. Which in your case is very good news.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): You are a dynamo of productivity, but I suggest you make sure your efforts are going toward the right cause. I'm not saying they're not but you need to evaluate and make conscious adjustments. You want to give your all, and you will, but remember, your work is having an impact, and that impact is based more on your specific message rather than on the degree of effort you exert. For the next few weeks you may be inclined to put out more and more energy, but I suggest you nip this weed in the bud and make a conscious choice about what you do, why you do it, and when you take action. When in doubt, stop and send yourself a postcard from the here and now.

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The Vashon Loop, p. 12 June 7, 06

LIVING WELL WITH PLANTS

Text and drawings by Kathy Abascal (AHG)



The Wonders of Licorice

Many of us love real licorice candy, and enjoy its sweet flavor in various herbal tea mixtures. But few fully appreciate what an amazing and useful plant licorice is. Licorice root has been used medicinally for thousands of years in both European and Asian traditions. In fact, it was recently found in a Chinese emperor's tomb. Although it had been in an urn for over 800 years, the licorice still retained its active medicinal

legume, and prefers alkaline soils. It dislikes soggy soil around its roots so, although it can be grown here in the Northwest, it is not really happy here. There is a North American species of licorice that grows like a weed in the dry, alkaline soils of New Mexico, and I suspect that you get a better medicine from licorice grown in an environment that results in such respond well to it. Licorice is also

vigorous growth. Licorice has a very long history of use for coughs, throats, sore stomach and duodenal ulcers, and hepatitis. The old Greek and Roman physicians used licorice as a treatment for asthma and almost all other lung diseases. It was used similarly traditional

Chinese medicine. Modern research soothes irritated mucus membranes. It is antispasmodic, and suppresses coughs very well, with an effect equal or better than codeine. It also has an antispasmodic effect on the stomach and intestines.

Actually, licorice has many positive effects in the stomach where it acts as an anti-acid, a demulcent to heal inflamed membranes, and as an antibacterial. These properties are useful in healing ulcers, and several clinical studies show that licorice effectively helps the body heal stomach and duodenal ulcers. In most cases, herbalists use the whole root to treat ulcers but there is also a chewable DGL licorice tablet available where the glycyrrhizin has been removed (DGL =deglycyrrhizinised a word to remember next time you prescription medicines.

play Scrabble). Glycyrrhizin gives licorice its sweet taste and is 50 times sweeter than sugar but can raise blood pressure. DGL retains the ulcerhealing properties of licorice.

Licorice is strongly antiviral. The Japanese use isolated glycyrrhizin in HIV infections to moderate the patient's immune function and help suppress HIV replication. They have done several long-term studies showing that oral administration of this compound was quite effective in HIV patients; they also often administer it intravenously and report that it effectively suppresses HIV levels. Unfortunately, there are no studies on the benefit of using the whole plant but given its historical uses, it should work equally well.

Licorice also contains the only compound found to be effective against SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome), an infectious, often fatal respiratory disease that surfaced a few years ago. The Chinese use licorice to treat chronic viral hepatitis, and they claim to have over a 70 percent success rate in their treatment of that ailment. Licorice is also a common ingredient in many topical treatments for Herpes simplex sores.

In the Western tradition, licorice Licorice is a nitrogen-fixing is often used to "strengthen the adrenals," which describes its adaptogenic properties. Adaptogens are herbs that help the body and the brain deal with stressors, whether physical or mental. Licorice is often one of the very best herbs to strengthen children suffering from frequent colds and coughs. Children tend to like its taste and usually

> very helpful in stressed adults who have low blood pressure, and who flush and blush easily. It is a wonderful herb in perimenopause but has to be used with some caution because many women move towards hypertension as they go through their hormonal changes.

tends to confirm the wisdom of these—cautiously in people with a tendency—instinctively love it or dislike it. uses. Licorice is a demulcent that to hypertension because glycyrrhizin However, I have not found that these an aldosterone synergist. Glycyrrhizin can cause the body to retain too much sodium, and excrete too much potassium. This can lead to called condition pseudoaldosteronism which causes edema, hypertension, and headaches. On occasion this can lead to cardiac dysfunction and sometimes severe hypertension. In fact, there are case reports of people developing these conditions after consuming large amounts of licorice candy. As a result, licorice is avoided in people with a history of heart or kidney problems, hypertension and in people who are obese. Licorice is also avoided in pregnancy and in patients taking diuretics, stimulant laxatives, blood thinners, and various other



HOMEGROWN

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.

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Pseudoaldosteronism caused by licorice is, however, quite uncommon. No side effects were observed in the Japanese studies where glycyrrhizin was administered intravenously as a treatment for HIV. And in most people, any risk of negative effects due to licorice can be avoided by consuming a diet rich in fruits, vegetables and other potassium-rich herbs to replace any potassium loss.

Much like marzipan, the taste of licorice is one that affects people Licorice must be used very differently. Mostly people likes and dislikes reflect whether licorice might be beneficial for the person. Instead, I think it can be a taste well worth acquiring for many who tend to avoid it. $\omega\omega\omega$







Book Review

A Lifelong Affair with Music

By Rachel Bard

What famous name comes to mind when you think of pre-Castro Cuba?

Move over, Hemingway. Make way for Israel Levis.

Levis is the protagonist of this seductive, nostalgic novel, laid in a Cuba that was pre-Castro, pre-Hemingway and pre-Batista, the occupation and dark times. dictator whom Castro overthrew.

You'd think the author was Havana-born and bred, so vividly does he bring a long-lost Cuba to life. Actually he's

A Simple Habana Melody (from when the world was good), by Oscar Hijuelos. Paperback, HarperCollins, 2003, \$13.95

from New York City, though of he saw, nor the sounds he heard." Cuban parentage. However he does it—by osmosis, genetic memory, listening to his parents, visiting their native isle—somehow he plunges the reader headfirst into Levis's exuberant, pleasure-loving times.

Israel Levis's father, a doctor, passed his passion for music on to his son. His mother gave him his fastidiousness and his religious faith. In spite of his Jewish-sounding name (which would one day get him into deep trouble), Levis was as devout a Catholic as ever frequented the Havana Cathedral or confessed his sins (mostly visits to brothels), then went serenely out to commit them anew. He was a gargantuan man with gargantuan appetites: a stately and imposing figure, often seen in the city's congenial restaurants conversing with cronies, eating and drinking the night away.

His appetite for music was even more consuming. From pianoplaying child prodigy to successful composer, he personified the explosion of multi-cultural music that Cuba joyously exported to the world, with its influences from African rhythms, Spanish zarzuelas and Latin American folk melodies.

Despite his prodigious output, Levis was forever associated with one song: Rosas Puras (Pretty Roses), a catchy melodic rumba that he composed almost offhandedly for Rita Valladares, the love of his life. Rita, a beautiful, talented singer, Ernesto Lecuona, Cuba's most waited for years for Israel to declare famous composer. Both were born himself. He never did. Why? Diffidence; unwillingness to believe someone so lovely and sought-after could care for him; inability to commit himself are advanced as reasons. Yet the book never makes this quite clear.

At any rate, events separated them. Rita went on world tours, $making\ conquests,\ performing\ \textit{Rosas}$ Puras to wild acclaim, returning fleetingly to Havana to resume their friendship. Israel, chafing under the restrictions of the dictator Machado and convinced his own life might be in danger because of his outspoken opposition, left for Paris. He wrote Rita, "at my ripe old age of 42, I think it is time to see something more of the world again. A fortune-teller

has confirmed my feelings, and I have spent many hours in church praying for guidance."

And see the world he did: not only Paris, where he was lionized and continued to compose and perform, but much of Europe and the United States. Hijuelos loves to name-drop. Levis seems to have met everybody who was anybody in the giddy '20s and '30s: George Gershwin, Joaquin Rodrigo, Ravel, heavyweight champion Jack Johnson, Stravinsky, Picasso, Dalí, Mussolini, the Pope.

Then came the German Convinced that Levis was a Jew

> because of his name, the Nazis seized him and sent him to Buchenwald. There "the maestro did not believe the things

Sometimes the Germans dressed him up in a formal suit and took him off to perform at their parties. Passing through the kitchen and its aromas of roasting chicken and lamb chops, he felt nauseated and nearly fainted. "He is given a cup of milk and some bread with a piece of sausage, then a shot of brandy so he might have sufficient strength to later perform on the piano."

After the war he came home to Havana. When he'd left he was affectionately called El Gordito-the Fat Guy. When he returned he was *El Flaco*—the Skinny One. His body had wasted and aged and so had his soul. He was unable to touch the piano, uncertain if there was a God.

In the end it was Rita who brought him out of his despair. On her third marriage, still an international star, she came to see him and insisted that he must write her some music. "As world-weary and cantankerous as Israel Levis could be, he found himself saying, 'Of course, as you know there is very little that I wouldn't do for you, Rita.'" In his last days he again found meaning in life.

As in his Pulitzer-prizewinning novel The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love, Hijuelos's characters in this book are driven by their infatuation with music. But where they're patently fictional in the former, Israel Levis may have been based on in Havana at the end of the nineteenth century and both were amazingly prolific. Both were famous and in demand far outside their native land; Lecuona mainly in New York and Hollywood, Levis in Europe.

So, since Hijuelos didn't see fit to give us the music of Rosas Puras, just the words, we could do worse than to close the book and hum Lecuona's Siboney, another simple Habana melody from when the world was good. യയയ

Medicine of consists amusing the patient while nature cures the disease. – Voltaire



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Photo © Candy Gamble

Stalking the Volcano

Continued from page 1

This group of photographers certainly rose to the occasion. They not only captured great images despite the elusiveness of the Mountain, they did so from a great variety of vantage points and in a great variety of light. A juried exhibition of photographs will be showing at The Hardware Store during the month of June. The opening on Friday, June 2, was mobbed. Melinda Sontgerath said it was one of her best shows. Three photos were purchased on opening night, not bad for a student show.

My thanks go out to our jurors, who gave so freely of their time and their expertise. I especially want to thank Melinda Sontegrath for hosting the show in her gallery; to Janice Mallman and Pauline Richardson at Vashon Allied Arts; and finally to my wife, Nancy Wing, for all the caring and support.

The show will move to the Edmonds Community College Conference Center next November and December. Holly Hodgson (one of our 5 jurors) is Norman Edson's granddaughter. She could not make the opening here, but will be there in November. This is the first show in the Hardware Store that Melinda has



Ray Pfortner instructing photography student Carol Spangler during a 5:30 a.m. group photo shoot at Pt Robinson on March 11. Photo © Rebecca Darr.



Photo © Angela Nordling

juried. The other jurors are William H. Taylor (a major collector of Norman Edson photographs) and Cami Smith, Director of the Edmonds CC ArtsNow program and formerly of the Kennedy Center in DC.

Public Meeting June 29: Building Design for New/ Expanded Library

There will be a meeting on Thursday, **June 29,** 6:30-8 p.m. at the Vashon Parks District Office,17130 Vashon Highway SW. Come hear more about the proposed exchange of properties between the King County Library System (KCLS) and the Vashon Parks District for the expanded Vashon Library. Review conceptual drawings of possible locations for the new library and meet the architects from Bohlin Cywinski Jackson.

The limerick, peculiar to English Is a verse form that's hard to extinguish. Once Congress in session Decreed its suppression But people got around it by writing the last line without any rhyme or meter. -- Professor T. J. Spencer



Island Epicure



Eat Well; Live Long Azerbaidzhan Style

By Marj Watkins

The unforgettably superb cooking probably Azerbaidzhan, of responsible for many of the reported years and more Azerbaidzhanis live, focuses on healthful fresh ingredients: poultry, lamb, and beef, lake trout and Caspian rice Sea sturgeon, milk products, fruits and vegetables. Honey is the sweetener of choice, added at the last minute to preserve its enzymes.

don't stint on real butter. They are also very active into old age.

You can eat as well, and maybe live as long here with U.S.-grown foods chosen from the list in the first paragraph. But keep moving!

Chicken Azerbaizhan with Apricots

Prep: 5 minutes; Cooking time: 50 minutes; serves 4

Preheat oven to 425 degrees 4 chicken legs or large thighs, or 2 game hens, split

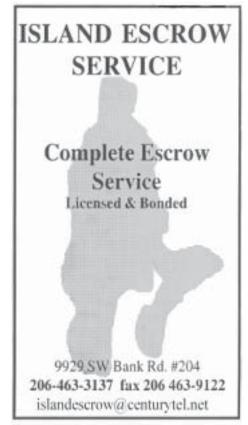
Salt and pepper to taste 1 cup (20) dried apricots Cinnamon, powder Cloves, powdered 1/2 teaspoon turmeric The Sauce

1 cup chicken broth or 1 chicken

- bouillon cube plus 1 cup hot water 2 Tablespoons dried onion flakes oranges or 1/3 cup finely minced onion
 - 1 lemon, juice and grated peel
 - 3 Tablespoons cornstarch
 - 1/4 cup cold water
 - 1 Tablespoon honey

Arrange chicken pieces in large ceramic casserole. If necessary, use two baking dishes so as not to crowd the chicken. Bake uncovered 25 minutes. Tuck apricots around chicken pieces. Sprinkle with cinnamon and strained lemon juice lightly with cloves.

Stir turmeric into chicken broth. above Pour over the chicken. Cover and bake 20 minutes more. Grate lemon, peel in strips 1-inch x 3/8-inch. In a half and juice it. Combine peel and



juice. Transfer casserole(s) to top of stove on medium high heat. Pour juice over chicken.

Combine cornstarch and water. Stir into sauce and around chicken. Stir-cook until thickened. Stir in honey.

If using a glass casserole, transfer chicken pieces to a platter and keep warm. Transfer juices to a small saucepan. Create sauce as above. Pour it over the chicken.

Serve with pilaf, below, spinach and slivered red cabbage cooked together with butter, and a vegetable salad.

Rice Pilaf Azerbaidzhan

Serves 4

2-1/2 cups water or chicken broth 1 teaspoon salt

4 Tablespoons butter (1/2 cube),

1-1/2 cups raw long-grain brown

1/4 teaspoon powdered saffron, optional (turmeric may substituted)

In a heavy saucepan bring the Azerbaidzhanis love yogurt, and water, salt, and 2 Tablespoons of the butter to boiling. Add the rice in a slow stream to keep the water on the boil. Stir. Boil vigorously 1 minute. Reduce heat to low. Cover tightly and simmer without peeking for 15

> Meanwhile, melt rest of the butter. Pour it evenly over the rice. (If using saffron, mix it with 1 tablespoon of warm water and stir it in before adding the melted butter.) Cover again and simmer over very low heat 30 to 35 minutes.

> Below is a superlative pilaf Azerbaidzhani cooks prepare for wedding feasts and other important celebrations. This ancient recipe has persisted through centuries of weddings.

Celebration Pilaf – serves 4

2 large, thick-skinned organic

1/2 cup (1 cube) butter

Water to cover

Dash salt

1 cup sugar or Splenda®

3/4 cup water

1/4 teaspoon powdered saffron dissolved in 1 Tablespoon water

1/2 cup slivered blanched almonds

1 Tablespoon freshly squeezed,

1 recipe Rice Pilaf with saffron,

Thinly peel the oranges. Cut the

Continued on page 15

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Dear Madame Toujours,

My husband Neuman and I have been having a vicious argument. Neither one of us can convince the other to change their opinion. You see, about a month ago, my husband's niece Gracie got married. A few weeks later, we went to a barbecue at Neuman's Uncle Harvey's house. I saw Gracie and asked her how she had enjoyed Aruba which is where she was supposed to have gone for her honeymoon. To my astonishment, she burst into tears and ran into the house, and everybody at the party, including my husband, glared at me. I was mortified, and nobody would speak to me for the rest of the party.

It was hours before Aunt Maisie finally took me aside and gave me the story. It seemed that two days after the wedding, the groom ran away with an exotic dancer named Carlos. Naturally, any mention of anything remotely related to the wedding was terribly painful and humiliating to

The real betrayal is that Aunt Maisie herself had told Neuman about the breakup, and he never mentioned it to me. When I confronted him with his betrayal, he said he didn't want to gossip, and why would I ask her such a personal question anyway?

I maintain that asking about the weather in Aruba isn't personal, and it isn't gossip to tell me major news that could save me from making a huge social faux pas. Who is right?

Sincerely, Mortified

Chere Mme. Mortified,

You are being perfectly correct to be supposing that M. Neuman should be sharing the important news regarding the significant life events. Very many times, the masculine type persons, they are having the unnatural scorn for the gossiping. This is the big



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foolishness. How else is he expecting you to be learning about the personal business of the friends and neighbors?

The reason that the masculine persons are having the foolish contempt for the gossip is because they are supposing that the gossip, it is what the women are talking about with the weddings and the divorces and the babies. They are not interested in this. Therefore, it is seeming to them to be the silly trivialness.

Doubtless you have many times listened to the foolish chatter of the husband and his friends about the work and the employers and the drunken contests at the sports bars. You were not calling this gossip. That would be rude. You quietly rolled your eyes and wondered why they could not be talking about the sensible subjects such as what diet is everybody following and how big are the love handles.

Bon Chance, Mme. Mortified, and for the family, I am suggesting that at the next barbecue, they seat the abandoned bride on a throne, lay the garlands at her feet and burn the inconsiderate groom. If they cannot find the groom, they can be burning the convenient effigy instead. This would be much more healthful for the bride than the silences and the

Wine Shop Re-Opens

The Vashon Wine Shop has reopened at the former Old Dreams location just north of town. Owner Stephen McClure invites people to come in and check out the inventory of fine wine.

June 7, 06

The Vashon Loop, p. 15

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



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Ristively Speaking

No Drunk or Stoned Teenagers for Vashon

By Deborah Anderson

Dear Kids,

It may seem quite annoying there are so many adults on your case now about drinking and drugs and the lack of tolerance for infractions, but believe me...really...truly...it's because we love you. I write this because when I moved on the Island nearly fourteen years ago now, it was OK for any teens to suck down anything and we killed off about one a year of you. I wanted to tell all the teens and their parents then that things should change to zero tolerance and now that it has, I've got a big smile on my face, even though it's wreaking havoc on your weekend parties and traditions. It IS better this way.

I'm going to tell you what's it's like to be the victim of a drunk driver and live through the sixties sober and then I'm going to tell you the three reasons we usually don't tell you that are why you should go through your teens sober and not listen to the parents that tell you it's normal to experiment.

Every day since I was nine, I've woken up in pain. I spend the days moving through it. My left leg is a good one and three-quarters of an inch shorter than the other. My back is smashed. I have no functioning nerve below my right knee. The doctors can't figure out how I walk. My right foot has 20% movement. It is constantly filled with splits and blisters. I wasn't supposed to be able to carry a child to term. I have 50% atrophy in the right leg. The left leg is numb from a pressed nerve much of the time. Once I stepped on a burning cigarette butt and didn't know it until I smelled the flesh that had burned down to the bone.

My friend Susie hasn't done so well, although she is in a better place. She died. Eleven years was all she got to live.

The driver who hit us was twentythree. Susie was his third involuntary manslaughter; his ninth drunk driving. We were stopped in a Renault for a left hand turn; he was doing ninety in an Oldsmobile. He booted us 60 feet in the air and 120 feet off the road where we landed between two trees. It was a dark and rainy night. They wouldn't have found us for a while, but my screams were so loud that through the rolled up windows, a car passing by heard me and stopped to explore. It happened to be the guy who sold us the car. The drunk driver was going from door to door saying, "I just killed a little girl," but he was so drunk no one would believe him.

There's more, but let's get to the take away for you.

These are the three big reasons to tell your hand, "stop" — as I tell toddlers when they want to throw something or hit someone — to put that glass or bottle down, lower that joint, or refuse the ride to the party:

One: You WILL hurt yourself and others. There isn't any maybe about it. You kill a little of yourself every time you imbibe. This is the reason you all hear that

goes in one ear and out the other. I'm not going to spend anymore time on it. It's a no brainer, but you are young and immortal, so it's not going to sink in until a different kind of joint hurts in your thirties; like a knee or a shoulder or a hip.

Two: Drinking and Doing Drugs Give You the Wrong Message About Yourself. It tells you that you can't handle stress, don't know how to have fun naturally, are no fun to be around sober, anxiety will cause you harm, you are a bad person, you can't tough it out in life, and drinking and drugging make problems seem bigger than they really are. Stay sober through a bad time and discover how terrific you are! Spend that energy coping by doing something you really love. Comfort yourself with your own songs, pictures, and stories. Build something. Love someone else, like a friend or an animal. Give yourself the message you are terrific, not a weakling.

Three: It Teaches You to Become a Good Liar. You have to lie to yourself about why you need to do it. How it isn't bad or illegal. You have to lie to your friends, to your parents, to your teachers. Little lies like "I'm going over to – study" or big lies like "This is OK." If you haven't got the truth in life, if you don't cling to truth like it was the air you breathe, then you don't have anything. In our society you are taught very early on to lie, how to lie, and that lying is OK. It isn't. There is no such thing as a little white lie. Be bold and find out at an early age you can tell the truth and others can handle it and you can handle it. Frequently when you tell the truth it makes things seem worse because we live in a society of institutionalized fabrications, but if you are sober you can not only handle it, but find other people of integrity who are wedded to truth telling as well.

OK...you have a couple more weeks of Spring. Those of us who have worked in the arena of child safety know there are three R's...recognize, resist and report. The same is true for drinking and drugs. Recognize when you are tempted. Resist the urge to imbibe and report to someone, a friend, a parent, a teacher, that you passed the test and stayed sober in a moment you thought you couldn't.

What happened to the guy who hit us? He got a six months suspended sentence and \$600 fine and I heard over the years he killed three more people. Now, do you really want us to go back to the time of tolerance, or would you like us to help you get the message about drinking and drugs?

Think about this way. Maybe YOU are alive, because someone in the car next to you decided not to drink or drive before they got behind the wheel or hosted the party.

We love you. -- Deborah

George Washington, as a boy, was ignorant of the commonest accomplishments of youth; he could not even lie. – Mark Twain

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Film Flam

Brokeback Mountain: Thanks, Guys

By Jonathan Shipley

What's been said about *Brokeback Mountain* has been said by people smarter, wiser, and more articulate than I am. That is to say it is a tremendous movie, moving and tender, tragic and touching. It's about the things we say and, more importantly, the things we don't. It's about the actions we make and the consequences of them for others we know. It's about us, as humans, and it is truly a mesmerizing movie, from the actors, director, screenwriters, on down, it is a quality piece of film.

That said, I'm not afraid to tell my guy friends that I love them. I love you!

So, without further ado, a list of guys that have had an impact on my life (not including family members). Consider this, the folks on this list, my acknowledgement of you and your heartfelt care for me. Thanks!

- 1) Dario de la Rosa: He was my first friend growing up in Olympia, Washington. His parents raised lhasa apsos. I don't know if it was an illegal operation or not. At the time, I just thought it was strange and didn't think much else of it. Now, I wonder...Dario, thanks for being my first friend and thanks for breaking your nose doing that jump on your bicycle, a warning to us all not to do that.
- 2) Chris Heisel: He was my friend in elementary school, those days in 3rd and 4th grade where one begins to realize who they are. Who was I? A geek, and yet Chris remained my friend. Thanks, Chris, for not making fun of me that day I went over to your house wearing an eye patch because of my lazy left eye. I couldn't help that my left eye was lazy and you, deep down, knew that. Thanks for letting me eat Cookie Crisp cereal as well. My mom never let us eat that stuff.
- 3) Eric Corrigan: You were my one and only friend in middle school. You played the clarinet. Me, the trombone. Thank you for sitting

with me at lunch discussing Dungeons and Dragons. No one else would. Remember that time when Melissa Meeks came up to us and called us losers to our faces? We were brothers at that moment, dear Eric, and she was a real witch.

- 4) Jeff Arnold: My best friend in high school, you were. I remember eating hundreds of cinnamon disks in your living room. I remember running with you at full speed into walls in the high school gym to get a laugh. Thank you, Jeff, for not being mad when I started dating the girlfriend you had just broken up with. And thank you for accompanying me to the old folks home where my grandmother, in a state of dementia, kept offering us Tab colas.
- 5) Ken Michie: My college years would have been crap without you there, Mr. Michie. Oh, the fun we had making fun of mental deficients who worked at the dining hall. Oh, the fun we had playing basketball wearing safety goggles and Pooh Richardson jerseys. Oh, Ken, where would I be without you? Saner, to be sure.

I could thank so many other men in my life who have loved me and who I have loved. Christian, Randy, Brian, Eric, you know who all you guys are. If you see *Brokeback Mountain*, my friends, you might want to say you love me, too. And, gee whiz, thanks!

Island Epicure

Continued from page 14

small saucepan combine peel strips with water and salt. Bring to boiling over high heat. Reduce heat to medium low and cook until peel is soft. Drain. Rinse with cold water. Dry with paper towels. Reserve.

In a small saucepan melt the butter over medium low heat. Add sugar or Splenda®, the 3/4 cup water, and the dissolved saffron. Stir-cook until sugar dissolves.

Add orange peel, nuts and lemon juice. Simmer until peel is sweet and the mix thick, Adding a little more water if needed to keep pan from going dry. Cook until most of the water is gone.

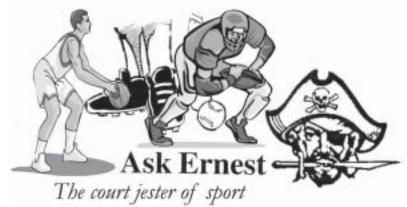
Mound the rice on a platter.

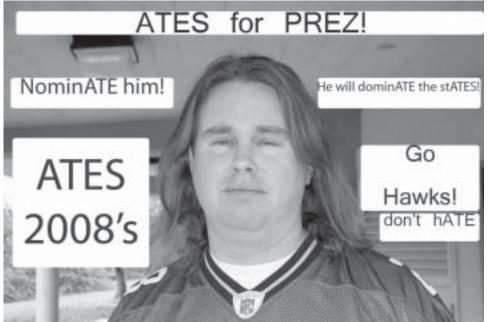
Scatter the orange peel and nut mixture over it.

The Vashon Loop, p. 16 June 7, 06

New At

Lop - Sports





Ates. Earnestly. Photo by W. Volker

The Greatest **Leaders Ever!**

Hey Ernie

Last issue you printed the most amazing moments of the year. How 'bout the greatest leaders of the Universe, or Vashon Island, or the United States? I'd love to see your short list. Your insight is all sweet like peaches and cream mixed with a great thinker like Thomas Merton or something.

Darrenofski Foxarini

Mr. Foxarini, here you have it.

The Greatest Leaders Ever!

(From Vashon Island, or somewhere else in North America!)

1. Mike (Domin) Ates. throws down 32.4 per night in Men's League on Tuesdays and hits the sox off the softball at Agren Park on Thursdays. In between he finds time for dance rehearsals and he's now running for President. The United Ates of America! Wil' Flower Volker will be his running

campaign slogan mate and "Motiv-ATE. mastermind. Demonstr-ATE, and Destructiv-ATE!" Volker yelled to supporters milling around outside Washington Mutual and the Bike

Double Tennis State Champs! The pair beat Fries and Rasmussen from Quincy, 4-6, 6-2, 7-6. Also, Ben Shelton placed 6th in the singles state competition. Congrats guys!

3. Craven Kaj Martin (Athlete Extraordinaire). He helped lead the Updoggz to their 3rd straight World Championship with his poise and savvy. "I dedicate this to my lovely lady Nic!" The screamed, holding the trophy in his very muscular right fist. Later, unfortunately, he was unavailable for comment: trouble with airport security, call on the other line, bad reception, or something like that.

4. Bobby Freund (Wrestling Coach). Taking over as Head Coach of Team Freungren for the summer. He'll lead the team with masterful

Shop. 2. Mike Serko and Cam Bard.



No ranking of world leaders would be complete without Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the man who not only brought independence to Turkey, but also banned the fez. Steve Nash (in crowd) considers him a personal hero.

PURELY NATURAL GROUND BEEF Frech: Natural, Atade to Order Much like you'd expect from the local farmers market, Sequoya Natural Market ground beef is free from harmful hormones, antibiotics, additives and chemicals of growing concern among consumers. Containing nothing but a rich and juicy flavor, Sequoya Natural Market ground beef satisfies even the biggest biggest burger craving 17705 Vashon Hwy SW 206-463-2838 pre-match warm-ups.

Freund (Kelso) also has the chore of giving direction to free-spirited Junior Wrestling Nationals in Fargo.

5. Evan Mad Dogg Mattingly (Wrestler). A few years back he easily won a wrestling match in the state semi-finals on one leg. Seriously! And the Castle Rock coach still believed that they had a chance. Mad Dogg was also known for motivating his teammates by barking like there was a late night burglar just outside the dog house.

6. Coach Soapbox Sears. 2A State Basketball Coach of the Year. **Updoggz Celebrator Extraordinaire!** That's enough to make me dizzy...

7. Steve Nash (Phoenix Suns point guard). Whaaah?! He's Canadian? I thought he was British coach PL Blomgren (Vashon) at the me! And he has a teammate named Boris who's not from Russia! (Oh, by the way, Nash was voted NBA MVP for the 2nd straight season. He's purdy good, and so is Boris, by the way).

> 8. Gomez (A Rock Band). Okay, they may not be athletes, but they called their fans beautiful at Sasquatch. Okay, maybe they don't sing Oye Como Va, but they still rocked the river valley with hoarse throated yells and coarse floating strings. യയയ

Adult Softball Season Back Underway

The Vashon Park District's Adult Softball League season was briefly suspended because of complaints about drinking at Agren Park. Adult Softball League Director Rochelle Wolf said, "Many people are following the rules; the ones who are not have jeopardized the league. Games resumed on May 30, following a meeting with team managers to remind everyone of posted Park District rules - no alcohol, no dogs and we'll play until June 30. We must follow rules so we can play next year and in years to come."



Sylvie Shiosaki and Alex Steamboat train with Team Freungren in Kelso in preparation for the Freestyle Wrestling State Tournament. Shiosaki lost a close decision and Steamboat won his first two matches before losing to two quality opponents, thus finishing just short of placement.



Lopy Laffs

One-Liners, More or Less

and the dancers hit each other.

A pessimist is a man who feels that all women are bad; an optimist hopes so.

Boxing is like a ballet, except

there's no music, no choreography

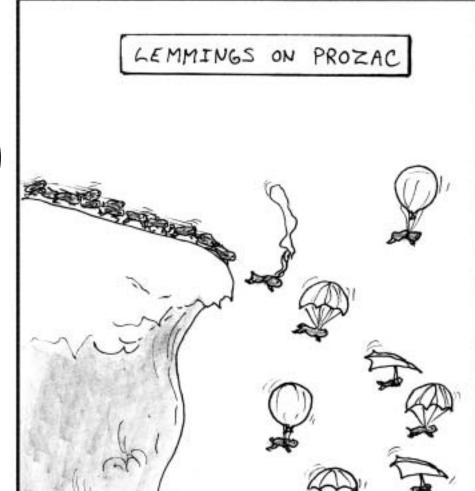
Sponges get very absorbed in their work. In the land of the witless, the halfwit is king. Barium: What doctors do when a patient dies. It's easy to be brave from a The first law of drunkeness: you can't fall off the floor. safe distance. -When you stretch the truth, watch out for the snapback. Aesop If high-heels were so wonderful, men would wear them. Photons have mass!? I didn't even know they were Catholic. God is a comedian playing to an audience too afraid to laugh. If you lock me up and throw away the key, how will I get out? If your absence won't make any difference, your presence won't either.

> Q: How many elephants does it take to change a light bulb? A: Don't be stupid, elephants can't change light bulbs.

What is the use of a house if you haven't got tolerable planet to put it on? —Henry David Thoreau

A sales clerk asked his boss how to handle people who complained about the current prices compared to the low prices in the good old days. "Just act surprised and tell them you didn't think that they were old enough to remember them."

WILD WORLD / Ed Frohning



An Army private filling out a questionnaire for a correspondence course was stymied by the question, How long has your present employer been in business?" He wrote, "Since 1776."

I planned on having one husband and seven children. but it turned out the other way around. —Lana Turner

Hey, Girl Friend (Guys, Don't Even Bother Reading This One): a pretty girl may be like a melody, but a friend is like a good bra — hard to find; supportive; comfortable; always lifts you up; never lets you down or leaves you hanging; and is always close to your heart!

If men are so competent, how come you always see signs reading "DANGER -**MEN WORKING?**"

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture. "Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, He's a doctor.' A small voice at the back of the room chimed in, "And there's the teacher, she's dead."

Man is busy proving that he can live in outer space and at the bottom of the sea when he should be proving he can manage to live in the narrow area between.

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted it on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note and posted it there: "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

OFFSHORE





















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Loop Arts



Steven Krattenbraker **Scratches Your Brain** at Cafe Luna Friday

Singer-songwriter Steven Kattenbraker brings his "...poetic lyrics that are so damn thoughtful you feel like he's scratching your own brain..." (smother.net) to Café Luna on Friday, June 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Kattenbraker grew up in the Deep South, where he witnessed the intriguing paradox of "southern hospitality" co-existing with the attitudes and behavior brought about by religious, class, racial, and gender prejudices. That and his work as a paramedic have given him rich songwriting resources.

Kattenbraker has one CD out, Steven Kattenbraker, which will be available at Café Luna.



Kathleen Williamson makes her case in the studio. Courtesy photo

Anthropologist, Attorney, Singer-Songwriter: Can You Say "Eclectic?"

Kathleen Williamson, veteran singer-songwriter, will performing at Cafe Luna Friday, June 23, 2006. Williamson's award winning songs are intelligent, vibrant and insightful. She currently resides in New York City where, after 18 years of criminal litigation and judicial *pro tempore* work, she is obtaining an LLM in Intellectual Property at Cardozo School of Law and practicing Entertainment Law. In addition to being a singersongwriter and attorney, she holds a doctorate degree in anthropology. Her background makes her a superlative, noteworthy poignant songwriter entertaining performer. Kathleen continues to take Americana songwriting and indie music production up another notch with the 2005 release of her finely crafted CD, The Sacred Spud, which is available through her website, www.kathleenwiliamson.com, and will be available at Café Luna the night of her performance.

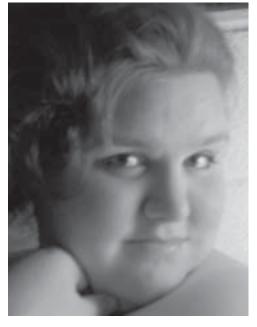
Caity Anderson Patterson Island's Teen Diva sings at Blue Heron

By Janice Randall

Eighteen-year-old emerging Island Diva Caity Anderson Patterson has finished her first year at Baltimore's prestigious Peabody Conservatory of Music, and is ready to sing her first full length concert. Hear her amazing voice Saturday, June 10, 8 p.m., at the Blue Heron Art Center. Tickets are \$10/\$13 and available at Blue Heron. Heron's Nest and Vashon Island Music.

Patterson's vocal repertoire for the June concert will include classical pieces, several contemporary musical theater pieces and Mass for Soprano, Viola and Guitar, written for her by a Peabody classmate. Patterson says the Mass is classical but influenced by rock, jazz and 20th Century music. Island guitarist Ken Jacobsen and viola player Gaye Detzer will accompany Patterson on the piece. Pianist Ann Herfindahl will provide piano accompaniment.

Patterson will also perform pieces Patterson's evening repertoire. from Puccini's La Bohéme and works by German composers Richard Strauss and Reynaldo Hahn. Musical Theater works of Tony-nominated contemporary composer Jason Robert Brown to include



Songs for a New World will be part of

More information about Patterson's scholarship available at the concert and fans will be glad to know she has a CD in the works. Vashon Thriftway will cosponsor the concert.

Local Kid Makes Good (Music)

Soulful singer-songwriter, pianist, and native Islander Maren Metke will play Friday, June 16, at 8 p.m. with her amazing and talented ensemble. Ensemble members are: Fletcher Andrews on drums, Steve Meyer on stand up bass, and Kim Thal on fiddle. Maren is currently working on a CD scheduled for release at the end of this summer. Metke will be performing this summer at The Rainbow on 45th, The Trabant Chai Lounge, the Vashon Strawberrry Festival and the Island Earthfair. Stay tuned and check her website, www.marenmetke.com, for further dates and information.



Maren Metke Photo by Hawk Jones

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Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is

Friday, June 16

Artworks embellish Garden Tour Art in the Garden Carolyn Price

By Janice Randall

"Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful: they are sunshine, food and medicine to the soul." — Luther Burbank

Thanks to Island artists, expect to get an eyeful of garden art, an earful of music and a thoughtful poem or two in addition to nature's beauty in five amazing gardens on Vashon Allied Arts' 16th annual Garden Tour. If you haven't picked up tickets yet, they are still available at Heron's Nest, DIG, Thriftway and Blue Heron Art Center. Call 463-5131 to reserve advance tickets, which by the way are good for both days. So if you want to split your time between Saturday and Sunday, you can slowly savor each garden to your heart's delight. All proceeds benefit Vashon Allied Arts and special thanks goes to presenting sponsor, John L. Scott and Gardens Sponsor, Vashon Thriftway.

In Sally Williams' waterfront garden see George Wright's spectacular, colorful steel gates and

> Read The Loop online: www.vashonloop.com

Dyer's intricately o v e n tapestries. The Fleets' soothing garden terrain feature copper kinetic sculpture and recycled steel garden art by Steve Zartman. h Henderson/ Foley cottagestyle garden will show cedar garden bird sculptures by John Lucas and mosaic water fountain by Steve Roache. Lipitz farm and garden Celtic music

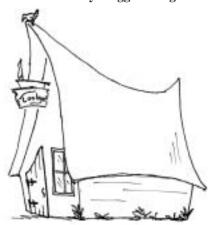
will also be in the air here. David Erue's steel garden art creatures will compliment the Solander/Turchyn joyful "friendship" garden, where poets will be also be reading their poetry. And the Lipitz farm and



garden will offer brushed steel garden furniture by Julie Berger, basalt water feature and bamboo sculpture by Anthony Kaufmann and steel pre-historic garden sculptures by Mike Urban.

Blackberry Bear and the Adventrues of Huckleberry Hollow

By Becky and Maggie Bumgarner Illustrations by Maggie Bumgarner



St. Patrick's Day at Tooley's, Part 4

"Who are you, really?" said Shamus. Then it came to him: it's a Pooka! Now this was the first Pooka that had ever caught old Shamus, so he was very concerned.

We say concerned here, because no one in the Hollow is ever scared, just concerned. Well...he knew that Pookas don't like blackberry bushes, so that's what he thought of first. Maybe he could loose the Pooka in the blackberries.

"I have my gold in a special place, down by the old tree in the meadow at the bottom of the hollow. If we go there, I'll show you where it is." said Shamus.

"You mean the one with all the blackberries around it?" asked Blackberry.

"Yes, that would be the one." said Shamus.

"OK" said Blackberry. "Then let's go! And don't forget your crock!"

When they arrived at the clearing and approached the blackberry patch, Blackberry said to the jiggling bag, "OK, now we're here. Just whereabouts will I find the gold?'

"I'll be needin' another peek out of the sack to tell you that if your worship (Leprechauns always used terms of respect with Pookas) would be so good as to loosen the ties on the sack.'

'Sounds fair," thought Blackberry, as he loosened the cords, being careful so as not to loosen them too far. "Now whereabouts would you be keeping this gold? Out with it now. There'll be no trickin' the Pooka." Blackberry was trying to sound fierce and keep from laughing.

Shamus got himself halfway out of the bag and looking about remembered

that the old large tree in the middle of the bushes had a hole in it. That gave him an idea. Pointing to the tree he said, "It would be over there in the hole in the tree. Just climb up there and look in and you'll find the gold for sure."

'OK, but you're coming with me," said Blackberry and he proceeded right into the blackberry thicket like it was a most enjoyable place in the world to be. This totally puzzled Shamus, but he thought he was really going to get this old Pooka when they got to the tree, as he remembered that there was a bee hive just down inside the hole.

As they got to the tree, Blackberry told Shamus to stay put while he went up and had a look. He climbed up the tree and stuck his head in the hole and by the moonlight he could see the shining gold.

"It's here all right! Wow! I'll be needing the crock now, just hand it up."

Shamus did as Blackberry asked, but he was really puzzled. Bees all about and he knew that his gold wasn't in there. He handed the crock up and it seemed to float into the tree in the hands of this invisible Pooka. He wasn't going to stick around to find out any more about it though. A Leprechaun's escape is very important and Shamus wasn't going to miss his chance. As soon as he was down from the tree, he sprang for the woods and wasn't heard from in the Hollow for days after that.

Blackberry filled up the Leprechaun's crock with the gold and he took it back to the party with him. When he arrived, they all gathered round him.

"Look" shouted Ratty, "It's Blackberry and he's got Shamus' crock with him! Did you catch the Leprechaun and get his Pot of Gold?"

"I sure did! And it's the best gold ever!" said Blackberry with a big grin on his face as he scooped another paw full of honey from the crock and licked it.



Morse Clary's Visual Art Based on Books, Writing

By Ben Meeker

prints and sculpture at the Two Wall writing with its calligraphic lines

with an Artist's Reception on Friday, June 2, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

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Clary's prints and low relief Morse Clary presents drawings, drawings focus on the action of Gallery through the month of June and linear progression. Cyrillic,

Arabic, Asian, Hebraic Cuneiform, and Western alphabets, when written by hand are all abstract drawings given specific meaning by an agreement of the whole community, but they are also very individual

creates fragments of an imagined script in an imagined alphabet, telling an imagined story.

For information contact Ben or Nadine Meeker at 463-1930.

Vashon Bookshop

Take a Look

The Bookshop Gallery! located between Vashon Bookshop & Kronos

Open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (206) 463-2616 17612 Vashon Highway

What's Happening at Vashon Bookshop?

By Devon Atkins

These days, entering The Bookshop Gallery between Kronos and Vashon Bookshop is an experience in Pacific Northwest art and environment. The walls are covered with wonderfully colored and textured ceramic salmon that are all swimming east, towards the backdoor of the hall. It's fabulous to see; and, that's only part of the experience. What's amazing is that they were all made kindergarteners!

"Swimming Salmon!" is the end result of a Vashon Artists in the Schools (VAIS) program; parents, teachers, and artist, all working together to learn about a vital aspect of our environment, about art, and about each other. The children of three Chautauqua Kindergarten classrooms (those of Pam Haulman, Esther Morrison, and Tara Brenno) worked with potter, Liz Lewis, the Artist in Residence. It's become a tradition at Chautauqua; each year the kindergarten teachers choose to work with Liz on a special, project. "Liz is absolutely wonderful with this age group," says Haulman, who explained that the curriculum was about "Change Over Time," about salmon and other endangered species. Each class concentrated on a different type of salmon, learning its place in the Pacific Northwest. Don Bockus, parent and biologist, gave the children a series of short talks about the salmon life cycle, and why the fish are so important to the area. The children, parents, and teachers learned all about the salmon, how they live, and how they are part of our world. "Talking to the children about the animals encourages them to love them," Haulman says.

Liz's project, Salmon Swimming! involved the creation of fish art: teaching the children to outline fish on newspaper, to use that outline to cut the clay into fish shapes, and then a special process called *sgraffito* which involves carving through one layer of clay to get to the next one. Then, there was the painting and glazing with the help of parent



Liz Lewis, artist, works with Sasha Elenko, student in Pam Haulman's kindergarten, in the early stages of creating a clay salmon. Photo by Fran Brooks.

assistants. "Liz has an incredibly well-orchestrated program," says parent Fran Brooks. "She is able to break a complex process into its individual components, so that little children can create something impressive that they can be proud

So don't miss this incredible display of art and nature made possible by our community's special way of combining artists and teachers and children. Salmon Swimming! is another successful collaboration of community passion, brought to you by our Vashon Artists in the Schools, enthusiastic teachers and parents, and the artistry and warmth of Island artist, Liz Lewis. Check it out! And, to really feel the true thrust of the current, walk against it, from the backdoor of The Bookshop Gallery towards the front doors of Kronos and the Bookshop. It's an experience that's just a little bit thrilling! Which only goes to prove, once again, that there is more to Vashon Bookshop than just books!

(For more information call the Bookshop, 463-2616. For more information about Vashon Artists in the Schools and Liz Lewis's upcoming Clay Camps, call Vashon Allied Arts, 463-5131).

The limerick packs laughs anatomical Into space that is quite economical. But the good ones I've seen So seldom are clean and the clean ones so seldom are comical.

Café Luna in June

Thurs. June 8, 6:30 p.m. Progressive Film Series: Seven Days in May

Fri. June 9,7:30 p.m. Steven Kattenbraker

Sat. June 10, 7:30 p.m. Kate Mann: Desert Gypsy Rock

Fri. June 16, 7:30 p.m. Maren Metke: Silky, emotive, passionate vocals & lyrics

Sat. June 17, 7:30 p.m. Paz Agora: An Evening of Jazz Grooves Thurs. June 22, 7 p.m. Vashon Progressive Alliance Progressive Night

Fri. June 23, 7:30 p.m. Kathleen Williamson:

Eclectic impurist Americana songwriter provocateur

Sat. June 24, Travis Hartnett: Acoustic guitar instrumentals with looping Fri. June 30, Kris Orlowski: Modern Folk-influenced Singer-Songwriter

The Vashon Loop, p. 20 June 7, 06

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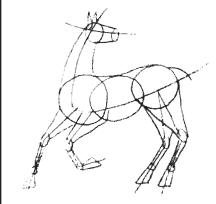
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