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THE LOOP

Vol. 3, # 13

TO INFORM AND AMUSE ~ TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM

June 21, 2006



Locals watch as Natalie Smith chalks her design for The Hardware Store

Annual Chalkwalk Draws a Crowd

On Saturday, June 3, several Island artists participated in the annual Community Chalkwalk Art Event. The Chalkwalk is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and individual artists are sponsored by Vashon businesses. Among the artists this year were: Chelsea Coldeen, Eric Hoogan, Bill Jarcho, Karen Hirsch, Suzanna Leigh, Beverly Niadus, Donna Liberty, Brian Dempsy, Marcia Carroll, Claudia Hollander, Paul Gashoi, Renee Marceau and Steve Roache, Stephen Seigel, Alex Soriano, and Maren Metke.

The beneficiary of the event this year was The Madrona School. Madrona School parent Lynann Politte wanted to share some of the artwork with *The Loop's* readers. Photographers were: Rick Vaneslow, Kim Thal, Judith Hinderer, and Lynann Politte.

As you can see, these ephemeral artworks bring a lot of joy and beauty to the sidewalks of Vashon – while they last.



Chelsea Coldeen is inspired by spring flowers with this colorful floral painting at VIGA park, sponsored by Cotswold Garden

Waiting, waiting, waiting...



Commencement was held in the Vashon High School gym on Saturday, June 17

Photo by Rozie Royal

VHS Class of 2006 Graduates ...and we're off!



The ceremony ends with the traditional mortarboard toss Photo by Rozie Royal

Vashon Closed to Shellfish Harvesting

Public Health of Seattle/King County has closed all of Vashon-Maury Island beaches to the harvest of shellfish. Toxin is produced by naturally occurring "blooms" of microscopic plankton that tend to be more common during the warmer months of the year. The color of the water does not change and the plankton are invisible. To check the latest shellfish harvesting closures anywhere in Washington state visit the DOH website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/biotoxin.htm> or call the DOH Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632.



The endangered maleo of Tompotika Photo copyright WCS/Margaret Kinnaird

Islander Finds Tompotika Alliance Preserving Biodiversity in Vashon's Sister Rainforest

By Hamish Todd

Islander Marcy Summers was logging soil samples and doing land surveys for The Nature Conservancy in Sulawesi, Indonesia, when she fell in love with the place and its inhabitants.

That place is Mount Tompotika, situated at the eastern tip of the central arm of the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia, surrounded on three sides by tropical seas.

"I was doing what's called ecoregional assessment," Summers

The forests of this 800 square-mile area represent one of the last remaining refuges for dozens of species of rare and endangered Sulawesi wildlife

said in a recent interview, "where you look at a large land mass and ask the question, 'If we want to protect the biodiversity in this chunk of the earth what would that require? What are the important places here?' So, a lot is involved; a lot of scientific data, and partners, and really getting to know the region well in a part of the world that is hardly known. I just started to get to know Sulawesi. In the process I traveled all over the island and met people, worked with government, etc. I was trying to create a vegetation map of the whole island."

"There was this one place that was always covered by clouds in the satellite images. So, I had to go there, and that is how I sort of stumbled over this amazing place. The thing that really impressed me

Continued on page 9

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
Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Orchard Tour This Saturday

Saturday, June 24, Vashon Island Fruit Club is holding a tour of two of our members' orchards. The tour starts at 2 p.m. at the home of Allen and Muriel Watts, 10014 SW 260th Street, in Dockton, whose orchard has a wide variety of tree fruits and berries.

The second orchard, at the home of Terry Jansen, 7329 SW Maury Park Road, is a neat, well-managed backyard orchard. For further information, please contact Maryrose Asher at 567-0593.

Amateur Radio Field Day

Please visit the Vashon-Maury Island Radio Club during the annual Amateur Radio Field Day at Sunrise Ridge the weekend of **June 24 and 25**. Stop by to get acquainted with amateur radio and the volunteer emergency communications services provided to the Vashon-Maury community. The objective of Field Day is to set up and operate portable equipment under emergency conditions and contact as many other Field Day stations as possible during the 24-hour period from 11 a.m. Saturday through 11 a.m. Sunday. The best time to visit is noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, and 9 to 11 a.m. Sunday. The site is the sports field to the west of the Food Bank, which is west of Granny's Attic and the Health Clinic.

YMCA Offers Free Bike Fit Clinic

The YMCA is offering a free Bike Fit Clinic open to all Islanders. Bike Fit is **Friday, June 30** from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the YMCA. Call 463-0551 to reserve a specific time. An appointment usually takes 20 minutes.

Kathy Snyder, physical therapy assistant for 22 years, fitness instructor at the Y, and avid cyclist since 1980 will help you get the most out of your cycling time. Bike Fit is done on a Windtrainer which secures your bike in a stationary position while you sit on it. Simple adjustments such as seat height, bike stem position and handle bar angle can help alleviate knee, back, neck, and shoulder pain while maximizing pedal power. Bring the bike you ride, your tools if you have them, and wear your normal cycling gear. It only takes a few minutes and could make all the difference between bicycling and loving bicycling.

Kathy is leading outdoor group cycling for beginning to intermediate level riders this summer on **June 20, 26, July 13, 17, 24, 31, and August 7, 14, 21, 28**, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Meet at the Y with your bike and helmet, and enjoy beautiful evening rides with others.

JobFind: You Can Do It

JobFind will meet at the Vashon Library from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on **Thursday, June 23, and Thursday, July 14**. Job seekers should arrive no later than 9:45 a.m. 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.

Master Gardener Clinics through July 1

Master Gardeners will offer free plant Clinics for Vashon gardeners **Fridays and Saturdays**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., **June 21 through July 1st**. The WSU trained Master Gardeners, located in the breezeway between Thriftway and True Value Hardware, diagnose plant problems and provide research based horticultural advice. Ask for suggestions for planting to attract butterflies or hummingbirds, or browse through the books for recommendations for plants that succeed in specific conditions or exposures. The new Web address for help outside of Vashon Master Gardener Clinic hours is: king.wsu.edu/gardening. A master gardener help-line is also available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at (206) 296-3440.

Free Laughter Class

No kidding! You are invited to a laughter class at the Peace Pole in Ober Park (watch for balloons) on **Sunday, June 25**, at 2:00 p.m. The session will be facilitated by Weslie Rodgers, "uncertified laughter leader."

Questions? Call Weslie at (206) 463-5566. Come and "laugh for the health of it."

Whenever I feel blue, I start breathing again.

Water District 19 Job Announcement: Office Administrator I

Water District 19 on Vashon Island has an immediate part time position open for an Office Administrator I. Qualifications are two or more years experience in an office environment including computer related work and accounting practices and possessing strong customer relations skills. Experience in the public sector is a plus.

Knowledge and Skills

Successful applicant must have a working knowledge of accounting procedures including accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll and petty cash management. Strong personal computing knowledge required. Must thrive in a team environment. Experience in stenography a plus. Web design and QuickBooks experience a plus.

Other responsibilities and Duties

Operate office equipment including printers, copiers, fax, postage machine, folding machine.

Cash accounts reconciliation.

Receive and process customer calls and requests.

Greet walk-ins and process requests.

Office supplies inventory management.

Interaction with both vendors and consultants.

Maintenance of records and files.

Document management specific to the Water District.

Minimum Qualifications:

High school diploma or equivalent.

Valid Washington State driver's license.

Must be proficient with the Microsoft Office suite.

Type a minimum of 40 words per minute.

Upon hire must pass background check, complete medical physical and drug screen.

Residency on Vashon Island is a plus but not required. Schedule will be 24 hours per week. Starting salary will be \$15.00 per hour. Water District 19 is an equal opportunity employer and offers competitive fringe benefits including paid holidays, sick leave and vacation. Vashon Island is a quiet rural community within King County. More information about the island may be obtained through the Vashon Chamber Website - discover@vashonchamber.com.

Resumes Accepted until position is filled.

Send to:

Water District 19
Email: water19@water19.com
Jeffrey Lakin, General Manager
206-463-9007 District Office
206-463-1262 Fax
Mail:
P O Box T
Vashon Island, WA 98070

DSHS Worker on Vashon July 5

On **Wednesday, July 5**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., a DSHS worker will be on Vashon at Vashon Youth & Family Services, 20110 Vashon Hwy SW, to take food stamp applications and answer questions about other DSHS services. To speed the process, potential clients should take all needed documents with them; VYFS has a list of required documents. Clients may also go to the DSHS office in White Center. DSHS is located at 9650 15th Avenue SW, and is accessible by bus by taking the #54 or the #560 southbound from the Fauntleroy ferry terminal. For more information, please call DSHS at 341-7430.

Download Free Books

From the June 11 Tacoma News Tribune: "Project Gutenberg, a nonprofit based in Urbana, Illinois, is putting as many as 300,000 books online, where they will be available for free download starting July 4, 2006. Called the World eBook Fair (worldbookfair.com), the program will last **July 4 to August 4** and will be repeated annually. The catalog of works includes fiction, nonfiction and reference books, mostly those that are no longer protected by copyright." (Thanks and a tip o' the hat to Deirdre Petree, who sent us this.)

Wet Whiskers Grooming Salon

Professionally Trained Certified Groomer

We offer:

Wash & Go

Bath & Brush out

Thin & Trim

Full Grooming

Congratulations Alanna for passing your small animal massage course!

Call today for an appointment!

206-463-2200

17321 Vashon Highway SW

Conveniently located inside Pandora's Box



Adopt-A-Cat Day

Vashon Island Pet Protectors will host an Adopt-A-Cat Day Saturday, July 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday, July 2, 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.

VIPP Featured Cat



Morgan

Morgan is a seven year and nine months old long hair neutered apricot male. He is an outdoorsman whose outward reserve toward strangers belies the sweet friendly guy known by his friends.

You can learn more about Morgan and other cats available for adoption at the VIPP website, www.vipp.org, or come to Adopt-A-Cat Day at Pandora's Box and meet a new friend.

The Vashon Loop

- Writers: Kathy Abascal, Deborah Anderson, Rachel Bard, Becky Bumgarner, Marie Browne, Eric Francis, Fran Gordon, Jeff Hoyt, Troy Kindred, Melissa McCann, Orca Annie, Kevin Pottinger, Rex Morris, Peter Ray, Weslie Rodgers, Jonathan Shipley, Ed Swan, Mary L. Tuel, Marj Watkins
- Guest writers this issue: Hamish Todd, Janice Randall.
- Interns: Morgan Wegner, Rozie Royal
- Photographers: Rozie Royal, T Kindred, Peter Ray, Jc Kindred, Alex Kindred, Mary L. Tuel
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- We reserve the right to edit or not even print stuff.
- Deal with it.
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- **Don't miss an issue!**
- **Subscribe to The Loop!**
- \$50 a year gets The Loop delivered to your mailbox every two weeks. Call (463-3327) or write (PO Box 253, Vashon) or email editor@vashonloop.com!



Grand Opening July 1!

We would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to everyone in the community to come check out our new Keller Williams digs at the former Glendale Realty building.

📍 **Saturday, July 1**
📍 **3:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

We will be eating, drinking, and dancing to Loose Change, Vashon's favorite R&B dance band. Please join us! Troy will be singing, Marie will be dancing, and a good time is sure to be had by all.



Here is our building before the facelift. Come see her all spiffed up and wrinkle-free!

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.



Of course, all of this depends on Alex getting the slate done...

Your Home Team Realty

(206) 463-LIST (5478)

Off Island Properties



The best of both worlds - ease of maintenance because it's a condo, private outdoor space because it's detached. Birds sing in the greenbelt sanctuary outside your back door. Across the street, an exercise room and pool are yours to use. Low HOA dues include yard maintenance along with periodic painting and roof replacement. Vaulted ceilings, gas fireplace, spacious closets, a two car garage complete the picture of the perfect place to live. Quiet neighborhood just minutes from Costco and more. **\$325,000**

Easy Living!

**9812 21st Ave SE,
Everett, WA**

- 📍 **2228 Sq Ft**
- 📍 **3 bedrooms**
- 📍 **2.5 bath**
- 📍 **2 Car Garage**

MLS 260941146

On Island Properties

Land Ho!

12150 SW 266th Lane

This is a very private and beautiful shy one acre parcel with wonderful trees and a nice open building site. The property is a short distance off King County paved road and has an expired approved 3 bdrm PD septic system design. Also includes a Group B water share and water to the building site. The lot has a gentle slope and should have a winter view into Quartermaster Harbor. Property has been surveyed.



MLS 26095721

\$160,000

Build your dream home

- 📍 **.92 Acres**
- 📍 **Water share**
- 📍 **Expired Septic design**

View Home!

9225 SW 274th Street



- 📍 **1946 Sq Ft**
- 📍 **3 bedrooms**
- 📍 **3.75 bath**
- 📍 **Breathtaking View**

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 garage door, propane fireplace insert, and much, much more. **\$610,000**

MLS 26034820

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

Waterfront!

22908 Vashon Hwy SW

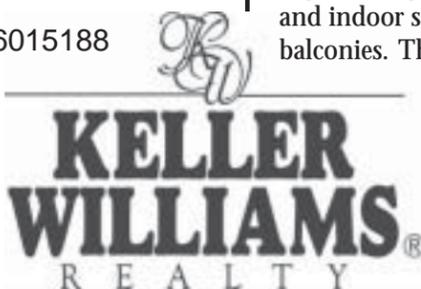
This retro chic house calls for clambakes, cocktails, and cabin cruisers!

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.**



MLS 26015188

- 📍 **3240 Sq Ft**
- 📍 **3 bedrooms**
- 📍 **2.5 bath**
- 📍 **75 feet of low bank waterfront**



Fairy Tale Charm

17921 Westside Hwy SW

Fairy tale charm abounds in this Tudor-style home on a shy three acres of Vashon's highly desirable sunny Westside with a view of Colvos Passage. Inside, the well-thought 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

The Kneejerk Conservative

By Fran Gordon

Hard to decide what to right (*oops, sorry, non-Freudian slip*) write about—there are too many subjects, and there is too little time and maybe some little touch of cowardice on my part. It is easier to go along and get along. But thinking of our long-suffering editor, here's a stab at first principles.

The Conservative would suggest that the possibility of evil is inherent in human beings and is not primarily a problem of education, background or institutions. We have, at a fundamental level, choice unlike any other critter on the planet. That doesn't mean that nurture has no impact, it means that we have more responsibility for our thoughts, attitudes and actions than any of us are comfortable with.

Most conservatives would also argue that political and economic freedom must go hand in hand. In addition, that freedom is not long held on to if there is no national sovereignty or border control.

This conservative would maintain that the US Constitution, with its division of powers that enables and restrains, is more than we could have hoped for, given the demographic of those who gave it to us. The government so empowered is to preserve internal order, provide for

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

the national defense, and administer justice. "That government governs best which governs least." The dynamic and creative balance between local, state and federal power is part of the genius of the Constitution. Our impatience or greed or ideology should not be allowed, in the heat of the moment, to override vigorous and informed debate and to upset that delicate balance (more than we already have).

I would submit that litigating should not be the automatic option if you don't have the votes. Engage, and be grateful to, your opponents — they keep you honest.

Most of all, understand that assertion without evidence does not absolve you or me from backing up our arguments with verifiable facts. Be willing to be persuaded if you find you have been wrong. Give your opponent the benefit of the doubt as to motive. You (and I) are not God and do not have entrée to anyone's heart.

I've run out of space this time and will take up this topic next time. If you want to agree, disagree or just chat email me at ham2hand@yahoo.com. Or catch me at Thriftway. ☐☐☐☐

Loop Letters

Editor, *The Loop*:

Vashon Veterans thanks the Boy Scouts of Troop 294, through the leadership of Ed Zapel, and Comrade Phil Volker's flag detail, and VFW Auxiliary members, Clarice Walgren and Flo Ann Wittman, and Funeral Island Services employee, Lisa Devereau, for placing some 400 flags at Veterans burial sites at the Vashon Cemetery on Sunday, May 28, 2006. We also thank Comrade Fred Hansen and the flag detail for displaying 144 large flags on Monday, May 29.

Vashon Veterans thanks all that participated in or were guests at the Memorial Services conducted at the Vashon Cemetery and reception at the Veterans Hall and at the Vashon Community Care Center (VCCC), and reception at the Assisted Living Dining area on Monday, May 29, 2006. The large attendance is testimony to our collective desire to remember and honor those that fought for and maintain the freedoms that we enjoy in these United States of America. Prior to the memorial services at the Vashon Cemetery, the Veterans dedicated benches to Walt Fitzpatrick and Roy Bailey, who fought in WW II and returned to Vashon Island and helped made this community a better place to live and to raise our families. We thank Reed Fitzpatrick and Tom Langland for their acceptance speeches for Patriots Walt Fitzpatrick and Roy Bailey.

We thank the following persons for their participation in the Memorial Services:

The Boy Scouts of Troop 294 and the Vashon Veterans for setting up the chairs for both memorial services and Lisa Devereau for providing the excellent program for the Vashon Cemetery Program and providing the speaker system for both Memorial Services;

The following Program participants: John Dally and his team of Bag Pipers; John Burke (Leader), Ken Van Fleet, Roy Bumgarner, Burdell Hollis and Martin Peachout, Color Guards; Boy Scouts of

Troop 294, Marchers; those that honored the dead by speaking and placing flowers on the monument: Ed Zapel, Boy Scouts; Jasper Forrester, Grange; John Bozeat, Masons; Helen Pierce, AARP; Joyce Olson, Rotary; Ray Konrad, Kiwanis; Stephanie Redfield, Soroptimist; Sigrid Thomas, Eagles Auxiliary; Ryan Sketer, Eagles; Lee Miller, Sportsman Club; Flo Ann Wittman, VFW Auxiliary; Dick Pruett, American Legion; Bill Hathaway, VFW.

Jan James invited residents of the VCCC to lay flowers on a white cross during the VCCC Memorial Services. Roy Bumgarner made the white cross.

Marita Ericksen led the audience and the Judd Creek Gospel Singers in singing patriotic and gospel songs at the Vashon Cemetery. Lauri Hennessey led the audience at the VCCC.

Chaplain Phil Volker led us in prayer at the Vashon Cemetery.

Louis Engels played Taps at the Vashon Cemetery and Holly Tuttle at the VCCC.

Ted and Clarice Walgren, Richard Wickberg, Ruriko Croan, Flo Ann Wittman and Gretchen Brockway provided food, prepared the beverage and served the food at the Veterans Building. Roy Bumgarner and Burdell Hollis set up the Veterans hall for the reception. Jan James set up the Assisted Living Dining room for the reception at the VCCC and the VCCC kitchen staff prepared the delightful snacks.

The Memorial Services at the VCCC included phrases like the following: "We may be constrained in a variety of ways, but within us there can be an incredible growth in beauty as we are infused and transformed by the power of love."

Gang, if I did not include or misspelled your name, please forgive me. The Veterans really appreciate all of your support.

THANK YOU.

Olde John Croan

Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, June 30**



Vashon Eagles General Public Day

June 24, 2006

At the Eagles' Aerie at 18134 Vashon Hwy SW (206) 463-5477

Doors are open to all from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Events:

☞ **Super Flea Market!** ☞

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All sorts of good stuff

Set up your own booth

☞ **Barbecue!** ☞

Hamburgers, hot dogs, steaks, chicken & salads or a reasonable fee or bring your own food

☞ **Live Music!** ☞

The Doily Brothers 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

☞ **Geoduck Derby!** ☞

June 24th & 25th 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Open to all comers of any age including general public.

\$15.00 adult entry; \$5.00 under 16. Fee includes Official T-Shirt, burger or hotdog & soft drink. Register at 9 a.m. either /both days. Multiple entries allowed. Rules & regulations available at registration. WA Shellfish License required.

Prizes for 3 heaviest geoducks (winner announced Sunday at 6 p.m. Need not be present to win. We'll show you how to clean 'em. Come have some fun!!

Public Safety Committee Up and Running Again

By Jennie Hodgson

After a lapse of over a year, The Public Safety Committee of the Vashon Maury Island Community Council is back in business. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday June 29** at 10:00 a.m. in the courtroom at Court House Square. We will be addressing safety on the highways, streets and sidewalks of our Island, law enforcement concerns, fire safety matters, and other considerations such as dangers posed by domestic and wild animals.

We can change some behaviors by raising awareness and also by enforcing laws and regulations. We can also educate people about keeping houses safe from accidents and fire. There is nothing we can do to prevent earthquakes and disastrous storms, but we can get ready and preparedness will be part of our effort.

Jim Didricksen of the Highway Department, Captain D. J. Nesel of the Sheriff's Department, and Fire Department Safety Officer Mike Kirk are on the committee as well as a representative from the Preparedness Community. Other resources experts will be asked to join us from time to time, the Animal Control Officer, for example. Members of the public are very welcome at all meetings. If you will give me (Jennie Hodgson, 463-5408) a heads up about your concern we'll do our best to get it on the agenda and invite you to come to the meeting to voice it. On the agenda of our June 29th meeting will be a safe and sound 4th of July for the Island and the election of a Chairman.

It's a Grand Old Flag

On holidays, election days, and inauguration days, the flags go up. The flags are put up by crews of volunteers who gather at dawn to do their work.

On Flag Day this year the volunteers started putting up flags at 5:30 a.m., and when they were done, they were fed breakfast by the Vashon Eagles. After breakfast VFW Service Officer Roy Bumgarner was driving home, and he saw children riding their bicycles along the highway on their way to school.

VashonPages.com
On Line Directory

Free Event Listing!
Arts, Clubs, Meetings, Music, Sports, Non-Profit Groups
Get Your Event on the Web
E-mail your Press Release to: events@vashonpages.com
(E-mail Submissions Only Please)

Register Your Own Domain Name
www.RegisterExp.com
Experience Lower Prices
Experience Faster Service
Experience The Quality
\$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*

Veterans Sponsor Community Garage Sale

The Vashon Veterans are having a Garage Sale at the Veterans Hall, previously known as the VFW Hall, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on **Saturday, June 24**. Rectangular and round tables will be rented for \$35 to folks who desire to sell items at this sale. If the seller takes unsold items home, the seller will receive a \$10 refund. The Veterans will be offering a regulation-sized pool table, roll top desk and two plush recliner chairs for sale, as well as many other fine articles. No presale will be permitted. Coffee and ice water provided. Please contact Tom Dinsmore, 567-5100; Roy Bumgarner, 463-5767; or Olde John Croan, 463-2852, to rent a table or if you need additional information.

"I was watching four boys, about 10 or 11 years old, on their bikes, and I was trying to be careful as I drove by them, and suddenly I realized they were doing something. I watched more closely and realized they were saluting every time they passed a flag."

"I was in shock all the way home. Seeing those kids kind of makes it worth getting up and doing it."

The volunteers will raise the flags again on the 4th of July. Happy Independence Day.



2006 Strawberry Festival Shorts

Festival Grand Parade

The Vashon Island Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for entries into the 2006 Strawberry Festival Grand Parade. Plan to help kick-off the Vashon Strawberry Festival at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 8. Come on out and participate in one of Vashon Island's best days of summer!

Taking part in the Vashon's greatest parade is a fantastic experience. Representing your part of Vashon in the event is an honor and good fun. Don't miss out — and certainly make sure your club participates — on Vashon's most fun filled day of the year.

You can print out a parade application from the Web site http://www.vashonchamber.com/frame_visitor_StrawberryFest.htm

Send applications by July 1st to: Vashon-Maury Island Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1035 Vashon, WA 98070.

Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

Discounted tickets for the Kiwanis Club Strawberry Festival All-You-Can-Eat Pancake breakfast will be on sale for \$6.00 each through Monday, July 3. At the breakfast, admission will cost \$7.00 per adult and \$5.00 for children 12 and under.

Honor your employees and family members with a frazzle-free fun time. Eat a scrumptious breakfast and donate to community causes at the same time. Breakfast will be served in the Vashon Market parking lot on Saturday, July 8 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and Sunday July 9 from 8:00 a.m. to Noon.

This hearty delicious breakfast includes delectable pancakes from Bernie Coane's traditional recipe, mouth-watering ham, juicy strawberries, sweet maple syrup, refreshing orange juice, much-needed coffee, milk and real butter.

As in years past the Kiwanis family will provide the service including the Vashon High School Key Club and McMurray Middle School Builders Club members. You can get your tickets by calling Olde John Croan, 206-463-2852; Ray Konrad, 206-463-6841 or Dorothy Johnson, 206-463-9831. Proceeds go to more than a dozen groups and individuals each year, mostly youth groups.

See you at breakfast time!

Festival T-shirts

2006 Festival t-shirts are on sale now! The HOTS (Heart of the Sound) Triathlon will use the t-shirts as part of their fundraising strategy this year. The white t-shirts sport a diamond-shaped motif by Island designer Mike Masi; sizes include small, medium, large, x-large and xx-large. Island Variety and Video, Island Lumber, Vashon Market and True Value have the shirts available for purchase. HOTS All Ages Triathlon donates all profits to local youth sports.

Rare and Collectible Car Parade and "Shine"

The Vashon Island Chamber of Commerce and 2006 Strawberry Festival committee invite car buffs to show up and show off for the annual Car Parade on Sunday, July 9, 2006. Cars will line up Sunday morning in time for the 11:00 a.m. departure starting at Mom's Deli & Grocery (19124 Vashon Highway S.W., Vashon), head north on the Vashon Highway and pull up to Island Lumber.

At the end of the parade cars park at Island Lumber for the Shine, where people can look closely at the cars and talk with the owners. This is a fabulous, fun and free event for the whole family, and a summer tradition. Blow your horn, display your pride and joy, or come to admire stunning automobiles and enjoy fabulous dining and shopping opportunities! Applications are available on line at www.vashonchamber.com. Click on Strawberry Festival on the home page and scroll down to the pdfs of the applications. Print it out and send it in! Deadline is July 1st, 2006. In the words of a car aficionado "Bring the best car you got and see you there!"

Festival Beer Garden

You don't have to travel to Bavaria, or pay homage to the tomb of King Ludwig I* to enjoy a tall, frosty one this summer. The Strawberry Festival Beer Garden (sponsored by Western Distributors) will once again host the best party in town, this year in a new location at the Subway Sandwich Shop.

The Beer Garden has served up great times in the past and this year the new location will offer unparalleled views of the Festival goings-on. In addition to alcoholic beverages, this destination spot will serve a wide selection of Subway sandwiches, chips, cookies, espresso and non-alcoholic drinks.

The Beer Garden stage will present live music Friday night and Saturday afternoon and evening; Admission is \$5.00 per person (adults 21 and over only). Proceeds from the Beer Garden go to beautifying Ludwig I's tomb, OK not really, proceeds do fund Chamber of Commerce community events and activities throughout the year. So be like Ludwig, patronize the arts, drink beer, eat good food and come and tip a chilly brewski at the best party in town.

**Ludwig I issued an imperial decree in the 1800s that beer had to be brewed during the cold months. When Ludwig I*

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Or Choo-choo-choo-Choose the Train!

Experience the excitement of Festival "passenger rail" as you ride in Bank of America's choice, 2006 Strawberry Festival Train. Kids and seniors can board and disembark at Parker Plaza. The route will vary. Your journey will take you along the scenic path of the Festival. Wave to the crowds! Take a load off and ride.

The Bank of America courtesy train gives rides free of charge. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Celebrate aboard the Festival Train and enjoy an exciting excursion as it travels along the picturesque festival route. Embark and celebrate the 2006 Strawberry Festival with music, dancing, a variety of dining opportunities and shopping!

married Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen (1792-1854), the wedding was the occasion of the first ever Oktoberfest (Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beer_garden#Beer_gardens_around_the_world).

Take the Subway Bus

Ride the free, round-trip shuttle this year provided by Subway Vashon Sandwiches. King County Metro professional drivers and comfortable, wheel chair accessible shuttles will take you to the festival from the north-end ferry dock with care and ease. Why do the driving? Save on gas, free yourself from the shackles of parking and allow Subway and Metro to be your festival chauffeur. Shuttle will run 9:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. on both Saturday, July 8, and Sunday, July 9. The bus will wait to meet each ferry as it comes in, and drop off passengers at Ober Park. Schedule may vary!



Spiritual Smart Aleck



The Last Cat Standing

A few years ago I wrote a column about my probable fate as a Cat Lady. I pictured myself ending my days living in a small, drafty beach cabin, schlepping around in a baggy old sweater (probably dull brown or dull green), with dozens of cats flitting around me, underfoot, on the counters, inside, outside, in my lady's chamber.

The cats arrived a few decades earlier than I expected. My husband, my two sons, and I lived with all those cats. I did have a lot of baggy sweaters, though.

On the day that I looked out in our yard and counted 23 cats (a mother, her kittens, a few tomcats chasing the mom, and several bystanders kibitzing, placing bets, and smoking catnip) I decided that it was Time to Act. I went up to Vashon Hardware and rented a Hav-a-Hart trap, and we began our neighborhood spay and neuter program. The drill was: catch feral cat, have feral cat neutered or spayed, release feral cat back into the wild. Or, as my husband would say, we used our family method of putting them down: get them fixed and then feed them until they die.

Public Service Announcement: VIPP paid a big chunk of the vet bills. I cannot say enough good about VIPP. Support their good work by sending them money now at P O Box 13182, Burton WA 98013. End of Public Service Announcement.

Some of those cats became indoor precious darlings. Our first cat, Miss Kitty, was the only cat we ever brought home on purpose. The rest of them just showed up: Butterfly the Peacemaker; Old Rose and her kittens, The Boss, Tuckers, Blackie and Frightwig; Two-Tone; Beanbag, so named for her pregnant physique when she arrived, and her five kittens, of whom we kept one, Playfully.

Some of the cats moved on after being spayed or neutered. I think they considered surgery a serious breach of hospitality on our part and shook our dust off their paws before heading for gentler, less medical, venues.

Eventually we had four indoor precious darlings - Miss Kitty, Butterfly, Beanbag, and Playfully - and about nine what I called "outdoor utility cats." Nine was the number I would cop to. We put kibbles out and cats came and ate at Tuels' buffet.

Once the cats were fixed and the reproductive cycle stopped, the population stabilized. Unfettered by sex lives, the cats established a territorial rule that halted the influx of new cats, and we lived happy years with happy cats. We did add Cranky Spanky, the Republican Cat, one day when I fell for him at an Adopt-a-Cat Day. He was ten years old. How long could he live? Another eight years, as it turned out.

Gradually they disappeared. One at a time the feral cats went missing, and we knew they had done that cat thing - gone off to die in some hidden place.

Miss Kitty, the Queen of the Cats, went to her reward on a Sunday afternoon, surrounded by family. Butterfly lost an argument with a truck tire. Two-Tone lapped up some anti-freeze that ran down the hill. Beanbag lived to be 16 or so; Playfully 14; Spanky rocked to sleep in my arms. Finally we were down to two feral cats, Blackie and Frightwig, the last of Old Rose's litter. Blackie disappeared last summer, leaving Frightwig the last cat standing.

We put a heating pad under a blanket out on the porch for her, and fed her canned food, which she appreciated. Frightwig would have been a great indoor precious darling. She loved to be petted and loved, but she arrived feral and never got over it.

Last week she stopped eating. Her system started to shut down, and we realized this was it. I took her up to Fair Isle, thanked her for sharing her life with us, and sang and talked to her while the sedative took effect, seeing in my mind all those cats over all those years. Then she was given that last dose of anesthetic, and the pulse in the corner of her eye stopped ticking, and I put down my head and cried.

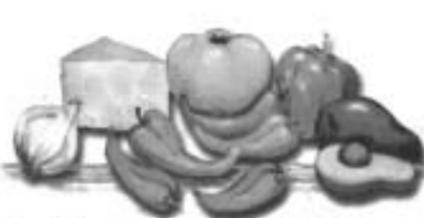
She was the last cat standing, and now she's gone. My husband says he's having a hard time adjusting to the silence when he walks into the kitchen in the morning, after all those years of being greeted with a "Myow!" that meant, "Bring on the groats!" We are catless, for the first time since 1978.

My husband says, "No more cats!" That's his policy and he's sticking to it.

Actually, that has always been his policy, but as we all know, cats don't know from policy. ☐☐☐☐



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Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, June 30**



Don't Forget the Birds



Photo by Steve Caldwell

The Douglas Squirrel

By Ed Swan

Facing a bit of writer's block on Vashon birds, I thought I would talk about some of our other wildlife around the Island (No, not the Coop Preschool parties.). I have recently experienced a lot of fun and irritation with our local Douglas Squirrel or chickaree. These are the small, native squirrels that are a dark grey-brown above and a light rufous-brown grey below.

Douglas Squirrels inhabit the coniferous forests and mixed hardwood and coniferous forests that lean more toward the evergreen side. Descriptions I have read all include the word "loud!" for the noisy scolding and beeping sounds. If the neighborhood Barred Owls or cats are prowling around, the Douglas Squirrel will be in the thick of letting everyone know.

These small squirrels feed on a large variety of seeds, fruits, bird eggs and fungi. They especially like conifer seeds. In looking for food sources, they often will chew through anything but thick metal to get to stored bird seed. I have a deck covered in blue plastic shavings from our chickaree going after the sunflower seeds for the birds. My wife Linda has threatened to let the cat out because the squirrel keeps digging up her flowers to cache its seeds.

Squirrel territories can range up to about 200 yards across. They

nest in tree cavities or build a nest almost like a bird on a branch near the trunk of a tree. If you would like to find out more about our local mammals, Islander Ellen Kritzman's *Little Mammals of the Pacific Northwest* is a great guide. Ellen keeps track of the Island checklist of mammal species, so if you have a question about an unusual mammal or a sighting, email her at ekritzman@centurytel.net. She also sells her book from her house as well as local stores.

Some good birds are still coming through as part of spring migration. Sherry Bottoms found a Lazuli Bunting along Cemetery Road, a bird that we only get one or two sightings of each year. Joy Nelsen heard a Common Nighthawk along Westside Highway, another once a year bird for Vashon. I found a Western Kingbird at KVI Beach, possibly one sighted a couple of weeks ago by Steve Caldwell and Bent and Marie Blichfeldt on Maury Island. I also saw a breeding plumage Pacific Loon. They are usually all gone from the area by mid May. We also had the first confirmed breeding of Barn Owls for Vashon in at least a decade and the possibility of a second location as well. If you have an interesting sighting or question about local birds call me at 463-7976 or email at edswan@centurytel.net.

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Be sure to check out these upcoming Vashon Audubon events: **Thursday, July 20** at the Land Trust Building, the Audubon program will feature Paul Bannick, photographer, naturalist and conservation professional sharing images captured while hiking, kayaking and snowshoeing throughout the greater Pacific Northwest. He will focus on the rich diversity of owls and woodpeckers that we are fortunate to have in the Pacific Northwest. Due to our great diversity of habitats, 15 of the 19 owls and 13 of the 22 woodpeckers found in North America can be found in the Pacific Northwest. Paul will share memorable images of most of these remarkable animals with us and look at their unique habitat requirements.

Also, the monthly field trip may or may not take place on the second Saturday as usual because in July it would coincide with the Strawberry Festival. Consult the great Vashon Audubon Society website managed

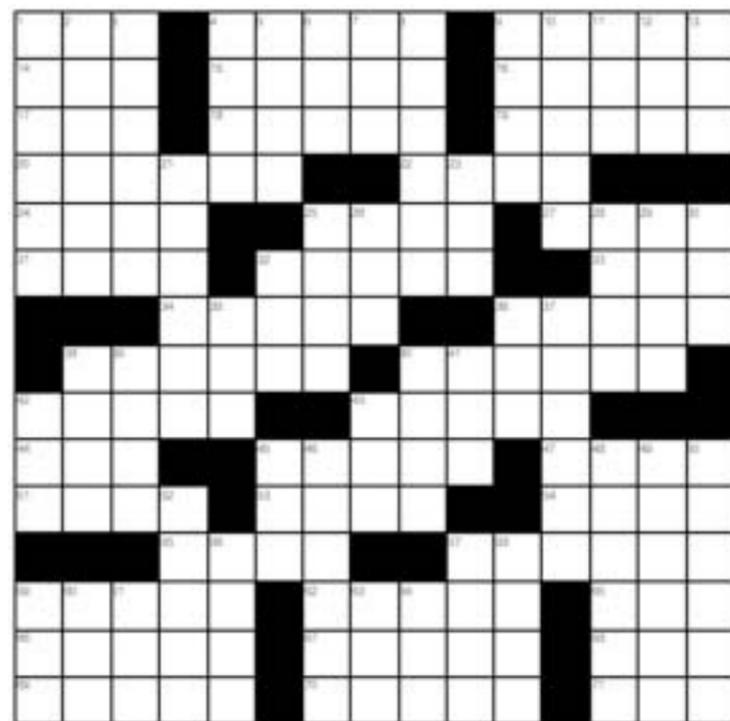
by Richard Rogers at <http://www.vashonaudubon.org/> to find out the date and meeting place for the field trip and other Audubon events.



Photo by Steve Caldwell

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Across</p> <p>1. Shortened version (abbr)</p> <p>4. Inlet of the sea</p> <p>9. Air-conditioning need</p> <p>14. Downwind</p> <p>15. Dynast</p> <p>16. Musical composition</p> <p>17. Old-fashioned Dads</p> <p>18. Tylenol's competitor</p> <p>19. Bedsprad feather</p> <p>20. Keeness of perception</p> <p>22. Cain killed him</p> <p>24. Deliberate</p> <p>25. Silent actor</p> <p>27. Rock</p> <p>31. Wager</p> <p>32. Not glossy</p> <p>33. Adam's wife</p> <p>34. Hydrochloric and nitric, for example</p> <p>36. Goddess</p> <p>38. Luxurious</p> <p>40. More beloved</p> <p>42. ___ code</p> <p>43. Fights</p> <p>44. Resort hotel</p> <p>45. Amiss</p> | <p>47. Connect</p> <p>51. Trial</p> <p>53. Summon</p> <p>54. Theme</p> <p>55. Religious song</p> <p>57. Failure</p> <p>59. Ditto (2 wds.)</p> <p>62. Uses a telephone</p> <p>65. Close</p> <p>66. Hoax</p> <p>67. Perfect</p> <p>68. Stretch to make do</p> <p>69. Avoid</p> <p>70. Parry</p> <p>71. Espy</p> <p>Down</p> <p>1. S. American llama</p> <p>2. Light signal</p> <p>3. Upshot</p> <p>4. Lodge</p> <p>5. 4th of ___</p> <p>6. Bullfight cheer</p> <p>7. Pastor (abbr.)</p> <p>8. Had a dream</p> <p>9. land of the ___</p> <p>10. Churns</p> | <p>11. Finis</p> <p>12. Lyric poem</p> <p>13. Neither's partner</p> <p>21. Utopian ideas</p> <p>23. Honey maker</p> <p>25. Fixed</p> <p>26. That (possessive)</p> <p>28. "as you ___"</p> <p>29. Declare positively</p> <p>30. Affirmation</p> <p>32. Alloy</p> <p>35. Prompt</p> <p>36. California (abbr.)</p> <p>37. Phony</p> <p>38. Idiot</p> <p>39. Long time periods</p> <p>40. Natural sand pile</p> <p>41. Electroencephalograph (abbr.)</p> <p>42. Mountain Standard Time</p> <p>43. Black Lab</p> <p>45. Typing rate</p> <p>46. Stale</p> <p>48. Swarms</p> <p>49. Dissimilar</p> <p>50. Lodge</p> <p>52. Lash</p> <p>56. Link</p> |
|--|--|--|

57. It's a grand old ___
58. Island
59. Miles per hour
60. Before, poetically
61. Little bit
63. Hubbub
64. Headed



The Film Thing

By Peter Ray pgr42@worldnet.att.net



Saving the Frog

We have been watching the tadpoles in the pond out front as of late. A few weeks back, it was looking as though their home was about to disappear into the pre-Summer dryness. Then the rains returned and the water level rose and all looked good for frog world, at least the one right here. As we have recently been hearing — if we have been listening — frogs in the rest of the world are not faring quite so well, with large bunches of their populations being decimated and entire species going extinct. A large part of their demise has been directly attributed to climate change being brought on by global warming. We see an animated illustration of this in *An Inconvenient Truth*, a film that follows and illuminates Al Gore's thirty year campaign to expose and enlighten us to the facts behind the ongoing scientific research on global warming and its effects — both predicted and actual. My one complaint about this film is that both the frog-in-hot-water cartoon, and the overall tone of *An Inconvenient Truth*, paint perhaps a happier, rosier picture of both situations than have otherwise been represented elsewhere.

In many ways, this is kind of scary, since the world that Al Gore and director Davis Guggenheim show us is not in a happy state. If we have been paying any attention at all, much of the information put forward in this documentary has been heard before. It was in fact, writer Elizabeth Kolbert's three part series on "The Climate of Man" in the *New Yorker* last year that shook me to the core about the things we are not seeing or being told about in the realm of global warming. What this, and *An Inconvenient Truth*, shows those who are paying attention is that like the WMDs, the dwindling oil supply, the World Trade Center annihilation, the potentialities of Hurricane Katrina's destructive force, and most recently as revealed in Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s expose in *Rolling Stone Magazine* on the 2004 election and the documented voter fraud perpetrated on the American public by the Republicans and the mostly compliant media, we are being handed one heck of a pack of lies as of late. To bolster the truthfulness of the global warming inconvenience, it was stated in the film that of the nearly one thousand peer-reviewed studies on this subject that were taken as a sample, none called into question the validity of the science behind them, nor the conclusions to be drawn from them. On the other hand, of the more than six hundred media reports and news items on this issue, over half suggested that global warming at the hand of man is a fiction. You connect the dots.

To be fair, it is safe to say that for the most part, *An Inconvenient Truth* is not an example of easy viewing. There are vast stacks of facts and figures to be absorbed, and some extremely powerful images that are stuck firmly in my mind from this film. But it is to the filmmaker's credit that this information is not too overwhelming, since it is tempered by the human interest side (yes, there is one) of Al Gore. While the core of the film is centered around a staged-for-filming presentation of the global warming lecture that Gore has been giving and refining over the past thirty years, it is punctuated by bits filmed at talks that he has given on the subject around the world, as well as by looks into Gore's personal life and the influences that have led him down this path. What establishes Gore as a bona fide grass roots participant in this crusade is his connection from his college days with one of the pioneers in environmental research and the study of atmospheric carbon dioxide levels, Roger Revelle. Gore credits Revelle with leading the way in tying carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere to worldwide increases in temperature, and with awakening him to the danger this poses to life on earth.

As with most doom and gloom items, it is easiest to tune them out rather than deal with them, which is why it is a good thing that the message of *An Inconvenient Truth* tends more to the hopeful side of things with its balanced mix of both the positive and negative. One does however come away from films like this wondering what can be done about the issue at hand. I got prodded into riding my bike into Seattle for this screening by my partner Wendy. She rides to work way more often than not, and just logged over seven hundred commuter miles in the Bike to Work Month of May. There were over fifteen thousand riders in that commuter challenge who logged over half a million miles, burned almost seventeen million gallons of gas and helped reduce carbon dioxide emissions by almost half a million pounds. Perhaps we CAN save the frogs, and maybe even ourselves along the way. You can start, or continue, to do your part in the fight against global warming by going to see *An Inconvenient Truth*, coming **Friday, June 30** to the convenient Vashon Theatre near you. After that first 7 p.m. showing there will be a group discussion about the film at the Vashon Bookshop. The following night, July 1, there will be a similar reception and discussion held at Ferrara's restaurant, and on July 2 there is a possible third discussion, tentatively scheduled for Café Luna following Sunday night's screening.

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On the lighter side of things: the **Fifth All-Island Showcase of Short Films** will be happening, also at the Vashon Theatre, starting at 7 p.m. on **Sunday, July 25**. This edition of Local Exposure — or LoEx to the cinematically hip among us — all include shorts from Michael Monteleone, Jeff Hoyt and Robert Bornn, along with group efforts from Bill Jarcho and the Digipen student collaborative, as well as a "Yes For Kids" pro-school levy video from Jordan Soltman and Makena Johnson. Admission will be by donation, and as always, you should be there or you will be in the dark. For further information contact Leslie McMichael at 567-4768.

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New Chefs at Wok In Take Out

The Wok In Take Out is proud to announce the addition of a husband and wife cooking team who, in one month's time, have elevated the reliable quality of food to a level of innovative authenticity. Samoun Proem and Sophal Chinn ("Chhin"), a Cambodian-American couple, have already enhanced the menu, added salads and other lighter fare for hot weather, and improved upon favorites from the Wok. The specials and regular menu will continue to expand and reflect the authentic and knowledgeable culinary skills they bring to The Wok.

Originally from Cambodia, the Proem-Chhin's also lived in Thailand before coming to the states. Chinn has worked in Seattle area restaurants for more than twenty years. He relished the opportunity to cook for as many as a thousand customers a day. Honing his culinary skills has been a goal well met. Special requests are his specialty. During the twenty-plus years they have been in the States, became citizens and raised five children, Samoun also catered parties

and other special events. Together, Samoun and "Chhin" bring fresh ideas, amazing food and tireless dedication to the Wok. "Chhin" and Samoun, a close friend for over twenty years of co-owner Susan Ross, are dedicated to providing the best food possible.

"As soon as we were negotiating the purchase, I thought of them. Fortunately, they can now share with Vashon the food I have enjoyed from their kitchen for many, many years," says Susan Ross. Peggy Linker, co-owner, says, "the reliability and energy that Samoun and "Chhin" bring to cooking allows me to meet the growing demand for our food, and increase the number of catered events for which we can provide ample and budget-friendly meals. With Samoun and "Chhin" cooking, I can focus on enhancing the overall operation of Wok In Take Out. Expect more innovative and special fare and know we can deliver the best Thai food possible."

Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

The Dorsal Spin: From the Sea of Button Robes and Melting Ice



Steller sea lions at rest

Photo by Orca Annie Stateler

By Orca Annie Stateler

We visited Odin's hometown, Juneau, earlier this month for a culture fix at the biennial Celebration gathering and a wilderness fix in gorgeous Southeast Alaska. We saw more button robes than you could shake a rattle at during Celebration, and more marbled murrelets and Steller sea lions than you could shake a herring at in Juneau's waters.

Celebration is growing, with more Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian dance groups attending every year. Odin kept busy, dancing with the ultra-traditional Xudzidaa Kwaan dance group from Angoon and Kuteeyaa Dancers from Puget Sound. Stogarita was stylin' in her formline dog slicker. The other dogs were jealous! Another treat this year was a lecture by renowned Northwest Coast Native art scholar Bill Holm.

After Celebration, a mild cold, and five days of relentless rain which even the locals found vexing, we had to hit the saltwater for an attitude adjustment. Raven opened the box of daylight on a glorious, calm day in Southeast. We ogled the glaciers, snowy peaks, flora and fauna.

Stogarita really liked the big, raucous dogs with flippers – Steller sea lions. She made as many noises as they did as she watched them cavorting in the water. They seemed mildly curious about her.

Two enormous males vied for beachmaster at a bustling rookery we visited. Most hilarious, however, was the ruckus at an overcrowded buoy, where several mischievous youngsters splashed about, nipping at the flippers of surly sunbathers. The kids tried to squeeze onto the buoy, but they met instantly with growling, snapping, and the general consternation aroused when a good nap is disturbed. A large adult male jumped off to "scold" the impudent youths.

He threw his weight around to reestablish his perch on the buoy if a punk tried to take it. Waterfront real estate truly is at a premium.

Some sea lions tagged along with humpback whales, looking for any hapless herring to escape the leviathans' lunge feeding episodes. We delighted in watching a sweet humpback trio and a fourth solo whale who flashed pretty, white tail flukes before every deep dive. The Goldilocks trio consisted of a mother, baby, and male escort. The twist here is that Mom, like all baleen whales, was bigger than the male.

Many cetacean societies are matriarchal, and paternity is often a mystery. Only DNA sampling would tell for certain, but we wondered if the dutiful male hoped for early dibs on the female before the fiercely competitive breeding season in Hawaii, or if he had a genetic investment in the calf. Researchers studying humpbacks in Southeast Alaska discovered that they form long-term bonds with whales who are not blood relatives. Perhaps the male babysitter and protector was just being a true friend.

We also enjoyed the black oystercatchers and rafts of scoters. In the woods, pileated woodpeckers tolerated our presence as they scaled tree trunks looking for insects, and inquisitive red squirrels approached us even though we did not have food.

Pristine wilderness is an urban legend. Humanity's impact is evident everywhere, but one can briefly indulge denial by gazing at relatively unspoiled landscapes in Alaska and British Columbia. Though still stunning, Mendenhall Glacier has retreated noticeably since we last saw it in 2002, and alarmingly so since Odin's childhood. The glacier is shrinking faster at the sides, giving it an hourglass shape.



Two humpback whales
Photo by Orca Annie

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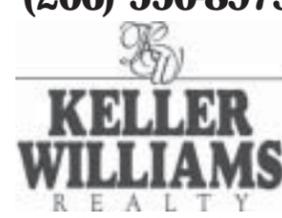


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Strawberry Festival is imminent — more on that in the next Dorsal Spin. Remember to visit the ACS/PS booth and our friends from WolfTown. Please support the eco-friendly work of the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP) by reporting local whale sightings ASAP to 463-9041. Contact Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com. ☐☐☐☐

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Planet Waves



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

Happy Birthday Gemini!

You cannot rule your mind with an iron will. The mental environment is soft and flexible, and responds to gradually applied influences. But there are times when it's necessary to make one decision, to let go of one habit, or break one pattern, and that can require radical intervention. Among the ways to shift a pattern is to work with geography. I know that not everyone can move house or change cities, but anyone can work with physical location or space, and I recommend that you do this. If you can shift your relationship to your immediate physical environment in a significant way, you will go a long way to the new start that comes with this new year of your life.

Aries (March 20-April 19): You seem to be under pressure to do something you're not sure you're up for. Where is it coming from? Most likely from inside you. This is why you may feel unable to resist the appeal and passion of this opportunity, even though you know it comes with some significant challenges. One of those is breaking through a creative block that you've been struggling with; some kind of resistance, fear or hesitation about embarking on a particular path of self-expression. Remember that certainty is for what has already happened. The future is unwritten, but the pen and paper of creation are the conscious choices we make each day.

Taurus (April 19-May 20): Financial matters have been taking up too much of your time, and I hope that you've resolved not to worry about what you have no control over. Where you have considerable influence is over your peace of mind, and at the moment that has nearly nothing to do with external circumstances. Feeling safe is an art form, and it takes practice. The more you emanate a sense of safety, the safer the world will seem, both to you and the people around you. If living this way calls for you to walk a fine line, then do it.

Gemini (May 20-June 21): There's wisdom in giving people the benefit of the doubt. Relationships are often based on a surprisingly large number of presumptions, though what you presume is up to you. The choice is essentially between faith and fear. In choosing faith,

you thereby preserve the delicate balance that holds your relationships together. And you give yourself time to factor the emotional conditions of people close to you. Lately they've been more delicate than they seem on the outside. Thankfully, the edgy quality of the past few days has worn off and you can now attend to work-related matters you've been delaying.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): You can work miracles marshalling the resources you need to make your life work. Yet it's vital that you remember how well you've always done in this area, lest you forget that you're not attempting anything strange, new or different — just working on a larger scale, with more at stake. At any new stage of growth, there are challenges particular to that zone of reality, and it's clear that the planets are calling on you to grow up and take on your role of creator. Remember, your confidence with money is a reflection of how you feel about yourself. Let it be your mirror.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23): You know your intentions are pure. No matter what anyone may say or think, you're in touch with your sense of commitment and the underlying feelings that motivate you. And motivating you is exactly what they're doing. But you may be a bit self-protective at times, and ready to defend your territory. If anyone should question you, I suggest you find out more about how they're feeling and why, rather than respond defensively. Just that alone will be an enormous help, ease any tensions and provide you with both insights and creative fuel.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22): Think of it this way: when you succeed at your most precious goals, what do you want to take with you? Do you want to bring the concerns, fears and self-judgments that may have troubled you at an earlier phase of your life? Or do you want to bring the creative passion you used to envision your future? This is not such a difficult question to answer, if you ask it. But to ask means facing a whole level of fear that is, itself, often an obstacle. Remember, the dark corner of your mind is not as dark as you may imagine. If you look, you will see.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23): Moving as quickly as you are, driven by the passion that's pushing you, you're vulnerable to

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being deceived. It's not that anyone in particular is being less than honest, but you need to be careful that you're not seeing the world you want, rather than the world that is. Don't guess. Get the facts, and think carefully about what people say to you — and what you say to them. The next few weeks will make it clear who your friends are and who they are not, but if you consider carefully today, that will be obvious — and at the moment, it's important information.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22): You now have an amazing opportunity to resolve an old issue that's held you back for a long time, perhaps for years. It involves being fixated on a goal or concept of yourself in the 'real world'. What you may not have considered is the extent to which this involves gaining someone else's approval for goals and objectives that are rightfully yours and yours alone. You might not recognize it as such. I suggest you look carefully at any relationship where power is a factor, and notice how you respond. This counts for those 'above' and 'below' you. Even if everyone is not strictly equal, everyone deserves respect, and you get to set the example by respecting yourself.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22): You may feel alone with a particular point of view, like you're the only person who could possibly understand. Don't let that thought go too far. You're surrounded by sympathetic people. It's just that you may not recognize who they are, which is another way of saying you need to find out. Make no assumptions — listen closely to the words people say, and the tone in which they speak, and you will know what they feel and to a great extent, who they are in your life. At the moment, you need people around you who wholeheartedly support your faith in yourself. Keep them close by, and keep any spoilers well at bay.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20): The heat and intensity seems to be rising on a business arrangement or financial

situation, and I suggest you delay any decision as long as possible. You're under too much pressure to make a clear decision, and from what I can see, you're missing large parts of the picture. Opinions don't count for data at this point. The longer you wait, the more you'll know — and the less urgent action will seem. Remember, if you can: time is on your side, and you can use that time to clear up old business and tie up any loose ends you could trip over in the future.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): You seem to understand intuitively that what's happening now requires a soft touch and a receptive ear. This will help soothe the energies and turn a potentially tense moment into one where those involved have an opportunity to learn something about themselves and one another, and to earn one another's respect. There are times when your ability to work well with a group comes in handy, as does your experience as a negotiator. This is one of them. Just make sure that while you're facilitating life around you that you have the help and support you need, which mainly means a good listener to help you sort things out.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): You've arrived at the end of a long cycle of work and commitment, and it's very nearly time for a change. I think you've felt this intuitively; it seems like so many factors have you at a balancing point, a place of reviewing your commitments, and of re-balancing your life. A whole new phase of creative experience is around the corner. It's just that at the moment you may not be able to see quite what that is. So I suggest you be patient, pace yourself, and look for those transcendent windows in the here and now that take you through from one phase of your creative life to the next. ○○○○○

Don't worry about what people think; they don't do it very often.

LIVING WELL WITH PLANTS

Text and drawings by Kathy Abascal (AHG)



Getting To Know Fireweed

I thought I saw some fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*) blooming the other day as I headed home from the ferry but I must have been mistaken. It is a bit early for this wonderful plant that usually makes a real appearance in July. Although fireweed is reasonably common on the island, its benefits are usually overlooked, even by local herbalists.

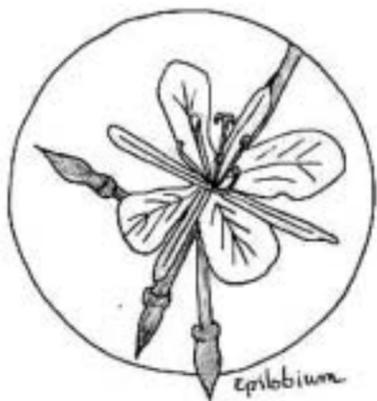
There are about 200 species of fireweed, and they usually prefer to grow either at relatively high latitudes or high altitudes. This plant is found in all parts of the world but the further north you go, the bigger and more abundant it gets. I used to gather it in the Colorado Rockies, where it was a knee-high plant. It was a joy to come to Vashon and find plants towering over the blackberries along the Island side roads. As you go further north, to places like Sweden or Alaska, you can find meadows of large fireweed plants. Fireweed is a perennial, and its flowers range from lavender to pink to carmine-purple, and its pods are long, narrow, and filled with feathery seeds. Here on Vashon, it seems to like the sunny sides of roads where the invasive, large, sweet blackberries also ripen. It is common on the Island but is becoming less abundant as people moving here decide they need to keep the sides of the roads as neat as their lawns.

Fireweed has been widely used as a medicine and as a food in many parts of the world. Young shoots were eaten and used as fodder for animals. I am told that the shoots taste a bit like asparagus but I have not yet tried them. The seed fluff was used as a fire starter — some say its common name comes from the ease with which the fluff catches fire — and to weave cloth and make thread. The Swedes call the plant *mjoelke* or “milky” based on their observations over centuries that cows fed on fireweed produce more milk. The Native Americans used it for burning urination, male

urination problems, coughs and sore throats, stomach aches and intestinal discomfort, bowel hemorrhages, gastritis, tuberculosis, and as a panacea for pain. They also used it as a poultice for boils, abscesses, bruises, infected sores, cuts and wounds, and other skin ailments. Various Eskimo and Siberian tribes used the plant similarly. Different species were used in both Egyptian and European folk medicine to treat inflammation, adenoma, and prostate tumors. The Europeans also used the plant to treat eczema, dandruff, and other skin conditions as well as for menstrual disorders.

The Eclectic physicians considered fireweed unequalled as a treatment for summer bowel troubles, and other types of diarrhea including cholera and dysentery. According to the Eclectics, fireweed can be tinctured but works best as an infusion. They preferred frequent small doses of the tea for diarrhea, recommending a dose as often as every 10 minutes.

Although there is no clinical research on the plant, studies show that most species of fireweed have



analgesic, anti-inflammatory, anti-microbial, anti-tumor, and prostate-related activities. Thus, infusions of fireweed strongly reduced prostaglandin release in animals, and worked as well as indomethacin at preventing

edema. Like indomethacin, fireweed inhibited platelet aggregation but, unlike the drug, did not cause stomach ulcers in the study animals. Researchers speculate that fireweed is safer than non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, and works by inhibiting the production of leukotrienes that act to sustain inflammatory reactions in the body.

Tinctures of fireweed are antimicrobial and inhibit many types of bacteria, yeast, and fungi. In various studies, it very strongly inhibited *Microsporum canis* (a cause of fungal skin problems), strongly inhibited *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli*, and weakly inhibited *Candida albicans*. These test tube studies suggest that folk uses of fireweed for skin problems and diarrhea may some day be validated as effective — of these uses are ever studied, of course.

Finally, fireweed has some potentially very interesting benefits for the prostate.

Tinctures of various fireweed species inhibit aromatase, an enzyme that converts testosterone into estrogen. In one study, two of fireweed's constituents had a considerably greater inhibitory action on 5 alpha-reductase than the prostate drug finestrade. This, of course, strongly supports

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Kathy Abascal is a professional member of the American Herbalists Guild and is certified by Michael Moore of the Southwest School of Botanical Medicine. She co-authored the book *Clinical Botanical Medicine*. You can email her at Anemopsis@yahoo.com if you have questions about herbs, call her to schedule a private consultation (463-9211) or stop by The Roasterie to purchase her tinctures.

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Book Review

Not a Knight in Sight

By Rachel Bard

The Journal of Hildegard of Bingen; inspired by a year in the life of the twelfth-century mystic, by Barbara Lachman. Bell Tower, 1993

The medieval world wasn't all crusading warriors, roistering kings, downtrodden serfs and lovely ladies serenaded by troubadours.

The spiritual life of the age was fully as vibrant as the secular. For a shining example, consider Hildegard of Bingen. If she'd lived five centuries later we'd call her a Renaissance Woman.

She was renowned during her lifetime (1098-1179) as theologian; herbalist; author of medical works; correspondent of kings, emperors and popes; preacher; musician (composer and performer); author of the first morality play; abbess and role model for her nuns. She's probably best remembered today as a mystic whose visions of heavenly revelations inspired her writings and as the composer of hymns and canticles still very much in play.

From 1136 to 1148 she led an enclosed community of women within the male monastery at Disibondenberg, in Germany's Rhineland. She became restive under the abbot's rule. Convinced that women had a unique ability and obligation to glorify God in their own fashion, she asked permission to establish an independent convent. The abbot and monks resisted. For one thing, Hildegard was already famous for her writings and brought renown to their monastery. For another, they'd lose the dowries of the wealthy aristocratic women who joined the community. Hildegard then sought support from the Archbishop of Mainz. She also took to her bed—she was subject to sudden debilitating illnesses all her life—and lay there, unmoving, until permission was granted. She rose, instantly recovered.

She had seen in a vision the site of her new community, on the ruins of a ninth-century religious foundation near Bingen. Finally the land was purchased and construction began. In 1150, with twenty nuns and her trusted secretary and friend, the priest Volmar, she set out.

Barbara Lachman's novel picks up the story at this point. In form, it's Hildegard's imagined journal of the liturgical year, December 1151 to December 1152. Every entry shines with authenticity. Hildegard comes alive as a woman of multiple, absorbing concerns: the painfully slow progress of the convent construction; her women's inability to sing her songs as she heard them with her inner ear; the nuns' worldliness, "clamoring for gowns and colors," her

own spiritual connection to God; the heartrending loss when her dear friend Rikkarda deserted her to found her own convent. She's as concerned with the practical as with the spiritual. She understood orchards and vineyards, which soils are best for wheat and which for grapes. She wrote a book on healing plants that became a classic.

Her senses were always open to the natural world in all its variety and color. "Riding out with Volmar, my eyes followed with joy the curved, scalloped ribbons of goldenrod still blooming next to the lavender of asters and of joe-pye weed, fluffy and pale as it matures into its gone-to-seed stage...The air is remarkably like clear water; the light, a pale rose...The grapes are pendulous, of a matte gray-green like weathered copper, ready to be collected."

Lachman is generous with footnotes—always on the page of the reference, bless her. She provides fascinating information on medieval music, monastic life, women's status, sacred literature, Hildegard's correspondence with such figures as Henry II of England and Emperor Frederick Barbarossa, and more.

For good measure she tosses in answers to questions that may or may not have been nagging you. What's the origin of the first six notes of the scale, *do, re, mi*, etc.? The tenth-century musician Guido d'Arezzo took them from the first syllables of the first lines of a hymn to St. John the Baptist.

Who's the patron saint of cooks? St. Laurence, who was martyred by roasting alive. He's always depicted with a gridiron.

The year's climax is the premier of Hildegard's sung morality play, *Ordo Virtutum*, or *Play of the Virtues*, on December 27, 1152. Hildegard had almost worried herself sick, fearing her women would fail her, but it surpassed her hopes, even to the unexpectedly realistic and terrifying performance of Volmar as the Devil. "The chorus of Virtues is not for the fainthearted," Hildegard muses afterwards. "I believe the experience of doing the *Ordo* was ennobling for us all...We have been tested and not found wanting."

Whatever your religious leanings, if any, this book will open your eyes to a medieval world only hinted at in the history books. You'll see it in all its complexity through the eyes of a saintly, perceptive, compassionate woman of extraordinary strength and depth. And you'll find it totally believable. Barbara Lachman spent twenty years relearning Latin, studying medieval music notation and healing practices and reading about Hildegard. She's distilled it all for us in this novel. She's included a bibliography, a glossary of liturgical terms and a limited discography of Hildegard's music. I recommend *Ordo Virtutum* and *11,000 Virgins: Chants for the Feast of St. Ursula*, both (and 16 more CDs) available from KCLS. ∞∞∞∞



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We've Got a Lot of Kids

By Kevin Pottinger

We recently put ourselves and our four kids on a plane headed to the cornfields of northeastern Illinois to visit my wife Maria's family. Our eldest, Colin, is but five years old; our youngest, the twins, Alec and Gracie, are not yet two years old; and lovely Meredith is three. In summary, we had four little kids five years old or less, on an overheated and overcrowded airplane, headed to the flattest place on earth.

We only needed four tickets for the six of us because the twins are not yet two years old and are considered "lap children" by the airlines, and lap children don't need tickets or seats. One just holds them on one's lap for the duration of the flight.

We got three seats in a row and the fourth across the aisle next to a kindly old man. I drew short straw and held Lap Child Alec on my lap in the fourth seat across the aisle. Apparently Alec missed the memo about the holding-a-lap-child-on-one's-lap arrangement, and all he wanted to do was swing his big bony head around and arch his back to work himself free, and peel the sticky things off the carpet under the seats and taste them.

Perplexingly, Alec started kicking the kindly old guy in the seat next to us, as a kind of peek-a-boo game, and the guy just kept looking straight ahead and smiling kindly. Horrified, I wrestled Alec back onto my lap and held his legs down amid howls of protest, but he wriggled free again to kick the benevolent old guy several more times. The old guy said in a faraway voice, "I don't mind, really." He meant to be kind, but amid the chaotic shouts of our other kids and the noise of the airplane, and the gratuitous violence of the insane peek-a-kick game, he sounded sort of saintly and creepy at the same time, in a rather pre-Vatican II, bloody-crown-of-really-long-thorns kind of way. The saintly old guy sustained several more terrific blows, still smiling and looking straight ahead, before I could wrestle Alec over to Maria's side of the aisle.



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In preparing for the trip, we packed quite a few of the kid's favorite toys: Gracie's baby, Colin's Leap Pad, paper and crayons and thirty-five pounds of books. All of the kids showed Kelvin-zero interest in anything we brought. We packed all the exact wrong toys; toys they had permanently outgrown and become bored with at the exact moment we presented them for their amusement on the plane. We found ourselves adrift in a flying entertainment desert with little to amuse four little kids for four hours in the crowded cabin of the 737.

So the younger kids found their pleasure kicking the seats in front of them (or the passengers next to them), playing with the tray tables, air nozzles, lights and the "assistance needed" lights, saying "Hi!" over and over to our neighbors, and laying down in the middle of the aisle and kicking the floor.

The kids were occupied while their mouths were full, and thankfully Maria did a spectacular job of packing snacks for our trip. She pulled out small individual containers of milk, several different kinds of candy, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, Goldfish, Oreos, Costco M&Ms-heavy trail mix, inexplicably-still-warm Hot Pockets and half a carved ham out of her carry on bag.

With still an hour of flight time left to go, we put their shoes back on and packed up all the untouched books and games and made ready to deplane. And soon enough, the plane broke through the clouds over Chicago-Midway, and we saw tiny houses and cars and streetlights, and soon Grandpa arrived to load up all our stuff and carry us back to Grandma and Grandpa's house, where the corn is already a couple feet high.

∞∞∞∞



The new ladder truck and an aid car will be in the Strawberry Festival Parade.

VI Fire & Rescue Festival Activities

Vashon Island Fire and Rescue is excited to announce that they will be repeating last year's successful children's activity – the 18' inflatable ladder truck slide. "We're happy to provide this fun opportunity for the children in our community to interact with our firefighters," stated longtime volunteer Assistant Chief Mike Kirk.

Join us, in the parking area near Dr. Maki's office, just north of the

Continued on page 15



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Island Epicure



Strawberries Forever

By Marj Watkins

The closer to home they ripen, the sweeter they taste. Fresh, frozen, in jams and preserves, no other fruit so raises our spirits. We wish Vashon Island could produce them forever.

When we first came to the Island, three farms had fields where kids could earn money for Strawberry Festival spending by picking strawberries. Kids used to be bussed over from Seattle to bring in the strawberry crops. Indian families used to come down from Canada, camp out and enjoy a working vacation.

Decades ago the Island grew so many strawberries they were shipped off Island by the carload. Then came World War II, and the forced internment of our Japanese strawberry farmers. Few came back and resumed farming. Commercial export of Island Strawberries fell a casualty to WWII. Government requirements of houses and flush toilets for migrant workers, and the rule against young kids working helped kill off the strawberry growing business, too.

At our Festivals now we eat frozen Oregon or California berries. There may still be fresh berries imported from Canada in early July. They'll be welcome and wonderful wherever they come from.

Simple and Elegant Strawberry Dessert Serves 4 to 5

- 1 quart strawberries
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 cups yogurt

Wash strawberries. Pat dry. Place berries in one bowl, sugar in another, and yogurt in a third. Serve buffet or family style. Present with a stack of small dessert plates. Demonstrate dipping a berry into yogurt then into brown sugar.

Strawberry Mousse Serves 6

- 1 pint whipping cream
- 1 pound frozen strawberries
- Sugar or Splenda® to taste

Whip cream. Fold in slightly thawed berries. Sweeten. Distribute between dessert dishes.

Bavarian Strawberry Chiffon Pie Serves 8

- 1 (9-inch) prepared pie shell

Filling:

1 quart strawberries, washed and hulled or pound frozen strawberries

1 cup sugar or Splenda® if using fresh berries

1 packet plain gelatin dissolved in

1/3 cup boiling water

1 cup whipping cream

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Sprinkle the sugar or Splenda® over the berries. Stir. Marinate for 30 minutes.

Stir the gelatin mixture into the strawberries. Refrigerate. When it is half set, whip the cream with the vanilla. Fold it into the strawberry-gelatin mix. Pile it into the pie shell. Chill until set, at least 1 hour.

Gingersnap Pie Crust 1 pie shell

Preheat oven to 350-375 degrees

3/4 of a 1-pound package gingersnaps

6 ounces butter, melted

Break up the gingersnaps and grind them to coarse meal in blender or food processor. Combine ginger meal with melted butter. Pat evenly into a 9-inch round glass baking dish. Bake 10 minutes. Chill.

Nutrition Note: One cup of real whipping cream contains 3500 I.U. Vitamin A, 250 mg. calcium, 17 mg. magnesium, 4.88 grams protein, about 7 grams carbohydrate, .428 milligrams Vitamin B12, and only 7 grams of fat. Top either the mousse or the Bavarian chiffon pie with a scattering of sliced almonds and you get, per cupful, 386 mg. additional magnesium and 332 mg. calcium, plus 55 I.U. Vitamin E.

Of course, in one portion of either of these desserts you only get 1/6th or 1/8th of the above nutrient amounts, but every little bit helps you keep healthy.

Cool Whip may be substituted for the real whipped cream, but it won't be as delicious and nutritious.

Strawberries: Luscious sources of Vitamins C, 84.5 mg. per cup of halved berries and A, 41 I.U. plus 247 mg. of potassium. ○○○○○

Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.



2006 Strawberry Festival Shorts

Unofficial Mayor Candidates

Brian Brenno
 I announce my candidacy for Unofficial Mayor of Vashon in support of the Arts.

My votes will go to Vashon Allied Arts (VAA) and the Vashon Artists in Schools (VAIS) program. VAA has been supporting arts and artists in our community for forty years, since its founding in 1966. As a child my mom put me in art classes but I never felt good at anything until I took a stained glass class offered by VAA. Through that class VAA helped give my life direction. I have seen the dedicated VAA staff and volunteers struggle with technology issues. I would like to raise money to help upgrade the computer and data base system. I know from experience every year there is just not enough money in the budget to invest in these vital systems.

VAIS is a partnership with the Vashon School District and VAA. VAIS gives teachers an opportunity to collaborate with an artist to design a curriculum-based residency project. Just last week Artist in Residence Lora Chiorah-Dye did a Zimbabwe dance and music project at Chautauqua Elementary. VAIS projects give teachers and students new ways to teach and learn. I believe in this program because it takes art out of the art room and puts it into the classroom where kids are learning about something else through art.

Vote for the Arts; vote for our children's present and future; vote for Brian Brenno for Unofficial Mayor.

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Jan Lyell
 Jan Lyell is running for Unofficial Mayor in support of WolfTown. Jan and her husband Bill, who grew up on Vashon, returned in 1992 and Jan has worked as a hairstylist ever since. She always donates to the many auctions that support our other charities.

Jan's love of animals surfaced on a visit to Yellowstone National Park when she was only eight. She was enchanted by the bison, moose, and bears and is a supporter of animal welfare to this day. As proud mom of three dogs and three cats, Jan applauds the efforts of T. Marino and WolfTown. Her dog, Hercules, who often visits at Barber and Beauty Shoppe, is an Unofficial Wolf and is happy to support the fundraising efforts for his ancestors.

Jan has always felt that T. Martino's efforts to provide a home for non-releasable wolves, birds, and livestock is worthy of the public's support. Facilities like WolfTown serve the greater good by providing shelter for exotic animals and by allowing the public access to teach skills in animal care, empathy, barn management and sustainable land use.

WolfTown inhabitants have found a safe haven here on Vashon and need your help to continue living in their paradise near Camp Sealth, far from neglect or abuse. Voters can stop by the Barber and Beauty Shoppe or Pandora's Box and stuff the ballot box as often as they'd like. The public can also arrange a visit to WolfTown by calling 206-463-9113 or visit their website at www.wolftown.org.

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Positively Speaking

For Your Refrigerator

By Deborah Anderson

There are a few newspaper clippings I have kept over the years. One is a copy of a Genuardi's advertisement. Genuardi's was the grocery store our family frequented in Jeffersonville, Pennsylvania, between Trooper and Norristown. I kept the ad because in 1973 when prices were just out of control, I wanted to remember that at one time a can of tomato paste cost 29 cents. I mean, gas had gone to over a dollar a gallon. I needed to hang on to the good old days. Someday soon, I'm going to take that tattered shred of paper to Vashon Print and Design, have it laminated, and then copied, and take it to Sunset Hills Market just north of Ballard where one of the Genuardi boys who has moved west bought a store.

The other piece is a lovely Ann Landers' column, or maybe it was Dear Abby, about having a child with Down's Syndrome called *Welcome to Holland*. If you have a disabled child, I highly recommend you Google that title and read it in its entirety.

My refrigerator is covered with all kinds of truths: "Nobody Ever Died from Oven Crud; "Bidden or Unbidden, God is Present;" "It Is Good to Be Queen;" and various magnets from Art Museums around the world. This week I've been thinking about what I would write to me. What words would I like to see on my refrigerator that would eventually become tattered and torn from people breezing by, but nonetheless remain there because they offer a good thought for the beginning of the day or a strength for the end? Here they are:

In this day and age when a person can feel inadequate because of so many different situations, know that you are gifted and talented and your life's contributions to this planet make a difference. If you don't have a desire to be updated and upgraded, it may be that you have an ear to the heartbeat of people's greatest longings and desires. It may be that you have relevancy to join in conversations where you fear people won't listen. It may be that you have added to someone's life by a kind word or an encouraging thought without ever knowing it happened.

Live with Joy.

When the shortcomings of your human nature fly in your face, and

it seems like relationships are two steps forward and three steps back, know that it is the desire to grow that is the measure of our maturity, not the lack of progress that sometimes seems to weigh us down. We belong to a God who gives us infinite chances to seek out Truth and be the best we can live. Keep getting up. Keep brushing yourself off. Keep starting over again.

Live into Life.

In the moments when you experience your own excellence, when you have tried your best and feel the reward with a smile, share the depth of that moment with someone who is clinging to the bottom rung. Bless someone with your success whether it's spiritual, emotional, physical or financial. The moments when we share with others are our finest moments as human beings.

Live a life of being blessed, that you might bless.

If there is a chance to do the right thing when all else tells you the cost will be too great, trust that the world moves forward because of solitary voices willing to speak out from the crowd and make a sacrifice so that all us might benefit. From Galileo to Mahatma Ghandi to the thousands of relief workers, to child advocates, Norma Rae and Annie Sullivan, we learn that there is merit in staying the course in the midst of opposition to the righting of a wrong.

Live with Courage.

Lastly, if at day's end, you feel your voice is unheard and your heart is too weary and you feel compelled to reach for despair — don't. Call a friend and hear the delight in their voice at the sound of your hello. Fix a cup of hot tea and tell yourself, "This too shall pass." Listen for the still small voice that whispers, "I love You."

Live with Hope.

You were planted here with specific gifts, and talents and purpose. Make the center of your life the discovery of a greater connection to all three. We are all depending on each other to keep walking to higher ground.

Live in Love. ~ Deborah

When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years. -- Mark Twain

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Fire Department

Continued from page 13

Village Green. There will be disaster preparedness information provided by the Vashon Disaster Preparedness Coalition (VDPC) and the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). CERT members are prepared to assist the community Island-wide in the event of a major disaster. Many dedicated community members with diverse professions and skills have worked tirelessly over the past several years in this effort. VDPC, the umbrella volunteer organization, and CERT volunteers will also be offering opportunities for citizens to become involved in our community's disaster preparations.

In addition, the fire district has made arrangements to bring over the Smoke House, which will be at the same location. Designed for 3-12 year olds, children get to see a firefighter dress up, article by article in full bunker gear with air tank and mask. This helps familiarize small children with what a firefighter would look like coming to rescue them in a burning or smoky house. They are taught fire safety, the dangers of playing with fire and how to escape from a burning structure. Then the children actually practice, with the assistance of Vashon Island's Fire Explorers, climbing out an upstairs window and down a ladder to safety. We invite the public to take full advantage of these fun and worthwhile activities. See you at the festival!

For questions, please contact Fire Chief Keith Yamane at 463-2405 or Training Officer Mike Kirk at 463-4468.

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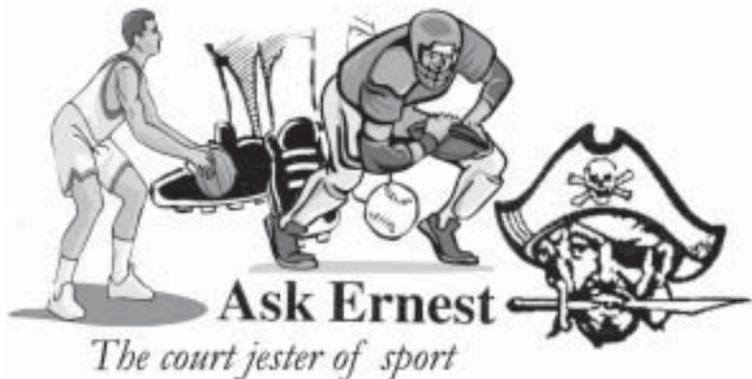
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Loop ~ Sports



Mary Beba-Palula hails from Worcester, MA and runs circles around Chicago when she's not drinking cappuccino with Vashon's futbolistas in Rome. Started one of the island's best camps and her own jazz style—bebap.

Ernie,

I appreciated your recent piece on The Greatest Leaders on Vashon, but I couldn't help but wondering where the female leaders were. You definitely spent a good many hours researching your selections, but surely there must be some Great Female Leaders on this Island we call a Rock. I'm no feminist; I'm a realist, and I know that women really can be great leaders too!

Marsha Markuson

M. M. -- My most sincerest apologies. There are definitely (and defiantly) many GREAT Female Leaders here, and, of course, in this world inside a big thing called the universe. Please advise the following well-researched female selections:



At two of the most vaunted institutions on Vashon, lunchlady Judy Mish (# 7-6) also serves up breakfast, dinner, and between meal snacks for all those who can remember, or imagine, their PIN code. Judy, Judy, Judy—how we love ya.

3. Shirley Ferris. She opens her car door every morning. And now she's getting the Doors of Opportunity Award (No real connection there, by the way). But seriously, she's earned this award and she helped get a writer not named Ernest interested in poetry.

4. Sarah Silverman. This lady can sing, dance and say things that make me feel normal. Oh yeah, she's also very bright, extremely funny, and sort of sexy.

5. Silv E. Shiosaki. There is not one thing that Miss Shiosaki can't do. In fact, the other day when I was wondering if she could climb trees very well, I saw her 50 feet high on a pine, juggling pinecones while hacky-sacking. Silv is the real deal and I heard a rumor that she is thinking about running for President one of these years.

6. Nance E. Katica. Mrs. Katica, as we all know, is really good at selling books, but there's even more than meets the eye in regards to Nance: she can speak five different languages, do a backflip, is a webelo, and, to boot, is really nice. Oh



Maggie Albertson (#IV or the sum A+W) earns our inestimable respect and gratitude for perpetual support of VHS academicians and the best guacamole bulletin in the western world. *Que rico!*

Greatest Female Leaders!

1. Pam Held. Pam knows how to treat her workers — pancakes for breakfast, coffee for break, stories for another break, and pizza for lunch. Did I say workers? Anyhow, she's the best and one of the top ranked nicest women on this island (Also, her family has a swimming pool and a Tiki Bar, but you didn't hear that from me).

2. Ace Shigley. She can tell a story, run through blackberry bushes and still talk sh#te. Ace serves aces and shocks opponents with her celebratory raps.

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yeah, and we all know about her awesome bocce accomplishments, competing for the always solid Dilworth Dimbats.

7. Marsh Uh Blomgranovic. I don't really know her that well, but if half of what I've heard is true, then she has to be on this list. I've heard that she knows karate and can cook like a water buffalo. You can check out what Mrs. Blomgranovic is up to on her daily blog: marshuhkickskarateass.org

8. Mrs. Holmgren. Even though I have forgotten her first name, this does not mean that she is not great. She wasn't even in Detroit for the Super Bowl, because she was HELPING FAMISHED BENGALISE TIGER BABIES MATE, for goodness sakes. Need I say more?

9. Jule E. Jaffy. Even though it might not seem like it at times, Jule does in fact know more than just about books. She knows about gardening and making pasta and building things and state capitals and is really cool and nice and fun and funny.

10. Jan Et Baron. Besides being the greatest teacher in the storied history of Chautauqua Elementary, Jan is the number one ranked wrestling fan in the Milky Way. So, when you see her on the mean streets of the Island, give her a coupla thumbs up, and surprise her with a bear hug for good measure. ☺☺☺☺



Keith Robbins and Patrick Haight of Tini Bigs

Benefit Raises \$2300 for Vashon Youth Baseball

Vashon Youth Baseball recently scored a \$2,300 spike following an April 29 Baseball Social martini night benefit, hosted by Bettie Edwards at The Little House. More than 100 people supported the event through admission charges and through raffle tickets for a chance to win a premium-mixed \$100 martini. Supporters toasted with juicy drinks from the cocktail book, Tini Bigs, Big Tinis by Patrick Haight and Keith Robbins, who visited from their resident Tini Bigs Lounge in Seattle. The Little House counter was turned into a bustling bar and book signing area, party lights were strung throughout the shop's interior, and a tented cigar area in shop's back yard wafted sweet aromas. The money raised will go to Vashon Youth Baseball uniforms, gear, and other expenses. Edwards is considering a similar event for next year.

Not one shred of evidence supports the notion that life is serious.

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Lopy Laffs

Some people are like Slinkies. Not really good for anything, but you still can't help but smile when you see one tumble down the stairs.

Shortly after the Korean War, the son of then South Korean President Syngman Rhee was hired as a Life Magazine correspondent. The younger Rhee was a remarkably kind, gentle and considerate man, but he had one problem: He loved to drink and sometimes was gone on a bender for days. On one occasion, Rhee was missing for three days before someone at the magazine's office finally suggested they look for him. Other correspondents and even the police were involved in the search. Finally, about two weeks later, a policeman walked into a tavern, looked at the man slumped over the bar and cried, "Ah, Sweet Mr. Rhee of Life, at last I've found you."

Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.

In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.

One-Liners

- Eat well, stay fit, die anyway.
- It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.
- If you're too open-minded, your brains will fall out.
- Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.
- There is always one more imbecile than you counted on.
- A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel good.
- If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.
- Just remember how lucky you were to get a free trip around the sun.
- For every action, there is an equal and opposite government program.

If Wile E. Coyote had enough money to buy all that Acme crap, why didn't he just buy dinner?

All of us could take a lesson from the weather.

It pays no attention to criticism.

Who was the first person to say, "See that chicken there? I'm gonna eat the next thing that comes outta its butt."

If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?

OFF SHORE



LOGJAM



DAD & BOY

bird brain



WILD WORLD / Ed Frohning



Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?
 Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?
 Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?
 Do you ever wonder why you gave me your email address?

Loop Arts



Carolyn Price Dyer's Work in Juried Art Exhibit

Artists from western Washington, including Carolyn Price Dyer of Burton, Vashon Island, will display their work in the Fourth Annual Juried Local Art Exhibition **June 19 through August 11** at The Gallery at Tacoma Community College. Summer gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday; admission is free. A reception is scheduled for 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. July 15.

The exhibition consists of work by 44 local artists. Pieces include drawings, prints, photography, paintings, ceramics and glass, collage/mixed media, sculpture and jewelry.

The Gallery at TCC is located on Tacoma Community College's main campus, 6501 S. 19th St., Tacoma. To access The Gallery, use the entrance just off South 12th Street between Pearl and Mildred streets. The Gallery also includes a shop where ceramics, photographs, jewelry and cards by local artists can be purchased. For more information, call (253) 460-4306.



Mary Litchfield Tuel Photo by Becky Bumgarner

Tunes at Noon:

Spiritual Smart Aleck Sings

The Vashon Parks District Tunes at Noon program continues at 11:30 a.m. this **Friday, June 23**, with singer-songwriter Mary Litchfield Tuel performing original and standard songs at the Vashon Commons. Litchfield Tuel specializes in songs for rolling crones, and is best known as one-third of the trio Women, Women and Song. There will be songs, and there will be laughs.

Bring a brown bag and sing along.

Tunes at Noon is a summer program of the Parks District that presents concerts at the Vashon Commons on **Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Performers Sarah Christine and Brent Magstadt kicked off the series, and future concerts will feature Paul and John Dally, Bob Krinsky, Mark Wells, Lance Morgan, and Ron Hook.

The Parks District is seeking more artists to fill dates throughout the summer. Call Susan McCabe at the Vashon Parks District, (206) 463-9602.



Special Solstice Sitar Duet & World Music Dance Celebration

Tonight, June 21, at 7 p.m., there will be a Mishra Solstice Raga, Song and Dance Celebration, at the Vashon Island Hostel with sitarists and vocalists Shivnath and Deobrat Mishra plus many guest artists!

Join us for a night of singing and dancing, celebrating the longest day of light in 2006. This special Mishra Tour 2006 event (www.music-of-benares.com)

will begin with a sitar "duet/duet" with "Pandit" Shivanath Mishra and son Deobrat Mishra, with Marco Zonka on tabla, followed by a dance-music performance with the Bhakti World Music Song and Dance Ensemble featuring Deobrat Mishra on Sitar and Vocals, and special guests Gina Sala, David Garrigues, Jeff Pang, and many others!

Advance tickets are \$15.00. Call Jake at Vashon Hostel at (206) 463-2492; at the door tickets are \$20.00 per adult, \$5 per child (Children under 2 free).

If you wish to stay overnight at the Hostel, all overnight accommodations include free pancake breakfast and coffee & tea! Camping and in-door sleeping accommodations available (private rooms by request). For prices and details visit www.vashonhostel.com

Limited Admission! Please make advance purchase-reservations with Jake at the Hostel to insure your space (206) 463-2592. We hope to see you there!!!

Hartnett Returns to Luna



Travis Hartnett Courtesy photo

Travis Hartnett will appear at Café Luna on **Saturday, June 24**, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Hartnett is a Seattle-based musician who performs acoustic guitar instrumentals, accompanied by real-time sampling of his own playing. Using a foot-controlled loop sampler, he records a few bars of his playing—chords, a bassline or percussion generated from tapping and slapping the face of the instrument—and then seamlessly plays melodies and counter-melodies on top. More information and music samples are available at www.travishartnett.com/ Admission is free.

Vashon Allied Arts Celebrates History

By Janice Randall



Candy Gamble

Also in 1988, Elizabeth Watters Impett spearheaded VAA's Youth Theater Project in a collaborative effort with Vashon Youth and Family Services. Impett continued the program until the late 1990's, a successful program that spawned many memorable theater productions. VAA's current youth theater program continues strong today under Patricia Kelly.

Janice Mallman moved to Vashon Island in 1976 and almost immediately became involved with VAA as a volunteer for the Craft Gallery, now the thriving Heron's Nest, managed by Priscilla Schleigh Kimmel. Janice helped start the Potter's Tour, was VAA's first visual arts coordinator with John Sage



Janice Mallman

and taught her first Blue Heron class 30 years ago. Today, Janice is VAA's Associate Director, Gallery Curator and Director of Arts Education.

VAA is grateful to all the individuals who over the years have given so much of themselves to keep the arts alive on Vashon. Be watching *The Loop* for more VAA history.

Read The Loop online:
www.vashonloop.com

Cars Mission Impossible III

June 21-22

Over the Hedge



The Break-Up

June 23-29

Vashon Local Exposure

7 p.m. Sunday, June 25

An Inconvenient Truth

June 30 - July 6

Vashon Theatre
463-3232 for more



Call 463-3232 or check www.vashontheater.com for times



Tayt Held Courtesy photo

Tayt Held Solo Concert June 29

2006 Vashon High School graduate Tayt Held will be performing at Café Luna on **Thursday, June 29**, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Held brings his guitar and vocal skills to an eclectic mix of ballads ranging in style from blues to classic rock, with a little harmonica for added interest. The show will include Held's original songs as well as covers of other people's music. This is an all ages show, and there is will be no admission charged.



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

Friday, June 30

Blackberry Bear and the Adventruers of Huckleberry Hollow



By Becky and Maggie Bumgarner
Illustrations by Maggie Bumgarner

The Great Celtic Star Part One

It was one of those delightful summer evenings in the hollow. A balmy breeze was flowing through the trees as Blackberry came upon Wizzy gazing up at the stars through his special Wizard's telescope. Wizzy had just gotten the newest model a few years back at the Wizards' Convention. Someday Blackberry thought he might like to go to the convention with Wizzy. Wizzy was busy with counting.



"Lets see. Three billion two hundred thousand and forty three in quadrant 672." Wizzy jotted it down in his old Notebook of the Stars. It was his turn this month to keep track of the stars and to note any changes that may occur. Wizards pay very close attention to this. It's one of the ways they earn the stars on their hats.

"Hello Wizzy. How's it coming tonight?" asked Blackberry very quietly as he put his paw on Wizzy's shoulder and gazed upward.

"Oh, it is puzzling, unless they're at it again. I'll have to make a time adjustment in the scope to be sure." Wizzy said as he very carefully calibrated a knob on the side of the telescope. "I'll just focus it in. Hmm, I was right! Not many nights when you can focus those two in. Usually they're going too fast, but

this knob has a special scope that slows the motion down. Here, Blackberry, you can take a look."

Blackberry sat down on Wizzy's cushion, which was ever so soft for stargazing, and looked into the eyepiece. "Who are those two? One seems to be chasing the other."

"That's right Blackberry. It's an old tale that not many folks know about. Everyone has heard of the Gods of Mt. Olympus and the Heroes of the Ancient Myths. This story is the story of one of the creatures that were around then as well, but not as well known. There have been tales of them ever since handed down from one generation to the next. Would you like to hear it?"

"Yes, Wizzy. Please tell it."

"OK, Blackberry, just for you." With that Wizzy began:

"One sunny afternoon Millipeda the Gullywopper was in the middle of the stream doing his laundry, when suddenly a green scarf fell into the stream. Millipeda followed the scarf down the stream to a point in the bank. As he was bending over to pick it up, he slipped on one of the white stones in the stream and fell in. Sopped from head to toe, the Gullywopper slowly got up and thought he heard a sound like a whistle.

"Whatsss that?" he said.

Just then his little sister Persie came along and asked him, "What's what?"

"I heard a whisteling sound. Didn't youth?"

"I think it's you that's whistling Millipeda. You sound funny. Hey, where's your tooth!?"

"Thwat!?" exclaimed Millipeda.

"Your tooth! It's missing!" replied his sister.

"Oh no, fhwat will I do? Fhwere can I get another?"

"You'll need something hard.

Hey, I know. The Cyclops are smiths and they work with really hard stuff. Maybe you can get something at their shop! Let's go see."

So off they went to the Cyclops' shop.
To Be Continued!



Writing + Teaching + Internet = Endless Possibilities

By Devon Atkins

I couldn't be luckier. I get paid for work that I would happily do for free: I write publicity pieces for local retailers, help children and adults learn how to write, and teach middle-schoolers how to deal more effectively in school. Both the writing and the teaching began with my writing skill and a need for work that I could do at my convenience. Both businesses have become easier and even more convenient, because my clients and I often communicate through the internet. But, it didn't begin that way.

After writing and editing for many years, I moved to Vashon. Soon after, a friend of mine asked me to look over the beginnings of a memoir she was writing. She would send slim manila envelopes containing chapters from her emerging manuscript. That was fourteen years ago. My life was not yet impossibly busy, and I would sit up late, read her words, write comments on the pages, and mail them back. Years later, she asked if she could pay me to look at her poetry. I was surprised. I had always just enjoyed critiquing poetry; I'd never charged money for it. But I reminded myself that my teaching and writing businesses had both begun similarly. When I accepted, my friend said, "Great. And, can we do this by email?"

That was six years ago, and since then, I've had clients from all over the

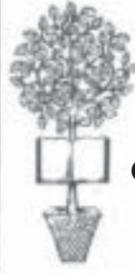
country who have referred other writers to me, creating my third cottage industry that has become more efficient and more convenient because most of it happens through the internet. Clients write a piece of prose or poetry, and email the copy to me. I read it and email my comments back to them. Often there are revisions and more comments; sometimes there are suggestions made for future work. What's especially appealing is that we can attend to the work of writing and revision whenever it fits into our off-line lives. I often read my clients' poems and stories late at night, when there are no ringing phones or appointments to be kept. That's when my time is especially my own, and very conducive for reading poetry aloud. Using my computer has made these business relationships more convenient, more productive, and has created even more possibilities.

The children I work with are naturals; they led me easily in the direction of the technology they were born to. Generally, I work with them at my dining room table or in the library at McMurray Middle School; but, when they are out of town, sick, or busy with other responsibilities, we often use email to keep in touch and exchange learning and assignments. It makes the teaching continue past the tutoring session. It makes tutoring so much more manageable, and demands

Vashon Bookshop

Two incredibly good-looking men head towards the Bookshop....

"You going where I'm going?" asks one with a rakish grin.
(The other says nothing; just smiles as he strolls through the door.)



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less chauffeuring from parents. When I teach "school skills" workshops, I send the kids' parents daily emails so that they know what their children are learning, and can support that learning at home. Using the internet creates an ease with both children and parents that works for all of us.

The most recent development was earlier this year when one of my clients asked if I'd consider creating an online workshop where writers could be encouraged to create, share each other's work, and also, have the advantage of a facilitator who would suggest and critique. After some research and evaluation, I decided that it would work; and this summer, in addition to my on-Island workshops, I will begin my online writing groups for adult and teenage writers and poets who want a supportive and fun workshop environment that is ultimately convenient and, also, potentially anonymous.

Who could have guessed that I, a formerly computer-phobic writer, could do what I love most, and do it with greater ease because of the internet. Ask any artist how the internet has changed his or her life, and you might just hear a story like mine, about someone who creates because they love it, whose passion has led to a profitable business, and how the internet's endless possibilities for communication encourages the business (and that artist) to grow.

What did I tell you? I couldn't be luckier.

Devon Atkins is a published and award-winning poet, who writes and edits for local retailers and far-flung writers. She also works with middle and high school students who want to enjoy school more. For more information about writing, tutoring, and, on and off-line workshops, contact her at (206) 353-9227, or, at devon.atkins@hotmail.com

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Freedom Festival Features Chris Chandler

In a Fourth of July performance promising to brandish words more spectacular than the fireworks finale over Quartermaster Harbor, Chris Chandler and David Roe will headline this year's Backbone Campaign Freedom Festival, **Tuesday, July 4**, at the Blue Heron.

Chandler and Roe, two "road wizened gurus", have joined forces to create one powerful show, a multi media collage, combining storytelling, poetry, video, and a wide variety of musical styles.

Other acts booked for the Freedom Festival in the back yard of the Blue Heron are Accordionista/Vocalist Amy Denio; Reverend Richard Lang speaking on Social Justice and Revolution; Vashon Islander Steffon Moody; and others. There will be kids' activities, including a jumparoo, a catered dinner by Wok In Take Out, appearances by the Chain Gang, Lady Liberty, and more. Tickets to the all day event are \$25/adults and \$7/kids, and include dinner.

For more information contact the Backbone Campaign at (206)408-8058 or email info@backbonecampaign.org. For an up-to-date list of acts and full event schedule, go to www.backbonecampaign.org.

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See Ad on Page 2

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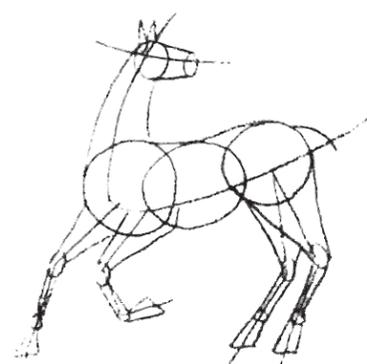
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