

In This Issue:
Strawberry Festival Music & Events,
MySpace, Chicken Satay, Locavores, Devon
Is the Life of the Party, Herbal Mosquito
Repellent, and More!



THE VASHON LOOP

Vol. 3, # 14 TO INFORM AND AMUSE ~ TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM July 5, 2006



Keller Williams Grand Opening

Saturday, July 1, Marie Browne and Troy Kindred threw a party for the Island to celebrate their opening the Keller Williams Glendale real estate office. Several hundred friends dropped by to view the premises, wish the Keller Williams crew well, eat hot dogs, listen to the rock stylings of Loose Change, and schmooze. A good time was had by most. (The barbeque volunteers were a little toasted.)

DAWN to Provide Services for Domestic Violence Victims, Survivors

DAWN (Domestic Abuse Women's Network) has agreed to provide services for victims and survivors of domestic abuse on Vashon Island in an attempt to fill the gap left by the demise of IDVOS. Terri Kimball, Executive Director of DAWN, said, "We are excited to provide services on Vashon Island, and we want to do it right. We are working with Mary Ellen Walker, and we are thinking of forming an on-Island advisory board as well as inviting an Island resident to be on DAWN board so we are certain to have voice of Island in the agency's policy meetings."

"We are presently looking for an advocate to fill a position that is funded for 20 hours per week. We would prefer to hire a Vashon resident. That person will provide one-on-one advocacy to assist clients with their needs, such as safety planning and legal advocacy; information and referral to other programs and services; assistance with shelter access and other

Continued on page 16

Correction

In the June 21 issue, the story on the Alliance for the Tompotika Conservancy had subheads that had not been put into bold face, and so came across as sentence fragments. The story Hamish Todd sent me was fine until I got a hold of it. I apologize, Hamish, and readers, for the confusion and distress this caused. - Mary Litchfield Tuel

Monastery Still Has "A Ways to Go"



The view from the hill behind the Monastery Photo by Father Tryphon

So Much Done, So Much More to Do

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

When you come up the steep, winding driveway to the Orthodox Monastery of Our All Merciful Saviour, you feel like you are leaving the great world behind. Not true. "The Monastery is a microcosm of the world. People who come to escape the world have made the wrong pick," said Hieromonk Tryphon, Superior of the Monastery. The Monastery is not an escape, but it does feel like what in Celtic spirituality is called a "thin place," a place where you are more aware of God's presence. The quiet, sacred presence of the monastery settles into your awareness as you sit or walk about.



Heiromonk Tryphon and the church at the Monastery of Our All Merciful Saviour Photo by M. Tuel

Continued on page 7

Radio Club Field Day: "You Can Hear the World Turning"

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

The Vashon Radio Club had their annual Field Day up at Sunrise Ridge on June 24 and 25. With their specially equipped radio station trailer and a short wave set up in a tent out back of the Food Bank, club members were talking to other radio users up and down the West Coast, in Nevada, and Utah. Every year on the fourth full weekend in June, about 5,000 clubs (up to 50,000 individuals) in the US, Canada, and Mexico participate in "the biggest ham event on the planet all year long," according to Radio Club member and operator Ward Silver. "Things should start picking up around 3 p.m.," said Silver. "Tonight we'll talk to the East Coast and the Midwest, and we'll probably make several hundred contacts, in all fifty states, in Canadian provinces, in Mexico



Ward Silver on the air Silver is in Brazil at the moment for Radiosport competition. Story on page 15. Photo by M. Tuel

Continued on page 15



The 2006 VAA Quilt Photo by Terry Donnelly

Win the Quilt!

By Janice Randall

This year's Vashon Allied Arts quilt says growing up on Vashon may be better than growing up anywhere else. And if you didn't grow up on Vashon, there's still time. Island quilters bring some of the wild, wonderful and quirky glimpses of growing up here in the 21st annual VAA quilt, coordinated by the amazing Catholine Tribble. "I've worked on the quilt since 1990 and made my first patch in 1991," she says. The VAA quilt, started in 1978 as a grassroots fundraising project, will go home with one lucky person Sunday, July 9. The much-awaited drawing takes place at 4 p.m., at the Strawberry Festival VAA Quilt booth. Raffle tickets, only \$1.00 each, are probably the best bargain of the Festival and when you buy five or more you will receive a commemorative booklet about the quilt and the quilters. All proceeds benefit Vashon Allied Arts. Tickets are available at the following locations: Books by the Way, Vashon Print and Design, Blue Heron Art Center, Barber & Beauty Shoppe, The Vashon Bookshop, Frame of Mind, Heron's Nest and Pandora's Box. You may see the quilt between now and Festival Friday at the Blue Heron, Vashon Library, Books by the Way and The Vashon Bookshop. More than 20 Islanders participated in this year's quilt, but remember; only one person will take it home and it could be you!

Get in The Loop

VashonBePrepared.ORG

Does your neighborhood have a Neighborhood Emergency Response Organization?

It's easy to form one! Just pick up the phone and call General Joe Ulatoski at 463-1321

Vashon Lavender Fields Are Open To Benefit Homeless

The 4th Annual Lavender Harvest Celebration takes place on **July 15 and 16**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vashon Island Lavender Grower's Association (VILGA) will open two farms, Fox Farm, located at 17232 107th SW, and the Lavender Sisters' Crescent Falls Organic Farm, located at 16335 Crescent Drive SW, for the celebration. Tickets available at the farms are \$5. Ages 18 and under are free.

"This is the one time in the year when we open the farms. It's a great way to have some fun and celebrate the harvest," said Katy Jo Steward, "Lavender Sister" and VILGA member. Both farms will offer u-pick lavender, as well as a variety of live music, art displays, and workshops on lavender uses, cooking and gardening.

"We want visitors to wander the lavender fields, enjoy the music, picnic, or create a lavender wand, and we will demonstrate some tasty ways to cook with lavender," said Cynthia Johnson Owner of Fox Farm and a VILGA member.

VILGA is a non-profit association. Its mission and primary purpose is to promote the growing of lavender and local sustainable agriculture by creating a community celebration. The Festival benefits the InterFaith Council on Homelessness, a non-profit organization that helps the homeless and near-homeless on Vashon.

For more information about the tour visit www.vashonlavender.com

Apply for Basic Health Insurance; Island Health Care Discussions Discontinued

Basic Health, the state subsidized health insurance program, is now open to new applicants. I would be more than happy to help anyone fill out the applications for eligibility. This can not wait until the fall. Once the open slots are taken people are put on the waiting list in order of receipt. For more information about Basic Health, call Hilary Emmer 463-7277.

The Health Care Discussion on Wednesday, June 21, had only three people attend. Maybe it's the summer. Unless people call who are interested, the discussions will be discontinued until the fall.

Vacation Bible School Is Coming!

Vacation Bible School will be August 7 through 11 this year. The theme will be Under Construction. Students entering first through sixth grade will meet at the Vashon United Methodist Church from 9:30 a.m. to noon, and the Youth Program for Middle and High School students will meet at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit each evening at 7 p.m. The Youth Group of the Maple Valley Presbyterian Church will once again lead the Bible School and Youth Programs. All Island children and youth are welcome. Registration for Bible School is \$10/child or \$15/family. Come early and register on the first day at the Methodist Church.

Green Party Events in July

This month's Progressive Movie Night will feature *Kilowatt Ours*, a documentary on alternative energy, on **July 13**, at 6:30 p.m. at Cafe Luna. Progressive Night Entertainment is happening at Cafe Luna on Thursday, **July 27**, 7:00 p.m. The Progressive Book Club meeting is **Sunday, July 23**, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Tea Shop and the book being discussed is *Challenging Empire* by Phyllis Bennis. All are welcome, even those who haven't read the book!

The Green Party will have a booth at both Strawberry Festival and Island Earth Fair. Anyone who would like to volunteer to staff the booth, please contact Ivy Sacks at 463-9579.

The next Green Party Meeting will be **July 10**, 7 p.m., at the Mackey's; 24430 Old Mill Road SW.



Photo by Fran Gordon

Heritage Museum Opens Permanent Exhibit

Open Mike on Festival Saturday

The Heritage museum is opening its permanent exhibit on **Saturday, July 8**. There will also be an Open Mic stage that day with 20 minute slots from 2 to 6 p.m.

Island musicians interested in signing up for 20 minutes onstage can call Fran Gordon at 463-5277 to sign up.

Festival Parking at Presbyterian Church

The Vashon Presbyterian Church will be offering parking by donation (suggested \$5) for the Festival Parade.

If you would like to make a reservation, please contact Beverly Skeffington at skeffie@centurytel.net or call 354-8921. We will provide you with a "receipt," which will help you through the barricades on Bank Road on Festival Day. Chairs for viewing the parade will also be available by donation. See you at the best fest in the West!



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

Friday, July 14

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

Scottish Gaelic Classes

A small group meets **every Wednesday** from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to learn Scottish Gaelic from Rich Hill, a teacher who comes over from the mainland. The group would like to invite those curious about learning Scottish Gaelic to join them. Anyone interested can contact John Dally at (206) 463-3535 for information.

Meet Rozie Royal, The Loop's New Intern

The Loop is pleased to announce that VHS student Rozie Royal is our new photography intern. Rozie is a talented and serious photographer. Her work appeared on the front page of the last issue in two photos of the 2006 graduating class, including the one of the kids tossing their mortarboards into the air with the Vashon Pirate perfectly framed in the background. She was the photographer for several graduating seniors' yearbook portraits as well. Rozie is off to the East Coast for July and August to study photography and we'll miss her, but she'll be back and we will be printing many more of her prints. She begins her junior year at Vashon High School in the fall, and she will continue to be available to shoot senior photos. Welcome, Rozie!



Rozie Royal

July 5, 06

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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.



Banjo and Bingo

VIPP Featured Cats

The sign on their cage says, "Are you up for a project?" Come on, people, these kitties have been waiting for a long time! Banjo and Bingo are brothers and best friends. They are looking for a quiet, adults-only home where they can be indoor either exclusively or primarily. They are shy and gentle. Banjo loves to be petted and comes around for extra pets. Bingo loves his treats and welcomes pets while he chows down. For more information on this or any of our other cats, e-mail us at: cats@vippp.org

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: Janice Randall, Susan Wolf, Jason Felix

● Interns: Morgan Wegner, Rozie Royal

● Photographers: T Kindred, Peter Ray, Jc Kindred, Alex Kindred, Mary L. Tuel

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

● Ad sales and design: Troy Kindred and Marie Browne; Email: ads@vashonloop.com

● (206) 463-9207

● Editor: Mary Litchfield Tuel

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

● Publishers: Marie Browne and Troy Kindred

● PO Box 253, Vashon, WA 98070

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● Deal with it.

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● write (PO Box 253, Vashon) or email

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We're Open for Business!

Thank you, Vashon, for the warm reception and good wishes at our Grand Opening party. It was great to see so many friends and business associates. We served over 500 hot dogs! According to Troy "Cliff Claven" Kindred, the average person ate 1.3 dogs, meaning we had 384.6 people at the party. We are now open seven days a week, with 16 agents on call. Stop by to say hi, and look for us at the Chamber of Commerce info booth at Strawberry Festival!



We are open! Seven days a week!



JLS agent Val Seath gives the office the thumbs up. Lisbet Sell agrees (hi, mom!)



Marie, Carolyn and Amiee cut the red cake



KW agent Pat Winterton grilling dogs

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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.

- ☛ .92 Acres
- ☛ Water share
- ☛ Expired Septic design



MLS 26095721

\$160,000

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New Listing!

20407 87th Ave SW



- ☛ 1300 Sq Ft
- ☛ 3 bedrooms
- ☛ 1 bath
- ☛ Close to beach

Darling cedar-sided rambler on a shy acre of sunny grounds minutes from the beach and bus. Maple floors, picture windows and high ceilings let the sun shine in. In back, three studio spaces with separate power meter await your imagination. Painting, pottery, woodworking, weaving? Fitness room, office, playhouse, storage? You decide! Artful plantings of specimen trees and shrubs, perennial beds - greenhouse, too! In winter, snuggle up to the low emission wood stove and enjoy the peek Sound view. **\$349,000**

MLS 26103180

Waterfront!

22908 Vashon Hwy SW

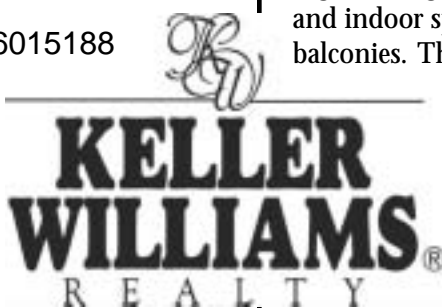
This retro chic house calls for clambakes, cocktails, and cabin cruisers!

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

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



MLS 26015188



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

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

The Secret American

By Susan Wolf

The more I know of my fellow countrymen, the more I've come to suspect that many of us are closet patriots. We grumble about taxes. We complain about politics and bureaucracies. We put outrageous bumper stickers on our cars and we sometimes forget to vote.

We talk – to our friends, to our families, to our co-workers and to our church members. We differ in viewpoints, religions, occupations and educational backgrounds. We discuss at length any and all subjects of concern to the extent of our heartfelt beliefs, pet peeves and experience. What we don't talk about is our patriotism.

Perhaps we served in the military, and we take it as a subtle affirmative between ourselves that patriotism exists. Perhaps our family members or friends served and we collect our father's service metal pins, military photographs and memorabilia. Perhaps we opposed a particular war or were conscientious objectors so we stood for our country but against that decision. Maybe we are immigrants who work every day to fulfill our dreams of freedom and opportunity but never bothered to naturalize.

What I have come to believe is that there is a pervasive swelling in our hearts for our country that means so much to us that we dare not speak about it because our emotions will overwhelm us. For many of us it means that our children, grandchildren, family and friends have never heard us declare the love we have for our country that goes down deep, deep into our bones.

Americans don't scream zealous accolades from the top of their lungs. Our expressions are not punctuated with rifle fire and banners are not emblazoned across our homes, businesses or vehicles. But I'm convinced that, for many of us, our belief in our country and the principles upon which it was founded run through each cell and fiber of our being.

As a decedent of Samuel Adams and one who can trace her ancestry back to the Mayflower, for generations the people in my family have fought wars on behalf of this country. As a girl, I heard my father tell me how he jumped up in the rigging to avoid torpedoes aimed at his destroyer in Pearl Harbor. With the wonder of the Internet, I can print off his commanding

officer's blow-by-blow description of their achievements that day. I remember my grandmother pointing out the revolutionary men in our family tree who helped this country obtain its independence from England.

But I was against the Viet Nam war and I'm against this one in Iraq. (I use, for my argument's sake, a quote from none other than Abraham Lincoln: "Allow the president to invade a neighboring nation, whenever he shall deem it necessary to repel an invasion, and you allow him to do so whenever he may choose to say he deems it necessary for such a purpose – and you allow him to make war at pleasure"). I asked my mother once how those feelings could be reconciled with a passionate belief in our country. She gave an approximate quote of Stephen Decatur's, "My country, right or wrong; and I pray God she be right, but my country!"

Thus I learned at an early age to value the relative freedom, wealth, and peace of our country (as well as the cost of precious spilt blood that won us those blessings), but to understand its citizens may differ in how they apply that belief. My sister and I taught our boys through the Boy Scouts of America program to respect our country, the flag and our people. I attempted to teach my children that by obeying the law and respecting individuals, we became good citizens. I don't remember telling them how much I love our country, how much I pray for its leaders to make good decisions, why I vote and pay taxes. I only hoped they understood that we honor our God-given freedoms by being honest, diligent, contributing and interested citizens, without whom no nation can survive. My son's blogs from Iraq, where he works to support our servicemen in a way that doesn't necessitate the shedding of blood, express the joy and pride of a young man doing what he sincerely – and independently – believes in.

Any enemy of our country who supposes that a few corrupt politicians, political dissent, exposed military mistakes and public confusion is the same as a weakness that will enable them to overthrow our country's government or its people would be making a huge mistake – approximately 300 million times wrong. Maybe it's time we came out of the closet.

Painting the Town Orange

By Jason Felix

You have probably seen it already: that old, blue Chevy Celebrity station wagon that suspiciously keeps on running. Parked on the sides of roads, nestled in a Park and Ride, you never know where you will see it. Some people even place bets on where it will unite with the 119 for a brief moment each day.

It's not exactly a new car, and while it may have some unique beauty marks, it would find itself insulted to be labeled "abandoned." Alas, the unfortunate vehicle got more than just that. Sometime on Monday morning, June 26, Officer Litsjo of the King County Sheriff's Office declared that it was litter. Yes, that's exactly what the notice said. If it didn't disappear from the side of the road within 24 hours it would constitute the "traffic infraction of littering." How rude.

It also seemed clear that the aforementioned officer enjoys expressing himself through the medium of paint, especially with cheerful, Day-Glo Orange™. And really, with such a virgin



canvas sitting in a public place, how could one be expected to resist tagging each window with a big, orange X? Passers-by were even treated to an assortment of orange dots on the tires and on the wheel wells, and strange, numberesque symbols in front and back. Some (who did not have good taste) accidentally mistook it for vandalism.

It may never be known why this happened, as the "additional remarks" section of the notice was left blank. The decorations have been cleared for now, that is of course, with exception of the dots on the tires. It's fun to watch them spin around fast.

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Loop Letters

Thank you, Amy Eveskcige

Editor, *The Loop*:

Amy Eveskcige is leaving Chautauqua stronger and more successful than she found it. What made her so successful?

Amy always does what is best for the children. She strives to encourage, promote, and support the development of each student and staff member.

She has grown with us through multiple challenges and accomplishments over the past five years. Amy shared her strength, sense of justice, compassion, and humor, and was a constant advocate for the least of us, whether it be a student,

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parent, or staff member. Amy stood up for us all.

Our kids tell us, "She tries to help everyone and if they need a little extra help, she gives them what they need and still helps everyone else."

Amy leaves us having earned our greatest respect, admiration, appreciation, and love. We wish her the best as she moves to her new position. We will miss her spunk, leadership, and friendship.

Thank you, Amy, for sharing your power with us. We hope you will take with you as much as you have given us.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Vashon Island School District
School Board, Administration, Staff,
Parents, and Students

MySpace is IslandSpace

By Morgan Wegner

It's seven o'clock on a school night. You're a young, restless teenager on Vashon, looking for a good use of your twilight hours. Where do you go? A club, maybe? Or perhaps an arcade? Please. This is Vashon, where there is nowhere for teenagers to simply hang out and let their metaphorical hair down.

And so, tired of waiting, Vashon teenagers have joined their counterparts across the nation in attending the biggest party ever conceived by man. The place? MySpace.com.

MySpace is currently the fastest growing website on the Internet, with over 88.5 million members from all around the world. It's a place where people of all ages can make friends, share pictures, watch videos, listen to music and keep in touch with old acquaintances. Users can keep online journals, post messages on the bulletin board or leave comments on other people's pages and pictures.

When asked what they like best about MySpace, most users cite their ability to keep in contact with distant friends. "I can talk to my family that lives on the other side of the country," says Becky McMakin, an incoming senior at VHS, who credits her cousins with introducing her to the website.

However, as is the case with every other Internet-driven company, MySpace has a problem with online predators. Stories of abductions and molestation run rampant in the media, shedding a negative light on the website. Further dangers arise with the arrival of hackers

who can break into personal accounts and take over profiles, acquiring sensitive information about the owner of the account and his or her friends. In order to combat these wrongdoers, MySpace has dedicated about a third of its staff to making the website safer and eliminating inappropriate material. In its user agreement, MySpace encourages its users not to post personal information such as full names, street addresses or phone numbers, to guard their passwords closely and to be careful when making new friends online.

"MySpace can be something really good and really bad. It depends on how each individual handles it," says Stefen Russler, a German exchange student who attended VHS this past school year. "People get obsessed with it and let it replace their real social life."

Russler is referring to the self-named "MySpace whores," or people who spend far too much time socializing on the website and forget to do so in the real world. However, most Vashon teenagers are able to maintain a healthy balance between their two social lives, often using MySpace to organize parties and get-togethers with their friends. What's more, MySpace is a healthy alternative to drugs and alcohol, and encourages teenagers to branch out and discover people in other parts of the world.

With this amazing tendency to make Vashon feel just a little bit closer to the rest of the world, it's easy to see why so many teenagers log on regularly to check their MySpace profiles.

MySpace is where it's at.

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

Friday, July 14

Morgan Wegner is *The Loop's* student intern and this is her first op-ed piece. Go, Morgan.

Advocating for Wholeness: Living with the Loss of a Child

By Kara L.C. Jones

Fred Rogers of *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood* did so much work in his lifetime to create opportunities for people to be emotionally present. He once said, “We can’t be expected to leave the unhappy and angry parts of ourselves at the door before coming in. We all need to feel that we can bring the whole of ourselves to the people who care about us.” In the face of life after the death of a child, this statement is so powerful and should readily be shared with family and friends who surround the bereaved parents.

As bereaved parents, we are faced with grief that can be overwhelming at times. Our children may have died due to miscarriage, stillbirth, premie birth complications, SIDS, diseases, accidents, or any number of other causes. Regardless of how or why they died, we as parents are left dealing with grief while trying to continue living, trying to reconnect with the world at large.

At first, after our child’s death, the people around us may have sympathy. They can understand the immediacy of the loss and may try to be present for whatever emotions arise for us. But many, many loved ones fail to see the long term effects of our losses. Maybe this is because there is no proper word in the English language to describe us. If your parents die, you become an orphan. If your spouse dies, a widow or widower. But when your child dies, what are you??? Even in language we are left out, hindered from describing the long term reality of our lives. The reality is this:

We are still parents. Death cannot change that. And emotions like sadness and anger will arise from time to time throughout the balance of our lives in regards to our child’s death or in regards to our role as a childless parent. There is no “closure” to our role as this different kind of parent.

Understand that Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross wrote about the stages of grief in the early years of hospice care in the United States. She mapped out those stages based on what the terminally ill person was going through at any given time. The final stage became closure because the person would be dead. She did not originally mean for these stages to be used for the bereaved left behind trying to live again in grief’s wake. But due to lack of available bereavement research, materials, and support back in the day, the care giving community picked up the stages and began trying to make sense of what the bereaved were feeling.


Now it is time to acknowledge that the stages must be expanded to really apply to bereaved people. We must look more toward Fred Roger’s idea of bringing “the whole of ourselves” to the world at large. And while it may seem unfair because grief is hard enough by itself, it has become the job of the bereaved themselves to speak up and ask for this change, to demand a shift in consciousness, to be vocal about how people might best support us over the course of time.

If we want family and friends to rediscover the “whole” of who we are after the death of a child, we have to stop

being complicit with the demands that we put on happy masks. This doesn’t mean that we are constantly morose. This doesn’t mean that we are using baby dolls pretending it is the child we lost and mothering the toy in some sort of disconnect from reality. It simply means that we be allowed to feel whatever we feel in the moment without censorship.

So the family wants you to come to a big birthday celebration, and you have a lot of anxiety around this as there will be pregnant women there or there will be children there who are the same age your child should be. Well, of course you have anxiety about this because we all fear going into the situation and having absolutely no one in the room acknowledge this reality, thereby isolating us in our grief even more. So it is our job — however unfair it may seem to have to advocate for ourselves in this time of need — it is our job to say to our family members, “Yes, I want to come, but I have anxiety about this. Please be gentle with me.” And then to ask for whatever you need to make that day gentle. Maybe when candles are lit, there could be a special candle lit for all the family members who are gone, but remembered. Maybe if there is some family gift acknowledgement of all the kids present, then a donation can be made for the children who have died so they are included, too. There are lots of options.

For each of us, this scenario will be different. We may simply want to be hugged should someone see us crying. Hugged without being told, “Hush now, it’s okay,” because it isn’t okay. We are there in the midst of joy and gratefulness, but in the very same moment we are sad, lonely, and just wanting to be acknowledged. This is what it means to “bring the whole of ourselves” in the door for everyone to see and know and to continue over the years to advocate for ourselves, letting people know there is no “closure” on this. It may change from year to year. Some years we may want to be alone and do nothing with family. Some years may feel more full of joy than grief. That’s okay, too. We are not advocating each and every day be prescribed to look like this or like that. We are asking that people simply be



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present for whatever comes up in the moment.

The most surprising thing about this course of action is that it makes all of us be more present for each other in the moment. As we practice and advocate good self-care, so too are we able to advocate for the care of others. When we ask for and are allowed to feel a full range of emotions ourselves, so too are we able to let everyone around us do the same. Attending every Sunday dinner or holiday party does not make a family. Being emotionally available to each other consistently is what makes a family. Of course we are advocating for that.

While it would be great to just have us all come to this realization as a general part of life, the reality is that many of us face these challenges for the first time in the face of grief. Grief makes everything doubly challenging. Please know many of us out here see that, know that, and live that right with you. You are not alone. Here’s hoping that when we meet, we’ll be bringing “the whole of ourselves” to the table.

About the author: Kara Jones co-founded *KotaPress.com* after the stillbirth of her son *Dakota* in 1999, and she works as a *MISS Foundation* certified facilitator offering grief support to families and educational sessions to caregivers. She is an expressive artist working in many formats from henna art to ATC, from altered books to handmades, from poetry to prose. With her *HennaHealing.com* adventure, she explores intentional henna art as an expressive tool for everything from celebration to grief, solace to release. You can be in touch with her via *kara@hennahealing.com* — please put “*VASHON LOOP*” in the subject line! Thanks.

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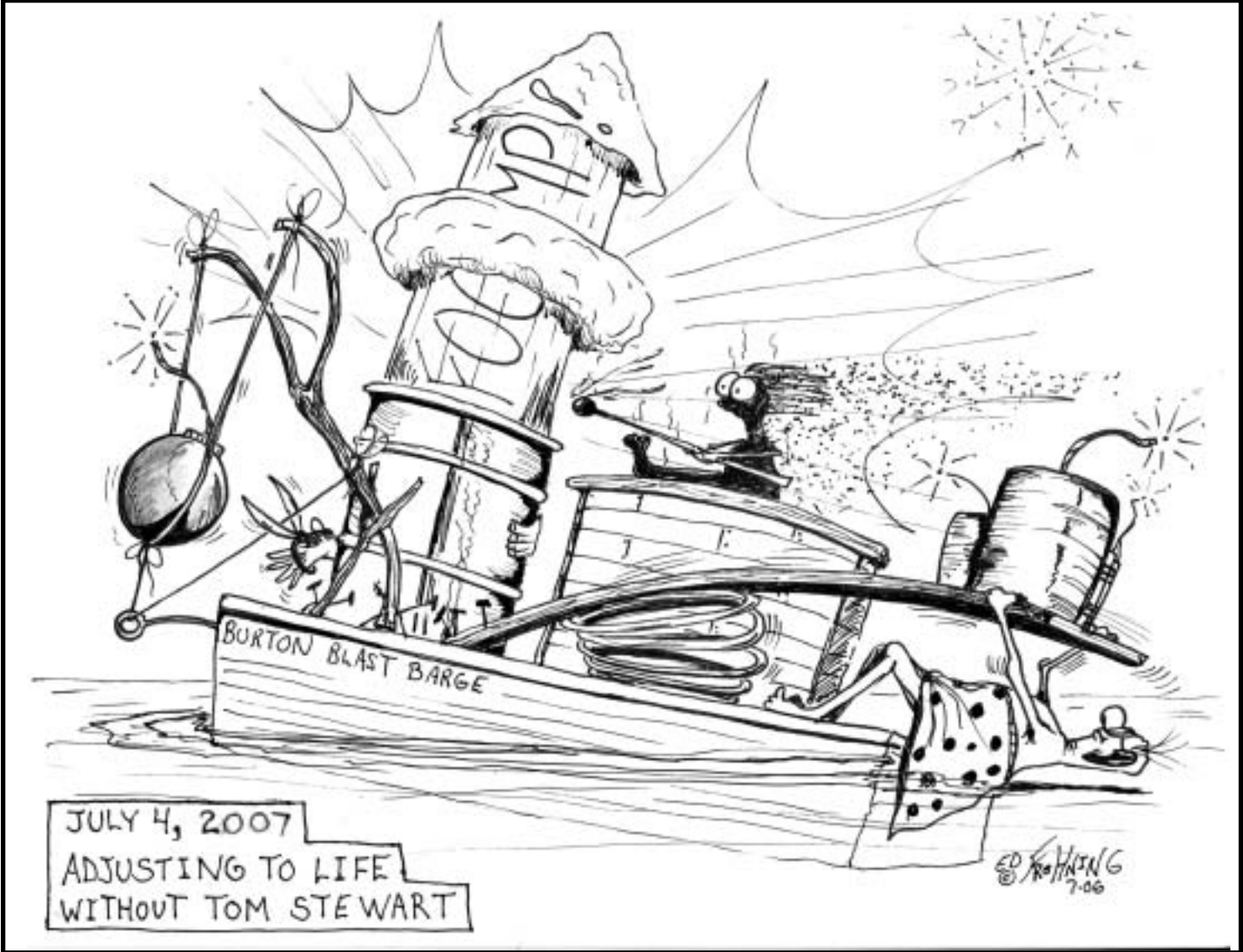
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Spiritual Smart Aleck

You Are Invited

The Strawberry Festival is this weekend and the Island will come out to play. There will be booths and music and parades and food and the carnival and tons of people out in the sun and/or rain being silly,

riding the rides, buying crafts, listening to music, dancing and talking and whooping it up. It is the annual Island party.

For a few years I didn't go — oh, it had become so big, so crowded, so full of people from off-Island. Not like thirty years ago, when the music consisted of me and Steve Self each playing for forty-five minutes in the little memorial patio out back of what was then the library (now the Senior Center), while the crowds walked by ignoring us.

Last year I really went to the Festival. Had Kiwanis pancakes for breakfast, watched the parade, walked around the booths, and saw almost everyone I know and hundreds more I didn't. It was fun, and I went home late in the afternoon tired and happy.

It was good to reconnect with this annual Island bash. I loved going when I was young, and it was fun taking the kids when they were little, except of course for those dratted Seafair pirates who seemed to enjoy frightening the jelly out of little kids with their exploding truck.

The music has evolved over the years. I was part of the music in the 70s and 80s, sometimes with my husband Rick and his friend Chris Howie, sometimes solo, and later as part of Women, Women and Song.

In the 70s we had Bodacious (Steve and Thea); we had Dumi and his Marimba Band; Bob Haworth playing as Bo Mooney; Fred Shactler getting everyone to boogie until they dropped. The Portage Fill — wow. Thirty years later, a lot of the same guys play in the Portage Fill, and that, my friend, is playing music for the love of the music.

I've been here for going on thirty-five years now, and I hear people say, "The Island has changed," and I agree that it has, and, "The Festival has gotten so big," and I agree with that also, and "It's not like it used to be," and no, it's not.

You Are Invited to the 2006 Vashon Island Strawberry Festival



A too big, too crowded, large scale, not-like-it-used-to-be,

Island Party
July 7, 8, 9

No RSVP just show up

Back in the late 70s there was a Harvest Fair that took place in the Fall. Locals loved it for its small scale and entirely Vashon-centric quality. "Like Festival used to be," they'd say.

The first Harvest Fair had a pottery display in what is now the dance room at Ober Park. It was mostly ordinary pots, but on a table in the middle of the room was a large ceramic tombstone. It was inscribed, "Vashon Island," with a mournful epitaph saying that the poor old Island had died.

This was an artistic expression of grief by someone who had seen their Island home evolve into a strange place. As one of the newcomers who had been part of the change, I felt kind of socked in the stomach by this harsh indictment of change.

Since then I've seen many people come and fall in love with the Island, and some of them move here, and then they find out if they are really supposed to be here. It is not home for everyone.

I can tell you now that change is the constant and that you never take the ferry back to the same Island. Change means that the Island is alive, and lively. It is hard to lose what is familiar and comfortable, old ways and quieter times. I miss what the Island was like when I got here, in 1972, about the time the person who made the tombstone was getting bitter. I miss weighing less, and having a short-term memory, too, and I miss my 1958 Chevy. Man, that was a great car.

Come on out and celebrate this lively, changing, one-of-a-kind community this weekend. Come on out to this too big, too crowded, large scale, not-like-it-used-to-be, Island party. You're invited.

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Father Tryphon and Father Paul have lived on Vashon for eighteen years and at the present site for the last seven years. The progress of founding the Monastery – acquiring the land, and building the buildings – has been a road as steep and bumpy as the driveway.

The monks were living in Richmond, California, when their Archbishop appointed Father Tryphon to pick two monks and go out to found a monastery in some rural part of the San Francisco and Western America Diocese. A Berkeley businessman had offered to buy the land and support the monks.

Father Tryphon picked Father Paul and Father Basil to come on this journey.

“So we bought an old Ford camper, some sleeping bags and other camping equipment, and started to drive around the Diocese,” says Father Tryphon.

“We spent our first winter in Medford, Oregon, and we found 55 acres in the Applegate Valley of Oregon that we thought was the place, but this was in the wake of Oregon’s experience with the Rajneeshees, and the county would not allow us to buy the land.”

“We came to Seattle for Holy Week, and a couple we had known in the Bay Area had moved to Vashon Island and invited us to visit. We spent one night here and we absolutely fell in love with the place, mostly with the people.”

“I got up the first morning and drove around the Island by myself. When I got to the Portage store, I stopped and went in and Jimmy Smith looked at me and said, ‘You must be Russian Orthodox,’ and went back to what he was doing. Our experience here was that people would look at us, smile, and turn away. There were no jokes. There was no rudeness.”

“Brother Basil missed the Bay Area, so he returned there, and Father Paul and I found a rental house that was for sale. When it sold, we found the Dockton house and moved in, never dreaming that the place we’d end up would be right next door.”



Children are at ease with Father Tryphon. “They used to call me Santa Claus, but since the Harry Potter books came out they think I’m a wizard.”

“Our benefactor in Berkeley had some business reverses and could no longer afford to purchase land for a monastery or support us, so we decided we were going to Jerusalem to occupy an empty monastery there. We had a farewell party, and John and Georgia Ratzenberger attended. Georgia talked to John, and he came up to me and offered me five acres of land which he owned.”

“I contacted some nuns in Santa Rosa and asked them to pray about it; they phoned right back and said, ‘It’s God’s will!’ and I asked our Archbishop down in the Bay Area and he said, ‘Take it!’”

So the monks did accept that five acres, and eventually bought eleven adjacent acres on their eastern boundary. They plan to build a retreat center on the eastern property.

“The first thing we built was the Chapel. We were using St. Patrick’s Church in Dockton for our Sunday mass, and we decided to have outdoor services up here in front of the Chapel for the summer, and everyone liked it so well that we stayed here.”

There are several buildings making up the Monastery now: the Church was completed first; there is a tiny cabin, or cell, which Father Tryphon lives in; a library/conference building; the *trapeza*, or dining hall; and three new cells,



Father Paul with a bag of Monastery Coffee, the sale of which helps to support the Monastery

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which are slightly larger cabins, each containing a bedroom, bath, and study. These will be habitations for resident monks.

The foundation is in place for a bookstore building, which will also house the monks’ administrative office and their coffee business.

“We still have a ways to go. The plumbing is done in the buildings, and the electrical is almost done, but we need decking, sheet rocking and insulation.”

“There are three gold onion domes being constructed now which we hope to have up by fall, and when they are up we will have an Open House for the Island.”

“We have been very, very blessed by the friends we have here,” Father Tryphon said. “We’re hoping to connect with CERT and the Red Cross, so that in the event of a disaster people would know they can come to the Monastery. We need a water storage tank, and a propane freezer, refrigerator, and stove top so we can feed people.”

“When the facilities are done, we hope that monks will come from our brother monastery at Holy Cross Hermitage in West Virginia. We need new people to carry on the work. Ideally, the community will have a population of 12 monks. As soon as the buildings are finished, we’re going to relax!”

But that day is not here yet. For the time being the monks live and pray in their microcosm of the world, their thin place, and continue working to complete the mission they were given eighteen years ago.

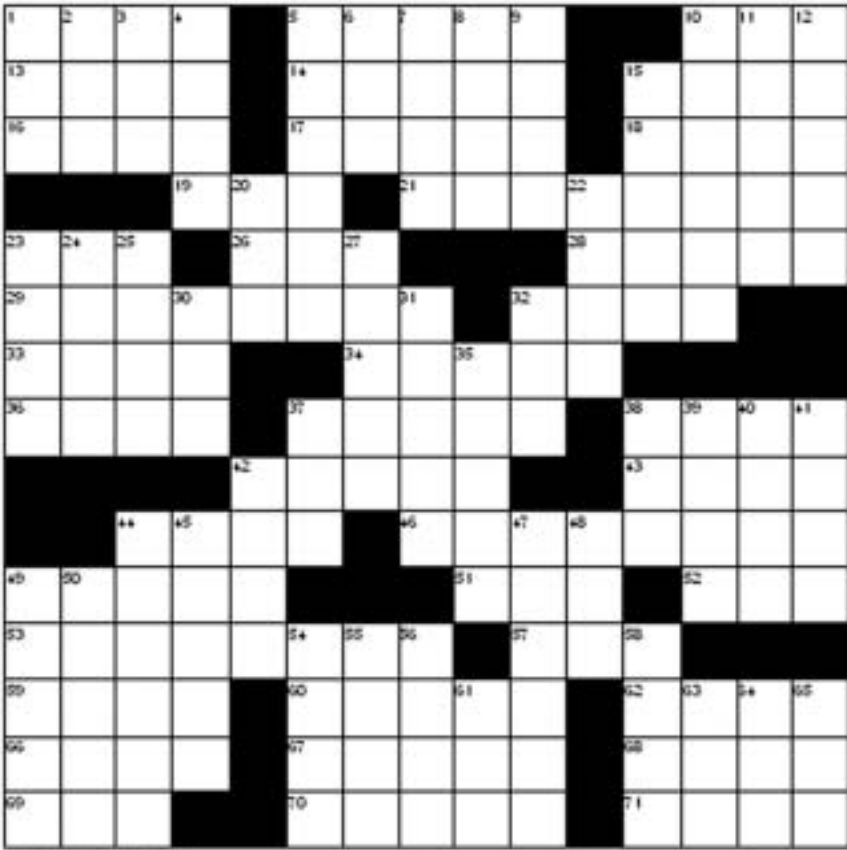
You can read more about the Monastery at: www.vashonmonks.cm

Across

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Cut closely | 57 Rob | 25 Female child |
| 5 Plastic wrap | 59 Alack’s partner | 27 Lead |
| 10 Pater | 60 Furious | 30 Permit |
| 13 Italian money | 62 Cain’s brother | 31 Folds |
| 14 Lonely | 66 Bare | 32 Sticky stuff |
| 15 “no ___ luck” | 67 Essential | 35 “If ___ be the food of love...” |
| 16 Warm | 68 Gap | 37 Flirtatious |
| 17 Big cats | 69 South southeast | 38 Heat unit |
| 18 Quarry | 70 Door | 39 Stream |
| 19 Expression of surprise | 71 Posttraumatic stress disorder | 40 Simply |
| 21 community party | | 41 Eye infection |
| 23 Lube | | 42 Diminish |
| 26 Flightless bird | | 44 I love a ____ |
| 28 Stadium | | 45 Wash off |
| 29 Writes psalms | | 47 To wit |
| 32 Shade of black | | 48 Contagious disease |
| 33 Otherwise | | 49 Computer input device |
| 34 Compost | | 50 Debris at the base of a cliff |
| 36 Bird’s home | | 54 Scoff |
| 37 Caecum | | 55 Asian country |
| 38 Sisters sibs. | | 56 Direction |
| 42 Art pieces | | 58 Puff |
| 43 Dye | | 61 Sticky black substance |
| 44 Beg | | 63 Bacon-lettuce-tomato sandwich |
| 46 Iniquitously | | 64 Goddess |
| 49 Blot | | 65 Type of partnership |
| 51 California (abbr.) | | |
| 52 Caustic substance | | |
| 53 ___ Hall | | |

Down

- | |
|----------------------------|
| 1 Tender loving care |
| 2 River (Spanish) |
| 3 Internal Revenue Service |
| 4 Tropical bird |
| 5 Salted sausage |
| 6 Boxer Muhammad |
| 7 House topper |
| 8 Green Gables dweller |
| 9 Loch ___ monster |
| 10 Provide |
| 11 Pacific, for example |
| 12 Plant kingdom division |
| 15 Steeple |
| 20 Border |
| 22 Sticky black substances |
| 23 Agape |
| 24 Island |



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Garden the World Locavores

By MEarth

One of my favorite authors, Gary Nabhan (*The Desert Smells Like Rain*), has written a book called *Coming Home To Eat*, the story of his decision to spend one year eating nothing that was not grown within 100 miles of his Sonoran Desert home. In that year he ate some interesting things—including agave cooked in a pit, bread made with mesquite flour and even roasted bugs—and he learned a lot about local populations, foods and food traditions.

His chronicle stimulated four women in the Bay Area to start an organization called **Locavores**, the singularly unpopular name for people who eat only local food, and to spend a month each year (for the past two) eating food from only local sources. That is to say, they vow to do so exclusively for that month—the rest of the year they strive to eat as locally as possible.

These women have, in turn, stimulated groups and individuals all over the country to do the same—and stimulated some strident criticism as well. I find it interesting that we all used to HAVE to eat locally—now we have to TRY to eat locally.

A couple on Vancouver Island were so excited by the idea that they spent a year eating locally. They were very strict with themselves. They eliminated spices from their diet for being from too far away. They suffered with no bread—a staple favorite—until they found a local source of wheat. When the year ended, they felt like they were sinning to dine in an Indian Restaurant.

On a more realistic note, the *Locavores* have a pledge that makes sense to me:

If not locally produced, then organic.

If not organic, then family-farmed.

If not family-farmed, then from a local business.

If not a local business, then fair trade.

Two articles have appeared in this space advocating “food with a farmer’s face on it”—one written by me—and I believe I make it clear that I believe that the more locally we eat, the better off we are—economically, ecologically and



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health-wise. There are a number of reasons for that.

(Thanks to the *Life Begins At 30* blog for putting it so concisely...)

Eating locally leaves more money in the local economy. Local produce is fresher and tastes better because it is handled less and picked ripe. Local food also comes in more varieties—like heirloom vegetables—and eating it is even better for the ecology than eating organic, as the distance organically grown food travels often creates enough ecological damage to outweigh the organic benefit—environmentally if not health-wise.

Eating locally keeps us in touch with the seasons, with the purveyor and the story of our food, and protects us from bio-terrorism by making the food chain much less vulnerable. Bio-terrorists are extremely unlikely to intercept food between Green Man Farm and the Saturday Market; it’s only 6 blocks. Eating locally also directly supports reasonable land development and helps to protect our steadily decreasing farmland.

We are lucky here on Vashon—if we were to be forced (or fortunate enough) to have to eat locally, we would have access to great beef, pork, milk, eggs and (in season) a great variety of fruits, nuts and vegetables.

Recent visits to off-Island Farmer’s Markets in West Seattle and Columbia City have revealed an even wider source of locavorian delight—including tideland farmers, wheat farmers and, of course, fisherfolk.

Our foodshed is RICH!

Not that I am against what is recently being called “Roundabout Farming”—or the not-so-local. I encourage organic agriculture wherever it is, and I sure like seeing that wonderful Lundberg rice on the market shelves, not to mention organic peanut butter, oranges, lemons and limes. I like Hungarian paprika, star anise and tamari soy sauce. I just think it is educational, ecological and entertaining to learn what our foodshed has to offer—and wise to make use of its bounty.

A trip to the Saturday Market feeds more than just YOUR family. See you there.

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Vashon Library July 2006 Programs

Preschool Story Times

Wednesdays, July 5, 12, 19, 26
11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Ages 3 to 6 with adult, younger siblings may attend. Please join us for stories, songs and fun! Registration not required.

Brown Bag Story Times

Wednesdays, July 5, 12, 19, 26
Noon to 12:30 p.m.

Ages 5 to 10

Bring a sack lunch to eat while you enjoy great stories read aloud! Registration not required. Sponsored by Friends of the Vashon Library!

Build a Boat!

Ages 5 to 7: Thu., July 6,

11 a.m. to Noon

Ages 7 to 11: Thu., July 6,

1-2:30 p.m.

Walk on the Wild Side with Barbara Gustafson.

Learn about the forces of buoyancy and gravity, and then build a gravity-powered boat. Registration required beginning June 22. Please call (206) 463-2069. Co-sponsored by the Vashon Park District.

Straw Structures

Ages 5 to 7: Thu., July 13,

11 a.m. to Noon

Ages 7 to 11: Thu., July 13,

1 to 2:30 p.m.

Walk on the Wild Side with Barbara Gustafson.

Learn about some forces that act on structures: tension, torsion and compression. Then build and test a variety of drinking straw structures. Registration required beginning June 29. Please call (206) 463-2069. Co-sponsored by the Vashon Park District.

Where the Wild Things Are Drama Workshop

Friday, July 21, 11 a.m.

Presented by Seattle Children's Theatre

Ages 4 to 7

When Max was sent to bed without his supper, he embarked upon a journey to the land of the wild things. Explore this popular children's book through acting, imagination and interactive props. Let the wild rumpus begin! Registration required beginning July 7. Please call (206) 463-2069.

The Adventures of Sinbad Monday, July 24, 3 p.m.

Presented by Oregon Shadow Theatre

Ages 5 to adult

Program will be held in the Ober Park building next to the library.

This adventure comes alive as Sinbad is shipwrecked, encounters strange and mystical animals, and must use his wits to capture a treasure. Live music enhances this enchanting story from the Arabian Nights. Registration not required. Performance held in a darkened room and is not appropriate for very young children.

Library Expands Hours

Beginning Tuesday, August 1, we will open an hour earlier on weekdays, at 10 a.m. instead of 11 a.m.

Our new hours will be:

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Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

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Mudslinging, Unofficial Mayor Style

By Karen Pruett

Mudslinging: It started out just for fun, something that had never been done during the Unofficial Mayor Campaign. It ended up with the realization that the only mud our candidates really wanted to sling was a forkful of Mrs. Johnson’s Chocolate Cream pie, Victoria’s Chocolate Decadence, or Rocky Road ice cream, right into their own mouths. **Brian Brenno, Jan Lyell, Michael Sayre, Maggie Albertson, and Cate Stackhouse** are such nice people, doing such a good deed, that no one could find any political mud to sling. They had only nice things to say about each other and their parties: Vashon Allied Arts, WolfTown, Vashon Food Bank,

Vashon School District, and the Vashon Island Community PTSA. The only mud found was the loam that holds this community together, in which their Island roots intertwine. **Michael** benefited from VAA, Artists-in-Residence, and WolfTown while attending Vashon Schools and now donates time to the Chamber of Commerce and the Food Bank. **Maggie** works for VHS and donates many hours to various student events like dances and trips. **Brian** donates time and glass blowing talent to VAA, the schools, Artist-in-Residence and PTSA. **Jan** donates services to VAA, PTSA, VIPP, the Food Bank and many other charities. **Cate** likes the PTSA

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because they give money to the school for things like new math books, cool assemblies, Family Science nights, the Science Fair, art and music programs, and activities such as Rec night at McMurray and VHS Swim night. All this and they still find time for family, friends, school, and garden mud. Perhaps our national and local leaders could take a lesson for Vashon’s Unofficial Mayors, both past and present. Sling the kind of mud that is good to eat, think good things about your neighbors and stuff the ballot boxes with cash instead of empty promises. Please pass the Victoria’s Chocolate Decadence, and vote for your Unofficial Mayor!



2006 Strawberry Festival Events and Music Schedule

Food and arts and crafts booths will be open for business all day Saturday and Sunday! There are four **music venues** at this year’s Festival: the **Ober Park Stage**, which will run all three days; the **Beer Garden**, which will be open Friday and Saturday nights as well as hosting Jam Camp on Saturday afternoon; **Pandora’s Box**, which will have music on Saturday and Sunday afternoons; and of course, the **Street Dances** will happen on Saturday night as always!

Events

Friday, July 7
First Friday Gallery Cruise
Music at Ober Park
Saturday, July 8
Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. in parking lot at Vashon Market.
\$7 adults; \$5 for 12 and under.
Festival Grand Parade
11 a.m. in downtown Vashon
Grand Opening Vashon Heritage Museum,
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Open mic starting at 2 p.m.
Sunday, July 9
Rare and Collectible Car Parade and Shine
11 a.m. Parade from Mom’s Deli to Island Lumber.

Music

Friday, July 7
Ober Park Stage
Bob’s Your Uncle, 6 to 6:45 p.m.
Island Chorale, 7 to 7:45 p.m.
Sub Pop, 8 to 10 p.m.
Beer Garden Stage
Loose Change, 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, July 8
Ober Park Stage
Portage Fill, 1 to 1:45 p.m.
Island Jazz Quintet, 2:15 to 3 p.m.
Bill Brown & the Kingbees, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m
Gold Ring, 4:45 to 5:30 p.m.
Curly Cooke, 6 to 7 p.m.
Pandora’s Box Stage
Some Hat, 1 to 1:35 p.m.
Mike Nelson’s Jazz Express, 2 to 2:35 p.m.
Gail Pettis, 3 to 3:35 p.m.
Jean Mann, 4 to 4:35 p.m.
Geordies Byre, 5 to t:45 p.m.
Street Dances
Portage Fill, 7 to 9 p.m.
Great Divide, 9 p.m. to Midnight
Beer Garden Stage
Jam Camp, 1 to 3 p.m.
Alma Villegas, 4 to 7 p.m.
Bill Brown and the Kingbees, 8 to 11 p.m.

Sunday, July 9
Ober Park Stage
Garage Boys, Noon to 12:45 p.m.
Mark Whitman, 1:15 to 2 p.m.
HD Fusion, 2:30 to 3:15 p.m.
Redperl with Chris Layton, 3:45 to 4:30 p.m.
Loose Change, 5 to 6 p.m.
Pandora’s Box Stage
The Stranger, Noon to 12:35 p.m.
501, 1 to 1:35 p.m.
Just Fiddlin’ Around, 2 to 2:35 p.m.
Rheinhold-Richards, 3 to 3:35 p.m.
John Browne, 4 to 4:45 p.m.

FLASH: The Sound Band is back for the summer and will be doing a concert in The Vashon Theater at 10 p.m. on July 7, Festival Friday!

The Dorsal Spin:

Killer Whales Visit Vashon in June!



Two Orcas at play

Photo by Annie Stateler

By Orca Annie Stateler

Odin and I feel deeply privileged that we have had amazing encounters with both Resident and Transient orcas this month. While I worked on this Dorsal Spin on June 30, Mark Sears called at 6:00 p.m. to say he was tracking six Transient killer whales southbound in Colvos Pass.

Our excited neighbors gathered in the yard and all watched as the orcas approached. They zigzagged across Colvos, apparently trying to avoid the numerous holiday weekend boaters. To our relief, the whales were easy to miss because they were so evasive. We heard a few clicks on the hydrophone above the boat noise.

Initially the whales traveled fast, but they formed a tight group and slowed to resting mode near Olalla. Odin got cool film of the sleepy group: one adult male with several females and juveniles. We left them still resting and traveling south in Colvos.

On June 29, I awoke at 6:00 a.m. to the sound of orca blows just north of the VHP site in Colvos Pass. The stealthy seal hunters were not audible on the hydrophone, but a binocular scan soon revealed that the orcas were Transients. These were the same whales from the 30th, accompanied by an additional adult male.

Mark later photo-documented the rare visitors near Restoration Point on Bainbridge Island. The tentative IDs are T88 and T91 Groups. The Center for Whale Research will review Mark's photos and confirm the IDs.

Judging by the group configuration and behavior, we believe the same Transients were off West Seattle on the evening of June 20. That day, Mark called around 6:30 p.m. with the jaw-dropping news that he saw blows off Alki Point. The orcas traveled south to Brace Point, and then changed direction at dusk, eluding a dedicated observer effort to verify their identity.

To put the rarity of these summer sightings in perspective, Mark, a West Seattle native, has not seen orcas in the Central Sound in June since 1971. This is the fifth known Transient visit to Island waters this year. Some of these June whales visited in February. The Southern Residents, J, K, and L



Annie & Odin singing

Courtesy Photo

Pods, typically visit Vashon-Maury in fall and winter.

Thanks to Jackie for the whale report and to Faye for the Low Tide Day photos. Please support the work of the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP) by reporting local whale sightings ASAP to 463-9041. If you are snoozing on the ferry, you are missing these historic killer whale visits to our area.

Resident and Transient killer whales are listed as endangered in Washington State. Boaters who do not stay at least 200 yards away from mammal-hunting Transients may be dismayed to discover that frightened seals and sea lions will try to escape onto boats.

On June 17, Tsux'iit/Luna was in the hearts and minds of everyone who attended The Whale Museum's Orca Symposium and the evening Orca Sing concert at Lime Kiln State Park. This year's Requiem for Luna was transcendent, and a testament to Tsux'iit's luminous character that hundreds of people gathered in his memory.

Odin and I spoke a few words and sang a Tlingit song in honor of Tsux'iit and his relatives. Words cannot adequately describe how I felt when I saw a whale breach and knew that orcas were approaching as we sang. Ruffles (J1) soon appeared, leading a graceful procession of J Pod by the park.

Joe Olson of ACS/PS hooked up a speaker so we could listen for calls on

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Last chance to help hungry pets this Friday at 6 p.m!
Enjoy the fun! Support Vashon Youth Baseball and park in the lot on Bank Road.

Horus' pick of the week:

Well, I don't know what it is this week — but I do know that it's definitely not the Festival. He doesn't like leaving the building.

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the hydrophone array at Lime Kiln during the concert. I heard orcas vocalize, commenting favorably on the music, I hope. It seems the concert did resonate with the Southern Residents. Somewhere Tsux'iit was smiling at this lovely tribute. Keet yek, killer whale spirit, works in mysterious ways.

We celebrated Father's Day with Ruffles and J Pod. Granny (J2) or Spieden (J8) eyeballed me. I was too blown away gazing into the female orca's eye to glimpse her saddle patch. When I regained my wits, I noticed these two elders were close. Bless Spieden and her wheezy blow.

In the Cute Department, Vashon's famous visitor Keetla/Springer returned to Johnstone Strait off Vancouver Island on June 28 with her great aunt's family, the A11's. This is the four-year anniversary of her successful family reunion. The Southern Residents have two new relatives. 29-year-old Ino (L54) had another calf this spring, designated L108. Raven (K28) is only twelve, but she had her first calf, designated K39.

Sarah Browne

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Read more in the news section at www.whalemuseum.org. This has been an exciting year for the VHP. Stop by the ACS/PS Strawberry Festival booth for an update. Vote WolfTown for mayor! Contact Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com.

When angry, count a hundred; when very angry, swear. – Mark Twain

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Happy Birthday Cancer!
You can breathe a little easier, but you know you need to stay on your toes this year. You can, and you will, but you're going to need to be very Cancerian and take care of yourself. In order to maintain balance, it will be essential to remember your friends and count on your allies. There is no room for instability here — allegiance is not negotiable, and you need to keep an eye on who or what wavers in commitment, and address any such situation early. Count on those who show you they can be counted upon, as a matter of devotion, pride and faith.

Aries (March 20-April 19): Creative forces can be violent, or at least troubling. That's probably why most people lay down their artistic pursuits rather than develop them. I don't concur with the "too busy" theory, but rather with the "too threatening" one. Your own creative drives will be compelling you to hole up in your living space and make sure you do what you need to do, and they will be pushing you to make big changes in your life. This could be rough on a relationship; make sure the person in question is brought into the process rather than excluded, and is recognized for the significant inspiration and sense of grounding they are offering.
Taurus (April 19-May 20): Over the past year I've alluded to the possibility for big changes in your living space, including the possibility of relocating. For you, this is typically a decision you make, including the choice to delay. The pressure comes on and off this issue, and there are times when you need to jump out of your skin as much as you need a new physical building to contain your much larger life. Once again you have the choice to delay, but you also have the option to take advantage of the friction and fire and make a long overdue move that you're unlikely to regret.
Gemini (May 20-June 21): There is some question about the community you live in and the extent to which it holds authority over your private life. The planets reveal a story about you not being particularly thrilled with the situation, and of your willingness to fight if you need to. But I suggest you time your moves well, or they may backfire. It would be wise to avoid going blow for blow, and indeed to avoid any direct confrontations at all. Use the Sicilian method. Gather your facts. Let everyone else have it out.

Wait for the dust to clear. Then take care of what you need to do when everyone is least expecting you to do anything at all.
Cancer (June 21-July 22): A long overdue financial breakthrough is in the works but you must move forward with careful precision, actual planning, and make sure that every angle of the deal is covered. Make sure everyone has their due. Most important, ensure that the necessary structural changes are made in your methods of keeping and tracking your resources. Something akin to a complete renovation is called for, and that may mean temporarily setting aside some of your short-term goals in the service of the more important longer-term ones. Get expert help if you need it, and run your life like a professional.
Leo (July 22-Aug. 23): Events this month will provide a test of your mettle, but remember you are the stronger party no matter who or what else may be a factor. Make sure you tend to your closest partnerships first; leave no question as to your loyalty. Then, working together, balance out the other interests involved in the situation and work out a fair deal, with no delay. By the time of the solstice on June 21, if you moved with determination and clarity, you had everything wrapped up and began the new season with confidence and a sense of accomplishment.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22): You need to make sure your fears don't get the best of you this month, remembering Lou Reed's reminder that you can't count on the worst always happening. In the best of months you struggle to find a sense of identity, as if it never exists as something more than a mirage. Often, your fears give you the most tangible sense of who you are. If anything, events this month will teach you that you're much more. Just make sure you get out of the house and face the world. There really is one answer to isolation, and that's known as people.
Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23): There is a fine line between success and failure. The question is how to choose your side of the line. Perhaps start by knowing what you want for yourself, and being precise about it. Be clear with yourself and articulate your needs, goals and objectives in explicit terms, first to yourself, then in simplified form to anyone who actually needs to know. If you feel any fear about your

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security base, remind yourself in clear terms that you have a right to exist safely and comfortably. The resulting success in doing just that can help you cross a hurdle into a phase of true and lasting stability.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22): Once again, as seems to be your lot in life these years, career necessities are calling you, and strongly. Your drive for success is worth all the effort you're investing. Yet, no matter how much that is true, you need to call some of your energy downward, into the Earth, into your home, and into whatever you consider to be your family. The pull to do otherwise is extremely strong; you could easily lose contact. But you need to remember that you draw your strength from your home base, and know that no matter what battles may be won or lost in the big world, the people closest to you will always accept you.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22): Before you wear yourself out trying to hammer out an issue of right and wrong, you might want to let it work out for itself. At least make sure you allocate a fairly long time to find a solution, like a month, for instance. This will help you take the pressure off the situation, which is likely to assist because there's already too much of that going around. No matter how much this matter seems to be pressing on a household situation or threatening your emotional comfort, the astrology says don't push back. Rather, yield and follow the flow to the gentlest way through the territory.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20): The rancor with which a certain issue is unfolding clouds how delicately balanced the situation is, and hides the depth of feelings at stake. I suggest you never assume you know another person's position until they make it clear. There's a lot of room for misinterpretation, and the most sensible and sane path is to cease from interpreting at all, at least for the moment. You will, however, need to make some sense of why such strong feelings are swarming around. And you will, I

hope, be able to resist the vivid feeling that you're the one and only person who needs to change. What needs to happen is an honest discussion, and that will only come in due time. But it will come.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): I suggest you stand safely back from any contention or controversy, and not feel the least bit guilty about dodging the situation entirely. At the heart of the matter is someone's exaggerated sense of reality, which is not exactly benefiting from other frustrations that are getting mixed up with that emotion. As an astrologer I can tell you that the situation will blow through and lose its energy as long as you don't invest any of yours in the situation. Wait out the storm and get on with your life. That will set the best example for anyone who may need to know.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Put all the energy this month to work for you. It seems you have several important issues on the here-and-now queue, and the time to address them is here and now. You've had considerable experience the past year with moving over, through and around a wide diversity of challenges, some of which have represented an actual threat and others of which have been an inconvenience. The trick now is to expend a small fraction of the energy you have in the past, and allow your intentions to guide your life more than your physical actions. The power of will is exceptionally strong right now — particularly your own.

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The ship was sinking fast. The captain called out, "Anyone here know how to pray?" One man stepped forward: "I do, captain." "Good," said the captain. "You pray. The rest of us will put on life preservers. We're one short."

LIVING WELL WITH PLANTS

Text and drawings by Kathy Abascal (AHG)

their legs with a repellant and sit in lawn chairs and let mosquitoes bite them. A monitor stands next to them to make sure all bites are recorded. After a few hours, they total the number of bites to determine the effectiveness of the repellant. Some of the volunteers end up testing the placebo, suffering numerous bites (150 or more).

Most of the lemon eucalyptus oil sprays on the market appear to contain about 30% eucalyptus oil with the remaining 70% a mixture of water, alcohol, emulsifiers (to keep the oil suspended) and preservatives. Should you prefer, it should be fairly easy to make up your own blend. In the study, the lemon eucalyptus oil was diluted with coconut oil but rubbing alcohol might also be a good solvent for the oil. I am going to try the 40% blend in coconut oil this year as I think the essential oil will dissolve better in the oil than in the alcohol. If you use alcohol, remember to shake the bottle before spraying to keep the oil in solution.

If you do not want to make your own, be careful choosing sprays on the market to make sure they contain enough essential oil. Some online recipes recommend 28 drops of essential oil to 8 oz of solvent – a much, much weaker solution than used in the study. And some people say that just dabbing

the essential oil on various spots on the body also works, but again, that type of use has not been studied and may not be as effective. The repellant effect should last for around four hours.

Of course, neither DEET nor lemon eucalyptus have shown 100% effectiveness but deter 92-93% of the mosquito bites (based on a comparison with the number of bites the person without repellant suffered). This means that no matter what you use, you may still get a few bug/mosquito bites but dramatically fewer than without a repellant.

Herbs can also help reduce the itching and inflammation of those occasional bites as well as bites and stings from other insects. A common home remedy is to put mashed plantain on the bite. Plantain grows abundantly on the island, and many of my colleagues swear by it. Unfortunately, it has never soothed my itchy bites very well. Instead, I first try an echinacea tincture which I drip directly on the bite. It usually abates the itching and is nearly miraculous for spider bites or other venomous bites that eat away the flesh. I also use Echinacea in a spray form combined with several other herbs for a dog's itchy,



Preventing Mosquito Bites

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is once again urging us to step up our attempts to avoid mosquito bites as West Nile virus continues to spread. For most, the virus may pass almost unnoticed but in some people it causes a devastating illness. The unlucky few will have meningitis-like symptoms and aftereffects that may interfere with normal life for many years. There is no known treatment for the virus and no reliable way of predicting which people will suffer the more serious symptoms although those with chronic illnesses and a weakened immune system are more likely to suffer the worst cases. I have gotten several calls asking me how to make the herbal bug spray, and so decided to go over herbal bug sprays again.

The primary insect repellant today is DEET. It is a chemical that damages plastic and also has potential for side effects in users. Eye irritation has been the most frequently reported adverse effect but there have also been reports of central nervous system problems, more frequently reported in children than adults, ranging from slurred speech and confusion to seizures and coma. The risk of adverse effects increases the longer you use DEET or the stronger the DEET product.

The CDC also endorses the use of an herbal essential oil as an effective mosquito repellant. The essential oil of lemon eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus maculata citriodora*) proved equally effective to DEET in those trials. The study I read compared a 40% and a 75% lemon eucalyptus/oil blend to similar concentrations of DEET and found that both the essential oil and DEET deterred mosquito bites effectively. Interestingly, both the essential oil and the DEET may work better at the lower dilution. And in case you were wondering: in mosquito repellant studies, volunteers cover



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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 One Man's War Against Crime and Adverbs

By Rachel Bard

How do you get to be the best crime fiction writer in America?

You might start your book with an opening sentence like this:

"Late afternoon Chloe and Kelly were having cocktails at the Rattlesnake Club, the two seated on the far side of the

dining room by themselves:

Chloe talking, Kelly listening,

Chloe trying to

get Kelly to help her entertain Anthony Paradiso, an eighty-four-year-old guy who was paying her five thousand a week to be his girlfriend."

Or this: "The night Vincent got shot he saw it coming."

The first is from Elmore Leonard's *Mr. Paradise*, 2004, and the second from *Glitz*, 1985. Long or short, Leonard's sentences get your attention.

He's written more than three dozen books, mostly about unsavory characters and questionable goings-on in southern Florida. The good guys are never too good but are generally on the side of law and order or at least prevention of mayhem. Sometimes the scene is in the Detroit area, where Leonard lives. But he's at his wicked best in the Sunshine State with its palm trees, man-eating alligators, steamy swamps, seamy bars, cons and ex-cons, showgirls, heartless developers, bodies dumped into canals, bodies thrown from deep-sea fishing boats, bodies found in bed or on the beach, corrupt judges, jaded detectives, bumbling bodyguards, nice lady cops, and hard-bitten guy cops. The writing's always taut, hip and funny.

For some, the favorites are *Get Shorty*, which was made into a Major Motion Picture, and its sequel, *Be Cool*, ditto. They feature Chili Palmer (played by John Travolta), a Miami mobster turned Hollywood mogul. The films couldn't capture the dry, deadpan humor of the written word. When Chili's expensive leather sport coat is stolen at a restaurant he complains to the manager. "So then the manager got a waiter over and they talked to each other in Italian for a while, the waiter nervous or he was anxious to get back to folding napkins."

For readers new to Leonard a good first book is *Maximum Bob*, 1991. The title character is a philandering Florida judge who's so tough on crime that he gleefully dishes out the longest sentences possible. He also invites pretty lawyers, public defenders and other lovelies into his private chambers in hopes of a little hanky-panky. Kathy Baker, probation officer, doesn't go for that but has to be polite to the judge or risk losing her job.

Maximum Bob, by Elmore Leonard. Dell Publishing, 1991, paperback

Before long Kathy finds herself teamed with Gary, a buttoned-down, proper, smart detective, as they seek answers to such questions as: who delivered the ten-foot alligator to Judge Gibbs's house, which so frightened his wife that she fled, swearing never to come back (which suited the judge fine)? How come Elvin, just out of prison and without visible means of support, is driving around in a Cadillac and what's his tie to that kinky rich doctor who was sentenced to house arrest by Judge Gibbs for drug possession? What's with Elvin's

nephew Dale, who's avoiding his probation officer (Kathy) and was also

sentenced by Maximum Bob? By the time it's all sorted out, Kathy and Gary are cozy with each other, the bad guys have met their comeuppance, and Judge Gibbs hasn't cleaned up his act one bit. On the last page he tells Kathy he can get her a better job in law enforcement.

"All the friends I have at the Sheriff's Office? You'd be an investigator in no time. Listen, have supper with me this evening and we'll talk it over. What do you say?"

Leonard, no waster of words, doesn't have to tell us what Kathy says. By now we know her as well as he does.

For struggling writers who long for rules to write by, Leonard has provided a succinct list (see his website): "Easy on the Adverbs, Exclamation Points and Especially Hooptedoodle." For example:

Rule 3. Never use a verb other than "said" to carry dialogue. The line of dialogue belongs to the character; the verb is the writer sticking his nose in. But "said" is far less intrusive than "grumbled," "gasped," "cautioned," "lied." I once read Mary McCarthy ending a line of dialogue with "she asseverated" and had to stop reading to get the dictionary.

Rule 4. Never use an adverb to modify the verb "said." Don't write: "...he admonished gravely." To use an adverb this way (or almost any way) is a mortal sin. The writer is now exposing himself in earnest, using a word that distracts and can interrupt the rhythm of the exchange. I have a character in one of my books tell how she used to write historical romances "full of rape and adverbs."

Hoping to write more like the master, I tried to banish adverbs from this essay. Two crept in. Frightfully sorry, folks. Oops, there's another.

□□□□

34th District Democratic Campaign Kick-off

Senator Erik Poulsen, Rep. Eileen Cody and Rep. Joe McDermott are celebrating the 2006 campaign season on **Tuesday July 11** from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Olympic Hall Veranda at South Seattle Community College (South Parking Lot), 6000 16th Avenue SW, Seattle.

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Film Flam

The Greatest Game Ever Played

By Jonathan Shipley

The greatest game I ever played? Yeah, I'm a total athlete. Completely ripped. Check out my biceps, dude. Seriously. Actually, I'm as thin as a bean pole, if the bean pole was on Jenny Craig. I have been known to play basketball, though, which brings me to my greatest game ever played. It was in college at Washington State. Open gym. Me and my buddies versus the vaunted gaggle of frat boys (the Mighty Jackasses). We came to play! I was in my Shawn Bradley jersey, knee socks, eye goggles, and headband on which I wrote in permanent marker GAS-X. My buddies were dressed similarly. The frat boys eyed us. "We're gonna' kill you!" they belched.

"We'll see," I said, pulling up my socks to my inner thighs. "We'll see." And, the great thing is, we killed them. You should have seen their faces when we started taking a pretty commanding lead.

"WHO HAS THAT GUY WITH THE KICK ME SIGN TAPED TO HIS BACK! SERIOUSLY! COME ON!" Come now, frat boys, we beat you fair and square and it was, without doubt, the greatest game I ever played.

The greatest game Francis Ouimet ever played was the 1913 US Open. He was a 20-year-old nobody golfer with a 10-year-old caddy, playing against the best golfers in the world, including his idol, British great Harry Vardon, in one of the most prestigious golfing tournaments in the world. Ouimet won. Amazing, really, and the Disney folks, who like those amazing stories from those pull-myself-up-by-my-bootstraps-or-golf-shoes-with-shiny-spikes type people, and made a movie of it, directed by Bill Paxton. Yup, THAT Bill Paxton (see *Titanic*, *Twister*, *True Lies*, other T movies), and he has done a fairly good job with the movie. Of course, it's HORRIBLY formulaic. But that's Disney's style more than Paxton's. Throw in a lowly good-looking fellow and make him somebody and make happy tears flow at the end as they roll credits and play stirring music that stirs the heart strings. And, of



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course, there's a love interest that is completely uninteresting.

What does make the movie interesting is the golfing visual effects, which are swell. The acting is, pardon me, right on par, as well. Shia LaBeouf (*Holes*, *The Battle of Shaker Heights*) plays a squeaky-clean Ouimet, Stephen Dillane (*The Hours*, *King Arthur*) plays a restrained Harry Vardon, and Elias Koteas (who plays Francis's father) looks great in a big moustache. Mark Frost wrote the screenplay based on his non-fiction book of the same name (for a well-written book about a similar subject check out Michael Blaine's recent *The King of Swings* about Johnny Goodman's victory over golf great Bobby Jones). It is, like I said, a bit of a cheesy film, big-hearted and warm-glowing, but if a stand up and cheer movie is what you're looking for, you could do worse than *The Greatest Game Ever Played*, like the molasses-slow Robert Redford film *The Legend of Bagger Vance*, for instance.

Also, let's be honest here. There's no way you could do worse than me at golf. I shoot about 16 over par, every hole. But if you see me on the basketball court with goggles and a GAS-X headband, watch out. I'm a Disney movie in the making on the court. And my biceps are huge, dude.

□□□□

The usual drawback to success is that it annoys one's friends so. - P. G. Wodehouse

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Island Epicure



Satay, American Style

By Marj Watkins

Satay almost always appears on the menu of Thai restaurants in the USA. It's thin strips of meat (chicken, beef, or pork), marinated, skewered, and grilled. We'd eat it if it was made of cardboard, just for the peanut sauce.

When my sister-in-law, Jean Hall, and her maid, Bong, made satay for us in Sarawak, Malaysia, they spent most of a day assembling and grinding up the 20 spices of a traditional recipe. Here below is a much-adapted, much easier way to make it.

By the way, the name satay seems to derive from "steak." East Asians have trouble saying words with two consonants together. Thais tend to omit pronouncing the last consonant. Try slipping an "a" after the "s" and skipping the "k." You got "satay," right?

Satay — 6 servings

1 pound lean meat, very thinly sliced into strips 3/4 inch x 2 inches
Thread meat strips like ribbons on wooden skewers, two or three to a skewer. Place in large, shallow pan or platter. Pour marinade over. Let stand for 30 to 60 minutes, turning each stick once in a while.

Marinade:

2 cloves garlic, minced, or 1 tablespoon ready-minced garlic
1/2 red onion, finely chopped
1 Tablespoon dark brown sugar or brown Splenda®
Juice of 1 lime
1 Tablespoon fish sauce (Nam Pla)
1 to 2 Tablespoons lemon juice
1 Tablespoon light olive or canola oil

Whirl all marinade ingredients in food processor or blender until smooth liquid ensues.

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Quick Peanut Sauce

1/2 cup peanut butter
1 onion, finely chopped
1 cup thick coconut milk spooned from top of 15-oz. can
1 Tablespoon brown sugar or brown Splenda®
1/2 to 1 teaspoon red pepper powder
1 lemongrass stalk, bottom half, finely chopped, or 1 Tablespoon lemongrass paste (comes in tube; refrigerate) or juice of 1/2 lemon
1 Tablespoon fish sauce (Nam Pla)

1 Tablespoon soy sauce

Puree in blender or food processor. Transfer to small saucepan. Bring to a boil, constantly stirring. Remove at once from heat. Pour or ladle into small bowls.

To cook satay:

Remove meat-beribboned skewers from marinade. Cook on hot, oiled grill 5 minutes, turning each skewer half-way through. Serve with the small bowls of sauce for dipping the meat.

To complete the menu: Steamed rice, Sweet and Sour Fresh Cucumber slices, Limeade, Fruit plate. The cucumber dish can be made up to six days ahead, refrigerated in jars. The Thai husband of our niece Riki made this cucumber salad for us when we visited them in Bangkok.

Sweet and Sour Cucumber — 6 servings

2 large cucumbers, peeled, halved lengthwise and thinly sliced
1/2 red onion, thinly sliced
1/2 teaspoon red chili flakes
1/4 cup sugar or Splenda®
1/2 cup water
1/4 cup rice vinegar
Salt to taste

Place cucumber, onion and chili flakes in mixing bowl.

In small saucepan on low heat dissolve sugar in water. Remove from heat. Stir in vinegar and salt. Pour over veggies in mixing bowl. Stir. May be served at room temperature. If made ahead, refrigerate promptly and chill until served.

~~~~~

I am an epicure; you are a gourmand; he has both feet in the trough.

## Robbie Fulks Returns

by Liz Shepherd

I'm writing with great musical news and a reminder to mark your calendar!



Robbie Fulks and his band - Grant Tye on electric guitar, Gerald Dowd on drums and Mike Fredrickson on bass - will be back on Vashon Tuesday, August 1, 8 pm at Bishops Cafe. If you've been lucky enough to see Robbie and the boys play before, you know what a rip-roaring musical treat you're in store for. If you haven't made it to one of

## Madame

Dear *Madame Toujours*,

Recently, I had an encounter on the highway with an elderly woman driving a midsize sedan with her obnoxious little dog leaning out the passenger side window. During the trial, my lawyer revealed that I am actually a victim of Intermittent Explosive Disorder, which causes me to "explode" into "irrational" rage in response to "trivial" annoyances. The judge believed this twaddle, and since the ^#&@ dog survived, she sentenced me to 300 hours of public service and mandatory enrollment in a drug trial testing a treatment for IED. My jackass lawyer says this is a very light sentence, all things considered.

The problem is, I think my family is involved in a conspiracy against me. About a month after I started the drug trial, they stopped doing all the little things that used to drive me crazy: my wife started having orgasms again when we "make love;" when the kids fight or whine about doing their homework, they no longer use that particularly irritating tone of voice; even the cat doesn't shed as much when I let her sit on my lap. Plus, when I come home from work, they all come running to meet me and hug me — even the cat.

I am so disgusted with their manipulative behavior, I am ready to quit the drug trial and let them throw me in jail. At least that would be honest. Is there some way to make my family act normal again?

Sincerely,  
Suspicious

July 5, 06



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Robbie's Vashon shows yet, well, what are you waiting for? Robbie, in addition to being almost 7 feet tall, is one of the best flat-pick guitar players in the country, and his singing and songwriting are also sublime. In the past year or so, Robbie and the band have made Bishops a regular stop, and can you blame them? We have the best dancers, don't we?? Hope to see you on August 1st in those dancing shoes to give a warm welcome back to honkytonk heroes Robbie, Grant, Gerald, and Mike. Tickets go on sale soon at Vashon Island Music (\$12 in advance, \$15 the night of the show). We can't think of a better way to spend a warm summer Tuesday night on Vashon.

*Cher M. Suspicious,*

Ah, the miracle of the modern medicines. Many persons such as yourself are noticing that the modern anti-crankiness drugs are having the greatest effects on the behavior of the people who are not taking them. Nobody is understanding this phenomenon. Possibly, it is having something to do with the quantum physics.


Also, it is natural that you are suspicious about the modern psychological medicines. Many persons are feeling that everybody is trying to force them to be the tediously agreeable cogs in the mechanical wheels of the Brave New World where nobody is having any of the individualities. They are arguing that in the old days, nobody was taking the anti-depressant medications, and everybody was getting along just fine. This is because they are supposing that in the old days nobody was having the depressions or the Obnoxious Personality Syndromes, or if they were it was only because they were extremely colorful, and everybody was being very amused by it.

Nothing is being further from the truth. When I was the little girl in France, if you were having the depressions and the manias, you were having no recourse but to make the husbands and the children extremely miserable and drive everybody to the drink. This was usually very inconvenient, and if you were too much to annoy the family, they were locking you in the attic or the madhouse.

*Bon Chance, M. Suspicious.* Possibly you are wishing to mention the persecutions and the conspiracies to the doctors. I am sure they would be very interested.



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# Positively Speaking

## Appearances and the Sentimental Journey

By Deborah Anderson

Despite the major changes going on here on Island, there are some rhythms that will not be changed. One is the onshore breezes. How wonderful it is to know at 2 p.m., when you think the heat will not leave you standing, that if you can only hold out until 5:15 p.m. and get somewhere near water, the onshore breezes will come and bring relief.

The other certainty is that between the Coop Preschool, and PTSA auction, the Fur Ball, and Art Auction, there is a marvelous season called Garage Sale Season. Looking for the wherewithal to make my daughter's closet a real closet finally, we set out to find a pole and hangers. No luck there, but I decided to absolutely splurge, which in garage sale economics means two dollars and fifty cents total, and buy five Life magazines from the sixties and early seventies. I held the first one up, which had a picture of the Israeli Olympic team on the front. "Look," I said to my daughter, "The real story behind the movie Munich." I took the ones that had the story of the astoundingly fast new Polaroid camera which could now offer a fully developed picture in ten minutes. Also, the one with the long article about Barbara Walters called the Queen of Talk and how she had broken the news gender barrier. Then there was the one with the "bare fashions" which we now call a halter top. Ted

Kennedy and Chappaquiddick filled out the history lessons to take home.

The women who sold the magazines apparently thought I was going to flip them into an easy investment. They are water damaged and some pages are not stapled in anymore. Even if they were in perfect condition, I would not sell them. I remember reading some of them the first time around. I actually tried the "take a long piece of nylon fabric and wrap it around your body making a dress with just one broach."

You see, I don't own anything to impress the neighbors. I'm a sentimental owner of possessions. Everything I own has a story behind it. That isn't to say that I don't enjoy beauty and color and organization, but I choose to keep things because they have history attached to them. For those of you who buy for appearances, I highly recommend sentimentality. Every dish, every sheet, every piece of furniture is a blessing tied to someone else. Even my mattress was an idea from a friend who worked a deal when I was having terrible back trouble.

Now, it helps, if you are a sentimental possession owner, not to be a pack rat. That just makes you the lonely cat lady. No, no. I'm not talking about a lack of good stewardship. I'm talking about making sure your favorite things ARE your favorite things.

## Radio Club Field Day

Continued from page 1

and the Caribbean. You can literally hear the world turning as the sun goes down around the world."

The event is, "part competitive, and part emergency preparedness," Silver said.

The Vashon Club has a trailer that was donated to the club a couple of years ago. After extensive refitting, Silver said, "it's a fairly competent little radio station." The Vashon club has 35 members, and there are about 110 people with radio licenses on the Island, not all of whom are active.



Radio operators use voice and Morse code. Photo by M. Tuel

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is sponsored by the American



Left to right: Jim Boardman, Phil Zook, and Jack Richards on the air in the tent. Note high tech shield for radio screen.

Radio Relay League (ARRL), which helps hams organize on a county or town basis to work with public health agencies in the event of an emergency or disaster.

"We have a team of 22 hams on the Island ready to respond in emergencies," Silver said. "We have exercises and drills and practice more than most hams."

"We also provide communications for the Heart of the Sound Triathlon at the end of August, and we'll be participating

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This weekend, we are finally cleaning out a storage area that had things I thought I might need someday. They will be sold to the best bargain hunter. I'll send them along with a prayer they will bless someone else.

Go through the house this summer. If it's meant to impress someone, put it out on the lawn with a sign that says, "For Sale" and go find a duplicate item that has a story that means something to you. When we wake in the morning and survey our surroundings, may the inanimate objects that serve us say to us, "It shows that you are enjoying your own journey!"

Love, Deborah

~~~~~

in a community emergency drill at the end of October. People can find out about our activities at our website, www.W7VMI.org."

Radiosport Competition

Ward Silver left on July 4 for the World Radiosport Championship Competition in Florianopolis, Brazil. The contest begins on July 8 and lasts 24 hours, during which two-person teams will try to make the most contacts in the most places on the most bands, using both voice and Morse code.

Silver's partner is Chris Hurlbut, a 23-year-old student who is an "up-and-coming young operator," said Silver. They will be one of six teams going from the United States.

"We get points for contacting different countries and different zones on different bands. It's like a big six-level video game with 5,000 people playing for 24 hours. It's hard enough to be fun, and not too hard to figure out ways to be good."

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"International competition is stiff!" said Silver. "I've been competing since I got my license when I was in high school. This is the culmination of my competitive career."

"Every day is different on the radio - the sun is different, the weather is different."

Previous competitions have been held in Seattle (1990); San Francisco (1996); Slovenia (2000); and Helsinki (2002). This will be the first competition to be held in the Southern Hemisphere. Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals will be awarded.

Silver explained why radio waves travel so much farther at night: "The ionosphere is made up of the D, E, F1 and F2 layers. The D layer forms when the sun shines on the ionosphere, and it absorbs radio frequencies. It disappears when the sun goes down, and then waves reflect off the F layers."

No Ask Ernest this issue. Ernest is at the World Cup, and we hope he will tell us all about it when he returns.

Vashon Residents Take a Very Long Walk Raising Funds to Fight Breast Cancer

When you watch the Strawberry Festival parade go by, look closely for the group carrying the banner for the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk. They will be asking for your help to fight breast cancer. Some of them are survivors of this dreadful killer disease and some of them are walking in memory of family members or friends who did not make it. All of them have been walking hundreds of hard miles around Vashon and Maury Islands – in training for a 60-mile walk to raise funds for breast cancer research.

A total of a dozen Islanders have signed on to make the journey and their hard work will culminate in late August. They will be participating in the Seattle Breast Cancer 3-Day. It's part of a nationwide movement in which each participant walks 20 miles a day over three days, a total of 60 miles. Each participant must raise a minimum of \$2,200 to benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and the National Philanthropic Trust. So far, the Vashon walkers have raised more than \$30,000. You can help out by making donations as they march by in Saturday's parade.

"It was 20 years ago this year that we found the lump in Karen's breast," remembers walker Rick Wallace, husband of participant Karen Baer. "Within a few days we had the terrifying answer to my question: 'Honey, what's that?' The surgeon told us it was breast cancer and we thought the worst. But research guided her treatment, and after surgery and radiation therapy, Karen survived. In fact, she has thrived, as all who know her on Vashon can attest! It's that kind of knowledge and hope that these funds will support. That's why we're walking: to celebrate the 20 years we've had together when things could have turned out so very differently."

"I decided to participate in the Breast Cancer 3-Day because my Aunt Margaret, who was my hero, lost her life last year to breast cancer," says walker Jean Zartman. "I wanted to do something bold to help fight the disease and what better way than to set a goal to accomplish something as challenging as the 3-Day? So I'm going to march through the streets of Seattle with thousands of others as we raise



This group of Islanders has been training hard for their super marathon fundraiser to fight breast cancer. It's called the 3-Day because they will walk 20 miles per day for three days. The group of twelve walkers includes these six photographed at a recent coordination meeting (front) Karen Baer, Susan Kutscher, Berni Schnebele, Stacey Wolczko and (back) Jean Zartman and Rick Wallace. Photo credit Steve Zartman

awareness and funds to fight breast cancer."

The participating Islanders include twelve walkers: Kay Arthur-Farris, Karen Baer, Karen Biondo, Cindy Hartzell, Susan Kutscher, June Niece, Berni Schnebele, Wendi Sellers, Rick Wallace, Amelia Watson, Stacey Wolczko, and Jean Zartman. Islander Rita Olson will join them by serving on the massive event support crew for the approximately 4,000 people who will walk the 3-Day in Seattle, August 25th through 27th.

Walkers and crew members stay in tent camps for two nights during the journey, creating an instant community of breast cancer survivors and co-survivors. Hundreds of volunteer crew members will provide meals, water, snack stops, gear transport, hot showers, portable restrooms, safety on the streets and medical services.

In addition to making contributions during the Strawberry Festival parade, you can also help the Vashon 3-Day walkers by making a donation on their personal Web pages at www.The3Day.org or by calling (800) 996-3DAY.

The Harbor School Welcomes Jill Heryford, New Middle School Math Teacher

By Juli Goetz Morser

Jill Heryford's first visit to the Harbor School came last February during the school's Open House, and she was intrigued with what she heard. "I understood what was special about the Harbor School when I heard the alumni talk. They were so articulate. I could see the magic of the place on their faces." Jill's second visit came last April during her interview for the Middle School math position, and she was amazed by what she experienced. "At the interview, it hit me that every school says they're all about the voice of the kids, but no other place has had the kids interview me – everyone talks about it, but no one does it." By the end of the third interview in May, Jill knew where she belonged. She hoped Toby Welch, Head of School, thought so, too.

Indeed, Welch was thrilled with Jill's candidacy, and after interviewing a number of highly qualified applicants, Welch offered Heryford the job. "In the search process, my objectives were to find a teacher who embodied the Harbor School philosophy, someone who was

passionate about teaching, had a good understanding of the developmental characteristics of this age child, and the experience behind them to guide the work of the students here. I have found that person in Jill Heryford. Jill's nine years of teaching Middle School math and science will greatly inform her teaching here. She is tremendously excited about this opportunity and our students will be lucky as a result."

Jill, her husband Tim, who teaches Language Arts and Social Studies at McMurray Middle School, and their four-year-old child, Riley, moved to the Island last August from Santa Cruz, California. Smiling, Jill adds, "We moved from one great place to another!"

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Water Rescue at KVI

By Susan Wolf

Vashon Island Fire and Rescue responded to a call for six persons who were stranded in the water of Point Heyer (KVI Beach) on Monday, June 26. The individuals had only a rubber raft or windsurfing board to keep them afloat and the current was moving them away from shore. The call came in at 3:57 p.m. Captain Kranjceovich arrived at KVI Beach at 4:00 p.m. Both the Aid and Medic volunteers arrived minutes later. Marine 26, Des Moines Fire-Rescue boat was called at 4:02 p.m.; however, the Coast Guard, called at 4:04 p.m., was closer. They arrived at 4:32 p.m. The Coast Guard or Marine 26 are always notified whenever VIFR responds to a water rescue call, approximately 20 times annually.

Subsequently the swimmers were rescued by the Coast Guard. VIFR's small Water Rescue boat had suffered a broken motor part a few days before during another marine incident. It was subsequently repaired on Tuesday, June 27 when the specially-ordered part was received.

For questions, please contact PIO Mike Kirk at 463-2405.

Continued from page 1

housing programs; transportation; and other emergency services."

"When we hire our advocate we will establish an office on Vashon. We hope to be up and running on the Island by September 1."

"We also hope to be able to provide fax service for protection orders, so that protection orders can be obtained quickly, without traveling to the mainland and back. We also hope to conduct a weekly support group on the Island."

"We will not provide a safe house on the Island."

"Our continued presence on the Island in 2007 depends on funding from King County. We have \$10,000 now, and hope to get \$20,000 more for 2007 to make total of \$30,000 funding for the year."

People can call DAWN now even though the agency is not on Island yet: their 24 hour crisis line number is (425) 656-7867; the confidential shelter number is 206-622-1881; and the toll-free shelter number 1-866-286-3296. The job announcement and information on how to apply for the position is on the website (www.dawnonline.org).

DAWN has operated county-wide since 1980, providing a full spectrum of services for victims and survivors of domestic violence, both adults and children.

It's Another Stackhouse for Kids!

Cate Stackhouse is throwing her hat into the ring for the title of Unofficial Mayor of Vashon. She is here to represent all the kids on Vashon in the schools. Cate is 11 years old and will be entering McMurray as a 6th grader in the fall. She enjoys soccer, dance, basketball and school. In school she enjoys math, reading, spelling, art and music.

Cate 's designated non-profit is the Vashon Island Community PTSA.

"It's important to give money to help the schools and kids because kids spend almost more time at school than they do at home, and their education is really important for their future," Cate says.

Vote Cate for Mayor!



Windermere volunteers lifting a wall

Roseballen Benefits from Windermere Volunteer Day

The Windermere Real Estate Company on Vashon Island chose the Roseballen Project, one of two Community Land Trust projects being developed by Vashon Household, for their company wide community service day on Friday, June 16. Windermere volunteers hammered away for a good cause.

Building nine homes is no small task, but with the team of 19 Windermere volunteers, the Roseballen homeowners received a needed energy boost as they are in month five of building and hoping to complete the project by December.

The Windermere volunteers donated a combined total of more than 90 hours of service. If you want to get involved with Vashon Household's Roseballen housing project or find out if you qualify for the second ten homes being built in July, contact Jeri Nickell, the Executive Director of Vashon Household at (206) 463-4880 or email jeri@vashonhousehold.org.

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." -- Mark Twain

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ALL NATURAL

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Loopy Laffs

I asked my psychiatrist if she thought I was crazy. She said "no," so I let her up.

More excuses: I'd love to, but...

- ...the man on television told me to say tuned.
- ...I did my own thing and now I've got to undo it.
- ...I've come down with a really horrible case of something or other.
- ...I changed the lock on my door and now I can't get out.
- ...I have to study for a blood test.
- An unbreakable toy is useful for breaking other toys.

After the funeral, the priest said, "I don't think you'll ever find another man like your late husband." "Who's looking?" asked the widow.

In matters of principle, stand like a rock; in matters of taste, swim with the current. —Thomas Jefferson

"I'm going to get my husband a jacket for his birthday."
"Sports?"
"No."
"Leather?"
"No."
"What kind, then?"
"Straight."

A German tourist walks into a McDonald's and orders a beer. The local guy in the line behind him immediately gives him a verbal jab. "They don't serve beer here, you idiot!"
The German fellow felt embarrassed—however, he turns to the New Yorker with a surprised look on his face and begins to chuckle.
"And what's so funny?" the patron demands.
"I just realized you came here for the food!"

ONE LINERS!!!

- It's easier to get older than it is to get wiser.
- If it was worth doing, I would have already done it.
- I used to think I was indecisive, but now I'm not so sure.
- Forgiveness is cheaper than a lawsuit—but not nearly as gratifying.
- I try to take one day at a time, but sometimes several days attack me at once.
- It is better to have loved and lost than to have stayed married to a jerk for the rest of your life.
- "I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure."
-- Clarence Darrow

After being married 25 years, I took a look at my wife one day and said, "Honey, 25 years ago, we had a cheap apartment, a cheap car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black-and-white TV, but I got to sleep every night with a hot 25-year-old blond. Now, we have a nice house, nice car, big bed and plasma screen TV, but I'm sleeping with a 50-year-old woman. It seems to me that you are not holding up your side of things."

My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go out and find a hot 25-year-old blonde, and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap apartment, driving a cheap car, and sleeping on a sofa bed.

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends." —Oscar Wilde

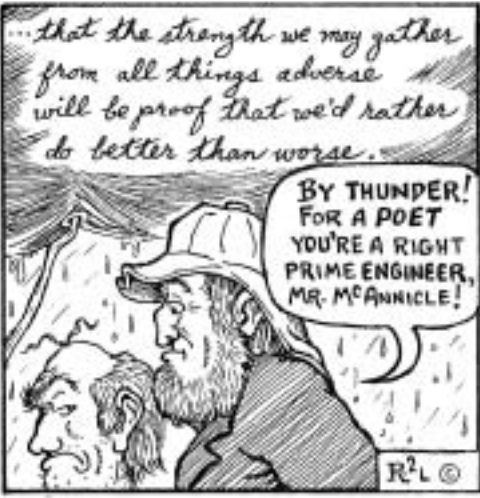
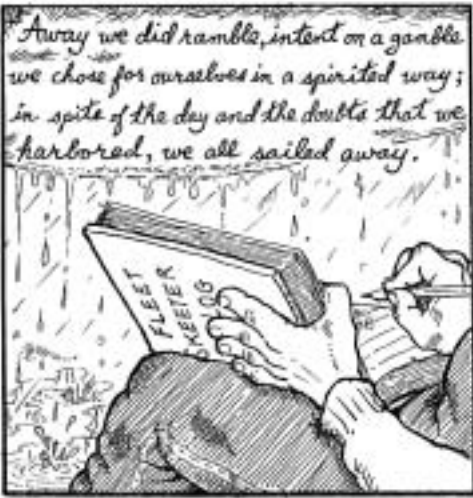
WILD WORLD / Ed Frohning



Can These Marriages Be Saved?

1. My younger brother told his wife when she turned 40 that he was going to trade her in for two 20s. She replied, "Oh, honey, you aren't wired for 220."
2. So the vet told me to clean out the cat's abcess with hydrogen peroxide on cotton balls. When I got home I asked my husband, "Do you have cotton balls?" He answered, "Do I look like a teddy bear?"

OFFSHORE



LOGJAM



Loop Arts



Robyn Landis at Tucson Music Festival, May 2006 Photo from Short & Sweet website

Robyn Landis’s Songs Are Winning Awards

Island songwriter Robyn Landis will be traveling to several songwriting competitions across the country in the next couple of weeks.

She is one of ten finalists performing at the KRCL/Founder’s Title Folk & Bluegrass Festival Performing Songwriter’s Showcase in Snowbird, Utah, on July 8. Then on July 13, Robyn has a main stage set at the Woody Guthrie Folk Festival in Okemah, Oklahoma, because her song “Glad to Hear the Rain” won first place in the 2006 Woody Guthrie Songwriting Competition! Her song “I’m In Love” received an honorable mention in this competition as well. Then on July 15-16 at Solarfest in Vermont, Robyn may compete as a finalist in the Solarfest Performing Songwriter’s Showcase. Robyn was a finalist in 2005, but was unable to attend due to scheduled shows in WA. This year, Robyn is an alternate finalist. She will perform if any of the top 10 can’t make it.

“I’m In Love” was #3 this week on the Folk charts at American Idol Underground’s listener-judged music-streaming site, and can be heard at: <http://www.idolunderground.com/Pages/Charts/ChartDetail.aspx?GenreID=6>

Summer Picnic Concerts at Colman Pier

Washington State Ferries will be celebrating summer with the return of the afternoon summer concert series, “Picnic at the Pier” at Colman Dock in Seattle.

The concerts will be entertaining commuters, Mariner fans, and people eating alfresco at tables set up outside on the passenger level of the terminal.

Next month, on **Friday, July 28**, Whidbey Island’s Shifty Sailors, will entertain with songs of the sea and folk lore as well as humorous ferry songs. The popular calypso steel drum band, The Toucans, returns on **Friday, August 25**. Each concert will last from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the passenger level at Pier 52 in Seattle.

Open Space Gallery at Gargoyle Design

Paul Wilkin of Gargoyle Design is pleased to announce the opening of the Open Space Gallery with a show of the work of Julianna Larson. The show runs from **July 7 to July 29**, with an Artist Reception from 6 to 9 p.m. on **Friday, July 7**. The Gallery is located at 17232 Vashon Hwy SW in Parker Plaza, between Doug’s Auto and Fair Isle Vet Clinic.

“An Array of Art, Artisans and Realities” -- Paul Wilkin

Julianna Larson was born an artist, drawing and painting almost before she could walk. She developed her talent and vision under the guidance of her father, her first and only teacher. With each painting, she hopes to share a simple, uplifting message — that life is a joyful and precious gift.

Although she works in watercolors and acrylic, Julianna’s love of life finds its home in the vibrant arena provided by oils. Her pieces, whether commissioned or flowing from her own inner passion to create, are vivid and powerful. In Julianna’s eyes, the world is breathtakingly bright and full of color, whether she paints on a small canvas or one that is 12 feet x 3 feet. If you look closely, each painting has a touch of whimsy, such as a tiny fox hidden deep within a field of sunflowers.

Over the past 15 years, Julianna has shown her work in galleries, restaurants and shops, and also created a series of six paintings for the opening of an independent coffee shop. She lives and paints in Gig Harbor. View Larson’s work online at: www.gargoyledesign.com/juliannalarson

The Open Space Gallery’s emphasis will be on group shows, thus

Mike Nelson Trio at Cafe Luna Next Week

The Mike Nelson Trio will be performing jazz standards, blues, ballads, swing tunes and mellow bossa nova numbers at Cafe Luna on **Saturday July 15** from 7 to 9 p.m. (no cover). Mike Nelson has been performing jazz guitar as well as other styles of music in the Pacific NW area for over 30 years and plays in a style reminiscent of Wes Montgomery, Kenny Burrell and Joe Pass. Brent Mason (Community Relations Coordinator/Borders Books and Music) states that “I can honestly say that Baorders feels fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with a musician the quality of Mike Nelson,



Jamie Laval and Ashley Broder



The Door by Julianna Larson

giving more exposure to more artists. Hours will be Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment. Telephone 206-463-4024.

Paul Wilkin has been working in the design/printing industry for 21 years. He founded Gargoyle Design on Vashon in 1997, offering full service Graphic Design and Marketing to Island, local and national clients. Started as a home based business, it has grown to an office “uptown” in Vashon. See his website for the wide variety of services and designs he offers: www.gargoyledesign.com While building his graphic design business, Wilkin put his own fine art aside, and had the idea to move back into fine art by creating a gallery. He hopes the space will serve many fine artists as the gallery grows.



Paul Wilkin



Mike Nelson

whose professionalism was best exemplified by the number of people who migrated to the café when he

Jamie Laval & Ashley Broder to Play on Bainbridge

Champion Celtic violinist Jamie Laval and mandolin champion Ashley Broder will be performing on Bainbridge Island on **July 22** at 7 p.m., as featured guests at the Bloedel Summer Music Series. This powerful duo form a stunning instrumental duo, rendering traditional Irish, Scottish, and Bluegrass music with hints of classical refinement and ethnic music from around the world.

Laval, a Seattle native, has toured the world. After winning the U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Championship in 2002, he devoted himself entirely to touring throughout the States and Scotland,

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began to play. I look forward to working with him again in the near future.” Mike was raised and went to school on Vashon and has been performing at the Strawberry Festival (along with local favorite Jim Ferrari on tenor sax, and Robin Dalynn on vocals) for several years. His father, Russ Nelson, plays country fiddle with local favorites The Garage Boys.

appearing regularly on NPR radio, large festival stages and in concert.

His partner, Ashley Broder, is an award winning musician and plays mandolin, cello, guitar and fiddle. They met last June at the National Old Time Fiddle Contest & Festival in Weezer, Idaho, where they had a profound musical and personal connection, and have been touring America and Scotland ever since.

“His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork.” -- Mae West

Blackberry Bear and the Adventrues of Huckleberry Hollow

By Becky and Maggie Bumgarner
Illustrations by Maggie Bumgarner

The Great Celtic Star Part Two

Millipeda the Gullywhopper and his sister Persie have gone to the Cyclops' smithy to see if they can find something to replace the tooth Millipeda lost in a fall.

Millipeda and Persie hid in the woods in back. One of the Cyclopes was working out back over the fire. He had what seemed to be a shiny piece of gold just about the right size for Millipeda's tooth. Now if they could only get their hands on it.

"I know," said Persie, "I'll get his attention over there and you grab the gold while he's not looking."

"OK, but be careful now," cautioned Millipeda.

Persie went around the woods and came out on the other side of the Cyclops. "Hello, there! Excuse me, but are you busy right now? I was wondering, could you mend this?" She took out a small duck toy from her pocket and showed it to him.

"Why, yes, little girl. It seems simple enough," replied the Cyclops.

Meanwhile Millipeda had snuck out of the woods and was reaching for the piece of gold that the Cyclops put down at the edge of the fire when Persie caught his attention. Millipeda grabbed the gold in his hand and let out a loud scream. It was still very hot from the fire and as he threw the piece of gold up into the air, it started to spin around like a discus.

This would seem strange, but it is here that a little explanation of just where the piece of gold had been before the Cyclops for it would be helpful.

The gold was in a Wizard's shop. Yes, there have always been Wizards. Just

like the Gully whoppers, they never seem to be mentioned in literature until much later on. The piece of gold used to sit on the Wizard's workbench and while working on different spells and making various powders, some of the dusts spilt onto the gold. Nothing was thought of it at the time, as these spells and dusts were thought only to work on living things. As it turns out, it all had to do with low-level frequencies and all beings and things have one of those, and the heat of the fire must have activated the frequencies and the spells and powders began to take effect. All of a sudden whoosh! Off flew the gold up into the sky with a life all its own!

Millipeda's scream caused the Cyclops to turn around. Persie and Millipeda both headed back into the woods as fast as they could go. They didn't look back until they were quite a ways away. When they did, they got quite a sight. The piece of gold was spinning

around and expanding into a very interesting and pretty shape. It became hollow in the middle and began to get points on the outside. When it took its final shape it was the most spectacular sight in the sky.

The hole in the middle and the pointed ends were connected by a rather fancy knot. The style was what in those days referred to as Celtic. In fact, that's how the Celtic people got their name. They decorated everything with these Celtic-type fancy knots. The gold by this time was so bright and shinny, that folks named it the Celtic Star. It was fast, too, the fastest star in the sky. It is thought that that had something to do with all the powders.

Could be too, except for the second half of this tale. The star is in the sky, but next issue we will learn of the character who gets to chase after it each night.

To Be Continued... ∞∞∞∞

Rogue valley where the weather comes down from the Siskiyu range and travels across wooded hills and fruit orchards. The Thornileys wintered on the Big Island, Hawaii where the light is bright, the flora vibrant and the landscape dripping. His coastal Western Oregon paintings are the meeting of trees, rocks and water.

When Mike painted, he looked at the landscape with the informed eye of a farmer and painted with the freedom and expression of a Cézanne or Turner. Thorniley has an active short brush stroke that he layers on in deep color patches to build up a surface of greenery. Then he creates the shape of the land and trees with the painted in sky and foreground. The shapes of the trees are defined by a flat yellow sky, a blue horizon stripe and a sketchy brown grass field. He creates using the beautiful notion of defining a solid with the atmosphere, or the foreground with the background.

These deep and colorful paintings will be on display at the Two Wall Gallery from July 7 through July 30, with an opening reception on **Friday July 7** from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

For information, please contact Ben or Nadine Meeker, 463-1930.



"Coastal Trees," Acrylic on paper

Michael Thorniley at Two Wall Gallery

By Ben Meeker

Mike Thorniley deeply understood landscapes and the seasonal color of weather. Mike was a trained painter who made his living growing tomatoes and pears in a valley in Southern Oregon. As a farmer, he cultivated an intimate knowledge of the physical realities of weather and seasonal light. As a painter Thorniley saw the colors of the seasons, the light of weather and the shape of land and air as an integrated whole to be experienced and recorded.

Thorniley painted three distinct places that he knew thoroughly. The view from his studio picture window was the

Expressive, vibrant landscape paintings on paper by Oregon artist Michael Thorniley.

Vashon Bookshop

Two smart 12, or 8 or 16, year olds...
"So, what's it called at the Bookshop?"
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(Ask about it.)



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What's Happening At Vashon Bookshop?

By Devon Atkins

The other day, my mom turned 90. And, yes, she was very, very old — quite elderly, in fact — when I was born. A terrific group of neighbors and card fiends (she plays a killer hand of Bridge) turned out, and sparkling drinks, luscious cakes, and intoxicating conversation were enjoyed by all. Someone mentioned that a little birdie had divulged my mother's age, and my mother, always the sweet but caustic Southern lady, replied that her cat always eats birdies that talk too much. We all laughed, someone mentioned their book group's latest pick, and naturally the man to my right asked what was going on at the Bookshop.

"I hear you do a Poetry thing," he said into my right shoulder. "My son writes poetry, and we just heard that your Teen Camp for Poetry has been cancelled." I explained that I'd gotten too busy with my move to the Beach to follow through with evening workshops for kids, but was making plans to offer them in the fall. He looked disappointed, so I reminded him about the Poetry Salon, a monthly gathering for folks who love poetry.

After all, this month, the always engaging Jenny Hodgson is hosting the Salon. And, Jenny's topic couldn't be more perfect for the season: *Poetry To Read When You Want To Take A Vacation*. In other words, what do you read when you want to take a break from what you usually read? Me? I read Randall Jarrell and Shel Silverstein, and other more contemporary poets who serve wit by the line. Others read Haiku or limericks or Shakespearean sonnets. Whatever you read to get away from whatever your usual is, I think you'll find this month's Poetry Salon a real treat, **Thursday, July 6**, 7 to 9 p.m. Drop-Ins are encouraged, and give me an email at devon.atkins@hotmail.com if you'd like to receive my monthly emailing. By the way, ask Jenny to read her Virginia Wolf poem.

Back at the party, it was late, and everyone was hanging on my every word, dying to know about the Bookshop's other upcoming events. "There's going to be some great music next weekend," I said, and a dozen guests turned my way to hear about Mark Shawn Wells, a

natural entertainer who is an accomplished song writer, guitarist, and singer. Mark moved to Vashon from Australia (by way of Seattle), and has never looked back. He plays those sweet songs (with just enough edge) that will remind you of how much you loved Cat Stevens and James Taylor's lyrics and melodies. You can enjoy Mark on First Friday evening (also the first night of Festival), **July 7**, 7:30 p.m. And then, the very next evening, hear Shy Sundays, with Kim Thal (on violin and voice) and Rick Vanselow (on guitar). Their band was so popular when it was called BeSides. They were good before, and they're even better now; plus, their talented friends always seem to show up to join them. From Woody Guthrie to Rolling Stones, don't miss Shy Sundays on Festival **Saturday, July 8**, 7 to 9 p.m.

Of course, by the time I announced this musical line-up, the wine and Strawberry Mousse cake were almost gone, but everyone begged for more; and what else could I say, but that the artwork of sisters Chelsea and Camille Coldeen will adorn the Bookshop all summer. These two are an imaginative pair, the kind of girls who are always trying their hand at something new (That's all I'm going to say; you'll just have to see for yourselves).

So, by this time, the moon had risen, the wine was gone, and someone said longingly..."But, what about books?" So, I decided to give them the bad news first: the Bookshop's book groups (adults and kids, both) will take a vacation until September. But, the good news is that Island kids get "Summer Sizzling Reading Fun." The party folks tried to say that three times quickly, but it was a total wash-out. Children of all ages can fill out a card for each book they read during the summer, and there will be a drawing at the end of the season for Movie tickets, gift certificates, and all sorts of goodies. How can any kid resist?!

As the night settled in on sleepy-eyed partiers, as they bid my mom adieu, I could feel the weight of champagne, Bookshop, and social responsibility lift from my shoulders. What would they all have done for the next two weeks without me?! Which only goes to prove, once again, that there is so much more to Vashon Bookshop than just those intriguing folks and books! ∞∞∞∞



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

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