

THE LOOP

Vol. 3, # 15 TO INFORM AND AMUSE ~ TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM July 19, 2006

Blast from the Past Festival

Free VAA Music Festival Celebrates 40th

By Janice Randall

Every year Vashon Allied Arts hosts a summer music festival at Camp Burton outdoor amphitheater. Over the years, we've heard Celtic, jazz, blues, Latin and rock on the outdoor stage and this year will bring some of each and more at "Blast from the Past."



Celebrating 40 years of arts in one day is impossible, but on Saturday, August 12, between 2 and 7 pm, many of the performers who have played in past VAA events will take the stage. In addition, craft booths by Potter Liz Lewis and Lynn Brevig will be available for kids. And best of all, the event will be free to the community in celebration of VAA's 40th anniversary.

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No More Eating With Strangers

By Peter Ray

As a long time food fan, it is sad to report that on July 29th another chapter will be closed on the Vashon culinary scene. The founders and owners of Express Cuisine, Jim Riggsbee and Jocelyn Savoie have announced that the restaurant they have been running for fifteen years has been sold, and with that they will be stepping away from the catering business they have been doing on the side as well. Beginning in 1991 as a take-out only restaurant where Tatanka is now located, Express moved to its present location a year and a half later and expanded to include sit down dining and a schedule that sometimes kept Jim on his feet from eight in the morning till eleven at night. What began with an intent to spend just five years building a restaurant that offered diverse tastes in an atmosphere that promoted a greater sense of community soon became a passion and a way of life for Jim and

Jocelyn and pretty much anyone who came in, sat down and took part in the experience- but not before you placed your order at the counter.

Restaurants were already in their blood before taking on the Express experiment, with Jocelyn having grown up in her mom's restaurant and Jim working through college in the food trade and then back on the Island as a chef at the Vashon Country Club. Jocelyn's travels in Europe led partly to the mixed and open seating arrangement, where sitting down to eat with sometimes total strangers could lead to an experience in both new tastes and new ideas as well. A big part of how the restaurant was structured was intended to encourage a sense of community, both in the seating and the open vista to the kitchen, which Jim hoped would foster a more open rapport between chef and diner.

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Introducing the Vashon PUD

By Lotus

I have recently learned enough about the proposed Public Utility District to be quite excited about the possibilities. Let me share. A Public Utility District is a locally controlled body that offers utility services in its district. It is governed by an elected board of unpaid commissioners, similar to the way the Sewer District and Water District #19 are run. Once voted into existence, the PUD would provide energy conservation services and support renewable energy generation on the Island. The first goal is to reduce wasted energy by upgrading some of Vashon's inefficient homes and businesses.

Once the PUD is formed, residents will be invited to voluntarily sign up to become PUD customers, which will allow them to receive:

A comprehensive energy audit of their home or business to determine the most effective conservation upgrade for the building

Continued on page 4

Hogwash

by Morgan Wegner

Hey, parents. Have you ever glanced over your teenager's shoulder while he or she was chatting online? Yes? Well, then I'm willing to bet you've seen some pretty strange words on those computer screens, among them "brb," "suxxorz," or maybe even "chillax." Believe it or not, those are not all hogwash. Teenagers understand that—and you can, too.

And that's where I come in.

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Earthfair Turns 10



by Pete Welch

Vashon Island Earthfair celebrates its 10th Anniversary on August 4th, 5th & 6th, just a little over two weeks away. As usual, it takes place at Paradise Ridge Park off of 220th Street (follow the signs from both ends of the island!). Admission to Earthfair is \$10 per day or \$40 for camping overnight all weekend. Kids are free with a paying adult.

Friday, August 5th, will be Food Bank Friday. You pay only \$5 (half price) if you bring a donation for the Vashon Food Bank. We've got a great music line-up that night, with some great local favorites: Chomage, Vomiting Unicorns and Subconscious Population. It's going to be a captivating night at Main Stage.

Returning to Island Earthfair to emcee Main Stage is none other than Doug Green, one of the founding creators of the infamous "Reggae On The River" festival. We'll also have a few surprise

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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


VHS Class of 1976 Reunion August 12

The Vashon High School Class of 1976 will be having its 30th Year Reunion on the weekend of August 12, 2006. For information please call Suzy Sengstock 206-679-6126, or email: pirates76@comcast.net.

JobFind at the Library

JobFind will meet at the Vashon Library from 9:30 to 11 a.m. on **Thursday, July 27**. Job seekers should arrive no later than 9:45 a.m. This informal meeting is open to adults who are seeking employment assistance, including those who are currently working but are considering a career change. This is a VYFS program offered at no charge. No appointment is necessary. Assistance with job leads, interview skills, resume preparation or other job search necessities is available for job seekers. Library meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. For more information call VYFS at 463-5511.

Help Us Celebrate Grandpa's 90th Birthday!



Betty Martin and family invite you to a Cajun Concert and dance 90th birthday celebration for Charlie Martin featuring Whozyamama, a Cajun group from Bainbridge Island. The party will take place on Sunday, July 23, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Vashon Hostel, on Cove Road.

This event is free! Donations toward the cost of the band would be appreciated, if you are able to do so. If you can't, please come on out anyway. For information, please call Betty Martin at 206-920-1228.

Charlie Martin

LateNight at the Library

Saturday, August 12, 6pm

Get a henna tattoo and make a flower necklace of marigolds and zinnias. Limber up with Dance Dance Revolution open play. Participate in the Vashon Library Cyber Café, surf the web, or play a game!

Refreshments and door prizes will be available.

This program is for teens only (6th – 12th grade). Security will be provided.

Sponsored by Friends of the Vashon Library, Kota Press, and VHS Horticulture Dept.

The Times, They Are A'Changin'

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit is changing its Sunday worship and education hours.

The early service will begin at 7:45; the late service will start at 10:15. This is to accommodate Church School and Adult Education at 9 am.

These changes will begin with the first Sunday of September, the 3rd, and will continue throughout all Sundays of the year.

MISSING CLASS OF '76!

If anyone knows the whereabouts of any of these members of the Class of '76, please contact Suzy Sengstock at 206.679.6126 or email pirates76@comcast.net

We are planning our 30th reunion for August 11, 12, and 13, and would love to see everyone there!

Stan Perry

Dave Peters

Yvonne Pierce

Janice Selden

Gary Staton

Dennis Board

Chris Browne

Renee Carriere

Jim Davis

Bill Dubay

Pam Dugan

Penny Oliver

Lynn Lister

Marianne Lister

Teree Nelson

Doug Thelin


John Hartley

Tim Howell

Bob Jackson

Jeff Kirk

Alan Todo



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

Friday, July 28

VIPP Featured Cats

Tiger Woods. NM was found on August 1 in the Pohl Road area. He is very affectionate. When found he was very emaciated and had some health issues, which have been resolved. Contact Deirdre Petree at 463-7746 for current information or for adoption.

Sebastian, neutered male approx. 10-years old. This stately gentleman is a truly refined feline.

Meet Banjo and Bingo ...Banjo is a beautiful gray N/M and Bingo is a beautiful gray and white Tabby DLH N/M. Banjo and Bingo are brothers and best friends. They are looking for a quiet, adult's only home where they can be indoor either exclusively or primarily. They are shy and gentle. Banjo loves to be petted and Ben loves his treats. These beautiful cats will need a person who can be patient with them as they adjust to their new home.

Cupcake is a 9-year old, S/F shorthaired brown tabby. This lovely, shy, lady has white paws. She would love to be adopted with her brother Muffin. Muffin is active and loving shorthaired brown tabby, 9-years-old N/M. He enjoys interacting with people. He also loves his sister, Cupcake, and would hate to be parted with her.

Smudgy is a wonderful 7-year-old cat. She's a bit shy at first, but once she warms up she's quite a snuggler. Smudge enjoys curling up in a comfortable spot on the couch, but also loves exploring outside. She'd be happiest being an indoor/outdoor cat. She can use a litter box, but is used to going to the bathroom outside. She's good with kids and would probably be fine with another cat, but she's afraid of dogs.

Morgan is an outdoorsman whose outward reserve toward strangers belies the sweet friendly guy known by his friends. Almost 8 year old long hair neutered apricot male.

Jelly Bean is a lap cat from the word go & is happiest when in your arms. She's a quiet gentle soul who asks for very little — just your love and attention.

She's Jelly Bean is afraid of other cats so would do best in either a single cat household or one with an area that she could call her own. Black Spayed Female with a White Chest

Even though Clyde's front paws have been declawed, he likes spending time both inside and outside. Those who have known Clyde refer to him as a Gentle Giant, and hope he finds a good home.

10 year old cream colored short hair neutered male

Frankie, I am frisky and a little feisty. I can be cuddly and sweet when I want to though. I am an indoor/outdoor cat and I know the litter box and cat door routines. I am not crazy about other cats and I am not sure about dogs either. I would do best with older kids. 1 year old Siamese mix female

Angela, Senior Citizen Seal Point Siamese mix, short Manx-like tail.

Very sweet, gentle, loving and easy to care for. She is waiting for a special owner that will give her the love she needs. Shy around other cats. Addicted to chin rubs. Sheila, foster home, 463-3083

Flower Fair Coming Soon!

Vashon-Maury Island Garden Club's flower fair is coming to the Vashon Library

Friday, August 5, Noon to 6:00 pm

Saturday, August 6, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

COME SEE a large display of plants. Flowers (perennials (including dahlias and roses), annuals, shrubs, trees, grasses, herbs, fruits and vegetables. PLUS Floral Arrangements. Be sure to vote for your favorites in each category!

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Call today for an appointment!

206-463-2200

17321 Vashon Highway SW

Conveniently located inside Pandora's Box



Adopt-A-Cat Day

Vashon Island Pet Protectors will host an Adopt-A-Cat Day Saturday, July 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday, July 2, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at Pandora's Box. Please stop by or call VIPP 206-389-1085.

2007 VIPP Calendar

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

DSHS

On Wednesday August 2, from 0 am to 2 pm, a DSHS worker will be on Vashon at Vashon Youth & Family Services, 20110 Vashon Hwy SW, to take food stamp applications and answer questions about other DSHS services. To speed the process, potential clients should take all needed documents with them; VYFS has a list of required documents. Clients may also go to the DSHS office in White Center. DSHS is located at 9650 15th Avenue SW, and accessible by bus by taking the #54 or the #560 southbound from the Fauntleroy ferry terminal. For more information, please call DSHS at 341-7430.

The Vashon Loop

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Deal with it.

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\$50 a year gets The Loop delivered to your mailbox every two weeks. Call (463-3327) or write (PO Box 253, Vashon) or email editor@vashonloop.com!



Troy and Marie Support Fair Housing

We recently attended a class on Fair Housing laws, and learned a few things that we thought you might find interesting. For example, did you know that it's not a violation of the Fair Housing Act to discriminate against lawyers?



Troy: Marie, maybe we should start by explaining what we meant by the above statement, before we get sued.

Marie: Good idea. It was just a silly way of explaining that the federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination against people who are in a so-called "protected class," and that lawyers are not a protected class. Neither are bus drivers, cat lovers, or opera fans, for that matter. The protected classes vary a bit depending on which jurisdiction you are in, but the ones that apply here in unincorporated King County are race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, retaliation, familial status, marital status, age, participation in Section 8 housing, and sexual orientation.

Troy: The laws apply to virtually all real estate transactions, including property sales and leases and advertising. The laws also address disability accommodations.

Marie: Disability accommodations are a source of confusion. Most people have heard of the Americans with Disabilities act, or ADA, which basically requires that public buildings be accessible for disabled people. When we are representing buyers or sellers, we are not dealing with public buildings. The laws that we are concerning with upholding are the Fair Housing laws; they require that we provide "reasonable accommodations" for the disabled.

Troy: For example, if we have a client in a wheelchair who is able to walk part of the time, a reasonable accommodation for showing a house might include offering an arm for support. Or previewing the house through a videotape. Come to think of it, that's a great idea for any client!

Marie: I sense another project coming on.

Troy: Let's also explain why there are lots of "55 or older" communities out there, even though it is against the law to discriminate based on age. Could it be that people over 55 are simply blatant scofflaws?

Marie: Of course not. The Fair Housing Act was amended in 1995 (on my birthday, in fact!) by the Housing for Older Persons Act. Under this Act, a community can refuse to rent or sell to families with children if it complies with certain requirements that clearly make it a "55 or older" community.

Troy: I can't wait till I turn 55. Then we can go live in peace and quiet *and* get discounts at McDonalds!

Marie: The things that get you excited. Let's talk about some of the things that are not a violation of the Fair Housing Act, even though we have heard opinions to the contrary. For example, it is not discriminatory against visually impaired people to advertise that a property has a view.

Troy: Right. And it is not illegal to tell someone where Chinatown (the International District) is located. Nor is it illegal to tell people how to find out whether there are registered sex offenders in a neighborhood. Sex offenders are not a protected class.

Marie: The Fair Housing Act is a good and reasonable law designed to prevent sellers and landlords from discriminating against buyers or renters based on their protected class. It is not silly or arbitrary, and it helps ensure equal access to housing for all people. We are proud to support it, and happy to share more information with anyone who is interested. Just give us a call at 206.463.LIST, or email marie@kwvashon.com.

Last issue's photos of our Grand Opening were provided courtesy of Michael Sage, Sage Photography. He can be reached at 206.498.3583.

Your Home Team Realty

On Island Properties

(206) 463-LIST (5478)

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
Build your dream home

Sunny Ellisport!

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

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

Waterfront!

22908 Vashon Hwy SW

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



MLS 260

Tudor on Acreage!

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. **\$649,000**



MLS 26047640

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



LoOpEd

Library on the Move: More Hours, No Cell Phones, New Building, Birthday Celebration

Editor, *The Loop*:
July 15th marked my eighth anniversary here as the Manager of the Vashon Library. I feel so fortunate to have managed such an exceptional staff and served such wonderful patrons for eight years. But enough about me; I have some great news about the Library!

Longer Hours In
First, due to patron demand, we are expanding our open 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:
Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Cell Phones Out

Another change in policy due to patron demand is that the use of cell phones in the Library is now prohibited. Over the past several years we've had many complaints from our patrons about the level of noise in the library from the use of cell phones. Recently we posted signs asking people to please put their cell phones on vibrate or silent mode before entering. If your phone rings in the library, or you pull it out to make a call, we will ask you to take it outside or into the lobby. Please be respectful of other patrons by following the new cell phone policy.

New Library by 2009?
On Thursday, June 29, we held a public meeting at the Ober Park Building regarding the new Library building, and the possible exchange of properties with the Vashon Park District. The Park District would take over the Vashon Library building, and King County Library System would demolish the old Park District building and build a new 10,000 square foot library, either on the same site or somewhere else in the Park. Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, the architects chosen to do a feasibility study on the project, would also design the new

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

library, if the exchange is approved. At the meeting, the architects presented slides of other libraries and public buildings they have designed, and showed us several options for the placement of the new library. We asked for public comment and received many good suggestions and thought provoking questions. If you were unable to attend the meeting, we have special comment sheets at the library (or at the Park District building) for you to fill out. Let us know what you think about this idea of exchanging sites, or any other ideas for the new library. We will hold more public meetings for you to express your ideas and needs. The next step is for the two boards to approve the exchange of properties, and if all goes well, (i.e., we are able to get the permits from King County in a timely manner) we may have a new library in three years! That's much sooner than the previous completion date of 2012.

Sixtieth and Ninetieth Anniversaries
The last bit of good news is that Vashon Library will be celebrating its 90th and 60th birthdays on **Saturday, September 16, 2006**. How, you may wonder, can we be celebrating two birthdays at one time? Well, the first library was established on the Island in 1916 by the Vashon Island Women's Club, and the first King County Library System branch was established in 1946. We plan on having a full day of festivities, with story times, displays, author visits, and time for reminiscing about the Library over the years, and, of course, we'll have an enormous birthday cake with lots of candles. I hope you will all join us for a wonderful day celebrating an institution that has been a community center on the Island for 90 years.

Sincerely,
Hester Kremer
Manager, Vashon Library
Happy Anniversary, Hester. -- Editor



Kathy Bonner and Carol Ireland McLean and the medical trailer. Photo courtesy Vashonbeprepared.

Orthopedists, General or Family Practitioners, and others skilled at dealing with serious but non-life-threatening injuries to work at non-critical care center planned to stage at the Sunrise Ridge Clinic (The Vashon Health Center).
Volunteers will be invited to attend a seminar to be led by Dr. Carl Schultz **September 8 through 10**. Dr Schultz, from the UC Irvine Medical School, is an internationally renowned expert in Disaster medical preparations for all types of communities. The seminar, available to qualified individuals will be free.

Please call Barb at VIFR: 463-2405 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to add your name to the medical volunteers list. Let her know if you are interested in attending all or part of the seminar in September. More detailed information about the seminar will be announced in August.

Now Open Saturdays!

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206-463-7980

9925 SW Bank Rd

Open Mon-Sat

11:30 am till 8:00 pm

463-7980

New Owner ~ Same great taste!

Loop Letters

Editor, *The Loop*:
The fireworks last night was an impressive display, but one result was devastating.
There have been two inquisitive fawns that have been visiting me when I was out working by the field. They would meander closer and closer, their big curious eyes in contrast to their tiny bodies. Sometimes they would lie still, hidden by the tall grass, then suddenly bounce up and run if I came close. Precious. Beautiful.
As I walked up the driveway this morning, I saw the fawn color in the tall grass and expected the usual. But there was no response as I approached. One of them was lying dead, apparently scared out of the woods by the fireworks and killed by a dog out by the Portage road.
It makes me sick at heart.
You know, maybe it's just as well that was the last fireworks.
Frank Jackson

Vashon PUD

Continued from page 1

The upgrades themselves.

On-going maintenance of the upgrades

Access to on-island energy expertise to answer questions on energy conservation and renewable energy

I am excited about the potential benefits for all of us.

People in older, drafty homes will have a way to lower their energy needs (and costs)

Some of us, in newer more energy-efficient homes, might be interested in small projects to generate electricity locally.

All of us will gain from more control over our own energy future. Vashon can be one of the leaders, nationwide, in adjusting to the shortages projected for the future.

If anyone wants to meet and discuss this further, I am available for the next month. Call me at 463-2897.

Keep an eye on The Loop for more news on the proposed PUD or check out www.vashonpud.org.

VashonPages.com

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Earthfair Turns 10

Continued from page 1
local emcees to fill in at the Main Stage and host the Casbah One World Stage.
For our tenth anniversary, we're bringing some unbelievable performers to the stages. Trolls Cottage is back to headline Saturday night and we're very fortunate to have Flowmotion coming over to perform on Sunday. If you haven't seen Flowmotion before, check them out; they're pretty amazing. We've got reggae, rock, funk, blues, folk, bluegrass, latin and many other types of music represented this year. So many bands and performers, we can't mention them all, but if you go to the Earthfair website, you'll be able to see the lineup and all the performer bios, plus links to their sites where you can sample their music.
Also returning to Earthfair for the third year in a row is the Casbah Teahouse out of Tucson, a gigantic hemp Bedouin tent that serves as an eating zone complete with Moroccan tea tables and oriental rugs by day, and a cushion-filled, cuddle-puddled acoustic music dream space by night! They also bring great vegetarian food along with a variety of teas and coffees. We have once again incorporated the One World Stage into the Casbah Teahouse, making for an even more exciting venue to see musicians.

Both Saturday and Sunday, there will be several speakers on hand as well as workshops. Many of these speakers will have booths or facilitate workshops at Earthfair during the course of the weekend. Island Earthfair is a festival that celebrates many sustainable alternatives that will be showcased in our Eco-Tech Village. There will be a Healing Arts area to escape the crowd, a KidsWorld for the children to experience all kinds of wonderful activities, a Sacred Song and Dance area, craft vendors and lots of delicious food to taste.



Medical Volunteers Are Needed

If you are a physician, nurse, paramedic or person with experience dealing with medical emergencies and live or work on Vashon, the Vashon Disaster Preparedness Coalition (VDPC) needs you.
The VDPC and the Vashon Fire Department (VIF&R) are assembling an updated list of volunteer medical personnel who would make their services available in a major disaster situation. In the event of a disaster such as an earthquake, it is reasonable to assume Vashon will be isolated for some period of time. The Fire Department has only a limited number of emergency responders and Vashon has no hospital. Therefore, our community will need physicians and other medical professionals to help care for the injured.
The VDPC and the Fire Department have developed a response plan and designated treatment centers on the Island. This plan depends upon participation of skilled volunteers.
If you volunteer, your telephone number, address, and other personal information will be kept confidential. Other than being notified of training opportunities and being sent response material from time to time, you will not be bothered at your home or place of work.
Particularly needed are physicians and nurses with ER, Surgical, and Internal Medicine backgrounds to staff the critical care treatment center to be staged at the VIFR Training Center. Also needed are


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

Friday, July 28

Summer
dates
are
full!
Need a
Band this Fall
call us
206-794-9451



Email: loose-change@comcast.net



ANN LEDA SHAPIRO

LICENSED ACUPUNCTURIST
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Courthouse Sq., #208B
Vashon Island, WA 98070
206 463-3967

219 1st Ave. S. #310
Seattle, WA 98104
206 463-3967



Dan Asher blows dusts off his guitar once again to revisit the songs that inspired progressive movements of the past

Progressive Night at Luna

Café Luna will host Progressive Night Thursday, July 27, from 6:45 – 8:30 p.m., with the theme “The Lighter Side.” We welcome back Dan Asher who dusts off his guitar once again to revisit the songs that inspired progressive movements of the past. Come see for yourself why some consider Asher to be the heir apparent to Mitch Miller. Come hear why he has been compared to Bob Dylan, “without that genius and without that baggage.” To add to the evening’s entertainment, we will welcome our own Vashon CodePink ladies. They will prepare a skit demonstrating CodePink’s “TROOPS HOME FAST” protest held every Tuesday at the Federal Building, 2nd and Madison, from 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. This should be a very funny and enlightening part of the evening. They welcome participation so dress up in your pinks, put on those boas and wigs, and piece together the most outlandish outfit you can find! We also want dissenters to show up and we will definitely let you have your 15 *seconds* of fame! CodePink Seattle/Vashon “sprouted” from the Green Party Progressive Book Club but has now taken on its own separate and very distinct identity. Not affiliated with any particular political party, these are “women of peace” calling for an end to war. Come hear their important message and share in the fun. For more information, please contact, Maryrose Asher, 567-0593 or masher@comcast.net.

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Progressive Book Club

The Vashon-Maury Island Green Party’s Progressive Book Club will hold its monthly meeting at the Vashon Tea Shop on **Sunday, July 23**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The Book Club is a social event designed for members to get to know each other while discussing progressive book selections.

This month’s book selection is *Challenging Empire* by Phyllis Bennis. When millions around the world marched to protest the Iraq war and the US drive toward empire, the New York Times dubbed global public opinion “the second super-power.” What empowered those protests was their alliance — if only for a brief moment — with governments unexpectedly willing to stand up to US pressure, and with the United Nations itself, when it followed its Charter’s command to stop “the scourge of war.” Bennis tracks the rise of US unilateralism and the doctrine of preemptive war, looking particularly at Iraq and Israel/Palestine, and examines both the potential and the challenges ahead in reclaiming the UN as part of the global peace movement.

Phyllis Bennis is a fellow of both the Transnational Institute (TNI) and the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, DC, and a journalist specializing in Middle East and United Nations issues. Formerly based at the United Nations, she has worked on US domination of the UN leading up to the Gulf War, economic sanctions on Iraq, international interventions, and US foreign policy in the Middle East.

Challenging Empire is available at Vashon bookstores and a discount is offered to participants. For more information, call Maryrose Asher at 567-0593 or e-mail dmasher@comcast.net.

Eating With Strangers

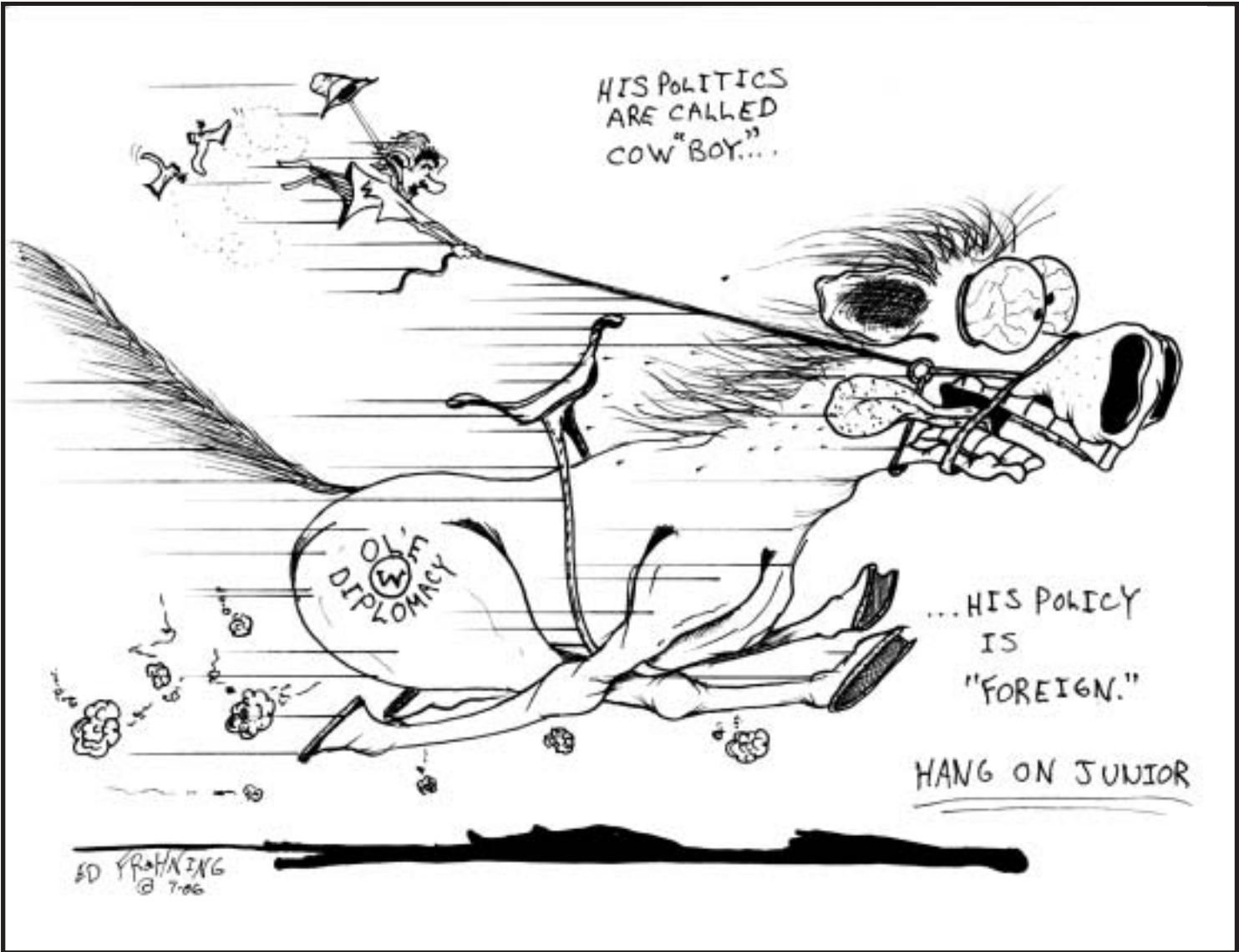
Continued from page 1

In reflecting back, one of Jim’s favorite moments at the restaurant happened before opening one day, when a group of junior High Schoolers came to see what “being a chef” was all about during one of their career days. A fascination with flipping food in the skillet led Jim to allow each of the students to practice the needed wrist action with their own pans and some uncooked rice. Needless to say, there was a lot of rice to clean up everywhere after they left, but something had clicked in one student who went on to culinary school and a career in cooking. Jim also said that his years in the restaurant had led to remembering certain people as a certain type of food- what they had ordered on a regular basis. We will always remember Express Cuisine as a place where we went away full and happy and perhaps with a different perspective on something we never thought would have come up at a dinner out. Thanks Jim and Jocelyn for all the great meals, and good luck in wherever your next venture takes you.

There will not be a void in Food Land for long with the departure of Express, since new owners and Islanders Kristin Baron and Jessica De Wire plan to have their variation on the culinary theme, The Gusto Girls, open in this space by early September. Some will recognize the Gusto brand as something that has brought adventurous, catered eclecticism to private parties over the last seven years. This part of the business will go away as Gusto Girls- the Restaurant opens in order for both Kristin and Jessica to put all their energies into creating and

perpetuating the next Vashon dining experience. Both have been in the restaurant business since age fourteen, and both are excited about the opportunity to introduce more of Vashon to their ideas about food. As the chef, Jessica has an eye for what is fresh and local with an emphasis on what is in season. Her tastes range from Asian to classic European with a strong leaning toward the eclectic- this includes a regular selection of vegetarian offerings. The Gusto Girls will continue to be a dinner restaurant but, unlike Express, they will be open seven days a week and until 11pm.

Some of the other changes to be expected are that they will be offering a full range of alcoholic beverages, full table service and individual seating with no more shared, communal tables. Kristin promises that the new look for the restaurant space will be “sultry” but not too elegant, with lower lighting, good music (but no live bands) and permanent art installations by local artists. The current members of the Express staff have been offered their positions back, and more people will be hired to cover the expanded schedule. Over the phone the other night, the excitement in Kristin’s voice was palpable over the prospects of opening Gusto Girls in September in this space. All this softens the blow of the loss of Express Cuisine, but also leads one to believe that the hole in Vashon’s culinary palette will be small and short and soon to be filled with something wonderful and different. Change is good. Best of luck, Gusto Girls.





Spiritual Smart Aleck

Risk Factors and Listening to My Heart

If you feel like you haven’t had enough attention lately, drop by the Fire Station and say to the first person you see, “Do you check out chest pains?” That’s what I did last Tuesday evening.

Soon I was wired up to the EKG machine, and being asked questions, questions, questions, some of which were downright personal.

How long have you had chest pains? What do they feel like? Rate the pain on a scale of one to ten. Family history of heart disease (history? It’s my present and future I’m worried about)? Do you smoke? Are you diabetic? In order: three days; like a sharp poking pain, radiating down my arm; 6 or so; yes; no; yes.

Over the next few days I answered those questions (and more) so many times I lost count. I expected that the guys at the Fire Station would say, “You’re fine. Go home.” Instead they said, “We think you’re OK but you have to go to the hospital to be tested.”

What?
Next thing I knew I was in the ambulance with Jolene, calling my husband on my cell phone to say, “I’m going to the hospital!” He said, “What?”

The next four days were a mix of excitement and boredom. There were the tests – blood draws, two sessions with the “gamma camera” after being injected with an isotope, and finally an angiogram. The whole time I was wired up to a heart monitor with leads that kept coming loose, another attention getter.

Most of the time I was in bed. I looked through the hospital channels on TV, I begged for a newspaper so I could read the comics and do the crossword. Talking to my older son JD on the phone I said, “This is a wake up call.” “They give you a wake up call by putting you to bed?” he said. That’s my boy.

Once word got out, a lot of people called and a few came to visit. I know now that when someone is in the hospital the best thing you can do is SHOW UP – in person or by phone. My friend Becky brought me a “buddy bear,” and I held on to that teddy like I was three years old. JD came to see me twice. On my third night, my nurse Robert showed me a computer in the hallway I could use and I sent an email to a few dozen people to

whom I usually send my essays. My husband said that once I did that, the phone didn’t stop ringing, which was cool, because he got to talk with friends of his he hadn’t spoken with for some time.

On Thursday I called Marie Browne, publisher of *The Loop*, and said, “I can’t do this issue.” Fortunately, Troy Kindred, Marie’s husband and the other publisher of *The Loop*, was able to step up to the plate. He used to put the paper together before I did, so he has leaped into the breach to do it again. Thanks and a tip of the hat to Troy and Marie both for stepping in.

Meanwhile, back at the hospital. The angiogram (an experience that is a piece of cake, not that I can eat cake) showed that my coronary arteries were not blocked – good news – but my discharge nurse (who bore a striking resemblance to Julia Roberts) said, “All is not hunky-dory.” I have what they call, “a lot of risk factors.”

I’m home now. I’m not supposed to climb stairs or lift anything over



five pounds until the hole in my femoral artery is healed. They didn’t say anything about not letting our four-year-old grand daughter jump on me, but I’m avoiding that, too.

Look, I am happy to be here, risk factors and all. It’s been one of those times when you get a glimpse of how many lives are linked to your own and how much people care about you. I wanted to tell you all that, because there are times I feel so alone, and maybe you do, too, and the truth is that I am not alone, and you are not alone, and we all are connected and matter to a lot of people.

I know that Jesus isn’t done with me, and I’m glad and grateful. More work to do, and I’m here to do it, me and my risk factors. Now, if you’ll excuse me, I have to line up some child care people for my grand daughter to jump on while I recuperate this week.

To everyone who cared, I want to say this before I’m not here to say it: thank you for loving me.

~~~~~

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## Chirgilchin Tuvan Throat Singers on the Village Green

Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm Free Concert

Come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of this summer’s five part free music and dance series, **Dancin’ on the Green**, on Monday, July 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Green. Picnic (*No Trash Bash\**) and music by *Chirgilchin*, a Tuvan music ensemble, presently on tour in the US. This summer’s free World Music and Dance concert series is sponsored by Vashon Park District and Vashon Folkdancers. Families are welcome. Come prepared to hear music from another place and another world. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket for seating.

There is a certain cachet for Tuvan throat singing in the West. When the first Tuvan musical group toured the US in the early 1990s “Frank Zappa had invited the ‘Three Tuvans’ home for a jam session with the Chieftains and Johnny Guitar Watson that was filmed by a BBC television crew. Mickey Hart, the drummer for the Grateful Dead, ... wondered whether the Tuvans would be willing to have their throat singing digitally sampled for future use in his own music, the Kronos Quartet invited the Tuvans to join a recording session at George Lucas’ Skywalker Ranch, where Princeton University composer Steven Mackey quickly fashioned arrangements of two Tuvan songs for voice and punk string quartet.”

Tuva is a small province of Siberian Russia located north of western Mongolia. The “Three Tuvans” performing on Vashon under the name of *Chilgilchin* are all award winning musicians considered the cream of the crop of today’s younger generation of Tuvan throat-singers. Atmospheric and mesmeric, throat singing is almost too difficult to describe in words. The music, produced by resonating low sounds in the throat, creates a middle note and a haunting, flute-like harmonic. The group sings ancient folk songs in the Tuvan language and plays hand made instruments.

Tuvans have a profound respect for the nature that surrounds them. “Every natural place has an *ee* – a master or guardian – who looks after it and protects all the beings that live there...Mountains, rivers, caves, springs – all are under the protection of a spirit-master. When you visit that place, you should show your respect to the master...you leave an offering...you can sing. Music is the best offering. Whether or not a person sings well, the spirit master will be glad to hear the sound. The most important thing is not to upset the spirit – to calm the spirit.”

**Igor Koshkendey** is soloist in *Chirgilchin* and sings six styles of throat singing including the unique *Oidupaa* style. He is the winner of the Grand Prix of International Competition of Throat Singing that was held in 1998, of the Grand Prix of International Competition in Llangollen, England in 2000 as well as the International Competition in Kyzyl, Tuva.

**Aldar Tamdyn** was born in Chadaana, a town of 12,000 people, and now lives in Kyzyl. A master instrument maker he made all the musical instruments for this, as well as other Tuvan musical groups. He is uniquely talented on the *byzaanchy*, a Tuvan instrument that is bowed from underneath by using the fingernails. “In European terminology it’s called flageolet – touching a string lightly to produce a harmonic. But flageolet on the *byzaanchy* is different than flageolet on Western bowed instruments like the violin, viola, or cello. On Tuvan instruments these tones are played everywhere, not just at the point of the harmonics, so the acoustical basis of sound production is different. This bowed instrument, like the bow itself, is strung with horsehair rather than metal or gut, and the resulting sound is rich in overtones although not very loud. In other words, volume and homogeneity of sound are sacrificed in favor of timbral richness.” In addition to performing with *Chilginchin*, Aldar is director of the National Tuvan Orchestra of Traditional Instruments.

**Mongoun-Ool Ondar** is winner of the 1992 Grand Prix of International Throat Singing when he was only 16 years old. He knows six throat singing styles and is close to inventing his own. *Chirgilchin* is also becoming known for their innovative new compositions with an almost jazz-like handling of the traditional vocal techniques and instrumentation. They just left Portugal for New York where they have been collaborating with Lori Anderson, just before doing their northwest tour. *Chirgilchin* is a Tuvan word that translates to “mirage or miracle.”

Come to this concert to gain “insights into the rich sonic world of Inner Asia, where the elemental energies of wind, water and echo, the ubiquitous presence of birds and animals, and the legendary feats of heroes have inspired a remarkable art and technology of soundmaking among nomadic pastoralists.”

For further information call Martin Koenig, 463-1238.



# Don't Forget the Birds

By Ed Swan

## Shorebird Migration Begins

The great fall shorebird migration started up locally this year with the first migrants being found at KVI Beach July 4 by Sue Trevathan. She found five of the small, rufous-brown Western Sandpipers and one of the medium sized, gray and white, bobbing up and down Spotted Sandpipers. The next day I found a larger flock of birds, eight Westerns and 6 Least Sandpipers. The Leasts look similar in size to the Westerns but appear much darker. Since then, small mixed species groups have been regular at KVI and probably also regularly at Fern Cove. The Spotted Sandpipers will stick around for the winter but the Westerns and Leasts have thousands of miles to go, on to California, Mexico, Central America and some to northern South America.



Photo by Jim Rosso

While checking out KVI Beach on July 14, I got lucky and found a rare Whimbrel out on the sandspit at low tide. Most of our shorebirds utilize the muddy pond back behind the beach but a few sometimes rest along the shoreline. I checked out the pond and found the usual small group of Westerns and Leasts and then decided to quickly scan the shore. That look around rewarded me with a view

of a large, medium brown shorebird lightly colored underneath and possessing a very long, down-curved bill. The darker brown cap with a light eye-stripe confirmed its identification as a Whimbrel. A Long-billed Curlew or Marbled Godwit provide alternate possibilities but both have uniformly colored bodies, not the brown above and light below of the Whimbrel. The curlew also has an incredibly long bill while the godwit's beak looks straight or slightly up-curved.

Whimbrels migrate in large flocks along the outer coast and smaller numbers through central and lower Puget Sound. This bird represents the fifth sighting for Vashon over the last decade, with three spring migration and two fall flight records. Four of the five observations consist of single birds and the fifth featured four flying by Pt. Robinson. Observers noted Whimbrel at Pt. Robinson twice, KVI twice and once at Dan Willsie's place on the northwestern corner of Vashon.

Many long-billed shorebirds just probe the mud for their prey while Whimbrel forage visually. Whimbrel eat marine invertebrates such as crustaceans, small crabs, worms and molluscs and occasionally catch little fish. Depending on food type, bill use includes the full range of its length from the tip to complete insertion. In some parts of their range, the bill curvature appears adapted to that of fiddler crab burrows. They use a wide range of habitats including rocky shores, mudflats, sandy shore, wet fields and salt marsh.

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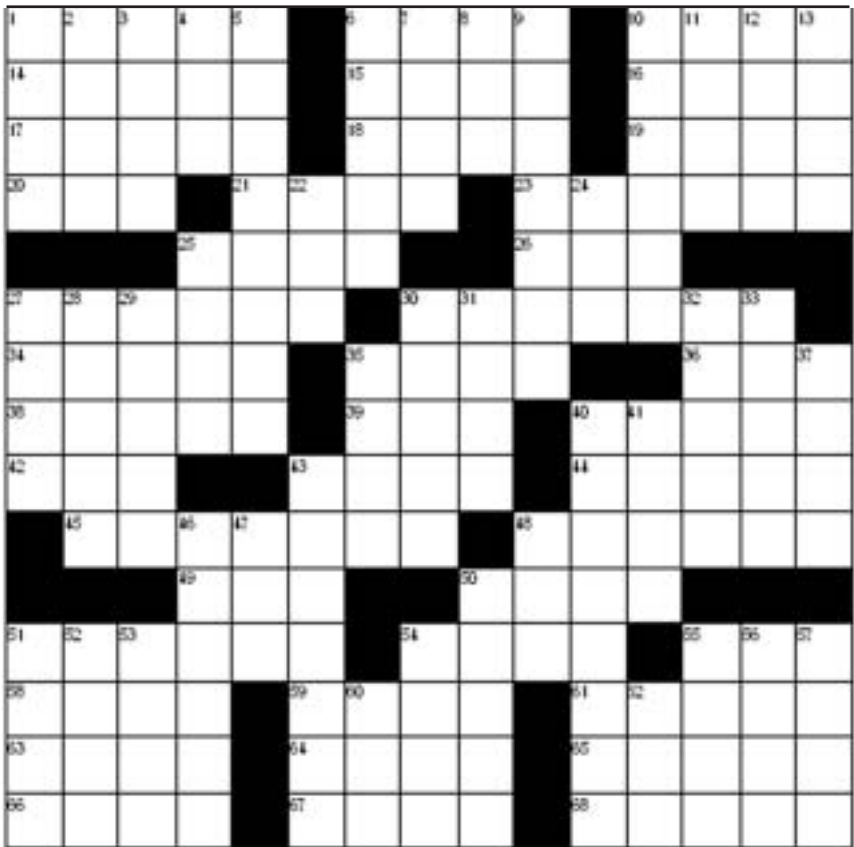
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Late June and early July provided many other interesting island bird sightings. Joy Nelsen found a Mourning Dove at the Island Center Marsh July 1, Carole Elder observed a rare, rather elusive Red-eyed Vireo at her place on north Vashon, Andrea Wuenschel heard a Common Nighthawk at Shawnee July 12, and another Brown Pelican showed up near the ferry dock June 20<sup>th</sup>. Les Petersen sent me a photo recently of a partly albino Spotted Towhee. I experienced a great deal of difficulty identifying it from an oral description because its overall appearance was changed so dramatically by the white patches this unusual bird showed. If you have an interesting bird to report or a question about local birds, call me at 463-7976 or email at edswan@centurytel.net.

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

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| <b>Across</b>              |                                |                        | 50 Hospital (abbr.) | 24 Terminate |
| 1 Real estate              | 51 Center cores                | 25 Stringed            |                     |              |
| 6 Blot                     | 54 At hand                     | instrument             |                     |              |
| 10 Thick carpet            | 55 Chinese cooking pan         | 27 Tiny insect         | 18 Vacation         |              |
| 14 Vacation                | 58 Capital of Norway           | 28 Vacation            | 29 Bets             |              |
| 15 Parent                  | 59 Cliff                       | 30 Lose blood          | 31 Cubby            |              |
| 16 Tiny body part          | 61 State                       | 32 Flub                | 33 Jacket leather   |              |
| 17 Sew loosely             | 63 Look at                     | 35 Suffer              | 37 Pitcher          |              |
| 18 Air (prefix)            | 64 Swearword                   | 40 Coast               | 41 Vacation         |              |
| 19 Khz                     | 65 Shabby                      | 43 Small fruit         | 46 Energy unit      |              |
| 20 Colony insect           | 66 Jittery                     | 47 Copy                | 48 Mist             |              |
| 21 Good fortune            | 67 Duces                       | 50 What drugs give     | 51 Uh-uh            |              |
| 23 Gun                     | 68 Basic beliefs               | 52 Old                 | 53 Gadfly           |              |
| 25 For fear that           | <b>Down</b>                    | 54 Treaty organization | 55 Along            |              |
| 26 Compass point           |                                | 56 Upon                | 57 Lock openers     |              |
| 27 Mexican deep fried food | 1 Father                       | 60 Unfinished          | 62 Dab              |              |
| 30 Restraints              | 2 Ocean Spray's drink starters |                        |                     |              |
| 34 Slow                    | 3 Vacation                     |                        |                     |              |
| 35 Lotion ingredient       | 4 Devour                       |                        |                     |              |
| 36 Fear                    | 5 Halloween staple             |                        |                     |              |
| 38 Dine                    | 6 Flower stalk leaf            |                        |                     |              |
| 39 Chief executive officer | 7 Onion-like vegetable         |                        |                     |              |
| 40 Spread                  | 8 Canoe propeller              |                        |                     |              |
| 42 Street abbr.            | 9 Pixy                         |                        |                     |              |
| 43 Excuse me!              | 10 Handwriting                 |                        |                     |              |
| 44 Wear away               | 11 Stack                       |                        |                     |              |
| 45 Eluded                  | 12 Singing voice               |                        |                     |              |
| 48 Milder                  | 13 Bottoms                     |                        |                     |              |
| 49 Rainy mo.               | 22 North American nation       |                        |                     |              |







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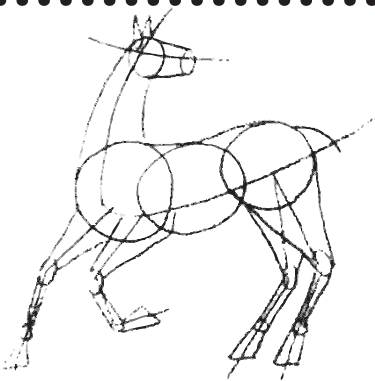
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## Hogwash

*Continued from page 1*

Hi. My name is Morgan Wegner, and I speak “hogwash” fluently. Today, I have prepared a lecture that will teach you to interpret those digital chicken scratches and translate them into a language you can actually understand.

The basis of most “Internet lingo” words is the acronym, so that is where this lecture shall start. Acronyms are common because they are fast and easy to use when conversing via IM, or “Instant Messenger.” They are also quite handy while text messaging (or “txting”) on a cell phone, which is what makes it possible to ring up those costly charges. For a glossary of Internet acronyms, visit [www.acronymdictionary.co.uk](http://www.acronymdictionary.co.uk) (there will be a test on Thursday).

For the most part, you will never encounter these acronyms, as they rarely venture out of the digital world. However, there are rare cases in which they are verbalized. If your teenager walks in and says, “be our bee”, he/she does not wish for you to run out and buy a bee suit. The intended message is “Be Right Back.” Similarly, “Elle, oh Elle!” is not a passionate exclamation, and “im hoe” is not a declaration of moral looseness. If what your teenager is saying doesn’t quite make sense, you may wish to consult the acronym dictionary before acting on their words.

The second topic in our lecture is the advent of butchered English. This form of English melds, adds to and detracts from words to make them less comprehensible but more fun to say.

If at first you don’t succeed, try, try again. Then quit. No use being a damn fool about it.

– W. D. Fields

Morgan Wegner is *The Loop’s* intern. She would have copyedited this issue of the paper, but is in California soaking up the sun. She still rocks.



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## Revenge of the Teeter-Totter

By Sandy Friedlander

I appreciate the cunning designs of the Ober Park play structures, some more than others. I admire the yellow metal-work at the top of the big slide. It gives eager kids something to hang onto as they await their turn or more timid ones something to safely cling to as they muster up their courage. The children are clearly less likely to fall.

But that same metal-work can be daunting for us older adults who need to crouch so very low in order to slip under its yellow rails, or forego the slide and the brief refreshing return to our own childhoods that it can offer us.

My warm regard for the big Ober Park teeter-totter, however, is unalloyed. What a concept — a seesaw that you can ride with a friend or without one! More important, a seesaw that will never send you crashing to the ground when your teeter-totter partner, maliciously or otherwise, disembarks without warning.

Yes, gentle reader, this happened to me. It was, in fact, my introduction to the Perils of Kindergarten, by one Jeffrey Cohen, who can here be safely named because there are so many with that same name all over the English-speaking world, and possibly elsewhere. Years afterward, I came to wonder if “my” Jeffrey had a motive — Namely, that I was the tallest kid in our class (all the way through middle school, in fact), and he was the smallest of boys.

My torment at the hands of Jeff Cohen did not end in kindergarten. He showed

up periodically, like a bad penny, to plague me all the way through high school. By then, he had swapped his teeter-totter performance for verbal teasing and something far too close to ridicule. But it was there, in our senior year, during our very last semester before being loosed on the world, that I had my revenge.

English was my favorite class, even before it offered me the long-delayed opportunity to avenge The Crash of the Teeter-Totter. That fateful day, we students were required to read aloud from Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet. We all took turns, and our teacher paired each of us up, willy-nilly.

Lucky me: when it came my time to read Juliet, my mandatory Romeo was Jeff Cohen. Gamely, I read, hiding my internal wince. The line I was supposed to speak to him was, “It is not night when I do see your face.” And that’s what I meant to say, honest, Your Honor.

But what came out of my mouth was far more accurate: “It is not *nice* when I do see your face”. Freud must have flipped in his grave. He might have died laughing had he not already expired. When the guffaws of my fellow students finally died down, and my own nervous giggling subsided, Jeffrey’s face still was as red as my delicious apple from lunch.

And I bet he rued the day that he ever stood me up on the teeter-totter. Betcha he’ll never do it again.

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# Garden the World

**By MEarth**

# The Acidification Of The Ocean

The article tells about the danger carbon dioxide poses to the ocean and its inhabitants. Carbon dioxide is absorbed by the ocean and acidifies it; this endangers corals and plankton.

The article states that Thomas Lovejoy, president of the H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics and the Environment, has rewritten his new book's paperback version to highlight the threat of ocean acidification. "It's the single most profound environmental change I've learned about in my entire career," he said last week.

Ken Caldeira, a chemical oceanographer at Stanford University who briefed lawmakers along with marine ecologist Joan Klappas, said the ocean is more acid than it has been in “many millions of years,” and, “What we are doing in the next decade will affect our oceans for millions of years.”

The upshot is that 1/3 of the vast amounts of CO2 that we put into the air through industry and auto emissions ends up in the ocean, changing the pH of THE ENTIRE OCEAN. This is not something that will go away overnight even if we were to curtail CO2 emissions completely right now. We have already done this to the ocean. It will kill coral and snails and plankton and the effect will cascade through the eco-system for eons to come. Not too many generations from now, we will look at the sick oceans and wonder how we could have ever allowed such a profound thing to happen.

That's the problem with so much of what we are doing. We are making changes in the Earth that, should we be allowed to continue inhabiting Her, we will be very sorry for as the centuries go by. The planet we were given was such a relative paradise

compared to what we will be left with, the difference is staggering.

The land was so rich—and now the soil is so depleted; the air was so pure—and now it harms our children; the seas were so full of life—and now every fishery in the world is collapsing and we are changing the ocean itself; the forests were so plentiful—and now there are not enough trees to keep us breathing; there was such an abundance of food for all the creatures of the world—now starvation is the standard; there were so many animals, so much diversity—now so many of our relations have perished, creatures who might have had important things to teach us, who might have been so willing to help us, who have now gone beyond.

How will we live with ourselves  
if we are allowed to live?

We will have made genetic changes in the remaining plants and animals that those that survive will be much more prepared for living in the hell we have prepared for ourselves—and them. If those genetic changes spread among our relations, they will create a world in which we are not welcome—and rightly so.

One of the things that angers me off the most about it is that we will not be around to take responsibility—no, we are leaving that to our children and our grandchildren unto the seventh generation. When our descendants stand at the edge of the cauldron of evil we have created on the world, they will curse us—because they will know the immensity of what we have done, an immensity we should acknowledge but which we hide from behind our lies and behind the socio-political deceptions.

Global warming? What global warming? GM Organisms pose no danger. War is necessary. It's not our fault children are starving. Peak Oil, what does that mean? Al Gore doesn't know what he's talking about. Hurricanes have cycles—these are no worse than the last time. Organic agriculture cannot feed the world.

Listen brothers and sisters—we have no more time to believe these lies. We have to change things and pray for God and Grandmother to help us do so—because I have come to believe that we cannot mitigate the damage we have done without sacred intervention. Things are not right in the Garden and it's time to change that forever.



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## Dancing on the Green

### Community Dance Celebrations

During the summer of 2006, the Vashon Park District and Vashon Folkdancers will co-sponsor 5 live music evenings to occur on the Village Green\* in the center of Vashon town. We wish to promote evenings of community celebration that would feature a picnic and live music performed by different bands playing a variety of dance music for all to enjoy. In rural societies worldwide food, music and dance go hand-in-hand. We are interested in fostering a traditional, family-based activity through events that allow intergenerational exchange and also expose our island community to the music and dance traditions of other world cultures. The schedule is the following:

June 19<sup>th</sup> – **Pangeo**, Greek and Balkan  
 July 24<sup>th</sup> - **Chirgilchin**, Tuvan throat singing  
 July 31<sup>st</sup> - **The Sound Band**  
 August 14<sup>th</sup> – **Loose Change**  
 August 28<sup>th</sup> – **Balkan Cabaret**, Bosnian and Balkan (Corbin Beach location)\*

This summer's events are quite varied. For the first (**Pangeo**) and last (**Balkan Cabaret**) events, the bands will start the evening playing table songs designed to be sung while people are eating. Dances will be taught by Vashon Islander, Martin Koenig, a nationally known folklorist and Balkan dance teacher. He will teach a basic dance repertoire to encourage everyone's participation on the dance floor. These dances are done in circles and in lines and are easily accessible to those who have never danced before. But even if someone does not get up to dance, the music is entertaining for those who wish to sit and listen.

The middle three events will be very different. **Chirgilchin** are throat singers, touring the United States, from Tuva, in the eastern Soviet Union. Their singing and music making are unique **The Sound Band** is a group of young, local musicians whose debut performance at the 2005 Strawberry Festival made a dramatic impression on both peers and parents alike. **Loose Change** is a local band from Vashon who also play classic rock. Aside from the Tuvan throat singing, what unifies all five concerts is the participatory dance aspect of the programs. The budget for the five concerts is \$5,150.00. The Vashon Park District is contributing \$2,500.00 towards the cost of the concerts. The Vashon Folkdancers are coordinating all aspects of the program. We are seeking \$2,650.00 in additional funding to cover the expenses involved in producing this series.

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

*Happy Birthday Cancer! You will be coasting on the energy of the recent Full Moon for an entire year — but why coast, when you can make love, art and industry? Tune into your intuition as a regular habit, because these days it's connecting you with a deeper source than usual, including some wealth of past experience that has taught you how to handle yourself in situations with high potential but uncertain outcome. The theme of your life, both emotionally and financially, is self-sufficiency. Rather than being designed to have you go it alone, the idea is to increase the possible level of exchange, in a mature way that can only come with a measure of real autonomy.*

**Aries (March 20-April 19):** It's true that someone close to you is exhibiting anywhere from two to four personalities, but this is good for laughs, adventure and keeping life unpredictable and creative. Partners can take it light for a change — there's no need to get swamped under by emotions when a good, honest conversation will do. This may take some practice. One of the most helpful things about developing speaking skills, listening skills and a language to express subtle ideas about oneself is that it allows us to report to those close to us about the changes we experience from day to day.

**Taurus (April 19-May 20):** You need to make the moves in a romantic endeavor. This may seem to go against your nature, but suddenly another side of you seems to be emerging; to sum it up, it looks like you're tired of being silent. Don't send mixed signals. Say please and thank you when you mean it, and remember to say yes when you mean yes. If you set this as a kind of discipline, you may notice you are indeed of two minds, but the commitment to making clear statements to others will go a long way toward resolving this.

**Gemini (May 20-June 21):** You're not acting out of character; you're discovering a lost aspect of yourself that you've been missing for years and are finally giving yourself permission to explore. Suddenly the future is a lot more interesting than you imagined. But you might do well to ask yourself where you would invest your energy if you were not caught up in the ongoing cycle of the rise and decline of your fortunes. These weeks are offering you an opportunity to get underneath the influences that so often lead you to be unstable. You don't need to sacrifice your freedom to walk on solid ground.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22):** You can now direct your energy to a past emotional issue that you've had neither the time nor the inclination to investigate. The story seems to go back to a loss you suffered during childhood, which turned you into an introvert in some areas of life where you would normally be quite outgoing. In short, you now have an opportunity to look at the nature of your self-doubt, and how that has led you to hide certain aspects of your nature from others. The opposite of hiding is revealing; to yourself first, then to select individuals, perhaps people you're not too familiar with at this point.

**Leo (July 22-Aug. 23):** You're at a stage in life where you can have extraordinary insight into yourself, how your mind works, and why you feel the way you do — but do you really trust your observations? Some of the most valuable information we can gain about ourselves defies objective verification. Some may contradict established ideas you have about yourself. There is the question of where you begin and where the world ends. That's a great question, and it's sexy.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22):** Now is the time to start cultivating support for a creative project you have brewing in the back of your mind. Talk with people you know well, and dig up a few you haven't heard from in years. In general, your process of building consensus within your community is also helping you build consensus within your emotions and really get on board your own idea or desire. The more aligned with your goal you are, the greater harmony with those around you.

**Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23):** You continue to have a strong edge in a professional situation, as long as you know how to use it. And how do you do that? It's a combination of charm and wits — in that order. Intelligence is overrated. Most people judge integrity by the feeling they get from a person, and right now, I suggest you notice how good people feel about you. In the modern world this is one of those humbling feelings, so don't be satisfied that you really feel how much everyone loves you till you're basically speechless about it.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22):** If you're feeling challenged by an ethical question, you can trust that in time you will see you made the right choice and acted in

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integrity. The mere fact that you're capable of questioning yourself proves that you care, and in truth, those who care are most likely to do the right thing. So, the idea is, rest easy, and continue on your step-by-step process of setting up your success. While you're busy doing that, please look back at what you've accomplished. This will give you a valuable sense of perspective for the next few months.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22):** You've been having plenty of those character-building experiences lately, and you may be wondering what it's all leading to. Truth be told, you don't have anywhere near the freedom you want or need — as of today, anyway. But as the planetary picture develops over the next few weeks, you'll find people give you a lot more space to be yourself. Members of your household have been living with some pressures you're just beginning to understand. Whatever misunderstandings may now exist will take some weeks to resolve, so you have plenty of time to listen more than you speak.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20):** A careful balancing act will be necessary to ensure that nobody close to you is hurt by certain decisions you must make. What may be easy for you can be hard for others, and you will therefore need to check carefully with anyone you feel may be affected. Consider every case a special case, and do what you can do to ease the woes of others. In other news, young ones may think nothing of head-on confrontations with mom — so keep your cool and let it blow over. The real issues are emotional, and need to be guided gently.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19):** We all have our strengths and weaknesses. For as individualistic as you are, one of your great strengths is a willingness and ability to inspire groups of people to work together. Remember that you don't face the challenges of your life alone, and the rewards of cooperation are usually worth

the considerable effort they require. Everyone will benefit. A family is ideally a team, but sometimes people need help seeing that we all share common interests. This is something that can only be learned from experience; remember that, because you're kind of prone to work from theory.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):** Now you see what a little creativity can do. It always helps to give yourself the opportunity to dream of new possibilities and offer your spirit the freedom to consider new ways of doing things that have been stuck in patterns for so long. This is always an act of daring, and the planets say you need to push the edge to get maximum benefit from life. Pushing the edge means knowing where it is, and how it got there. You have been constrained by certain factors of your past, and how they shaped your view of yourself. Jupiter square Saturn says take charge.

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Photos by Salli and Terry Swift

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## Henna: Oh How It Grows!!

By Kara L.C. Jones

The upside (sarcastic) to global warming: If trends continue, at this rate, I'll soon be able to harvest henna out of my yard the way we currently harvest nettles — which means I won't have to fuss with importing my henna powder from Yemen, Pakistan, India, or Morocco!

Seriously, the henna plant is an amazing wonder to me. Recently, I had a friend tell me he was ashamed to admit it, but he didn't even realize that henna was a plant. And many clients along the way have asked if henna was an ink or what. So I thought it would be fun to share the wonder of the henna plant with all of you here.

The henna plant is most commonly grown and harvested in countries like India, Pakistan, Morocco, Yemen, Egypt, Uganda, Tanzania, Senegal, Kenya, Ethiopia and more — and I have known a few henna artists who have tried to grow it in greenhouses here in the U.S. This plant is sensitive to heat, moisture, and location. Because these various factors influence each henna crop individually, people will often see the end result of henna stains on skin showing up in a wide variety of shades, from orange-red to coffee-brown. In an article posted at EverydayHenna.com, the growers of Jamila Brand henna powder say that, *"Hot weather, lots of water or if there is a rainfall then it's the best. Proper cleaning of soil and use of organic fertilizers, give the best*



Photos Courtesy of Osman Ali, Abid & Company (Pvt) Ltd., 8-B, Darbar Market, Ganj Bukhsh Road, Lahore- Pakistan, Website: jamila.com.pk

*results....Summer crop is the best...Due to extreme heat, the dye contents are very high...The colour of the henna is dependant upon soil conditions...Pakistani henna gives colour near to orange brown and dark brown however, Indian henna gives a reddish brown colour."*

The growers in this article, and all-natural henna artist everywhere, go on to say that the most frustrating part about the educational curve with clients is when you encounter a person who adamantly tells you henna comes in colors such as black, brown, blue. HENNA IS RED. The shade will vary depending on the crop. But the safe, all-natural henna plant powder that is best for use in hair and on skin is red. If it is black or blue or anything else, be wary!!! In fact, RUN the other way. These "colored" powders MAY contain SOME henna, but they also contain PPD chemicals that can burn and permanently scar the skin. And even when they don't do that, they cause

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reactions in the body that may take years to express severe chemical sensitivities, permanent allergies, and PPD is known to be a carcinogen!!!

All natural henna will smell like hay. A reputable all-natural henna artist will tell you to leave the paste on the skin for as long as possible and overnight for best results. All natural henna will be a bright orange-red when the paste first comes off and will take 24 to 48 hours to darken. If you are dealing with an artist telling you anything other than this, then I question their artistic integrity and would tell you to get away from them as quickly as possible. For more information on "black henna" and "brown henna" please visit the "Safe Henna" article at HennaTribe.com and look at the research in the "Black Henna" articles at HennaPage.com.

On the internet, you will also find many photos of the henna plant seeds, small plants, large crops, processing plants where they grind and sift into powder, henna plant flowers and more. At EverydayHenna.com photos are similar to what is shared here, plus you'll find the full interview with the growers of the Jamila Brand in Pakistan. At HennaTribe.com, you'll find they are doing extensive articles and hands-on research about and with henna. At HennaPage.com, you'll find photos and extensive articles on the science of henna and the growing methods of the plant. At BodyArts.com you'll find photos from Rajasthan as well as a very interesting article at the page: BodyArts.com/new/60\_names.htm where you'll learn that henna has over 60 different names in 43 different languages!! It is called everything from henna to hinna, from mehndi to muhanoni, from kok khoa to ponninpuvalamarudondri. And at Kenzi.com, you'll find more about the henna plant in the article called "Henna and the Moroccan Aesthetic" about Kenzi's experiences as an artist who also imports Moroccan henna powder.

All in all, this plant amazes me. From green leaves, we get a dry powder that is mixed into paste. As an artist, I use the paste to make beautiful designs on the skin — and the designs have a varied cultural and historical story of their own! And then that paste releases lawsome molecules that stain the Stratum corneum

(outer layers) of the skin. This one plant has given me insight into the environment, farming, folklore, design, ritual, history, science! Though I do not really want to see global warming progress to the point of having henna grow well in my Pacific NW backyard, I would someday like to witness this plant in its native glory — not just in pictures, but in person! Who knows, maybe someday I'll be bringing you "traveling henna articles" from being on the road to Pakistan, Morocco, and Yemen!?

About the author - Kara co-founded KotaPress.com after the stillbirth of her son Dakota in 1999, and for the last six years, she has worked as a MISS Foundation certified facilitator offering grief support 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 of your email so it doesn't get lost in the 600+ spam we get each day! Thanks.

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## IMPORTANCE OF RITUAL DURING GRIEF

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2 to 6 p.m. - Retreat & training including film, discussion, memorial henna  
2 to 5 p.m. - Free childcare available [Retreat film is not appropriate for children; must register for childcare & child needs to be potty trained]

Some emphasis on death of baby because of film being screened, but this is about the grief journey and uses of ritual for healing, regardless of circumstance of death.

Henna artists in attendance are volunteering their time and talent in the last hour of the retreat to offer free Memorial henna designs.

Retreat & training offered by volunteers of WA state MISS Foundation, HennaHealing, KotaPress, and HennaTribe artists

### LOSING LAYLA

LOSING LAYLA is a deeply personal documentary, intimate video diary that follows the lives of two people through an extraordinary passage in their lives. It is an emotional journey that bears witness to the death of their daughter, Layla.

It is also a powerful testament to the notion that the journey of grief is not about the resolution of our most painful emotions but about accepting them and allowing them to deepen and soften us.

LOSING LAYLA is ultimately the story of two lovers navigating their way through the territory of the heart, attempting to live their truth and their grief as openly as they live their laughter and their love.

Film is being shown with full permission of filmmaker Vanessa Gorman.

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## Book Review

### Back to Blackness: A Classic Revisited

By Rachel Bard

In a shady London street where the sun never shone Mr. Verloc led his several shady lives. He was proprietor of a grimy shop offering dubious tattered photos and books and mysterious packets. During the day the occasional young man studied the miscellany of shoddy goods on display in the window, slithered in, made his purchase and left as furtively as he'd come. Visitors who came at night, though, went straight through the shop to the passageway that led to Mr.Verloc's parlor where they discussed revolution. And sometimes Mr. Verloc, a portly and indolent man, had to report to his employer. Neither his colleagues nor his wife knew that he was a secret agent for a foreign power and received instructions for counter-revolutionary activities from its ambassador.

**The Secret Agent, by Joseph Conrad. Penguin Paperback, 1994. First published 1907.**

As the book opens he makes his deliberate way to the embassy and finds a new man in charge. His predecessor had without question accepted and paid for Mr. Verloc's accounts of the largely ineffective efforts of his anarchistic companions. But the new man wants action. He demands that Mr. Verloc blow up Greenwich Observatory in order to shock the somnolent, permissive London police to the dangers lurking in their city. It's a twisted motive, but terrorists don't always think in a straight line.

Poor Mr. Verloc. He's never had to do anything so daring or difficult. He broods and loses sleep for weeks while Winnie, his dutiful and incurious wife, wonders what's wrong. Winnie, though loyal to her husband, is more focused on her younger brother Stevie, who is semi-retarded and depends on her as his go-between in dealing with a bewildering world. She married Mr. Verloc because she sensed he would be good to Stevie. And so he has been.

Eventually Mr. Verloc obtains some explosives from one of his anarchist friends and finds an accomplice. The bomb goes off prematurely and the accomplice is killed. Greenwich Observatory is unscathed.

The plot so far is like many another spy story. But Conrad doesn't create

suspense by rat-a-tat action. Gradually he reveals the many layers of his characters' motivations and psyches. He's essentially a nineteenth-century writer who takes his time. In the second half of the book everything spirals downward in a miasma of guilt, retribution, despair and anger. There's no redemption, much less a happy ending.

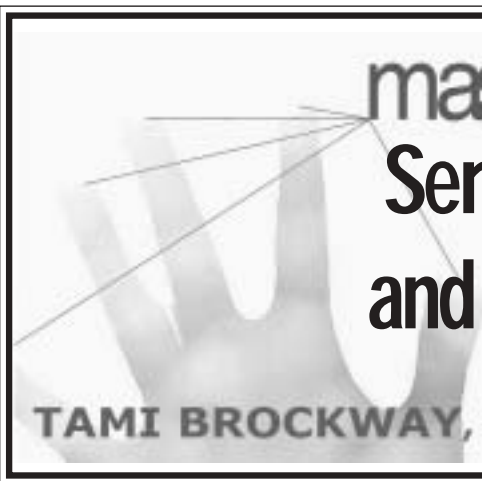
A very dark book indeed. But what do you expect from Conrad? There aren't many laughs in his other books either, such as *Lord Jim* and *Nigger of the Narcissus*. As for *Heart of Darkness*, what could be gloomier or more foreboding than that account of a trip up a dismal river to find the evil Kurtz?

And yet—plowing through the night with Conrad has so many rewards. He's a marvelous writer, despite the fact that English was his second language; he was born a Pole. A longtime London resident, he evokes the city's melancholy, dinginess, depravity and animation. Sometimes he lavishes paragraphs on a description, sometimes a few words. Here's Mr. Verloc, coming into the shop to serve a customer: "His eyes were naturally heavy; he had the air of having wallowed, fully dressed, all day on an unmade bed."

Conrad takes an ironic view of not only his characters but inanimate objects as well. In a restaurant where two of the plotters are plotting away, "An upright semi-grand piano near the door, flanked by two palms in pots, executed suddenly all by itself a *valse* tune with aggressive virtuosity. The din it raised was deafening. It ceased as abruptly as it had started." Same setting, a few pages later: "The piano at the foot of the staircase clanged through a mazurka with brazen impetuosity, as though a vulgar and impudent ghost were showing off. The keys sank and rose mysteriously. Then all became still." Finally one of the men leaves and the other waits a few minutes before following him. "The lonely piano, without so much as a music stool to help it, struck a few chords courageously, and beginning a selection of national airs, played him out to the tune of 'The Blue Bells of Scotland.'"

Twelve years after the book's publication Conrad wrote an author's note for a new edition. It was partly an explanation of how he came to write it and partly a refutation of his critics. He'd been accused of a perverse desire to shock the public with a sordid tale of moral squalor. On the contrary, he said, he was impelled to uncover the "absurd cruelty of the Greenwich Park explosion" and to tell Winnie Verloc's story to its end of desolation and despair because it had to be told. Read the author's note after you finish the book. It may move you to go back to the beginning and read it again.

**The Don and Donnette do appreciate all you've done. Sorry you're miserable. Good luck in the future!**



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## The Dorsal Spin:

By Orca Annie Stateler

### Holiday Humpbacks, Coy Killers, and Sexy Sea Lions



A humpback whale surprised us around 9:15 p.m. on July 2. We heard loud blows and caught a glimpse of a juvenile whale's tail flukes close to the VHP site, but then the elusive whale (or whales) disappeared. The Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP) received many reports of two humpback whales, possibly mother and calf, gingerly negotiating crab pot lines near Quartermaster Harbor and foraging in Colvos Pass during the long Fourth of July weekend.

The last report was on July 11 around 4:00 p.m., when Mark Sears got a call about a humpback 100 yards off Lincoln Park traveling north. Mark was unable to respond because he was out of town. The whale might have been the injured one who was in the news.

Cascadia Research found a juvenile humpback with propeller gashes near Case Inlet. Many humpbacks bear scars of similar encounters. On a 40-foot whale, all you can do is monitor the injuries for signs of infection, if the whale decides to stay put. This young whale will likely fare better in cleaner, quieter waters to the north where s/he can heal in relative peace. We have not seen or heard any humpbacks since July 11.

My fellow ACS/PS board member Candi Emmons (also with NOAA Fisheries) and the Center for Whale Research confirmed IDs on the Transient orcas who were here two weeks ago: T101, T102, T101a, T101c, and T124c. Some of these Transients visited Vashon in February.

The Transients crept through Colvos Pass again around 6:00 a.m. on July 3, heading north and away from the heavy holiday boat traffic. Did they know the hydros were coming? From what I observed, these killer whales were highly sensitive to the presence of boats. Hunting in urban Puget Sound on a popular boating weekend must have been a challenge.

Transient killer whales reign supreme in our marine ecosystem. Powerful top predators, they can subdue 800-pound sea lions and "peel a minke whale like a banana," as Whale Museum director Rich Osborne colorfully noted. When these mighty orcas snuggle together in a resting formation, however, they look as fragile as kittens.

Indeed, they are highly vulnerable in the face of our species' rude assaults on their home.

Maybe our friends left a calling card. We found evidence of possible killer whale predation on our beach – seal remains that appeared to be torn apart by big teeth rather than a boat propeller.

Thanks to Pat, Mark T., Harry, Richard, Frank, Larry, and Alicia for the helpful whale reports. Please support the work of the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP): **REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS ASAP TO 463-9041.**

We appreciate our neighbors who visited us at Strawberry Festival with kind words of praise and encouragement. You offered sweet relief from some rather bizarre comments by off-Island gawkers.

Join us at the Seattle Aquarium this weekend, July 22 and 23, for an American Cetacean Society/ Puget Sound Chapter (ACS/PS) fundraiser. We will show multiple screenings of a gorgeous documentary *California Sea Lions: An Unforgettable Encounter*, with Q & A by the filmmaker, Alan DeHerrera, after each screening.

We hope to improve public perception of a beautiful marine mammal, who seems to be much maligned and misunderstood. I was privileged to snorkel with these graceful, inquisitive pinnipeds on a trip to Baja. They were swift, agile, and amazing!

Saturday evening July 22 at 7:00 p.m., a special screening and reception will be held. Proceeds benefit ACS/PS and the Seattle Aquarium. See the event announcement in this issue of *The Loop* and check [www.acspugetsound.org](http://www.acspugetsound.org) for more information.

Our VHP work party on July 12 was a success thanks to Odin, Todd Gateman, Mark Sears, and Joe Olson. We installed a more sensitive hydrophone to replace the old one, which was severely degraded by a lightning strike. Joe implemented a system that bypasses most of the annoying electrical noise. Whale vocalizations will sound better, but boat noise is also louder.

Correction: the Orca Sing photos featured in the last Dorsal Spin were by Joe Olson, not me. Contact Orca Annie at [Vashonorcas@aol.com](mailto:Vashonorcas@aol.com).



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## Island Epicure



### Stored Food -- How Long Will It Keep?

By Marj Watkins

Kathy Rogers of the Island disaster preparedness committee asked me to provide some guidelines on foods for emergencies. Most of us have experienced times when our electricity went off for a day or three or more, and even the occasional day of being snowed in.

Kathy worries about how Islanders will survive after the big earthquake that scientists tell us could happen anytime. There are many fault lines in the Puget Sound area, including a fault line that runs through Vashon Island.

Barring earthquakes, we still need an emergency food stash. Maybe we just need to know what foods to pack for a boat trip to the South Sound for a weekend, or the North Sound for a month. What do we keep on hand for a day when we can't go shopping, or a tree falls across a power line? What happens to the foods in our freezers and refrigerators?

For starters, don't open your refrigerator any more often than you have to. Same goes for freezer. Freezer food stays frozen sans power for at least three or four days. When thawed, cook it and it will keep another four days.

#### How Long Will It Keep? In Refrigerator:

**Meats:** Use within two days of purchase, or rewrap and freeze. Should stay fresh until pull date. Will say fresh until the day before, except for oysters.

**Frozen Meats:** date package. Use within 3 months for best flavor.

**Seafoods:** Use the day you buy them, preferably the same day packed.

**Frozen Seafood:** see above.

**Vegetables and Fruits:** Leafy veggies like lettuce and chard keep refrigerated for a week or more when wrapped in damp paper towels and stored in their plastic bags. Hard vegetables—carrots, parsnips,

cabbages, onions—keep for a month or so in your crisper, stored in plastic bags. Even slightly wilted, enough nutrients remain to use them in soups and stews. Potatoes sprout slower if kept apart from onions, and chilly.

Out of refrigerator, citrus fruits, apples, pears, onions, and potatoes will usually keep at least two weeks. Watch lemons, oranges and grapefruits for mold. It helps to turn them occasionally. Tender vegetables wilt promptly. Refrigerate in plastic as soon as they come home.

#### Cooked foods and Canned Goods:

**Cooked foods,** especially proteins, need to chill as soon as cleared from the table. Store in glass or ceramic, or in tightly sealed plastic storage boxes. In tightly capped glass, food keeps four days before toxic aldehydes begin to develop. Label and date jars and boxes before refrigerating.

**Canned Goods:** Up to one year. Sometimes cans bear "use by" dates. Rotate cans in your emergency stash. Keep putting new purchases behind older cans. Watch for signs of rust or corrosion. If you see any, toss that can. Try not to buy dented cans. They are more likely to have miniscule leaks that can cause food spoilage.

**Frozen vegetables:** Four months in freezer.

**Dried Foods:** "Use by" and "best if used by" dates are merely guidelines. If rice, pasta, or cereal on your shelves is past such date, fret not. It may taste slightly stale, but it won't hurt you. Grains that smell rancid: Toss 'em. Beans, lentils, and dried fruits kept in sealed plastic packets, tightly capped cannisters or jars will keep almost indefinitely.

**Eggs:** Cartons bear an expiration date no more than 30 days after their packing date. Stores can't sell them after that, but you can still use them, if kept cool, for as long as another month. Their yolks may break when you plop them into a pan, but they're still fine for omelettes and baking. Fresh is best, though.

Milk, Cream: Perfectly safe for a week after the "sell by" date on the box, especially if you've decanted them into sterile glass jars, tightly capped.

**Yogurt:** Okay to eat up to three weeks past "sell by" date, but most of the bacilli that make it so good for you will be dead three weeks before the expiration date.

**Poultry:** Cook or freeze within two days of purchase. Frozen, use within a month, or the chicken, etc. may taste wooden. □□□□



### Help is on the way!

BECAUSE THE DEMANDS ARE MORE,  
EVERY CHILD NEEDS ORGANIZATIONAL & LEARNING  
STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS  
IN  
MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

*This summer's workshops are scheduled as follows:*

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Incoming Sixth Graders: Session 1: | Aug 7th – 10th, 10 – 12 Noon    |
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| • Incoming Seventh & Eighth Graders: | Aug 14th – 17th, 3:30 – 5:30 PM |
- (Ask about workshops for younger or older students!)

All workshops are held at the McMurray Middle School.

Workshops are limited to 10 children. Tuition: \$70 (Scholarships are available.)  
Call Devon Atkins (353-9227) for information, and to reserve a spot.

# MadameToujours

Dear Madame Toujours,

Chere Mme. Believer,

Please, you have to help me right away with a huge emergency. I have been married for fifteen years to my college sweetheart Cal. Recently, Cal has been seeming more and more restless and dissatisfied with his life, his job and our two beautiful children Cameron and Rachel, so I was delighted when he decided to spend a week at a men's retreat in the mountains with a friend from work.

Cal came home from his "retreat" raving about the Church of the Reverend Billy Luke Beau Bob Duke and how we are all going to go on a wonderful journey in a spaceship called the General Lee. When I realized he wasn't joking, I slipped into my home office, went online and transferred all our joint assets into my personal account. Then I reported all Cal's credit cards stolen and emailed our lawyer and our broker and told them not to sell any of Cal's and my joint assets until they have spoken to me face to face.

Sure enough, the next day, Cal wanted to know what had happened to the money in our joint savings. When I told him, he demanded to know what I thought would happen come Ascension Day if we hadn't bought our places on the ship.

He was all ready to take the kids and move into The Hazard County Compound when I managed to trap him in the master bathroom. I've been slipping him beef jerky and fruit roll-ups under the door; he has plenty of water and enough toilet paper to last him about two weeks while I try to figure out how to deprogram him.

Help me, Madame Toujours. What can I do?

Sincerely,  
Not a True Believer

You are having from me the greatest sympathies. *M. Cal*, he is falling prey to the oldest affliction of the masculine persons: the midlife crisis.

Now you are saying, "But Madame Toujours, is not the midlife crisis when the mature fellows, they are falling in love with the inappropriate female types?"


*Oui*, this is usually being the case. Mysteriously, *les hommes*, they are hardly ever looking at the females with the short skirts and the round bottoms and saying to themselves, "Ah ha, this is the midlife crisis which is making all of the other men to behave like the braying jackasses. I will avoid the foolishness and thus be superior to the other fellows." No, they are invariably supposing that what they are experiencing, it is entirely unique and nobody is ever feeling this way before.

It is the same with *M. Cal* and the new religions. Unfortunately, he is being immune to the reasons and the logics, and he is not having enough of the toilet paper to remain in the bathroom until the hormones, they are settling down and he is feeling very sheepish and repentant for being such the big silliness. This is usually taking between six months and two years. I am recommending that you convert the bathroom into the vault with the small window as in the *Silence of the Lambs* for passing the healthful meals and enlightening reading materials.

*Bon Chance, Mme. Believer.* You may also wish to experiment with the behavior modifications using the handy "shock collar." This is not very effective for changing the behaviors, but you will be finding it is very soothing for the feelings. □□□□



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# Positively Speaking

By Deborah Anderson

## Dance, Children, Dance!

Continuing the saga of emptying storage..."Mom," my son says to me, "telling (my sister) you are late to pick her up from work because you were reading through my baby book, when you did not keep hers filled as completely, just doesn't cut it.

A warm summer day is perfect for going through the copies of *My Circulation System*, deciding if it's a pitch or a keep; any of the books, and deciding if it's a keep, pitch, or Friends (of the Library); Fisher Price and Breyer horses deciding if it's a keep, pitch or Grannies, and knowing, without hesitation, that good felt yardage automatically goes to Grannies.

When I was young, I thought I would have a house full of children. I learned quickly that in the middle of the women's movement, loving children was not an admirable quality. I was to acquire a career. I had a calling. I was more unsure of that career thing. I'm a veritable loser at corporate politics. I had some passions: music, children, dance and the theatre. Music I did for sheer pleasure, dance was limited by injuries in the accident, and theatre required a sense of self and a willingness to praise really sleazy guys who wore white patent leather shoes I didn't think I had. And besides, my scene design teacher exclaimed one day, "I know what's going to happen to you. You're going to end up in Detroit with six kids putting ketchup on steak." I had the nerve to carry a double major of theatre and early childhood.

Again, I wasn't sure why loving children was wrong because in fact I did want six children. I was thoroughly committed to A-1 sauce, and our family was all from Western Michigan not even close to Detroit. Everyone knew Kalamazoo was the cultural and educational hub of Michigan. His remarks puzzled me, except for the lasting impression that I was not discerning about this career thing.

Lest you wade through my career journey and my passion map, which is not the subject of this column, let me return to the love of children.

My idea of a good time is sitting on the floor with giant Legos. My idea of a good time is making sure there's enough water available to make mud. My idea of a good time is silly songs and rattles and books that rhyme and have flaps to turn up and pull out.

The single biggest thing I love about children is their ability to be in the moment and connected to their circumstances in the most creative and imaginative ways. I, personally think that if more people were in the moment and connected to the circumstances, world peace would be an option. You see, us grown ups are always worried about what's headed

down the road. I think I love children because there was so much 'grown up' in me at such an early age. The older I get, the more I admire the qualities of childhood. Someday I want to write, *The Preschoolers Guide to Corporate Politics*. It will have chapters in it like, "If It's in Their Hand, it's Their Turn!" and "Use Your Words When You Are Feeling Frustrated. " To be followed by the pivotal chapter, "If You Didn't Build It, You Can't Knock It Down."

So what's a person to do? I mean we aren't going to have a culture change. Children will forever be relegated to a one down position because they aren't about accomplishment and achievement and , after all, that is as it should be. I guess what I'm proposing is that we take childhood with us. Sit down and play jacks. Draw a hopscotch on your front walk and use it every time you come up to the door. Take a quiet moment and do some fingerpainting or mush a ball of Playdo. Buy a jug of bubbles and spend your lunch hour making doubles and triples.

For me? It's a dance mix CD my daughter made for me at college and sent home. She and I have the most delightful dance parties in kinda like our jammies. She was afraid if she wasn't there I wouldn't dance. I did. I do. I put that puppy on at the end of the day or a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon and crank up *I'm Holdin' Out for a Hero* till the windows rattle. When the music part of over, just for fun, she put on Jimmy Fallon's *Bathroom Wall* with the wonderful impressions of all your favorite bands auditioning for a Troll Dolls commercial, to say nothing of his living thesis that any eighties song can be sung over 'Can't Touch This'. I laugh at it every time like I'd never heard it before. Just tickles me silly.

We are a remarkably responsible population and we are all so wonderfully appropriate with each other and proper and business like and cultured and educated and wise. Even when we are in Vashon mode, which means we can run to the store in sweats, and listening dutifully to eccentrics at public meetings as if they were the head of some state, we are still a very refined people. Refinement is good. It helps the traffic flow. But I'm counting on the fact that we are better at being adults because some of us —behind closed doors— are dancin' in our jammies. Think it's unnecessary and silly? Oh no. I guarantee your inner child is waiting to smile from ear to ear and say a hearty, "Thank you for letting me come out and play!"

Jump rope. I forgot to mention jump rope."Cinderella dressed in yella, went upstairs to see her fella..."

Love  
Deborah



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## We've Got a Lot of Kids

By Kevin Pottinger

This is the thirteenth edition of this column. I write a column for every other issue of *The Loop*, so by means of mathematics, I've worked out that I've been writing this column for a year. That's an anniversary, so I'd like to present a special edition of *We've Got a Lot of Kids*, where our grimy ingrates are mentioned only in passing reference.

This summer I'll turn fifty years old. In five years I can get a senior discount at Coco's. I had my babies pretty late in life. Seven years away from the senior discounts at Coco's to be exact. I'm pretty much permanently old, and none of our kids are in kindergarten yet. The only other men still having babies in their late forties and fifties are either rock stars or billionaires. I'm neither, and I did nothing to deserve the blessings of four healthy babies so late in life, except to wish for it.

My contribution to the baby-making activity was pretty short; although not too short; it was something I'd been practicing for years. To stress the point further, there was really no reason why I should receive such an abundance of love and children, except that my wife Maria made it so, apparently, because she loves me.

I have doubts that I'm a great, or even a very good father. I have very little advice on fathering that is of any use, even to me. I'm probably quite average or possibly below average on the Modern Fathering Scale, which measures the likelihood that one day your kids will enter therapy to complain about you.

Most of the time I have very little patience, and I'm certainly not very generous with my time. Just about everything I'm interested in takes precedence over spending time with these kids I write about. A week-old Rite-Aid circular can easily divert my attention from a beautiful child of ours asking to sit on my lap and have a book read to her. I make

the kids hurry through everything. We have no college fund. Yet somehow our children are growing up happy and healthy, and seem to love me with all their hearts and souls. I did what amounts to just above nothing to achieve this. Maria has made this so; again, because she loves me.

I had always hoped that someday I would have a family, children of my own. In my early forties, circumstances forced me to accept the idea that I would remain childless for the rest of my life. Then situations changed, and circumstances changed again; I met my lovely wife Maria, we agreed, we got pregnant, again and again, and so my beautiful family came to be.

In this one-year anniversary column, I'd like to make clear that I *get* it. I know pretty much exactly how lucky I am. Usually I write of our frustrations in trying to parent what seems to us to be several dozen kids. Maybe treasuring my family in print isn't as interesting to me as writing about the spilled water at the dinner table.

I figure I can write one column a year on how much I love my kids, and how lucky I am to have them, and to share life with my beautiful wife who loves me more than I can know or understand.

So in gratitude to the God that made salt water and seaweed, and dark and light, and all the beautiful kids and all the weedy grass they play on, thank you. To my wife Maria, who has made this life we live possible, thank you, you're a peach. To each of my kids, who will likely read this column twenty years from now, because Maria scrapbooks these columns for them, and who will probably wonder how these words could have come from the mind of the Dad they will have come to know: see, I have always loved you, even before you could remember.

And to the community of Vashon, our friends and neighbors, and especially Troy and Marie and Mary who publish *The Loop* and let me write this column once a month, thanks for the use of the hall.







Vashon Grapplers at the SFU Olympian Wrestling Camp: Top left to right: S. Shiosaki, Alex Steamboat, Geran Webb, Dr. Dolittle, and Edward Scissorhands Protzeller. Bottom Row: Officer Triceps and Tenacious Chase Wickman.

**Ernie,**  
What you been up to? Missed you last issue. Sleep through the deadline? Been busy filing away your old *Sports Illustrated*? Designing the new bridge from Point Defiance to Cheney Stadium? Dusting off Sammy Sosa’s pre-season home run ball? What gives? Came all the way here from Chi-town and now you’re apparently taking it eazzzzzy?  
Blake “the snake” Magnuson



Kiss off Les Bleus! We still got our style, our pizza, and our Ronald\_\_\_\_\_ (you fill in the blank).



Germans take a small break from their busy schedule in Munich to celebrate their lucky World Cup win over Sweden.

Before the riots in Frankfurt broke out there was this simple drill session. Hoffweber with the single and Torch on the defense. “I would have let him finish it, “Torch claimed, “if he hadn’t slapped my arss on the way down. And who was to know that I had to whole country of Portugal on my side?”



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Tenacious Chase Wickman gets some expert instruction from 3 time World Medalist, Chris Wilson, at the SFU Olympian Wrestling Camp.

Blackberry Bear and the Adventrues of Huckleberry Hollow



By Becky and Maggie Bumgarner  
Illustrations by Maggie Bumgarner

The Great Celtic Star  
Part Three

Wizzy has told Blackberry the story of the Gullywhoppers and the Cyclops, and how the Great Celtic Star was placed in the sky, and now he’s telling the rest of the story of the Great Celtic Star:  
Well, the Gullywhopper never did replace his lost tooth, though he searched and searched, but an interesting thing happened because of that piece of the Cyclops’ gold that burned his fingers and flew into the sky.



At about the same time as the Gullywhoppers and Cyclops were hanging about there lived a great King on an Island in the Aegean Sea. His name was Theodore. He had a daughter named Nebula, whom he spoiled rotten. She was his only child and he let her have her way with everything. Every night when the Starcounters were busy with their hard work, she would sneak into their observatory and count other numbers out loud to see if she could distract them and get them off count.

Now we all know that Zeus is the head of the Heavens and he didn’t ask much of King Theodore. All he wanted him to do was to have a nightly tally of all the stars in the sky. When he heard of what was happening, he was very upset. Even if Theodore was too weak to punish his daughter, Zeus was not.

He had Nebula brought before him and said, “Now young lady, since you like to count so much when the Starcounters count, we will make you one of them. Your job will be special. I am putting you in charge of all the stars in the sky. You must make sure from this time on that the stars are all counted and in their proper place every night. As a part of your duties, I will give you the power to fly.”

At first Nebula thought this to be great fun, but as the years went on and she got older, she also got a little slower. Then, all of a sudden to her amazement one night there was another star in the sky. It was the Great Celtic Star, just a little too fast for her to catch and it had a rather funny motion problem in that it went all over the place most likely due to some of those powders of long ago.

She tries to catch it every night. That’s what you see when you look up and a shiny object goes darting across the sky. It’s not really a shooting star. It’s just the Great Celtic Star darting across the sky with Nebula chasing after it. Oh, and if you are ever down by a stream and hear a whistling sound from the bushes, you will know that it’s just the Gullywhopper looking for his tooth.

“Gosh, Wizzy,” said Blackberry, “I’ve seen Nebula chasing the Celtic Star! Do you think she will ever catch it?”

“Well, Blackberry, I think if Zeus had wanted her to catch that star, she would have caught it by now,” Wizzy said with a kind, wizardly smile.

“Oh,” said Blackberry with a yawn. “That was a great story, Wizzy. Thanks.” He yawned again. “I think my little bed is calling me.”

“That’s a call you’d do well to answer. Good night, Blackberry,” said Wizzy. “Pleasant dreams.” So Blackberry trundled off to bed, and Wizzy went back to counting the stars in the sky and making sure they were all in their proper place. He didn’t get to bed for a long time.

The End





# Loopy Laffs

If a turtle loses his shell, is he naked or homeless?

Laughter is the best lubricant for life's engine.

A scientist crossed a carrier pigeon with a woodpecker and got a bird that not only delivers messages but knocks on the door when it gets there.

Two fellows die at a ripe old age and go to Heaven. It is, of course, the most beautiful, wonderful place imaginable. One of them, eyes misting with tears, remarks, "Isn't this marvelous?" The other says, "Yes! And to think we could have gotten here so much sooner if we hadn't eaten all that oat bran!"

The doctor answered the phone and heard the familiar voice of a colleague on the other end of the line. "We need a fourth for poker," said the friend. "I'll be right over," whispered the doctor. As he was putting on his coat, his wife asked, "Is it serious?" "Oh yes, quite serious," said the doctor gravely. "In fact, there are three doctors there already!"

A watched clock never boils.  
Today is the last day of your life, so far.  
Love is grand, divorce is a hundred grand.  
Creditors have better memory than debtors.  
What if there were no hypothetical questions?  
Ignorance picks up confidence as it goes along.  
Don't wait for your ship to come in—swim out to it.  
A tree never hits an automobile except in self-defense.  
I was trying to daydream, but my mind kept wandering.  
To a worm, digging in the hard ground is more relaxing than going fishing.

The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits. —Albert Einstein

## WILD WORLD / Ed Frohning



Each Friday night I drove my wife to the station for the train to Weimar, California so she could visit her sister who was ill. Ten minutes later, my sister arrived by train from Sacramento to manage our household over the weekend. On Sundays this procedure worked in reverse with my sister departing by train ten minutes before my wife arrived. One evening after my sister left and while I awaited my wife's arrival, a porter sauntered over. "Mister," he said, "you are sure some man! But one of these days you are goin' to get caught!"

“Curiosity killed the cat, but for a while I was a suspect.” -Stephen Wright

## OFFSHORE



## LOGJAM





Loop Arts



Murray Andrews as Elwood P. Dowd; Harvey as Himself. Photo courtesy of Drama Dock

Come See the Comedy Classic, *Harvey*

Hop on over to the Vashon High School Theatre to see the much beloved play *Harvey*, the story of a man and his friend, an invisible six-foot rabbit.

Drama Dock presents *Harvey*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Mary Chase made most famous by the 1950 Academy Award-winning Jimmy Stewart movie. The story: Elwood P. Dowd, a mild-mannered business man, just happens to have an invisible friend. This friend is Harvey, a rabbit. That's alarming! His sister, Veta, decides to have him committed to avoid family embarrassment. Due to a comedy of errors, however, it's Veta who is committed. The confusion is sorted out, with many comedic hijinks, and so the search is on to find Elwood and his invisible friend Harvey. Elwood is delusional. He should be committed! Or should he? Maybe he's better off continuing her friendship with an enormous pooka. Or is he?! Oh, comedy and laughter. Laughter and comedy.

The show is directed by Chris Ott, the same director who brought Vashonites last summer's Drama Dock success *Treasure Island*. The show is being produced by Jim Roy and the cast is a who's who of some of Vashon's finest actors. Murray Andrews is playing the role of Elwood Dowd. Sigrid Thomas plays his sister, Veta. Lisa Breen, Phil Dunn, Brian Quakenbush, Vasa Elainie, Frank Petree, Peter Kreitner, David Warren, Gaye Detzer, and Diana Ammon round out the cast.

Showing at the Vashon High School Theatre, the play is sure to make audiences roar with laughter. The show runs for two weekends, **Friday, July 21, Saturday, July 22, and Sunday, July 23; and Friday, July 28, Saturday, July 29, and Sunday, July 30.** The curtain goes up at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings, and curtain time is 2 p.m. for the Sunday matinees. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for seniors and students. Tickets can be purchased at Books by the Way.

Don't be a palooka, come watch the pooka and the rest of the zany cast of characters on stage for Drama Dock's fun production of *Harvey*!



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

Friday, July 28

# Help is on the way!

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EVERY CHILD NEEDS ORGANIZATIONAL & LEARNING  
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(Ask about workshops for younger or older students!)

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Workshops are limited to 10 children. Tuition: \$70 (Scholarships are available.)  
Call Devon Atkins (353-9227) for information, and to reserve a spot.

Megan Burt

Launches NW Tour

Seattle Favorite Kyle Kovalik

Featured Artist

Singer/songwriter Megan Burt (www.meganburt.com) is joined by Seattle favorite Kyle Kovalik as opening artist and backing musician on Saturday, July 22 from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Café Luna on Vashon Island.

Inspired by her travels to South America, Africa, the Near East and



A portion of Megan Burt. Photo courtesy Megan Burt

Far East, Megan's original music is known for its sweet and complex melodies and clever lyrics. She has a vital and powerful stage presence that draws her audience into the fun of her performance. She covers blues, folk and pop standards, but her growing fan base most often requests her original music. She

performs regularly in Boston, Denver and in the New York theatre district.

The Megan Burt Summer 2006 Tour includes performances in Boston, where she is completing studies at the Berklee College of Music; Denver; Los Angeles; San Antonio Santa Fe; and Seattle.

Guitarist/songwriter Kyle Kovalik has been around the block, and then some. Kyle has traveled extensively in search of the perfect tune and the perfect wave for his kayak. Although best known for his electric rock guitar stylings, Kyle has a softer acoustic side that appears in his ballads of love, loss and redemption. Kyle spent numerous years as a Grand Canyon river guide, which lends a certain western flavor to many of his songs. He is an early graduate of the guitar program at the Musician's Institute in Los Angeles and has lived in the Seattle area for several decades, in between kayaking trips, of course.

For more information, contact Kyle Kovalik at (206) 369-0509, or email him at: kyle.kovalik@comcast.net; you can contact Megan Burt at: megan@meganburtt.com www.meganburtt.com



Whooping it up at the April, 2006, Ceili. Photo courtesy hoilands.com

July Irish Ceili Dance at the Vashon Grange Hall - Saturday July 22!

On **Saturday, July 22** the Vashon Celtic Dance Society will host a community Irish Ceili dance with live, traditional Irish music at the Grange Hall. The dance will be held from 7p.m. to 10 p.m., with a suggested donation of \$8 (\$6 for students and seniors). The Grange Hall is located in the ferry dock parking lot at the north end of the Island. Ceili dancing is a "barn dance" style accessible to nearly everyone. No partner or experience is required. Kathleen

O'Grady-Graham will teach and call the dances and music will be provided by The Gold Ring. The Vashon Celtic Dance Society hosts the only regularly scheduled Irish Ceili dances in the Puget Sound area, and folks come from as far as Portland to dance. Photos of past dances can be found at www.hoilands.com. For more information about the Vashon Celtic Dance Society, or to volunteer, call Shannon Seath Meyer at (206) 774-4047.

July 19, 06

Robbie Fulks

Returns to Vashon!

Robbie Fulks and his band, featuring Grant Tye on electric guitar, Gerald Dowd on drums and Mike Fredrickson on bass, will be back on Vashon **Tuesday, August 1**, at 8 p.m. at Bishops Cafe. If you've been lucky enough to see Robbie and the boys play before, you know what a rip-

r o a r i n g musical treat you're in store for. If you haven't made it to one of Robbie's Vashon shows yet, well, what are you waiting for? Robbie, in addition to being almost 7



Robbie Fulks

feet tall, is one of the best flat-pick guitar players in the country, and his singing and songwriting are 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 1 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.

Pirates of the Carribbean

Dead Man's Chest



We know that by the time you see this ad the picture will be gone. We just like to look at Johnny Depp.

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www.vashontheater.com  
for times



## Bluescats swing Ober Park

By Janice Randall

Summer concerts in the Park get into full swing when six-piece rockin’ blues band Tim Casey and the Bluescats hit the Island, Thursday, August 3, 7 to 9 pm, Ober Park. Vashon Park District, Vashon Allied Arts and Windermere Realty sponsor the free all-ages concert. Bring picnics and lawn chairs, but please, no alcohol in the Park.

Wear your dancing shoes for lively jump and swing tunes, upbeat rock and roll, Texas and Chicago shuffles, soul classics and New Orleans-style grooves. In addition to guitars, smokin’ vocals and percussion, the Bluescats feature a three-piece horn section that is sure to catch your attention.

The band earned nominations for Best Blues Recording 2005 by Washington Blues Society. In addition, Seattle Weekly Music Awards nominated the Bluescats for Best Blues Band in Seattle. Band founder, Tim Casey started his musical career in Los Angeles as a drummer for cover rock bands. Disillusioned with the LA rock scene, Casey picked up the guitar and started singing the blues. Four CD’s and a DVD later, the Bluescats perform throughout the West including Bumbershoot and summer festivals. Liven up a summer evening with Tim Casey and the Bluescats and dance the night away.



## What’s Happening At Vashon Bookshop?

By Devon Atkins

My children have always been avid readers, but, now at 18 and 20 years old, nothing in their lives is predictable, and that includes reading. Alex continues to read in inconsistent gulps (anything from Jarrad Diamond to Faulkner), while Lizz takes small, tentative bites of 20<sup>th</sup> century novellas and 21<sup>st</sup> century teenage magazines. And, would I have them read something else if I could? Probably, but so what? It’s their job is to create their own identity in everything they do, including reading.

As a tutor and workshop leader to middle and high school children, I talk with lots of parents. Many of them are passionate about reading, always read to their beginning readers, and can’t understand why their teenagers don’t read. But often, the teens are reading; they’re just not reading what and how their parents expect.

What I’ve learned from kids about learning is that most reading is worth it, and almost any reading is better than no reading at all. But, we’ve got to get beyond the classics and the latest 500+ word novel. Teenagers should be encouraged to read their community’s newspapers, and to respond by writing a letter to The Editor. Boys, especially, don’t take to fiction/novels as easily as girls, but parents need to think creatively. Think Ripley’s Believe It or Not, The Book of Lists, The Idiots Guide To..., cookbooks, biographies, atlases, books about building and repairing, books about blogging, books about making money, books about God(s), books about famous people, rock ‘n roll, outrageous careers, and all the exotic places they have yet to see. And, don’t forget about poetry and books of short stories and flash fiction. Lots of kids read online, and there are lots of great sites, such as Sports Illustrated (sikids.com), Time for Kids (timeforkids.com), and a slew of great sites that you can access through ala.org/greatsites, a website created especially for families by the American Library Association.

And, don’t dismiss magazines! Children who don’t read much (or only read required academics) might not enjoy reading a five hundred-page novel. So, start short; sit your kid down in our own Library’s magazine section, and consider

## Quartermaster Press exhibits at Blue Heron

By Janice Randall

Six artists from Quartermaster Press, brought together by their love of printmaking, will celebrate Island life in a group exhibit at the Blue Heron Gallery during August. The show, entitled “Island Songs, will feature work by Brian Fisher, Suzanna Leigh, Ilse Reimnitz, Edith Sehulster, Marian Wachter and Bonnie Wilkins.

Seeking through their art what exactly it means to be an ‘Islander,’ these artists will offer a variety of imagery and printmaking styles to reflect from their different perspectives, including geology, leaves and people. Please join the artists for gallery opening, Friday, August 4, 6 to 9 pm. Live music provided by Island jazz trio,



Richard Person, trumpet, Jim Hobson, piano and Steve Meyer, upright bass. Windermere Real Estate cosponsors Blue Heron Gallery exhibits.

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magazines (which subscription would your child like?) and the graphic novel, an especially popular mix of literature and comics. Look for reviews at *No Flying No Tights* (noflyingnotights.com). And, consider writing; there’s a pretty strong connection between writing and reading, so don’t overlook opportunities to encourage your teenager to keep in touch with faraway friends, to write fan letters, or to keep a journal.

There are a zillion opportunities for reading; it’s just a matter of finding the right one. Make a point, every once in a while, of leaving one of these opportunities in a backpack or on a night table, and consider suggesting that he read something that you’ve enjoyed. But keep in mind, no matter how good you think it is, your teenager’s not going to give it the time of day if he’s not interested. Think beyond reading lists. Think about your child and his interests, and remember that what really matters is that the reading is well-written, but most importantly, that it is compelling to your child.

Which only goes to prove, once again, that there is more to Vashon Bookshop than just books. (Except this time, of course.) And, next time you’re in the Bookshop, watch for their list of suggested reads for reluctant readers.

## Free VAA Music Festival Celebrates 40th

*Continued from page 1*

Everyone is invited! Special thanks to presenting sponsor, Safeco with additional funding by Vashon Park District and Thriftway. A reminder that Camp Burton is an alcohol-free venue.

“Blast from the Past” will feature several performers who got their start through VAA, many who honed their skills at the Blue Heron and a few who have gone on to earn regional and national acclaim. Performers include: Daryl Redeker, Ron Hook, Mindy Manley Little, Eric

Tingstad, Carter Castle, Mark Graham, Steffon and Arlette Moody, Linda Severt, Mary Litchfield Tuel, Gary Koch, Kat Eggleston, Geordie’s Byre, Dick and Fran Gordon, Marsha Morse, excerpts from “Emily, Emily,” Blue Heron dancers, Blue Heron Youth Theater, Handbell Duet and surprise guests. Delicious Asian cuisine and beverages will be available by Wok In Take Out.

Don’t miss this event; this is history in the making!

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Contact [info@madronaprimary.org](mailto:info@madronaprimary.org) for more information. Mail applications and cover letter to: P.O. Box 2273 Vashon, WA 98070. The Madrona School is an equal opportunity employer.

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