

In This Issue: Earthfair gripes, CERT information, August gardens, Back-to-School Drive, Planet Waves, Chamomile, Whispers, Buzzing Ions, Jokes, ‘toons, Drama, Music, and more!



Solitary Sandpipers
Page 7



Vashon Youth Theater Project: the First Two Years. Were you one of these kids?



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THE VASHON LOOP

Vol. 3, # 17

TO INFORM AND AMUSE ~ TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM

August 16, 2006

PUD: What Does a Public Utility District Mean for You?

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

The voters of Vashon will have the opportunity to decide whether to have a Public Utility District this November. Meg Gluckman, spokeswoman for the project, fielded some frequently asked questions.

When asked what the public’s main concerns about the PUD are, Gluckman listed them succinctly:

Will we be paying more taxes?

“No! A PUD has the authority to tax, but not one of the existing PUDs in Washington State does levy a tax, and PUD commissioners cannot levy a tax. Only the population living within the PUD can vote for taxes, and we don’t see that happening!”

“You won’t be part of the District unless you sign up.”

“A PUD is a good mechanism to go out and get grants. We will be seeking funds from banks, state, and federal sources. As a District we can get lower interest rates than individuals.”

We don’t want to elect any more commissioners.

“Three

Continued on page 4

Ward Silver and Chris Hurlbut Place 6th in International Radio Competition



The Foz do Iguacu (Iguacu Falls) are the largest in South America and far too grand in scope for a single photograph. The famous “Devil’s Throat” (Garganta del Diablo) lies in the gorge to the center and right. This photo was taken during low water! The Iguacu River forms the boundary between Argentina (across the river), Brazil, and Paraguay (not seen here). Photo by Ward Silver

Ward Silver is back on the Island after placing sixth in an international radio competition on Florianopolis, an island off the coast of Brazil. Silver and his radio partner, Chris Hurlbut, were one of forty-six radio teams who came from many countries to compete.

The contest involved setting up a high-performance radio station, and then, in a twenty-four hour period, trying to contact as many radio stations as possible all over the world.

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Photo by Cynthia Phillips

Old Fuller Store Celebrates Rebirth

By Lauri Hennessey

On **Sunday, August 20**, from 2 to 5 p.m., Islanders have a chance to come and celebrate at the Old Fuller Store (formerly Owen’s Antiques), at the corner of Cemetery Road and Vashon Highway. Lauri Hennessey took time to talk to the new owners of the Old Fuller Store, Roy McMakin and Michael Jacobs, and see what they have in mind for the location.

LH: OK, why is it called the Old Fuller Store?

RM and MJ: After we bought the building, we started researching the history of the building. We knew that it was an old building, and was built in the 1880s, and we found that the Fuller family had owned the building from then until the 1920s,

Continued on page 6

Great Horned Owl Returned to Wild

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

In the last issue of *The Loop*, we printed an entry from the Wolftown website blog about an ailing Great Horned Owl. Wolftown director T Martino had gathered up the owl, and brought him back to the project for rest and rehabilitation.

Last Friday, August 11, he was freed in an Island forest.

“We have given him a chance,” Martino said as she walked the dusty trail to the release



The Great Horned Owl soon after he arrived at Wolftown

point, carrying a crate with the owl inside. “He needs to learn better hunting skills. He was about 600 grams when we got him, and today he weighs 1300 grams. Hopefully he’ll do OK.”

Once Martino reached the release point, she put the crate down, and asked the few witnesses to get behind the crate, stand back, crouch down, and be quiet! Then she silently went up to the crate, opened the door, and lifted the cloth covering the door.

The owl did not stick around for the photo op, which accounts for the blurry nature of the one photo he appears in. He leaped out of the

cage, and took off flying within a second after the door opened. He landed on a branch in a nearby tree, and then flew off and was seen no more.

“The owl was with us for over a month,” Martino said after the release. “The first week was spent stabilizing him and flushing his system, also treating him for his condition; the next two weeks we worked on getting him to his correct weight; and the last week we spent conditioning him for release.”

“He won’t come back to the project. Birds of prey relinquish all bonds with humans within 72 hours of their release.”



T Martino takes a quiet moment...



...before approaching the crate to open the door...



...and lift the towel, releasing the Great Horned Owl inside the crate.



Things get blurry as the owl leaps out and takes flight in less than a second.

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VashonBePrepared

The Times, They Are A'Changin'

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

Come Join Our Vashon Democratic Club 2006 Annual Potluck Picnic!

Get your appetite ready for food, conversation, and fun. You're invited to the Vashon Democratic Club's 2006 Annual Potluck Picnic on **Saturday, August 19**, from 5:30 p.m. until dusk, at 22744 Wax Orchard Road SW.

From Wax Orchard Road, turn into the main Wax Orchards entrance (at the Wax Orchards sign). Stay to the left when the drive branches. Look for signs directing traffic.

We will have several speakers, including: Hong Tran, candidate for US Senator; Mark Wilson, speaking on behalf of US Sen. Maria Cantwell's reelection campaign; State Sen. Erik Poulsen; and State Rep. Eileen Cody. Come prepared with your comments and questions for these folks!

Try our "You Be the Candidate" contest! Stand on our soapbox and give a two-minute speech about why you should be elected to any office you choose. Be as serious or as humorous as you wish! After all the speeches are given, the audience will vote for who gave the best campaign speech. The winner will receive an invaluable prize (or, at least, the accolades of his/her peers!).

What to bring: Something to grill on our barbecue, a salad, or a dessert—enough to feed all those in your party. We urge you to bring your own dinnerware—how much greenhouse gas is released in the creation of paper plates, Styrofoam cups, etc? Condiments will be provided. Bring an outdoor chair or blanket if desired; there are no picnic tables.

More information:
Roger Fulton, (206) 463-5652,
vdcpicnic@capturingmemories.com.
We hope to see you there!

Read The Loop online at:
www.vashonloop.com
Email: editor@vashonloop.com

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.

Keeping Our History—Sharing Our Story:

An Archives and History Workshop

Diane Wells, Archivist and Records Manager for the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia will lead a free workshop on archives and history. The workshop will be held at Church of the Holy Spirit, Vashon, on **Saturday, August 26**, from 10:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Diane will discuss various ways and means of preserving, protecting and sharing the history and documentary heritage of congregations. She will discuss the importance of keeping congregational archives and provide basic how-to information. She will also talk about implementing good recordkeeping practices and supply resources on records management fundamentals.

Everyone is welcome!! Church administrators, secretaries, archivists, historians and anyone else with recordkeeping – or record using – responsibilities or interests are particularly urged to attend.

There is no fee but you are asked to register by contacting Diane Wells at (206) 325-4200 or dwells@ecww.org Bring a brown bag lunch. We look forward to seeing you!

Accordion Master Class with Nova Devonie

Attention accordion enthusiasts! Nova Devonie, a professional accordion instructor and performer known for her amazing performances with such bands as Ranch Romance, Jo Miller & her Burly Roughnecks, and Miles & Karina will be on Vashon Island on **Tuesday, August 22**, to teach a master class in accordion at Vashon Island Music from 7 to 9 p.m. The group lesson costs \$30 and is limited to 10 participants. Private lessons with Nova are also available earlier that day. Call now to reserve your space, (206) 463-0552.

Senior Center Dinner and Auction Saturday, August 23

The Senior Center will be holding its first dinner and auction on **Saturday, September 23**, at the Veteran's Hall (formerly the VFW Hall). The dinner will offer a choice of 3 different Italian entrees, plus salad, dessert and a choice of wine or other beverage. Tickets will be sold at the Senior Center beginning August 14 at \$20.00 each. Get your tickets early as they will be limited.

Donations for the auction of any kind, including "Labor of Love" items, will be greatly appreciated, including sponsors who will be recognized and offered 2 free tickets. Some of the items already acquired for the auction are a week at a Mexican Resort, a visit from Santa and a cord of firewood. Smaller items will also be very welcome and can be combined in a basket to make a really desirable auction item. Please contact Nancy Radford at 463-2142 if you can help out in any way.

PUD Discussion Next Monday

The **Monday, August 21**, meeting of the Vashon-Maury Island Community Council will feature a discussion the upcoming ballot issue for a Vashon Public Utility District. Deirdre Grace will present the proposal. All adult Vashon residents are Community Council members, and are encouraged to attend. The meetings are the third Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Courthouse Square.

VMICC Nominating Committee Seeks Board Members

By Jay Becker

Another opportunity to volunteer opened recently on the Island. You could help determine what issues come before the monthly Vashon-Maury Island Community Council meetings. Nomination forms for the VMICC board are at the Vashon Library and *Beachcomber* office already.

Nominations close October 3 for the election November 7. The nine-member board determines the Council agenda and oversees committees like the Transportation/Ferry Committee and the Economic Development Committee.

The Transportation Committee has been in the news lately what with several surveys and using the results of those surveys to successfully influence the ferry system, Nominating Committee chairman Jay Becker said.

Other members are Dave Vogel, a former president of the council, Melvin Mackey and Roger Fulton. Others may join the committee.

"We'd like a woman's viewpoint on the committee," Becker said, to help continue the board diversity. A balanced board is the ideal, he explained. This includes young people if they can spend two nights a month in meetings.

Questions? Call Becker, (206) 790-9457.

Islanders can nominate others they think would be committed to serving, and then Nominating Committee members will contact whoever is nominated.

The Board sets the agenda for the monthly public Council meetings, supervises committees, and carries out votes at the monthly meetings, as appropriate. The Board meets the first Monday of the month to discuss agendas and other matters. Full Council meetings are the third Monday of the month. All residents of the Island over 18 can vote at council meetings. The council speaks for Islanders to the county and other public and private agencies.



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

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Laugh for the Health of It

There will be a Laughter Hour, **Sunday, August 27**, at Ober Park taught by Gail Wolz, certified laughter leader. Meet at the peace pole, watch for balloons. We will follow ideas brainstormed by Dr. Kataria of India, where he realized that laughter helped his patients heal. Various silly activities (e.g., pretend you are on a roller coaster going up, up, up, and when you reach the top, visualize and howl with laughter as you speed down) will help stimulate laughter and remind us to not only laugh because something is obviously funny, but also to find that something is funny because we laugh!

Small Fruits Workshop

On **Saturday, August 26**, Vashon Island Fruit Club is holding a workshop on small fruits from 2 to 5 p.m. at several locations. First, strawberries and raspberries will be discussed at Randy Robinson's place (Vashon Co-Housing, 10421 SW Bank Rd, #11). Next, blackberries will be covered at Jeff and Lisa Mathias home (10308 SW 204th. Coming from Vashon, at Sound Food intersection, make right on 204th). Finally, blueberries will be discussed at Bella Ormseth's home (13505 SW 261st Place. Gravel road to the West, just north of Camp Sealth. See sign).

For further information, please contact Maryrose Asher at 567-0593.

The Vashon Loop

Writers: Kathy Abascal, Deborah Anderson, Rachel Bard, Becky Bumgarner, Marie Browne, Eric Francis, Fran Gordon, Jeff Hoyt, Troy Kindred, Melissa McCann, Orca Annie, Kevin Pottinger, Rex Morris, Weslie Rodgers, Jonathan Shipley, Ed Swan, Mary L. Tuel, Marj Watkins

Guest Writers this issue: Janice Randall, Laurie Hennessey, Bill Franz

Interns: Morgan Wegner, Rozie Royal

Photographers: T Kindred, Jc Kindred, Alex Kindred, Mary L. Tuel

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

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

(206) 463-9207

Editor: Mary Litchfield Tuel

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

Publishers: Marie Browne and Troy Kindred

PO Box 253, Vashon, WA 98070

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What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?



Troy and Marie Go Blogging

We have a lot of information to share about real estate and related topics. And we field a lot of questions from people about real estate, about building on the Island (it take lawyers, guns, and money) and about life on Vashon in general. So it seemed only natural that we should join the wild, wild world of blogging.



Troy: I'm stoked about our new blog. This will be a great tool for talking to people about real estate and related topics.

Marie: Don't say stoked. That's just for snowboarders. But I'm excited, too. I like that a blog allows more interaction with people than a plain old website. For our readers who are not really familiar with blogs, maybe we should explain what they are.

Troy: Sure. A blog (short for "weblog") is basically an on-line journal intended for other people to read – and to contribute to. People can maintain their anonymity when they ask questions, which is important to lots of folks.

Marie: I can understand that. If I wanted to know how to clean up my credit score, for example, I wouldn't necessarily want the whole world to know that I was asking.

Troy: Exactly. Plus, we can put lots of other useful and fun stuff on the blog.

Marie: Like what?

Troy: Like video, audio recordings, lots and lots of pictures. And we can add links to real estate related sites so people can find information easily.

Marie: What kind of video? We're not getting personal, are we?

Troy: You'll see what I have in mind.

Marie: Yikes. You're scaring me. But I trust your good taste and judgment. For sure it will be a great forum for answering questions about real estate here on the Island – and points beyond - and about what it's like to live on an Island. I know you hate it when I point this out, but together we have over 50 years of experience living here. I would say that makes us experts.

Troy: It just makes me feel old, that's all.

Marie: But you look great, especially since you've been working out so religiously this last month. Maybe we should post before and after pictures of you on our blog.

Troy: In your dreams. Let's tell readers how to find our new blog.

Marie: Sure. It's at troyandmarie.blogspot.com. Check it out. To see property listings and the usual real estate stuff, visit us at www.kwvashon.com.

Email us at troy@kwvashon.com or marie@kwvashon.com. Call us at 206.463.LIST (5478). We would love to help you with your real estate needs.

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MLS 26103180

Waterfront! 22908 Vashon Hwy SW

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



MLS 260

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



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**



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LoOpEd

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

Vashon as Eden: So How Much Water Am I Using, Really?

By Tom Herring

The annual water shortage on Vashon-Maury has arrived; witness our yard and the price of bottled water at Earth Fair.

So also has come the end of two months’ searching for a way to display water flow into our home. This long-standing need got moved to the front spigot when The Loop allowed into print a long rant on Vashon-Maury as Eden. Until then I was checking on flow by going into one of our two bathrooms where the clicks from our water meter were just audible. Suddenly a search on the internet was begun in earnest on behalf of others similarly in need.

Here is the report: Nationwide, cities are automating the reading of water meters as soon as adequate funds can be siphoned off. Some cities put the meter cost on the bill, most do not. The showcase is California assembly bill 2572 signed by Arnold in September of 2004 that in effect mandates remote-read meters by year 2025. Yet with a precious three exceptions there is no mention anywhere of stringing a little wire from meter to kitchen. Instead, with no exception, the cities reel out a tired litany of shower heads that trickle and toilets that need two flushes to clear a proper job.

Of the precious three only two do water, and none are cities, but still. The three are Manitoba Hydro, Wellspring (a multi-unit service company), and Badger Meter. MH will put in new gas and electric meters for which one feature is home consumption display. Wellspring sells water sub-metering that includes not only a display for the apartment manager but also a display in each unit. Badger Meter’s new Orion line of water meters includes a small box, easily installed in the kitchen. A welcome finding along the way has been the wide availability of add-on gadgets for existing water meters that enable remote reading by the utility. For more information, see: <http://www.bwired.nl/Water.asp>

This first step on the long journey back into the future Eden will be followed by a study of hot water solar panels.

Meanwhile don’t fool with that showerhead. Just hang a small bucket in the shower to dip your washcloth in.

PUD

Continued from page 1

commissioners are required by state law for a District the size that ours would be,” Gluckman said. “You won’t have to deal with the commissioners unless you’re a customer.” A part of this concern is the wish not to form another level of bureaucracy. “Again, it’s a volunteer program.”

Why do we need it? PSE does energy conservation. “A PUD would be a community organization, not an outside entity like PSE, and as such a PUD would be part of the growing movement for sustainability on the Island. We are a new idea – a PUD formed specifically for energy conservation. The Washington PUD Association is very excited, and supports us.”

“Our first and foremost concern is energy conservation. The PUD would be totally voluntary. You have to sign up to be a customer. Once you sign up, we’d do an energy audit of your house and predict potential savings that could be made. The PUD would pay for upgrades out front. Then the customer would make monthly payments based on the money saved by the upgrades.”

“We plan for bills to be less than \$100 a month,” Gluckman said.

There will be a presentation about the PUD at the next Community Council meeting, on Monday, August 21, at 7 p.m. at the Courthouse. The public is invited.

Stay tuned for more information about a Public Utility District between now and November.

Closed Saturdays!

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Loop Letter

Earthfair Neighbor Not Happy

Editor, The Loop:
(This was originally written on Sunday, August 7.)

I am one of the nearest neighbors to Paradise Ridge Park and Earthfair, just over the fence from the campers and main stage. As I’m sitting here, I can clearly see at least a dozen tents on two sides of my house and hear several shouted conversations.

I’m writing because of my increasing irritation at having Earthfair forced upon our doorstep—literally. Over the years I’ve lived here, the fair has become more and more intrusive on our privacy, our peace and, sometimes, our safety. What started as an Island-focused gathering has evolved into a neo-flower child festival right in my back yard.

Please don’t get me wrong—I’m an ex-hippie from the Bay Area who lived on communes in the 70s and recycled when it was such a new concept that I had to truck it to the only recycling site in Berkeley, ten miles away. I live the concept of Earthfair and reside peacefully and responsibly on the earth.

We have just spent another restless night being disturbed by drumming, singing and wailing (yes, wailing along with the drums) until 2:30 a.m. This of course goes along with two days and nights of loud rock music, microphones, crowd noise, and dozens of campers not 50 feet from our house and main yard—some of whom are not very considerate about keeping the noise down and respecting our privacy. We have to keep our cats inside or risk them freaking out by the noise and running away. We can’t let our dog outside without tying him up—he naturally wants to protect the property by barking at the campers he can see through the fence—and we have to take him on a leash several times a day so he can relieve himself instead of simply letting him out in his yard. By doing so, we are preventing him from barking constantly at the fairgoers across the fence.

If we don’t blockade our private gravel road, people will park all along it and further degrade our privacy. Even with the barbed-wire topped fence surrounding the park, we get fair-goers walking through our property! Right next to the house! At night we see flashlights going down the private road, in our woods and other areas far from the park. I regularly pick up water bottles, beer bottles, used condoms and other garbage from our private road, driveway and other places where the public is not supposed to be. Apparently the concept of keeping our environment clean is not shared by all fairgoers.

In short—we are beginning a campaign to get Earthfair moved to another venue, or, at the very least,

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eliminate the camping and the resulting late night activity in the park. There are other sites on Vashon that can accommodate the festival and have fewer houses nearby .It has become too large, loud and intrusive for a residential neighborhood park, and it seems to me that the premise for the fair has changed from an educational information exchange to a mini-rock festival that encourages off-island people to come camp and party.

We pay dearly for the peace and quiet we have on Vashon. We’ve lived here many years and cherish the privacy of our property. Paradise Ridge Park is a wonderful, quiet neighbor 362 days out of the year—even when the equestrian community has the rare camp-over, they are quiet, clean and very respectful of our privacy. To even begin to consider having to leave the Island and stay elsewhere on Earthfair weekend in order to have peace and sleep is very offensive to us and entirely against the supposed purpose of the fair—to tread lightly on other people and environments.

Our neighbors share our frustration and I certainly hope we can begin a dialogue to solve this issue.

Karen Kent and Deana Phinney

Response from Earthfair Volunteer Coordinator

Dear Karen,

Receiving your email after an exhausting week of volunteer effort and countless hours of unpaid work, I had to stop and wonder why we even try. Your concerns of privacy, respect for and appreciation of our neighbors couldn’t be more correct. We say we are a celebration of community and sustainability, but the real result is a park full of people who come mostly to party, leave their trash where they feel, and spend little if any time trying to learn more about how to make better lifestyle choices.

You mentioned that Island Earthfair has gotten too big, but ironically our attendance numbers get smaller each year. In fact the majority of folks coming to the fair from Vashon seem to be the same ones who are causing most of the issues you mentioned. Many of the off-Island guests are true embodiments of our core mission, but most on the Island see our fair as nothing more than a place to come romp through the park for the weekend and imbibe their drugs of choice. That’s not to say that it’s their fault; we who coordinate and run the fair each year are the ones to blame. We simply can’t seem to get the message out there enough to convince everyone that we really are doing this to help uplift humanity.

The fact that our numbers are decreasing and yet our footprint has increased is a tragic statement as well. We have had issues with our security

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Response from Earthfair

Continued from page 4

crews doing their job to make sure that - as they say in the Vegas ad - what happens in Earthfair stays in Earthfair. Yes we do have and in fact promote a drum circle after the main-stage shuts down, but it is usually quite respectful and peaceful. Were our security volunteers doing an adequate job, you would hardly notice we were there.

Unfortunately, they're just that: volunteers. In the long run, it's somewhat like herding fish just to get things done when everyone around you just wants to party. Island Earthfair is a completely volunteer-run event: there are no salaries, no compensation other than gracious thanks from the ones who come and really get something out of the weekend. Most years in fact, we barely make enough money to cover our expenses, and many of us donate even more time and money to help cover those costs. The end result is a dwindling core group of Island-based volunteer coordinators who are already burnt out, yet still attempt each year to try to take the sum of our successes and failures, and then use the minimal resources we have available to try and make it better next year.

I have been getting a variety of feedback from different places, and am still trying to process it all. I can say though that you're not the first to let us know how they needed us to improve. On that note, it sounds like our efforts to fix traffic and road issues on 220th were a success this year, including reduced vehicle speeds, minimal road congestion and improper parking on the roads, not to mention an excellent shuttle service to and from the auxiliary parking lot that Tom Stewart hosts on his property each year. That effort was implemented based on requests we'd gotten in the past, and our coordinators worked very hard to resolve those specific needs. I sure hope that included keeping your driveway completely accessible as well.

Your letter gives us one more part of this puzzle that we continue to attempt to solve each year, and it is an essential and integral piece. Without local and community help in making this better, we might as well stop trying, as that would be the proof in the pudding that shows we're really not making the impact we'd hoped to. I have no solid answers as to where we go from here, but perhaps more feedback from the community can help bring out a better solution for all. Thanks again for your willingness to speak up and let us know how our fair affects your life.

Sincerely,
Kris Bates
Volunteer Coordinator
Island Earthfair 2006

Hippie-crites at
Earth-UnFair

Hello. I am a local Vashonite, and attended Earthfair last year for the first time and had a wonderful, magical, peaceful, experience that taught me a lot about myself, others, and the planet.


subjects, but not in a positive way. First off, the parking situation. I understand that there are certain safety and legal issues that I may not know about, but it would be nice if they were to let us know why they blocked off the whole front area of the street. If it's because they didn't want people going in and out of the event, to their cars to drink alcohol etc., that just makes it more dangerous, because now, people have to walk even further in the street to get back to the event, and whether they drank alcohol or not, they still had to risk their safety by walking in the street.

The other thing that really made me want a refund was all the things that got canceled that were advertised in the program. Like the Universal Dances of Peace. That's one of the main reasons I came. And the drum circle. That was another thing that got canceled that I paid \$10 a day for.

The other issue that really made me feel like I wasn't very welcome was when four event staff guys came up to my girlfriend and me when we were embracing and enjoying the music and asked us to step aside.

They explained to us that someone saw us consuming and handing out mushrooms to others. They said that they were in her purse. Of course, we had nothing of the sort. We showed them our bag of almonds that we were eating earlier (which is when we realized that that's what someone thought was mushrooms). I told them that they should get their assumptions straight before embarrassing people like this. And he explained, "Well, that's why we pulled you aside." And I said, "Yeah, because YOU'RE the one who should feel embarrassed!"

They apologized and let us go. I felt disgusted, violated, and infuriated



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afterwards and could not possibly enjoy myself for the rest of the evening.

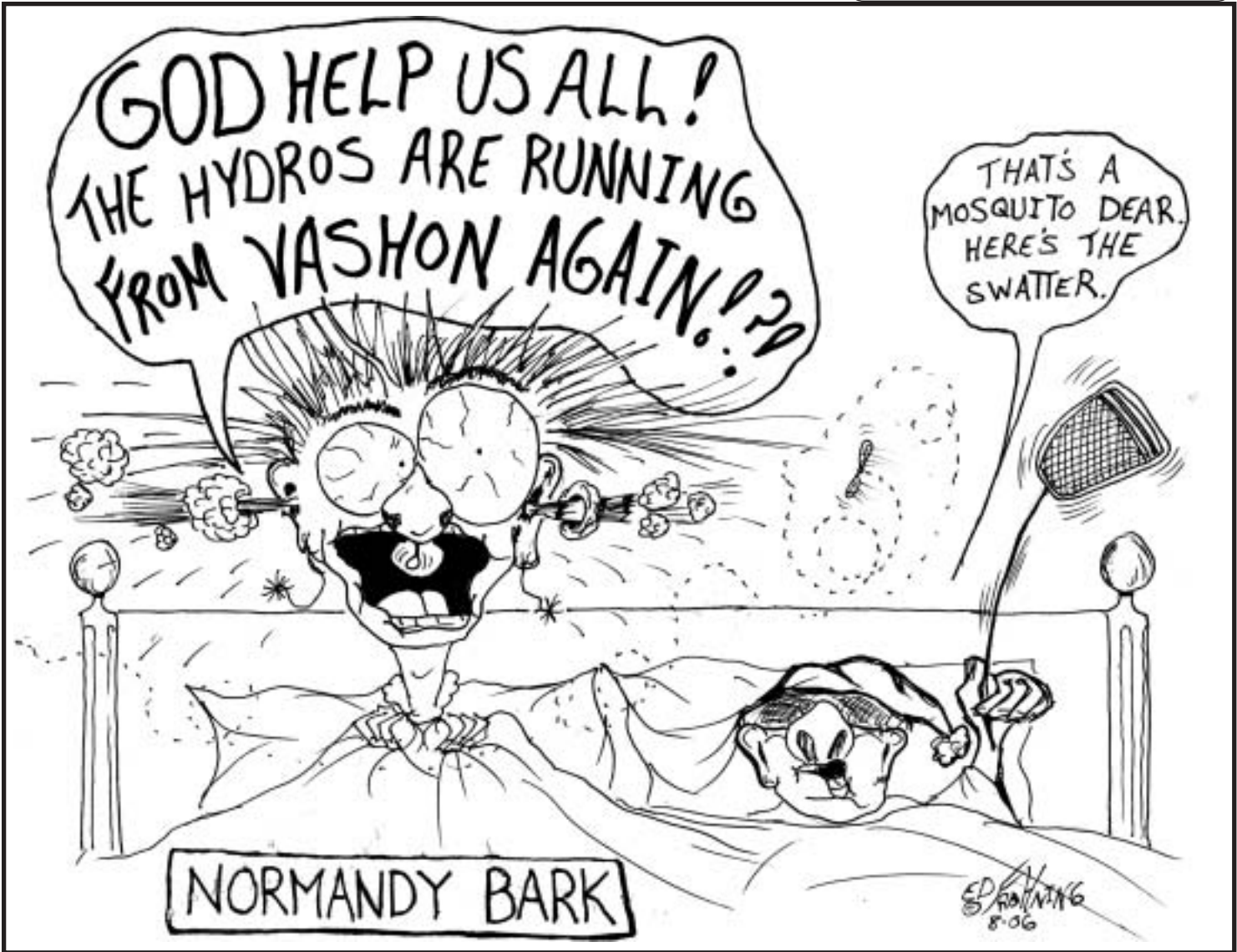
The last thing was at the end of the night, right after Troll's Cottage played, they started kicking everyone out and telling people that the drum circle was canceled. I don't think it's fair to charge people money and advertise something, then change it at the last minute after they've paid. I want my money back.

The event staff members are hypocrite hippies and I feel like a lot of

things were unfair. Hence my title, "Hippie-crites at Earth UnFair." Even though I had planned to go to all three days of Earthfair this year, I did not return for my third day. I'm really not sure if I'll ever return unless things are majorly different in the coming years.

Jordan Woollen

If a parsley farmer is sued,
can they garnish his wages?





Spiritual Smart Aleck

Perils and Blessings

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

With wars going on all over the world, and terrorist attacks, and nut jobs opening fire on innocents, and children starving to death, and the AIDS epidemic, and little countries with a lot of attitude waving nuclear weapons around, and tidal waves and hurricanes and earthquakes and volcanoes, and mad cow disease and Ebola and yet to be seen diseases that will wipe us out like chlorine attacking microbes in a swimming pool, some days it is hard to keep smiling.

Sometimes I pray by writing a question with my right (dominant) hand, and then putting the pen in my left hand and seeing what comes out. That is how I asked God: what do you want to tell people in these trying times? And God, or my left hand, who is a real wag, said, “If it were any more trying than any other time you would be given special instructions.”

Oh. Ah. So. I think God (or my left hand) is making two points: one, that this is not the first time in history that life has felt perilous and the situation felt dire. Think of the Jews in Europe during the Third Reich; think of Africans (and others) sold into slavery over the centuries; think of every innocent slaughtered in every violent incident every day since the human race began.

The second point is that all the instructions and rules on how to live are available, right here, right now. Let go of thinking you can control your life (or anyone else’s); trust in whatever you call it: God, higher power, the universe, creation, or the doorknob, whatever it is that you know can run your life better than you have done (and let’s face it, you have screwed up, and that doorknob hasn’t); be kind...that’s a good start. No, plasma televisions are not mentioned anywhere in scripture.

In the Christian church we talk about being members of the body of Christ. In this larger scheme, we are but cells, contributing organisms as it were, to the whole of life. I’m thinking this morning that it is more than a concept or idea. It is the way things are.

You have to stand back a little to see it. You have to be willing to accept that you, yourself, and we, the human race, are not the center of the creation. We are not the

center. We are organisms in the larger being which is creation.

So why are we organisms always turning on each other, and wiping each other out, as if every time we hurt another human being we aren’t shooting ourselves in the foot? I don’t know. God and my left hand aren’t telling. I’ll let you know as soon as I hear.

So how do we keep getting up and carrying on every day?

It helps to be grateful for what you have. That’s right, children, count your blessings.



What’s a blessing? A blessing is how you feel when you look at a rose, or when your child or grandchild or any child hugs you, or laughs. It’s a letter or an email or a phone call from a beloved relative or friend. It’s your goofy dog putting his chin on your thigh and looking up at you. It is feeding someone who is hungry, or giving a ride to someone who needs it. It is accepting help when you need it (that’s a hard blessing for most of us).

More: talking and laughing with friends; going for a walk, if you can walk, or a ride if you can’t; doing work that you enjoy; doing work that you don’t enjoy with a grateful heart and a resolve to make the best of it.

Singing! Singing is a blessing! Sing whether you think you can or not – and don’t worry about what people think. The important thing is that you sing.

Remember: God doesn’t ask us to be successful; God asks us to be faithful. I forget where I first read that, but the doorknob agrees.

Life *is* perilous. The situation *is* dire. Don’t kid yourself. That’s not all of life, though – count your blessings, children. Live your perilous, dire life to the fullest. Be a good organism.

Now, what are your blessings? Start here:

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Old Fuller Store

Continued from page 1

and that it was widely referred to back then as the “Fuller store.” Part of our interest in that building was its historical significance, so that name was a natural fit, plus it has a nice warm sound to it.

LH: One of the stores is Reliable Wine. How did you come up with that name?

RM and MJ: Doing some more research, we ran across a note on the www.vashonmap.com website, and discovered that the commercial name for the store 100 years ago was the “Old Reliable Store.” Again, it was a great match for the history of the building, and also we thought that it was an engaging name for a wine store. There is a sense of lightheartedness and understatement to it, which in many ways suits us, and suits the store.

LH: You guys have some long-standing roots in the community. What are they?

MJ: I grew up here, and went to school (K-12) here, and graduated from Vashon High School in 1987, so my roots run pretty deep here.

LH: So why did you buy the building?

RM: Mike knew this building back from its old days as Books by the Way, and I loved the way it looks and how old and original it was. We’re only the fourth owners of this building since 1884, and feel like we took it on not only as a piece of



Photo by
Cynthia Phillips

Preserve Our Islands Lawsuit

There have been no new developments in the Preserve Our Islands lawsuit since its filing three weeks ago.

“We’re in a holding pattern,” said spokesman J.W. Turner. “We probably will not hear from the Army Core of Engineers until late this year, and probably won’t hear whether

property, but as our responsibility to care for it, and to preserve and carry on its 120 year legacy of commerce. We’re not a historical society, but more interested in keeping alive the active commercial use of the building as it was originally purposed, with businesses that would provide useful services to the local community.

LH: Roy, you are well-known in Seattle and nationally for your artistic talent, including architecture. How do you describe what you do?

RM: I’m an artist, and I draw, paint and sculpt. A lot of my practice has always dealt with the domestic objects we are surrounded with, and how the lines of functional objects and art objects become blurred. So in service of art I have ended up owning a furniture fabrication company and an architectural design firm. As for what’s going on right now, this fall I’ll be installing a piece of mine at the Seattle Art Museum’s Sculpture Park, and I’m represented in New York by the Matthew Marks Gallery.

LH: Tell us again about the Open House. When? What will happen there?

MJ: It’s not intended as anything fancy, just a chance for everyone to come by and check out all the businesses in the building, now that we’re all up and running. It’s going to be **Sunday, August 20**, from 2 to 5 p.m., and there will be a wine tasting, door prizes, and lots of friends and neighbors celebrating the new life of that building!

LH: Hopes, dreams?

We want the building to be an evolving piece of history, and to play a part in the food culture of Vashon, which is just exploding right now.

Supreme Court will take case for six months.”

“We’re doing other things. We’re always fundraising, and working on forming alliances with environmental groups on the other side of the water.”

“We’re in no hurry on the lawsuit – time is on our side. We want the Supreme Court to take another look at the orcas, especially. We’re confident that we have a solid case.”

Don't Forget the Birds

By Ed Swan



Solitary Sandpiper at Mukai Pond. Photo by Jack Dawdy.

Solitary Sandpiper

A single Solitary Sandpiper showed up for its annual visit to Mukai Pond (aka the Island Center Marsh) on August 11. These interesting sandpipers nest in the sub-arctic and then migrate through our region in spring and fall. This is the fourth year they have been noted on Vashon, probably because that is about the time the Land Trust acquired Mukai Pond and began allowing visitors. There have been sightings each fall and for several spring migrations. Like their name, all sightings consist of single birds. This sandpiper likes to be on its own, though occasionally more than one might be seen where they just happened to feed at the same location.

Solitary Sandpipers predominantly prefer freshwater habitat, mostly muddy ponds, so Mukai Pond is the best place to look, hence all of the sightings there. Fisher Pond might also be a possibility but no other ponds provide the exposed mud that they need to forage. The one other

Vashon sighting for the species occurred at Fern Cove where Shinglemill Creek hits the beach, also a favorite site for the similar Spotted Sandpiper. For a long time the nesting situation for this species was a mystery because they breed in the far north sub arctic. Unusually for sandpipers, they nest in coniferous, boggy, semi-open spruce forest. They use old nests of other birds such as robins and Rusty Blackbirds. They utilize sites up in bushes rather than the ground nests of most shorebirds.

Solitary Sandpipers appear much the same size as Spotted Sandpiper which show up year-round on Vashon. The plumage of the Solitary consists of dark feathers on their upperparts that contain many regularly spaced pale dots



Solitary Sandpiper at Mukai Pond. Photo by Steve Caldwell.

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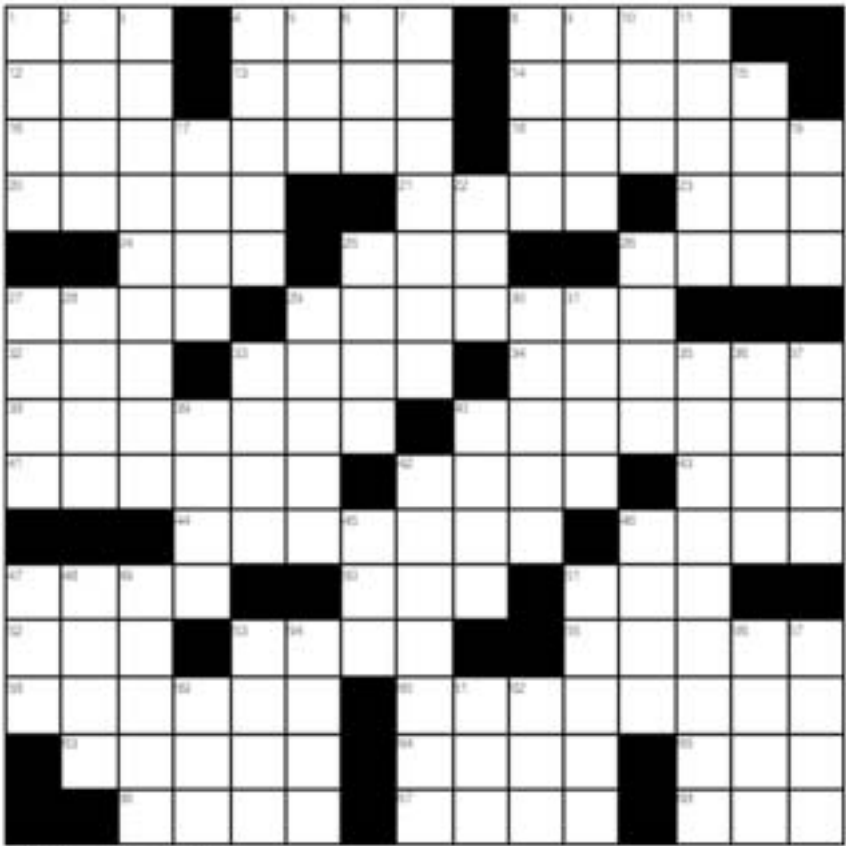
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down the back. They also have a conspicuous complete white eye ring. Their white tail feathers that become visible in flight have a black divider down the middle. The Spotted Sandpiper is a lighter brown above without the spots, an incomplete eye ring and tail of all one color. Speaking of Spotted Sandpipers, Sherry Hudson and Don Norman saw 13 by Camp Sealth, the largest number I've heard of on Vashon and possibly ever in one place in Washington. Other birds returning

for the fall include cormorants such as the three Double-crested Cormorants seen by Gary Shugart in Quartermaster Harbor and the Pelagic Cormorant I observed at the north end ferry dock, both in the last week of July. Gary and I have also seen Rhinoceros Auklets off both ferries and I saw the first Mew Gulls of the season at Ellisport. 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. At this time of year, I am particularly interested in sightings of warblers, vireos, grosbeaks and other birds beginning to leave for the year. The departure dates for many of these species on Vashon remain rather fuzzy.

www

Across		
1 Madagascar franc (abbr.)	51 Pouch	22 Papa
4 Annoying insect	52 ___ league school	25 Fuddy-duddy
8 6th month (Jewish calendar)	53 Inflammatory disease	26 Frau's husband
12 Promissory note	55 Singing parts	27 Feared
13 Impulsive	58 Southern girls	28 Ancient Indian
14 Programming language	60 North of Honshu	29 Cuban,' for example
16 Venal	63 Currency	30 Detest
18 Defeats	64 Off-Broadway award	31 Baseball's Nolan
20 Automobile	65 Roman numeral seven	33 Dorothy's dog
21 Goad	66 Roman emperor	35 Smelling organ
23 Old-fashioned Fathers	67 Caps	36 Long time
24 Eastern Standard Time	68 Moray	37 Colors
25 Food and Agriculture Organization (abbr.)		39 Attic
26 Dr. Jekyll and Mr. ___	Down	40 Winter outerwear
27 Chest bones	1 Lies	42 Alcohol type
29 Liken	2 Opp. of fewer	45 Energy unit
32 Spanish "one"	3 Instruction manual	46 FDR's dog
33 Buster Brown's dog	4 Give an award	47 Eve's beginning
34 Byway	5 Apprehend	48 Allege
38 Life and nature relation	6 American sign language	49 Tower
40 John Steinbeck's dog	7 Alike (2 wds.)	51 For one's good
41 One of Dodge's trucks	8 American Civil Liberties Union (abbr.)	53 Camping equipment
42 Planet orbiter	9 Entrance	54 National capital
43 Rival	10 Abdominal muscles (abbr.)	56 Jon's dog
44 Abstain	11 Rough	57 Dirty
46 Waves	15 Very soft metal	59 Caustic substance
47 Engrossed	17 Type of guitar	61 Kimono sash
50 Trinitrotoluene	19 Compass point	62 Baby goat



Garden the World

Bush Administration Strangles Family Farms

By MEarth

Under the current administration, large industrial farms (agribusiness) receive the greater percentage of federal economic and conservation funding nationwide. This policy is destroying the small family farm, a way of life that has long been essential to the health of our nation. Taxpayers are, knowingly or not, funding that tragic transition of traditional family farming to the wealthy agribusiness elite that leaves a steadily diminishing supply of viable, healthy farmland in its wake.

Traditional family farms are vanishing at a frightening rate and being replaced by much larger, more mechanized factory-farms. 30% of agricultural subsidies go to the largest 2% of farms and over 80% goes to the largest 30%. That doesn't leave much for the smaller farmers who struggle in this economy anyway. A 2002 census found that the most profitable 3% of corporate farms earn 61% of all the money paid for agricultural products in this county.

At the same time, it is the large industrial producers (they don't even call them farmers in the legalese anymore) who are depleting our topsoil at an alarming rate and polluting our air and groundwater while local farmers struggle with good husbandry and soil conservation.

According to economic literature, four businesses control 40 percent or more of the agricultural marketplace. DuPont and Monsanto virtually own the biotech-based seed market for U.S. corn, soybean, wheat and cotton production. Five firms — IBP, ConAgra, Cargill, National Beef and Packerland control 83% of the U.S. beef packing industry. Six firms — Smithfield, IBP, ConAgra, Cargill, Farmland Industries and Hormel — control 75% of all U.S. pork slaughter. Six firms — Tyson Foods, Gold Kist, Perdue Farms, Pilgrim's Pride, ConAgra and Continental Grain — grow and slaughter 58% of all U.S. broilers. Four firms — ADM, ConAgra, Cargill, and Cereal Foods — own and operate 62% of all U.S. flour milling. Four firms — ADM,

Cargill, A.E. Stanley and CPC Int'l. — own 74% of the U.S. corn wet milling industry. Four firms — ADM, Cargill, Bunge, and AGP — do 80% of all U.S. soybean crushing. Four firms — the proposed Cargill/Continental marriage, ADM, a joint venture between Bunge, ConAgra and Farmland, and an alliance between Cenex-Harvest States, ConAgra and Farmland — control 60% of all U.S. grain export facilities.

Do we really want to leave our food supplies in the hands of companies like this? These are the firms that are pioneering genetically manipulated organisms to the peril of all life on earth and who obviously don't care if our food, air and water are filled with poisons.

According to a two-page handout *Farming in King County: a Treasure in Peril*, prepared by the WSU Cooperative Extension, several additional—but related—factors threaten local farming. They are: land prices and the impact of development and population growth, the lack of awareness of the value of local food production, low profit margins for family farmers, the lack of future farmers as young people are discouraged by their career and lifestyle options, regulatory requirements that hit small farmers harder than large, and the global pressure of the multinational corporations that control most of the world's food supply.

In 2004, the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) predicts that 98% of total farm operator income will come from off-farm sources and at last count only 7% of all farm families reported 100% "on-farm" income.

If we are to once again become a nation fed by family farmers, we must ensure that our farmers can support their families and get a fair return for their hard work. If we don't, we'll lose the rest of our family farms and surrender control of our food supply to corporate agribusiness and factory farms.

"If you have a community that doesn't know where its food comes from, and no capacity to feed themselves, they're weaker people," Ken Meter, president of Crossroads Resource Center in Minneapolis, said. "If I'm dependent on someone else in giving me boxes of food I eat three times a day, I've lost a lot of my political and social clout."

He said consumers play a key role in food sovereignty, and need to start thinking of themselves as investors instead of just buyers.

□□□□□

I'm ready...are you?

By Bill Franz

Do you want to contribute your time and expertise to making this Island a safer place to live?

The all-volunteer, Vashon Disaster Preparedness Coalition (VDPC) needs volunteers to serve in the field during an earthquake or other disaster. The first responders, Fire and Police personnel, cannot cover all situations simultaneously over the entire Island.

Most likely help from Seattle will not be immediately available since they will be dealing with their own critical situations. Washington State Ferries may not be of help during the immediate aftermath since ferry docks may not be operational, or the ferries will be utilized for other tasks dictated by their management. So it will be up to the residents of Vashon to help themselves in the interim.

These interim responders are trained volunteers called the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). There are now approximately 100 trained volunteer Vashon residents who have received 40 hours of classroom and field practice. They continue to refresh their initial training monthly and receive

instruction on other skills such as radio communication.

One hundred volunteer responders, however, is hardly enough to respond to over 10,000 Island residents who may or may not need help.

CERT volunteers learn to reduce potential fire hazards in the home and business, and basic fire suppression; perform basic techniques for opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating shock; conduct light search and rescue, triage, select and set up treatment areas, and assist in evacuation of the injured.

My question to you is "ARE YOU READY?" Ready to make a commitment to volunteer to become a CERT? Prepare yourself and your family to sustain yourselves for at least eight days following an earthquake?

My answer to that is YES! I am a trained member of the CERT and am prepared to assist my family and others in the event of a disaster. I highly recommend that you join the CERT training program, which will begin **September 15, 2006** and will be held at the Farcy Training Center on Bank Road across from the Fire Station. Classes are held every Friday evening at 6 p.m. for eight consecutive weeks.

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Ward Silver

Continued from page 1

"The competition was terrific!" said Silver, "The (radio) activity was excellent from around the world. We had to remember to keep it simple, and not over think what we were doing."

Along with doing well in the radio competition, Silver was impressed by Brazil.

"Brazil is kind of the future," he said, "All these people, all these different colors, all doing different things together at the same time. You go outside and it is completely international."

"We spent several days in Curitiba (koo-ah-CHEEba), a city of one million people. It was like *Blade Runner* plus *Entertainment Tonight* plus the World Cup, on the day after school lets out, all set to World Pop music. Chaos!"

"The weather was beautiful. In the 70s. There were a lot of unusual birds, and the air smelled...*interesting*. We stayed for a week after the competition."

"We visited the Foz de Iguacu, two miles of waterfalls along lava escarpments, which are sheer cliffs.



Ward and partner Chris Hurlbut (call sign KL9A) set up a high-performance radio station to contact nearly 2000 stations during the 24-hour competition, placing eighth out of 46 teams. Both operators either made contacts or searched for new stations for the entire period, using laptop computers to "log" each contact.

We stayed a couple of days, and took a boat ride to Garganta Diablo, the 'Devil's Throat,' and we got right up to the devil's uvula, which means that we got wet, which was part of the fun."

"Then we went back to Curitiba. The city has a highly effective transit system, which makes it very easy to get around. There is a special tourist bus transporting visitors around the city. There are street fairs, vendors, great food."

"We liked it a lot."

For more information or to register send an email to certvashon@yahoo.com or call (206) 463-4558.

I believe that faith and prayer can accomplish almost anything, but not within the church. – Garrison Keillor

Would a fly without wings be called a walk?

Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is
Friday, August 25



Island Gardens

A Few Basics, and What to Do In August

By Becky Bumgarner

To begin with, gardening is a sport, not for the faint of heart. In regular sports you have to deal inside yourself. The Sport of Gardening takes you out of yourself and into the realm of caring for living objects outside of yourself, and outside of your control. While your house takes care of your body, you take care of the garden, and the garden is a reflection of your soul. To tell how your soul is getting on, just take a look at your garden. It takes a lot of soul – and spirit – to maintain a garden.

Second, gardening is also (and here you are being warned) an ADDICTION. A friend once described my addiction to gardening as like “being down the rabbit hole.” It just keeps getting bigger and bigger.

My garden at this point is nothing to shout about. In fact, at this point it would make someone scream. I tell everyone I’m doing a “Northwest native plant garden by the French Intensified Method.” It helps to explain those blackberries growing up the west side of the house.

I dream of getting a backhoe.

There are certain needs to be met on Vashon Island. Along with our tie-dyed shirts and Birkenstock shoes, we should all have backhoes. If you can’t get a backhoe, get:

Shoes: Please don’t ruin your Birkenstocks by gardening in them. Get good sturdy shoes with good tread patterns. Remember that in garden tools and attire, you get what you pay for. This is another part of the addiction.



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Plants: We have such an amazing array of colors and textures available from the nurseries here on the Island. Don’t steal anyone else’s plants. “Midnight acquisition” is not done. That is a major gardening law.

Books: To learn, go cruise our bookstores and our library. What amazingly wonderful books there are on gardening! Types of plants, types of species of plants. My favorites are the garden tricks and tips. Garden smart, not hard.

For this time of year, you should pay attention to watering and fertilizing. Read the labels. People ask me, “What’s wrong with my garden? I water my plants.” I respond, “Did you feed them?” “Feed them?” “Yes, plants need food.”

They also need cutting back, and weeding. Between now and October is a great time to watch for perennial plants (often on sale) for next year. They will have the winter to settle in and meet their neighbors. Plants are living beings, and they are very social. Talk to yours and play them baroque music. Show them that you care! They will love you for it.

So will the deer. Get some form of deer-proofing. Mine is a black Labrador mix named Bozo. ☺☺☺

Annual Back-to-School Drive

By Lauri Hennessey

The Island Back-to-School-Drive is off to a brisk start this year, with a number of volunteers and businesses coming into the fray. This year, the Drive is also featuring broad participation of Island realtors.

The Back-to-School-Drive collects donations of school supplies and money each year in the month of August. The Drive is coordinated by the Vashon Island PTSA. School supplies are distributed through the Food Bank the week before school begins. The remainder of the supplies is distributed through the School District throughout the year.

Cash donations have been rolling in over the last two weeks. Donations are accepted through August 26. Tins are set up at John L. Scott (Village office), Vashon Pharmacy, Island Variety, Burton Store, and Windermere. Donations of cash or checks (made to Vashon

PTSA) are accepted in tins set up at those points.

Volunteers were at Thriftway on Saturday asking for donations throughout the day. They plan to be **School Supplies**: Collection bins are set up at Thriftway, Island Variety, Island Market, Vashon Pharmacy, and Essentials4. Islanders can donate any supplies in those locations. There are also lists available at the bins, showing what you can donate and what is most in demand. The most expensive (and hard to get) items for kids include backpacks, calculators, and nice notebooks.

Haircuts: Once again, Island youth have the ability to get haircuts as part of the drive. Barber and Beauty has donated haircut gift certificates for both youth and for whole families (up to four kids per certificate). Studio 202 has also donated haircuts this year.

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Free Computers: A new and interesting part of the Back-to-School Drive this year is the opportunity for Island youth to get computers. Vashon Island Realty’s Bill Chunn has offered to donate up to 25 “gently used” computers to family or youth in need of them for school. If your child needs a computer, you can email otisandus@earthlink.net and provide your name and contact number, your child’s name and age, and a brief sentence or two on why your child or family needs a computer. The School District offices at the Sheffield Building will also accept these brief descriptions. Deadline for those interested in new computers is August 25. **These computers will only be available if this information is provided in advance.** The computers will be given out on the distribution date at the Food Bank.

All school supplies, gift certificates for haircuts, and computers will be available at the Food Bank on **Wednesday, August 30**, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The supplies will be distributed in the building next to the Food Bank, at Sunrise Ridge. School is scheduled

Sarah Browne



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to begin the next week, on Tuesday, September 5.

For more information on the Back-to-School Drive, contact Bob or Lauri Hennessey at 463-1931, or email otisandus@earthlink.net

My father worked for the same firm for twelve years. They fired him. They replaced him with a tiny gadget this big. It does everything that my father does, only it does it much better. the depressing thing is my mother ran out and bought one. --Woody Allen



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

Friday, August 25

The Dorsal Spin is on hiatus while Annie and Odin are back in Alaska. Please support the Vashon Hydrophone Project by reporting local whale sightings ASAP to (206) 463-9041.

Vashon Library September 2006 Programs

**The September Project
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What Have We Learned?
A Talk by Rob Crawford
Monday, September 11, 7:00 p.m.**

Five years after the event, it is now possible to discern the contours of post-9/11 changes in the United States. We are witnesses to a radical reshaping of the political landscape. This talk will focus on how the so-called “war on terrorism” has become the occasion for a concentration of power in the executive branch of the federal government and the near neutralization of political opposition around issues claimed to be matters of national security. What are the conditions of possibility for a meaningful politics that can challenge these disturbing developments in our political life?

**Vashon Library’s 60th/90th
Birthday Celebration
Sat., Sept. 16, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Vashon Library is celebrating its 60th and 90th Birthdays! How, you may ask, can we be celebrating two birthdays at once? Well, the first library here was established by the Vashon Island Women’s Club in 1916, and then King County Library System opened its first branch in 1946 at the building currently known as the Vashon-Maury Senior Center.

Our day of festivities will include a historical display in our meeting room, story programs for the kids, and time for the “old folks” to reminisce. We’ve invited all the former library managers and staff to join us, so we hope you’ll come and have some Birthday Cake and visit with them. And to top it off, Blanche Caffiere, author of *Much Laughter and A Few Tears* will speak of her “star studded” life as the good friend of Islander Betty MacDonald (author of *The Egg and I*) and teacher of former students Bill Gates and David Guterson. Blanche turns 100 this year and we feel so fortunate to have her join us for this special day.

The schedule is as follows:

10 a.m. — Blanche Caffiere speaks at the Senior Center, formerly known as the Vashon Memorial Library

11 a.m. — Tour of the old Memorial Library, with former page Sue Weston

11 a.m. — Children’s author Marcia Vaughan tells stories for preschoolers on the lawn outside the Vashon Library

1 p.m. — Charlie the Noise Guy performs at the Ober Park District Building

2 p.m. — Birthday Cake at the Library! And Pookie the clown

2:30 p.m. — A panel of library staff and patrons reminisce at the Ober Park District Building. Participants include Blanche Caffiere, Garland Norin, Marj Watkins, Joyce and Bill Delbridge, Sue Weston, Shirley Porro, Marie Hansen, Marie Metsker, Robin Cameron, Jo Scholz, and Leslie Moore. All Islanders are encouraged to participate.

Please bring your memories and your families for a fun filled day celebrating library services on Vashon Island.

**Preschool Story time with
Children’s author Marcia Vaughan!
Saturday, September 16, 11 a.m.**

Marcia Vaughan tells stories, including her wonderful “Wombat Stew”, on the grass outside of the library. For children ages 3-6, accompanied by an adult. No registration required.

**Read Yourself Silly!
Presented by Charlie Williams,
The Noiseguy
Saturday, September 16, 1 p.m.**

Program will be held at the Ober Park Building next door to the library. Charlie Williams, “the man of 1000 sound effects,” takes a new approach to storytelling with his vocal aerobics. Enjoy traditional and not-so-traditional stories told in an energetic, fun new way. You’ll even learn to make a few sound effects yourself from a true sound impressionist! Don’t miss it! For ages 4 and older. No registration required. Sponsored by Friends of the Vashon Library.

**Talk Time
Tuesday, September 19 and 26,
7 to 8:20 p.m.**

Practice speaking English in a relaxed setting. All nationalities and skill levels are welcome. Free! No registration required.

**Toddler Story Time
Tuesday, September 19 and 26,
10:40 a.m.**

Ages 21 months to 3 years with an adult. A 20-minute program of stories and songs just right for toddlers. No registration required.

**Lapsit Story Time
Wednesday, September 20 and 27,
10:40 a.m.**

Newborn to 20 months with an adult. A 20-minute program of stories, songs, rhymes and bounces for babies and a caregiver. No registration required.

**Preschool Story Time
Wednesday, September 20 and 27,
11:30 a.m.**

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

PANDORA'S BOX

Let the celebration begin!!

School’s back in 3 weeks..Send ‘em out for the bus early. Pets need to celebrate, too! See our large selection of everything - although, given my recent track record, it’s probable we’re out of what you truly want.


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The Kneejerk Conservative

Trust But Verify

By Fran Gordon

Just some thoughts and possibly words to live by as we chew over day to day events —

Trust but verify. Statistics never lie but statisticians do. A picture is worth a thousand words. Especially if it has been PhotoShopped or the cutline has been falsified. Reuters could tell you about that this week. They have had to pull over 900 photos from their service because amateur photographers caught the deliberate changes in two from a Lebanese who has worked for them for ten years. Wonder what else the experts missed on their coverage?

The person makes the credential, not the other way around.

When did we decide as a culture to turn over the responsibility for the raising of our children to TV, “experts,” advertising, and the schools (which have quite enough

on their plate to teach our kids) and why are we surprised at the poor results? It has been my experience that the village doesn’t raise a child well without the primary responsibility being shouldered by the family, immediate or extended.

Why are we surprised that our children are at risk when we refuse to deal with the link to child pornography?

Our kids need our time and attention, not our stuff. Nobody dies wishing they had spent more time at the office or in the ferry line.

Information, knowledge and wisdom are not one and the same thing.

Feeling does not trump thinking.

Life is too short: I have no enemies, just opponents who help me see my weaknesses, shortcomings and strengths.

All Shellfish Harvesting Closed

The Washington State Department of Health has closed beaches to the harvest of all species of shellfish in King County. **Vashon Island remains closed to shellfish harvesting.** Commercially harvested shellfish are tested prior to distribution and should be safe to eat.

The closure includes clams, oysters, mussels, scallops and other species of shellfish. Crab is not included in the closure, but the “crab butter” should be discarded, and only the meat should be eaten. Fin fish found in these waters do not accumulate the toxins in their flesh and are safe to eat.

Marine biotoxins are not destroyed by cooking or freezing and can be life-threatening. Symptoms of paralytic shellfish

poisoning may appear within minutes or hours and usually begins with tingling lips, tongue, hands and feet followed by difficulty breathing, and potentially death. Any one experiencing these symptoms should contact a health care provider. For extreme reactions call 911.

The toxin is produced by naturally occurring “blooms” of microscopic plankton that tend to be more common during the warmer months of the year. The color of the water does not change and the plankton are invisible. To check the latest shellfish harvesting closures anywhere in the state visit the marine biotoxin website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/biotoxin.htm> or call the Department of Health Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632.

Lyell Nets \$1300 for Wolftown

Over \$1300.00 was raised by Unofficial Mayor Jan Lyell for Wolftown. She is accepting a check from Chamber of Commerce Treasurer Joyce Olson on behalf of them. T Martino, director of Wolftown, looks on with a new member of the project. The new owl will be named by the community in a contest soon. this is not the owl that was released.



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Planet Waves



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

Happy Birthday Leo!
A spectacular Full Moon in your opposite sign Aquarius blurs the thin line between fantasy and reality. Indeed, dreams can be transformed into reality — so dream well. Other factors in your chart suggest you'll be more inclined to take a realistic attitude in life, and even look askance at the ideals of others who are less rooted to practical reality than you are. But you have as much to learn from them as they do from you, and I suggest you get over any reluctance about going along with the gang. You're more likely to speak your mind than the people around you, while they are more likely to be reserved. So, you will need to initiate the communication, and co-create some new human experiences for yourself.

Aries (March 20-April 19): What is your highest vision for your life? Do you have one you don't articulate to yourself? If so, these are the days to make it real. You could call some of your friends and speak out loud to your community, bucking the trend in the world that we all spend our lives at our individual computer monitors. Go for a wide diversity of ages and viewpoints. The days we are living in call for drawing people together — and you are the one nominated to do it. Speaking of drawing, expressing your ideas in pictures or some kind of physical model will help your efforts at turning the indescribable into the tangible.

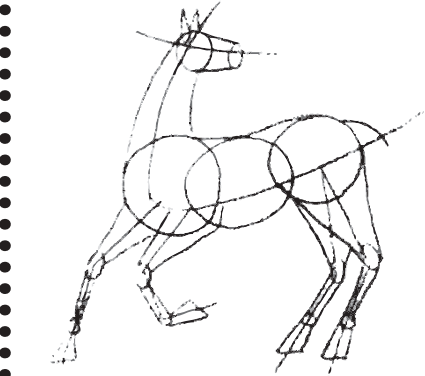
Taurus (April 19-May 20): You seem to be breaking free of an unwanted emotional or domestic bond that may be based entirely on a misunderstanding. It would not be an exaggeration to say that you can suddenly see through the deception or the odd fantasy at the core of the situation. But you must maintain the discipline to keep your distance, because despite a certain person's chilly and superior attitude, this individual actually needs you more than you need them. And, at the end of the day, that explains it all.

Gemini (May 20-June 21): How do you feel when someone gets close to you? Look at the people in your life right now, and do an honest assessment. Do you feel stronger and more stable, or do you feel fear and resentment? Different people will obviously present different reactions, but some will present you with a mix of emotions, and this blend will be interesting. If you can observe yourself closely, you can reach into the inner conflict at the core of your emotions. It's not about these people now — it's something from the past, something about your needs and how they were used against you. If love does anything but offer you protection, this would be an excellent time to resolve the matter.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): As Venus and Mercury travel in their courses, events and developments will help clarify certain foggy subjects greatly. There can be no doubt that you're making progress, though if I were you, I would be pretty restless too about how long it's taken to get yourself back to solid, level ground. Meanwhile, continue your study of where everyone around you is coming from. There may be some confusion in the air that you would be wise to make note of, in part because you're the one who holds certain key ideas that will help not only to dissolve it, but to see the beauty it obscures.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23): There will probably be a short delayed reaction before something that you have resolved within a relationship takes effect for a close partner or loved one. Trust that the change really has come and that the breakthrough in awareness is authentic. The delay involves the human truth that it takes a little time for people to get used to new revelations. Even you, who have the ability to think and feel like a child, needs that interval of adaptation. Meanwhile, direct your energies to several more than significant issues that require your maturity, leadership and innovation — and don't take maybe for an answer.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22): You have been through a long and complicated



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process the past few weeks of sorting out fact from falsehood, whim from authentic desire. Your ruling planet Mercury is wrapping up a very long retrograde process that has helped you define your most important priorities, as well as get clear in your mind what you want the rewards to be. Bear in mind that life — I am speaking of biology and our social experience — is a constant process of exchange, growth and adaptation. You are good at the second two, but in terms of the first, I would propose that you have a lot more to give, and a lot more to receive.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23): All of life is a creative endeavor. Remember this, and you'll create what you want this week and far beyond. There are, it is true, certain aspects of life which we must live passively, and others which just happen to us when we're least expecting. Yet there are also times where we need to consciously search within for an idea for what to do next, feel the creative passion that will fuel the idea, and take the plunge. If you are searching in vain for a "mission in life," remember that it rarely gets better than the ability to experiment with something fun and then get lost in your work. The chances are, you won't be doing so alone.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22): Whether something is true or not need not be a source of stress; either it is, or it isn't. That answer will come sooner rather than later, if you'll allow the situation to take its natural course. The current Full Moon may be stirring up the waters of passion and mystery, which is different than a science experiment or architecture project. For the next few days I suggest you imagine yourself in a raft on a wild ocean, with a beautiful storm blowing, wondering where it will take you, and who you will meet when you see the next shore.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22): You are indeed having a stroke of brilliance, but this is one that defies being easily developed into something useful. You are ahead of your time; you may feel reluctant to talk about your plans; you may not see how they fit the larger, more pragmatic structure you've developed for yourself. No worries on any of these accounts, please. Remember the

inspiration at the core, and keep track of the details as best you can. You are hatching an idea whose time will come, as long as you remain faithful to it. To put it bluntly, this is not time to doubt yourself or your intelligence.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20): If a financial concern or crisis emerges this week, don't get emotionally involved. It's not worth the steam, and the problem is not what it seems. You could just as easily do something wildly radical and perceive the whole situation as an opportunity where everyone can gain, because that happens to be the case — but for the moment, you may have to bear with the fact that nobody seems to care. They will, soon enough, and if it turns out they think what you've been planning is their idea, let them get away with it. The results are what will count.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): 'Tis the season of the annual Full Moon in your birth sign now, suggesting some brilliant opportunity is upon you. This event is conjunct Neptune, which is like dropping a movie screen in front of something that has previously been projected onto the clouds. Suddenly you will be able to see what you've been looking at all along, wondering what it was. Part of the trick to this astrology is not allowing practical concerns to get in the way, or so much as distract your thinking. Noticing the idea is what counts, and more to the point, feeling the subtle passion that is right behind it.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep your focus, despite the overwhelming energy currently whirling through the cosmos. Go at a steady pace and make sure you take care of any necessary details, and keep all discussions focused on progress, service or community concerns happening in the clear light of day. Speaking in astrological terms, there is an extraordinary amount of Neptune in the cosmic atmosphere right now, but you're the one who's made of the stuff, so you can certainly navigate these waters like an expert. The more you have faith in your idea, the more you need to stay in contact with loved ones and close partners, the same ones who had faith in you all along and who can be very helpful now.



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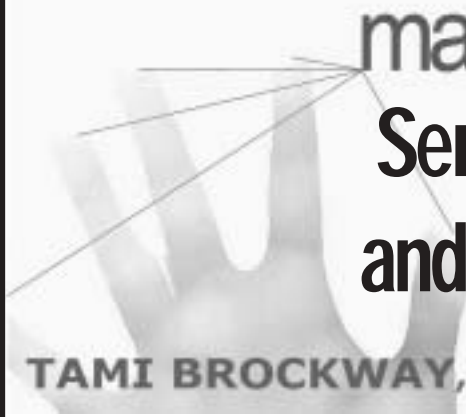
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Advice to Travelers: Read Alan Furst

Book Review by Rachel Bard

An Alan Furst novel can go a long way to counteract travel miseries. Winging your way cross-country or across the sea, you'll be almost impervious to cramped knees, congealed Chicken à la Boeing, squalling babies and fidgety seatmates. If you're a commuter or long-distance land traveler, a Furst on tape is guaranteed to dispel the boredom.

Furst has staked out Europe just before and during World War II as his territory. Here he spins his dark tales, as seductively foreboding as a black-and-white Ambler movie. *Kingdom of Shadows* takes place in the late '30s when Europe was lurching toward war and no statesman or politician had the nerve or the sense to resist the Nazi juggernaut. Appeasement was the order of the day, while Romania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia toppled and Paris congratulated itself on undergoing a peaceful occupation instead of seeing bombs rain on the Eiffel Tower.

The protagonist is Nicholas Morath, a Hungarian secret agent whose public persona is partner in a Paris ad agency. His uncle, Janos Polanyi, a wealthy Hungarian emigré, supervises his undercover activities. Both men are cultivated, aristocratic, likable and cynical about human nature — yet they doggedly keep on trying to postpone the deluge.

Morath furtively journeys around Eastern Europe, providing false passports to dubious allies and seeking donors to support covert campaigns to free the occupied countries Hitler's legions are roaring into and absorbing. He undergoes questioning by suspicious border agents, betrayal by trusted guides, beatings and incarcerations. He survives. Whenever he returns to Paris he's welcomed by enchanting black-haired Cara in her fashionable apartment in the 7th

Arondissement. But Cara's father comes from Argentina to take her home. He's afraid Europe is getting too dangerous. He's right.

Furst fleshes out his intricate plot with on-the-spot details. Even minor characters get plenty of shrift. Here's Boris, a bartender we meet early in the book and fleetingly thereafter. "Morath ordered a Polish vodka, and when it arrived, offered the barman a cigarette and lit it for him. He was a short, compact man with narrow eyes deeply lined at the corners, from laughing, maybe, or squinting into the distance. Beneath his red jacket he wore a shirt washed so often it was the pastel of an unknown color."

And on the same page, we encounter a man we'll never meet again but might like to: "The Cossack doorman, with sheepskin vest and fierce mustache, peered out from the shelter of the doorway, in his hand a black umbrella in the final hours of life on a windy night. He growled good evening, Russian accent thick and melodramatic: 'Welcome, sir, to Balalaika, the show is just starting.'"

The author's intimate knowledge of what was going on in those terrible times is awesome, so much so that it's hard to believe he didn't live through them himself. He's a master at creating the authentic background without pushing his research in the reader's face. If by some chance you want to be educated as well as entertained, you may trust what you read. And you may actually learn a good bit. Who remembers now, or ever knew, that Czechoslovakia, fearing German encroachment, built an amazing line of fortifications in the mountains near the frontier the invaders would have to cross — a defense on a par with the Maginot

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Line? Morath, while on a secret mission to Prague, is taken to inspect it by his hosts in the Czech army. He sees bunkers, pillboxes, tank traps, and impregnable forts. He's permitted to fire a Czech machine gun, "used as the model for the British Bren — assassinating eight feather pillows gathering for an attack at the far end of a wheatfield." He concludes that if anything can stop Hitler, this bristling Czech line will.

Yet after Hitler finagled his way to seizing the Sudetenland, the defenses became redundant. Deserted by its democratic allies, Czechoslovakia fell and was dismembered.

As in all his books, Furst evokes those troubled times by following the lives of desperate, well-meaning and not always effective people trying to stem the Hitlerian tide. In this book, there's a glancing reference to a plot to eliminate Hitler; it didn't work, but reminds us of how much resistance there was behind the scenes, all over Europe.

Morath's life wasn't exclusively doom and gloom. After losing Cara, he finds a new love, who'd been there all along in the Paris ad agency. She's bright, beautiful of

course, closer to his own age (late 40s) than Cara had been and much better wife material. Though Furst seldom gives his readers that kind of happy ending but keeps them guessing, in this case it's almost certain that true love will triumph.

But it's only 1940 and Morath's work isn't done. Nor is Furst's. *The Dark Empire* will leave you eager for more and fortunately he's written seven of these gripping novels. That should get you through quite a few trying travel experiences. ☐☐☐☐



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The Captain was on the bridge, pretty sure that he knew the way to New York, but, just to be on the safe side, murmuring to himself, "Turn right at Cherbourg, and then straight on." -- P. G. Wodehouse



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Island Epicure



Eat Well, Stay Well, or, Pork Chops vs. Shingles

By Marj Watkins

Our friends, George and Nancy of Virginia, were baffled by her suffering from shingles—not the kind you roof your house with, but the kind that brings on painful blisters. I emailed her suggestions for home remedies to supplement her doctor’s prescription. But I wondered, what more can she do to get well? For that matter, what can we all do to shore up our immune systems against this and other maladies? Washing our hands often, and thoroughly, may help protect us from colds and flu, but not shingles.

Herpes zoster, the same virus that causes chicken pox and cold sores as well as shingles, can hide in our bodies for years, decades even, until stresses on our immune systems let it out of hiding. Then, reports Dr. Lynne Page Brown and Ellen Hodgson Brown, J.D., in their book *Nature’s Pharmacy*, that virus may nudge a victim into painful cold sores or worse yet, shingles, or worst of all, Alzheimer’s.

Can we who had chicken pox as kids do anything diet-wise to keep our immune systems strong enough to force *herpes zoster* to stay in hiding?

Yes, there is. We need only enjoy foods containing a certain protein. Dr. Mark McCune, a dermatologist in Overland Park, Kansas, quoted in Prevention’s book *New Foods for Healing*, says, “The virus uses certain amino acids to build the protein sheath that surrounds it. Lysine inhibits the growth of the shield, so the virus can’t flourish.”

Dr. McCune advises 500 to 1,000 milligrams of lysine daily. This much lysine seems to keep the virus at bay. In one study, people who got that much more than the amount usual in their daily meals hardly ever had cold sores or shingles. When they did, their symptoms were milder and lasted only half as long.

Pork is the champion lysine source. One center-cut loin chop yields almost 2,000 milligrams. A cupful of baked beans gives you 960 milligrams, and an egg yields 450 milligrams. A cupful of cooked lentils or black beans yields 1,000 milligrams.

Canadian bacon give you 900 milligrams in two ounces and a 3-ounce slice from a lamb roast yields a whopping 1400 milligrams.

Flank steak and round steak, chicken, seafood, milk and cheeses are good lysine sources, too.

Vitamin C with bioflavonoids has immunity-boosting and virus-fighting abilities. Think fresh oranges, fresh squeezed orange juice, red bell peppers, and broccoli. Other good sources are guavas and kiwifruits.

If the colds of autumn leave you with a “cold sore” on your lip, or—heaven forbid—you ever get painful shingles blisters around your waist or on your face, a milk compress may help those sores heal more quickly. Just dip a washcloth in milk, apply it to the sore while you count off 5 seconds, and then remove it for another 5. Rinse off milk. Repeat every 3 or 4 hours.

Easy Pan-Braised Pork Chops —
4 Servings
4 pork chops, bone in
Sprinkle of salt
Sprinkle of pepper
Sprinkle of crumbled sage or oregano
1/3 cup water, tomato sauce, or red wine

Dry the pork chops by patting with paper towel. Spray a very large frying pan with cooking oil. Heat it. Brown pork chops on each side. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and herb of choice. Reduce heat. Add liquid of choice. Put a lid on the pan. Simmer until pork is fork-tender, 45 minutes to 1 hour depending on how thick the pork chops are.

Serve with **baked sweet potato or yam and a salad of dark green leaf lettuce or romaine** torn in pieces, diced orange, and olives dressed with raspberry vinaigrette or ranch dressing.

Note: Nursing mothers should choose oregano over sage. Sage is reputed to reduce milk production. Both herbs aid digestion. Sage aids kidney and liver function. Old people in Crete told us if we drank sage tea every day we would never get a cold all winter.

ooooo

Is there another word for synonym?



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MadameTajours

Dear *Madame Toujours*,

What is it with these modern girls who are all so eager to quit their careers and stay home and raise kids? I am a successful, middle-aged academic, teaching and writing at a major university, and I can’t believe how many young women seem to take for granted the labor and sacrifice their foremothers went through just so these girls could vote let alone become doctors and lawyers and corporate executives and, yes, PhDs.

How can women ever expect to get equal representation in government or even just to be taken seriously when girls drop their careers just because they happen to get pregnant?

Oh sure, I know the “new feminists” babble about choice, but doggone it, staying home with the kids is the wrong choice. Intelligent, educated women have the obligation to their sisters to show the world that women can succeed by the same criteria as men so that their daughters truly will be free to choose the careers they so desperately need to give them self-esteem and empowerment.

You’re an influential woman. Surely you can tell your readers to get out of the house and earn a living.

Sincerely,
Old-Guard Feminist

P.S. And I’m tired of hearing all the complaints about professional child-care. Sure it costs more than most professional woman earn, and some under-educated drudge is raising your kids, but the kids need to see that women have the option of fulfilling their dreams and aren’t doomed to a life of mind-numbing boredom in the home.

Chere Mme. Ou Mlle. Feminist,

Clearly, you are having the big passion about the careers for the women, and me, I am always encouraging *les femmes* to have the interests and the careers where they are trampling on the quivering employees and drinking the complicated coffee beverages.

However, although you yourself are enjoying the academic career, many of the female persons, they are finding that to have the career requires them to wear the uncomfortable, unattractive clothings and go to the uncomfortable, unattractive offices and loiter about with a lot of people who are not talking about anything very interesting, and it would be much nicer to stay at home and have the small business with the internet and the telecommuting and so forth.

Now you are saying triumphantly, “But *Madame Toujours*, if staying home with the children is being so wonderful, then why are not the fathers doing it?”

What the silly question. This is because if the fathers are staying home with the children, then the mothers, they are having to go to the distasteful offices after all the trouble they were having to convince the masculine persons to do it in the first place.

Bon Chance, Mlle. ou Mme. Feminist. Me I am thinking that the intelligent, educated female types will not be replacing their husbands in the workforce until the employers are providing the telecommutings or at least decorating the offices and cubicles like the comfortable living-rooms where everybody can sit on the comfortable sofas wearing the elegant lounging costumes and typing into the laptop computers while sipping the complicated coffee beverages.


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Positively Speaking

By Deborah Anderson

Now That the World has Gone Mad

New fun facts are always a treasure to collect. Recently I learned a group of crows is called a “murder.” Can metaphors have something like onomatopoeia to them? I think so. It’s important for a metaphor to have that power. Or rather, what would the action form of a descriptive sound be?

Ah...better than the word jumble or sudoku. Name a new form of grammar.

Friends, thus described, could only be called, what, a circle? No, they could be called a garden, or a shelter, or a field, or a universe.

On the knoll by the library during one of the outdoor concerts is the best place to see how Vashon does friendship. I know the bold truth. There are many relationships that are exploitive. Those relationships have the oil of usury slipping the cogs between souls. They depend on usefulness. The dynamic question is, “How useful is this person to me?”

Or they have the tightly wound pistons of pretensions. “How important is what this person does to or for the world?”

On the knoll, one sees the third option, “How much does this person delight my heart?” One sees friendship in action.

Much of my adult life I spent trying to differentiate between people who are dependency-based and people who are love-based. I learned that people who are dependency-based hold stones and those who are love-based hold flowers. I’ve stopped myself many times to check what’s in my hands; rocks or flowers. It’s a good question to ask.

Since I missed flower power in the sixties because, having come from a family that excelled in emotional anarchy, I liked rules, Bass Weejun penny loafers, and sweater twin sets with matching heather knee socks, and pearls, and corduroy. As the parade that had just put flowers in the ends of guns turned and drifted down to Wall Street and the great technological era, I found

myself gaining the courage to put some sandals and a broomstick skirt on. Once attired, I surged with the impulse to live out the maxim, “The best way to have a friend is to be one.”

“A friend loves at all times.” Being and having meant an infusion of love. Love depended on honesty and openness. Those pulled full circle back to deeper friendship. The numbers grew.

We have many beautiful characteristics here on the Island: sunsets, greens, flowers, interesting architecture, community activities. My favorite is friends walking around looking into each others’ faces, dancing with abandon on the Village Green, deep in conversation over a beverage at a small table, playing together in the water, cycling next to each other, or riding horses.

This time of year, many people join us who return to colder regions or more dense populations at Labor Day. They come to soak us up, our Island ways and beautiful surroundings. You know what I think we give them the most? We give them a picture of a world defined by friendship.

Friends are the circle who keep the world’s words from ringing hurtful truth, who nurture us into being all we can be, who shelter us when we have the desire to bring harm to ourselves or are overwhelmed, who give us a view of grandeur and define us for the greater good to which we might contribute. Circle, Garden, Shelter, Field and Universe.

Peace and love and justice and economic parity and opportunity are the result of someone somewhere deciding they wanted to clear the way for friendships to develop. No one is immune to a gesture of friendship and every gesture stops a bullet to the head or a discouragement to the heart that leads to resentment and anger.

Save the world; be and have a friend.
“...and the Lion will lie down with the Lamb.”

Love, Deborah



Book Review:

Whispers from Children’s Hearts

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

Whispers from Children’s Hearts is a collection of honest answers to questions asked by compiler Lisa Haisha as she worked in several countries around the world. She asked, “If you had one wish, what would it be? Is God fair? Why or why not? Who in the world would you most want to meet?”

The children’s candor is startling. Their answers are a quick lesson in cultural differences, but it doesn’t seem to matter what their culture is when they are worried about their parents’ or siblings’ health and lives.

What do children wish for? To heal their sick parents; for the bombs to stop falling; to be allowed to quit school and get a job to help their family; to move to America and live in a house that the rain doesn’t come in.

Whispers from Children’s Hearts,
by Lisa Haisha; illustrated by Tim Huhn. Copyright 2006; Risa Publications

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Psst: The Ions Are Buzzing and Bouncing!

By Sherry Moe

We are all in motion, even the inorganic among us. What looks like a solid table to us is really is an infinity of little ions buzzing and bouncing around held together by a tenuous magnetic force. We never arrive. We are always in a process of becoming, and that includes inanimate objects as well. Is it any wonder some of us get confused? We are to be congratulated for maintaining any kind of continuity at all. Some of us do better at it than others.

I like the idea. It makes me feel like I am not left out. I mean, I already get the included feeling anyway when I see that the version of me as a human is at least similar to everyone else’s version. It’s a comfort to know we are popped out of generally the same mold, (two arms, two legs, etc.) Yet there often is a feeling of separateness among us too. Look at all the songs which cry about feeling lonely. When we comprehend our cosmic position in the universe, it feels instead like we are amalgamated with one another for eternity. How’s that for claustrophobia?

Even thoughts are things. That is a scary idea to those of us who value mental privacy. Mental activity emits an energy which can and does influence the ongoing soup of things. And an atom from my busy cluster of ions could just as easily hop on over to your cluster of ions the very next day. We don’t stop at the skin. That physical boundary stuff is just an illusion and we fall right into it because of limited perception. I suppose we are engineered to have this limited awareness so that we will do exactly that. We are supposed to feel falsely isolated so we can study how to overcome that

feeling and in the process of this effort, grow.

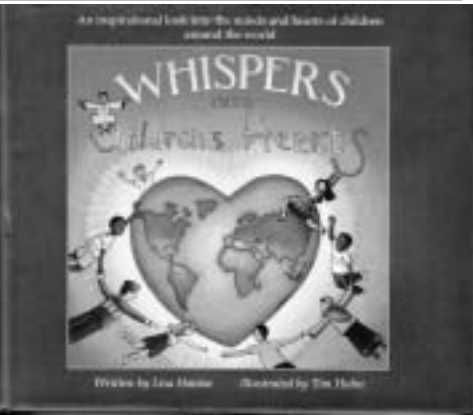
This growth never solidifies either. In fact, we can even go backwards often (as well we know) and that is really just all part of the dance. If we don’t get everything figured out in this incarnation there is always another one down the road. That’s not to say that we should abstain from expending any effort in our quest to become developed happy souls, but we just shouldn’t get too close to the trees to see the forest. That’s when we really mess up.

I was told that the best way to steer when we drive is to look ahead. By some mystic osmosis we automatically tune in to the correct steering, because apparently some primordial power bigger than we are is doing the work. When we freeze on a point where we find ourselves at the given moment, we interfere. Yes, we need to focus. We are cameras trying to adjust to the constantly changing scenery around us but remember there are cameras with automatic focusing, too. I’m all for automatic focusing.

Things get done, people come back around, new opportunities come up, new moods take hold of us, new thought patterns. Discoveries contradict one another and elicit conflicting emotions but in the end (of which there is none), everything seems to become diluted enough with data input so that it all works.

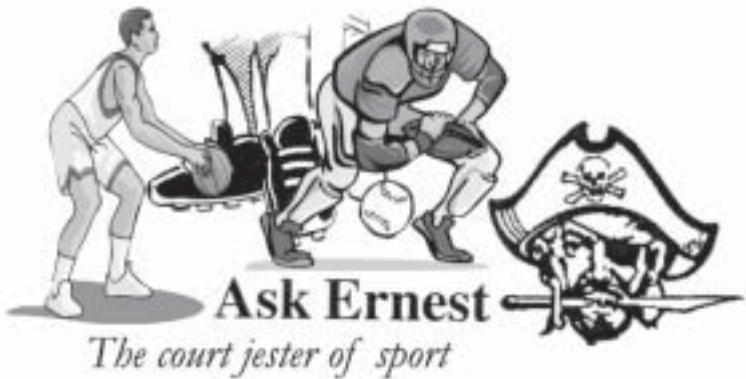
I just thought I would pass on that little bit of encouragement to everyone, but remember, it is only temporary.

Sherry Moe is a Vashon writer whose work appears in several ezines.



whispers. The book is available now at both Island bookstores.

One nice thing about egotists: they don’t talk about other people.



Ask Ernest
I left this Island with a goal to travel the world, or at least the greater United States. I had 300 dollars, a car, and a free plane ticket. Here’s what I did:

— Drove to Fargo, North Dakota with my car and spent 300 dollars on gas. Where else would you want to go in late July?

— Drove back to Vashon to photo shoot a whiffleball tournament. Paid for gas on credit. I’ll get to it later.

— Flew to Olympia for Soapbox and Kara Sears’ Wedding!
Your Ambitious Sports Reporter,
Ernie



Julie Jaffe and Noodle Martino discuss To Kill a Mockingbird. You see, Knud, or THE NOODLER as he is affectionately called, have different points of view regarding the classic. THE NOODLER thinks that Scout is an evil little bitch, whereas Julie vehemently disagrees, calling Scout one of her heroes.



Zack Brissey, from Ephrata, throws yet another grappler at the Junior Nationals in Fargo, North Dakota. He ended up placing 8th in this very difficult tournament, and also had a coupla weirdos from Vashon in his corner, making this feat all the more impressive. Photo by Jedi Cheetah.

~~~~~

## 10th Annual Rally For A Cure Golf Tournament Results

The 10th Annual “Rally For A Cure” Golf Tournament took place at Vashon Island Golf & Country Club on August 10. \$4,300 was raised to benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

John De Groen won “low net of the field” with a score of 64. Jo Goforth placed first in the Women’s Division with net 68 and Larry Bain was first in the Men’s Division with net 65. Others placing were: Teresa Bourke, Carolyn May, Patty Ulman, Carol Maki, Dave Creighton, Tom Trigg, Steve Stensland, Steve Hieb and Mike Kimmel.

First place winners took home “trophy tiles” created by Irene Otis and gift certificates donated by Vashon Thriftway.

Longest and straightest drive prize winners were Stacie Trigg,



Hard Headed Swedes rock the Madrona Beach Invitational with a 5-0 record and an unheard of 49-5 run differential. Jones Soda player of the tournament goes to George Magnuson for his incredible fielding skills. Front Row, left to right: Blake, Keir, Henry, Blaine, George and Colin. Top Row, left to right: Efreem, Carl, Mr. Choker, Alex, Tyler, Kajsa. Look out for these guys next summer, on the beach, on the diamond, or at Bob’s Bakery!



Kelly Kubec of Lake Stevens gets fired up between rounds in the Junior National Semifinals in Fargo, North Dakota. Kubec placed 2nd in Greco Roman and 4th in Freestyle. “We love Kelly Kubec,” stated Lake Stevens Coaches Brent Barnes and Dean Pakinas. “He’s talented, intelligent, and aggressive at everything he does, be it wrestling, air guitaring or text messaging.” Photo by Jedi Cheetah.

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## VAA Art Auction Coming!

Get it on your calendar — *Art Takes Flight Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16*, at Blue Heron Art Center, the Island’s auction of all auctions. Commissioned artists this year are: Margaret Tylczak, Mary Margaret Briggs, Christine Beck, George Wright, Hita Von Mende and Morgan Brig. The artists’ reception and art preview (a party in itself!) will take place **Friday, September 1**. Order your art auction tickets now, by calling (2060 463-5131).

## Vashon Bookshop

Continued from page 19

the popular movie, but -- you know what I’m going to say — the book is superior. My friend, one of the most discriminating readers I know, says that it’s about heroin addicts, violence, and despair; and that it might be the best book he’s read this year.

Finally, I must mention *The Devil of Nanking* by Mo Hayder and *Stranger Things Happen* by Kelly Link. My daughter and I have both enjoyed the latter, a book of quirky fantasies that aren’t quite like anything else either of us have ever read or experienced. Then, of the twenty or more books that I’ve read this year, including Al Gore’s *An Inconvenient Truth* (which should be required reading), Calvino’s *Cosmicomics*, Cushman’s *The Loud Silence of Francine Green*, and David Kirby’s *The House of Blue Light*, *The Devil of Nanking* is one of the best, a haunting, lyrically-written thriller about a young woman’s search through history and Tokyo for the truth about the 1937 massacre. It’s a book I will hate to finish, except that if I do, I get to read the books I’ve mentioned above and all the

Steve Stensland’s Golf Shop, Jerry and Sarah Mathews, Beth De Groen of John L. Scott Real Estate, Landseer Glen Landscaping, Island Thyme, KimmCo, Chuck Goforth, Zoomies, Vashon Pharmacy, Food Services of America, Tony’s Coffee, Willow Street Woodshop, Island Lumber, True Value Hardware, Earl Skow, Bank of America and Hershey’s Candies.

Jo Ann Bardeen organized the event. *Rally for a Cure* is a national program sponsored by *Golf For Women Magazine*.

| Café Luna August Schedule of Events                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fri., Aug. 18, 7:30-10 p.m.<br>Brent Magstadt with Charlie Spring:<br>Songs from the Heart                                                   |
| Sat., Aug. 19, 7:30-10 p.m.<br>Lee Tyler Post: Rock’n’Soul                                                                                   |
| Thurs., Aug. 24, 7-8:30 p.m.<br>Progressive Night<br>with music by Dan Asher                                                                 |
| Fri., Aug. 25, 7:30-10 p.m.<br>Sean Bendickson: Original Acoustic<br>Driven Folk Rock                                                        |
| Sat., Aug. 26, 7:30-10 p.m.<br>Christie Aitkin: Upbeat Modern Folk<br>Original & Acoustic Guitar                                             |
| Thurs., Aug. 31, 7:00-8:45 p.m.<br>Seattle Goga: Girls on the town - a<br>night of improv comedy and music with<br>special guest Niceol Blue |

others piled high throughout my house. My suggestion is to ask a friend, a stranger, or anyone, whose taste in books is hard to imagine, to tell you about this year’s favorite read. After all, summer is slipping away, and if you work fast, you might just find out about something you won’t be able to put down, that changes your mind, or, reminds you that there is more to Vashon Bookshop than just books!

P.S. And, for those of you who have inquired, I will be writing about what’s going on in the Gallery, where children’s art is featured; about information about the Bookshop’s book groups and when they will resume; and about my own evening writing groups for teenagers. And, thanks for asking!

For more information, contact Vashon Bookshop (463-2616) or Devon Atkins at 353-9227 or devon.atkins@hotmail.com.

## Art, Music, and Social Change: Susan Lewis and Beverly Naidus at Progressive Night

Café Luna will host Progressive Night on **Thursday, August 24**, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Come to experience the musical talent of Susan Lewis, and the artistic perspective of Beverly Naidus, as they combine to make this a powerhouse evening of inspiration and education.



Artist Beverly Naidus



# Loopy Laffs

*It isn't premarital sex if you have no intention of getting married.*  
— George Burns

The social studies teacher had just finished a unit on war and peace. “How many of you,” he asked, “would say you’re opposed to war?” Not surprisingly, all hands went up. The teacher asked, “Who’ll give us the reason for being opposed to war?” A large, bored-looking boy in the back of the room raised his hand. “Johnny?” The teacher said. “I hate war,” Johnny said, “because wars make history, and I hate history.”

**Church of Trehorenteuc, France, was built in 1516 entirely from stones donated by residents in an area of 50 miles, each of whom removed a rock from the walls of his house.**

My mother never saw the irony in calling me a s-o-b. — Jack Nicholson

### One Liners

Everyday is Saturday to a dog.  
Hermits have no peer pressure.  
Variables won't; constants aren't.  
Virtue is the failure to achieve vice.  
You've got to spend money to lose money.  
Even if you can't carry a tune, you can still karaoke.  
I before E except after C. We use a weird language!  
There's a good reason he has a stupid look on his face.  
Itsdifficulttobeverycreativewithonlyfiftysevencharacters!  
I have an inferiority complex, but it's just not a very good one.  
Happiness is often the result of being too busy to be miserable.

**Q: What do Easter Bunnies get for making a basket?**  
**A: Two points, just like anyone else.**

*During a jury selection process, the first lawyer began his questioning as an intimidating showman. He looked over the prospective jurors and asked, “Do any of you here today dislike lawyers?” Before the pause became too long, the judge said, “I do.”*

### Important Latin phrases

**Die dulci fruire:** Have a nice day.  
**Noli me vocare, ego te vocabo:** Don't call me, I'll call you.  
**Furnulum pani nolo:** I don't want a toaster.  
**Fac ut gaudeam:** Make my day.  
**Utinam coniurati te in foro interficiant!** May conspirators assassinate you in the mall!  
**Utinam logica falsa tuam philosophiam totam suffodiant!** May faulty logic undermine your entire philosophy!

Ever notice how long weekends are like rainbows? They always look great from a distance, but seem to disappear whenever you get up close.

Two kinds of people fail — those who listen to nobody and those who listen to everybody.

I'll always love my mom but I'll never forgive her for cleaning my face with spit on a hanky.

Q. How do you make the drummer in a rock & roll band leave your front porch?  
A. Pay him for the pizza.

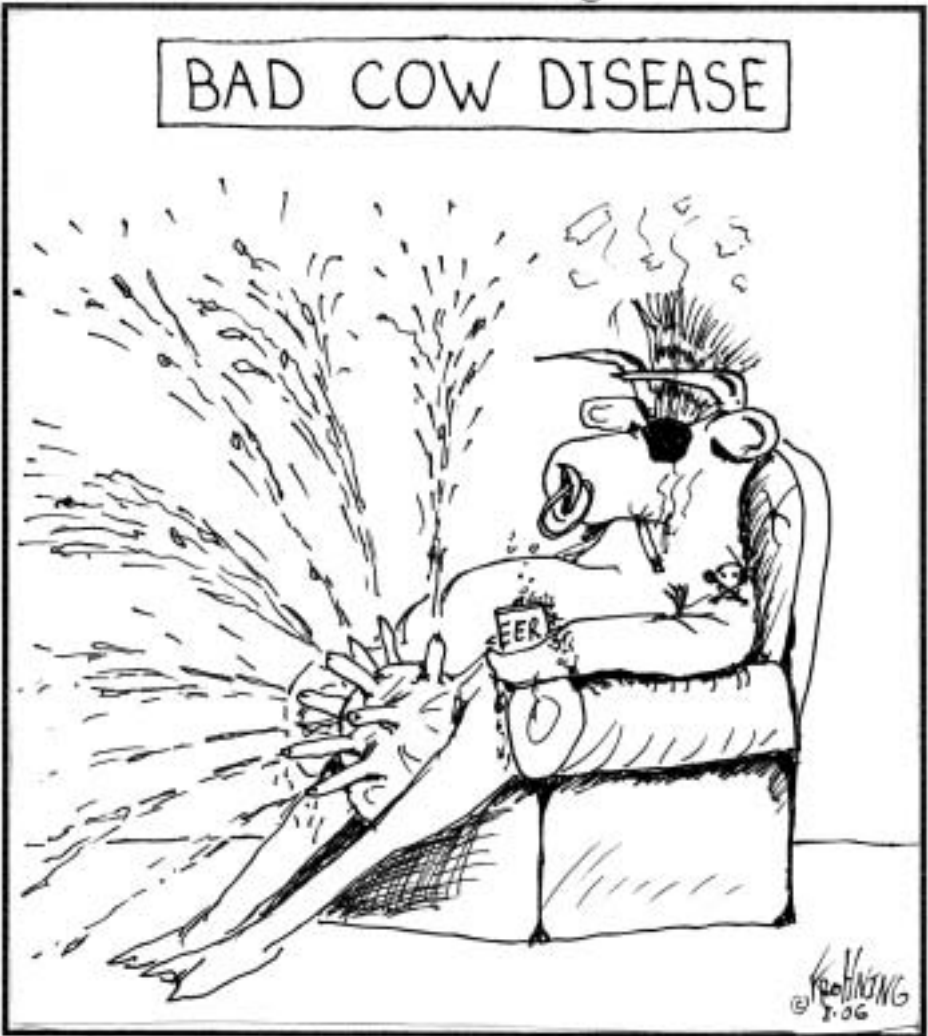
My English professor was stopped for speeding. When asked why she was driving so fast, she quoted Robert Frost: “I have promises to keep and miles to go before I sleep.” “But, Miss,” replied the officer, obviously familiar with the poet, “Frost chose the road less traveled, and, unfortunately, you did not.”

*The grass is always greener where the cows have stood the longest.*

**Lincoln studied by the light of a fireplace. Mozart composed by candlelight. Galileo invented by oil lamp. Didn't they ever think to do their work during the daytime?**

“One of the symptoms of an approaching nervous breakdown is the belief that one’s work is terribly important.” — Bertrand Russell

## WILD WORLD / Ed Frohning



## OFFSHORE



## LOGJAM





# Loop Arts

## Vashon Youth Theater Project: The First Two Years

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

As Vashon Allied Arts celebrates its fortieth birthday, one of its most successful programs has been the Vashon Youth Theater Project, which was launched in 1988 by Allied Arts under the direction of Laura Callahan Agnew. She spoke of those early days in a recent interview.

“The idea was something I wanted to do for a long time,” Agnew said, “because theater was my saving grace in high school.”

“After I had worked with Liz Watters on a previous youth theater production, a grant became available through Vashon Youth and Family Services to fund a project working with teens. Beth White Holmes contacted Liz, but she was not available for the project at the time, so Beth contacted me.”



VYTP: The First Year Kids (Laura in middle of front row in dark shirt)

“Beth and I worked with ideas I had so that teens could do every aspect of theater production. That was my goal because they would learn skills from all the various pieces.”

“We got the grant in February, 1988. I got the Vashon High School roster and personally called every student on the roster. I got a lot of ‘I don’t do theater.’ I’d say, ‘Wait, wait! Are you interested in carpentry, or lighting, or technical work? Does it have to be acting?’”

“We had to have twenty kids for the grant. We started interviewing interested kids in September of



Laura Callahan at 24.

1988, then we had workshops in stage management, set design and construction, lighting, make up, props, and front of house. We did theater

games and exercises as well as rehearsals.”

“We started working two and half hours every week on September 28. The kids worked in every part of production. We started with twenty-one kids, and by the end of the season, we had thirty-three.”

“They chose a play titled *Inside Out, Upside Down*. It was written by four playwriting students of instructor Vaughn McBride of Walden Theater. He had taken the four young playwrights to the Louisville Cerebral Palsy School, where they listened to students and then wrote their stories about



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individual fears and feelings, and the personal walls we have, and breaking them down.”

“The grant required that we have twenty-five community volunteers. Those volunteers were phenomenal! Jim Jenkins helped with

lighting, Patricia Toovey took the kids on a field trip to the Seattle Rep, and she and Kim Bateman taught costume construction. John Blakemore and Louise Kankel talked about stage management; Bruce Toomey gave a talk on set design; Ed Meisner spoke about lighting; Libbie Anthony talked about props; Pam McMahon and Roxanne Blair spoke about publicity.”



Laura Callahan Agnew today

“The original grant was from DSHS, and we received additional funds from Drama Dock, the Sorooptimists, Kiwanis, and Rotary.”

“The second year the kids picked a play titled *Insights*, written by the same playwrights who wrote *Upside Down, Inside Out*. We ended up with 39 kids that year. The next year Liz Watters was able to return and she took over the VYTP.”

“I still hear from some of those kids. Albie Clementi runs set construction at Wazzu, and has won awards for his work. Josiah Palmer is working for Jason Lollar here on the Island. I saw Martha Bowman at the Strawberry Festival Parade. Tric



VYTP: The Second Year Kids

Capdepon works for the ferry system, and she’s a mom; Martha Lang is a naturopath; Louie Jennings works for the bone factory.”

Callahan Agnew has been running a successful house cleaning business and raising her daughter the last few years, “but I’m starting a new business! It’s a virtual gallery for three-dimensional art – jewelry and sculpture – and it’s called Barking Raven Arts. I’m hoping to help maintain artists on Vashon. I want to support them in making the world more beautiful.”



Dancers at the May Ceili

## Dog Days Irish Ceili Dance at Grange

On **Saturday, August 26**, 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 7 p.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](http://www.hoilands.com). For more information about the Vashon Celtic Dance Society, or to volunteer, call Shannon Seath Meyer at (206) 774-4047.



Christie Aitken Photo by Scott Aitken

## Christie Aitken Returns to Luna

Northwest singer-songwriter Christie Aitken’s 13-track pop-folk CD, *Road to Sunnyside*, features her soulful vocals along with a cast of talented local artists who add a fresh mix of instrumentation.

Christie grew up on Vashon Island and has enjoyed playing music since the tender age of four. Her own style draws from her heritage of folk and bluegrass and brings in jazz and pop influences as well. She has been compared to Sheryl Crow, Carly Simon, and Rickie Lee Jones.

She performs at venues around the Seattle area, singing her upbeat originals accented with catchy acoustic guitar rhythms and fingerpicking. Listeners say they enjoy her inspiring lyrics and the emotion she pours into her songs.

## Sean Bendickson: Country, Rock, Indie, Folk, Café Luna

Sean Bendickson, Seattle singer/songwriter, will be making his second visit to Café Luna August 25, at 7:30 p.m.

Bendickson usually performs solo, but sometimes his brother, Aaron, sings harmonies and plays bass, Jakob Breitbach plays the violin, and occasionally Jeff Berghammer joins on drums.

Originally a native of Missoula, Montana, Bendickson has spent the past eight years in the Puget Sound area making a name for himself as a songwriter/performing artist. His songwriting draws from the influences of

August 16, 06



# ART lessons

I am an artist new to the island with a background in illustration and fine art, if you would like to explore your creative side in drawing, painting, color, and design, please call Tim Huhn

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Women might be able to fake orgasms. But men can fake a whole relationship. — Sharon Stone

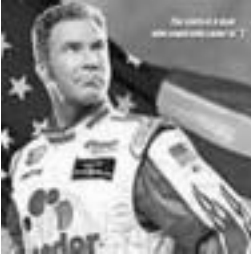
## Monster House You, Me, and Dupree

August 16-17

## Lady in the Water



## Talladega Nights



The  
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Ricky  
Bobby

August 18-24

## Ant Bully Miami Vice

August 25-31

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# Mary Sherhart with the Balkan Cabaret

By Martin Koenig

On Monday, August 28, at 6:30 p.m. there will be the last of this summer's World Music concert and folk dance parties sponsored by Vashon Park District and Vashon Folkdancers. Come to Corbin Beach to celebrate the end of summer with music by Mary Sherhart and Balkan Cabaret. This is a bring-your-own-picnic, no trash bash (No Trash Bash means: Bring your own non-disposable dishes/utensils).

Balkan Cabaret formed in May of 2001 when Mary Sherhart, Balkan vocalist, started working with the Balkan dance orchestra Nishava. They had a common desire to revisit and perform those wonderful Balkan standards heard in cafes, many from over 50 years ago, the music, songs and dances from Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia and Serbia.

Balkan Cabaret has just returned from a Midwest tour and members of the group were flown to New York City to play for Mark Morris' opening night celebration at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM). They have once again been nominated by *The Seattle Weekly* as one of Seattle's Top Bands in the world music category.

Balkan Cabaret's music is all acoustic and features: Joe Finn, violin; Michael Lawson, accordion and vocals; Steve Ramsey, guitar, tambura, bugarija



Balkan Cabaret with Mary Sherhart

and vocals; Mary Sherhart, vocals; Rich Thomas, double bass and vocals.

**Corbin Beach** is a very special spot on Vashon. The event will be held at Enid Dolstad's clay tennis court (excellent for dancing) on the west side of Vashon, at the water's edge. There will also be a short dance class. Dancing starts at 7:30

p.m. If you like traditional music, you will enjoy this 5-piece band and the setting where the music will take place. Please carpool, park your car on Burma Road, bring

a flashlight and walk down to Corbin Beach. Parking is extremely limited.

Families are most welcome. However, parents are advised to please be prepared to keep an eye on your children and bring an extra set of dry clothing and a towel for them - the kids often get soaked playing in the water. Children are also welcome to dance to the music. This is a child friendly event. No partners or experience necessary to participate in the dancing.

For further information call Martin Koenig, 463-1238.

**Final World Music Concert  
Folk Dance to Live Music!  
Free at Corbin Beach  
Monday, August 28, 2006,  
6:30 p.m.**



## Hot Band, Incendio, plays Ober Park

By Janice Randall

Don't miss Latin-fusion band Incendio when they play their fiery music and pounding rhythms at Ober Park, **Thursday, August 24**, 7 to 9 p.m. Vashon Park District, Vashon Allied Arts and Windermere Realty sponsor the free annual family concert series. Bring picnics and lawn chairs, but please, no alcohol in the Park.

Incendio includes a trio of professional players, bassist Liza Carbé and guitarists J.P. Durand and Jim Stubblefield with Joe Shotwell on percussion. Incendio is based in LA, but the group tours year-round and performs in festival and concerts halls. With several CDs to their credit and another releasing this month, they are reputed for their live performances.

Incendio has been featured on ABC's Los Angeles television program, *Vista LA*, and Telemundo's entertainment magazine *Buena Onda*.

See you at Ober Park and mark your calendars for the summer concert finale, **Thursday, September 7**, when Vashon's own Portage Fill-Harmonic comes to play dance tunes of the 30s and 40s.

## Auditions for Dracula This Weekend

Drama Dock will soon take a bite out of one of the most famous fictional characters this side of Transylvania - *Dracula* - and they'd like you to be a part of it. Auditions for the play, a drama written by Tim Kelly and to be directed by James Roy, will be at the Burton Church Annex **Saturday, August 19** at noon, and **Sunday, August 20** at 2 p.m. There are 17 parts to be cast - 7 men and 10 women - and those who audition will be asked to read portions of the script. Anyone with questions can call Roy at 280-2185, otherwise Drama Dock will be looking forward to seeing you at the auditions!

## Blue Heron Performance Opportunity

By Janice Randall

All Island performing artists are invited to apply for Vashon Allied Arts' New Works Series 2007. VAA's New Works Series offers a venue for Island artists to premiere new work and/or new collaborations between January and November, 2007. All disciplines (music, dance, literary, theater) are encouraged to apply. An inter-disciplinary panel of Island performing artists will meet in October, review and select recipients. Deadline for materials is **September 23, 2006**. Applications are available now at Blue Heron Art Center.

The VAA New Works Series was established in the early 1990's, for Island resident artists who would like to use the Blue Heron venue to launch their creative ideas. Past New Works Series performances have spawned memorable performances by Steffon Moody, Gary Koch, Maggie Laird, Bill Jarcho, Brent Magstadt and many others. Call 463-5131, ext. 226, for more information or drop by the Blue Heron for an application.

# Vashon Bookshop

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Music & Movement for Little Children

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## What's Happening At Vashon Bookshop?

### Hot Reads This Summer

By Devon Atkins

I am a reader. During the academic year, I tutor middle schoolers every day, and, I read what they read, along with books about dyslexia, attention disorders, and study strategies. But, the weekends and all of the summer are mine; and this year, the twenty or more books I've read began with author Jared Diamond, a man who some call a committee (he knows that much.) I first read *The Third Chimpanzee*, recommended by my son; it's a thrilling book that tells the *Homo Sapiens* tale: what makes us similar, what makes us different, what makes us dangerous. Diamond's *Guns, Germs, and Steel* is the bestseller, and opens the door to questions about our world and what we do to it. Which civilizations survived and which didn't, and why? That's what *Collapse* is about; it's riveting and full of hope, so don't avoid it because of its doomsday title. All three are meaty and completely compelling.

And speaking of compelling, I persist in insisting that there are more good books than bad, a plethora of ideas and dreams, insights, discoveries, and wonder that are there for the taking. At the Bookshop, they've got all sorts of recommendations: Karen recommends *The Golden Spruce: A True Story of Myth, Madness, and Greed* by John Vaillant, a powerful man vs. nature tale about an ex-logger turned obsessive, who chops down the only tree of its kind in protest of the destruction of British Columbia's old-growth forest. She also swears by *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth, a book that I can't wait to read. It's a "What If..." tale about America, and what could have happened if Charles Lindberg had won the 1940 Presidential election instead of FDR. From the first Roth story I read as a

teenager, he has never disappointed me, from *Goodbye, Columbus*, to *Portnoy's Complaint*, to *The Human Stain*. The man sure knows how to tell a story.

Nancy is in charge of the Children's Section, and she knows a find when she reads it. *Magyk* is Book One in the Septimus Heap series. These books, by Angie Sage, are a little like Harry Potter, with great characters and jolts of action, but for a somewhat younger reader. Nancy also suggests *The Star of Kazan* by Eva Ibbotson, a beautifully written adventure of sly villains, complete with a beautiful heroine.

Brigid, who is nineteen, liked *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, by Jonathan Safran Foer, the follow-up to Foer's best-selling novel that stars the character Oskar Schell, the inventor, jewelry designer, and astrophysicist of the popular *Everything is Illuminated*. Brigid also suggests Margaret Atwood's *Onyx and Crake*, a riveting and disturbing tale that toys with the future and all our fears about it. Lila, age sixteen, talks of *The Once and Future King*, by T.H. White, one of the quartet of novels that is a retelling of the Arthurian legend, originally published as one volume nearly fifty years ago. *Freddy and Fredericka* is also a Lila-favorite. Written by Mark Helprin, this parody is full of adventure, and characters that seem glaringly similar to the Royal Family's own Charles and Diane. (Obviously, all four books would be enjoyed by adult readers, as well as by teenage readers.)

A friend of mine is reading *Trainspotting* by Irvine Welch, a terrific book with a compelling narrative, fascinating characters, and an intriguing voice. It's written in dialect and does take place in Scotland. You may have seen





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