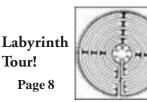
In This Issue:

Earthfair is beautiful and necessary; farewell to Steve Irwin; local types of Gulls; Ravens; Oysters; Navy beans; reward for info on deer poachers; and much more!



Take this hammer, carry it to New Orleans

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Dance, Music String Theor Lelavision rid again! Page 18





Vol. 3, # 19

TO INFORM AND AMUSE ~ TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM September 13, 2006



Then: Jonathan and Alice Orr, New Yorkers

No Choice But to Listen A 9/11 Personal Essay **By Alice Orr**

"Do you have the TV on?" my daughter asked the instant I picked up the phone.

"No," was all I got out.

"I didn't think so," she said. "Turn it on."

"What's happening?" I asked. "Just turn it on."

Ordinarily, I would have expected her to sound out of patience with me by now, but I heard only flatness and control at the other end of the line. The image that flashed on the screen told me why. The tower was smoking. I'm not sure which one.

"Oh, my God. What is going on?" I asked, and she told me about the plane.

Or, was it both planes by then? My brain was stuck on freeze frame. I didn't realize till later that I'd been looking at the early, unedited shots with what appeared to be flailing chunks of debris plummeting toward the pavement. All I did understand was that I could not possibly take this in. So I tuned up the volume, turned away and just listened. I'd only been back on Vashon a little over a week after spending steamy August on Manhattan's Upper Westside. My husband and I had moved from what everyone back there refers to as "the city" at the beginning of the year. I exited the Fauntleroy Ferry at 7:10 p.m. on February 2, 2001, and had been ticking off the minutes ever since, having foolishly failed to anticipate how problematic this particular Island hop, from Manhattan to Vashon, would be for a diehard

All Aboard! Vashon **College Is Underway!**



Photo Caption: blah blah blah Photo by M L Tuel By Mary Litchfield Tuel, SSA

Vashon College kicked off its first course, Vashon 101, with a boat ride around the Island on Sunday, September 10.

The boat was a foot ferry that usually runs between Bremerton and Seattle. There were about 150 people on board, counting students, alternates, faculty (Kevin J. Freeman, Tom DeVries, Bruce Haulman, plus Rich Wiley, moderator), Captain Paul the skipper, and the crew.

As the boat pulled away from the dock and headed into inner Quartermaster Harbor, we learned that Raab's Lagoon is a natural feature Continued on page 6

History and Heritage to be **Celebrated at Vashon Library Birthday(s)** Party

By Deborah Anderson

The hallmarks of the history and heritage of the Vashon Library 90th and 60th birthdays will be celebrated Saturday, September 16, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at both the library and Ober Park facilities.

History

pharmacy in Burton brambles where the Shoppe, and Vashon located carries us to Vashon Branch of the What began as the ladies with a desire to material to Islanders in Vashon-Maury Senior KCLS photo When the Vashon

Imagining a time when there was a and nothing but Land Trust, Malt Strip Mall are now the beginning of the KCLS. endeavor of a group of reading present 1916 grew to major construction at the site Library on the dock in Burton of what is now the Center in 1946. Ladies Club started collecting materials in 1916, the library moved around various places in Burton: the old post office, the Pharmacy, a building down by the Dock and eventually into the basement of the Burton Church. Eventually a decision was made to build a major, comprehensive facility uptown. In a bold move, farsighted leaders, believing that eventually there would be growth to the west of town, decided to build in a completely undeveloped area far away from the central uptown area. Area businesses backed the plan solidly with necessary supplies. In 1946, the facility was opened to everyone's great delight. The repeated shipments of new reading material from over town were heralded



Commissioned artist Margaret Tylczak's "Forty Great Ones," will be auctioned this Friday, Sept. 15, at Vashon Allied Arts annual Art Auction. Call 463.5131 for tickets!

Art Takes Flight This Weekend!

By Janice Randall

What?! Don't have tickets for VAA Art Auction yet? Call TODAY to get your reservation for Saturday night. Friday night tickets will be available at the door.

Art Takes Flight, theme for this year's VAA Art Auction, will be held Friday, September 15, 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, September 16, 5:30 p.m., in the huge, festively decorated party-sized tent adjacent to Blue Heron Art Center. All proceeds benefit Vashon Allied Arts, the Island's non-profit community art center. Special thanks to presenting sponsor John L. Scott and additional support from Puget Sound Energy.

Continued on page 18

Voting by New **Method Possible** for VMICC **Board Election**

By Jay Becker

If more than nine Islanders stand for election to the Vashon-Maury Island Community Council nine-member board on November 7, a new kind of voting may be suggested to help create proportional representation of Islanders' views.

The Council collects Islanders' views on issues in monthly public meetings. A simple majority vote is taken. Then the Council advises public and private agencies on what Islanders want. However, the Council's board sets the agenda for these monthly all-Island meetings.

But does the board accurately represent differing viewpoints of

Continued on page 4

Continued on page 5

Continued on page 9







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Are You Prepared?

Mark **Saturday**, **October 21** on your calendar. That's when Vashon is having it's first Island-wide disaster drill followed by a community celebration. You will get more information in early October but for now make sure that you and your family are prepared. Visit www.VashonBePrepared.org to find out what to put in your "go-kit" and to learn more about what Islanders are doing to get ready for the big one.

Date Correction Dzogchen Khenpo Choga Rinpoche

The date of an event featuring the D z o g c h e n Khenpo Choga Rinpoche was not correct in the last issue. The event is



actually being held on **Thursday**, **September 14**, 7 to 9:30 p.m., at David Smith's Indonesian tea house. For directions to the location, call Dave at (206)

Senior Center Dinner

and Auction

Don't forget the Senior Center's first dinner and auction on **Saturday**, **September 23** at the Veteran's (formerly the VFW) Hall. Tickets are still available at \$20.00 each, and are limited. There will be lots of items, large and small, so come and check it out. A Mike Spakowsky painting will be included, and you must be present to bid! The Senior Center hopes to make this a success as a fund raiser, so make it a date to attend.

Unofficial Mayor Proceeds Awarded



Adopt-A-Cat Day

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

VIPP Annual Dog (and People) Walk

Come join us at VIPP'S annual Dog (and People) Walk on **Saturday**, **September 16** from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Burton Acres Park. You don't have to find sponsors, but if you'd like to, there are sponsor sheets are available on-line at www.vipp.org, Pandora's Box, Fair Isle Animal Clinic and the Vashon Pharmacy.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three contributors. Hope to see you there...it's a great way to get some exercise, meet your Island neighbors and help VIPP at the same time.

Contractor BBQ and PUD Info Session

Vashon building contractors and subcontractors are invited to a free barbecue and informational discussion on the Vashon Public Utility District, on Friday September 15, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in the parking lot of the new Windemere building (17141 Vashon Highway).

Join PUD commissioner candidates for a bite to eat, hear how the proposed PUD would work and ask your questions. Island contractors and subcontractors will have an important role to play in the proposed PUD's conservation and renewable energy work, so your input and ideas are welcome! The event is hosted by SDS Design. For more information, contact Gib at 463-4175.

Vashon Democratic Club Meets

Come to the Vashon Democratic Club meeting this **Saturday**, **September 16**. We meet in the Land Trust building: potluck social at 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Every Vote Equal: Come to learn about a proposal to elect the U.S. President by popular vote within the framework of the Electoral College. Club President Roger Fulton will speak about this plan, the "Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote." Learn how you can help in this nationwide effort to make "Every Vote Equal."

Public Utility District: A representative from Citizens for Vashon Public Utilities will give an overview of how a Public Utility District on Vashon would work. Learn how the Vashon PUD will help make its customers' buildings more energy efficient, through voluntary participation and without using tax dollars.



October Youth-Adult Dialogue Focuses on Gender

In order to make Vashon a safe and healthy community for all, gender needs to be discussed by youth and adults alike, and this is exactly what Youth-Adult Dialogue is organizing for **Tuesday**, **October 24** in the community room of the Presbyterian Church, across the street from the Vashon Theater. Free dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m., and the dialogue goes to 8:30 p.m.

Gender issues, questions, and stereotypes seem to arise in almost everyone's daily life. People (even on Vashon) are frequently misunderstood, harassed, or even ostracized for questioning their gender.

From birth our gender may dictate the color of our clothes, the names we are given, and how we are parented. As we get older we can sometimes be pushed into jobs, emotional roles, and sexual orientations that we don't particularly like because of the strong gender stereotypes in our culture.

How can we, as a community, hold space and celebrate our youth and adults who are comfortable with their gender, and do the same for those who question theirs or have made the choice to be a different gender, or to be non-gender specific?

Youth-Adult Dialogues are cosponsored by Development of Island Teens (DOIT), the Vashon Prevention/ Intervention Team, and Vashon Youth Council.

If you have questions, or would like to help, please contact Morgan Guion at 463-1680 or leftoftwilight@gmail.com.

The Vashon Loop

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463-1490.

Senior Center Sunday Potlucks Return

Enjoy a social afternoon with entertainment at the Senior Center's monthly potluck gathering 2 to 4 p.m. **September 17** at the Senior Center. Just drop in with a dish for six — friends and family welcome.

Senior Center Plans Festival Trip

Vashon-Maury Senior Center friends and members can take a trip to the 19th Annual Italian Festival at the Seattle Center, leaving from the Vashon Senior Center at 11 a.m. and returning at 4 p.m. from on **September 24.** There will be exhibits and music, theatrical and dance performances, food, music and cooking demonstrations by celebrity chefs. Sign up at the SC; \$6.50, members, \$11.50 nonmembers. Joyce Olson, treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce gives to Maggie Albertson, candidate and Susan Hanson, Principal of VHS, the proceeds from Maggie's campaign. Maggie raised \$1,191.57 for the ASB.



Cate Stackhouse ran for Unofficial Mayor for PTSA. Joyce Olson Chamber treasurer shares with her and Donna Zaglin, PTSA Board President, a check for \$645.68. For more information, contact Roger Fulton at 463-5652.

Island Greenprint Map at Land Use Committee

The Community Council Land Use and Natural Resources Committee will meet **Wednesday, September 20,** 7 p.m. at the Land Trust Building. The final draft of the Island Greenprint (Land Use) Map will be available and priority focus zones discussed with Katie Gellenbeck. There will also be an update on the proposed Island Public Utility District (PUD), a report on the King County Council public hearing on home industry changes, and discussion of Emma Amiad's recent proposal regarding maximum size for new homes. More information from Yvonne Kuperberg, 567-4005.



Troy and Marie Talk PUD

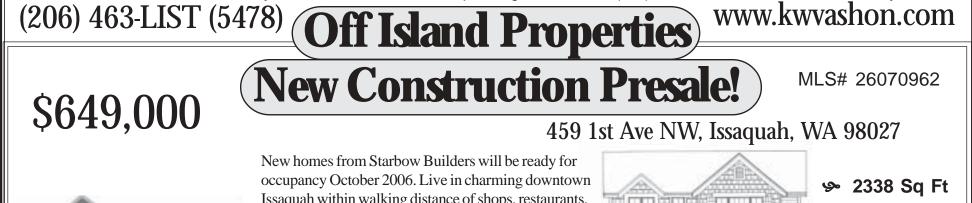
There has been a lot of discussion about the upcoming vote on whether to form a Public Utility District on Vashon. No one that we know is opposed to energy conservation. (We don't know anyone at Exxon.) But some people are questioning whether we need a PUD to conserve energy. We talked to Gib Dammonn of SDS Design Builders. SDS stands for Sustainable Design Solutions. With a business name like that, it is not surprising that Gib is a proponent of alternative energy solutions. He is also a proponent of the PUD. We talked to him about his passion for the subject.

KELLER WILLIAMS R E A L T Y Seattle Metro West

- Marie: Gib, tell us about yourself. What brought you to Vashon, and how did you get involved with the PUD?
- **Gib:** My wife and I bought a house here over three years ago, and started rebuilding in anticipation of moving here full time. We read about the PUD initiative. The plan intrigues me it takes me back to my roots. In the 70's I started working construction, and started designing underground homes. This was in the Carter years; there was a lot of talk about solar cells, insulation studies, and so on. These topics are very much mainstream now, but back then they were the "topic of the day." Thirty years later, we are finding that these issues are more important than ever.
- Marie: I remember the Carter years vaguely. We lived in Ellisport, and I remember driving to Dockton to get gas for my baby poop colored Fiat. I wonder what happened to that car? It sure was ugly.
- **Troy:** Sorry to pull you off memory lane Marie, but let's get back to the PUD. Gib, what do you see as the initial objective of a PUD?
- Gib: When I started going to meetings about a year and a half ago, the PUD initiative was on the drawing board, but it was non-focused. Now we are focused on items that we can have an immediate impact on - conservation. Our initial objective is energy savings. When we establish a track record in saving energy, then we can look at alternative sources of energy and look at getting grants for solar hot water, solar cells, wind power, etc.
- **Marie:** But why a PUD? Some people are concerned that a quasigovernmental organization with the statutory power to levy taxes will do exactly that – levy taxes. Can't the same goal be accomplished through a non-profit entity?

- **Gib:** A PUD basically *is* a non-profit entity. I would ask that the people of Vashon let us develop a track record. I don't see the logic of voting out the PUD when commissioners are promising not to tax. Let us prove ourselves. If this doesn't pan out five years from now, I'll be voting it down, too! But if thousands of people voluntarily sign up for this program, well, that gives us a lot of cash flow to work with.
- **Troy:** As I understand it, here is how it would work: A homeowner could request an energy audit from the PUD. The energy auditor would recommend retrofits and upgrades to the home, and the homeowner could choose to borrow the money at a low interest rate to make the upgrades if he wanted to do so. The loan would be paid back over time, and the homeowner's monthly payment would be structured so that the energy savings to the homeowner would be more than the monthly payment. In other words, the homeowner would be paying less each month. And the whole program is voluntary, right?
- **Gib:** Yes, it is, and you're right that's basically how it would work.
- Marie: Gib, would your company directly benefit if Vashon votes in a PUD?
- **Gib:** That's an interesting question. I suppose we might, although our clients already come to us because we are passionate about sustainability. One final thought: When we pay our energy bills, we are in effect doing energy audits in the sense that the person who pays the most to heat the same sized house has the more inefficient systems. If we focus on the homes on Vashon that need the most help, that will be good bang for the buck.

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





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Sarah

- 2338 Sq Ft
 4 bedrooms
- ቃ 2.5 bath
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# Loop Letter

# Earthfair: Beautiful, **Necessary, Imperfect**

Editor, The Loop:

Now that a month has passed, it's given me time to digest the letters. comments and overall outlook on Vashon Island Earthfair — what it used to be, what it is now and where it's going. Although I am not on the Earthfair Council, I am heavily involved ... mostly by bringing the music to the event, but because we are so understaffed...I tend to wear many more hats, as several of us need to in order to make it happen.

I've heard numerous compliments from both attendees and musicians about how much fun the event was this year...so I know that lots of people enjoyed themselves...but the remarks that I heard from people who had a bad experience because of some of our Security Staff are the ones that are more important to me right now.

As a result of being very involved with this event, I feel personally responsible and accountable for the actions that took place by some of the people on our Security Staff. There is so much positive that happens at and because of Earthfair. To hear that people were mistreated in any way is very disheartening to me and it makes me sad, because so many people put so much time and effort into it to make it a fun, educational event.

Cottage performed was just plain wrong, in my opinion. The decision was not made by Earthfair staff; it was made by someone on the Security Staff who really didn't have the authority to do so. By the time our EF staff realized what was happening, it was too late...people had been swept out of the park and the damage

was done. I was unaware of this whole situation until the next day and to be quite honest, I have had a knot in my stomach ever since.

I cannot speak for everyone else involved with Earthfair, but I can speak for myself. I apologize from the bottom of my heart to my brothers and sisters in this community (and beyond) who were affected by this sweep and/or any other negative experiences they experienced with anyone on our Security Staff. Not only some of the people attending or participating in this event, but the food vendors were affected by this, too. These vendors worked very hard to provide great food for the event and had prepared for the "after Trolls" crowd, only to find that the crowd was not coming because of the sweep. My apology goes out to them as well, for what it's worth.

We are blessed with such a great community and for me, my friends and family have always come first. Nothing is more important than that.

I know that at this point, it's water under the bridge and what has been done is done and people are probably sick of hearing about it. However, Earthfair is a beautiful event and I think a necessary one to bring our community together for what it's always intended to be. It is very apparent that some things need to change for it to continue to evolve and they need to change immediately or I am certain some of us will not continue to align ourselves with it, both volunteers and attendees.

There have been and continue to be The fact that people were ushered out some really great people involved in a sweep immediately after Trolls putting this event together and I feel fortunate to have worked with each and every one of them. I have all the confidence in the world that they will do the right thing and make the necessary improvements in order to make this event even better going forward. Pete Welch



Kneejerk Conservative Legislating Morality **By Fran Gordon** 

"Civil law is the floor of human behavior, not the upper atmosphere. It is supposed to guard against the **lowest** aspects of human behavior so that a civil society can function. What we really mean when we say you can't legislate morality is that the Law cannot put the things of the Spirit in the heart. It cannot instill love of neighbor, for instance. But it can and does punish those who can't even bring themselves to keep from harming their neighbor. It says, if you can't love your neighbor, at least don't beat him to death with a baseball bat or cheat him out of money. That's a really moral function. It's just not the highest moral function." — Mark Shea

A community implies the presence of mutual obligation and responsibility. Otherwise there is no community, just a disparate group of individuals. So when someone says, "Morality cannot be legislated," they need to reconsider. We legislate morality all the time-the ban on smoking in restaurants last election is a case in point. Everything from traffic laws to capital murder have a moral base; most major mores found in human say, "the very nature of law is to impose the conscience of the community upon the individual. The only question is on what basis and with what limits." The alternative is anarchy, which quickly leads to chaos and tyranny in any society other than a fictional one.

Indeed, most instances of this "cannot legislate morality" meme\* I've come across are referring to sexual morality in which case, following the logic to its absurd extreme, rape would not be something that should be punished. I think most of us would agree that this would not be a good idea. One of the egregious ideas that contributes to this confusion is the idea that every idea, every ideal, every behavior is of equal merit or morally equivalent to every other idea, ideal or behavior. This is by its very nature an oxymoron. We as families, communities, states and nations need to look at our behaviors and appetites and consider what needs to be done. Just don't short circuit thought by repeating a trite and meaningless slogan.

Want to rant, rave or just talk? Catch me at the grocery store or at ham2hand@yahoo.com

\*A "meme," according to my Webster's, is "a cultural item that is transmitted by repetition in a manner analogous to the biological transmission of genes, coined by R. Dawkins,

# Vashon as Eden:

#### Editor, The Loop.

A welcome voice from the watershed has confirmed the merit of a little wire strung downstream from water meter to kitchen, but has expressed concern for the cost upstream to the water utility, which gains nothing yet pays for it. Responding pell-mell to repair this break in the little wire it can be reported that at least one utility insider thinks the wire would help the utility. The quote is from an interchange on automatic meter reading (AMR) in 2005 on Energy Central, an

industry forum. It's about electricity, but I'll borrow the idea. A responder said in effect that AMR should be shared with the consumer, because "...direct display of rate, cost, accumulated cost to date from beginning of the bill cycle, and real time burn rate - on an always on and prominently positioned dedicated display - will result in the largest percentage of conservation, up to 20%"

Besides, the user ought to pay for the wire. Heershe\* is the one not kneeling in the brambles with laptop and Excel. Tom Herring

\*Heershe is a gender-inclusive pronoun

societies do not differ all that much. Where we differ is in whom these mores apply to and how. Mark Shea went on to

### VMICC Board Voting Continued from page 1

Islanders? The committee to nominate board members is discussing using "choice voting" or, as some call it, "single transferable voting" for board candidates. This is meant to give voters a better chance to have someone with their particular viewpoint elected to the board. If adopted, this form of voting would put the Community Council among leaders in proportional voting in this state.

Until October 3, the nominating committee will seek nominations for anyone interested in serving on the board. Nomination forms were distributed in August. Forms are available at the Vashon Library, the

US biologist, around 1976." I like to include definitions of words that make me say, "Huh?" -- Editor

Beachcomber, and the Council's website, www.vmicc.org. Nominations close October 3 to allow time for ballot and voter preparation. Islanders interested in serving on the board should pick up a form, fill it out, and send it to the address on the form. Or just call Roger Fulton at 463-5652. Islanders can nominate others they think would be committed to serving.

Each interested Islander will be contacted about the duties of board members. Details, such as those written in the by-laws, are on the Vashon-Maury Island Community Council website (www.vmicc.org), and are available at the library.

A good cure for insomnia is to get plenty of sleep. -- W. C. Fields

September 13, 06 No Choice Continued from page 1

our precious granddaughter west, and I thought the rightness of that motive would make everything else fall into place.

towers were falling and I was still on the phone. I think it was my daughter who brought up her husband, our son-in-law. That was when the first of many 9/11 stories passed through my hearing and, much as I wanted not to listen, I still remember snatches of what was knew I must listen. She told me said that day, as well as about rousting him out of bed so he wouldn't be late for the trade show he was scheduled to cover that morning on the World Trade Center Concourse. As far as my daughter around the supper table, picking up

husband out of bed and sent him to his possible, probable death amidst the crash of rubble and the screaming that echoed from my TV speakers as background to her shattering tale.

It would turn out that the minute my daughter shut the door behind her and headed for work, her husband flopped down on the couch and went back to sleep. He was stuck in the subway blocks

away from the Towers when they "L'chaiyam" we would move came down. It was his call to his forward into the freshly inflicted brother here in the PNW that finally further precariousness of our altered ended our dread and waiting. His lives. We cook. We lay places at the cell phone could reach Seattle and not his wife's office on the Upper Eastside. Someone told me why at the time, but the explanation was too rational to register. Chaos was, and still is, most of what did register with me about that day.

Islanders

Now: Jonathan and Alice Orr, Vashon

I never finished making the bed. Instead, I rushed to the kitchen, turned on another background soundtrack from behind another screen I would not look at and started rooting through cupboards and refrigerator bins. Then, I began to cook. There is a "Let's eat out" magnet on my refrigerator door and that pretty much defines my relationship with cooking, except on that day. Something primal had kicked in. That urge told me people would be coming, and they would need to be fed. They would need to be comforted, and they would need to be fed. I responded by turning everything we had on hand into a hodgepodge of dishes for those who did in fact come. My son and granddaughter arrived first because they were on the Island. Then my husband, our daughter-in-law, a friend from Seattle, and my son-inlaw's brother who had received the good news phone call earlier. They straggled in, transplanted New

Yorkers all, now more certainly refugees than ever.

We would probably have sobbed New Yorker like me. We'd followed together for hours, as I had done earlier while cooking and alone. Our granddaughter's presence spared us that. We had to protect her from what was going on, and Now it was September 11, the that priority protected us also. We turned off the TVs, and some of us took turns playing childhood games while others retreated to the bathroom or backyard for moments of private collapse.

All the while, I kept listening. I communications more poignant than words, from a look or touch or tone of voice. I remember my son's wife, when we were finally gathered knew, she had badgered her a glass of the red wine she hardly

> ever drinks and lifting it high above the motley assortment of casseroles and baked stuff I'd glommed together.

"L'chaiyam," she said. "To life," and we all repeated that.

То life despite loss, to despite life outrage, to life despite fear, to life despite feeling overwhelmed by fear. We toasted, but no glasses clinked were together. On the echo of

table where we must feed and comfort one another. Meanwhile, all the while, we listen, for as long as there is listening to be done.

Photo: March 11, 2002, tribute Photo by Doug Kanter/AFP



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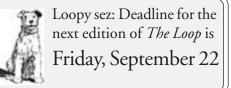


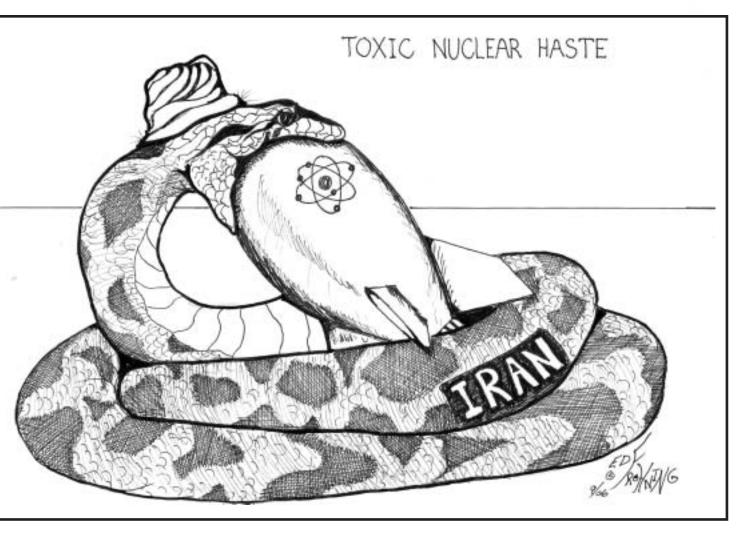
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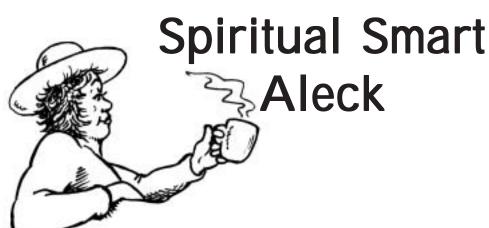
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Continued from page 1

that was once used as a lumber holding pond; that there is an Indian burial ground that is 1500 to 2,000 years old at Kingsbury beach; and that there was an Indian village of around 250 souls on the north shore of Quartermaster Harbor, in the same place where the Sherman family would settle in the 1800s. Coming about, we learned that there was a potlatch house where the Burton Marina is now located. Wow.

Tom DeVries spoke of the Portage debate: should it be opened up to flush the inner harbor? When Vancouver sailed through, he saw Vashon and Maury as one Island; the Wilkes Expedition (mark that we heard an awful lot about the Wilkes Expedition) saw Vashon and Maury as two Islands, with a water channel in between. DeVries figures this can be explained easily: Vancouver came by at low tide, and Wilkes came by at high tide.

DeVries, a teacher at VHS, said that he sent students down a few years ago to take some soundings at Portage, and what they discovered was that the water channel between Vashon and Maury was narrow, and at most seven feet deep, and probably only existed at high tide. DeVries postulated from this that opening up a channel would require major dredging and bridge construction, and would not produce much of a benefit in harbor flushing.

Assembly Point was a native gathering site. The land was bought by the Baptist Convention in the 1930s and has been part of Camp Burton since. Governors' Row was the site of six longhouses and a village of about 200 native people, and was inhabited for two to three thousand years. In the twentieth on the Island. They can be seen from century Governors' Row was the the water, because they all have

By Mary Litchfield Tuel



Pt. Robinson as seen from the Vashon 101 cruise

Expedition's quartermasters. One of the things we learned was that almost every point on Vashon was named after Wilkes' quartermasters: Neill Point, Sanford Point, Peter Point, Point Heyer (more popularly known as the "KVI Beach"), Point Robinson, Piner Point. OK, not all points were named for Wilkes' quartermasters - Dilworth Point, for example, was named for a minister who lived there and sailed up and down the South Sound preachin' the word of the Lord. If an Island point has a name, though, it is more than likely the name of one of Wilkes' quartermasters, and then of course we do have Quartermaster Harbor.

All of that information and we were only 20 minutes into a four hour trip! Obviously I can't repeat everything we heard. Also, I'm only one person, and I kept going outside to snap photos and missed a lot of the discourse. I believe that we will be covering everything in more detail in the Monday night classes, and when we do, we can refer to our Island Circumnavigation: Where is Christianson Cove? Who was Matthew Butcher? What did the Puget Sound Drydock Company become? When was the Island logged off? Where did the first car ferry land?

One of the most stunning revelations of the trip for me was the number of "McMansions" there are



# Intern's Corner **Superman Dies**

**By Morgan Wegner** 



Seven years ago, at a tiny zoo near Brisbane, Australia, a short, tangleheaded girl in a white hat pressed her face up against a chain link fence,

clutching the tough metal in a desperate attempt to get a closer look at her celebrity hero. Mere meters away, an energetic man in I couldn't help but cry at the passing

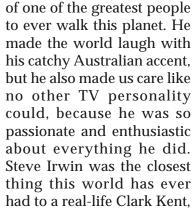
khaki shorts and hiking boots crouched on an embankment, his eyes locked on the murky water in front of him, waiting tensely while cameras scrutinized his face. The girl held her breath, eyes wide; a gasp of pure amazement escaped her as a crocodile "Crocodile leapt from the shallow Hunter" pond, lunging for the

trespasser, only to be deftly foiled by a well-aimed top-jaw rope. Within minutes the crocodile was immobilized, taken from the enclosure and carried to his new home, passing within a foot of the starry-eyed girl—so close she might have reached out and touched that scaly back, those muddy claws, the

insistent—I wanted to share his glory with the rest of Vashon, and nobody was going to stop me.

On Sunday, September 3rd, Steve Irwin died after getting stabbed through the heart by the tail of a stingray, and took with him a chapter of my childhood. When my brother gave me the news, I thought it was a joke. The Crocodile Hunter couldn't die-he was destined to live to be 103 and still jumping crocs. It took five different news sources to convince me otherwise.

Once I finally realized the truth,



and he did it simply by working for the causes that he saw as important. It wasn't fame or fortune that motivated the croc-catching wonder-it was love, wonder and his need to share it.

I was only ten years old when I visited Australia Zoo and saw my real-life superhero in the flesh (I even appeared in a two-second clip on one of his episodes), but I still remember the moment like it was vesterday—pardon the cliché—and I have no doubt that I will remember it for the rest of my life. Just knowing that somebody like that really, truly exists is a blessing in itself, and it cemented my faith in the human race as a whole. He was trying to make the world a better place, and it was working, and even in death he will continue to protect all of our planet's beautiful animals through the countless organizations and wildlife funds founded in his name. To this day, I still keep that white hat beside my bed, with my tiny Australian flag and a crocodileshaped pin, in memory of the day I saw Superman.



Steve Irwin, the

site of one of many brick yards on the Island.

The Burton Dock was also there. It was built by Miles Hatch, an early white settler and Island mover and shaker.

The Island's first brick yard was at Shawnee, which was also another ancient native village site.

Going south from Shawnee, there is a three-mile long landslide. Let me repeat that: a three-mile long landslide. The whole east side of Vashon between Shawnee and Neill Point, the south end of the Island, let go and slid into the water. Fortunately, it happened centuries ago, not last Thursday, so unless you're a geologist or taking Vashon 101 you might not know about it.

Neill Point was named for Thomas Neill, one of the Wilkes stunning water views. We may not have royalty in this country, but we sure have manors.

The idea of taking a boat all the way around the perimeter of the Island while learning about the geology, biology, and history of the place sounds really cool, and it was, really it was. It lasted four hours, though, and by the time we were pulling around Piner Point and heading into Quartermaster to return to Dockton, I wasn't the only one thinking a nap would be nice. I mean, Gone with the Wind is a great movie, but even it didn't run four hours. Still, it was a great beginning to an intensive study of this quirky little rock. Stay tuned for more about Vashon 101.

brown burlap sack wrapped over those iridescent eyes...

"The Crocodile Hunter," he was called—an appropriate title, considering that he built his franchise by leaping onto the backs of crocodiles three times his size. Charismatic, up beat, entertaining and passionate about the animals he was working to save, Steve Irwin has been one of my personal heroes since the moment I first laid eyes on him, even when he was only lights on the television screen, even before he was famous. I adored his dedication, bravery, energy and undoubtedly insane antics. I admired him so much that I bypassed the rules and impersonated him for Night of the Notables. We were only supposed to impersonate people who were dead, but I was

I guess true heroes never die.

### Don't Forget the Birds **Identifying Gulls** By Ed Swan

More than ten species of gulls and terns visit Vashon and Maury Islands or live here year 'round. The common resident Glaucus-winged Gull that can always be found around the ferries and shorelines is joined in the fall by several other gulls. Most people just dismiss the big white shapes as just another gull and don't think about it further, but it isn't really that difficult to tell them apart and figure out what else is here.

Two screening methods help narrow down the possible species in most cases to one or two types. Gull size and the season of the year are the two main ways to help identify which particular species one is viewing. The gulls of North America have three distinct size classes that are noticeably different, large (much bigger than a crow), medium (crow sized or a little bit larger) and small (smaller than a crow).

For example, during the summer, the Glaucus-winged Gull is the only large gull around and in much of June and July is the only gull. Even at other times of the year when there are large gulls, it is always the most numerous. In winter, a very few Western Gulls can be found, but their wings and back are a very dark slate grey with black wing tips. Glaucus-

winged Gulls have generally light grey wings and little if any black on the wings. Where possible confusion comes in is that these two species interbreed, creating a great number of Glaucus-winged X Western Gull hybrids. Some of these take on more Western than

Glaucus characteristics but generally don't get as dark. They also have some streaking on the back of the head in winter, which the adult Western never has. A few Herring Gulls also winter here. They ar shape close uj and G hybrids any la Maury winged

Ca comprise most of the medium sized gulls likely to be seen on the islands. The California Gull actually is medium large



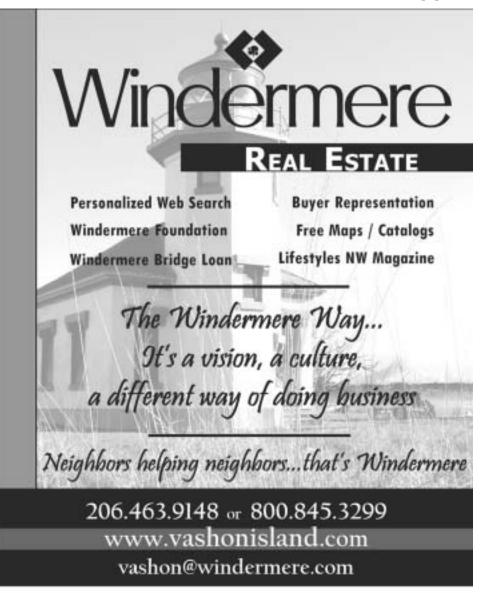
California Gull. Photo by Jim Rosso

with a grey back and wings and black wing tips. It can be confused with Mew Gulls but the former is much larger and the latter smaller. California Gulls have a longer thicker bill whereas the Mew Gull's is short and thin, hence its old name of Slender-billed Gull. Mew Gulls start arriving in late July but don't begin to hit peak numbers until October. In winter they are as common or more so than the larger Glaucus-winged Gull. So late summer and early fall mid-sized gulls with black and white wing tips are likely to be California Gulls and late fall through spring are likely to be Mew Gulls.

The only common small gull that frequents the Islands is the Bonaparte's Gull. From late spring to early fall, they have a black cap like a tern that

differentiates them from all of the other common gulls of the area as well as their size. From late fall to early spring they lose the cap and have a dark dot behind their eye. They are very pretty to watch because the outer edge of their wing is lined with black and the

inner part of the leading edge of the wing is stark white that shades to grey. The wings flash black and white as they dip and swing by. They can be told from the somewhat similar Common Tern that ates through in spring in fall by their ter tails. Bonaparte's Gulls are very mon spring and fall migrants, are ent through the winter and are gone the Islands only for part of June and There are only two very rare gulls might cause possible confusion: klin's and Little Gulls. Franklin's s breed on the northern Great Plains but occasionally wander to western Washington. They are slightly larger and have all dark upper wings. Little Gulls



are an Old World species that now breeds in the Great Lakes region. They are even smaller than the Bonaparte's, the smallest gull in North America. They have all dark under wings. One or two have been present every winter on American Lake near Fort Lewis for the last several years and a few are generally seen off Point No Point in Kitsap County each spring and fall.

So knowing your gulls isn't too hard on the Islands. I left out the fact that most of these gulls take three to four years to reach their adult plumage that they will maintain the rest of their lives. Each of them has slightly different plumage each year until they become breeding adults. I also left out Thayer's Gull which used to be considered a sub-species of the Herring Gull because I'm still learning about their distribution on the Islands. However, they seem to be uncommon to rare, so it holds true that we have only four fairly easily identified gulls here.

In local birding news, Michael Hobbs and Matt Bartells saw one of the rarer gulls at Fern Cove, a juvenile Franklin's Gull. They also observed the



Two shots of Bonaparte's Gull. Inset shows spring plumage. Photos by Jim Rosso

first of our fall and winter Sanderling and a rare Baird's Sandpiper at Pt. Robinson. Alan Huggins found the first widgeon for the season August 28 at Ellisport and I noted the Townsend's Warblers returning to the Island in my yard August 29. Ron Simons was lucky to receive a visit from a Vaux's Swift, uncommon to rare fall migrants on Vashon. 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.

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Mew Gull. Photo by Jim Rosso

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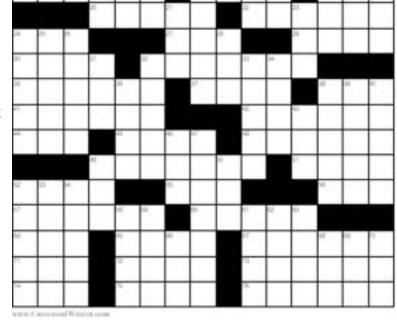
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Solution on Page 17

The Vashon Loop, p. 8



# The Tide Comes In The Tide Goes Out

By MEarth

Hope is a fragile thing—but persistent.

This week, while reading yet article about the another acidification of the oceans, I lost hope for humanity. It happens sometimes.

The article mentioned the fact that, in the long run, 80% of the carbon dioxide that we so

thoughtlessly spew into the atmosphere will end up in the ocean. That was the disheartening part. The oceans are already becoming so acidic that creatures low on the food chain-plankton and the like-are

already being dissolved and people don't add enough black malformed.

That is at the current level, while perhaps 30% of the CO2 is being absorbed. The rest of the CO2 is already out there, in the air. Even if we completely stopped producing CO2 today (which we are obviously not going to do), there is already enough out there to turn the ocean into an acid bath that nothing can survive. That's a given.

I found that very disheartening for some reason. I don't know, perhaps it had something to do with people poisoning THE VERY SOURCE OF LIFE.

The very next evening, I found myself watching Ex-President Clinton being interviewed on CNN, on a program called *The Poverty* Trap. He was talking about things that work to alleviate poverty around the world—organizations like Heifer International, which provides livestock to communities and individuals around the worldheifers, chickens, bees, water buffalo, even earthworms—livestock that can make the difference in marginal situations, livestock that can reproduce, increase and be passed on to other local people.

He spoke as well about microloans, small loans (\$50 to \$500) made to impoverished people to buy things like sewing machines, livestock and seeds, loans that are almost always paid back and which

are more effective in pulling people out of poverty than millions in "economic incentives," aid, and loans made to governments, corrupt or not.

It gave me hope again. We know why people suffer in poverty-and I'm not talking merely about poor people, who live even here on our bucolic Island, but the billion people around the world that subsist on a DOLLAR A DAY. We also know how to do effective things about it. This isn't rocket science. It's basic, it's real, it's do-able.

Then, today, I came upon this recipe from a cookbook called The Best of the Best from Texas, a recipe is called Navy Beans for Writers and this is it:

"You get you two sacks of dried

Navy Beans and put 'em in the biggest pot you can find and run hot water on 'em 'till they drowned. Cover 'em with pepper 'till they about halfchoked. Cut up garlic and onions and add more pepper. Many

pepper. Then find you a hambone or at least a pound of bacon and cook it 'till it's greasier than your hair and dump the whole @#\*&@# mess into the pot, grease and all, and add more pepper.

Smoke some while you bring all this to a boil, then turn the stove down and let them sumbitches cook for about two or three hours, after which you got you some Navy Beans for Writers that you can eat on for two or three days while you write your books. A man who can cook his own beans don't hardly need to ask anybody anything about nothing."

What I concluded is that we have made a mess on this planet, one only Grandmother and the Creator can clean up—and, while we may be stuck living on this hell we are making for ourselves, that hell will be populated by human beings until the last minute, human beings who can create hope as easily as they can make a mess, human beings who can still do something about the situation they are in. And, if I know anything about anything, they will do something. It may not work but it will be damned interesting.



Fall Tour of Vashon Island Labyrinths **Takes Place Saturday, September 23** 

Vashon Island is home to many labyrinths, public and private, and on Saturday, September 23, a number of them will be open for the first time when members of Vashon's Church of the Holy Spirit and their friends host a Fall Labyrinth Tour. There will be an opportunity to see and walk eight different labyrinths. Several are variations on the medieval labyrinth Chartres in

www.farmfreshorganic.com

design. Some are large and open in available. public spaces; others, intimate and Be good to each other-and individual in private gardens. Each offered by Betty Hawkins at 10:30 remember that the creatures that is unique in its construction and setting. Poetry and live music will accompany the walk in several locations.



Cathedral, others are in the ancient the Holy Spirit where maps and Cretan style, and one is a custom directions to the various sites will be

A short presentation will be a.m. at the church. Betty has been involved with labyrinths for eight years and has walked and photographed labyrinths The self-guided tour begins at the throughout the world. There will available for people considering making their one. The labyrinths will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a suggested donation of \$5 for the full tour. Advance tickets are available at Books by the Way or at the Episcopal Church the day of the walk. For more information, email vashonlabyrinth@yahoo.com or contact the office at



habituate this planet with you are your only known relatives in the entire universe. - ME. യയയ

# Land Use Committee Unveils Final Draft of Island Land Use Map

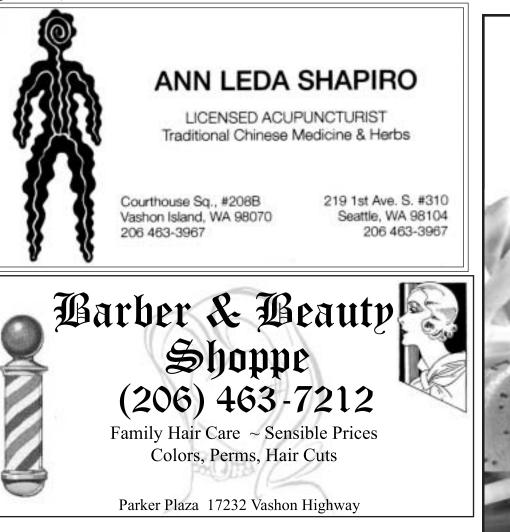
Use and Natural Resources Committee will meet Wednesday, September 20, 7 p.m. at the Land Trust Building. The final draft of the Island Greenprint (Land Use) Map will be available and priority focus

Whoever said "Nothing is impossible!" obviously never tried to slam a revolving door.

The Community Council Land zones discussed with Katie Gellenbeck. There will also be an update on the proposed Island Public Utility District (PUD), a report on the King County Council public hearing on home industry changes, and discussion of Emma Amiad's recent proposal regarding maximum size for new homes. More information from Yvonne Kuperberg, 567-4005.

labyrinth of the Episcopal Church of also be information and resources





# **Library Birthday** Celebration

Continued from page 1

with excitement and enthusiasm. In an equally bold decision, the Burton site continued as a KCLS branch, giving Vashon two libraries until well into the end of the twentieth century.

In the mid-1950's when the county commissioner threatened a budget cut, Marjorie Stanley, then head librarian, recalled in her book Search For Laughter, "Vashon Island sent in over a thousand letters and postals. 'Call off Vashon Island!' the commissioners said. 'You can have your budget!'"



overdue notes and tadpoles displayed in the children's reading area in the early years, to teenagers happily taking over the place at Late Night events and a staff eager and willing to answer any question and help with any problem, the mid-1940s decree of KCLS head Ella McDowell that, "It should be a friendly place where all will feel welcome," continues.

Additionally, the library under the auspices of Friends of the Library and other grants and services regularly sponsors special events such as Cecile Andrews who will be here for a book reading/signing on October 15th regarding her latest book Slow is Beautiful — New Ways of Community, Leisure and Joi de Vivre. Several Island Simplicity groups were formed as a result of Cecile's previous visits.

The patrons are the largest part of the Vashon Library experience. Come have tea and cookies in the Senior Center site, eat cake at Ober Park, listen to former employees and local authors, enjoy the clown and the Sound Guy, and celebrate most of all that this is an Island that faithfully encourages reading and literature for every age. It takes an Island to build a library and the time



# 5 Healthy Reasons to eat at Zoomies

1. No transfats in our soy oil -(what we deep fry in.) 2. Our burgers have no hormones, preservatives or additives and are low in fat. 3. We have Yummy Vegi and Black Bean Vegi High Protein Burgers.

> 4. Salad and chicken sandwiches with grilled (full muscle) chicken breasts. 5.4% Fat soft Ice Cream just above Whole Milk

> > SEOUOYA

# Take a Stand in **Katrina Relief**

17705 Vashon Hwy SW

**By Lynann Politte** 

Vashon's Nick Simmons, Logan Price, and Cole Torrence are traveling to New Orleans next month, donating their time and skill to help build housing for Katrina victims. You can be part of their efforts by coming to the New Orleans Benefit Dinner, Friday September 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the CoHousing Common House. Fabulous Cajun food will be served, followed by music by Mark

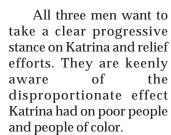
Graham (local Islander and world renowned songwriter and harmonica player). Seating is limited to 60 people. Tickets are \$25 to \$50, based on a sliding scale, and available at Books by the Way. Funds raised

are for building materials for the Orleans New homes, flight costs Nick Simmons, Logan Price, and Cole for the three men, Torrence (not pictured) will join Common Ground Collective efforts to www.vashongoessouth.org, and donations for rebuild New Orleans. Courtesy photo complete with personal Common the Ground free medical clinic in New Orleans. Common Ground Collective is a 100% volunteer organization, established after Katrina. Nick (age 22), Logan (age 23), and Cole (age 34) are donating their time and building skills. Common Ground (www.commongroundrelief.org) will be housing them in an old school (which was a shelter for hurricane victims) and feeding them. This is Logan's second trip, and he's taking along Nick, with whom he grew up at Vashon CoHousing; and Cole, Box whom he met while organizing Seattle Central students around political issues info call (206) such as free trade, police brutality, and 337-1780. the anti-war movement.



206-463-2838

The devastation of Katrina - photo from Logan's last trip to New Orleans, 9th ward. Photo by Logan Price



Nick, Logan, and Cole are going for the full month of October and will be working within the 9th Ward. They will be posting a daily blog during their t r i р stories and photos.

to be in charge" — Amitai Etzioni Cartoon done by Rick Tuel in 1976 when the Burton branch was closed

Even today our circulation is double the size of similar libraries and greater than two others — Des Moines and Federal Way 320. Hester Kramer, current head librarian, remarks that our per capita read is 25 books per year, twice as large as the 12.5 average in libraries our size. "We don't know if it's the ferries, isolation, or there's no where to go on a rainy day but the library and Thriftway.'

#### Heritage

Forever and always, the heritage of the Vashon Library has been one of personable service and extended opportunities. From handwritten to celebrate is now!

# Mark Your Calendar! Vashon's Solar Tour

It's time for the American Solar Energy Society's Annual National Solar Tour, Vashon-style. On Saturday, October 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Start at the Farmers' Market at the Village Green!! Pick up a map of open houses and visit them to see examples of Photovoltaic Systems (solar electric); Solar Hot Water Systems; Green Roof and Rainwater Catchment; Biodiesel Production; Cob Construction; and MORE! For more information visit: www.SolarWashington.org or call Meg Gluckman at 463-0748.

If you can't

make it to the New Orleans Benefit Dinner, you can still donate to their efforts. Send checks, payable to "Simmons & Price — New Orleans Benefit," PO 2117, be



taking their Vashon, 98070. carpentry skills to New For any other Orleans to help build homes for Katrina victims. Courtesy photo

# The Dorsal Spin

# **Little Rippers**

By Orca Annie Stateler

The whales spoiled me this summer with unexpected visits and welcome inspiration for the Dorsal Spin. I labored to write this in the absence of my muses. Luckily, our cove is never devoid of intriguing critters.

Presently, we are grooving on glow-in-the-dark otters, bats, a harbor seal doing yoga moves on the platform float, and an osprey catching fish off our bulkhead. Juvenile herons seem to be learning the ropes here as well.

The bioluminescence was more intense earlier in the summer. One hot July night we counted six sparkly, green otters gliding through the plankton soup. They were chirping and chattering, having a lively otter soirée. Several nights ago, we could still make out a faint green ghost.

Since I last wrote, Mark Sears and I have heard only rumors of large marine mammals in the area. Please support the work of the Vashon Hydrophone Project honor the victims. Grounded planes (VHP): REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS ASAP TO 463-9041.

We appreciate recent calls from Rico on the ferry and Marnie on her sailboat.

Marnie's August 22 report on the elusive Transient orcas was particularly savory, as she called while sailing near Bainbridge Island. I enjoyed hearing about the other wildlife she saw on a lovely-sounding trip to the San Juans. You, dear readers, make this better when you



"L'eeneidi Tinaa," carving by Odin column Lonning. Photo by Odin Lonning

call us with your whale sightings.

Our float to mark the VHP likes





Captain Odin & First Mate Stogarita aboard the SS Zoe.

So here we are, facing anniversaries of two traumas that deeply scarred our nation: Hurricane Katrina and September 11. Five years ago, Odin and I worked at Salmon Homecoming on the Seattle waterfront a few days after 9-11, when the wound was still bleeding.

At noon, all the church bells, clock towers, and ferry horns sounded to commence several minutes of silence in downtown Seattle. We burned sweetgrass to made the city quieter than usual. Coho

salmon jumped

> everywhere, in the Duwamish River and in Elliott Bay. We ogled the baby sea otter at the aquarium, and then went to the Ballard Locks to see more cohos in the fish ladder. They were a reassuring, sublime sight on their imperative journey. suppose we seek solace in natural cycles because we yearn for something beyond the destructive reach of humans

### consumed by hate.

For the sake of balance, and to go AWOL, drifting north like a because I find it aesthetically pleasing, I included a photo of brick vard? We have repositioned it several Odin's carving for the Raven-Dog Salmon clan in his hometown. Last writer?" time I featured an Eagle-Wolf carving. At Tlingit gatherings, we are always reminded to strive for balance between Eagles and Ravens. Contact Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com.



Nights getting cooler — new beds are on their way and the new fall line up of doggie fashions is due in soon. Don't let your dog be the embarrassment of the neighborhood in last year's outfit!

Horus' pick of the week: New TIKI canned cat food — oddly exotic flavors! Try ahi tuna, sardine cutlets or tuna with crab surimi. Mmm Mmm good. 463-3401 \$ 8 nail trimming with no appointment. 17321 Vashon Hwy. Big Red Building w/Animal Stuff on the porch Joanna Gardiner Loving care for animals,

plancs and homes

567-0560

### 26August 2006: Saturday Morning Walk **By Darsie Beck**

morning walker and, more recently, a morning runner. Something about running, the aerobics of it, really gets my mind, body and spirit aligned and ready for the opportunities present in the new day. This morning was particularly rewarding.

I stopped and talked to an older man, whom I've seen and said good morning to on previous walks, but this time I decided to engage him in conversation. He seemed to have something to say to me, even before I spoke. I introduced myself and we exchanged pleasantries about the weather. He mentioned fall, as the season we were in. I corrected him and he said he meant next week was the first of September, which meant fall to him. I agreed and added that fall is my favorite time of year. He rejoined and spoke of the beauty of Indian summer.

"I didn't get your name," he said. "Darsie Beck," I replied.

He thought for a minute and then said, "There were a couple of Beck families. Were you the ones who lived down the hill near the old

For many years, I've been a Vashon Grade School; I taught there in '48 - '49, then moved to the high school to teach eighth grade with Mrs. Constance in 1950. In 1955 I became principal of the Vashon Grade School.'

We shared memories of the old grade school building and I said I loved that building and I still remember the way it smelled. I thought it was a shame it had to be demolished. He mentioned the janitor, and that his name was Walt Steen, and what a good job he did in keeping that building so clean. He went on to say he did not remember me in his years with the school but he did remember the family. As we continued our conversation, Bob waved at all the passing cars and offered a "good morning" to everyone that walked by. "I like people," Bob said, and mentioned how grateful he was to have been included in recent high school reunions of both the class of '56 and '61. I asked Bob how old he was and he said,"88 this past week". I wished him a happy birthday and then feeling a need to move on, bid Bob a farewell and continued on my way, my morning considerably enriched, my sense of community, fortified and my overall well being, fulfilled. Each morning, I ask myself, can I make a difference in the lives of those I love, those I meet and the community at large? Somehow I feel as though I might have made a difference for Bob Childs. I know meeting him made a difference for me.

drunken sailor toward James Point. times. Shortly after Labor Day, I took a photo of the most dedicated VHP volunteers, Odin and Stogarita, engaged in this glamorous task. Arrr, such a wee salty dog, matey! Fingers crossed the float will stay put through commercial fishing season.





Vashon Grade School

"That's right," I said, and he added, "...and your aunt was the

'Yes, how did you know all that?" I asked.

"I used to work at Beall Greenhouses with a fellow named Stevens, who lived just up the hill from you. In those early years, I had to work two jobs to support the one I loved; teaching." I understood and spoke of how much I loved teaching as well.

He went on to say, "I knew your aunt; in fact, I knew both your aunts and your uncle Cleve." He said his name was Bob Childs, and the name was swimming through my mind as he spoke; I thought, I know him from somewhere and then he said, "Yes, I was the principle of the

Note: Bob Childs was principal of Vashon Elementary School from 1955-1963 and then became principal of Burton Elementary School from 1963-66. He received his master's degree in psychology in 1968 and became a school counselor until his retirement in 1976.

The Vashon Loop, p. 11



Happy Birthday Virgo!

The focus is on your relationships, but equally on yourself — the big innovation of the year is feeling yourself so clearly that you are able to relate to others in an entirely new way. And what way is that? You become the psychologically and emotionally dominant person in your relationships. It may be that some of the anarchy you've experienced in love the past few years has involved your struggling to find a place where you state your needs and get your way. You need experiences in relationships where your partner's primary pleasure is that of serving you and yielding to the power of your mind. Your presence has impact, and the truth is, the people around you need it.

Aries (March 20-April 19): Most people talk about what they want to be doing. I suggest you watch what you are doing; and what you do when you can do anything you want. This is the closest that doing comes to being. A close partner will lead the way, perhaps by introducing you to something new, by encouraging your efforts, or by setting the example of devoted here-now activity that entirely transcends 'busy-ness' and opens the way to the discovery of a lifetime: your deepest professional skills and talents.

Taurus (April 19-May 20): There is something in your charts this month about going public or coming out of the closet in a rather significant way. There is a plunge into the bold and exciting unknown, though you seem to get there through continuing to focus on doing what you do the best, on refining and developing your most valued talents. The breakthrough comes less as a result of the type of activity and more as a result of maintaining your focus and being available to respond when the real material, information or ideas begin to flow Gemini (May 20-June 21): You're being taken on a tour of your most sensitive inner territory. If you're feeling like you're walking around the edges of a vast fenced-in area, with no clue what's deep inside, I suggest you cut the fence, go in, and see what's there. You will learn the meaning of why so much of your inner emotional world was made offlimits, and discover who was trying to hide their own secrets from you by hiding you from you. In truth, you are entitled to all information about yourself; you are entitled to read your own files, and will be stronger for doing so.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22):** Changing the thoughts we think is one of the few endeavors that has the power to change us, and to change our lives inherently. Your mental patterns are now under deep renovation. At long last, what seemed impossible to rewrite, redefine, or change in any way is yielding to a force gentler and more powerful than resistance, or to engrained patterns. If you're feeling disoriented, dive into the core of your awareness. Speak, write, draw and express what you see, but most of all, conceal nothing from yourself.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23): This is a time for personal inventory. Perhaps a searching and fearless moral inventory, but more likely, taking stock of all the awesome resources you possess, and which you can use and share with others. Talents, experiences, information, thinking skills, contacts, the desire to work, the gift of healing, awesome selfawareness, integrity, care, caution, respect for the Earth — these cover but a few, and when you look, as I sense you will for some reason, you will see that there are many more, highly customized for your needs in this lifetime.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22): Change is not easy: it's not easy to create, and for many people, it's not so easy to withstand. But right now, change is in your hands. You have the power to effect the most meaningful kind of change: releasing your past ideas about yourself. The process has already begun, and I imagine by now you've encountered many inner wrinkles that you've decided to iron out of your fabric of self. Your current process may not be convenient, and it may not be easy, but it will surely be effective — so make your choices consciously. Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23): In days of old, around 30 or 40 years ago, there was more discussion of what it means to be a "self." Admittedly, it was not considered on the level of Britney Spears, but there was something of a pop psychology movement and with it, authentic selfinquiry that was widespread and actually somewhat meaningful. Today, we have far less of that, and we're in something of a void when it comes to understanding who "I" am when I say "I." As the next few weeks unfold, please consider the meaning of this crucial oneletter word. Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22): Lately you've been discovering who your friends are, and who they are not. However, be careful not to go too far in this process, because people do have a

way of changing, and some who seem less concerned or alert can suddenly be helpful, while the troublemakers can fade into the background. Though it may seem strange advice at this time in your life, I suggest you take a passive role in this process through the next four to six weeks. Wait and see who is who; don't try to decide too soon.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22):** Quite often, professional opportunities come in leaps, and what seemed like huge hurdles wind up being more like a deer bounding over a wood fence. This is just such a moment for you. The risk you run, based on the current astrology, is getting too bogged down in the details; of not seeing the forest because you're so busy studying the bark on the trees. True, the details bear some relevance. But the big picture is where you need to look, and that means your larger mission in life, and your truly long-term plans. And when you come to that fence, fly like Pegasus.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20):** It has taken an awfully long time to come to an understanding with someone so important to you. But finally, it seems that you've reached stability on a crucial layer of the discussion; you both now agree what is real, what is not, and what to do about it. However, the discussion will continue, and ideas will continue to change. This is natural; it's part of life. Rather than trying to cling to one understanding, remember that perceptions grow and develop, and yet with time and patience, they can find their way toward mutual understanding.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): It is always easier when people close to you actually stand up for themselves. Some would say that you tend to overpower others with your mind, but that would be a lot more difficult if people exerted some leadership every now and then. Now that you have that, do you feel more comfortable, or is it more difficult? I'm going to guess you'll say it's actually easier. When you understand someone's point of view, it's much easier to connect, to communicate and to make choices, even if you don't agree on everything. Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): As I write this, I'm blasting an ancient Pink Floyd song with the refrain, "How do you feel?" Guide yourself by this one fact only. If you stop resisting how you feel and instead respond to it, you'll feel like you've been given the secret key to the universe — and more to the point, your own happiness and success. Your feelings know. Your mind is smart, but your heart is smarter. When in doubt, let your heart cast the deciding vote in every discussion.



Eric Francis has more astrology for you at www.planetwaves.com @@@@



KELL

If the desire to kill and the opportunity to kill came always together, who would escape hanging? -- Mark Twain



### **Herbalist Musing**

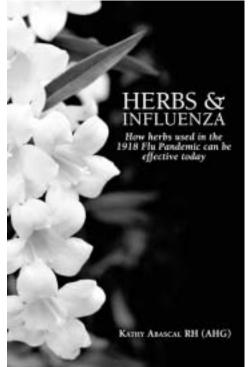
#### By Kathy Abascal

Recently, I have been spending most of my time processing fruit. Apples are abundant this year, and I am trying to do them justice. I have been turning out apple butter with a new balsamic twist, jalapeno apple jelly, and various other applebased jams. I now have more than I can possibly eat, and apples are still falling to the ground under the trees. Two years ago, I had an abundance of tent caterpillars and no apples. Nature does maintain a balance over time but sometimes does it in a way that I find a bit frustrating.

My fall herbs are also starting to arrive and in between stirring hot, steamy pots on hot, dry days, I get

to chop herbs. It is interesting to sit with the fragrance and textures of various plants while processing them, and I feel that I learn the plant on a more intuitive level as I handle it. This year I got some herbs that I had

not previously made medicines from. As I researched remedies for influenza, I was reminded of several "low dose" herbs that I had not previously included in my small plant pharmacy and I began to want to have them on hand. So I recently found myself cautiously chopping bryonia (Bryonia alba) and veratrum



### Kathy Abascal's New **Book Now Available!**

You can order Herbs & Influenza -- How herbs used in the 1918 Flu Pandemic can be effective today, from Kathy Abascal now at amenopsis@yahoo.com; or (206) 463-9211. "During the 1918 influenza pandemic," Abascal says, "there were doctors who treated people with herbs, and the treatments had a high rate of success. Because current flu vaccines are available to only a few groups, and because the vaccines provide only limited protection, people need to know about these flu fighting herbs," Abascal says.

overabundance. It is true that cows

do not eat the nearly everything else of value. I still that our tree cutting habits are ultimately the displacement of other, more fragile forest

for its size. It sends masses of little rootlets off its bulb and these rootlets trap plenty of soil so washing

HOMEGROWN GUARANTEED Iuall Ε **Open Everyday** M-F Breakfast 7:00am - 11:00am Lunch 11:00am -3:00pm Weekend Breakfast 7:00am-Noon Brunch Noon- 3:00pm Call for

463-6302

as do certain combinations of more everyday plants.

food to go!

Poison ivy is an example of such a medicine. Of course, the effects of poison ivy — the horrible itchy rashes — were common knowledge. Some Native Americans ate a tiny bit of the spring leaf of poison ivy to develop a tolerance to the plant (Studies actually show that this can plant and do eat work). Their "grandmothers" would have passed on this knowledge from generation to generation among those living in think it thrives in poison ivy territory. However, they clear cuts and also told ethnobotanists that "highly skilled medicine men" used poison ivy topically to treat certain types of persistent sores and responsible for internally to rejuvenate patients in certain conditions. The Eclectic physicians also knew how to use poison ivy to treat certain symptoms plants. Veratrum has huge, green in meningitis. Today, none of the leaves and a remarkably small root herbalists I know have been taught or know how to use this plant medicine. It is a skill we have lost.

I am not ready to add poison ivy veratrum is a bit of a chore. It has a to my pharmacy but I have grown slightly fetid smell and was not all very fond of some of the other low that much fun to process. Veratrum dose plants. Many are as benign as elderberry dosed when appropriately, and I enjoy learning by testing them on myself. I am presently working on a book about low dose plants because the trend today is to focus solely on the grandmothers' remedies, and I think it is important to preserve the knowledge of the medicine women as well. So, in what I hope will be a nice, rainy winter, I look forward to snuggling up with some toast with apple butter and some old musty texts that explain how to use these plants. തതത



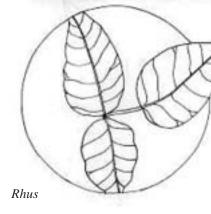
Kathy Abascal is a professional member of the American Herbalists Guild and is certified by Michael Moore of the Southwest School of Botanical Medicine. She coauthored the book *Clinical Botanical* • Medicine.

You can email her at anemopsis@yahoo.com if you have questions about herbs. If you have questions about herbs, call her to schedule a private consultation (463-9211) or stop by The Roasterie to purchase her tinctures.

# What's Sludge Got to Do With It?

**By Susie Kalhorn** 

On Saturday September 23 at 1:00 p.m., Ross Johnson and Sylvia Matlock present their popular workshop on Planting Your Drain Field at DIG. Ross will explain septic system operation and maintenance, while Sylvia will challenge you to get out on your drain field to see what's going on, and she will



(Veratrum viride) to tincture.

Bryonia is a lively plant and its root has a crisp texture that is easy to cut into pieces. Bryonia is used to treat quite severe, sharp pain and can be very useful when used in minute doses. It is a common plant in England, and a very vigorous vine. Actually, it is a bit too vigorous and is classified as a noxious weed in many states. My girlfriend who sent it to me has a single plant that she stuck in the ground on the north side of her house. She reports that even there it shows a strong inclination to take over, and she was able to gather a pound of root from it without in any way harming its growth.

Veratrum I remember from New Mexico. It fills clear cut mountain meadows there and many blame the cows that are allowed to graze state and federal lands for its

is used in very small doses for certain types of fevers, and was used briefly in modern medicine to treat malignant hypertension.

Most medicinal plants are very benign. They can be taken in fairly large doses and do not cause harm even when taken "incorrectly (Using an herb incorrectly usually means taking it for symptoms it probably will not alleviate)." These are the grandmothers' remedies, plants that most people once knew how to gather and use — back in the days before hospitals and doctors' offices. Other plants were known and used only by the medicine men and women of a tribe. These plants were gathered and dispensed only by people who spent most, or all, of their time working with healing. The low dose herbs belong in this group

There is no money in poetry; but then, there is no poetry in money, either. -- Robert Graves

provide you with practical landscaping ideas.

Septic systems are a great invention, but they need to be well maintained to do a good job of protecting our groundwater. Recently, there's been a regional focus on Quartermaster Harbor including concerns about nutrient loading and possible connections with red tide blooms, not to mention fecal coli form contamination of shellfish.

Now is the time to shine a spotlight on sludge and effluent. No longer can we afford to live the "out of sight - out of mind" edict. "Be One With Your Sludge" could be a new mantra. Please register with Susie Kalhorn at 463-4006; email: burnhorn@earthlink.net; or, call DIG at 463-5096.





### Charles Johnson, a Humanist with Humor

Imagine the embarrassment: scooped by your very own paper.

I'd planned this week to take up the works of Charles Johnson, the distinguished author and professor at the University of Washington. Then I'd announce that there's to be a Vashon Buddhist Seminar on **Sunday**, **September 17**, and reveal that Johnson will be principal speaker.

But there on the front page of last week's *Loop* was a story on Johnson and his forthcoming visit to Vashon.

That's all right. Now I have more room to discuss his writings.

A master at balancing superb storytelling with philosophy and humor, Johnson is best known for Middle Passage, winner of the National Book Award in 1990. It's a tragic, often funny, ultimately hopeful tale of the slave trade in the 1820s and 1830s. Rutherford Calhoun, a former slave who is enjoying freedom as a petty criminal in New Orleans, finds himself against his will engaged to Isadora, a sweet, proper schoolteacher. He's not nearly ready for marriage. To escape he stows away on a decrepit vessel as it heads out to sea. To his dismay he learns the ship's en route to Africa for a consignment of slaves: the Allmuseri, last survivors of a remote, legendary tribe. The of the few survivors. What of Isadora? Has she been patiently waiting, or did she go off and marry someone else? I won't give the ending away.

However, one question remains unanswered. What about that creature in the captain's crate? We learn that it is a god of the Allmuseri that can take many shapes. But it ceased to be a player midway through the book, and was never mentioned again. Presumably it went down with the ship. As Johnson's only



Author, professor, and cartoonist Charles Johnson will lead the Vashon Buddhist Seminar on Sunday, September 17, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Javanese Kudus House on the north end. For registration or information, email office@pszen.org or visit their web site; call (206) 463-4332; or visit Books by the Way.



# LOGS • BOG • FROGS

# Fall Land Trust Tours

Saturday & Sunday, September 23rd & 24th

More to Explore! Sign up for one tour or more, to discover the natural side of Vashon-Maury. Tours will be led by knowledgeable and passionate guides, eager to share the highlights of the preserve and projects.

### SHINGLEMILL CREEK SALMON HABITAT

**ENHANCEMENT PROJECT** – Saturday, SEPTEMBER 23, 9:00–10:30 a.m. Come view the stream enhancement project underway in Shinglemill Creek. This is not your "run of the mill" project. In fact, it was running logs down to the mill that damaged salmon habitat in Shinglemill Creek. We are working to put logs back in the creek to restore



healthy spawning beds. Land Steward Abel Eckhardt will show off our accomplishments and explain what more there is to do. This is cool stuff – really! (.8 miles, easy)

WHISPERING FIRS BOG – Sunday, SEPTEMBER 24, 3:00–4:00 p.m. and 4:00–5:00 p.m. This is a magical place, and no one knows it better than Vashon High School science teacher Tom DeVries. Tom will point out bog-laurel and Labrador tea, and explain how dwarf trees can grow in the middle of a wetland. We are lucky to have this peat bog on the island – take this opportunity to see it in person. (.4 miles, easy with some tricky footing)

NEW FISHER POND TRAIL - Sunday, SEPTEMBER 24, 4:00-5:30 p.m. The Fisher

Pond trail keeps expanding! We are showcasing a new section of trail that connects from Fisher Pond all the way through to Cove Road. This trail offers a lot of landscape and habitat diversity with ponds, meadows and woods. Come along with former senior gardener for Seattle Parks John Candy to walk something brand new! (1.5 miles, easy to moderate)



Each tour is \$5 per family for Land Trust members or \$25 per family for non-members (includes a year's membership in the Land Trust). Reserve your space at 463-2644 or info@vashonlandtrust.org.



Tale. It's a picaresque novel about a slave who is half white, half black (And how that came about is one of the most hilarious episodes in fiction). He seeks his fortune, as it were, in both worlds, encountering memorable friends, lovers and adversaries that could have come out of Dickens. Though Buddhism isn't mentioned, the title comes from the Ten Oxherding Pictures of a 12th-century Zen artist, an influence that Johnson refers to in his autobiographical introduction. Both works are basically accounts of man's search for understanding of his selfhood in the world. But the novel has more laughs. For a beautiful and thoughtful version of the *Pictures*, see *P'u* Ming's Oxherding Pictures & Verses, translated by Red Pine; Empty Bowl, Port Townsend.

Johnson gives his playful instincts full rein in his 2005 book, Dr. King's Refrigerator and Other Bedtime Stories. The author's first career was as a cartoonist; he's still alert to the humor in the human condition-though more in the wise, gentle fashion of Walt Kelly's Pogo than in the heavy-handedness of today's standup comedians. The stories all have morals or at least messages. In the title story, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. takes inventory of what's in his refrigerator and, with a grapefruit in one hand and a head of lettuce in the other, comes up with a spiritual revelation. "The Gift of the Osuo" takes us to the mythical kingdom of the Allmuseri (remember them, from *Middle Passage?*) whose king learns a lesson about too much ego. "Cultural Relativity" is a parable that reverses the fairy tale in which the princess kisses a frog who becomes a prince. These are engaging stories, maybe not quite the thing for your three-year-old unless she's very precocious, but well worth a place on your own bedside table. Johnson has written four other works of fiction and many studies of Buddhism and race. Those fortunate enough to hear him on Sunday are sure to come away enlightened. നനന

### Obituary: Scott Peter Kiekhaefer

Scott Peter Kiekhaefer arrived in Tacoma on October 12, 1950. Cal and Allyce welcomed his free spirit. He graduated from Wilson High School and served as an acolyte at Christ Episcopal. Scott played tennis, later coaching at the University of Puget Sound. He studied at the San Francisco Art Institute, graduating in 1981. He and a friend cycled 10,000 kilometers from the Grand Canyon to Machu Picchu in 1980.

Scott worked as a carpenter, architect, and creative planner of space on Vashon Island and in Tacoma. He played guitar and wrote poetry his entire adult life. He built a recording studio in California. He loved hiking in the mountains and in the Zion, Bryce, and Grand Canyons, waterskiing, tennis. He filmed and extraordinary things here and on his travels. His last years were marked by pain, but he continued to create music and art. Scott died on July 30, 2006, at home. He is survived by a loving extended family. A memorial service will be held at 11:30 a.m. on September 16 at Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church at 910 Bowker St. SE, in Lacey. Remembrances may be sent to the Vashon Food Bank or to the Blue Heron Gallery.

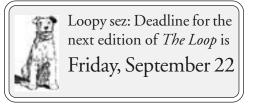
ship's captain is a maniacal alcoholic and his sodden, refractory crew is a disgrace.

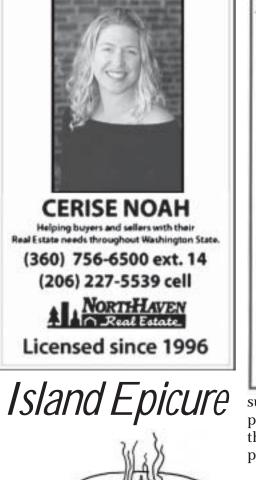
Despite a terrific storm and nearshipwreck they limp along to the African coast. Dreadful things happen to both ship and its benighted human cargo on the return trip. The captain has stowed in the hold a mysterious crate that contains something or someone capable of changing those who approach to gibbering idiots. A faction of the crew mutinies while at the same time the slaves break free from their stinking confinement far below to take control of the ship. Bedlam and bloody battles ensue, followed by smallpox and cannibalism. When the poor old ship finally sinks it's almost a relief.

There's plenty of retribution to go around in the denouement but Rutherford, though with his share of human frailty and misdemeanors, is one introduction of the supernatural into the story, it deserves better. I'd like to think it made its way back to Africa to resume its godly duties.

Stripped to this skeletal outline, *Middle Passage* might seem to be just another sea yarn. But Johnson writes in many layers. He philosophizes, through his characters. He digresses, skillfully, to get us deeper into the story. As narrator he surveys the goings-on with humor and compassion. Even in the most depraved characters he usually finds a glint of some redeeming feature. This isn't an angry book. Johnson, though not condoning or concealing one iota of the horror of slavery, leaves us feeling more hope than despair.

His spellbinding storytelling is just as evident in an earlier book, *Oxherding* 







# The Skinny on Good Fats: Oysters

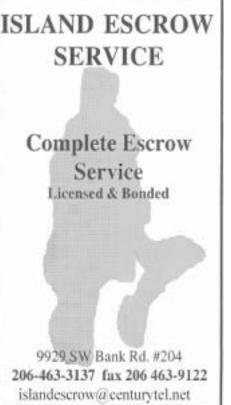
#### By Marj Watkins

Here's a fact about fats. Pacific oysters are tops for the healthy omega-3 fatty acids, the type you need for a healthy heart. They're a splendid source of zinc, too. Tap into it to build resistance to fall colds.

What detracts from seafood's nutritional value is batter frying. The batter's starch plus the oil's fat equals cholesterol build-up and weight gain. Considering that a 3oz serving of oysters gives you 1,204 milligrams of omega-3s compared to clams' 329, it's okay to fry Oysters. Just don't load them up with batter as if making tempura. I dredge them in my own light flour-cornstarch mixture. They come out of the pan in a thin, crispy crust.

Check the packing date on the jar of oysters you buy. Cook them that day if you can, but within a couple days for best flavor.

This is my husband's recipe of choice for oysters. Oyster stew is my



sure flour mix covers all the moist parts of each oyster. As you dredge them, transfer them to a plate or platter.

Add oil to a depth of 1/4 inch to the frying pan. Heat it until the surface dimples. Slip oysters in, carefully so they don't splatter oil. Cook on medium heat 3 to 4 minutes, until done on one side. With slotted spoon, or wooden spoon and wooden fork, gently turn oysters to cook second side. Transfer with slotted spoon to paper-towel lined platter.

Garnish with lemon wedges to squeeze over oysters.

Marj's Best Oyster Stew Makes 2 to 3 servings Cook in 4 to 6-cup saucepan 1 Tablespoons butter 1 (10-ounce) jar fresh oysters Sprinkling of dill weed Sprinkling of paprika 1 Tablespoon finely minced parsley\*\*

Light sprinkle of coarse black pepper

2 cups milk

2 or 3 Tablespoons half and half cream, optional

\*\*An Alaskan ulu is the best knife I've found for mincing parsley, ginger, garlic, green onions, etc. If you find one, buy two—one for yourself and one for a friend.

Melt the butter in the saucepan. Add the oysters, cut in bite size pieces. Sprinkle with herbs. Simmer gently until oyster bites are opaque. Add milk. Heat to steaming. sve with crackers if desired.



**Mathe Tajars** 

### Dear Madame Toujours,

Last week I was sick in bed with the most goshawful flu I've had in years. After I stayed up all night vomiting, my husband offered to stay home from work to look after the kids. I was so touched, I cried. I slept like the dead for a couple of hours, then suddenly woke with the conviction that something was terribly wrong. Filled with foreboding, I crawled out of bed and staggered down the hall. I stepped into the living room. There before my eyes sat little Violet, Verbena and baby Wisteria stark naked in the middle of the living-room, pasting themselves and each other with what appeared to be a mix of Crisco and sugar and daubs of food coloring. They had ground it into the carpet and their hair. They turned to me, and little Verbena said, "Mommy, we're playin' beauty parlour.'

I came within a hair's breath of child abuse before I thought to wonder where my husband had been when the girls decided to destroy my house. There, watching an old John Wayne war movie sat Ken in his comfy recliner. He looked up at me just as innocent as you please and said, "Hey, Babe, feeling better?" astonished that the fathers, they are not feeding the children the healthful, nutritious meals at five-oclock every evening. "What for?" the fathers are saying. "He was eating the cat poop only three hours ago, and if he is getting hungry again, he can be crawling into the kitchen and eating the dry Frootloops out of the box."

This is not his fault. You see, when the children are the tiny infants, the mothers, they are experiencing the important hormonal changes which are causing them to grow the additional lobe in the brain. The modern scientific persons, they are calling this the "mother lobe." This is the part of the brain that is at every moment knowing what the children are doing and where they are and if they are hungry and what is happening twenty years from now if they are not being fed or put to bed at seven-thirty every evening.

In the masculine persons, this mother lobe is being withered and atrophied by the testosterones and is not developing properly unless the fathers, they are having the very frequent exposure to the soiled diapers and the spit-ups.

*Bon Chance, Mme.* Mother, and the next time you having the diseases, send the husband with the children to his mother.

own favorite, made with butter, milk, minced parsley and paprika. John's Favorite Fried Oysters 2 generous servings Cook in 10-inch frying pan 1 (10oz) jar fresh oysters Dredging mix: 1/4 cup cornstarch or rice flour 1/2 cup whole grain flour\* 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/4 teaspoon pepper 1 teaspoon paprika Canola or light olive oil Lemon wedges \*I use barley flour. It's lowest on the glycemic index and okay for people sensitive to wheat but able to tolerate a little bit of gluten.

Combine dredging mix in a flat dish like a soup plate.

With a fork, transfer oysters one by one to the flour mixture. Make **The Dish on Shellfish**, Omega-3 Numbers\*\*\* all in milligrams per 3-ounce serving)

Clams: 329

Crab, Alaskan: 377 Crab, Dungeness: 346 Crayfish, farmed: 137 Lobster (northern): 73 Lobster, spiny (southern): 445 Mussels, blue: 702 Oysters, Pacific: 1,204 Scallops: 336

Shrimp: 284 \*\*\*Numbers are from the USDA

National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference, reported in the Mayo Clinic Health Letter for April, 2006. **www** 

Read The Loop online: www.vashonloop.com When I came to myself with my throat raw from screaming curses, Ken had fled with the children.

Why? Why would he sit right there and let his kids destroy the house? There are Crisco stains in that rug that will never come out. What was he thinking? Sincerely,

Crazed Mother

### Chere Mme. Mother,

*Quelle domage*, how I am having the sympathies for you. This is being the important lesson for the wives everywhere: While the husbands are being the excellent persons for the many important household functions, they are not suitable for the supervision of the children. The mothers, they are always being

## **Garden Club**

Continued from page 15

Second place, Smoke Bush — Christel Stierle

Trees:

First place, Flowering Maple — Ruth Sauer

Second place, Magnolia grandiflora Ruth Sauer

Vegetables and Fruits: *Chenopodia ceae* Kay White

Flower Arrangements: First place, Karen Stamper Second place, Maral Kirschenmann Third place, Christel Stierle Vines: Passiflora — Kay White Cacti and Succulents: Assorted Succulents in Basket — Joyce McClure

The Vashon Loop, p. 15

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



Vashon Family Chiropractic Dr. Thomas Basile 463-1850

Bliss The dusty, bombed out roadway of Kabul melts into the memory of sanctuary and words are my shattering teacups against a stone wall on Capitol Hill. And somewhere in Memphis, a young Jewish convert is irritating the older ladies because of her enthusiasm for each holiday celebration, yet

By Deborah Anderson

seemingly non-religious lifestyle. As I lose myself in yet another book, the pressures of my world fade started it all. and I am transported to new places, situations far from my own that favorite authors because she has somehow resonate with the deep in me. When the last page is turned and all is revealed, I return to the complete consciousness of the present, with a better understanding of another place and/or time, and/ or people.

For me, as a writer, the opposite is true as well. Most weeks, some part of this column is written on buff-colored paper with a colored gel pen called Mahogany. Thank you Essentials4, for the special orders. As the pleasing combination of pen and paper free my mind's eye from distraction, I yield to pictures, events and opinions that hopefully will lead the reader on a small journey is time even before the art auction), ending up in a place where they feel but if you feel the nudge, join the a little more positive about being Friends of the Library, volunteer as alive.

life came when I admitted that a It's the upside of reading. most satisfying experience for me is to comfortable seats at our library with of the article? *The Kite Runner: Broken* a stack of magazines in hand, and I for You; and The Ladies Auxiliary. If mean twenty or thirty, and read, you have a great recommendation with no regard for time, until I get for a good read, I'm at to the bottom. I can only do it every LGCmin@juno.com. Mark the few months or so, but reading is, next subject "books to read" so it doesn't

Libraries have long been my fascination. I am one of those who despite my exuberant personality, still enjoy libraries where there is hallowed silence amongst the stacks. Suzallo, at the UW, is a Cathedral to me. Weter Library at SPU on the third floor is next to heaven and good old Norristown Public Library

Annie Dillard is one of my found such unusual words in existence in the universe, I need to have a paper and pen to write them down so I can look them up. Oh delight of delights: new words!

This week I'm not only preaching to the choir, I'm celebrating with you. I know that *Loop* readers share my passion for well turned literature. We are the ones who keep a flashlight next to our beds, not for power outages, but so we can finish the last fifty pages in the middle of the night.

I put in one plug. Not only attend the celebration on **Saturday** the 16 September, (yes dears, there a late night chaperon, or attend a One of my biggest confessions in public function sponsored by KCLS.

Oh...and in case you were sit in those wonderfully wondering, those scenes at the top to music, my drug of choice. get sent to trash. I'll add the title to



It was six years ago yesterday when I killed my first guy and it was yesterday that I first watched the movie The Matador. Weird how dates work out that way!

My first killing? It wasn't much really. I was in the capital of Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou, at the request of my shadowy boss I only know as "Big Whiskers," who paid me handsomely to take out a warlord eager to start a coup against Burkina Faso's current president, Blaise Compaore. I thought I was going to be nervous that first kill when I squeezed the trigger in my roost at the Parc Urbain Brang-Weoogo. But, no, it was easy. From then on I've kept my occupation as a hired killer, thanks to "Big Whiskers" and his "Fat Wallet."

npletely false for one thing. Come on, if I was to kill someone in Ouagadougou do you really think I'd do it at the Parc Urbain Brang-Weoogo?! No. Amateurs would do something like that. I'm no amateur. For another, it segues nicely into my short discussion about the great quirky darkly comic hired killer movie The Matador. The plot: A jaded globetrotting hit man, Julian Noble (Pierce Brosnan), meets salesman Danny Wright (Greg Kinnear) in Mexico City. They form an awkward friendship where Noble gets more and more insane and Wright begins to break free of the confines that have always bound him in his life. Hope Davis plays Kinnear's wife. Kinnear is good enough as Wright. Davis is luminous as she always is. The ending is preposterous, really, but, really, who cares? The movie works, all in all, because it's smart (minus the preposterous ending), it's funny, it's

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creative, and it showcases the talent of one Pierce Brosnan.

Talent? Brosnan? Yes. I know, I know, you've seen Dante's Peak and The Lawnmower Man. Sure, sure, he was a silly James Bond but, honestly, The Matador is his best work he's ever done. He's funny! He's smart! He's talented! You don't believe me. I see your furrowed brow as you read this review. But, hear me out. 'Big Whiskers" didn't believe in me either, after my botched assassination attempt in Lima, but I made it up to him with a big hit the following month in La Paz when I killed a high-ranking paramilitary official in the Museo Argeologico de Tiwanaku bathroom and why am I telling you all this? Because it's Why am I telling all this? Because it's important for you to understand that Brosnan's performance is the key reason to watch this movie. He was nominated for a Golden Globe due to his efforts. For killing a paramilitary official I was not nominated for any kind of award. "Big Whiskers" did, however, give me enough money to buy a big boat! Written and directed by Richard Shepard (a guy you haven't heard of yet, but will), with cinematography by David Tattersall (the cinematographer of the last three Star Wars movies), The Matador will delight those that like Coen brothers movies, for instance, or those who, uh, like hit men. I like hit men. I am a hit man. My latest job? I can't tell you. I will tell you this, however. Liechtenstein is a safer place today because of me. തതത

the list of future reads. തതത

# **2006 Garden Club Flower Fair Winners**

**By Harriet Van Buren** 

The annual Garden Club August Flower Fair and Horticulture Show was held on August 4-5, 2006, at the Vashon Library conference room. A large committee of members set up and arranged the entries donated by VMI Garden Club members. This



year we had our largest ever number of visitors to the show and there was great enthusiasm and participation in voting by the public for favorite entries. More

than 300 people viewed and then voted and the "People's Choice" Awards were: Annuals: Amaranthus caudatus, green Love Lies Bleeding" - Kay White Bulbs: Lilium — Kay White Dahlias: Bells of Ireland — Helen Puz Roses: Rosa McCartney — Joyce McClure

Perennials: Zantedeschia "Edge of Night" calla — Alex Brannan

Grasses: Pennisetum alopecuroides — Cindy Stockett

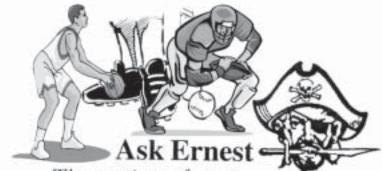
Herbs: Chenopodium capitatum — Kay White

Shrubs:

First place, Hydrangea macrophyllab Kay White

Continued on page 14

There was an old person of Tring Who, when somebody asked her to sing, Replied, "Aren't it odd? I can never tell "God Save the Weasel" from "Pop goes the king."



The court jester of sport



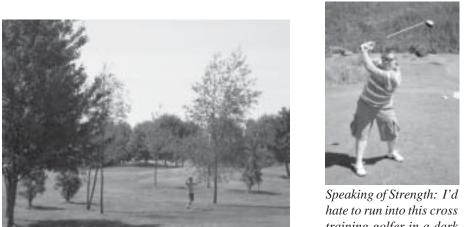
Boys Reading on Boat! (Does this caption need any more explanation?) Boys Reading on Boat: Believe Dat!

Ernesto is still recovering from his shovel off competition loss to the young and talented Isaac Magnuson. He asked to have this next issue off. So we hired a photographer (Nan C. Cat Ica) and a caption writer (the Great Gregizory Pendergastroff) to fill the spot.

Booyakasha!



Speed Sudoku Champ Kalebos Smitty in Action! (Note from photographer: I took 45 shots of Smitty during the competition and only three of them turned out. He was NOT even visible in the other 42; he's that fast at the newly popular sport of Speed Sudoku. More info on tournaments available at www.harrisonlevi.org)





Kathy and Lorie, a couple of In and Out Employees take a break for some crazy fries and carrot juice. "We hope to bring our nutritious meals and friendly service to Vashon Island before the end of this century!" sang the pair in unison. "And, if that doesn't happen, we'll likely be performing background vocals for Jay-Z's next album, 'It's all good driving with a 3-wood."





The 6th Annual Heart of the Sound Triathlon got off to a sunny and calm start on Sunday, August 27, with a cannon shot from the gig Bounty of Krister.

Forty-six men, forty-two women and thirty-three relay team members competed in the USAT distance Sanctioned sprint triathlon. Afterwards, 26 kids participated in a Kids' Tri of varying distances depending on age.

Tracy Orcutt set a new course record for the women and Kendall Townsend defeated 2005 winner Scott Seamster. Toby Beard and Heather McKinnon came in first for the Vashon Island contenders. Athletes came from as far away as Hawaii, North Carolina, Texas and Colorado. All of the results can be accessed through the race's website, www.hotstriathlon.org. Net proceeds from the event will go to Vashon High School sports teams.

The local business sponsors that contributed included J.R. Crawford/John L. Scott Realty; Windermere Realty; Thriftway; The Hardware Store Restaurant; Café Luna: The Little House: True Value Hardware; and Northwest Sports. The teams that assisted with the event this year included the Cross Country, Girls Soccer, Cheerleading squads.

September 13, 06



# Workout Class Starts September 22

"Enhanced Fitness" exercise classes for people in the slow lane begin a new session at 7:45 a.m. or 12:45p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, September 22 through October 25 at Ober Park. Instructor Edward Knightly provides individual attention and movements to increase your flexibility, strength and balance at your own pace. Everyone's welcome. Fees: \$31 for 15 sessions, Senior Center members, \$38 nonmembers; Group Health members with Medicare Parts A & B and who are in a Group Health HMO do not pay for the class. Sign up at the Senior Center.

# Vashon Sportsmen's **Club Offers Reward** for Deer Poachers

The goofball who was launching arrows from the road in Dockton is in trouble. The members of the Vashon Sportsmen's Club have established a reward fund of \$500 for information that results in the arrest and conviction of this poacher or these poachers.

In addition to criminal prosecution, the "Criminal Wildlife Penalty Assessment" for poaching "with an artificial light or spotlight" for deer is \$2,000.\* Keep your eyes open, and get a description of that vehicle and if possible the license plate number. Be safe. Collect \$500. We sportsmen condemn this reprehensible behavior. The sport of hunting is safe and gratifying. Poaching is illegal, dangerous, and stupid. \*Information quoted for 2006 State of Washington Big Game Hunting Seasons and Rules. — Phil Mahurin

Peter Larry Bloom searches for his golf ball. "I just happen to be too strong for this sport, " Bloom claimed, "18 of my 19 drives went over the green. Maybe I need to cut down on the double meat burgers."

training golfer in a dark alley. Is this the same guy who was selling tickets to a squirt gun show last month?



Overall Men:

1) Kendall Townsend of Sedro Woolley 1:14:12.9

2) Scott Seamster of Seattle 1:17:44.8

3) Seth Berntsen of Seattle 1:18:27.4

**Overall Women**:

1) Tracy Orcutt of Seattle 1:15:38.3

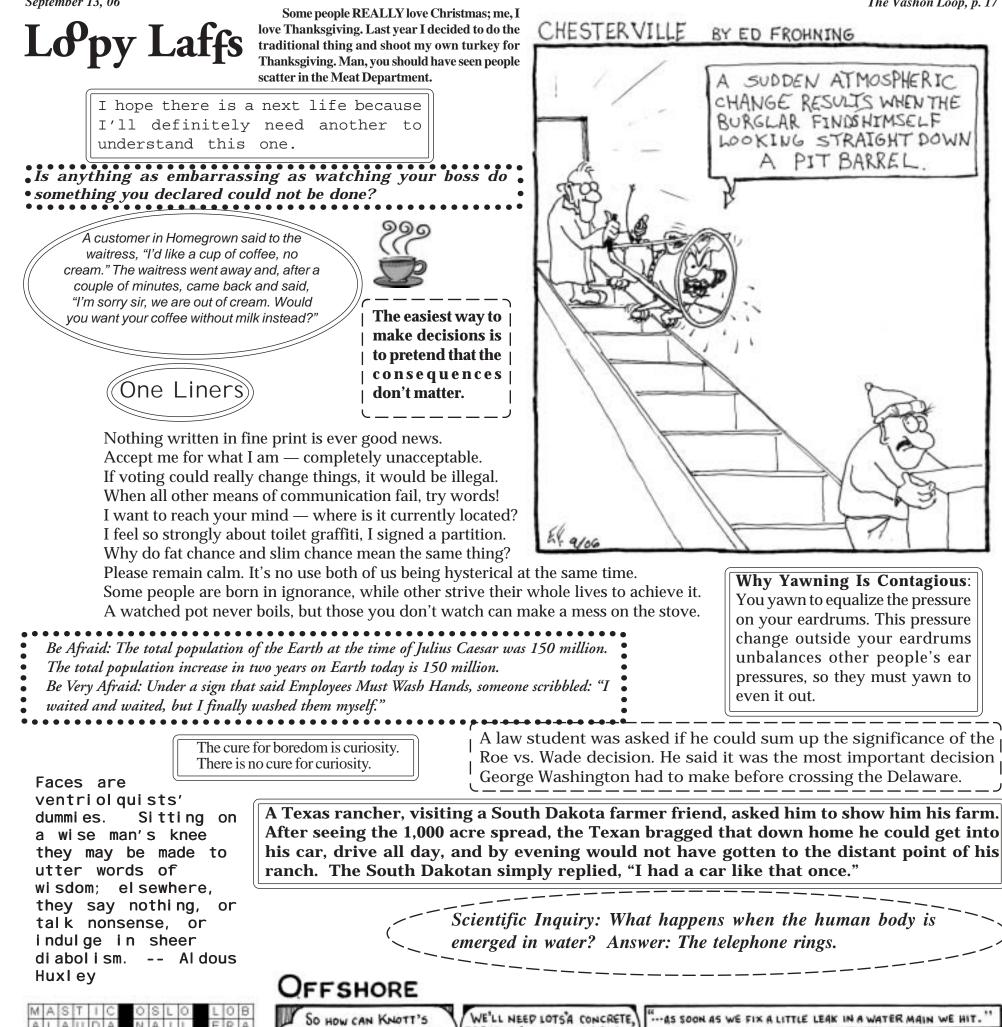
of

2) Nancy Abraham Steilacoom, 1:27:16.0

3) Gretchen Van Dyke of Tacoma 1:32:24.8

For further information, leave a message for Heart of the Sound Triathlon, Inc. Board President Bruce Cyra at 339-4342 or info@teamvashon.org

If God didn't want man to hunt, he wouldn't have given us plaid shirts. -- Johnny Carson







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# Lelavision: Music, **Dance**, String Theory

"If you want to understand the world around you, study the phenomenon of sound," says Ela Lamblin, Lelavision's co-director and musical instrument inventor.

Taking a basic premise of String Theory - that our world works on the same vibrational model as music -Lelavision, with world music duo Correo Aereo, has created a new show, Warped Like Space and Time.

Tweaking common genres to create something new through extreme play, *Warped* plays with three concepts of physics: spin, duality, and the warping of space and time.

In this performance it is not only space and time that is warped, but pitch,

perception, and humor, of which a play on the meaning of "warped" is only the beginning. Like the interweaving of woof and warp in fabric, Lelavision and Correo Aereo weave their own string theory. The result speaks to our deeper sense of the global bonds beyond music and movement traditions, putting us in

touch, again, with the fundamentals of the larger universe.

Leah Mann on an Atomsphere

Photo by Ela

(marimba/udu).

Lamblin

This show builds on Lelavision's groundbreaking work combining Lamblin's musical-instrument inventions with Leah Mann's broadranging choreography to create a new

### **Art Takes Flight**

#### Continued from page 1

Why go to Art Auction? During the past 40 years VAA has provided arts opportunities for thousands of Countless numbers of children and

classes at Blue Heron Art Center. Blue Heron Gallery has provided gallery space to hundreds of Island artists. And Island performing artists have found a venue through VAA for their creative since work the beginning, while providing Island audiences music, theater and dance right here at home. Thanks to the vision of a few determined founders VAA was born in 1966. Through the hard work and tenacity of many over the years and the ongoing support of Islanders, VAA will continue to provide a wide range of arts opportunities for all in years to come. In addition to supporting



Ela Lamblin with his Stamenphone (bowed harmonic instrument). Photo by: Michelle Bates

genre of performance coined Physical Music. Correo Aereo's Abel Rocha and Madeleine Sosin add their traditional and

> original Latin American music to the unique sounds of Lamblin's instruments and Mann's choreography.

Warped Like Space and Time will be at the **Broadway Performance** Hall, Seattle, running October 13-15, Fri. & Sat., at 8 p.m.; Sun. 3 p.m. Admission: \$15/ \$12. There will be student shows Oct. 12 at

10 a.m. and 1 p.m., and Oct. 13 at 10 a.m.; student admission \$10. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. For more information call (206) 463-9548 or visit: www.lelavision.com. Tis performance is sponsored in part by 4Culture's Special Projects Grant.

the arts, Art Auction is the social event of the year and it's a lot of fun!

Art Auction Details & Specifics: Friday, the more casual of the two Art Auction evenings, will include "Taste of Vashon," a delicious array Island children through the Artist in of delicacies prepared by local Schools program in collaboration restaurants, caterers and volunteers; with Vashon Island School District. silent auction (where you can find everything from landscaping adults have attended after-school, services to massage services); and summer, evening and weekend arts live auction and Silver Raffle (a \$10



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### Last Call for New Works **By Janice Randall**

Island performing artists looking to perform new work may apply for Vashon Allied Arts' New Works Series 2007. The 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. Proposal deadline is September 23, 2006. Proposal forms available now at Blue Heron Art Center.

The VAA New Works Series, established more than a decade ago, is designed for Island resident artists (both emerging and established) that need a venue to launch their creative performance ideas. Past New Works Series performances have spawned memorable performances by Steffon Moody, Bill Jarcho, Maggie Laird, Kara Jones, Brent Magstadt and many other Island artists. Call 463-5131, ext. 226, for more information.

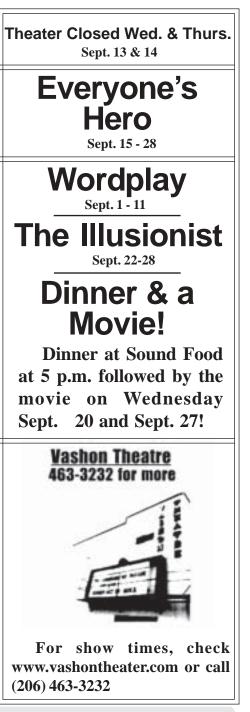
chance to win your favorite piece under \$700). Live jazz provided by the hot jazz sounds of Jason Parker Quartet. Beer and wine available. Tickets are \$30.

Saturday's festivities begin at 5:30 p.m., and will include complimentary wines, appetizers, and four course dinner catered by The Hardware Store; live music by the Island Jazz Combo featuring vocalist Maggie Laird; silent and live auctions; and the Silver Raffle. Auctioneer Larry Taylor will keep the action moving and lively as we raise our paddles in support of Vashon Allied Arts. Radio host,



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

> 567-5618 from beginner to advanced





September 13, 06

writer and performer Jeff Hoyt will be Master of Ceremonies. Support the arts and have a great evening out. Come to Art Auction! **@@@@** 

> Double Exposure Photo by Andrew Vornbrock

# Andrew Vornbrock Is October Featured Artist at Café Luna

In the month of October, Café Luna Warning: none of the actors used are real will show photographs by Vashon native - they are GI Joes!

Andrew Vornbrock, a UW School of Art landscapes such as the wonderfully Seattle streetscapes. photographed sunrise-lit demolition of

office.

War Photography: A playful reflection on "popular" US war themes. coffee and enjoy the art!

Art: Visitors of Café Luna will have a student. Andrew is interested in social chance to explore the possible meanings change and conscious art. Several bodies in Andrew's double exposure black-andof his work will be on display, including white images of familiar Vashon and

Still Life: Andrew's latest work, the little brown house in Vashon town Information Architecture, will also be on that gave way for the new Windermere display. This series is currently on show in the Belltown Lofts Gallery.

Please come to Café Luna, have a good

# Auditions for A Charlie Brown Christmas

**By Lauri Hennessey** 

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade are invited to come audition for A Charlie Brown Christmas, on Saturday, October 7, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on Sunday, October 8, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Auditions for acting/singing parts will be held in the performance space at the Blue Heron Center for the Arts.



Rehearsals for the production will be Mondays, 3:30 to 5:00 p.m., beginning Monday, October 9, culminating with two performances at the Blue Heron, on Saturday, December 16 at 7 p.m. and

2005 cast of Charley Brown Christmas. Courtesy photo

Sunday, December 17 at 3 p.m. Cast size is limited to 20 students.

Project/Music Director Marita Ericksen stated, "This musical play includes the cartoon characters Charlie Brown and all of his friends - Linus, Lucy, Schroeder, Sally, Pigpen, Peppermint Patty, Marci, even Snoopy the dog, Woodstock the little yellow bird and more! Also, for those students planning to sign up or return to the Vashon Island Youth Chorus, also directed by Ericksen, there will not be a conflict in rehearsal/performance dates and times with this Charlie Brown production."

A Charlie Brown Christmas will be staged by noted local director Libbie Anthony. Randy Bruce, piano, Dan Brown, bass, and Larry Lawson, flute, will open the production with a short jazz set of such tunes as "Linus and Lucy," "Christmas Time Is Here," and "Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire." No tuition is required, although there is a production/materials fee of \$50 per student. For more info, call Marita Ericksen, 463-0995 or 715-7126.

### Goldaline: Dance, Music, Puppetry, and Film

#### **By Amy Morrison**

Goldaline, a much-anticipated multi-media feast of music, puppetry, film, and dance will happen Friday, September 29, 8 p.m., at the Veteran's (formerly VFW) Hall on Vashon.

The event is a tribute to the much-acclaimed musical release by Neutral Milk Hotel, In the Aeroplane Over the Sea, a highly imaginative, poetic and emotive musical work. Island musicians Kim Thal, Rick Vanselow, and Jim Farrell, co-producers of the show, will bring this recording to life for Vashon audiences in a performance that is truly not to be missed.

*Goldaline* is an auditory and visual feast. The show begins with a short film by Patricia van Huesen, Fugue, scored by Eyvind Kang. Then the musicians begin.

The band will play each song from In the Aeroplane in succession. Complementing the music is film by Jim Farrell, dance pieces choreographed by Stacey Hinden and Ronly Blau, and puppetry by Cry of the Rooster puppeteers Josh Okrent, Liza Burke, and Cathy deSmet, all directed by Farrell.

Farrell says, "Although the songs are poetic and lush in their imagery, they don't present themselves as individual narratives. The lyrics are evocative and they work more to evoke emotion than to further a plot. This leaves each artist more room to react to the feeling of the song."

About the creative process, Vanselow says, "The only direction the performance artists were given was to take a song from Aeroplane and interpret it as they wished. In that sense it's not a truly collaborative project but rather a collection of works from the various artists.'

The show is a benefit for the Southern Poverty Law Center, a civil rights organization. Tickets are \$5-\$15/person.

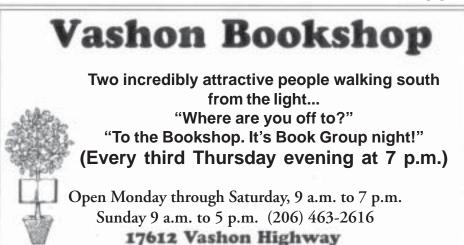
### Kuhlman Performs Split Second

#### **By Janice Randall**

Vashon Island based movement artist, actor, producer and educator, Mik Kuhlman addresses what may happen in a split second through several monologue pieces. Through projected images, recorded and live music, Kuhlman's Rosa depicts the power of "no" and one woman's journey through shadow and light. "Rosa Parks choosing not get up from her bus seat — that split second decision sparked a whole movement."

Split Second by Mik Kuhlman Saturday, September 30, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$11VAA members, seniors, and students \$14 general admission (Available at Blue Heron, Heron's Nest and Vashon Island Music)

Island choreographer Sally Sykes and recent studies with choreographer Donald Byrd.



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# What's Happening at Vashon Bookshop?

#### **By Devon Atkins**

The mood of life seems to change each September. There's that cool breeze that seems to all-of-a-sudden appear out some other season than summer; there's the expectation of all those darn, wonderful holidays; and, of course, there's the start of school.

Three weeks ago, my son got on a plane to New York where he will study film and as many liberal arts as he can fit in between movies. My daughter, on the other hand, is in Kent, living on her own and experiencing high school through Running Start, a program for kids who want to start college and end high school early. They both call often; and, despite the fact that neither are home, they still keep me in touch with that exciting new clothes-old friends feeling that marks the start of the school year.

But, my most obvious reminder is my

is filled with terrific teachers and parents. Then finally, I said what I believe the most; I told him that every time he exercises his mind in a way he hasn't before, he's getting smarter and more receptive for the next thing he really wants to learn. We both sat and thought about this, and it seemed to make both of us feel better. "So, it's like jumping rope to get better at basketball, or reading a book about something you don't know anything about," he said, hopefully. "Exactly," I said

Which only goes to prove, once again, that there is more to Vashon Bookshop than just books. There's, also, the Bookshop's Book Group, which meets Thursday, September 21 at 7 o'clock, and every classic you'll ever need for High School English class. And, signups for the Young Writers Workshop, Sunday — Wednesday, October 8, 9, 10, and 11, 7 - 8:30 p.m., begin next week!).

Kuhlman draws from writer Raymond Carver and 156 slices of buttered Wonder bread in Fat. "It's about a waitress who has a personal moment of self-realization inspired by the smell of bread and butter. It's Carver...the bread and butter become a metaphor."

*Red Coats* depicts a child's shopping nightmare three days

before Christmas. The primary prop is an 11 foot tall red coat created by Island artist Patricia Toovey. Kuhlman says she plans to integrate puppetry by Annette Mateo into the Blue Heron version.

"No solo show is actually solo," she says, referring to collaboration with



Kuhlman splits her own time between Vashon, Seattle and Paris. She recentlycompleted touring Split Second in Canada. She hopes to tour the piece in France next year.

Kuhlman worked as associate artistic director with Seattle Mime Theatre for over eight years, touring nationally and

Her internationally. productions have appeared at On the Boards, festivals and other theaters. She produced shows for Small Hand Open Fist Productions, and worked on projects with Seattle's One Reel Productions. Kuhlman has had a longterm artistic collaboration with UMO Ensemble. She works in television and film. For more information, see Kuhlman's website: www.mikkuhlman.com.

own students, a mixture of middle and high schoolers, home schooled and schooled students that I tutor. But this week when I asked a sophomore how he feels about school this year, his face darkened and I knew I might be over my head. "It seems as if none of what they're teaching me is going to do me any good. What good is any of it?" he asked. So, I talked to him about a well-rounded curriculum, and that Vashon High School

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# **Classical Guitar** Concert

Classical guitarist Ken Jacobsen will perform at Vashon Island Music Studio on Saturday September 23 at 8pm. Ken, who is an Island performer and instructor, will be playing classical music influenced by folk music and cultures from different parts of the world including Japan, India, Turkey, Brazil, and Spain. Included on the program will be works by Heiter Villa-Lobos, J.S. Bach,

Lou Harrison, Francisco Tarrega and others. Tickets are on sale at Vashon Island Music for \$8 advance, \$10 at the door. For more information call 463-0552.

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September 13, 06



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