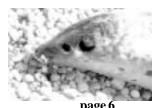
In This Issue: Vashon students head back to school here and across the country, wolves need help, We've Got a Lot of Kids, and much, much, much, more...



What killed this seal?



Studying Swallows



paintingss and Eelgrass at the **Backbay**

Jeanne

Snell's

page 19

Vol. 4, #17

TO INFORM AND AMUSE -- TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM

August 24, 2007

Youth Chorus Benefit Concert

By Marita Ericksen

The Vashon Island Youth Chorus (VIYC) will hold a benefit concert on Thursday, September 20th to raise money for scholarships for this talented youth group. Students have been introduced to a variety of music



Pictured are Megan Hackett, Anna Rose Warren, Emily Bruce, and Emma Hennessey of the Youth Chorus and Broadway hopefuls! Courtesy Photo

styles, preparing 2-3 part harmonies, and have performed at various venues on the island.

Continued on page 11



Vashon College students at work

Vashon College Starts 2nd Year

by Melissa Bangasser

Last Saturday, Vashon College held an ice cream social to mark the successful completion of its first year of offerings, and Rex Stratton announced a facilities gift to the college from the Vashon Island Rotary Foundation. Vashon College now owns the buildings they have been using for classroom and office space at Courthouse Square and the J.T. Sheffield Industrial Park. As Trustee and President, Ted Clabaugh remarked, "It is difficult to believe that about this time last summer, we were holding our second open house to introduce Vashon College at the old K2 Warehouse (now called J.T.

Continued on page 12



Olivia Kugiya helps with the Back-To-School Drive

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year! **Back To School**

Vashon students head back to school Tuesday, September 4 starting out the 2007-2008 school year. They can look forward to a year of learning, activities and fun thanks to dedicated staff and parents. The district as a whole faces some major challenges and opportunities. The school board must work through elections, build a new consensus based on the outcomes and then develop better staff relations and morale with the Interim Superintendent. The issue of the firing of Superintendent Mimi Walker hangs like a pall over much and waits until a hearing of the King County District Court at Courthouse Square on Vashon on October 29 for further action. The school board will also be considering a capitol projects levy. The actions of the next several months will have ramifications spreading out through many years to come.

Continued on page 4



YMCA flings Vashon members back to the drawing board

YMCA Sends Center and Jobs Offshore $_{\text{byEdSwan}}$

The YMCA of Greater Seattle has officially informed Vashon members and staff of its decision to close the Health and Fitness Center on Vashon. This in effect represents the loss of the largest community center on Vashon and on-Island employment for 21 people.

Continued on page 15

Flappers Save Birds

By Moria Robinson

Every fall and winter, the shapes are familiar to many drivers passing from Maury onto mainland Vashon. As cars round



A Bird Mark flight diverter, similar to the models which will soon replace the old ones along Portage's power lines. A new model will include UV light in the flapper area to alert the birds at night.

the Portage bend, they too often have passed the bodies of waterfowl dead from wire collisions overhead.

Continued on page 16



Learn 2 Earn workers on the job, photo by Nancy Raume Carr

Learn 2 Earn **Develops Jobs**

By Nancy Raume Carr

Who is that watering those plants in town? It's the workers from Learn 2 Earn. Learn 2 Earn serves at-risk and disabled youth and adults. They create job opportunities in the community for this typically under served segment of our population at a price that we citizens can't afford not to pay. Our work also provides chances for small business owners and community members to do the good work of providing these young people and adults with pathways to becoming productive members of our community.

Continued on page 6

Get in The Loop





Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is 💵 Friday, August 31

The Vashon Loop

Writers: Kathy Abascal, Deborah Anderson, Rachel Bard, Sarah Blakemore, Marie Browne, MEarth, Eric Francis, Troy Kindred, Melissa McCann, Orca Annie, Kevin Pottinger, Rex Morris, Jonathan Shipley, Ed Swan, Mary Litchfield Tuel, Marj Watkins, Susan Wolf

Guest Writers: Angela Weiss

Original art, comics, cartoons: DeeBee, Ed Frohning, Rick Tuel, Jeff Hawley

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© August 24, 2007 - Volume IV, Issue 16 Don't miss an issue! Subscribe to The Loop!

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

Opportunity Knocks: \$\$\$ **For Island Teens**

Teens of Vashon: Do you have a project that needs support? An unfulfilled dream that with some funding could take flight? A project that could help you and your community?

Development of Island Teens again offering is "Opportunity Knocks" grants of up to \$500 to Island teens with good ideas and good proposals.

Check out the DOIT website (www.vashondoit.org) applications and information. Applications are also available at school counselors' offices, Student Link, the Vashon Library, and Vashon Island Travel.

The deadline for submissions is Monday, October 22.

For more information, call Chris Buss at (206) 463-7350.

Development of Island Teens (DOIT) is a catalyst that supports and develops unique potential and contributions of Vashon Island youth through funding of activities by and for youth, educating the community about youth empowerment, and advocating on behalf of youth.

www.vashonhorseproperties.com

Vashon Library September 2007 **Programs**

Toddler Story Time: Tuesdays, September 4, 11, 18, 25, 10:40am

Ages 21 months to 3 years with an adult. A 20-minute program of stories and songs just right for toddlers.

No registration required.

Lapsit Story Time: Wednesdays, September 5, 12, 19, 26, 10:40am

Newborn to 20 months with an adult. A 20-minute program of stories, songs, rhymes and bounces for babies and a caregiver.

No registration required.

Story Preschool Time: Wednesdays, September 5, 12, 19, 26, 11:30am

Ages 3-5. Join us for 30 minutes of stories, songs and fun!

No registration required.

Microsoft Word, Level 1: Saturday, September 8, 9am-10:30am?

Netmaster, Chris Purpus

This is an introductory class to popular Microsoft's word processing program, Word. There are no prerequisites but knowing how to use a mouse would be helpful.

Registration is required. Call 463-2069 to register.

KCLS Study Zone: Mondays and Wednesdays, 4-6pm

Volunteer Tutor, Chris Purpus Stop by the Vashon Library and find your Study Zone! Get help with your homework questions, learn new study skills, discover the resources in your library, ask questions and share what you know with others. The Study Zone is for students in grades K-12, and it's free!

ESL: English as a Second Language: Tuesdays, September 18 6:30pm-8:30pm, 25th, Thursdays, September 20 and 27, 6:30-8:30pm

An instructor will present a free ESL program at the Vashon Library. Classes will run through December 13th. This is a formal class to learn English grammar, reading, writing and conversation skills.

Sponsored by the Harold and Marie Leech Fund.

Submissions to the Loop

Do you have an announcement or PSA? Do you have something to say about a Vashon issue or topic affecting the Island? If so, please email questions or submissions to Ed Swan, editor of the Loop, at editor@vashonloop.com. Photos are welcome as jpeg or pdf attachments.

If you would like to place an advertisement with the Loop please contact Helen Westphal ads@vashonloop.com.



PLANT SALE ENDS WITH AUGUST!

Visit new plant display areas for:

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Check out Clothing & Houseware Bargains in the Garden Room

> 20211 Vashon Hwy SW Phone (206) 463-3655

Vashon Voices **Welcomes Singers**

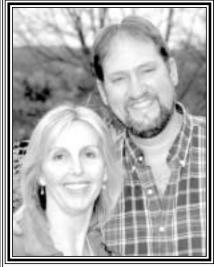
Vashon Voices, the Island's pop and light classical chorus, holds auditions for its 2007-2008 concert season on Monday, September 10 and Monday, September 17 from 7:00-9:30 pm at the Vashon United Methodist Church. Vashon Voices will host two open group audition rehearsals in lieu of individual auditions. New singers have an opportunity to sing with the group and meet current and prospective members. Prospective members should have some previous singing experience, and while reading music is not required, it is helpful.

Joe Farmer, Music Director of Vashon Voices, said, "We're looking forward to building on the momentum generated by last year's concert season, and we encourage those who are interested in singing with a chorus of friendly, musicloving folks to join us in September.' Farmer indicated he was especially interested in increasing the numbers of tenors and basses in the group. Farmer also mentioned that this season's line-up promises a little something for everyone, singers and audience alike.

In mid-December Vashon Voices annual holiday presents its extravaganza. This year's concert, entitled "Snowglobe," includes a bevy of tried and true holiday favorites with a few surprises from other parts of the globe. From the rousing, percussive Nigerian opener, "Betelehemu" to the inspired Hanukkah number, "Light the Legend" to the familiar strains of "Deck The Hall and "White Christmas," the Voices promise to "shake-up" your winter holidays with seasonal songs from near and far. Concert dates are Friday, December 14 and Saturday, December 15.

In early June, the Voices present a concert entitled, "Harmony: Songs of Freedom and Peace." This concert includes a collection of moving and inspired songs of freedom and peace from around the globe. From "singing down" African Apartheid to the hymns of the African American civil rights era to the hopeful strains of John Lennon's "Imagine," the Voices honor the efforts of those who have laid, or who are laying, the foundation for peace and freedom worldwide.

For more information about joining the group, contact music director Joe Farmer at 567-5640, or info@vashonvoices.org. Visit www.vashonvoices.org to learn about the organization and the upcoming concert season.



HOME TEAM REALT

Wow! Can you believe it's August already? There is still time to get into your dream home before school starts. Here is a sampling of what's on the market. To see any of these homes - or any of the 80-plus homes listed on the Multiple Listing Service, give us a call. If you are wondering what yours is worth, we're happy to show you a market analysis. 206.463.LIST (5478).

Troy and Marie Say "Buy a House With Your Friends for Under \$125,000"

Marie: Troy, in light of the turmoil going on in the mortgage market, let's re-visit the issue of affordable housing on Vashon. "Affordable housing" is kind of an oxymoron, but there it is. So let's get practical. How can people with lower incomes ever become homeowners on this beautiful but expensive Island?

Troy: It's time for "The San Francisco Solution."

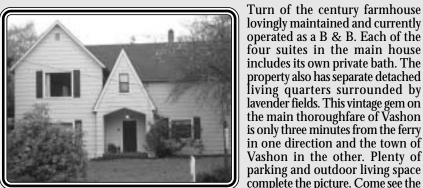
Marie: That's right. In much of California, housing has become so expensive that more and more people are buying with friends or family members. They hold title to the house as so-called "tenants in common." To cover all the bases, they typically form a partnership, which spells out all the details: how maintenance costs will be split, what happens if one person wants to sell, and so on. We know some great real estate lawyers who can draft up an agreement that covers everything.

Troy: This house on Vashon Highway is a perfect house for several people to buy together. The main house has four separate suites, each with its own bath. There's a big kitchen and living room, as well as separate detached living quarters and a beautiful lavenderfilled yard. It's on the main highway for easy commuting - and if four people bought it as equal partners, the payments would be about \$800 per person, more or less.

Marie: And that does not take into consideration the tax advantage of homeownership. Rent is just money out the window, but mortgage interest is tax deductible. Plus, you are building equity so that some day you can sell your share and have some money to put down on your very own house.

Troy: That's thinking out of the box, which is definitely what we will all need to do to keep Vashon economically diverse. Let's tell our readers how to find out more.

Marie: OK, readers. Talk to your roommates and friends. Then call us at 463-LIST (5478) to see if you can kiss your landlord goodbye.



Lavender **Duck**

3.25 bath

possibilities! \$ 499,000.

4 bedrooms

lovingly maintained and currently

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ristine!



- 3 bedrooms
- 2.5 Baths
- .26 Acre
- 2 Car Garage

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3 bedrooms

1.5 Baths

1 Car Garage

8804 SW 184th St. MLS # 27143323

Everything is new! Adorable single level home with cozy stone fireplace is completely fresh and new inside. Maple cabinets, energy friendly Pella windows, quality flooring, gorgeous light fixtures, CAT5 cabling, new roof, all new appliances including a gas furnace and electric water heater. Ideal location and the property is beautiful. Majestic firs grace the front providing screened privacy, and the sunny back yard is dotted with fruit trees. Easy to move in, easy to live in, easy to maintain. \$385,000.

WILLIAMS

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Schools Open

This issue of the Loop features articles by Interim Superintendent Lindquist, PTSA co-presidents Denise Katz and Glynis Delargy and the Student Link program working with home schooling families. Even with all of the challenges, a lot of positive energy is rising to meet those challenges and create opportunities for a better school district. Two articles, one by Shay Stock (See Page 9) returning to her second year at Amherst, and the other by Moria Robinson, starting her first year at Middlebury College, show the quality of the students graduating from VHS and a glimpse of some of the amazing things they're doing as they start college.

Interim Superintendent Lindquist Discusses Coming Year

Summer is often a time of introspection and reading for school leaders, a time to reflect on the previous year and to think about guiding our organizations from the 21st century. 'Good to Great.'

The Vashon Island School District, with all of its wonderful programs, terrific staff and amazing students, faces a number of challenges for the 2007-2008 school year. In addition to managing our Vashon Island and the Board of

finances efficiently and prudently, the Board Directors, will consider a capital projects levy aimed replacing and refurbishing some of our facilities, study g r a d configurations in

superintendent.



Courtesy Photo

light of our projected declining enrollment and create a board, staff, citizen task force to review and recommend long term budget cost savings strategies.

opportunity to serve this school district a very rewarding challenge to help it move forward. I have set four personal goals to help guide my performance as your interim

- 1. Create an alignment for our curriculum, instructional and assessment programs.
- 2. Recruit and retain high quality staff and instutionalize "Professional Learning Communities" in each of our schools.

- 3. Assist our Capital Projects planning committee in planning for facilities and learning tools for
- 4. Promote partnerships that create an economy of scale and community support.

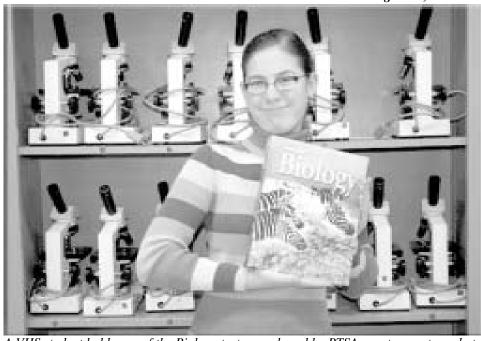
The focus on learning is huge on

Directors will develop adopt a long term educational strategic plan to assure that each student receives the best learning program we can provide. To assist the Board with that effort, my focus will be to help us move

from "good to great," instutionalize "professional" learning communities" in each school with an emphasis on the performing schools" research and to On a personal basis, I find the provide a "systems approach to student achievement."

From my Finnish family background, I recall the word "sisu" which means "stubborn courage" or "tenacity of purpose." I believe that a large part of being a successful leader is to stay focused on what is truly important, even in the most challenging of times. What is truly important for the Vashon Island School District is academic and cocurricular achievement. Thank you for the privilege to be a part of the Vashon Island community.

Terry N. Lindquist



A VHS student holds one of the Biology texts purchased by PTSA grants, courtesy photo

PTSA Supports Our Schools

by Denise Katz and Glynis Delargy, co-presidents

Please join us in helping to make Vashon the best school district ever. To become a member of the PTSA, take a moment to look through the paperwork at the beginning of the year! Somewhere in there will be the PTSA membership application. You can also go to the Vashon PTSA website at www. vashonptsa.org to enroll. Your membership supports the Vashon PTSA programs and the state PTA's advocacy in our state's legislature. Individual membership is \$15, couple membership \$25 and student membership is \$7.

What is the PTSA? Parents, teachers and students working together. We are a group of energetic, hard-working and committed community members dedicated to the mission of creating a superior learning environment for Vashon public schools.

Our goals include:

1. Increasing communication between home and school

2. Supporting teachers and administrators in their effort to create a healthy and challenging classroom environment

Developing fundraising strategies to supplement classroom and extracurricular programs

4. Creating opportunities to bring families into the schools

5. Educating the community on local school board and legislative

The PTSA's fundraising efforts through their auctions each year have made huge strides in supporting the academic and enrichment programs at all three public schools. As we all know, the state does an inadequate job of funding all of our public schools. The PTSA's fifth annual auction last May raised \$96,000, after expenses, for the schools. Past proceeds have

funded the purchase of new and updated math curriculum textbooks at all three schools, biology textbooks at VHS, musical instruments, art materials, debate and more.

The PTSA is not just about curriculum! We also support and participate in many great programs and events at the schools including: CES Family Science Nights, Back to School Drive, Science Fair, Career Fair, CES Popcorn Fridays, CES Orca Readers, CES and McM Book Fairs, McM Recreational Nights for students, and Science Vision. See our membership brochure for a complete

The PTSA board for this coming year includes: Denise Katz, Glynis Delargy co-presidents, Kathleen Lawrence, Donna Zaglin, Karen Adler-Raff, Cindy Wilson, Carol Jones, Diane Stoffer, Christina Bojanini, Kathleen Tuma, Laurie Veatch, Mary Ann Beardsley, Sharon Brooks, Peg Wolczko, Megan Hayes, Deidre Grace, Fran Brooks, Lee Ockinga, Mary Margaret Briggs, Shelley Dillion, Jean Navare and Donna Gagner.

Everyone is invited to attend our watch meetings, for announcements here. They are the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. Ask any of these board members for information on how to participate. We need volunteers at all three schools to help make a difference. Even helping with one event during the school year makes a huge difference! Research on what makes a great school continues to find that great schools have a high level of parent and community participation.

For more information, contact Katz dkatz@windermere.com or write to Vashon PTSA, P.O. Box 2364, Vashon Island WA 98070

On to Travel, Working with Sea Turtles and College

by Moria Robinson

As summer draws to a close, it is hard to believe that Vashon High School grounds are not to be my upcoming destination. Reality sets in, helped along by the current and imminent departures of classmates to locales across the country, and I think of the diverging paths we have all now taken. It is refreshing to imagine all the people and passions that await. For my part, I shall leave Vashon at the end of August for a four-month traveling stint. As months of planning and working draw to the ultimatum of departure day, the surrealism barely diminishes; it probably will not disappear until I hear the airplane boarding call.

Paraguay is my first destination, turtles, as part of an ongoing effort where I will reunite with the adoptive host families I gained through the Amigos de las Americas December at La Selva Biological program two years ago. After a Research Station in north-central month in that lovely country, I will go to Uruguay for another month to incredible Lepidoptera (butterfly live with a good friend who is on student exchange in Montevideo. In October I will leave South America to spend the next two months in Costa Rica. I have always wanted to work with sea turtles, and found a volunteer opportunity with the nonprofit Programa Restauración de Tortugas Marinas (PRETOMA) in southwestern Costa Rica. For the month of November I will help to monitor nests and release hatchling

to aid struggling sea turtle populations. Finally, I will spend Costa Rica, working on an and moth) species database project based with the Earthwatch Institute.

It is in February that I will begin school, at Middlebury College in Vermont. The time traveling will hopefully be of perfect length - just long enough that I will be happy to return into the rhythm of formal education. Before this, however, what I know I will appreciate most are the three weeks in January when I may bask once again in this Island community.



Moria Robinson, courtesy Island Wings

Family Link Support Home Schoolers

Frog-catching on nature walks, activities fiddling around at music jams, and teaming up for Capture the Flag games, are among the activities that Vashon homeschoolers can look forward to this fall. Vashon's homeschoolers are a vibrant mix of ages, interests, and homeschool approaches. This article presents just a partial view of the goings-on in Vashon's diverse homeschool community.

FamilyLink, Vashon Island School District's homeschool support program, will offer an exciting line-up of fall enrichment classes. Any Island homeschool family can register for these enrichment classes; you do not have to be fully enrolled in FamilyLink. In the Lorax Club, kids and parents will become scientific investigators in four different Island eco-systems. Participants will visit a Vashon

interest of to homeschoolers.

Many homeschool kids are passionate about dance and drama, and this year the Vashon Dance Academy has designed a new fall class to fuel that passion and foster creativity. Homeschool Dance Experience will allow kids to increase their musical awareness, experience different movement styles, and create their own choreography. Artistic director, Cheryl Krown will lead them through five units: Modern dance, Choreography, Ballet, Jazz, and Musical Theater. The class will run Mondays from 2-2:45 and is open to homeschool boys and girls ages 6 and up. Students will wear t-shirts, shorts, and bare feet. Contact Vashon Dance Academy for more information at 463-1895.



FamilyLink students and parents in last year's Lorax Club learned about the geology of Vashon Island, and forest health and succession, from Dave Warren of the Forest Stewards.

pond, a forest, a stream, and a beach with local scientists and will offer 7-12 year olds unique naturalists. Kids will interact with each of these ecosystems in scientific discovery and/or restoration work including testing stream water and using a bird blind. Children will document their experiences, experiments, and expressions in a nature journal. The Lorax Club will meet on Fridays from 10-12; it is sponsored by the Vashon-Maury Island Audubon and is presented by In FamilyLink's FamilyLink. popular Tuesday Family Group, kids and parents mix it up with energetic outside games, inside activities, and art-making. Every Tuesday's session includes a sharing circle in which kids discuss anything from rock collections, to recent art projects, to rockets. Tuesday Family Group takes place from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. and is a great opportunity to interact with families practicing many types of homeschooling. Also in the works for the FamilyLink is a weekly music jam in which older kids lead younger musicians, art classes, science workshops, and a Great Books discussion group. Contact FamilyLink for more information at 463-9171 ext. 503 or their visit website www.vashonsd.org/links for up-todate information about classes and

The Vashon Wilderness Program opportunities to connect with themselves, each other, and their mentors as they uncover the magic

Barber & Beauty Shoppe (206) 463-7212 Family Hair Care ~ Sensible Prices Colors, Perms, Hair Cuts Parker Plaza 17232 Vashon Highway



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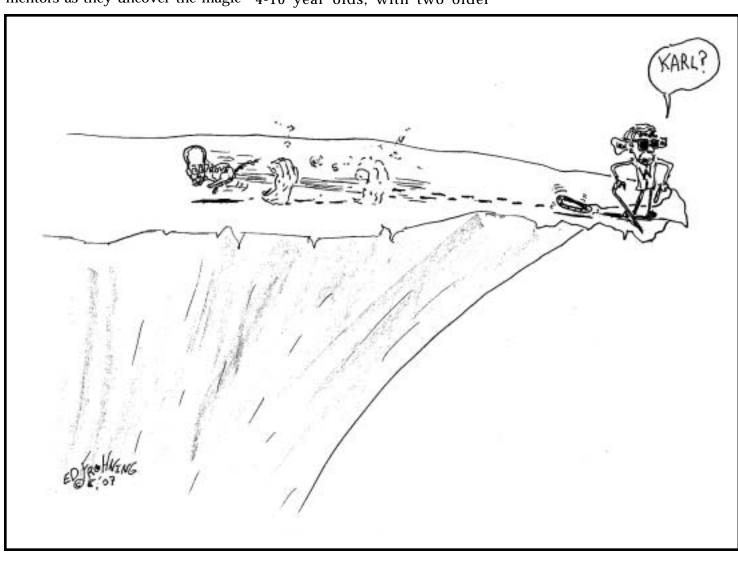
and mystery of the natural world. Survival skills, animal tracking, birding, and local history are among their eight elements of learning. Kids are organized into age-based "clans" for some activities, and participate in singing, storytelling, and circles with the larger group and their instructors. The program runs Fridays from 10:15 to 3:15 at Camp Sealth. Contact program administrator, Jessa Zimmerman at 567-5803 or 919-7190 (cell).

Homestead is a new alternative education learning community organized to share arts and skills for sustainable living. It is a farm-based program on the Shoulder to Shoulder Collective on the Roseballen Community Land Trust. The structure of the program includes farm and wilderness learning on Tuesdays, building and crafts on Wednesdays, and food preparation and preservation on Thursdays. Homestead is geared to 4-10 year olds, with two older

student apprentices. The program is full for fall, but feel free to contact Homestead for more information at 463-0822.

Island Community School is another new alternative learning program for children ages 6-9. It will be co-taught by Jon Schroeder and Maren Metke with a Monday through Thursday schedule. For more information, contact Lynelle Sjoberg at 463-1857.







Spiritual Smart Aleck

Cleaning the Lint Trap

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

When I was a young woman, I wanted to grow up to be Malvina Reynolds, a singer-songwriter whose goal in life was nothing less than to change the world for the better, one song at a time. I have written many songs, and sung them, and am told that they have made a difference to some people, but I spend more time feeling like Lucy Ricardo than like Malvina Reynolds.

Let us consider the case of the lint trap.

A little light on our clothes dryer came on the other day, and when I looked closely at it, I saw that it was next to the words, "Clean lint trap."

Okay. After five years I can believe that there might be a little lint lurking in the crevices and crannies of the machine's innards. I got out the vacuum cleaner, pulled out the lint screen, and first vacuumed that, then I put the crevice tool on the hose and pushed it into the slot where the screen fits, and vacuumed that. After that I opened the little door on the slot and peered in with a flashlight to see if any more lint needed to come out.

Holy mother of Martha Stewart. It looked like a sheep died in there.

I like to use the right tool for the job, so I went and got a chopstick from the silverware drawer, and started fishing lint out. I pulled out several wads, but reached a point when I realized the chopstick just wasn't long enough, so I looked around for something longer, and my eye fell on my knitting bag.



Malvina Reynolds — who I want to be

A knitting needle! Of course! They're longer than chopsticks and have little caps on the ends that would hook lint! I grabbed a long blue plastic #9 needle, and went back to the dryer. One scoop: it worked great! Cool! That's when I lost my grip on the needle and it fell into the lint trap.

I could see it down there. I knew exactly what I needed to get it out, but I don't have one.

What I needed was a little grabby-thingy that you used to be able to get at the local True Value. It has a plunger on one end, a long narrow spring tube, and teeny tiny little metal claws on the other end which you can use to pick up teeny tiny things that you drop in teeny tiny inaccessible places, such as a dryer lint trap. I knew if I had one of those, I could get that needle out easily.

So off I went to True Value, and asked hardware guy Bob Kueker where to find such a thing. We walked up and down aisles, looking. Pretty soon another hardware guy, Eric Peterson, showed up, and Eric is an absolute terrier about finding what you need, so he looked around and made suggestions; then a third hardware guy, Jeff Astle, showed up and got involved in the search.

Pretty soon we were all talking about the grabby-thingy, and then Eric and Jeff

went off looking for it. None of us knew the proper name for this tool, and I had only one name for it, and I was resisting saving it.

Back in the early 70s, when I first arrived on the Island, I dallied for a few months with a long-haired young man named Robert Wallace. He made dope pipes out of lamp parts for a living, and was always dropping little things on the floor and picking them up, and he decided he needed this grabby-thingy. He said, with a gleeful smile, "I need a mouse castrator."

Excuse me?

He explained what it was, and we went to the hardware store and got one, and he was happy and I was forever stuck with that name for that tool. As Bob at True Value began paging through the tool catalogues looking for this item, I finally said, "The only name I know for this thing is 'mouse castrator.'"

"Excuse me?" said Bob. I told him the story of Robert Wallace.

Eric and Jeff came back, reporting that their searches had not turned up the grabby-thingy. Then the only name I had for it came out. I don't think the guys were able to concentrate on selling any hardware for the next twenty minutes. Something about the name caused an emotional ripple effect, and a lot of comedic riffing, which I enjoy, but the fact is we still didn't know the right name for the tool and couldn't find it in any catalogue. I ended up buying a dryer lint trap brush and went home.

This morning I put the lint screen in and pushed it all the way down. I figured the needle had shifted down flat in the bottom of the lint trap, safely out of the way, so I threw some wet clothes into the dryer and turned it on. Arrgh! It sounded like a tiny little machine gun. Quickly I turned off the dryer.

The noise woke my husband, who was home sick. When he came shuffling out of the bedroom, wondering, what the heck? I 'splained the story so far.

He ended up taking the dryer apart and fishing out the three separate pieces of the knitting needle, plus the cap. That awful sound had been the needle going through the blower fan. Then he cleaned out the lint trap thoroughly, put it all back together, and I threw some towels in. I



Lucille Ball — who I end up being

turned it on, and nothing caught fire and the dryer ran fine.

The broken knitting needle has gone to its final reward.

My towels are dry.

My husband is a prince.

Maybe now I can get back to saving the world one song at a time.



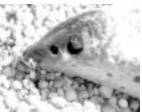
The Case of the **Purloined Pinniped**

By Orca Annie Stateler

Or, who took our harbor seal? On August 13, the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP) responded to a call about a fresh dead harbor seal on Reddings Beach. The caller observed that the seal had a brand, number 268, shown in an accompanying photo. He provided accurate directions to the seal's location, so off we went.

Odin and I found the seal. A man and three boys walking the beach stopped to inquire about the seal's demise and to watch us work. Young boys – you can imagine the questions! We took photos, measured the seal, examined the body for

signs of external trauma, and documented ID numbers from the brand and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)



What caused the hole in this seal's head? Photo by Odin Lonning

flipper tag.

The seal had a dubious-looking hole in her head by the left eye, visible in our photo here. Without a necropsy, we cannot be certain what caused it, but it could have been a gunshot wound. Did Seal #268 meet with foul play? Seals are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Killing them is, of course, illegal, with requisite hefty fines and potential jail time.

We figured WDFW would be interested in collecting a marked seal with a strange wound, so we secured the carcass. Soon after I contacted WDFW, a biologist who knew the seal called me. She said, "I hear you found one of my girls. I saw her just last week." She sounded genuinely bummed out over the seal's death. She shared a brief history of female Harbor Seal #268.

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Branded as an adult at Gertrude Island in 1997, Seal #268 was at least fourteen years old, possibly as old as twenty. She had a pup within the past year. She was a subject in a WDFW long-term study of contaminants, diseases, and general life history parameters of Puget Sound harbor seals. The biologist said she would come by boat the next day to retrieve the carcass.

Regrettably, when the biologist arrived, the seal and the nylon lines tied to keep her body from floating away were missing. It appears she was deliberately cut loose. Wolftown and VHP staff members are the only on–Island, trained marine mammal stranding responders. We volunteer time and limited resources to do stranding response. I was perturbed to learn that Seal #268 was gone, unavailable for a necropsy that could have revealed why she died. As a known subject in a longitudinal study, her body is valuable to researchers.

Because they are typically smaller and they haul out on land, pinnipeds such as seals and sea lions are more accessible to researchers for hands-on marine mammal studies. In some ways, seals serve as proxies for cetaceans – whales, dolphins, and porpoises. Toxin and disease research on seals offers vital insights into the condition of our killer whales and other creatures in our marine environment, including humans.

Please support the work of the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP): REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS ASAP TO 463-9041. If anyone finds Seal #268 or has any information about her death, please contact the VHP immediately. You can also report marine mammal harassment to NOAA Fisheries Enforcement at 1-800-853-1964. We thank Brian for his instructive phone calls and for volunteering to help locate the dead seal for the WDFW biologist.

Learn 2 Earn

Continued from page 1

You may have seen us watering the flowers around Vashon, or working in the fields at "Faerie Hill Farm," sprucing up the trailer park with beauty bark, or "attacking" the blackberry bushes at community members' homes. Or, perhaps, you have been to the Sheffield Building and watched the shredding of confidential materials provided by various businesses in town. Businesses within the Sheffield Building and individuals who need a place to "shred" their personal information safely can bring their papers to the building office.

We currently have 7 young adults in the program, all working with a "job coach." Job coaches are dedicated members of our community who are interested in expanding the skills of our young adults and preparing them for the

"real world." As a recently retired teacher, I missed working with young adults. This has been a real win/win proposition for both me and the client. Most of the young adults I work with are graduates of my Transition Marketing Program I taught at Vashon High School until it was eliminated last year.

If you are aware of a young adult, already connected to DDD (Department of Developmental Disabilities) who is not currently being served, and/or are interested in becoming a job coach, please contact: Lee Ockinga, Program Coordinator at (206) 370-0709, P.O. Box 2501, Vashon, WA 98070.



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

Friday, August 31

Don't Forget the Birds

What Makes Birds Colorful?

At the end of July, I checked out the shorebird migration flowing by Vashon and found a white Spotted Sandpiper. I got really excited, thinking this was some rare species until I figured it out. It was all white except for its yellow bill and legs and a few spots on its breast which gave me the clues as to its identification. Even though it wasn't a rare species new to me, I was still excited because one doesn't see birds with this plumage difference very often. It made me want to look up the causes, so I thought I would write something up about bird coloration.

The colors in bird feathers come from two sources: pigments and particles in the structure of the feathers. Pigments consist of chemicals in skin and feathers that absorb some wavelengths of light and reflect others. "Structural" colors come from particles in the feather smaller than the wavelength of red light creating blue

The white feathers of the Spotted Sandpiper likely resulted from "leucism" (pronounced "loo-kism"), a condition characterized by a reduction in all types of pigment. Many confuse this status with "albinism" but the white for an albino arises from a lack of only melanin not other pigments. Both leucism and albinism have genetic origins. An albino will possess pink eyes and be all white while a leucistic individual usually has normal eye color and may range from a few patches of white to a lot of white. Since the Sandpiper still had bright yellow legs and bill and some of its breeding plumage black spots on its breast, it was likely leucistic.

In recent local birding news, the fall migration is off to a good start with many shorebirds, gulls, loons and grebes moving through. Dowitchers were noted in late July at Fisher's Pond and KVI

> Beach. Solitary Sandpipers put in appearances at Fern Cove and Mukai Pond, the first Semipalmated Plovers showed up at KVI Beach August 9 and a Red-necked Phalarope was seen off the ferry to Fauntleroy August 1. The other usual sandpipers have been moving through at KVI Beach, Fisher's Pond and Fern Cove. I noted the first Mew and Bonaparte's Gulls of the season on July 26 at Fern Cove, a Heermann's Gull at Pt. Robinson on

August 13 and Rich Siegrist found California Gulls in the second week of July at the north end ferry dock. The first Western Grebe was seen on the August 11 Audubon field trip to Fern Cove and Kathryn True reported the first Rednecked Grebe earlier in the week at the north end dock. Common Loons in breeding plumage began appearing in Tramp Harbor during the first week of August. If you have an interesting sighting or bird photo to share or a question about local birds, call me at 463-7976 or email at edswan@centurytel.net.

By Ed Swan

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Wolves Need Help!

Wolves were once common in Washington, but, like other states in the region, had disappeared completely by the 1930s. Since federal wolf-recovery efforts began in the Northern Rockies in the 1990s, there has been increasing evidence that wolves are returning to their historic range in the Evergreen state — a good sign for the future of wolves elsewhere in the Northwest.

Now, with the federal government pushing to remove all federal protection for wolves in the region — even while wolves are struggling to return to Washington — state-level wolf protection is even more important. Come to a public hearing in Washington and let officials know that you support science-based wolf management in the Northwest. In anticipation of the wolf's return, the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) is inviting citizens to weigh in on how these majestic animals should be managed in the state.

The WDFW is holding several public "scoping" meetings to allow people in the region to engage in an important dialogue as agency officials develop a wolf management plan. There are several opportunities to make your voice heard. Please locate the closest meeting to you on the list below, and attend to be a voice for wolves.

Clarkston: Tuesday, August 14th -Clarkston Center of Walla Walla Community College, 1470 Bridge Street

Spokane: Wednesday, August 15th -Mount Spokane High School, 6015 E. Mount Spokane Park Drive

Yakima: Thursday, August 16th -Ahtanum Youth Park barn facility, 1000 Ahtanum Road

Twisp: Monday, August 20th -Methow Valley Community Center, 2001 S. Methow Valley Highway

Sequim: Tuesday, August 21st - Guy Cole Convention Center, Carrie Blake Park, 212 Blake Avenue

Bellingham: Wednesday, August 22nd - Whatcom Community College, 237 West Kellogg Street

Vancouver: Thursday, August 23rd -Water Resources Education Center, 4600 SE Columbia Way

Let the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife know that you welcome wolves back to their historic home in the Northwest — including Washington and that you want science and common sense, not politics and fear, to guide the state's management plans. Wolves are a natural part of the Northwest's wildlife heritage. Whether they can return permanently in Washington depends on



our efforts to support their presence and coexist with them. I hope you'll join us to let officials know that wolves are welcome in the region (read below for talking points).

Thank you for all you do for our wildlife and wild places.

If you are instead submitting written comments, you can send them by U.S. mail

Teresa A. Eturaspe Coordinator, SEPA/NEPA Regulatory Services Section 600 Capitol Way North

Olympia, WA 98501 or you may send them by email to:

SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov or you may send them by fax to: (360) 902-2946

Written comments must be RECEIVED by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife by August 31st.

A leucistic Spotted Towhee photographed by Les Peterson on

Maury Island. Usuallthe whole head would be black.

and iridescent colors. Iridescent feathers have structures that absorb and reflect light in such a way the wavelength we perceive varies with the angle of reflection. The colors we see come from the wavelengths reflected by the pigments or structural elements. So for example the structure of Steller's Jay feathers absorbs all but the wavelengths reflecting back as blue, a crow's plumage reflects no light and appears black and the white Spotted Sandpiper I saw possessed feathers that reflected all wavelengths at once.

ACROSS	
1 Time zone	
4 Feel	
9 Voiced	
14 Garden tool	
15 Wealthy man	
16 Louis' partner	
17 American Federation o	f Teachers
(abbr.)	
18 Toothbrush brand	
19 Cuban,' for example	
20 Scattered	
22 Small particle	
24 Shred	
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1 Clean

2 Relent

4 Flake

5 Gain

3 Group of four

6 BB association

9 Account (abbr.)

11 Newspaper

12 Time period

10 Book by Homer

13 Danish krone (abbr.)

7 Sun's name

8 Ebbing

21 Phony

23 Poem

38 Stellar 40 Bigot 42 Elegant 43 Fights 44 Flurry 45 Looking at 47 Dorothy's dog 26 Cause of sickness 28 Ditto 29 Domestic dog 30 Pride 32 Snake 35 Chance 36 Girl 37 Northern Ireland 38 Assistant 39 Load 40 Member of an Arizona Indian tribe

41 Electroencephalograph (abbr.)

42 Really cool

43 Division (abbr.)

45 Santa's helper

25 Staff

32 Tan

33 Drag

27 Madam

31 Ceases

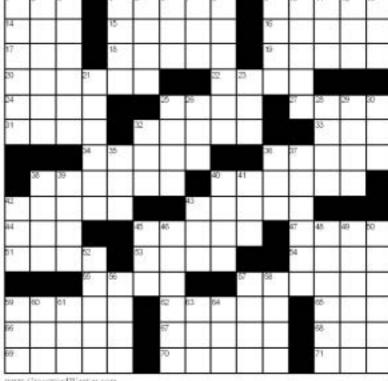
34 Coral reef 36 Zest

51 Wet 53 Jacob's son 54 Adam's garden 55 Defunct football league 57 Relating to the northern regions 62 Of the pope 65 __ Lanka 66 Comedy 67 Snobs 68 Star 69 Whipped dairy food 70 Also 71 Gorilla 46 Barked in pain 48 City 49 Shred (2 wds.) 50 Connected

63 Boxer Muhammad

64 Scar

52 Desert plant 56 Appear 57 Sheet of matted cotton 58 Margarine 59 American Football Conference (abbr.) 60 Standard or average



new CrosswordWester.com

Solution on page 17

The Vashon Loop, p. 8

Garden The World By MEarth

Whispering Python Rock

In a December, 2006 National Geographic article, archaeologists indicated they have discovered evidence of mankind's oldest rituals. In a Botswanan cave discovered less than 20 years ago, in the remote Tsodilo Hills, indications of ceremonial activity have been found. According to the researchers, Africa's San people (Bushmen) used Rhino Cave for worship over 70,000 years ago, more than 30,000 years earlier than the previously oldest ceremonial sites.

Inside the cave is a large stone resembling a giant python (see photo), with natural features in the stone forming an eye and a mouth. Unfortunately, modern archaeologists are still a little confused about ancient religious

to connect with and make sense of their world; honoring a path tread by others for generations."

So, who cares?

Well, to me, it means that human beings have been honoring the unknown for longer than some people believe they have existed. That seems important. In my view, something we have been doing for 70,000 years carries some weight compared to things we have only been doing for 2000.

Some anthropologists have been amazed that "people so primitive" could have engaged in such complicated, abstract behavior. It makes me wonder if those who tend to anthropoligize about such matters are capable of complex, abstract thought.

There is every indication that human beings 70,000 years ago were as intellectually emotionally developed as we are, just as capable of abstract thought and just as likely to engage in it. They spent a lot less time thinking about American Idol, freeway traffic, irate bosses, paying their bills and voting for political rivals so they had a lot



practices, indicating that this more time and emotional energy for evidence indicated "python worship." That leap is as silly as observing that Druids held ceremonies in sacred groves of trees and thus "worshiped trees."

The fact is that Druids honored (and do honor) trees and considered them sacred (as do I), but they conclusions of even seemingly enlightened archaeologists and anthropologists is much like a Martian observing modern church activities and concluding Christians worship big buildings.

The stone, known to Bushmen as the "Rock That Whispers," had been worked with grooves indentations, possibly to resemble scales. Over 13,000 artifacts were found in Rhino Cave, buried and packed into corners, including spear points and other articles. These spear points were brought to the cave from some distance and some even used as offerings, which were intentionally burned.

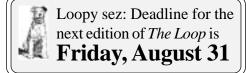
To quote a British blogger whose name I have, unfortunately, lost, "Thousands of lifetimes ago, people were coming to this ancient church thinking about love, family and God.

Yes, but wasn't life so much harder back then?

In some ways—but those selfsame anthropologists have noted that hunters and gatherers who live in an area of abundance spend only 1/3 of their waking hours providing actually worshiped the Creator of for their basic needs for food, shelter, those trees. The erroneous clothing and water. The question obviously becomes, what did they do the rest of the time? How much time did they have to contemplate the nature of things? A lot more than you or I. Unless you are a Zen monk or a complete idler, you don't think about the universe that much.

Ceremony is ancient and human beings have been considering their place in nature as long as they have been human beings. We have been grateful for being alive a long, long time. I, for one, am honored to lay my prayers beside those who visited the python 70,000 years ago.

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We've Got a Lot of Kids Check, Please

by Kevin Pottinger

Our children, apparently, have all been struck almost entirely deaf, by some sort of illness that may have come from crossing their eyes too long.

While they can clearly hear Bob the Builder on TV, their friends, and a limited few parentally-spoken words like "popsicle," "cookies" and "noodles," they can't hear most anything else my wife Maria and I say to them. Even simple, one or two-word conversations such as "no," "we'll see" and especially 'put that down!," fall forlornly mute on their unhearing, mostly ornamental ears.

For example, if our eldest boy is idly stuffing his bread crusts into his younger brother's half-full water glass, and I ask him to desist, his younger brother will grin at me and stuff his whole sandwich into his twin sister's water glass. I usually plead with him, "Look, if I just got done telling your brother not to do something, why would you think it's a good idea to do the exact same thing?," which after all, is a completely useless exercise, since obviously the only reason the poor little bugger did the exact same thing his brother did, after I just got done telling his brother not to, is because he's been struck deaf by crossing his eyes one time too often.

When our babies were quite small, we taught them a few simple baby words in American Sign Language; waitress-words, such as "more," "please," "help," and "check, please." Later on, Maria taught our older kids most of the ASL letters, and our oldest boy recently learned quite a few more words from a deaf friend of ours. If Maria signs to them, our older kids enthusiastically sign back, eager to continue the conversation, and immediately desist from any activities, which completely validates our diagnosis. Deaf as a stone. All of them.

Tragically, they also seem to be suffering from a form of braindamage that affects memory. Disorders of this type probably come from being made to eat all of one's vegetables at supper, including the zucchini. For example, if we tell them to stop jumping on the couch, they can recall the instruction to not jump on the couch for about twenty seconds, which is roughly the period of time that most people can remember a series of ten random numbers, held in their short-term memory. Our instruction doesn't seem to be crossing over from that twenty or so seconds of short-term memory into long-term memory, for within twenty seconds of being told to stop jumping on the couch, they are all back jumping on the couch. I find that I often need to remind them to quit jumping on the couch; every twenty seconds because of their short-term memory disorder, and in a profoundly loud voice because of their deafness.

The poor creatures also seem to be suffering from interrelated food allergies. Green vegetables, yellow vegetables, orange vegetables, squash, zucchini, meat of all kinds (except hot dogs and McNuggets and cheeseburgers), oatmeal (except in cookies or served at Grandma's), and all kinds of mushrooms (except on pizza) and of course, oysters under any circumstances. The symptoms of the allergies vary slightly by the substance ingested, but usually include a characteristic facial grimace ("Pottinger's sign"), often followed by feeble complaints of wracking stomach pains, and weak cries for dessert if available. But happily, they can't remember their symptoms for long.

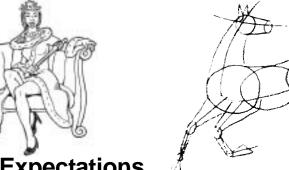
Because of the short-term memory disorder.

And so: deafness, brain damage, food allergies, and bickering constantly with one other; the poor clods. It could be worse: they could have all gone in for banging their heads on the walls and flinging their feces at each other like a chattering pack of irritable test monkeys, for instance. We count our blessings.

It's easier to count them late at night, when they're all asleep.

The Reigning Queen of Everything

By Sarah Blakemore, RQE



The RQE Examines Realistic Expectations

plaster on my ceiling.

I'm going to fail. Miserably.

In front of everyone. In fact, I am going to fail so miserably that the entire theatre will become the laughing stock of New York City performance art. And then I will never be able to produce another show ever again because no one will want me. I will be famous for being a total screw up. In fact, my failure will be so great and mighty that word of it will spread across the city and audiences everywhere will no longer be interested in any sort of theatre ever again. As a result Broadway will close and the bottom will drop out of the New York City tourism industry, causing the economy to plummet into a massive depression. New York City will then drag down the rest of the country with it, our dollar will collapse, inflation will cripple the nation and soup kitchens will spring on every corner. Angry revolutionary mobs will form in the streets, over throw the government and proceed to nuke every single country that doesn't conform to their radical Marxist ways. The proliferation of nuclear war will cause the earth to be jolted off of its axis and the entire human race will perish in one large fiery mass. All that will be left is me and my dog floating through the cosmos on my sofa, left to ponder the fact that I am the cause of the destruction of the human race and the planet earth due to my miserable failure at producing a simple vaudeville style variety show. I will only be able to sustain myself by eating the remnants of my plaster ceiling.

Damn. Even my failure fantasies are Type A personality driven. I can't simply imagine failure. Nooooooo. That would be too simple. I've got to imagine failure that happens on an epic scale.

Doing a variety show seemed like a really good idea after one too many glasses of wine last spring at Sunday Night Movie club. In fact, it seemed like a brilliant idea. I mean, being a stripper I spend lots of time on stage, right? I've learned all sorts of things about timing and lighting and sound and what works and what doesn't. It'll be a snap. And besides, I need an outlet for my creativity besides work.

Ha. Famous last words.

Breathe. Breathe. Breathe.

I've got auditions today. A juggler, a stand up comic and a dancer. People who have been working on their craft, honing it and perfecting it for years. People who have spent countless hours rehearsing. And I'm going to judge them and try to match their talents with my vision. I feel arrogant and like a fraud. I don't know what I'm doing.

This was a really, really bad time for my therapist to take a vacation.

I've never done this before. Months ago I wrote an article singing the praises of doing something you've

I'm staring at the cracks in the never done before. Now, reflecting on my happy optimism, I wonder where my confidence went. I was so sure that I could do this. Anxiety keeps me up at night, I imagine failure around every corner.

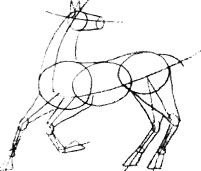
Of course it is easy to get by on clichés. "You never know until you try" and "It is better to try and fail than to not try at all" are two of my favorites. I love telling people this when they are soliciting my advice for a project. In the words of one of my favorite soul sisters, Bonnie Rait, "Those lines are pretty hard to take when they're staring back at you."

Why does it matter if I fail? Does it really matter? Does anything really matter? In the grand scheme of the universe, no, it doesn't really matter if I fail. Who will it affect, really? My small cast who won't work for me again and the audience members who will want that hour and twenty minutes of their life back are really the only ones who will be concerned with my failure.

So what is it that keeps me up at night? Why does failure matter? Because everyone, including the RQE, wants to have something that they can be proud of and a way to feel as though they have positively contributed to the world. No one wants to look back on their life and see a series of failures. Working on something, whether it is art, a business, writing, mountain climbing or any other project is about bringing your imagination to life. You see your hopes and dreams on stage, in a sculpture or in the view from the top of a mountain. Living out your imagination is what makes life a gift and a joy. Some people call it God, some people call it brain chemistry but either way, it is your contribution to the world. And you want your art or business or journey to the top of a mountain to be what you imagine. Not because a slightly different version of your imagination would be inferior but for the simple fact that it would not be your vision. It is the contribution of your vision to the world that makes people want to create something out of nothing. Bringing your imagination to life is a profound experience. It is also one of the scariest things you can do; some people crave the excitement; others fear it; but we all want it.

If I fail, my vision, my imagination, will not be accurately represented and created on stage. And that, my friends, is terrifying. There will be other chances and other projects but those will represent different dreams and ambitions. Life is short, how many chances do we really get? You have to take them when they come around, no matter how terrifying the prospect. Failure is the risk you run for living your imagination. I guess I've just got to learn to imagine success.

A Starry Night Variety Show opens on September 13th in Greenpoint, Brooklyn at East Coast Aliens. www.eastcoastaliens.com



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From VHS to Studying Birds

by Shaylon Stock

Instead of heading home after my freshman year at Amherst College, I stayed to work for my Conservation Biology professor and mentor as the college's Phyllis A. Mofson '84 Fellow. He had hired me, along with another Amherst student and two students from Franklin and Marshall College, to work on his project to study the effects of climate on parental behavior and immune system development in Violet-Green Tree Swallows. I would stay with a group of other science research fellows, in an old house that was owned by the college.

I would get up early, dress in a t-shirt, field pants, and tall rubber boots, and meet my professor and co-workers in the lab. From there, we assembled the day's equipment, and headed into the field.

Squishing happily through the mud in my rubber boots felt like a return to childhood. But instead of tools for making mud pies, I had a clipboard, a scale, and a box of banding equipment. I would go to each nest box, and check for signs that a pair of swallows had decided to nest there. The nests were made of grass and lined with a soft puff of down which the swallows plucked from nesting wild turkeys. After a week or so, the new nests would be cradling eggs. Each was a delicate white oval, weighing less than two grams, and could easily have fit into a quarter-teaspoon. I would thread a tiny temperature sensor, disguised as an egg, into the nest, and hook it to a data reader. The female swallows were surprisingly unperturbed.

We also discovered House Wren nests in our boxes, and decided to study those as well. Unlike the swallows, however, the wrens flew into a rage when we so much as approached their heavy nests of wild rose twigs and snakeskin. As I weighed their delicate, rose pink eggs, the mother wrens would fling their tiny bodies into me, nipping me on the back of

In another two weeks, the eggs began to hatch. First, an egg would bulge, and shiver. Then a small hole would appear, and a pink beak would poke into the world. Within the hour, a wet, pink, rubbery baby swallow would crawl from the cracked shell and nestle into its mother's chest. I thought they looked like pink, wrinkly pterodactyls. We would weigh these tiny chicks, using scales that measured hundredths of grams and calipers that measured in tenths of millimeters.

But over the course of the next few weeks, the blind, helpless chicks grow into inquisitive adolescents with bright black eyes and silky gray feathers. They would attempt to explore my boots, or climb into my shirt as I attempted to band them and draw a few drops of blood to test their immune systems.

Looking back at those ten weeks, I am amazed by how much I learned. Besides a host of biology research skills, I took away moments of beauty: an infant wren crawling from an egg, a young swallow taking its first flight, the flutelike chirp of baby birds begging me hopefully for a snack, their daffodil-yellow mouths agape. I think of it not as a summer of adulthood and work but as a summer of almost childlike curiosity and wonder.



The Vashon Loop, p. 10 August 24, '07

🔁 LoOp Ed

What Do Sub-Prime Loans Have To Do With The Stock Market?

by Mark Goldman, mark@gpln.com

For years, the residential real estate market boomed. Sub-Prime loans—loans made to folks with poor credit-helped drive this boom. The most important economic support for the boom was easy credit. Interest rates were very low compared to historical norms and the risk to lenders for making these loans was also low because once made, lenders were able to sell the contracts to other institutions, leaving themselves unaffected if borrowers later defaulted on the loans.

Who eventually ended up owning those loans? They were purchased by financial institutions who packaged them into high yielding securities called CDOs (collateralized debt obligations) which in turn were sold to hedge funds whose shares were purchased by high net worth investors.

This was a good deal for a while as the value of homes was bid up by the influx of new homebuyers and speculators able to borrow on easy terms. These variable rate contracts obligated homeowners to pay higher interest costs when interest rates later rose. Some of these loans didn't require any down payment, so people were "owning" homes without any equity interest in their home at all. Lacking experience and good advice, new homebuyers didn't understand what could happen if and when interest rates rose. For many, this seemed like their only chance to own a home. They hoped if rates did go up later, by then they would be able to handle the

Eventually, the Fed did raise rates, mainly to control inflation (the reality of which is often understated). But by the time interest rates rose substantially, more new homes had come onto the market than there were qualified buyers to purchase them.

So the real estate market in many parts of the country began to cool. As demand for new housing dried up, demand for existing homes did too. With declining home values, many homeowners owed more on their mortgages than their homes were now worth. With interest rates rising, some of these homeowners couldn't pay the increased mortgage costs and were forced to sell. But selling their homes didn't cancel the debt because their debt was more than the value of their homes. Many of these loans went into default. As they defaulted, the value of the securities into which these loans were packaged declined precipitously and those high net worth investors lost money.

So investors, who were once a source of capital for mortgage lenders, once they began losing money, now wanted out of these investments and money for risky credit can't get mortgages. With fewer



Mark Goldman

people qualifying for new mortgages and with so many people unable to make payments on the mortgages they have, the downward pressure on home prices is exacerbated.

Unfortunately, the fear associated with sub-prime loan losses appears to be carrying over into other markets and now other loans are hard to get too. Many people are arguing that the Fed should now come to the rescue by lowering rates to make it easier for individuals and businesses to get the credit they need. But for the Fed, that presents a problem.

Essentially, the US is living on borrowed money and borrowed time in the same way that many individuals are. We borrow from China and other countries by selling them our bonds. We borrow to fund our foreign military occupations and maintain our lifestyle. Some countries may decide they don't want to buy any more of our dollar denominated bonds given that the dollar is likely to be worth less later than it is now. Of course the Fed can print money if it wants to, but printing more money when there is not an equivalent increase in the amount of goods and services being produced means more dollars are chasing the same amount of goods and services. This bids up the price of goods and services and we call that inflation. Inflation is a reduction in the value of the dollar.

Inflation means things cost more then they used to. And when things cost more than they used to, some families can no longer afford to buy what they need or want. And if these families have no savings to fall back on, the only way they can get by is by borrowing on their credit cards or taking out second mortgages. But Americans have been doing just that for a long time now. Americans have the lowest rate of savings in the industrialized world. Now a lot of folks have no savings to fall back on and no more credit either. Many will need to sell their homes, and some will go on welfare.

Americans will likely have less discretionary funds with which to buy cell phones, dish washers, TV sets, and everything else. This suggests that retailers are going to sell less, unemployment will increase, and wages will stagnate. Times will get tougher than they have been. The people who will be hit the hardest will be those who are least able to cope: those currently making iton a fixed income; those who have little savings and lots of debt; those who don't have marketable skills. The middle class is moving down a class.

What will this do to the stock market? Actually I don't know, I can only guess. But now stocks are riskier. People who loans dried up. Now buyers with poor already have lots of money will buy stocks at bargain prices when average Americans are forced to cash in their equities to pay current living expenses. The gap between the rich and poor will

The wealthiest among us will end up owning more assets and having more bargaining power over the rest. They will grow their wealth by investing their capital and selling goods and services where people have money... if not here, then in other countries. America will begin to look less like a super power and more like a lot of other places on the planet. Large multinational corporations and the most well-heeled players will probably do ok. Inexperienced investors will continue to invest in things they don't understand and the stock market will reflect the dislocations to which I've alluded, until that which has been dislocated becomes the norm. None of this had to happen.

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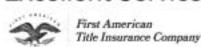
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Madame Toujours

Dear Madame Toujours,

I am terribly concerned about my cats Deuteronomy and Leviticus. The thing is, I think they may be, um, I guess the politically correct term would be "homosexual life partners," although the bible would call them an abomination and demand that they be put to death.

It really started with Doot. I never had any inkling that Levi was, you know, *not right*, even though he never bothered his sister Genesis. I just supposed he didn't think of her that way because she was his sister. But then I brought home Deuteronomy, and right away I could see there was something there. Doot had a way about him; you know, kind of effeminate, and he followed Levi around all day long. At first it was cute; he just idolized Levi the way Potsie looked up to the Fonz. Then Doot grew up, and I realized it was more than that.

At first I couldn't believe such a thing could be happening in my own house, but every time I decided I must be crazy, I would turn around and there would be Doot and Levi doing something just unbelievably gay, and I don't mean something nice and brotherly like grooming each other or playing with balls of string; I'm talking about really shocking behavior. If they weren't both neutered males, I feel sure they would be up to something really dreadful.

I've spoken to my pastor, and he suggested that my poor kitties were demons in feline form sent to trick me into the sin of tolerance. He proposed a public stoning, but I couldn't bear to do that to my kitties,

and they are so devoted to each other I would feel just awful about separating them. I'm sure their hearts would break.

Are my kitties an abomination? Am I doomed to hell for permitting them to live in sin? Are they? Should I be trying to save their souls? Is there some kind of program that would cure them? Please help me.

Sincerely,

Doot and Levi's Mommy

Chere Mme. Mommy,

Possibly, you are worrying too much about the personal business of the other individuals. Naturally, as the maman of the feline persons, you are supposing that you are having the big responsibilities for the sins and whatnot, but mostly in these times, all of the sensible people are understanding that the feline persons are being born with the inclinations, and nobody is able to be doing anything about it.

However, what for are you wanting to spoil the happiness of the fellows who are having the warm and fulfilling relationship? Since you have responsibly prevented the gentleman cats from producing the unseemly litters of kittens which they are not raising and supporting for themselves, why should they not having the committed relationship, and what for are you caring if they are both the masculine individuals?

Bon Chance, Mme. Maman. Perhaps you can be joining the helpful support group for the parents of the homosexually oriented household pets.

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Going Green

by Emma Amiad

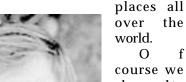
Recently, I asked Emma Amiad, a longtime resident and one of the founders of both the Vashon Land Trust and the Vashon-Maury Island Audubon Society, to write a series of articles on sustainable building and other aspects of going green. What developed is an introductory series of articles about Emma's experience with the environmental movement and will be followed by pieces looking at some of the specific ideas circulating on sustainability with the idea of distinguishing the practical things Islanders can do from the passing fads. — The editor.

Part I in a series:

I've been asked to write about what's happening in the world of "green" and sustainable building and remodeling. I'm happy to do so, but after much thought, I realize that recommending a specific book or magazine, class to attend or even resources on line to help educate anyone about sustainability, is like handing them a steering wheel and saying, "this is a car." There is just so much more to it.

Everyone has on opinion about what constitutes green. Many people now know about global warming and have decided, without much thought or research, who they want to blame and what they think can fix it. Many people say that only private business can turn things around. They believe that corporations were the major contributors to the problem and have the deep pockets and the technical know-how to find solutions. Others believe that business can't be trusted and only government has the resources to look for solutions to the Other folks mistrust problem. government as well as business and believe only a citizen lead revolution can change the course we're on.

I believe that all of these players must cooperate. It will take concerted effort by business, governments and citizens. Individuals can make a difference in so many ways. First and foremost by changing our own individual habits and lifestyle to be far more green. Next, we must work with thoughtful business leaders to encourage and even demand change in the corporate mentality to begin solving our environmental problems. In fact, this is actually happening at an accelerated rate in many





Emma Amiad

government become a world leader in fighting global warming and environmental degradation. So far we haven't made much progress there but we must continue to persevere. Last, we should work with citizen activists to make change at the local level as well as in the global

There are decades of research and writing about ecology, environmental activism, population control, economics, planning, and ethics. All of these play an important role in understanding the scope of what sustainability might look

Most of us today, in a world newly charged by the "inconvenient truth" of global warming and all that this implies, are looking for ways to change our lifestyle. We want to discover ways to lessen our "footprint" on the earth. That's

all well and good. But we also need to know that there is an entire world of information and study devoted to the issue of saving our planet. I can't begin to talk about all of that, but I feel compelled to try. Knowing how to make choices that have the least impact on energy use and resources as well as choosing what is healthiest for you and your family is important, but if you have no historic context then it's just one more shopping decision.

If you will indulge me, I'd like to speak from my own experience and try to use that to discuss at least some of what has come before our current "green" revolution. I only know what I've personally learned, but I'm happy to share that knowledge if it can help you. It's just the tip of the iceberg but it's a start. There are wonderful experienced mentors in our community and I urge you to seek them out to learn more.

To begin, I believe that becoming "green" is not just buying fluorescent light bulbs or reading the right books. It's changing who you are, how you think, and how you conduct even the smallest detail of your daily life.

Do I do it perfectly? Hardly. I have many "sins" that leave me far from my goal of keeping a low carbon footprint. But I consistently work on keeping a constant respect for the planet at the forefront of my thinking.

Let me give you a simple example of what I'm talking about. I'm in a very paper intensive business; real estate. We buy reams and reams of paper every year. As better choices in products have become available, we've come to the following formula: first, we buy only 100% post consumer recycled paper. Next, we reuse every piece of paper at least once. We make copies on the back of already printed pages, and then use the rest for scratch paper. Last, we recycle all of our paper back once again to be further recycled. As technology has changed we can now download material onto disks for storage which saves using paper in the first place.

This may sound burdensome, but we got into it gradually and now it's simply a part of how we work throughout the day. How we decide what we buy, how we dispose of waste and how we educate our clients about these things are a part of it too. Any business can do this; it just takes the will and the commitment. It's not hard to make the office coffee with shade grown organic coffee. It's not hard to be sure everyone in an office recycles. It's not hard to encourage everyone to use alternative transportation or at least drive a bio diesel or hybrid car.

Another example that speaks to how t h o s e we think concerns automobiles. A friend running for gave me this story and I must share it. office, to She owns two cars. One is a small, two seat, sporty car that looks efficient and cute. The other is a large van. She explained that she gets nods and smiles of approval when she's driving alone in her little car which actually only gets 25 miles to the gallon. But, she gets scowls of disapproval when she's driving the van even though it actually gets better mileage. The other critical piece is that in the van she is carrying seven people who are not driving their own cars! Do you see my point? We need to think and analyze, not just react.

> The following editions of the Loop will continue this article. The entire piece may be found Emma's blog at www.vashonislandrealestate.com/blog.html.

> Emma Amiad is the broker/owner of Amiad and Associates on Vashon Island. Contact her at 206-463-4060 or her b s i www.vashonidslandrealestate.com

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Youth Chorus Benefit Concert

Continued from page 1

the years sung a variety of music styles, from classical, i.e., Handel's "Messiah" and Rutter's "Mass of the Children," to jazz, a program of jazz choral pieces accompanied by members of the Vashon Portage Fillharmonic Big Band, to pop, i.e., "A Charlie Brown Christmas" in 2005 and "On Broadway," and even a choral revue, featuring such musicals as "High School Musical" and "Wicked" in Spring, 2007. The Youth Chorus is a program offered by Vashon Allied Arts.

Over the last several years, we have been able to help some amazing young musicians because of scholarships. As many of you know, having the chance to sing and be involved in music means the world to a child. So, we are holding a concert, featuring the Island's wonderful musician, Paul Colwell, and his brothers, as well as other local musicians, with our Youth Chorus, and the proceeds will go towards scholarships for kids who love to sing!

The fundraiser concert will be at Vashon High School Theatre, and feature Paul Colwell, his brothers Steve and Ralph Colwell, Herb Allen, Randy Bruce, Wilson Abbot, Rochelle Wolfe, Dan Brown, Carter Castle, Jesse Whitford, Megan Hackett, Dom Wolzcko, the Vashon Island Youth Chorus and myself, Marita Ericksen. It is sure to be a wonderful time! The community Rotary Foundation has very kindly offered to support this important event through a donation, and we

Students of the VIYC have over are asking your support, as well. If you can donate any money at all, it will make an island child very happy! We need to know by August 27 whether we have the necessary financial support to make this wonderful event happen.

We will be thanking everyone who donates to this worthy cause in our program, and would really appreciate your support! In the meantime, save the date for a night of what is sure to be wonderful music! To donate, please contact Paul Colwell, 463-1602, or Marita Ericksen, 463-0995.

24-Hour Peace Vigil Here on September

There will be a 24-hour peace vigil Noon on Friday, September 21. to noon on Saturday, September 22 at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit. The 21st is the UN International Day of Peace. All Islanders are invited to participate, for any part of the 24 hours, or for the whole thing. There will be meditations, prayers, and music, and as always the labyrinth on the north end of the church will be open for people to walk. Participants can sign up in advance for hours they keep vigil.

Questions? Call Church of the Holy Spirit at (206) 567-4488.



Protein - Is it too much of a good thing?

By Kathy Abascal

Last week, we considered how osteoporosis is linked to an excess of animal protein in the diet. That, of course, raises a number of questions: What is protein? How much protein is excessive? And can you get the protein you need if you do not eat meat, chicken, dairy or fish? I will try to answer some of those questions here.

Protein is a vital raw material for the body. Most chemical reactions in the body are catalyzed by enzymes, and all enzymes are proteins. Every day, we shed skin, slough off parts of the intestinal lining, and recycle various blood cells. All told, we lose about 3 grams of protein a day. We also make "new" proteins to repair various tissues. Thus, we definitely need protein each day. However, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), we only need to eat 20-30 grams of protein a day. The American RDA for protein provides about twice that amount. (To calculate how much protein you need each day, take

your ideal weight, divide it by 2.2, and multiply the result with 0.45 for the WHO estimate or 0.8 for the US estimate.) Most diets actually exceed the WHO estimate: Those living in many rural Asian societies get about 40 to 60 grams from their diet of starch (mostly rice) with vegetables. The Western diet, typically

protein a day. A traditional Eskimo eating marine animals or someone on the Atkins diet might get 200 to 400 grams a

Proteins consist of different combinations of chemicals called amino acids. Our bodies use these amino acids to make the 50,000 different proteins we need to function well. Fortunately, the body can make all but 8 or 9 of the amino acids we need. Those it cannot make "from scratch" are called essential amino acids and need to be provided in the diet. Proteins that contain a balanced amount of all needed amino acids are called complete proteins. Animal proteins (meat, fish, chicken, and dairy) are complete proteins. Quinoa, a wonderful grain, is also a complete protein. People who do not eat these foods satisfy their need for essential amino acids by eating a variety of vegetables, nuts, grains, legumes, and fruit. This works because plant foods are never entirely lacking in any given amino acid, so you can also



get "enough" of the ones you need by eating various combinations of plant foods.

Omnivores who consume red meat, dairy, chicken, and fish do not need to worry about food combining. They have a different problem, that of an excess of acidic amino acids. Animal proteins have an acidic effect in the body, in fact, parmesan cheese is said to be the most acidic of all foods commonly consumed. When we have an excess of acidic amino acids, alkaline materials have to be released from the bones to neutralize them and calcium is leached out of bones in the process. Fruits and vegetables have an alkaline effect and as a result a diet high in plant foods helps neutralize acidic amino acids and preserve bones. The acidic condition of the body caused by the Western diet also raises cortisol (steroid) levels. Elevated cortisol causes

> chronic bone loss - just like taking a steroid medication can result in severe osteoporosis.

Once neutralizing materials are released from the solid bone, the calcium moves through the blood stream to the kidneys and eliminated in the urine. In an effort to remove the overabundance of waste protein, the flow of blood through the kidneys

heavy in meat and dairy products, increases - the result: calcium is filtered provides about 100 to 160 grams of out of the body and the kidneys are burdened with extra work. This is one reason people with kidney problems are put on a low protein diet. Plant proteins do not generally cause these problems. In fact, one estimate is that 100 calories of cheddar cheese places a relative acid load on the kidneys of 10 while 100 calories of tomatoes reduces the load with a value of -18. Spinach reduces the load by -56.

So, if you are eating animal protein, you may want to reduce your portion sizes. A three ounce serving of lean tenderloin provides you with about 20 grams of protein, which may be all the protein you need that day. Add two eggs (13 grams), an ounce of cheese (7 grams), and two glasses of milk (38 grams) and you have consumed 78 grams of animal protein. And you will also get additional protein from the breads, grains, nuts, and vegetables you eat. This is why it is very easy to place an unnecessary burden on your bones and your kidneys if you eat a typical Western diet. യയയ



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 has written two books on medicinal plants: *Clinical Botanical* Medicine and Herbs & Influenza – how herbs used in the 1918 flu pandemic can be effective today.

She is now available for health consultations at the **Full Circle** Wellness Center. These consultations will help you choose herbs and

supplements as well as make dietary changes that will support your health. An evaluation of how these changes affect might prescription medicines you may be taking is included in the consultation. She teaches ongoing Conscious

Eating for Health & Weight Loss classes at the Roasterie and adding classes be perimenopause, nervines, and basic herbalism later this fall. For more information, contact Kathy at 463-9211 or at anemopsis@yahoo.com.





Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is 🕌 Friday, August 31

Vashon College Fall Registration

Continued from page 1

Sheffield Building), lining up our first adjunct faculty, and admitting the first students to our inaugural class, Vashon 101: A Journey Just Begun."

What a difference a year makes. During the past academic year of 2006-2007, Vashon College enrolled over 100 students and served over 1000 people through its wide range of classes and projects such as Bulb for a Buck. Now, for the 2007-2008 academic year, the College will continue to offer Vashon 101, Digital Media, Wine Appreciation, OMAX 55100 Cutter Training, and Sustainability/Climate Change programs. Islanders who want to register now for fall courses may choose from those listed below. Students enrolled in two or more Vashon College classes this fall term can receive a 10% reduction in tuition. Enrollment is on a first come, first served basis. For more information and to download applications www.vashoncollege.org, email info@vashoncollege.org, or call (206) 408-8000.

Register Now for FALL 2007 Classes

Thursdays, September 6 -November 15, 7:00 - 9:00 pm Vashon 101: A Journey Just Begun

This popular flagship course of College Vashon multidisciplinary, team-taught, eleven-session class investigating Vashon Island from the view points of geology, ecology, history, humanities and sociology past and present. In Vashon 101 you will thought-provoking hear perspectives on your island community and form new friendships with fellow islanders. Join the sixty-six alumni who have completed Vashon 101 and play an active and informed role on our

island. Teacher clock hours and 2 hours of college credit through Seattle Pacific University are available. Tuition is \$250.

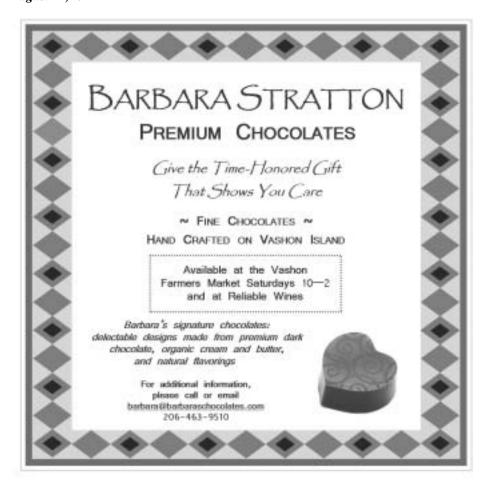
Wednesdays, September 12 – October 24, 7:00 – 9:00 pm **Northwest Energy Choices**

Jim Warren of Vashon Island Energy facilitates this team taught, seven-week survey of energy options in Western Washington. A number of instructors will come from Puget Sound Energy. In addition to the Wednesday evening classes, Energy Choices includes an additional off-Island, all Saturday field trip via bus to alternative energy sites to see low-hydro, wind turbines, and solar energy. This class will give Islanders a first-hand view of Vashon's energy sources and alternatives through Puget Sound Energy. Tuition is \$250, which includes the Saturday field trip.

Mondays, October 15 -November 19, 7:00 – 9:00 pm Introduction to Taking Oral and/or Video Histories

Bruce Haulman takes the lead along with guest faculty to cover the fundamentals of taking oral and video histories. From research techniques to interviewing methods to practical aspects of using audio and video equipment, students will learn how to plan and execute oral and video histories. Each student will have the opportunity to complete a short project and make a ten minute presentation at the last session of this class. Students must provide their own audio and/or video equipment for their individual projects. Tuition is \$150.

Any intelligent fool can make things bigger, more complex, and more violent. It takes a touch of genius (and a lot of courage) to move in the opposite direction. Albert Einstein





Aries (March 20-April 19) Gradually you are gaining the focus and motivation to do the things you want to do. If you didn't hold yourself to such a high standard, you would achieve greater things. I am not recommending that you aspire to mediocrity. Rather, I propose that you slip into the rapidly moving waters of inspiration, and let the experience be about movement rather than arriving anywhere. There is an element to creating (in any form) that involves focus and discipline, and another aspect that involves letting go into what feels like boundless chaos. You are in the second stage right now. Forget who you think you are, or better yet, go to the place where it's impossible to remember. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Taurus (April 19-May 20) You are remembering, and you are forgetting praise the gods, and your own passionate drive to eat, drink and feel life, that you have finally gotten around to doing both. You are remembering the long-forgotten details of who you are. You are forgetting the painful way you were taught to replace the nuances of your existence with judgment, a sense of frailty and an obsession over being right. Bear in mind that the first thing we need to remember about the past is that it is an interpretation. It is not the truth, and it is not a direct recording of events, feelings or experiences. All in all, we could sum up this phase of your life by saying that your interpretation is changing fast. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Gemini (May 20-June 21) Mars is getting into position to make some sparks in your professional life, and you may find yourself feeling full of rebellion and the urgent drive to make progress. If you have a boss, the chances are he or she is just as much of a revolutionary as you are, it's just cleverly disguised. Don't make this person an adversary. The way to do that is to proceed on your journey of disentangling yourself from ideas that quite literally immobilize you. We are all taught to play games, but the games we play against ourselves are the ones that do us the most damage. The antithesis to any game is to begin by telling yourself the truth about what you want and how you feel. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) You are gaining momentum, but more to the point, you are removing certain ideas from your

psychic library that have presented serious obstacles to your progress in the past. In essence, emotional needs you did not clearly identify were making it difficult for you to think clearly, to plan effectively, or to have any idea of what your true long-term objectives were. With these false realities out of the way, you will be able to connect with your longedfor long-range vision. Here is a clue, however: long range does not mean far away, or far in the future. Its roots exist in the moment you're currently standing in, in the place where your feet are touching the ground. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23) The solution to a financial crisis is available, indeed, it is inevitable — and trying to make itself known to you. Get it out of your mind that you're going to do this alone; you need help, and you have that help. Of the few truisms we can make about Leo, your pride seems to prevent you from being too dependent on others, or from letting it be known that you are even in a position of need. Resources don't flow on their own; they require information and guidance, which will come from you. Part of what you are gaining is an understanding of a new kind of financial commitment, based on a clear understanding and intentional strategy. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22) Imagine that you have been walking around with a psychic sheet over your head that prevents you from sensing the people and places around you. Clearly you would have a hard time sensing yourself in this situation because we get to know ourselves through a vast experiment of trial and error in relationship to the world around us. I would propose that suddenly, many things around you become not only clearer, but your response to them becomes more vivid. In the process, you may notice an ominous sense that the world, and your world, are changing, yet consider that these are exactly the changes you said you needed. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23) You may not know what to believe, or who to believe; everything that you once held to be true is now looking at itself in the mirror. Yet the pressure is mounting to know, to understand, and to act on a new depth of understanding life. At this point, even the quest for understanding counts for success. Why is that? Typically, so few







people ever even dare to look for their own truth, much less any objective version of the truth. Usually, this is born of two things: the belief that it does not exist, and more to the point, the desire to believe what is not true. You can afford neither so-called luxury right now. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22) You seem to exist in an environment where loyalties are shifting, where many past questions are coming up, and where you may fear certain events that happened in the past. The more fear you are feeling, the less you are experiencing and applying your creative gifts, and by that, I mean the natural creativity of your soul — the creativity which gives you life. Take a moment and go where you fear to tread. Let yourself dare to be some aspect of who you are deep inside. Risk offending the people around you, or someone close to you, by being different than they expect. This will put you in touch with a deep, extraordinary layer of impulsive originality, authentic brilliance and the craving for freedom that always gets its way. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22) On and off, your home life threatens to take over and seemingly to topple all that you have achieved. This is not really true; the problem is that you are trying to look through a fog on certain issues, and you often experience the headlight phenomenon. You know, you're driving in a fog, and you turn on your high beams, and visibility gets worse. When looking through a fog, you have to use low light, because most of what you see is a chaotic reflection. Where a particular family matter is concerned, keep your awareness on dim, and don't strain your vision. Feel into those spaces where there seems to be nothing: indeed, there is something. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) You have made great strides in your project of taking a playful attitude toward life, and not letting the details get in the way of your quest for truth. You have a pleasant

shock coming: an overwhelming experience of remembering a vast database of knowledge from the past. This past may be past lives, it may be a past body of work, it may be genetic memory — but an inheritance of knowledge is coming your way. It is not surfacing for no reason. You need it, you know you need it, and I suggest you not refuse your impulse to teach and share that wisdom. In truth, these days and weeks come with your taking up your true mantle of your earthly mission, as a teacher. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)The upcoming pair of eclipses sweeps across the money and shared resources angle of your solar chart. Something big is up, and it's something that you've been building up to for a long time. Remember that all matters involving resources come right back to questions of survival, which is a question of life, and that in turn has a sexual element. To navigate the waters you are in, I suggest you start by never forgetting that sexual element, and not allowing yourself to pretend that it's not there. Behind the seemingly logical exterior of life, and of agreements and contracts, for most people there exists the primal crisis of struggling to survive on an isolated planet. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) This week's total eclipse of the Moon in your birth sign opens the way to your future. The way to the future is right now, and that is convenient because right now is a truly compelling moment. This moment, in an odd and cosmic way, contains all that you need to know; all the information about how to access the deeper layers of your creative joy, your revolutionary tendencies and your commitment above all else to being as free and as authentic of a person as you can be. You are being invited to let go of an illusion about yourself, and in its place, embrace something real, compelling and inevitable in the best sense of the word. Eric Francis has more of your astrology for you at PlanetWaves.net.

Island Epicure



Grilling: The Basics and Beyond

By Marj Watkins

One of the year's best weekends for picnics, barbecues, and play is coming up. Let's keep it safe, the food healthy and delicious, and everybody have a good time.

You've probably got the basics down pretty well at this end of summer. You know to keep the grill rack clean, and to oil it before you start cooking. You go easy on the firestarter fluid, if you use it at all. You keep meats out of the sun, but not frozen, until ready to cook. You make sure the hamburgers are done in their centers. You avoid letting meats char, which produces carcinogens.

You use long-handled tongs for turning things over neatly and securely without cooking your hands.

The tips below may help you make your next grilling experience one to look back on with even more pleasure. (If it rains, you can always stay indoors and broil your food.)

Choose leaner meats. You'll do your waistline a favor, and reduce your chance of getting cancer. Fat meats char more, and drip fat that flames and produces carcinogens, too. Having burgers? Look for the leanest ground beef or make lowerfat turkey burgers. Trim fat from steaks and chicken pieces.

Marinate. Marinating keeps low fat meats from drying out, and improves flavors.

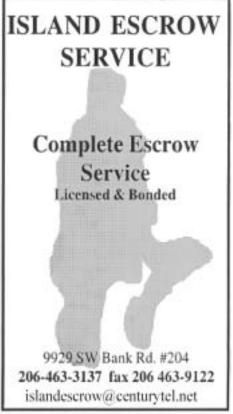
Grill in foil packets. Keep delicate fish and small vegetable pieces from falling through the grate and onto the coals.

Skewer like foods together so they'll cook to the same doneness, like some skewers of all shrimp, uniform chunks, some of cherry tomatoes halved or pierced so they won't explode while cooking.

A grilling basket keeps those small food items out of the fire, and prevents fish from falling apart and through the grate. You can get a compartmented basket for around \$25. Put say, halved beefsteak tomatoes in one section, shrimp or thick slices of sweet onion in another, and fish steaks in third.

Defrost frozen meat before cooking. If there's still ice in the center, it will be raw even when the outside is charred.

Use a meat thermometer to make sure hamburger patties, chicken breasts, etc. are thoroughly cooked.





Marinade for Red Meats

½ cup red wine ½ cup extra-virgin olive oil 2 cloves garlic, finely minced 1 teaspoon dried marjoram leaves for beef, sage for pork ½ teaspoon coarsely ground black

pepper ½ teaspoon sea salt

Combine all ingredients. Pour into a large zip-lock plastic bag. Put in the meat. Marinate 30 minutes or more, turning occasionally.

Marinade for Chicken

1 Tablespoon sesame oil 2 Tablespoons rice vinegar 2 Tablespoon soy sauce $\omega\omega\omega$ 2 cloves garlic, minced ½ teaspoon freshly grated lemon peel 1 jalapeno chili, halved, seeded, and finely minced 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

Combine all ingredients.

Coat skinless, boneless chicken breast halves with marinade. Chill some of all zucchini pieces cut in covered 20 to 30 minutes. Grill covered 4 to 5 minutes per side. Test doneness with thermometer.



Disaster Preparedness Better Organized

Disaster Preparedness Coalition outgrew its old organization. In order to embrace more volunteers, plan for the years ahead and meet the challenges of preparing Vashon for a major disaster of any sort, we evolved into VashonBePrepared. What's the difference?

We have elected a board of directors and an executive committee in order to be dynamic and flexible, substantive and sustainable. We learned from last October's Island-wide drill and the extraordinary winter storms that we need to coordinate better and improve communications—both within the organization and, especially, with the Vashon community. We now have provided for leadership succession and the ability to pursue additional funding. Soon we will register as an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit. We have clarified relationships with our partner organizations in the community and expect that coordination will be enhanced.

The organization has matured from a start-up outfit to a significant group of Island volunteers, trained to respond to the needs of our community during major events, under the direction of Vashon Island Fire & Rescue and working handin-hand with them. The organization partners to date include the Vashon Island Fire & Rescue (VIFR) the Neighborhood Emergency Response Organization (NERO), the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), the Vashon-Maury Island Community Council, the Vashon Island School meat District, Water District 19, the Vashon Maury Island Radio Club, and the Vashon

Over the last year, the Vashon Emergency Preparedness Committee (VEPC, the local Red Cross). Other partners include Puget Sound Energy, the Rotary, the King County Sheriff, King County Roads and many more.

More than eighty neighborhoods are preparing to look after themselves through the NERO system. CERT has trained 150 people so far and training classes will continue. Behind the scenes a complete Emergency Operations Center has been taking shape, working out the many communications, planning and logistical kinks inherent in tackling catastrophic circumstances.

"If THE BIG ONE were to hit tomorrow, some in our community are prepared to meet the many challenges, yet more help and preparation is needed," said co-president John Cornelison. The medical community, for example, has come together to start planning and stockpiling for a disaster. Limited stocks of emergency food have been acquired by the local Red Cross. The Voice of Vashon is on the verge of a breakthrough in their ability to have a permanent emergency radio broadcasting system for the island at 1650 AM.

Everyone who has been involved is excited about the challenges and opportunities to make Vashon a model of preparedness. Co-Presidents, John Cornelison and Tag Gornall, Vice President (past president) Rick Wallace, Secretary Reed Fitzpatrick and Treasurer Mike Callan look forward to serving Vashon, not only in the event of a disaster but also with community building, through our growing volunteer network. "With secured grants and a budget allocation from VIFR we have the resources to refine and expand our goal of motivating and educating households, businesses and neighborhoods to plan and prepare themselves for the times when we could be cut off from the mainland," said co-president Tag

You might consider disaster planning to be depressing Doomsday thinking, but it's actually stimulating, creative and fun. Come and meet your neighbors and learn about the circumstances that might lie ahead of us by joining the all volunteer effort. Call Lynn Buscaglia at 567-5011 or, for more information, look www.VashonBePrepared.org.

The next Island-wide disaster drill will be on Saturday, October 13th, from 8am to noon.



L to R Front Row Officers: Rick Wallace, Tag Gornall, John Cornelison, & Reed Fitzpatrick; Back Row: Tom Nicolino, Peter Murray, Cathy Rogers, Jill Janow, Joe Ulatowski & Leslie Frye. Mary Swanson photography services.

Ristively Speaking

"Where I'm From..."

By Deborah H. Anderson

By now the routine has become unarguable. She starts calling and pacing at 4:49AM at the latest. There is no point in trying to sleep anymore. Her distress is visible. Her brother Boris is missing and she is lost without him at certain moments.

"Where I'm From..."

Tasha was born in 2001 in Eastern Washington on the Campbell Farm six weeks before the Ecumenical Youth Ministry arrived there in July to work for a week. She, the runt of the litter, could fit in half my hand. Her brother Boris, a little larger could fill the rest of the hand and drip over some. My daughter begged. Lucy said she would spay and neuter as a birthday present to me. We returned on Labor Day weekend to retrieve them.

The new lab at our new house treed him a couple weeks back. The people who now live in our old house a couple of blocks away said he has returned to the house. The cat carrier is there and we wait for a phone call.

I worry because they said he returned all the time for the first two weeks after we moved.

He did not. He was sequestered in his human sister's room for three weeks before being allowed to roam about the house. Perhaps it is some other cat they are seeing. He is black with a patch of white under his throat. There are many of that description.

So I rise and console her and tell her over and over again that he is not there and we play the game of out the front door and in the dining room window and out and in again and again. We want him back. We miss him. Limbo is the pits.

Then this week I read an article about how doctors doing second trimester abortions are now giving medicine to the baby to make it have a heart attack and then take it out the next day because partial birth abortions are not legal. There was this other method they used and it required dismembering. I think of the mother going through that. And the life lost and I realize......there's worse.

I fix Tasha fresh water and hold her a bit. Buddy the Golden Retriever wanders in and they go nose to nose as she checks out whether he has changed or exchange affection of a comforting sort.

Last Sunday the newspaper magazine has an article about this photojournalist who went to places where things were really bad. The picture that really got me was the woman holding her starving baby up in the air and the little fanny was just skin hanging in vertical waves from his waist. No plump little tooshy. No cutey booty, and I think......there's worse.

It's not a surprise to me that there's worse. I'm quite comfortable talking about painful things. I also have a lot of hope. Mostly hope. I've seen so many terrible things reversed.

In August 1997 our family was greatly harmed by the "Y" so they

could establish a new facility on the Island. Now I read they are closing, doing to others what they did to us, and people on the Island are amazed and I sit in quiet peace knowing sometimes it takes ten years for people to experience what you've experienced. They don't listen to you at the time because they aren't as far down the road. They don't know at the time, there's worse.

My friend Marta from Family Camp sent me a magnificent poem her daughter wrote about "Where I'm from" that begins.......

"I am from the Golden Hills of California From walking down the big steep hill to church every Sunday

And waking up early and sitting on my grandma's lap while she's drinking her strong black coffee."

After I wiped my tears away that something so beautiful could come from the heart of someone so young, I thought about where we're all from here. It's one of the first questions we ask each other. "Are you new to the Island? Where are you from?"

Tasha has gone off to the outside to search for Boris again. We will get him back again I know. And we will reintroduce him to the dog that scared him and make the dog love him because he is after all so very loveable.

The sun is rising in the mirror I have placed over my desk. I always hang a mirror next to the monitor and face the desk away from the window. I'm reminded every time I type we writers are called to reflect what's beyond the window, not just stare out of it for a break.

Perhaps some woman really is going off the Island today to have a second trimester abortion. For sure some mother is getting up on the Island feeding her child food from the food bank so their fanny won't hang down in vertical waves. Some extremely wealthy person is brushing past their granite counter top to face the sad truth their marriage is over. Someone else is sitting in the leather chair reading the paper realizing the doctor's verdict of cancerous is going to be a long haul Someone else has lost their job. Someone else just discovered their kid's on drugs. Behind closed doors none of us are living the privileged life. Blessed, but not privileged. Privilege is an illusion that can be gone in an instant.

How do we balance blessing and pain? I found the answer yesterday at Jensen Park as my wee ones dappled in the shore to get the popsicle juice off their tummies. A dozen women (and a guy) walked to the shore with their shell over their heads. They lifted, they rolled, they got inside, they pushed out to the water and they rowed together. It was an inspiration in its simplicity.

Let us be from the place where we carry, lift, roll and row together.

Where I'm from ... the neighbor will take your cat carrier so Boris and Natasha can be together again.

Love Deborah **www**





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YMCA

Continued from page 1

The Greater Seattle YMCA, who is the parent organization for the local branch, states that the center did not have a large enough membership and continued to operate at a financial loss

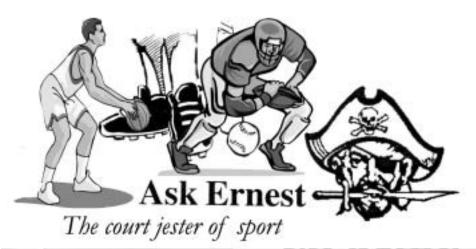
Sadly, this facility was as close to a family community center as the Island has known for some time. Those who visited the Vashon YMCA saw the facility develop far beyond being a fitness operation into an organization that daily drew in scores of Islanders from all walks of life. An amazing cross section of the Vashon population participated in a wide range of activities from childcare and after-school programs to health education and fitness for seniors. These services will be sorely missed.

While every Vashon business owner and most Islanders realize the difficulties in operating within a small, fixed population base and other Island challenges, the closure of the Vashon branch has a lot to do with the corporate model of the YMCA. As local staff and board members tried to work with the YMCA of Greater Seattle over the years and especially over the last year, it became clear that an impasse was inevitable.

Negotiations to modify the YMCA model to fit Vashon's unique circumstances consistently broke down. Two of several problems stemming from this situation included franchise fees paid to the Greater Seattle YMCA combined with a policy forbidding fundraising for the health and fitness aspects of the local Vashon branch. These elements contributed to the inability to devise a strategy to avoid deficits.

Yet it is far from over. In order to launch the local branch, the Vashon community raised over \$250,000 from businesses and neighbors alike. These funds were raised to benefit Islanders and should not revert to the Greater Seattle YMCA. Vashon Board President Glynis Delargy indicated that negotiations are ongoing with the Greater Seattle YMCA about these funds as well as the fate of the recently renovated building. These monies were given in the spirit of communitybased health and fitness programs on Vashon Island and their future use merits evaluation in the short and long term.

The local YMCA membership proved that it can fundraise and deliver on a vision of health and wellbeing. Maybe the Greater Seattle YMCA wasn't the right partner. Who's next on the dance card?





Watch out for these Go-Kart drivers. They're wilder than Mitch Williams and Lars Ulrich combined and topped with a shot of Tabasco sauce. Plus, they're all from the Mid-West and they're related to a guy named Blake Magnuson.

In hopes to satisfy those with that. On a similar note, I heard that attention deficits (kinda' like me) I will write up a short (semi) sport ramble, and then supply you all with a couple pictures (for all you visual learners). I was reading the Sports Section the other day and was curious why Barry Bonds received far less publicity for hitting his 759th home run?! I mean why not jack up the fact that he has almost hit 760 dongers? 756 was cool and all, but, according to my calculations 759 is like 3 more than



Local Bad Boy, Butch Baconstruction lets us all know that he means business when it comes to framing houses and singing love ballads written by Sappy Slam Chapmang and Alexis Rudinsky.

Bobby Cox, manager of the Braves (who broke the ejection record for managers), gets kicked out on purpose on Tuesdays so he can head to his hotel and watch "The Deadliest Catch." (A worthy sidenote: Art Peterson, from Vashon (a state finalist wrestler) was one of the stars of the show. Also, a rumor brewing is that the Red Sox are conceding their pennant chase to the Yankees so they can battle the Mariners for the wild card. In addition, they may force new reliever Gagne to wear contacts instead of goggles as his goggle look is no longer ultra-cool.

On a local note, I'd like to celebrate the 178 year reign that Bob's Bakery had on Vashon. Bob recently sold to another local celebrity, Paul Bedebeire, and Paul will no doubt keep rocking in a fashion not unlike R. Kelly or the White Stripes. Speaking of R. Kelly, Deion Branch (from the Hawks) loves his music and likes to watch clips of R. Kelly shooting hoops with Soapbox Andy Sears youtube.com. Lastly, a shout out to Trolls Cottage, Stephe Marley, Club Drift, the Math Rappers and Darren Foxerini for making this island a better place with their music and story telling capacities. With all the sincerity that can fit in my medium sized heart.

E.

Somatic Movement classes

New Somatic Movement classes for Infants, Parent/Child, Kids and Adults begin October 8th. Ten week sessions to nurture body-mind integration, support natural movement development, enhance coordination and learning, and deepen creative self-expression.

Taught by Stacey Hinden, Registered Somatic Movement Educator/ Therapist and Certified Practitioner of Body-Mind Centering with over 20 years experience. For class yellow and orange to signal a need schedule and fees, call 227-5534 or for higher altitude flying. They email stacey_b@comcast.net

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Bird Flappers

Continued from page 1

The most heavily impacted species are the ducks of the scoter family: both surf and white-winged scoters. It is these species that form the large, black diving flocks on the waters of both Tramp and Quartermaster Harbors during our fall and winter. Migrating south from Alaska and Canada, these birds find shelter and food (mussels and clams) in our harbors, and also a convenient commute over the old Portage Store. Unfortunately, it is at this specific transit point that birds and telephone wires overlap. Scoters are heavy ducks, and they fly low and fast. Several years ago, I would count every winter at least a dozen dead, dying, or injured birds at the Portage turn. After contacting Puget Sound Energy (PSE), reflective 'bird flappers' were installed at intervals along this particular stretch of wires. Plastic, they would flap in the almost constant breeze and present a visual barrier of worked, and remarkably so; in the following two winters, few ducks

were noticed along the road. However, the high winds between the harbors have removed the reflective plastic flappers from a majority of the devices, and accordingly this past winter the number of fatalities increased - proving both the effectiveness and necessity of the reflectors.

Deserving of our great thanks, Melvin Walters of PSE has once again risen to the occasion and ordered a shipment of new "diverters." The new model will have reflective properties similar to those of the original "fireflies", while also storing UV light visible to the birds after dark. In conjunction to these, another fixed "firefly" flapper will be used along the wires. Ordered from Sweden. these reflective flappers will be installed once they arrive.

Keep your eyes open; take time to appreciate the birdlife along our shorelines. And may we all hope that technology, thanks to community members, conscientious companies we will see the winter when the body count along Portage is zero.

Lopy Laffs

My son asked me where he was born. I said Vashon. He asked 'what part?' I said all of him.

A first grade teacher gave her students the assignment of completing well-know proverbs. She gave them the first half of each. These are some of their choice responses;

No news is.....impossible.

Love all, trust..... me.

An idle mind is.....the best way to relax.

Strike while the.....bug is close.

Better late than.....pregnant.

A penny saved is..... not much.

Don't change horses......until they stop running.

A miss is as good as a..... Mr.

Happy is the bride who.....gets all the presents.

Two's company, three's..... the Musketeers.

Don't bite the hand that...... looks dirty.

It's always darkest before.....Daylight Saving Time.

There are none so blind as...... Stevie Wonder.

Where there's smoke there's..... pollution.

The pen is mightier than the.....pigs.

If at first you don't succeed.....get new batteries.

When the blind lead the blindget out of the way!

Children should be seen and notspanked or grounded.

You can't teach an old dog newmath.

Don't put off till tomorrow what.....you put on to go to bed.

Cowboy Wisdom: The hungrier the cowboy, the better the food.

You don't stop laughing because you grow old—you grow old because you stopped laughing.

A state patrol officer pulled an elderly woman over for speeding. He asked to see her licence.

"Don't have one" she said.

"Can I please see the vehicle registration" the officer asked. "Nope" she snapped..

"In that case I will have to take you into the Police station and charge you there," he told her.

When they arrived, the arresting officer told the duty sergeant, "This lady has no licence and no vehicle registration."

"Of course I do" said the old lady sweetly. "This officer has got in for me. The next thing is he will be saying I was speeding."



Our neighbor's son was one of those holy terrors and I was surprised when his mother said that they were buying him a bike for his birthday.

"Do you really believe that'll help improve his behavior?" I saked

"Do you really believe that'll help improve his behavior?" I asked. "Well, no," she admitted, "But it'll spread it over a wider area."

WILD WORLD

By Ed Frohning



Patient: "Doc,
I can hear all kinds
of animals talk in my head."
Doctor: "You're just
having Disney spells."

After listening to five Senate colleagues take and hour to make introductory remarks at a hearing, Sen. Byron Dorgan, (D., N.D.) quipped, "If the Senators cooperated on a textbook, the introduction would be 450 pages—and the text would be one page."

OFFSHORE







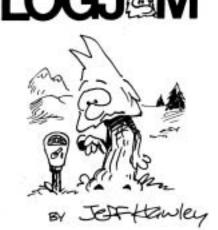


VIPS SPACE ALIENS KIDNAP THE STRAWBERRY PARADE BAGPIPERS BY DIVERTING THE INTO THE DARK VASHON UNDERGROUND (THE VASHON UNDERGROUND WAS BUILT IN THE 1890S WHEN RESIDENTS FILLED IN THE STREETS...





More VIPS at: http://vashonislandpeoples.blogspot.com/







RUMBLE





The Vashon Loop, p. 18 August 24, '07

Loop Arts

Celebrate Art with Circo dell'Arte!

by Janice Randall

You won't want to miss Vashon Allied Arts' 2007 Art Auction, slated for Friday and Saturday, September 14 and 15 at Blue Heron Art Center. This year's theme Circo dell'Arte, creates an Italian ambience, complete with art, donated by more than 100 artists to be auctioned both evenings, extraordinary food, wines and a special Circo dell'Arte performance both evenings. Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor, John L. Scott. Art Auction is also sponsored by

with the traditional Taste of Vashon followed by an Italian buffet dinner catered by The Hardware Store. Complimentary beverages included. Silent Auction and Silver Raffle precede live auction. Commissioned Artists for Friday are Dean Hanmer, mixed media sculpture; Brian Fisher, monotype; and Mike Urban, recycled steel sculpture. Tickets are \$40, \$20 for contributing artists and \$20 for Saturday guests.

Saturday, September 15, Art Auction starts at 5:30 pm with Silent Auction, live performance, Silver Raffle and an exquisite gourmet dinner catered by The Hardware Store with a selection of fine wines. Saturday's Commissioned artists are Elaine Hanowell, lighted sculpture; Karen Hersh-Crozier; oils; and Terri



Puget Sound Energy. All proceeds benefit community arts programs of Fletcher, mixed media. Carnevale Vashon Allied Arts. Preview party tickets are \$100; Circo table for ten and Artist Reception will be held Friday, August 31, 6 to 9 pm at Blue Heron Art Center. This is your chance to mingle with artists, enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and libations and best of all, preview all art!

Friday, September 14, Art Auction festivities begin at 6:30 pm tickets \$120 (includes premier table placement, champagne with dessert, special gift for each guest and host's name in program).

For more information check out website: www.vashonalliedarts.org or www.circodellarte.org. Call Blue Heron to reserve tickets, 463.5131.

Singers Wanted

session on Tuesday, Sept. 4. Rehearsals are from 7:15 to 9:15PM in the band room at Vashon High School.

The session culminates with concerts on Saturday evening Dec. 8 and Sunday afternoon Dec. 9. Gary Cannon is the Guest Conductor for this season. Craig Hanson is the accompanist.

The musical selections are: Randall Thompson's "Frostiana," Stephen Hatfield's "Nukapinguaq," Morten

Vashon Island Chorale begins its next Lauridsen's "O magnum mysterium," Gerald Finzi's "In terra pax" and John Rutter's "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

Dues are \$35 and music costs are \$30. Singers are welcome without audition. Tenor and bass voices are especially needed.

For information or to sign up, contact Ann Bardeen 567-5841 jbardeen@yahoo.com. Additional information is available vashonislandchorale.org.

www.vashonhorseproperties.com



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Upcoming Events!

Saturday, August 25 - Open Mike 7:00 - 9:15 and Featured Artist: Coby Stead performs from 9:15 - 10:00.

Friday, August 31 - 7:30-10:00pm Mary Win - Acoustic, Hard Rock, Americana and Track 19 A punchy, dynamic, jazz tinged 3 piece rock band.

Saturday, September 1 - 7:30-10pm Darrin Kobetich "...hypnotic, entrancing, deliciously wicked..."

Hairspray and The Simpson Movie 8/24 - 8/30

Rescue Dawn and No Reservations

8/31 - 9/3

Coming Soon: Stardust, Superbad, Once, and Becoming Jane

Vashon Theatre 463-3232 for more



Or, for show times and info, check www.vashontheater.com

Our 60th Year!

Lukenfranz Plays Ober for Free

by Janice Randall

Don't miss "Lukenfranz" an all-Island musician collective headed by guitarist Luke McQuillin when they hit the free Summer Music Series this Thursday. Expect to hear intelligent, complex new songs arrangements from McQuillin and Island musicians: Jack Barbash, keyboard; Jason Everett, electric bass; Van Crozier, saxophone; Fletcher Andrews, drums and percussion.

"This show will be all instrumental. I don't know how to categorize it except for maybe progressive rock," said McQuillin who wrote all the tunes except for one or two written by Barbash. And be on the lookout for a Lukenfranz CD in spring '08.

The free Concerts in the Park Series is generously sponsored by Vashon Park District, Vashon Allied Arts and Windermere. No alcohol in the park please.



Photo of Lukenfranz by Susan McCabe

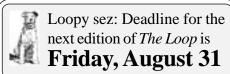
Ballroom Dance Classes

September 7th Shall we dance? Fall Ballroom Dancing Sessions - accepting new students now! Contact March @ 463-0870 or marchpower@yahoo.com. Beginners and Experienced dancers/ Couples and Singles welcome! Fox Trot, Waltz, Swing, Salsa, Rumba, and more...you can dance! \$50 deposit per couple or \$25 deposit per single due 9/ 28. Send to 11933 SW Cove Rd, Vashon 98070~w/ your contact info (email especially important!).

September 21st Ballroom Classes filling up - Contact March @ 463-0870 or marchpower@yahoo.com with questions. Deposits due asap. Intermediate Session on Mondays, Beginning Session on Thursdays! Couples and singles welcome! Join other islanders who have discovered partner dancing ON the

The Vashon Loop, p. 19 August 24, '07







Ted Kutscher Opens Friday, Sept. 7 at Noon.

with Joan Kutscher, Ivonne Escobar de Kommer, Hart Heffelfinger,

SILVERWOOD

Mary Win & Track 19 Play Café Luna

Track 19 is a tight, 3 piece rock Hard band consisting of drums, bass and guitar. Their live performances have a peerless, energetic style that merge jazz, pop, and the blues. Self-penned originals are combined with songs by such artists as: Steely Dan, Jimi They are currently in the studio experienced my first official live gig

Rock, Indie Contemporary Folk & Americana k...A little about Mary: "I wrote my first "official" song after my first real heartbreak titled "Linger" at age 15. I started open-miking with a handful of originals in May '06. Hendrix, and Stevie Ray Vaughn. Shortly after turning 17, I

> as an original singer/ songwriter at Point Defiance Zoolights. Between Dec '06 and April '07 I've released two short CDs. Currently, my occupation is consistently performing live across the Puget Sound once or twice every weekend to pay the bills and my managing fledgling a r e e



Drink Minimum." Track 19 is: Rick Doussett: Guitar/Vocals, Bob Kueker: Bass/Vocals, Phil (EddyJ) Johnson: Drums/Vocals

Mary Win plays songs that explore the soundscape of Acoustic

finalizing their debut album, "Two Independently. Outside of music, I enjoy posting videos on YouTube and am a foster mom for kittens/cats with the Humane Society. Hope to meet you at my next show." ~Mary

Just Fiddlin Round to Play at Kitsap **County Fair and Stampede**

Island band, Just Fiddlin Round, lead by 12 year old Hannah Scheer and 11 year old Megan Hackett, has been booked for a main stage run at the Kitsap County Fair and Stampede across the water in Bremerton. Having recently played at Strawberry Festival, the band received a call from Kitsap County Fair organizers "looking for an act just like theirs." The group has been contracted for four performances, 6:00 pm August 23 – 25 and 3:00 pm, August 26. "We'd love to see some familiar faces," says Megan, who encourages fans to catch a show. If you can't make it to Bremerton, look for JFR on Vashon September 29 at Café Luna, and October 26 at Vashon Island Roasterie's autumn celebration.



Hannah Scheer and Megan Hackett make up Just Fiddlin Round, photo by Haley Scheer

Back Bay Inn Hosts Jeanne Snell's Paintings and New Band Eelgrass

by Geri Peterson



Jeanne Snell at work, courtesy photo

Through paintings reflect her Hawaii. travels as well as her Hawaii. include portrait or two.

Whether living in

the flora, fauna and landscape. Her They are Steve Amsden on guitar, month of September paintings have been shown in Jeanne Snell will be Kaneohe and Honolulu, Hawaii, her and around Vashon Island. She was luminously colored a member of Barnworks here on watercolors on the Vashon Island and is currently is a walls of Back Bay Inn. member of Northwest Watercolor J e a n n e ' s Society, Hawaii Watercolor Society impressionistic and Windward Wanderers of Oahu,

On September 7th, during the homes here and in Friday Night Gallery Walk, artist She will Jeanne Snell will be at the Back Bay florals, Inn. It is an opportunity to come landscapes and a meet the artist and a new Island band named eelgrass.

Captain John Burke is credited the Pacific Northwest, with coming up with the name Mexico or Hawaii, eelgrass for the new collaboration of Jeanne paints the local four well-known Vashon musicians.

Dan Brown on bass, Mindy Little on banjo, and Jean Richstad on mandolin and fiddle. They promise us some Bluegrass, Folk and Root music and maybe even a little Rock.

These are wonderful entertainers each in their own right. This writer is looking forward to listening to them as they sing in harmony and play their fun instruments.

> We all know that art is not the truth, art is a lie that makes us realize the truth. - Picasso

The Vashon Loop, p. 20



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Mega Recycling Event! Saturday, September 15th 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Glendale Business Center 17326 Vashon Hwy SW

Glendale Property Management and Keller Williams Glendale have teamed up with Terry Sutton of Vashon Reclaim and Recycle and West Seattle Recycling to make it easy for you to recycle all your hard-to-dispose-of stuff.

Recycle and receive a coupon for a FREE espresso drink, compliments of Brad Cooper.

Bring cash for:

Computer monitors - \$20 CPUs - \$15 Telephones, speakers, video equipment - 50 cents per lb TVs - \$30 to \$40 Microwaves - \$15 Washer/dryer - \$20 each Fluorescent bulbs - 15 cents per foot

And much, much more! For a complete list visit

www.vashonreclaim.com



Gardener's gold! Free Manure!

Sheep/horse. You haul. 463-9113

MEADOW HOUSE

Lovely one bedroom furnished apartment. Short term or monthly rental. No smoking or pets. \$700/month. Call for information and availability (206) 463-3009

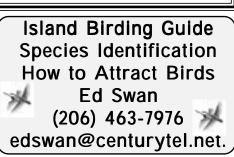
Pure Icelandic sheep for sale

Lambs, milking ewes, rams, all colors.463-9113



For Rent

GREAT WORKSPACE \$ 350 mo. Non live-in. Bay window, 10ft. ceiling, bathroom, large storage loft, 310 sq ft. Call 463-5394



Close to North End Ferry A es co rel

10705 SW 110th St

- → 3 bedrooms
- په 1.5 Baths
- Wood Stove
- Sarage

Shari Lyons 206-406-6347

A must see home. Original owner estate sale. Home is in excellent condition and ready to move in or remodel to suit your needs. Close to north end ferry. One year home warranty is included. \$420,000.





Farming Fencing Front end loader Small backhoe

Doug York (206) 567-4776

Driveway repair Rototilling Brush cutting etc.

SCC

Sound Contracting & Consulting

(000) 400 0055

(206) 463-2055

Michael O. Bradley Contracting & Consulting Services

- Detailed, cost effective building plans
- . Liaison with DDES for permits, land use issues
- DDES dispute resolutions
- · Remodeling ideas and installations



RR Ties \$5.00 - \$22.50 ea Vashon p/u
4 Grades 463 5161

Looking for a job well done?

KEVIN BERGIN CONSTRUCTION

ISLAND OWNED AND OPERATED

EXCAVATING BULKHEADS ROCK WALLS ASPHALT DRIVEWAYS DITCHING STEEL BUILDINGS

"If you can think it up, we can do it!"

ROCKS - 7 different kinds: from pebbles to boulders FOUNTAINS - from birdbaths to waterfalls CLEAN COMPOST, GROWCO, STEERCO, TOPSOIL & BARK

(206) 463-6232