

They're Watching More Closely

by Jay Becker

Some Island volunteers watch their organizations more closely than they used to. Perhaps scandals involving leaders on the national stage is spurring this development or perhaps it is a natural outgrowth of middle aged folks infected years ago with the activism bug.

Or maybe it's Islander Armen Yousoufian's successful example of taking King County to court for not sending him studies used to justify big spending to build a new stadium after blowing up the old one. Yousoufian brings his questioning attitude to many meetings on the Island, too.

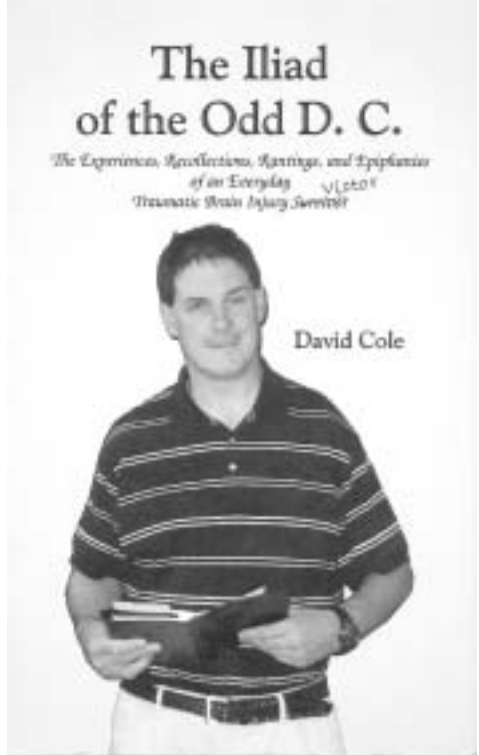
Ten years ago "approving the minutes" was automatic in most Island organizations. Nobody read minutes. Now people read and critique minutes.

Continued on page 11

A Victor's Tale

by Morgan Ahern

No disrespect meant to Michael Jackson, but it's time to leave Neverland. Fortunately, David Cole has provided us a roadmap back to reality in his book *The Iliad of the Odd D.C.*



David states clearly that his intentions with the book are to offer support and encouragement to others who have experienced a traumatic brain injury, and to offer a "traumatic brain injury by proxy" to those willing to embark on the journey with him.

It took me awhile to get into the spirit and rhythm of the book. Not because of the writing or

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Fur Ball Celebrates 25th Anniversary of VIPP

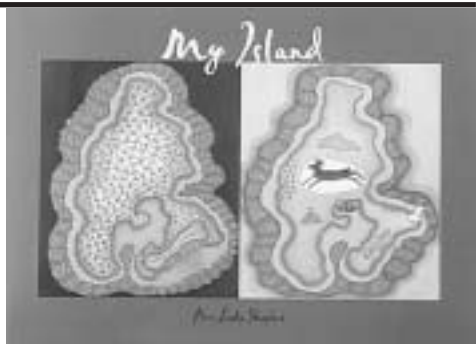
by Nancy Foster-Moss

This year's Fur Ball theme "Stayin' Alive for 25" is sure to bring out all the pet lovin', disco dancin' Islanders and their guests to support Vashon Island Pet Protectors (VIPP). Fur Ball guests will have more room for auction items and dancing at the event's new location, O Space for Arts and Community. And a new auctioneer, Laura Michalek, will add even more pizzazz to one of the Island's most fun events! Event attendees will enjoy fantastic food and wines from Palouse Winery, and many other surprises throughout the night.

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Dressed in their best and headed to the Fur Ball, photo is Terri Fletcher.



My Island's cover, artwork by Ann Leda Shapiro.

Ann Leda Shapiro Reads *My Island*

Reading Event at
Elliott Bay Book Company
Tuesday, August 11, 7:30 PM

Ann Leda and the Mosquito Fleet aka "Aqua Activists" will be here to share their David and Goliath story; how a small island, through a book, boats and barristers is working to defeat the giant, an international company intent on shipping gravel through an aquatic reserve in our pristine Puget Sound. Through paintings and the tale of an island known as dancing man, Ann Leda has created an activist book of artistry, originality, and the offering of a solution to an environmental problem. Join us for a reading and performance by Ann Leda with cameo appearances by local politicians, the Backbone Campaign Puppets and representatives from Preserve Our Islands.

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The Carbon Project

by Robert Fuerstenberg, Sr. Ecologist, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

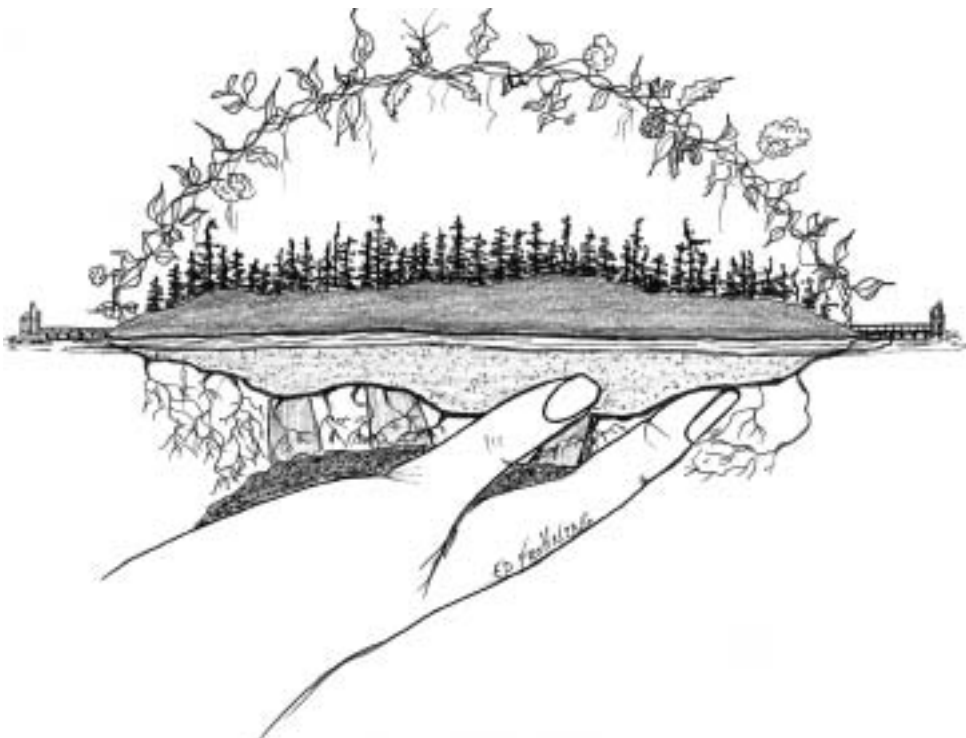
The King County Climate Plan establishes a two-part strategy for climate change: mitigation, through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and adaptation to the anticipated effects of climate change. An important part of the mitigation strategy is to maintain carbon already stored in King County's forestlands and agricultural lands—carbon in the form of living vegetation and soil organic matter. King County has been working with landowners to develop management practices that promote this strategy. But this is a passive form of carbon storage and as forests are harvested or converted to other land uses, and as land is tilled, the carbon stored in the vegetation and in the underlying soil is once again given over to the atmosphere through decomposition. There is much more that can be done to increase the rate and amount of carbon stored in both vegetation and soils.

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The Vashon Connection

Bob Fuerstenberg, the King County scientist and author of the neighboring article working on the County's goal to reduce carbon, lives on Vashon. As he

Continued on page 8



Sustaining Earth, artwork by Ed Frohning.

Get in *The Loop*

Submissions to the Loop

Do you have an event or Public Service Announcement? If it's for profit, please send a contribution to help offset our printing costs. PO Box 253. Email questions or submissions to Ed Swan, editor of the *Loop*, at editor@vashonloop.com. Photos are welcome as jpeg or pdf attachments.

Vacation Bible School

Vashon Island Community Church, 463-3940. Mon. July 27 thru Fri July 31. Join the fun at Studio GO! Game Show VBS! Excitement and teamwork await as kids enter a studio geared for challenges and fun! Each day kids will participate in the large-group music, skits, and fun where they will be introduced to a Bible story and be motivated to go out and serve others! Our mission project will help stock a fish pond through Samaritan's Purse providing protein for a needy community. Secure your kids' positions in the studio audience (or have a turn at being a contestant!) today! Registration Forms available on-line: www.vicc4life.com.

Vashon Library August Programs

Toddler Story Time

Tuesday, August 04, 10:40am
Ages 18 months to 3 years with adult. Join us for 20 minutes of stories and songs just right for toddlers. Registration not required.

Brown Bag Story Times

Tuesday, August 04, 12:00pm
Ages 5 to 10. Bring a sack lunch and listen to stories. Treats will be provided! Registration not required. Sponsored by Friends of the Vashon Library.

Preschool Story Time

Tuesday, August 04, 2:00pm
Ages 3 to 5. Join us for 30 minutes of stories, songs and fun! Registration not required.

Whales, Sails, Treasures

and Tales

Friday, August 07, 3pm.
Program will be held next door to the library in the Ober Park performance room. Presented by Cyndi Soup and The Thumbs Up Puppets. All ages welcome. Set sail with Cyndi and her puppet mates as they transform a giant easy chair into a pirate ship and then sing, dance and tell stories as they search for buried treasure. Registration not required.

LateNight @the Library for Teens

Saturday, August 15, 6:00pm
Get a henna tattoo and have your fortune told. Limber up with Dance Dance Revolution, play Super Smash Brothers Brawl on our new Wii, or join the strummers at Guitar Hero open play. Enjoy the Vashon Library Cyber Cafe & surf the web or play a game. Refreshments! Door prizes! Security provided.

Featuring Fortune Telling by Morgan Ahern & Henna Designs by Maya. ONLY for teens entering 6th-12th grades. Sponsored by Friends of the Vashon Library.

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A Treasure for Seniors

Eighteen years ago my wife (Claire) and I moved full time to Vashon. Previously we had a summer home here for many years. After settling in our home on the north end we became comfortable with the Island Life. I had been retired for three years. We were invited to the Senior Center by a member of the Bridge Group. We became involved with the activities, and Claire became a volunteer on the front desk. I became a volunteer with Senior Services (then our sponsor). In time I became a board member, and assisted in the planning of the activities, and budgeting.

Currently Willow Eaton is our Director, and Sue Stinson is our Administrative Assistant. Our new sponsor is the Park District. Programming is excellent: physical activities including Bocce Ball and enhanced fitness classes, Bridge and other card games, Current Events

Discussion Group, nutritional daily lunches and Special Guest Chief Lunches on Friday, Sponsored Cruises, poetry and prose writing classes, computer classes, movies and displays of art and crafts. These are just a few of the activities that provide social contact, mental stimulation, and physical activity. We own our building, and are responsible for our success. Our membership is for those over 50, but we have associate membership for younger people. Dues are reasonable. We are a warm and welcoming group of active and caring members, and we invite you to join in our activities. Contact me at 567 4629 and I will meet you, or just show up at the Senior Center on Bank Road. We look forward to your joining in our active Senior Center.

Regards, Bob Hallowell

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

The Vashon Loop

Writers: Kathy Abascal, Deborah Anderson, Marie Browne, MEarth, Eric Francis, Troy Kindred, Melissa McCann, Orca Annie, Kevin Pottinger, Rex Morris, Ed Swan, Mary Litchfield Tuel, Marj Watkins.
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Don't miss an issue. Really.

We are in our 6th year of publication and still not bankrupt! (Yet) Wow!



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Positively Speaking

Deep Green and Red

by Deborah H. Anderson

The yard is looking like a French provincial field again. Somewhere in the middle of it I'm supposed to find girls and boys in long dresses and knickers.

The white plastic chairs sit in the upper shelf of the garden back to back in a triangle. Looking for pictures on my camera recently, I came across the several that recorded the winter's snow. Do you remember the snow? In this heat and the lushness of the summer do you remember the snow? I found myself remembering the snow less and less, with that trapped cabin fever feeling, once we had passed twelve days of hot sunny weather through our ecosystem. Sometimes it is an even exchange.

Seasons astound me. Every year seasons astound me. I've always wanted to celebrate Christmas in July just for the fun of it. My birthday is July 28th so it always seems a bit fitting to be celebrating a feast day. But it's the red and green of summer that inclines itself to Christmas as well. The red of tomatoes and the green of zucchini.

This last year we celebrated Christmas on Valentine's Day, so I think I'll pass.

It's funny about the rhythm of life. I long for rhythm but find life in the pulse. Deep green and red seem to convey the essential components of life and yet the pastels bring freshness. The long days of summer

keep me embedded in the strength of life. Every morning when the sun and birds wake me at 4:40 or 5:00 AM and I remind myself I want to find one of those lamps that gradually turns on for the winter, I think of how much life we can pack into the summer.

This summer is flying by. Already I can see Labor Day weekend on the horizon. I try not to look but there it is. The first event for the weekend after it went on the calendar the first week in June.

Two summers in a row we have moved on June 30th. It's a long story about how the places we live are tied to the call of my writing. This year we don't move till the end of July. I realize I've missed July. It was wonderful to sit in the pleasure of the long 4th of July weekend. The spending money for Strawberry festival was tucked away in the cookie jar the last of June. Oh sure, we have bank accounts. But Strawberry festival, if you are not a merchant, is about being a kid for a few brief hours. Spending money for

Festival should always be kept in the cookie jar, I believe.

Once upon a time, I lived the life of the modern intense 'make it happen or die trying' tribe. Now to be sure, I live just as intensely as always. But the arrogance that comes from thinking *I* am making it happen has faded.

I had a faith crisis off Island in the early nineties and discovered God is in charge. I gave up my faith for twelve whole weeks. It was the deepest, blackest, darkest time of my life. Since I was two years old, I had known the Holy Spirit. Suddenly, he was gone. And I didn't care. I didn't care about God and I didn't care about prayer and I didn't care about getting into the Scriptures. I was directing a children's musical I had written at the time. It was a vaudeville version of the Good Samaritan. My two oldest were in sixth grade and it was for them and their class. That was the irony.

The day after the show, it was like God lifted a veil. My faith was back, life was full of light. I thought to myself, if God can pull all of that (the show) off, when I am completely out of play spiritually, I have greatly underestimated this God that I love.

That's when I started following. That's when I started loving the seasons. The seasons of the weather, the seasons of my life, the seasons of other people's lives. That's when I started having a real appreciation for deep Red and Green. Fruit and Leaves.

Nutritionists tell us we can tell how healthy we are eating by seeing the colors on our plates. That is true on so many levels.

Before the faith crisis I wrote a poem speaking to the fact that if I were God I would have put apples on the trees all the time. Now I cherish the fallow.

We are stewards not creators. Don't believe the lie or you will miss the Love. We make beautiful moments out of what we are handed. Every good thought we have comes from God. Every save is called mercy. Every transcendent moment parts the curtains a bit into eternity.

Follow the opportunity. Stay connected with your seasons. Farm your life. Keep your head bowed to your heart. Smile...a lot. Keep the rhythm, savor the pulse. Open your eyes to all that is deep Red and Green. It's not as bad you think. And it always turns out better than you think it will. Choose this day, life or death, blessings or cursing. Ohmygosh folks. Life is a gift.

Love
Deborah



Imagine this "uber crimson," courtesy photo.

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We've Got a Lot of Kids

Four More Years

by Kevin Pottinger

I've been writing this column since our five-year old twins had their first birthday. As I'm fond of reminding my readers, we had four kids in three and a half years. When the twins were born, only our oldest boy was out of diapers and could walk for twenty feet without falling over. No, we weren't in some sort of hurry, or in a contest with other couples to see how fast we could pop out a matched set of kids. It just happened that way. And it was the twins that pushed us over the edge.

I've written an anniversary column at this time each year: here's this year's anniversary column.

I wonder what it would be like if I got the same greeting from my coworkers when I arrive at work in the morning as I get from my kids when I come home. When I come home after a rather long work day, the kids run after me shouting "Daddy! Daddy!" and calling to one another "Daddy's home!" and they hug my legs tightly and talk excitedly and all at the same time about what's been going on since I left in the morning, and they purse their lips for a kiss, and unzip my backpack and take out electronic things with coiled cords dangling from them, asking "What's this Daddy?" and then fight over who gets to hold it.

A greeting like that when I get to work would be great. It might make office politics more palatable if I got a welcome like that every morning.

I've found that as the kids get older and smarter, it's harder to

control them. My wife Maria and I are no longer seen by our children as omnipotent and semi-tempestuous Roman gods. We've become more like minor household deities, or feeble, fallible titular heads of a forgotten duchy somewhere in the Carpathians. We are often forced to defend our opinions with logic. Our instructions are usually discarded in favor of whatever holds the child's interest. Our offers of a sound spanking are at times met with outright derision.

With our fall from grace, I've struggled with making the kids do as they're told without simply yelling at them. I want to be firm, consistent, loving, even-tempered, and have the kids gladly do what I've asked, out of their intense admiration for me. As if that'll ever happen.

It's like the haircuts that I give our boys: you can't put the hair back on once it's been snipped off. Like a pile of hair on the floor, some words can't be taken back; one slip of the clippers and the damage is done. The best one can do with a bad haircut is to slap some gel on it and shop for a nice hat uptown. The best a remorseful Dad can do to take back angry, impatient words is to hope that some of the truth, the truth of my love for our kids, remains after the tides of time wash everything else away.

Maria and I realize that as the kids get older and more cunning, we've been sharing our children's influences with their playground buddies. Much of what's most pernicious with wildly wrong playground rumors is, as my Dad used to say, like cat poo behind the piano, remaining undiscovered until weeks or months later. Whether you can kill someone by squeezing a nerve in their neck like Spock does on Star Trek, or if batteries will explode like a smoke bomb if you throw them at your friends, or all people on earth are either a Husky or a Cougar, sort of a college sports-

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gender; by the time we hear these things at the supper table, they've been accepted by our kids as infallible fact for weeks or months, and corollaries of misinformation have been formed, compounding the original untruths into fantastic webs of false belief. I have plenty of my own fantastic webs of false belief. But the truth of my life is simple, ordinary. I pray

that God will keep our children safe, and help them grow up straight and strong; and I pray to be a better husband and father. I don't deserve these kids and my beautiful wife any more than I deserve to live forever. It's God's love, and the love of my family, that make me who I am.

For your Summer Party

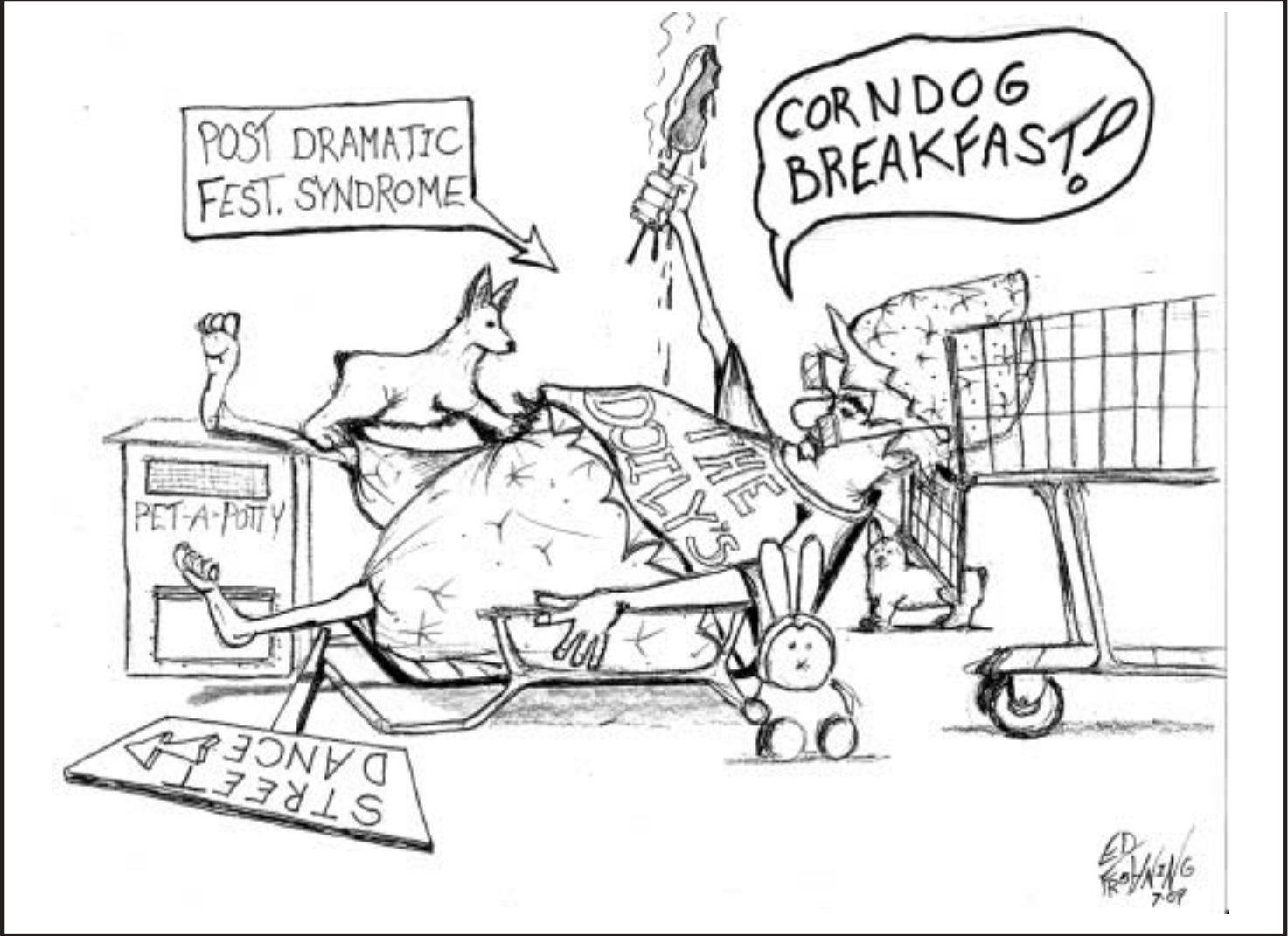


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Aries (March 20-April 19) You may find it easier to express what you've been feeling, particularly if that involves an erotic/spiritual/emotional nexus that has had you tied in knots. Two things to remember, as the next days unfold: one is you're not as tied up as you were a week ago, so you don't need to tug as hard, or at all. Second, the new space into which you're projecting your thoughts and ideas requires less energy than the old one; when you speak, try to use understatements. The main thing you need to do is hear yourself. You have complete control over this factor; the twist involves sorting out the truth when you seem to have two conflicting opinions on the same matter.

Taurus (April 19-May 20) Financial matters rarely take care of themselves; we need to roll up our sleeves and do something about them. Anyway, so far as I can see, you need the satisfaction of resolving something on your own terms: yet frequently those terms involve taking a passive approach. Gradually your motivation has been perking up, but it's been easy enough to ignore. Over the next few weeks, you're likely to be feeling highly motivated to get your head above the financial water; which is a beautiful thing as long as you connect the engine to the wheels. If you get the sense that the free flow of energy is blocked, it's not actually about money; it's about your trust in your own creativity. I would ask you, what exactly would it take to get you there?

Gemini (May 20-June 21) Last weekend Mars joined Venus in your birth sign. This is an invitation to act on your desires; meaning to take action. You can bet these include sexual desires, to which I will say: we are conditioned to ignore or deny ourselves what we want. Then when we make a move toward getting what we want, the programmed response is guilt. The problem with guilt is that it's self-reaffirming; in other words, the guilt reaction itself is usually enough to convince us that something is wrong, which has a touch of Alice in Wonderland to it: declaring the sentence before the trial. Of course, actions have consequences; but that does not make them inherently right or wrong. Remove guilt from the equation, if you can, and you'll get to manage all of this consciously.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Look carefully and you will see that you're in entirely new relationship territory than you were in just one season ago. Something old has been removed or has lost its power; something new is gradually taking its place. Our civilization has yet to figure out that most of its woes are encrypted directly into the most personal modes of relationship, and the most intimate. As a culture we have yet to figure out that what made our parents miserable will probably make us miserable, but as an individual you are finally coming around to this revelation. Just remember, their fears are not your fears.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23) The problem with the concept 'spiritual' is that it tends to be applied only to things that are outside the regular affairs of life: sex, relationships, work and politics, to name a few; these are the areas of existence that typically get the exemptions, and that doesn't leave much; such as yoga class. As much as we say that spirituality is different than religion, it's the same thing as long as we have the Saturday night / Sunday morning false division of reality. You are one of the pioneers of the notion that everything is spiritual and that

spiritual ideas are useless if we don't apply them to whatever we need to. You've always known this, but lately it seems like a focusing lens has been dropped in front of this issue and you can see just how vital it really is — to your happiness and that of the rest of us.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22) You've had so many ideas and so much to do that frankly I'm surprised you have time to read your horoscope. Now if you want to accomplish some of what you've set out to do, you need to change your methods. At the moment, that involves taking leadership. You have done a lot; you've accomplished plenty. You continue to do a lot, indeed, too much: the next step involves taking leadership over some form of coordinated activity, and taking over the language involving the object, goal or orientation of the project. There has never been a time when your ideas and what affects many people beyond your scope of perception were more closely related. You just need to climb a little higher to see the connection; it would help to set a goal for yourself that you feel is outside your current abilities.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23) What we need to get used to, in my opinion, is the nexus between sexual experimentation and healing the relationship between our soul and our body. I mean this about all forms of sex; and here is the issue. What has the power to heal has the power to harm. If we don't consider our erotic exploration a means of healing, it will manifest as something that divides us between ourselves, and that is what usually happens. That is why so many of us are in so much sexual pain. We expect sex to come with various shades of deceit; we expect it to get in the way of friendships; we don't consider the deeper implications of engaging in this activity that has the power to create humanity and consciousness. Your life is an example of the most creative expression of these ideas. Please don't keep them to yourself.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22) What has a back has a front — in this dimension. If you expand your awareness to include a wider array of possibilities, everything can change. True, it's simpler to think in binary terms; in linear concepts; but you would be missing most of the story if you do. You are about to enter a world of possibilities, and that world may seem like a hall of mirrors, where it's unclear whose feelings belong to whom and what results will come from certain actions. It would help to remember that many more possibilities exist than you can currently observe, both personal and professional. You may not be able to see them right away, but you will be able to feel them: in the form of tension with people you encounter. If you notice any form of polarity, or a pull toward someone, or even a negative sentiment like resentment or jealousy, explore it; look right at it, and speak to it clearly.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22) You want people to be less wimpy, to stand up for their beliefs and not cower down from the least argument, and you're about to get it. The challenge for you may be figuring out what side of a particular issue someone is taking; that may be the same puzzle they are facing. So if you want a good conversation, your role initially may be to help others figure out what their opinion is. This is kind of like being an editor, which in fact would be a fine role at this point in your life, given how much activity is happening in your 3rd solar house. The problem is that editing and even writing are becoming things of the past, requiring too much patience and discipline than is well supported in the



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current version of the world. Who has six hours or six months to think about something? That's the real issue; you need more time to think, and you can give it to yourself.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) Watch your workload over the next few days. Things are going well now, but you could find yourself snowed under when you least expect it; and much of what you think must get done doesn't have to be done. Besides, you're not the only one who can do it, though you may be feeling that way. Part of what will help is to cut through the chatter, the paperwork and the distractions and make one key decision from which everything else will follow. Part of how you know you're making the right decision is that you'll feel like you have to make some immediate adjustment to your idea-framework, timing and use of language — and that will help you see how little you have to do, in order to get quite a lot done. With Mars in Gemini, work from idea to action and not the other way around.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Now it's time to test your theories. You don't test a theory in theory, you test it in action. An experiment is involved. Mars (now joining Venus) moving through one of the most adventurous, dynamic angles of your solar chart for the next few weeks will give you plenty of ideas and plenty of words for them. The action point is the

contact point. To have actual pleasure, growth-oriented experiences or the excellent thrill of creating something new, it's necessary to take a chance. With Venus and Mars both in Gemini, the possibilities may seem endless, as do your options for how to apply them. If I were experiencing this astrology I would go for the person or experience that I find the most appealing; and now that I contemplate the Gemini aspect, that could indeed begin with hot, hot, hot talk.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) The intangible may be so real you can hold it in your hands; give it a chance to become so. Seek with the faith that you will find, and feel with the faith that you will experience fulfillment as a result. Remember that the richest territory for you is interior, regardless of how expressive or interesting your life is now. What you are firming up is your ability to be a container, and therefore to feel full. You cannot hold energy if you don't have the ability for some kind of psychic containment; you cannot share if you don't have enough for yourself. These are old problems that you're finally able to remedy. That planets are playing a marvelous game of paradox with you, but it's a win-win: the more you have, the more you can give; the more you have, the more people give to you. Try to get this one down; it's a keeper.

Island Epicure



Fresh Fruit Pies: Flavor and Elegance

By Marj Watkins

Washington grown strawberries this summer have beaten Oregon berries and California berries for beauty and flavor, plus since they don't have to be picked unripe enough to travel well, we get the additional nutrition of sun ripened fruit. The same goes for all the Yakima and local produce coming to market.

By the time this hits print, our strawberry season may have waned away, but B.C. strawberries may appear in our stores, and they don't have to travel far either.

Let's enjoy them while we may!

FRESH STRAWBERRY PIE 8 servings

- 1 10-inch pie shell, baked
- 1 quart (2 pounds) strawberries, washed and hulled
- 2 to 3 Tablespoons cornstarch mixed with
- 1/3 cup water

Arrange whole strawberries in concentric circles in the pie shell. Crush leftover berries in a saucepan. Stir in the cornstarch mixture. Stir-cook until clear and thickened. Pour over the berries. Chill.

Serve with whipped cream if desired.

FRESH PEACH TART 4 servings

- 1 baked 8-inch tart shell or pie pan
- Filling:
 - 1 large or 2 or 3 small peaches or 2 nectarines
 - 2 to 3 Tablespoons brown sugar or brown Splenda®
 - Dash cloves, cinnamon or pumpkin pie spice mix
 - 2 or 3 large slices sugar ginger, slivered or 1 Tablespoon sugared ginger bits

Thinly slice the fruit and arrange in concentric circles in the baked crust, tucking in ginger slivers. Sprinkle each layer with sugar or Splenda®. The amount will depend on how ripe the peach is. Sprinkle top with a dash of cloves, cinnamon or pumpkin pie spice and a final tablespoon of sugar or Splenda®.

Bake at 350 degrees 10 to 12 minutes, just long enough to heat the fruit slices through, but retain their fresh texture and flavor. If using a tart pan, remove the metal ring before trying to cut and serve.

Serve with ice cream, vanilla yogurt, or whipped cream if desired.

Tip: To peel fuzzy peaches, immerse in boiling water for 30 seconds. Promptly chill in cold water. Skin will slip off easily if the peach is ripe. If it doesn't slip easily, peel it thinly with a sharp knife. Smooth peaches and nectarines need not be peeled.

Credit for inventing the dish below belongs to former Islander, Jena Schueler. She also included some ginger bits with the fruit. Super-delicious!

PEACH MANGO CRUMBLE

Preheat oven to 375 degrees

6 to 8 servings

Combine:

- 1 Tablespoon flour
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- Dash powdered cloves

Gently toss with:

- 4 large fresh peaches, peeled and sliced
- 1 ripe mango, peeled and cut up
- 1 to 2 tablespoons sugared ginger bits, or to taste

Transfer peach mixture to a greased glass or ceramic pie pan.

Topping:

- ½ cup rolled oats
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup brown sugar or a drizzle of honey
- 5 Tablespoons butter

Combine topping ingredients with a pastry blender, or with clean fingers.

Strew it over the peaches. Bake 25 to 35 minutes.

Eat at the...



Red Bike Features Adrian Xavier

Adrian Xavier's brought together some of Seattle's most influential musicians to record and tour, The Adrian Xavier Band is a all-star cast of musicians from a full



The Adrian Xavier Band, courtesy photo.

spectrum musical backgrounds. Although listeners may immediately identify Adrian Xavier's songwriting as situated in the Reggae genre from the sound and potent messages, a careful listen can sail them through World fusions, elements of Folk, warm isles of smooth Soul, Dub, Jazz, even Rock and Hip-Hop, revealing an artist who is an intrepid traveler in the musical as well as geographic sense.

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The Carbon Project

Continued from page 1

The public lands owned by King County provide an opportunity to explore this strategy. If it can be shown that soil carbon can be increased and sequestered, our public lands could play an important regional role in addressing climate change.

Recent papers from the scientific literature suggest that even with effective caps on GHG emissions—near-zero—the stabilization of CO₂, human-induced climate warming will continue for decades to centuries. Even meeting the anticipated CO₂ targets and effectively curtailing the worst-case warming scenarios will require enhanced sequestration of carbon worldwide. The most effective potential carbon sinks are readily available and the techniques for their use are widely known: biomass and soil storage. In most terrestrial ecosystems, the amount of carbon that can be stored in soil is far greater than the storage in the above ground plant material, up to 2 to 3 times more. The soils of the world contain more carbon than the total amount in vegetation and the atmosphere combined. The plant-soil combination affords considerable potential for carbon sequestration. An opportunity exists in King County to employ enhanced carbon storage techniques in soil and vegetation to actually reduce the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere. In addition, there will be benefits for soil fertility, land reclamation, biodiversity, and ultimately for increasing resilience to climate change.

Two conditions conspire to provide this opportunity: First, King County owns many thousands of acres of land in the form of forests, open spaces, farmlands, parks, and derelict lands (gravel pits, storage areas, post-industrial sites) that could be used as active carbon storage sites if soil and vegetation conditions are (or can be made) suitable; second, because the lands of lowland King County have a long history of use for forestry, agriculture, and development, the soils and vegetation throughout these areas have been greatly altered. Vegetation tends to be immature, often non-native, and intensively managed, and it is likely that the soils in all of these areas

have lost considerable organic carbon content over the last 150 years due to land clearing, tilling, and forestry operations. These impoverished conditions may be exactly the conditions most suitable for effective carbon sequestration.

A difficulty with abused soils is that they often lack the necessary structure and function to store carbon effectively. In order to “kick-start” this basic soil process, it will be necessary to add organic amendments to the soil at the outset. The sources of these amendments are generated by the County itself, in the form of food waste, vegetation, and bio-solids. Variations of all these organic amendments have been used effectively to “push” the sequestration of carbon in other areas of the US and the world.

The Carbon Project, a collaboration between King County and the University of Washington, seeks to reverse the loss of soil carbon and recover soil quality and fertility by capturing and storing carbon through the broad-scale use of composts to rebuild degraded soils. In part 1 of a three-part project, researchers will evaluate the use of compost mixes derived from organic residuals such as food waste, bio-solids, yard waste, and woody debris to capture and store organic carbon and speed soil recovery; in part 2, investigators will assess King County’s public lands for their potential to capture and store carbon using the compost mixes developed in part 1; in part 3, the knowledge and information gained will be used to craft a carbon sequestration strategy for our public lands and begin the process of soil recovery on degraded lands across the County. The project will have important benefits for moderating climate effects, for increasing soil fertility, improving ecosystem health, building resilience to climate change, and fostering a more sustainable future for the citizens of King County.

Continued from page 1

began to develop possible local strategies for carbon sequestration, he faced the problem of finding potential test sites to try the concept out. Meanwhile, other County workers and Islanders simultaneously wondered what to do with the tortured landscape of the “borrow pit,” part of the Island’s Transfer Station complex adjacent to and now part of the Island Center Forest.

The borrow pit consists of a five acre, ripped up hole where workers took the top soil and used it to cover garbage brought to the dump in prior decades on Vashon. According to Dave Warren with the Island Forest Stewards, different King County entities attempted to re-introduce native plants and trees to this left over slag of gravel and boulders at least twice

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The Vashon Connection

to no avail. David Kimmett, with King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks now had this on his plate and looked for a solution. Warren thought this might be a good location to bring compost, followed by plantings of alder - a primary pioneer forest species which could possibly create a path towards productive forest land again at this barren location.

Fuerstenberg likens the Carbon Project to a big composting project. As he sought out a site for testing, he also moved to find material. He ended up connecting to Lisa Vogel with King County Waste Treatment who manages their large compost project, most of which gets shipped to Eastern Washington rather than being used locally.

As Warren approached County agencies with his idea he found Fuerstenberg talking to a wide variety of County agencies and

scientists. At this point the collaboration now includes interest and active involvement from perhaps a dozen County agencies, the University of Washington and Island groups such as the Forest Stewards. Actual work with compost arriving begins sometime between late August and late September. A study will be conducted over the next three to five years to see if this proves to be an effective way to reclaim wasted lands and address climate change simultaneously.



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

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Montana, Part 2: Glacier Park*

By Mary Litchfield Tuel

When last seen, our intrepid spiritual smart aleck, amateur tourist, was in Kalispell, Montana. Here we pick up the narrative:

On Wednesday we loaded Charlotte's Camry and pulled out of Kalispell on Highway 2 headed for Glacier Park.

Kalispell is located in the grassy Flathead Valley. As you are driving on the valley floor heading east, the Rockies are in front of you, and there is an abrupt change from flat land to mountains. There is no gradual ascension into the mountains. There

At East Glacier we headed north on Highway 49 to Highway 89. By this time we were on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. They were called Blackfeet because they wore dark moccasins, I learned. I always wondered about that.

We came to where a forest fire has left untold acres of dead burned trees on both sides of the road for miles. Finally we passed through the burn and came to unburned landscape and then to St. Mary, a little settlement from which you can enter Glacier Park on the Going to the Sun Road. We entered the Park, and headed west.

Now, many people over the years have raved to me about the beauty of Glacier Park, but now I've seen it and realize that there are no adjectives that adequately convey the beauty, the wonder, the awesomeness, the steepness and wetness and snowiness that is Glacier Park. So now I'm raving about the beauty of Glacier Park. You must go see it, and soon, because the glaciers are melting fast.

The Going to the Sun road was completed in 1932. It is just under 50 miles long, and is currently being re-built, one section a year for the next 8 to 10 years. It is two lanes of narrow, sometimes twisty, sometimes hair-raising road



West of Logan Pass, photo by Mary Litchfield Tuel.

are no foothills. You just drive east and bam! Suddenly you're in the Rockies.

Soon Charlotte announced that we had just crossed the continental divide, and she pulled into a rest stop there so we could contemplate this fact. I've never crossed the continental divide in a car, only in trains and airplanes, so this was new for me, but I have to tell you, the divide itself is not more picturesque than the surrounding mountains. I took pictures anyway.

We drove on a while longer and suddenly we came around a turn and bam! There were the Great Plains! I was shocked. It only takes a couple of hours including a rest stop to drive through the Rockies? I was raised on tales of the brave pioneers crossing the Plains and then crossing the Rockies, and I always thought that the Rockies were a pretty substantial physical barrier, but if you cross on Highway 2 from Kalispell, not so much.

clinging to the sides of sharp peaks above deep valleys, taking you past the falls and vistas and flora, and the deer, bear, and bighorn sheep, and road construction, of the Park. If you're afraid to drive this road, there are park shuttle buses and antique red tour buses. It took us about three hours to wander from east to west.

The only wildlife we saw was one deer, a young buck grazing near a rest room near Lake MacDonald. We saw none of the grizzly bears which Park literature, rangers, and signs warn you about repeatedly.

We returned to Flathead Valley at the end of our day, and stopped for the night in Bigfork. The next morning we got up and went to Kehoe's Agate Shop, where we saw more gem and silver jewelry than you can imagine is possible, and where we also realized for the first time that Montana has no sales tax.

Then we had lunch at the Hot Diggity Dog hot dog stand in



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New Classes, New Times: Eating for Health & Weight Loss.

By Kathy Abascal

Inflammation is a big factor in all chronic conditions including hypertension, arthritis, and diabetes. Excess abdominal fat is another inflammatory condition that takes a significant toll on your health. Fortunately, diet can effectively and easily reduce inflammation and the problems it causes. In this class you learn why some foods quiet inflammation while others increase it. Eating to quiet inflammation provides significant benefits that include a relatively effortless weight loss (if needed), improved sleep, and the disappearance of annoying aches & pains. New series: Thursdays beginning July 16 at 7:00-8:30 PM. The class runs for 5 consecutive weeks. Advance registration at the Roasterie/Minglement and prepayment (\$75) is required. There is also an online class beginning Sunday July 19 at 3:00 PM (\$90). For more information, contact Kathy Abascal at anemopsis@yahoo.com.

They're Watching

Continued from page 11

Of course not. Traditionally newspapers, radio, and television tried to make sense of this cascade of “communication.” However, many of these traditional windows on what's going on are shrinking. Meanwhile preaching-to-the-choir newsletters, letters, web logs, and formal web pages proliferate.

Citizens seem to be expecting “their” organizations, public and private, to work in a fish bowl. They expect to be able to see the little man behind the curtain before he pulls the levers.

Bigfork, and headed for home, and the Pacific Time Zone, and at least one casino where Nancy won some money, as she always does. At the end of the trip we parted sadly, saying, “Next year, the Grand Canyon!”

I can hardly wait.

*Note: Officially it is Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park because it straddles the border with Canada.

Techniques for operating successfully in a fish bowl have been known for years. But they take a lot of time. One is to have everyone working to a plan. Some call a budget a plan. Melvin Mackey's Community Council committee is developing a proposed policy on that to be voted on in October.

Another is to have all meetings open to all, a policy the council already follows.

Now some members talk of real time broadcasts of council meetings and voting from home. Watchers should like that, too. So far that's just talk.

Writing in energizeinc.com, Bryan Leipper sums up the key rule for organizations in this fish bowl era: never surprise members.

So expect more flyers, newsletters, letters, invitations to meetings; more “communication.”



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

Fur Ball Celebrates 25th Years of VIPP

Continued from page 1

VIPP volunteer and Island artist Elaine Summers recruited eight different artists, including herself, to decorate 8 life size fiberglass cats and one dog to be auctioned off during the Fur Ball. The commemorative cats and dog will be displayed at Island businesses through July. You can also find them posted on the VIPP website (www.vipp.org).

A sampling of the fantastic live auction items include:

- ** Early entry to the VIPP garage sale with champagne
- ** Two 14k gold dog bone pins by Eric Heffelfinger
- ** A Mariner’s Game Package which includes 2 Diamond Club tickets, dinner, parking passes and VIP treatment
- ** A new Genuine Motor Scooter - Buddy 50 International scooter
- ** A King County Sherriff’s Ride Along
- ** A birthday package including a clown, a cake and a giant sandwich.

And VIPP can also help you plan your next vacation with several great travel packages available for bidding at the live auction:

- ** 2 Unrestricted Alaska Airline tickets good for any where they fly
- ** 2 VIP tickets to annual Neil Young’s Bridge School concert in San Francisco
- ** A weekend excursion for 6 on a private yacht including your own skipper and catered dinner onboard
- ** A six night African Safari for 2
A three night stay for 2 at the Bull River Guest Ranch in SE British Columbia, which includes airfare
- ** And many local getaways and “staycation” packages

Among the many Island artists who have donated artwork available for purchase at the auction are: Kira Bacon, Morgan Brig, Jean Emmons, Pam Ingalls Margaret Tylczak, Jan Wall, Greg Wessel and Cynthia Zheutlin

Many generous sponsors have made this year’s Fur Ball possible, including: Barbara Drinkwater, Annie Miksh, Karen Hust and Todd Vogel, Palouse Winery, J.R. Crawford, Realtor of John L. Scott, Michelle & Scott Harvey, Mike and Marlene Rossi, Emma Amiad of Amiad & Assoc., Joyce Olson, Sue Carette of Windemere, Vashon Island Golf & Country Club, Fair Isle Animal Clinic, and Terri and Geoff Fletcher.

Proceeds from the Fur Ball cover approximately half of the yearly operating expenses for VIPP. These funds enable VIPP to care for more than 750 cats and dogs. In 2008, VIPP found homes for 196 cats and dogs and we returned 54 cats and dogs, and even 5 farm animals, to their owners. VIPP’s Spay/Neuter Program provided this important service to 161 cats and dogs. And over 600 cats and dogs benefited from our medical and surgical assistance program. VIPP also maintains a warm and safe shelter with food, water and plenty of loving attention where cats await adoption. VIPP foster families are provided for dogs until permanent homes are found.

Tickets to the Fur Ball are \$25 and are available online at www.VIPP.org or at Pandora’s Box, Fair Isle Animal Clinic, Books by the Way and Vashon Book Shop. For questions about the Fur Ball, please call the Fur Ball hotline 463-2268 or fosmoss@yahoo.com. To volunteer for this event, contact Victoria Rohlf at 463-5381, or victoriarohlf@yahoo.com.

A Victor’s Tale

Continued from page 1

content, but because of my own preconceived ideas. At first I was hindered by concepts like thesis, sentence structure and exclamation points. How regimented my thinking is! (Exclamation points can be a world-view).

I realized that to take this journey I would have to change the lens through which I view the world. As David says, “...This book may twist and bend the way you look at, and otherwise deal with the world in which we all live; like looking through a broken prism that’s been glued back together again...”

David experienced a traumatic brain injury when he was 18 years old. Technology could keep his body alive; his brain was changed forever. He became “the other,” returning to a culture hostile and unforgiving of difference. Parallels can be drawn with any groups

considered outsiders, patronized and underestimated at the very least.

To give us our “traumatic brain syndrome by proxy,” David shares his experiences, his frustrations, his realizations, his successes, and his dreams. He lets us see through his eyes and feel through his heart. The trip David leads us on is not an easy one. It demands a change of perspective and rewards us with fleeting insights.

That’s all I’m going to say about *The Iliad and the Odd D.C.* It’s the journey with David that’s important. David’s words and cadence are vital, another’s interpretation superfluous. David Cole is a sensitive, generous and provocative guide and it’s a trip well worth taking.

Before you begin, I’d like to paraphrase Margot Channing (Bette Davis in All About Eve), fasten your seat belt; it’s gonna be a bumpy ride.

Latcho Drom (Romani for safe journey)

The Iliad of the Odd D.C.
The experiences, Recollections, Rantings, and Epiphanies of an Everyday Traumatic Brain Injury Survivor/Victor.
by David Cole
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Vashon Library Update

The King County Library System (KCLS) voted at their Board meeting May 26 to authorize up to \$6 million to expand the existing Vashon Library located in Ober Park. This expansion is contingent on a ground lease extension from the Vashon Park District. This is good news for the overwhelming majority of Islanders who favor keeping the Library in town.

Beginning in December last year, and continuing through late May, hundreds of Vashon-Maury Island residents were directly involved in lobbying the KCLS Board to keep the Vashon Library in Ober Park by writing letters to the KCLS Board, elected officials, the Beachcomber, and anyone else they thought might have influence on the decision. Several Islanders worked directly with King County DDES officials on behalf of our community to simplify permitting and reduce costs for KCLS. KCLS documentation was reviewed and analyzed by knowledgeable Islanders that resulted in KCLS modifying their cost estimates. There were newspaper articles, editorials and videotaped statements. Countless phone calls were made and many traveled to Redmond, Issaquah and Lake Forest Park to speak at Board meetings. Many more hundreds indicated their preference by filling

by Bonnie de Steiguer

out the Island-wide survey and signing petitions. The Vashon community made their desires known to KCLS, and when the vote was taken, it was evident that the KCLS Board Members listened to the community. The KCLS Board of Trustees lauded Islanders for their tenacity, clarity, and professionalism in their dealings with the Board, and indicated their respect for our community's passion for our library.

It is now up to KCLS and the Vashon Park District to negotiate the terms of the lease. Mike Collins, the President of the Vashon Park District, is on record as supporting keeping the Library in Ober Park, but would like to address alternatives, such as building a new library in the park. If a new library were to be built, the Park District might then be able to use the existing library for their offices and activities.

One thing is clear, the community made it known that it wants the library in the Park, the Vashon Park District offered to extend the lease to KCLS, and the KCLS Board of Trustees voted to keep the Library in the Park. The Vashon Park District and KCLS must work together to provide the best possible solution for the Park District and the community of Vashon to insure that the efforts of the last six months are not wasted.

They're Watching More Closely

Continued from page 1

Words like "accountability," "mission" and "responsibility" are heard more often.

"Transparency" is a word Tom Bangasser has used. He is suing the Community Council, the county, the library system, K2 and maybe others to discover if the community council works for Islanders or for the county, he says.

Historically it's done both. The council interprets both ways and advocates Islanders' viewpoints. This meant a lot of schmoozing. Jim English devoted many hours to this broker's role when he was council president. Networking, some call it. Lobbying is another label.

Kari Ulatoski did this successfully leading her committee in jousts with ferry fathers. The legislature responded. Her recent report listed eight accomplishments and seven areas her new car ferry committee will focus on for the 2010 legislature.

Bonnie de Steiguer recounts how dozens of active volunteers discovered how little the library board knew of our desires. They helped convince the remote, indifferent library board to focus again on keeping the library in the commercial core of the town.

Karen du Four des Champs, whose profession is helping organizations increase their overall effectiveness, recently suggested to the Vashon Chamber of Commerce leaders that they be more "transparent" and "more responsive" to its membership by informing their constituents of

pending actions and reasons for said actions.

Traditionally members of Island volunteer groups were quiet as activists leading the group adopted goals and organized action. Unstated assumptions usually were of the "They are doing OK and I haven't time to get more involved" kind.


That's changed a bit.

Hilary Emmer is successfully urging that procedures and practices of the Vashon Maury Island Community Council follow its agreements with members, called by-laws. She's influenced several improvements already in place. Other volunteers seem to be noticing this tendency to compare behavior with what agreed upon rules call for.

The Island's airport district is the latest example of such an issue surfacing. Our fire district and school district have reacted to similar issues for years, using a variety of ways to get the attention of Islanders, share information, and urge action. Vashon Allied Arts, our senior citizen care center, community clinic owners, our food bank, affordable housing organizations, biggest water districts, park district, library, and the lighthouse keepers are among Island groups which fill mail boxes with notices and appeals.

Does the ordinary "good citizen" try to read and remember every volunteer group's current actions and goals?

Continued on page 9



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LoOp Letters

August 18 Election

August 18 we have a primary election and everyone's vote is needed. We now have a "top two" primary system in Washington. Regardless of party, the top two vote-getters will go on to the November ballot. The candidates don't have to identify any party affiliation, or stands on issues. If you want your views to be represented, you need to inform yourself and get that ballot filled out and mailed back (remember to sign where required). On our primary ballot for 2009 will be 8 candidates for King County Executive (including our 34th District Councilperson, Dow Constantine), 3 candidates for Port of Seattle Commissioner, Pos. #3, 4 candidates for Port of Seattle Commissioner Pos. #4, and 2 candidates for a position on the Court of Appeals.

If you need to register to vote or change your registration, call 206-296-VOTE (8683). Check your status online at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections.aspx>. The League of Women Voters of King County South maintains an office in Burien (206-243-7161) if you have election questions, or want to request membership information.

Ellen Kritzman
League of Women Voters,
Vashon Unit
567-4837

Ann Leda Shapiro Reads *My Island*

Continued from page 1

"My Island captures the spirit of Vashon as a living place and as a vital community. It cleverly depicts the unique blend of nature and culture, both the character of the island and an island of characters." Michael Meade

Ann Leda Shapiro grew up in New York City, across the park from the Metropolitan Museum of Art and down the street from the Museum of Natural History. She attended art school in the SF Bay Area, taught at universities around the country, then came to the Pacific Northwest to study and illustrate Chinese medicine. She migrated to Vashon in 1992, an island the same size as Manhattan, but with far fewer people and found this community to be supportive for her exploration and integration of art and healing.

Ann Leda Shapiro maintains an acupuncture practice, exhibits paintings internationally, and is at work on a children's book about cross-cultural healing.

Celebrate My Island and Ann Leda Shapiro's birthday.

My Island can be viewed in video format at: www.AnnLedaShapiro.org.



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



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Lo'py Laffs

A young couple came into the church office to fill out a pre-marriage questionnaire form. The young man, who had never talked to a pastor before, was quite nervous and the pastor tried to put him at ease.

When they came to the question, "Are you entering this marriage of your own free will?" there was a long pause.

Finally, the girl looked over at the apprehensive young man and said, "Put down yes."

*An actual complaint received by a travel agency:
I would like to complain about the price of alcohol in the resort. It was too cheap and I woke with a hangover every day.*

"You need to make sure the dog runs around, the doctor said. Try playing a game of fetch the ball. "I can't play fetch with my dog," the Judy said. "Why not?" the doctor asked. "Because," she replied, "He can't throw."

Latest survey shows that 3 out of 4 people make up 75% of the world's population.

Everybody lies, but it doesn't matter since nobody listens.

Q: With the current market turmoil, what's the easiest way to make a small fortune?
A: Start off with a large one.

Birthdays are good for you - the more you have the longer you live.

A local supply clerk at the factory was in a dither. A box had been left on the loading dock with this warning printed on it: "Danger! Do Not Touch!" Management was called, and we were told to stay clear of the box until it could be analyzed. When the foreman arrived, he donned safety goggles and gloves, and then he carefully opened the box. Inside were 25 signs that read: Danger! Do Not Touch!



A Louisiana judge has thrown out a state constitutional amendment banning gay unions. That shows what I know. I didn't even know gays were trying to unionize! Yeah, I'm Local 59, the West Hollywood chapter. So remember, if you're gay, before you date another gay person, don't forget to look for the union label. - Jay Leno

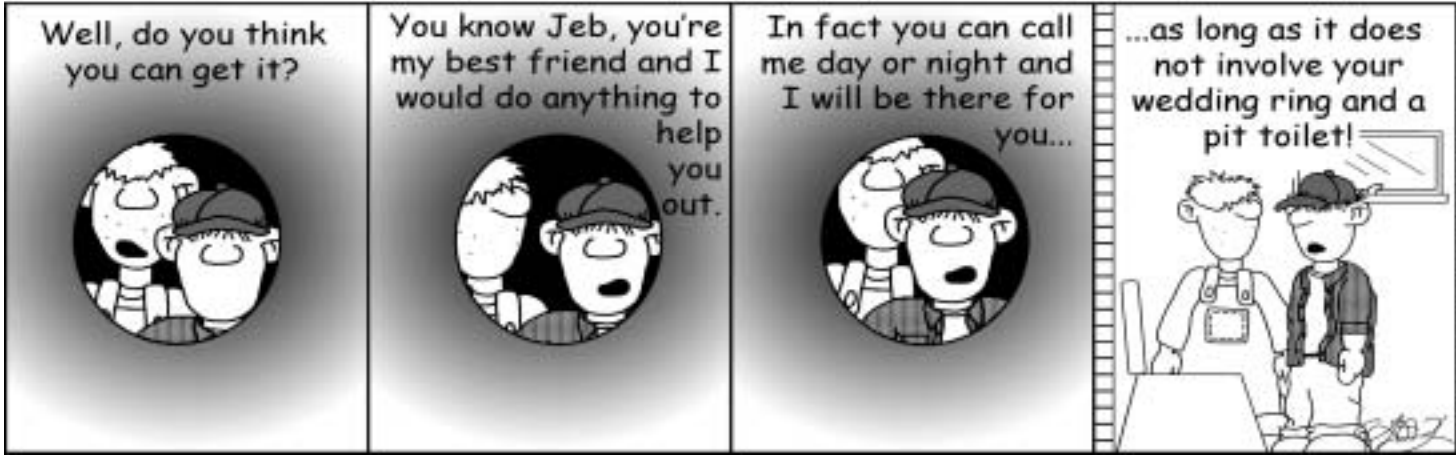
A woman customer called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer. Tech support: "Are you running it under Windows?" Customer: "No, my desk is next to the door, but that is a good point. The man sitting in the cubicle next to me is under a window, and his printer is working fine."

OFFSHORE



Moose Lake

By Steve Krueger



Vashon Island PeopleS AN E.M.T. (ELECTRO MEDICAL TECHNICIAN) IS MAKING REPAIRS TO T-4,2



Loop Arts

Vashon Rocks with World Music Festival

Listen and dance to Brazilian Samba, the lively sounds of Cuba and Indian pop rock at the annual all-ages VAA Music Festival, Saturday, August 8, 5 to 8 pm. Nestled in Camp Burton's pastoral outdoor amphitheater, this year's summer VAA festival will feature three sizzling, danceable groups, all hailing from the Seattle area. Delicious world-inspired wraps, salads desserts and beverages will be served up by our Island's own SheFidgets Catering. Henna body art provided by Kara Jones and face painting for kids offered by Lynn Brevig.

The Kiko Freitas Quartet starts the evening off with smooth Samba and Bossa Nova spiced with R&B



Manooghi Hi, courtesy photo.

influences. Freitas, from Sao Paolo, Brazil and known for his drumming virtuosity, also plays killer guitar and belts out exquisite vocals in his native Portuguese. Joining him on stage will be Jose Martinez on drums, Tor Didriksen, percussion and Jeff Volkman on bass.

Supersones Quintet, known throughout the region for their celebrative 'Son' acoustic dance music of the Cuban countryside, blends Spanish guitars, harmony, Afro-Cuban percussion and swing, and more. From Havana to Vashon Island, SuperSones bring rich traditional music genres to stage from bolero and cha cha, by some of Cuba's greatest composers, to original and improvised popular, contemporary Cuban music. Band members include: Kevin Connor, Cuban tres and vocals; Justin Maggart, lead vocals, clave and guiro; Steve Smith, bongo; Kevin Stevens, upright bass; David Trejo, acoustic guitar and vocals. The group has played The Triple Door, Northwest Folklife Festival, Tractor Tavern and many other regional venues, in addition to international venues in Belgium and Holland.

Destiny brought Mumbai, India native Mehnaz and Seattle area musicians together for a unique sound that offers equal parts rock, soul and theatrical whimsy. Imagine traditional Indian rhythmic sounds and words fused with American rock, pop and soul and the gratifying kismet result is Manooghi Hi.

by Janice Randall

Mehnaz energetically infuses the band's contemporary rock sound with her own traditional Indian-pop sensibilities and Hindi lyrics for an exciting, authentic and all original musical experience. An Indian pop phenomenon when she first visited Seattle, The Stranger raved, "...arena-sized Anglo-American rock with Indian wind, string and percussion instruments and Mehnaz's impassioned trilingual utterances...Their sound has plenty of ramalamasala." In addition to Mehnaz, Manhoogi Hi all star band includes: Mark Nichols, keyboards; John Hollis, drums and vocals; Ava Chakravarti, vocals; Jarrod Kaplan, percussion; Todd Fogelsonger,

guitar. A favorite at the Fremont Fair, Austin's South by Southwest and last year's Bumbershoot, they recently released their much-awaited first CD. Check them out on myspace and be amazed!

Tickets, available now at Blue Heron and Heron's Nest, are only \$8 for ages 21 and under, \$12 VAA members and seniors and \$14 general admission. Reserve tickets at brownpapertickets.com or call 463.5131. Tickets are also available at Books by the Way and Heron's Nest. Camp Burton is an alcohol-free venue.



Kiko, courtesy photo.



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



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Attention all Performing Artists

Don't miss the boat! Applications are beginning to arrive for Vashon Allied Arts' (VAA) 2010 New Works Series. Island resident performing artists are invited to join a long tradition of New Works performances and apply for VAA's New Works Series 2010. VAA's New Works Series provides the Blue Heron venue for artists from all disciplines, music (all genres), dance, literary, theater, to premiere new work and/or new collaborations between January and November, 2010. Application forms are available now at Blue Heron Art Center or on-line at www.vashonalliedarts.org. Deadline is 5 pm, Saturday, October 3, 2009.

An inter-disciplinary panel of Island performing artists meets in early October to review and select

recipients. VAA New Works Series was established in 1989 for Island resident artists to present new work to the community at the Blue Heron. New Works Series performances have spawned many memorable performances in a variety of performance disciplines. Join the ranks of New Works Series alumni! Please call 463-5131, ext. 226 for more information.

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Vashon Opera Season Tickets

Go to vashonopera.org and check out the great new website and buy your tickets online for La Boheme and The Tender Land. The venues have limited seating and there are only two performances of each opera.

HARBOR MERCANTILE



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Clinton Fearon Boogies at the Red Bike

by Pete Welch

Always a crowd pleaser on Vashon Island, Clinton Fearon & The Boogie Brown Band is coming back to the Red Bicycle for a performance of his roots reggae music on Saturday night, August 1st. What makes this performance stand out is that it will hopefully be a nice warm summer night and The Red Bike will be able to extend the dance floor out onto the sidewalks by opening the garage door. If you like roots reggae, this is the show to see this summer!

Much like quite a few other reggae musicians who came of age

a musician, and began what would be the most significant and commercially successful association of his career.

Flash forward to 1989, when Clinton came to Seattle and co-founded The Defenders and then finally in 1993, formed his own group called The Boogie Brown Band.

When asked about his music, Clinton states that "...our sound is roots, its roots, lovers rock, rock steady. It's not too far from the root. I'm not trying to branch off into anything I'm not totally relaxed with," he continued. "A lot of (other bands) try to follow the market. I try to follow my creativity more so than follow the market. It's what's in your heart; you have to follow your heart."

Clinton Fearon is counted among Jamaica's most talented musicians by peers and professionals in the Reggae music industry. His infectious bass riffs have always led the way, whether he is playing bass, guitar or percussion, singing lead vocals or providing background harmonies.

The show begins at 9:30pm, the cover is \$10.00 and it is a 21+ event. The Red Bike has experienced sold-out shows with Clinton in the past and anticipates the same for this one, so it's highly advised that people call 463-5959 in advance and purchase their tickets.



Clinton Fearon, courtesy photo.

in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Clinton Fearon was a country boy who migrated to Kingston as a teenager in order to seek his musical fortune amongst the proliferating studios and sound systems of the big city. He was born in St. Andrew in 1951 and moved around the countryside with his father and stepmother before relocating to Kingston in 1967; he immediately organized a singing group with some friends, but it never amounted to anything and broke up before it could record. It was around 1970, when he joined Albert Griffiths and Errol Grandison to form the Gladiators, that he hit his stride as

Friday July 31 @ 8 pm
Havurat Ee Shalom
15401 Westside Hwy SW
567-1608 -- Tickets are \$15 ADV \$20
DOOR - Advance tickets can be obtained at
www.brownpapertickets.com

Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad is a refreshing mix of comedy, music, spoken-word and show-stopping burlesque, featuring the gals who learned to smoke at Hebrew School, got drunk at their Bat-Mitzvahs and would rather have more schtuppa than the chupah, featuring performers seen on Comedy Central, HBO and Late Night TV. These badass chosen chicks boldly dare to deconstruct years of tradition, expectations and guilt in a fast-paced vaudeville extravaganza. It's ain't yo' mama's Fiddler!

After cruising the US for 6 years, last year Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad opened at The Zipper Theater in NYC with a brand new show which received rave reviews - 3 stars- NY Post, Backstage called it "a spontaneous party" and the Village Voice said it was "super fun." This rendition of mishagas on wheels was directed by Michael Baron (Signature Theater, DC) and choreographed by

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Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad Schticking it to the Man Since 2003

Jessi Erian (Urban Bush Women and Adira Amram's The Experience). It's Faster Pussycat in the Borscht Belt, "Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen" gets remixed, Tumbalaika gets a makeover and we all find out what's in Gefilte Fish. It's "Fear Factor" for

by Susannah Perlman

Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad has been spreading their own brand of nuevo schmaltz across the land to sold-out crowds in NYC, DC, Baltimore, Boston, Philadelphia, Providence, Miami, San Francisco,



Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad, courtesy photo.

Jews, although you don't have to be Jewish to love these broads.

Nice Jewish Girls Gone Bad features a rotating cast of comedians Shawn Pelofsky (Chelsea Lately, Comics Unleashed), Cynthia Levin (Comedy Central), booty shakin' by Sister Schmaltz and hosted by queen of the quick change, The Goddess Perlman (Last Comic Standing).

Los Angeles, Santa Cruz, Pittsburgh, Madison, Detroit, Montreal, Burlington, Provincetown, The Berkshires, The Hamptons, and of course, The Catskills. Audiences can't get enough of these wayward girls!

Compost the Loop

The Loop's soy-based ink is okay for composting.

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A cartoon mascot for the Vashon Flea Market. It is a small, round, yellow creature with large eyes, wearing a green shirt and holding a sign that says "Last week's winner: 1999!".

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