



THE VASHON LOOP

Vol. 6, #4

TO INFORM AND AMUSE -- TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM

February 20, 2009



Community Matters: Save the Weekend

by Marie Browne

Vashon's Strawberry Festival has been moved to the third weekend of July (17, 18 and 19). The Chamber of Commerce made the change so that the hundreds of Islanders who go to the Oregon Country Fair on the previous weekend can be here for our own homegrown Festival as well. This is the 100th year of Strawberry Festival, and whether you love or hate it - the crowds, the curly fries, the booths, the live music, the rides, the drunks, the street dance, the beer garden, the car show, the parade, the pancake breakfast - Strawberry Festival is an event that binds us together as a community. And we hear there will be plenty of strawberries this year.



Lunavision Presents: *Mardi Gras- Made in China*

Thursday, February 26, 7 pm

Winner of twenty-one national and international awards, *Mardi Gras: Made in China* follows the path of Mardi Gras beads from the streets of New Orleans during Carnival – where revelers party and exchange beads for nudity – to the disciplined factories in Fuzhou, China – where teenage girls live and sew beads together all day and night. Blending curiosity with comedy, *Mardi Gras: Made in China* is the only film to explore how the toxic products directly affect the people who both make and consume them.

Director: David Redmon. Running Times: 72 and 48 mins (plus extras including a diary from a worker in the factory).

“...if more of these “where did it come from and at what cost to whom?” type films were made we might take the think globally thing a bit more seriously” Peter Ray

Work it, Girls!



Work it, girls! Designers (aka Vashonistas) for the Second Island Artisan Couture Runway Show take a well-deserved bow after presenting their amazing collection of clothing, handbags, hats, jewelry and costumes to an appreciate audience who gathered at the Red Bicycle on a recent Sunday afternoon. From left to right, they are: Karen Person (Mistress of Ceremonies), Nancy Scott Wienker (Re-Genr8), Tesse Crocker (Elemental Stitches), Patricia Toovey (Art Projects and Design), Sally Shivers (Wild Life Clothing Co.), Laura Clampitt (who names each of her darling hats!), Ginny Ciszek (Ciszek Designs), Roxy Hathway (Re-Genr8), Dorothy Dunncliff (Dova Silks). Dozens of other people (including the models) contributed to the success of the show. It was proof positive that style and fashion are flourishing on the Island amidst the muck boots and Carhartts. Jeff Dunncliff photo. For more photos visit annegordonimagery.com.



POV Seeks Art Show Submissions

The POV (Photographers of Vashon) organization is seeking fine art photographs for an upcoming exhibition. The show, “Inner Vashon, An Outer View” will open in July at the Blue Heron Arts Center.

Photographers are asked to communicate in their visual work

how the meaning of Vashon Island as home is so compelling.

Images can encompass any time, on, above, or around Vashon-Maury Island, including Vashon ferries. Work in progress will be considered.

All submitters must have a physical presence or working relationship with Vashon Island.

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Petition from Citizens of the US

Submitted by Wayne Miller

US taxpayers are being asked to incur massive debt to recapitalize insolvent financial institutions. While a sound banking system is required to drive economic activity – **HOW** we implement this rescue is critical. If the rescue of these institutions is adopted as proposed, (the “good” bank / “bad” bank proposal) we will recapitalize the same management, Board of Directors and oversight structure that created these catastrophic circumstances in the first place. If adopted, this proposal will effectively shield them from having to bear responsibility for their actions. In addition, it will impose a debt upon us that is so burdensome it will strangle our capacity for economic growth, threaten our liberty and diminish future opportunity for our children. There is no measure of

Continued on page 15



Women of the Congo

Submitted by Korina Knudson

Sunday March 8 is International Women's Day. On that day, organizations in 200 cities throughout the globe will host a vigil in support of the women of the Congo. Each city will light 1,000 candles to symbolize the approximately 200,000 women who have fallen victim to rape, which is being used as a tool of war to intimidate and displace entire communities in the Congo.

Here on Vashon, the public is invited to a film screening and discussion of *Lumo*, a Congo documentary. The film will be shown from 2:00 to 4:00 on Sunday, March 8 at the Vashon Island Theater.

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School Bond Yes! It's Worth It

by Jean Bosch, Campaign Manager

The \$75.5 million capital facilities school bond provides a long-term, comprehensive and financially responsible solution to long overdue needs. With it, we can create a more cohesive, safer and sustainable high-school campus, renovating 80% of the existing footprint and anchoring it with a new centrally located classroom building.

Why now?

Without a comprehensive plan, Vashon High School will continue to deteriorate and the district will be forced to spend more money on band-aid approaches. Each year we put off the inevitable, construction costs increase by approximately \$3 million, and the school district pours more money into short-term repairs. The school bond is a responsible use of your dollars

What are the main benefits?

More conducive to learning: New, consolidated classrooms will provide ample room for students to learn in bright, well-ventilated spaces, as opposed to the dimly lit, too small classrooms they know today (which are 20% smaller than classrooms at Chautauqua Elementary School).

Space for teachers: Today three VHS teachers lack workspaces. With the new plan, every teacher will have their own area to prepare for lessons, correct homework, work one-on-one with

Continued on page 10

Get in *The Loop*

Submissions to the Loop

Do you have an event or Public Service Announcement? Do you have something to say about a Vashon issue or topic affecting the Island? If so, please email questions or submissions to Marie, editor of the *Loop*, at editor@vashonloop.com. Photos are welcome as jpeg or pdf attachments.

Six Writing Classes Offered

Do you have a story to tell? Have you always wanted to write, but haven't found the time or inspiration? How about filling these long winter afternoons with observations and reflections? Bring those good ideas and your laptop or notebook to Creative Writing for Grown-Ups, a winter series of workshops for adults available online or in the meeting room of The Harbor School on Vashon Highway. Taught by Nancy Ann Fox, classes in town will meet for 7 weeks, beginning February 7th. Writers may begin their online classes immediately.

Courses at the Harbor School include Island Portraits: Vashon Life Studies (Monday, 5:30-7:30); My Economic Self: Survival and Sustainability (Friday, 5:00-7:00); and In My Life: Writing Memoir and The Legacy Letter (Saturday, 10-12). Classes are limited to 15 writers.

The fee for any class is \$245 for 7 sessions. Courses include group seminar meetings and individual conferences, with presentation or

publication as a goal for those writers who wish it.

Online courses include an individualized portfolio course designed to suit your needs and interests, Basic Writing Confidence and Skill, and How To Create a Writer's Notebook.

Creative Writing for Grown-Ups is taught by Island resident Nancy Ann Fox (known by her students as "Professor Nan"), the founder of the award-winning Pennington Writing Seminar and a teacher with 28 years' experience in writing instruction for all ages and skill levels, in campus and Web 2.0 settings. "Professor Nan" is also a published poet and author of The Writer's Notebook, Teaching Writing As a Work in Progress, and the blog, The Good School. She and two students received international recognition with their discovery of four new puns in Lewis Carroll's Mouse's Tail.

To learn more or register for any course, call 206-660-7438 or email profesorafox@comcast.net.

Raising Our Own Food Classes

Due to popular demand, the Vashon Island Growers Association (VIGA) is repeating two "Raising Our Own Food" classes.

Starting a Vegetable Garden: Topics in the beginning gardening class will include choosing a location, soil building, planning your garden, how to plant, frugal gardening, watering, protecting your crop, and more. Instructors are Nancy Lewis-Williams, a master gardener, and Cathy Fulton, proprietor of Mariposa Gardens. The vegetable gardening class will take place on two consecutive Wednesdays, February 25 and March 4, 7:00 – 9:00 pm.

Raising Chickens for Eggs or Meat: Our chicken-raising class will cover ordering chicks, housing, feeding, managing your laying flock, chicken health, and raising chickens for meat. We will also discuss how to sell eggs at the market. Instructors are Dana Ness, who has been raising chickens since she was 10 years old and Joe Yarkin, owner of Sun Island Farm. The class will be held Sunday, March 8, 3:00–5:30 pm.

Both classes are free and open to anyone but pre-registration is required. Contacting Cathy, cathy@capturingmemories.com, 463-5652.



Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, Feb. 27**

Fruit Club Events

Saturday, March 21st at 1:00: A workshop on grafting at Bruce Jackson's. (17920 94th Avenue SW)

Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00: Our quarterly business meeting, followed by an introduction to pest and disease control in the orchard. Courthouse Square meeting room.

Sunday, April 17 at 1:00: A panel discussion on pest and disease control. Courthouse Square meeting room

The Vashon Loop

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

Original art, comics, cartoons: DeeBee, Ed Frohning, Rick Tuel, Jeff Hawley, Alex Soriano. Steve Krueger

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Don't miss an issue

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

Not just a class... an adventure.
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
brought to you by Vashon Island Fire and Rescue



Week 2: Fire Suppression

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WEEKLY TOPICS INCLUDE:
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VashonBePrepared!

Firearm Safety course available at the Vashon Sportsmen's club

Upcoming classes include:

<i>Basic Pistol</i>	<i>Feb 21 and Feb 22</i>	<i>\$75</i>
<i>Basic Shotgun</i>	<i>March 21 and March 22</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Personal protection in the home</i>	<i>April 18 and April 19</i>	<i>\$100</i>

Taught by N.R.A certified instructors
These course teaches safe and responsible handling, use, care and storage of firearms

Course fee as listed above per Adult to pre-register, call "Phil" at 408-7009 or Stephan at 777-5449
Course openings are limited. You may enroll the day of the course if space is available.

All Ammunition and Firearms are supplied
"The only thing you need is comfortable clothing"

Getting to Yes at DDES Workshop explores residential permits

DDES is offering a workshop to prospective permit applicants and property owners who intend to build one or more single-family homes or do remodels in unincorporated King County. The workshop is March 26, from 9 a.m.- noon at the Master Builders Association offices, 335 116th S.E., Bellevue. The cost is \$20 per person and online registration is required. Space is limited. For more information visit the Web site or contact Paula Adams at 206-296-6682 or paula.adams@kingcounty.gov.

Sustainable Small Farming and Ranching

The Vashon Island Growers Association and the Washington State University Small Farms Team will be offering a series of three classes for farmers on Vashon Island. This is a short version of the well-received WSU "Cultivating Success" course. The classes will have a hands-on component and will be held Monday mornings from 9am-1pm. They will be taught by WSU Instructor/Commercial Farmer Clayton Burrows, WSU Soil Scientist Doug Collins and island farmers.

Learn practical information about whole farm planning, ecologically-based, diversified production systems, composting, soil management and marketing techniques. The course includes classroom discussion, guest

lectures by experienced farmers and agricultural professionals and field trips to local farm businesses.

March 2: Sustainable Crop Production/Whole Farm Management

March 9: Ecological Soil Management/Composting

March 16: Profitability of Specific Crops for Small Farms

Cost is \$15 for whole series for Vashon Island Growers Association members, \$30 for general public. Memberships available at registration. Courses can be taken individually for \$10 for VIGA members and \$20 for the general public.

To register contact Joanne Jewell at farmersmarket@vigavashon.org or call 206-267-8146.



H HOME TEAM R E A L T Y

Troy and Marie Feel Mildly Stimulated

We are bailing as fast as we can. The big Stimulus Plan was just signed into law, and a housing recovery plan is right behind it. We never thought the words billion and trillion would roll off the tongue so easily.

Troy: Since the stimulus plan is something everyone is talking about these days, maybe we should tell our readers how the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act impacts the housing market specifically. What do you think?

Marie: I think that's a great idea. There are a few elements of the Act designed to stimulate a housing recovery, which is clearly necessary to get the country and the world back on track. Naturally, there is a lot of disagreement about how to go about it, and to what level the government - and taxpayers - should intervene. The National Association of REALTORS had a lot to do with making recommendations to the Act.

Troy: Some were included, some were modified. For example, the NAR proposed a \$15,000 tax credit to all buyers, but the final bill that was just signed into law includes an \$8000 credit, for first time buyers only.

Marie: Just to clarify - a first time buyer is defined as someone who has not bought a house in three years. And it truly is a credit - it does not have to be paid back.

Troy: Another provision is to reinstate the increases in FHA, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac loan limits to last year's levels. This will provide more liquidity in the mortgage market, which will not only free up money for new loans but will help many current homeowners refinance into more affordable mortgages.

Marie: In addition to the Big Act that was signed into law, President Obama is also unveiling a specific mortgage relief plan. And this one is causing even more controversy.

Troy: As I understand it, one thing the mortgage relief plan would do is to help homeowner who are "under water" to be able to refinance. (These people won't be helped by the higher Fannie and Freddie limits; if your house is worth less than your loan, you can't refinance.)

Marie: Refis for owners who owe more than the house is worth make sense. Sure, a lot of people who bought houses on crazy loan terms should have known better. But they didn't, and now they are in a situation where their only options are to walk away or make a lower monthly payment. Or, maybe they've lost a job while their house values plummeted. Why not refinance the loan so these people can stay in their homes and avoid foreclosure? Of course, this does not address the issue of what happens if they have to sell. If they owe more than the house is worth the bank will still have to take a loss.

Troy: The proposal also provides incentives to lenders to help other homeowners cut their monthly mortgage payments so that they don't exceed 31% of income. This one sounds like it has a lot of potential for abuse and misapplication. I'd like to see more details before opining.

Marie: We await your opinion with bated breath. The whole stimulus plan - not just the housing component - is really very expensive, and its effectiveness is unknown. Sure, we are paying the price for a lot of greed and stupidity, and we are mad as hell. But being mad does not solve the problem, and letting the chips fall where they may is really not an option.

Interesting times, aren't they? If you are wondering if you should sell or not, give us a call. We can help you evaluate your options, as well as give you an idea of what your house would sell for in this market. No cost, no obligation. We're at (206) 463-LIST (5478), or write marie@yourHTR.com.

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Positively Speaking

by Deborah H. Anderson

“21,25,30,30, Hike”

I’ve been thinking about these next few weeks coming up since 1989. That’s when my middle adopted son Joe came to live with us and we stopped including children in our family. We had four kids. Two boys, two girls, two birth , two adopted. The birth order went birth, Isaac (after one miscarriage). Chris, four years later but only four days younger than Isaac (after three miscarriages) , Caity, five years later (after two more miscarriages) and then one year later Joe, who is four years older than Caity and five years younger than Isaac and Chris.

For all the bump aroundness as we called it in our family, there were some oddities about the birthdays. First of all Isaac, Chris and Joe have birthdays all in the same week. Caity’s birthday is ten days before that.

There is nothing better about being a parent than the responsibility of telling your kids they are a gift from heaven and they are loved unconditionally.

For all those years, 2009 kept me going . It was going to be the year of the big bash. You see, the other oddity of the birthdays is that

- 12 February 2009, Caity turned 21.
- 26 February 2009, Joe turns 25
- 2 March 2009, Isaac turns 30
- 6 March 2009, Chris turns 30.

Little did I know that both Isaac and Chris would marry in 2008.

It’s a banner time zone. But the party, the big bash I envisioned for all those years won’t happen anywhere except in the joy of my heart knowing the kids have all made it to adulthood and are doing well.

Caity is in Austin going to college. Isaac’s wife will be in charge of the party for him. Joe and Chris disrupted. That means they didn’t bond to me and chose to live elsewhere. I am so proud of both of them and always told them their love for me did not determine my love for them. I love them unconditionally. As one caseworker said, “These children will always present you as an abusive parent.’ The agreement was that I would be the adult and love them anyway. They knew that. I said it to them frequently. And I do. And I always will. Part of that love was honoring their desire to live elsewhere. Well, after a lot of tears. And I finally forgave the people who said, without knowing me, ‘yeh! You should hate her good!’” People meant well. They just didn’t know. I accepted they didn’t want me as mom. That didn’t mean I didn’t want them to be my children.

Just like I let, nay helped, Caity go away to arts boarding school even though there was not a day that went by I didn’t miss her.

And like I let Isaac beat me up one side and down the other emotionally when his dad left. Single moms you know that one don’t you? And then you hold them and say, I love you and I’m not going anywhere.

Indulge me an open letter to my kids.

Dear Kids,

It’s a rare opportunity for a parent to have such a public forum to say to the world, you are the best and I’m proud of you!

You know what my favourite memory is actually? Do you remember when Isaac and Chris were both on the Greenlake swim team and Joe and Caity you had to wait and wait and wait until we were done. I would bring dinner and we would sit on the bleachers (well you were actually under the bleachers) and we would cheer them on and they would bring the ribbons and we would write the event on the back of each? I think I loved that the most. I can’t even say why. Maybe because Chris and Isaac you are such incredible athletes and Joe and Caity you were such good friends and enjoyed each other so much.

Sure I’ve got individual favorite memories. Isaac...it’s you and the zoo. Chris... do you remember the week we went to see three different kinds of dance, PNB, Montreal Jazz and ...what was that third one? Mommy and Chris dress up nights. Great fun.

Joe, I loved watching you have so many friends. You were the social butterfly to capture all titles.

And Caity, well.....you know, wearing your underpants and the strainer on your head together thinking it was the most beautiful of hats.

How about Willy Wonka and the Chocolate factory ,Chris and Isaac?. You were a great Willy and Violet.

Caity, you buttering the legs of the kitchen table while I was homeschooling Joe for the second half of kindergarten. I thought it would never come off.

Isaac tending the fire and watching over a sleeping Chris and Joe in the living room during our first storm here on the Island when Caity and I got caught overtown because of the power outages.

You have done well with a very difficult hand. All of you. You have found your way to your best.

Caity, you know your gift is a mother/daughter weekend away as soon as our schedules permit. Isaac you get one friend for each decade to the opening game of the Sounders. Chris, if you ever want to take watercolour and/or ballet at the Blue Heron, you let me know. Tuition’s on me. Joe, I just want to take you out to a really nice dinner and hear about your new dreams.

The picture of all of you the last time we all went to the Evergreen Fair hangs right outside my office door. I thank God for each one of you every day. And for the four of you together as my children.

The hard times. Comes with the territory. I wanted children. And you were the ones God picked out for me. And you all blessed me. Still do.

I love you.
Mom

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BASIC HEALTH APPLICATION???

Come to the Vashon Library
on Thursdays from 11 AM - 1PM
Starting January 29th & Ending April 2nd

Taxes are a **FREE SERVICE** for people who make \$25,000 or less. You may have money coming back to you if you qualify for the *Earned Income Credit*. Don't let the government keep your money! File!

Property Tax Exemptions forms will also be available. To qualify you need to be at least 62 years of age and your income must be under \$35,000 and that includes Social Security.

Basic Health is still opened. To qualify for the state subsidized health insurance your income needs to be under \$20,800 for one person and under \$28,000 for two people.

All forms will be provided by Hilary Emmer 463-7277



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For your Spring Fling



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Don't Forget the Birds

Canvasbacks Join Vashon Bird List

by Ed Swan

A Canvasback gave Vashon a Valentine's Day gift this year, showing up at Raab's Lagoon. After a Vashon Audubon monthly field trip Jeff Adams, Ross Adams and Gary Shugart stopped at Raab's Lagoon so that Gary could find Ross a Black Scoter, a life bird for Ross who's visiting from the Midwest. While they looked into Quartermaster Harbor, Jeff, looking into the lagoon, remarked to Gary, "There's a Canvasback." Gary prepared to say maybe not (he knew none graced the Vashon list) but there it swam along. It then sailed out into the harbor, fed a bit and disappeared off into the inner harbor.

I'm a little mystified as to why no reports of Canvasback exist for Vashon. They tend to be quite local in the Puget Sound area in winter, that is, they stay in certain specific areas as opposed to spreading around all over like scoters or goldeneye. However, those specific areas line the length of Puget Sound. Why is it that not even one has been noticed stopping by before?

Why Vashon stays off their list of winter locations probably lies in their winter food preference for tubers and other plant material. Their body design and diving technique aims to help them penetrate deeply into the substrate under the water. They tend to prefer shallow lakes or mudflat deltas in saltwater or brackish water, usually of larger size. Vashon has no lakes, only small ponds and the eel grass beds and mudflats tend to be of little size. The Island lacks proper habitat for an extended presence but it seems surprising that this is the first recorded stopover.

Known sometimes as the "aristocrat of the ducks," Canvasback possess a striking appearance. The adult males have a strong black sloping bill coming down from a deep chestnut colored head, black breast, white body and black tail. Females look more pedestrian, with overall fairly grayish brown plumage in winter.

Gilbert Findlay, warned of the possibility of the Canvasback swimming toward his house by the mouth of Judd Creek, looked out across the inner harbor to behold a large conglomeration of Common Mergansers. Reports of large flocks keep coming in steadily of a hundred or so birds but his 252 tops them all. Gene Hunn spotted two Ruddy Ducks near their usual Portage foraging area also on Valentine's Day. Usual that is in earlier years, this makes the first sighting for this winter and none showed up last winter. Raab's Lagoon also hosted

a Greater Yellowlegs in the week before Valentine's Day and a male Hooded Merganser for much of the winter. Red-throated Loons seem to be moving into the area with small groups in inner Quartermaster Harbor, Tramp Harbor and Raab's Lagoon. I noted at least 150 in Tramp Harbor on February 2. Richard Rogers saw Tundra Swans flying over his place in the Lisabeula area the same day. I also received a belated report at the end of January from Amy Watkins of a rare winter visit by a Townsend's Solitaire to her yard on the north end. If you have a question about local birds or interesting sightings of birds call me at 463-7976 or email at edswan@centurytel.net.

Lastly, while guiding a bird tour on February 15, an immature Peregrine Falcon provided a nice finale to the trip. As we readied to wrap up and leave from the Ellisport parking lot, it swooped in on some Mallard and Mew Gulls,



Adult male Canvasback at Raab's Lagoon, a first record for Vashon. Photo by Gary Shugart. This is a "digiscope" shot. He stuck his digital camera up against his scope lens and presto, a nice close shot. See something unusual and need help with identification? Send it in and we'll get it identified.

**Island Birding Guide
Species Identification
How to Attract Birds
Ed Swan
(206) 463-7976
edswan@centurytel.net.**





Espresso

It's cold outside but we have a plan...

Come warm up... Homemade soup Hot Dogs

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17311 Vashon Hwy Sw

failing to scare any into the air and vulnerability. Without pause, the falcon continued, tangling with an adult Bald Eagle, scared a kingfisher off a piling and forced the kingfisher to dive into the water for safety. After missing the kingfisher, the Peregrine headed off towards KVI Beach. As its wings beat furiously along, geysers of spray shot one to two feet into the air as Bufflehead and goldeneye dived for their lives. If you'd be interested in a guided bird tour of Vashon or an off-Island trip for falcon excitement on the Skagit or down to the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge for returning spring birds, contact me as listed above. I also do home visits to help identify birds in your yard and provide suggestions for attracting more birds and species diversity. For details contact me or visit my website: www.theswancompany.com.



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 Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, Feb. 27**

BASIC PISTOL CLASS

VASHON SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

Saturday February 21, 9am-4pm
Sunday February 22, 1pm-4pm
~Open to all community & club members~

Taught by N.R.A certified instructors
This course teaches safe and responsible handling, use, care and storage of handguns

Course fee is \$75.00 per Adult to pre-register,
call "Phil" at 408-7009 or Stephan at 777-5449

Course openings are limited. You may enroll the day of the course if space is available.

All Ammunition and Firearms are supplied
"The only thing you need is comfortable clothing"



Aries (March 20-April 19)
Those you think fit into society so well either are the biggest misfits or have to work the hardest to maintain their role, which is in perpetual question. I would propose that they are not your role models; your real goal seems to be standing out and apart, such that you know you are one of a kind. This is your calling this year — to overcome the reticence to be boldly yourself that can even seize an Aries. Remember, we're talking about the reality, not the appearance. It is easy to seem different, and truly challenging to actually be different.

Taurus (April 19-May 20)
Successful careers come in two main species: those that follow a series of promotions and slaps on the back (with occasional setbacks that we learn to make work for us); and the other kind. The other kind is where you take every step yourself. You don't climb a ladder to success, you invent one. You don't type a resume. You convince the world, one person at a time, that you are the one and only person capable of doing what you need to do, and then you make sure they let you try. You never reach the point of success: you aspire every day. It seems lately that only one of these options is open for you.

Gemini (May 20-June 21)
I hope you didn't already sign on the dotted line; if you did, you may be discovering that you need to find an exit clause, or a point of renegotiation. Here is a clue. There is something you can notice that offers an improvement to both parties, and this becomes the lever for renegotiating other aspects of the arrangement. The contract in question may be financial, it may be sexual and from the look of things, it may be both. In any event, please do not underestimate the wider world that will open up once you have the freedom that this rethinking process will offer you.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
You may think you need a team of accountants, lawyers and negotiators to handle your affairs; the truth is you need to handle them yourself. Yes, expert opinions count for a lot — the right ones, at the right time do anyway. What

you need to know is what, from the many options that the world is offering, you want for yourself. Then you need to put the power of your mind to work sorting through the potentials and looking for the one or two things that hit the mark. Finally, there is one partner who seems ready to come on board. Make sure there is an authentic meeting of the minds, otherwise go it alone. It will be easier.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)
Generally you handle the influx of information and experience so well that you can establish a social pattern, a working method or a relationship model and leave it in place for a long time. We all know that most cats like things just the way they are. Occasionally, such as lately, the energy rises to the point where you need things to be some other way; enough Friskies, it's time to catch a vole. This new way is going to involve a new kind of cooperation from the people around you, and probably speaking a new language with them. The key is that while the help may come from others, your brain is the one assigning their roles.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)
Every bell, timer, alarm clock and high-strung chiuaua in the universe are reminding you that you are not the person you always thought you were. Recent efforts to go back to being that person have only been met with more resistance from the people around you. However, I trust that with Mercury changing directions and the grip of winter about to break, you will discover something: your mind is bigger than you thought. It's capable of more complex thought and more creative activity; and it works the best in the position known as wide open.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)
Your native planet Venus has made its way into your opposite sign, Aries, where it will stay (with one brief exception) for the next five months. This is calling for a close review of a relationship. How much of what you see in another person is you, projected onto that person? How much of who they are is them, completely and exclusively? Due to the nature of the current human

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operating system, there is always an overlap. Most people take some comfort here, in that it's easier to spend some of our time being what others need us to be. But what if you sorted this issue out altogether? You soon will.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)
We all know you're an emotional person, but if that is true, why do you have Aquarius, the sign of logic, on the house most closely associated with your feelings? This is working out to be extremely useful now that there have been planets stacked so high we had to raise the roof of the solar system. For you this means so deep you need to open up a new level of feeling. This must take you beyond your opinions of what you are feeling, your judgments of the many others who now populate your world, and simply be about you, existing at the core of yourself.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)
Your mind is clearly overwhelmed with both the possibilities and also with the amount of information you are processing. Relax. If the world can invent the Internet, you can invent a way to process everything you are perceiving; which really means, everything you are learning. You do need to use logic. You need to design a flexible, but sensible work method, which includes a way to prioritize both your ideas and your activities. Things will seem a lot simpler when you have a central organizing principle. Say those three words a few times and see if the meaning changes.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
You are having to make many decisions about money and as so often happens, you are not the only person involved. However, rather than thinking about how many people you have to take care of,

consider how many are contributing to your resources, in ways large and small. Since you can't take care of the whole world yourself, you may as well invent a system where the world around you takes care of itself. But more than this is about banking, commerce or business, it's actually about ethics.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)
Precision is what you want: precision of thought, and how you express yourself. You may decide that there is no such thing as an "identity" except what you have in your mind, and the words you use to express that psychic material you are working with. Your identity will change as fast as the thoughts you are thinking; but the focus that can remain is your locus of identity; the point where you draw your mind to clarity, look honestly and determine what is so. Nothing else matters. Nothing else has anything to do with you.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
You have discovered the benefits of letting off pressure on a regular basis; but you have yet to discover the real gift, which is a kind of clarity that is rarely associated with having psychic gifts. Generally, information that is not strictly in the form of letters and numbers can seem nebulous. Your awareness is becoming an extremely advanced receiver of information: about yourself, about your circumstances, and in truth about the planetary condition. Trust what you are hearing. Document the information and put it to work right away. Don't save it up for 2012.

Read Eric Francis daily at PlanetWaves.net.

Island Epicure



By Marj Watkins

EASY VEGGIES

“How do you get kids to eat their vegetables?” That question keeps coming up. From observing my own children when they were little, and much more recently the 3-to-5-year-olds at Suzanna’s School, I found that these methods work.

You don’t make them eat anything. You let them. Vegetable dishes appear on the table along with other dishes. If kids appear reluctant, you serve yourself first, from vegetables you especially enjoy. When they see you enjoying a food, they’ll usually want some too. It’s no good pretending you like it. They know.

Most kids prefer solo vegetables to combos. Try peas, raw or briefly cooked with butter and a minimum amount of water. Ditto carrots. Ditto cabbage.

Our kids, like me, think colorful foods are more appetizing. They liked broccoli better than cauliflower because the florets reminded them of mini oak trees. We cook them until tender but still bright green. A dash of turmeric added to braised cabbage turns it cheerfully golden. Sprinkle steamed cauliflower with paprika.

Raw vegetables appeal to kids more than cooked veggies do. Let there be salads, the do-it-yourself kind with cherry or grape tomatoes, slivers of red and yellow bell peppers, olives they can stick on the ends of their fingers, baby spinach leaves or torn red or green lettuce leaves and cheddar slivers, all in separate piles.

Kids like to eat foods they create. Let them in on choosing and arranging

the items on the salad platter, and in cooking meals. Even a three-year-old can microwave some potatoes or zucchini, with guidance. They soon learn to read the numbers and how much cooking time each represents.

Older kids will eat more complicated vegetable dishes. Below are a few of my and my husband’s favorites.

COLLARDS OR KALE

- 4 servings
- 1 bunch collard greens or kale
- 1 Tablespoon olive oil
- 2 fat garlic cloves
- ½ teaspoon salt and ¼ teaspoon pepper or to taste
- ¼ cup water

Strip out the tough center ribs from the greens. Wash the leaves, pat them dry, and cut in pieces about 1 to 1 ½-inches square. Peel and slice or dice the garlic.

Heat the oil in a large, heavy-bottomed frying pan or wok. When it shimmers, toss in the garlic. Give it a stir and a few seconds to barely change color. At once, add the greens, sprinkle on the salt and pepper, toss and add the water. Cover, reduce the heat to medium and cook until greens are tender, about 15 minutes.

Leftover greens freeze well and may be rewarmed in microwave or in a pan on the stovetop over medium low heat or added to vegetable or meat stews.

BUTTER-BRAISED CARROTS AND/OR PARSNIPS

- 4 Servings
- 2 large carrots
- 2 thin parsnips
- 2 Tablespoons light olive oil
- 2 Tablespoon shredded fresh basil leaves
- OR 2 teaspoons dried basil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- .1/2 cup water

Slice carrot and parsnips. Heat the oil until it shimmers. Add the vegetables. Strew with basil, salt and pepper. Stir. Add water. Reduce heat, cover and cook until carrots are tender, 12 to 15 minutes. The parsnips cook faster and will be tender sooner.



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BUTTER BRAIZED ZUCCHINI
2 servings
2 small zucchini
Butter, salt, and pepper
Dash dried basil or marjoram leaves

Wash and slice zucchini. Melt butter in skillet. Add zucchini. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and herbs, plus a little water. Cover and cook on medium low until tender, about 10 minutes.

MICROWAVED ZUCCHINI
2 Servings

Prick 2 small zucchini with a fork. (Keeps them from exploding when heated.)

Place them on opposite sides of the microwave turntable. Microwave 4 minutes.

Test for doneness. If not quite tender, microwave another minute or two. To eat, cut lengthwise, apply butter, salt and pepper. Cut crosswise into bites.



Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, Feb. 27**


Across		22. Eye infection	40. Stove	59. Abraham’s son
1. Acknowledges	23. Reverend (abbr.)	41. Frock	61. Ailing	62. Beam
6. Miner’s goal	24. Revolutions per minute	42. Scriptural your	63. Chop	64. Environmental protection agency (abbr)
9. Pop	25. Travel by horse	43. Three	65. Multi-colored rock	66. Very large trees
13. Sheer, triangular scarf	27. Harass	44. Nerve impulse passage	67. Distress call	68. Measuring instrument
14. Put on	29. Objectionable	46. Averages		
15. European nation	33. Adam’s wife	49. Prevaricator		
16. Emblem	34. Public transportation	50. Parody		
17. That (possessive)	35. What a bank gives	51. Shrill bark		
18. Despised	36. Take by force	53. Workplace		
19. Eagerness	39. What a cow chews	56. List of errors		
20. Card game		58. Elm		
Down		11. Follow a regimen	32. East northeast	52. __, Paul and Mary
1. Behind	12. Comedian	34. Purchase	36. Ship initials	53. Type of car
2. Purple	Griffith	37. Allege	38. Vase	54. Continent
3. Eight musical notes	15. Gives off tears	39. Red fruits	40. Mob activity	55. Monopoly player
4. Journalist’s question	20. Dueling sword	42. Russian ruler	43. Ancient Indian	57. Dog food brand
5. Tally	21. Chest bones	44. Please respond	45. Unit	58. Roman garments
6. Abomination	24. Custard filled pastry	47. Many	48. Afternoon nap	60. American Cancer Society (abbr.)
7. Reserve Officers Training Corps.	28. Antenna	50. Book of facts		62. Cruise
8. Weil	30. Billion years			
9. Hotel	31. Vex			
10. What horses eat				



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Spiritual Smart Aleck



By Mary Litchfield Tuel
www.spiritualsmartaleck.blogspot.com

The Ant and the Grasshopper

We have all heard the story of the ant and the grasshopper. It's a beautiful summer day, and the ant works hard taking grains of wheat, or kernels of corn, depending on who tells the story, to the anthill to store up for winter. The grasshopper plays his fiddle, and tells the ant she should relax and not worry – there is plenty of food.

A few months later it is winter, and the grasshopper is cold and hungry, while the ants are snug in the hill eating the supplies they set by in the summer.

The grasshopper sees the error of his ways, now that he's cold and hungry. In some versions of the story the ant says, "Neener neener neener," to the grasshopper, but in others the grasshopper is left to deplore his thoughtless ways in solitude.

The moral of this story is: it is wise to think about tomorrow today.

This story is attributed to Aesop. It is one of the animal fables that were told to teach lessons about life and the world. I was thinking about this fable last night as I listened to the radio. People were talking about how they had saved money all their lives, and had pensions invested in the market, and now – gone. A young man said he hesitated to save money now, because he knows there is no guarantee that his savings will be there when he retires.

So many industrious ants are finding they'll be out in the cold with the grasshoppers, was my first thought. But then I realized that Aesop created these fables centuries

before the stock market as we know it existed. The ant was putting away food, not making contributions to her Roth IRA.

The Greek historian Herodotus tells us that Aesop lived during the sixth century BC and was probably a slave on the island of Samos. Though no historical information on Aesop is available, he was probably a real person.

Phaedrus was a Roman slave born in Macedonia. He lived from around 15 BC to around 50 AD, during the reigns of Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula and Claudius. He put together books of fables, including Aesop's, in Latin. Phaedrus' treatment of the fables influenced later writers.

So the story of the ant and the grasshopper comes from a time when people lived on agriculture, livestock, and the maritime trade in the Mediterranean. The stock market was where you bought a chicken or a goat or some other farm creature.

You could say that we all still depend on those things globally today, and we do, but most of us are

a few layers removed from the farm, the ranch, or the boat with a cargo of amphorae of olive oil. Whether we eat or stay warm depends on

how much money we have more than whether we gathered the crops in sufficiently and stored them wisely last summer.

So our savings are financial. The IRA, the 401k, the mutual fund, stocks, are all tied to the ups and downs of the market.

You may have been an ant all your life, but now you're sitting around having a beer with the grasshopper wondering how the heck this happened to a nice hard-working ant like you. The grasshopper sympathizes; he has nothing, either, but fortunately he can still play that fiddle, so the evenings can be merry.

We are being stripped of our illusions of what security is. It ain't money. This might be a good year to consider what security is.





Loopy sez: Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, Feb. 27**

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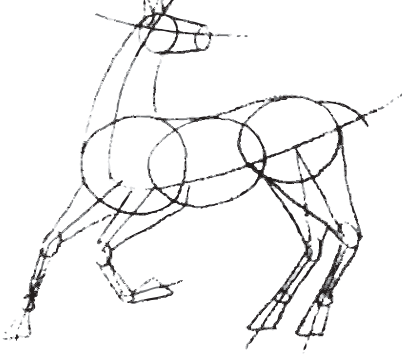
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Madame Toujours

Dear Madame Toujours,

I am wondering what you think about raising boys properly. See, when I got pregnant, I was sure I was going to have a daughter because ... well ... you know ... the goddess and everything. I mean, it didn’t make sense that I would have a boy when everybody knows that men are...you know...the cause of all wars and violence and bad hair days and stuff. So anyway, when my son Hermes was born, I figured it must be some kind of mistake, but my doctor says I can’t give him a sex change operation until he is twenty-one and then only if he says he wants one. I think that’s ridiculous. I mean, I’m his mother, and I would only be doing what was best for him. I mean, I’ve always lived in peace with mother Gaea; how can I bring another man into a world that is already dying from war and famine and pollution and other male stuff? Anyway, now I am wondering what if I just ... you know ... dressed him like a girl and let his hair grow long and told him all about the evils of the patriarchal system and about worshiping the goddess? I mean, how bad could that be? They say that gender is really just ... you know ... how people treat you. If I told everybody he was a girl, wouldn’t he turn out gentle and nurturing?

Sincerely,
Warrior for Mother Gaea

Chere Mlle. Warrior,
Actually, *M. Hermes* would become the slaving maniac, marching his armies of devastation across the Earth,

eating the skins of his enemies and feeding their brains to his dogs. This is being the little known fact that *M. Attila* the Hun and *M. Vlad* the Impaler, they were both being made to dress like the girls by their mothers until they were twelve years old. Possibly this is not what you are meaning when you are talking about the gentleness and the nurturings. Fortunately, however, you are probably not noticing any of this because *M. Hermes* is mostly cutting you into the little pieces and wearing for you the kidneys as the decorative ornaments before he is having the fourteenth birthday.

You will be relieved to know that many of the male persons are the perfectly acceptable, non-kidney-wearing individuals. It is not even being necessary to browbeat and bully *M. Hermes* until he is unable to have the individual thoughts. All you are needing to do is to treat *M. Hermes* with the consideration and respect and the firm but gentle setting of the appropriate boundaries. This remarkable method for the raising of the children is resulting in the sensible and non-violent adult type persons who are mostly not eating anybody’s skin even if they are feeling very much provoked.

Bon Chance, Mlle. Warrior, and do not panic with the unexpected manliness of the offsprings. *Mme. Gaea* is having the very good reasons for inventing the masculine type persons. If we were not having any of them, then who would be having the sex with all of the heterosexual type women? This is the very simple logic *n'est pas?*

Women of the Congo

Continued from page 1

This event is a collaboration between Friends of the Congo, HEAL Africa and Vashon Island Lutheran Church. *Lumo* was shot at the HEAL Africa hospital in the Congo. The organization HEAL was founded in Congo by a Congolese orthopedic surgeon and his wife. It has over 200 Congolese staff members in the Congo and four others here in the States.

“During my time in Goma I started a vocational training program called HEALing Arts for women staying at the hospital which teaches sewing, business, and literacy skills. The women have an opportunity to make money through sewing HEALing Arts products once they have successfully completed their training. These products are sold in Congo and in the US and

Canada. We have purses, table clothes, bracelets, pillowcases, and computer cases here in Seattle. These might be an excellent way for people to support women in Congo in addition to fundraising,” says Harper McConnell of Heal Africa.

\$10.00 suggested admission becomes donation to HEAL Africa.

The goal is to raise \$1,000 to enroll ten Congolese women currently admitted at the Heal hospital into the vocational training program. \$1,000 will cover the costs of ten sewing machine and business start up kits. For more information contact: Friends of the Congo (www.friendsofthecongo.org), Harper McConnell HEAL Africa (www.healafrika.org), or Pastor Bjoern Meinhardt (www.vashonlutheranchurch.org).

Athletic improvements: Last year, more than 35,000 people used the gym for athletic and community events. Team practices often begin as early as 5:30 a.m. and run until 10:00 p.m. A second gym would accommodate simultaneous events. VHS cannot host track meets because no other school will compete on our unsafe track. Many parents and grandparents cannot walk into the grandstand because they need a handrail to navigate the steep steps. Strollers and wheelchairs cannot get onto the grandstand at all. With a reconstructed track and renovated grandstand, the Pirates can host meets and welcome fans of all ages and abilities.

Ballots will be mailed to all island registered voters Feb. 20 and must be returned by March 10, 2009 to count. Everyone’s vote and participation is important! For more information about the bond and how it might affect your taxes visit www.vashonforschools.org.



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Garden T he World

By MEarth



Arne Naess Passes

Noted Norwegian scientiest, philosopher, and writer Arne Naess (pronounced Ness), has passed in his home country at the age of 96. He had long been considered the philosophical founder of the Deep Ecology Movement, a philosophy that has roots deep in the history of mankind’s relationship to this Earth.

In the early 1970s, after three decades teaching philosophy at the University of Oslo, Mr. Naess, an enthusiastic mountain climber, threw himself into environmental work and developed the theory that he dubbed deep ecology. Its central tenet is the belief that all living beings have their own value and therefore, as Mr. Naess once put it, “need protection against the destruction of billions of humans.” It assumes a respect for creation missing in most human activity since Neolithic times.



After decades of refinement, Naess and George Sessions – philosophy professor and author of Deep Ecology For The 21st Century – camped out in Death Valley, California in 1984, and drew up eight basic principles that describe the fundamental foundations of the concept:

1. The well-being and flourishing of human and nonhuman life on Earth have value in themselves. These values are independent of the usefulness of the nonhuman world for human purposes.
2. Richness and diversity of life forms contribute to the realisation of these values and are also values in themselves.
3. Humans have no right to reduce this richness and diversity accept to satisfy *vital* needs.
4. The flourishing of human life and cultures is compatible with a substantial decrease of the human population. The flourishing of nonhuman life demands such a decrease.
5. Present human interference with the nonhuman world is excessive, and the situation is rapidly worsening.
6. Policies must therefore be changed. These policies affect basic economic, technological, and ideological structures. The resulting state of affairs will be deeply different from the present.
7. The ideological change is mainly in appreciating *life quality* rather than adhering to to an increasingly higher standard of

living. There will be a profound awareness of the difference between big and great.

8. Those who subscribe to the foregoing points have an obligation directly or indirectly to try to implement the necessary change.

These concepts transcend the specio-centric practices that have been the basis of western civilization since the beginning of recorded history. Even fairly progressive thinkers have trouble recognizing that grizzly bears have just as many rights as human beings in the greater context of earth life. Deep Ecology challenges each of us to recognize just what a small part of creation we are – and that the universe does not revolve around us, much as we would like to cling to that illusion. His concepts promoted the idea that Earth as a planet has as much right as its inhabitants, such as us humans, to survive and flourish. He cited the 1962 book “Silent Spring,” by Rachel Carson as a key inspiration.

Deep ecology, which called for p o p u l a t i o n reduction, soft technology and non-interference in the natural world, was eagerly taken up by environmentalists impatient with shallow ecology — another of Mr. Naess’s coinages — which they felt did not confront technology and economic growth.

In a world governed by such principles, weeds are not eradicated because they inconvenience us when we try to mono-crop the whole world, they are recognized as a valuable part of an ecosystem we do not fully appreciate, as free and independant beings with a destiny beyond our opinions of them, and beings that, incidently, often contain valuable medicines and nutrients we all need.

When a human being’s life is threatened by another human being and that person takes it upon him or herself to defend him or herself, it is considered unfortunate but necessary. When a grizzly bear seeks to protect itself from a human being because he or she feels the same threat, or feels anger because of previous such mis-behavior, the bear is considered a dangerous rogue to be hunted down and destroyed. This does grant the bear any inherent rights to self-preservation, which I think go with out saying.

While this distinguished philosopher has passed from this Earth – and our prayers journey with him to the other side – the concepts he put forth are rooted deeply in the truth and shall not pass, whether they are honored, acted upon or ignored. My prayer is that they are not only acted upon but embraced by humanity en masse. It is the hope we have for eco-salvation, our road back to the sacred council fires,where a place of honor is still held for us, in hopes of our return to the sacred pathways. See you there, ME.

Vashon’s LARGEST EVER Indoor FLEA MARKET



SAT. MARCH 7
9AM-4PM



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Vashon Flea Market!

Hi, My name is Maury the Flea and I'm here to tell you the exciting News! Starting 9am Saturday, March 14th thru the 15th Vashon will Have its first weekly flea market! (at least in a long time.) I'm so Happy I can hardly contain myself! Just imagine, you could have your Own yard sale every weekend here in the lot just north of Pandora's Box. You could also sell your own baked goods, arts and crafts, tools, Clothes, novelties items, services, plants, or just good old fashioned Junk. Like the old saying goes, "One Mans Trash Is Another Mans Treasure" There are many great reasons to come to VFM, for instance, we will be having a Raffle for Vendors and Visitors. The winner each week will win a \$25 gift certificate. WooHoo! This Certificate can either go towards VFM, AJ'S Espresso, or donate to Vashon Youth Council. And if that's not enough to entice you, we will also be running a Weekly "Where's Maury?" Contest. Keep an eye out for me, Maury the Flea, in either the Beachcomber or The Loop Newspapers. I f you find me and you are the first caller to identify Where I am, you will also Get a \$25 gift certificate towards VFM, AJ'S, or VYC. (A great way to Get the kids involved.)

Here is some more important info:

- *Visitors are always FREE!
- *Rates for vendors:
 - 5ft x 10ft \$10 for one day, \$15 for two days.
 - 10ft x 10ft \$20 for one day, \$30 for two days.
- I ndoor spaces: \$20 for one day \$30 for two days.
- *Open every weekend eight months out of the year.
- *Hours of Operation: Vendors 7am and Visitors 9am. Closing time varies throughout the year.
- *Food in the area: AJ'S (Beverages, Hot Dogs, Nachos & Bagels), The Rock Pizza, and Subway.
- *5% of all VFM profits will go to Vashon Youth Council. Yeah!
- *Sorry, but you are not eligible to win the raffles if you or your household have already won Within the last three months. We want to give everyone a chance to win.

*For more info, please call Sheila at 206-719-2691 or Email vashonfleamarket@gmail.com
So, we're really looking forward to seeing you all, vendors and visitors alike!
Love, Maury

(The little fella with the big heart!)

(Maury's wish: To help our community in anyway possible as a collective.)



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POV Seeks Art Show Submissions

Continued from page 1

Entries are open to amateur photographers as well as professionals Michael Elenko, current POV chair, is encouraging emerging photographic artists to submit work. "Part of POV's mission is to cultivate talent here on Vashon.

Great photographic art can be produced in a split second by a person with intention. Artistic vision comes from photographers of any age and we'd like those visions to be shared with more people."

To help promote photographic quality, POV is conducting informal working sessions to provide technical and artistic guidance. Artists interested in contributing can check

the POV website: <http://www.photographersofvashon.com/> Photographs taken with both digital and film-based equipment will be accepted.

Final art selection will be determined by a formal jury external to POV. All work must be submitted to the jury by April 29, 2009. Complete art submission guidelines can be obtained at the POV website.

POV promotes artistic and technical excellence for working photographers on Vashon Island. POV sponsors fine art exhibitions, and provides community education about photographic methods, tools and processes. POV is affiliated with Vashon Allied Arts and has a working relationship with the Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Museum.

Artists needing more information can contact Michael Elenko at 206-226-3315, or James Culbertson at 206-463-1663.

Proofreading and Editing... from A to Z

Correspondence	Dissertations	Government publ'ns	Itineraries
Cover letters	Documentation	Grants	Job applications
Creatives	E-books	Graphs	Journals
Curricula vitae	Fiction	Historic documents	Legal notices
Data	Financials	Instructions	Magazines
Depositions	Forms	Invitations	Mailers



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Lopy Laffs

Bumper Sticker:
Horn broken. Watch for finger.

Written on the wall in a restroom up town;
Under a sign that said
"Employees Must Wash Hands,"
someone scribbled:
I waited and waited, but I finally washed
them myself.

Your conscience may not keep you from doing wrong, but it sure keeps you from enjoying it.
The real reason you can't take it with you is that it goes before you do.
A person who can smile when things go wrong has found someone to blame it on.
*A modern pioneer is a person who can get through a rainy
Saturday when the television's on the blink.*
The world is full of willing people: some willing to work and some willing to let them.
Some people are like blisters. They don't show up until the work is done.
If you don't know where you're going, you're never lost.
I've got to sit down and figure out where I stand.
Remember, it's not, "How high are you?" it's "Hi, how are you?"
It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.
Don't follow me or you'll end up at my place.
Give Pizza Chants

JetBlue is now charging \$7 for a blanket and a pillow. So now you'll be able to get a
solid eight hours' sleep on the runway. ~David Letterman

I'm not a fatalist. But even if I were, what could I do about it? —Emo Philips

Welcome to Vashon – we
don't care how you did
where you came from.

Conference: The confusion of
one man multiplied by the number
present.

Compromise: The art of dividing
a cake in such a way that everybody
believes he got the biggest piece.

Tears: The hydraulic force by
which masculine will-power is
defeated by feminine water power.

Dictionary: A place where
success comes before work.

Communication (ko-myoo-ni-
kay-shon) n . *Female....* The open
sharing of thoughts and feelings with
one's partner.

Male... Leaving a note before
taking off on a fishing trip with the boys.

Lecture: An art of transferring
information from the notes of the
Lecturer to the notes of the students
without passing through "the minds of
either."

Classic: A book which people
praise, but do not read.



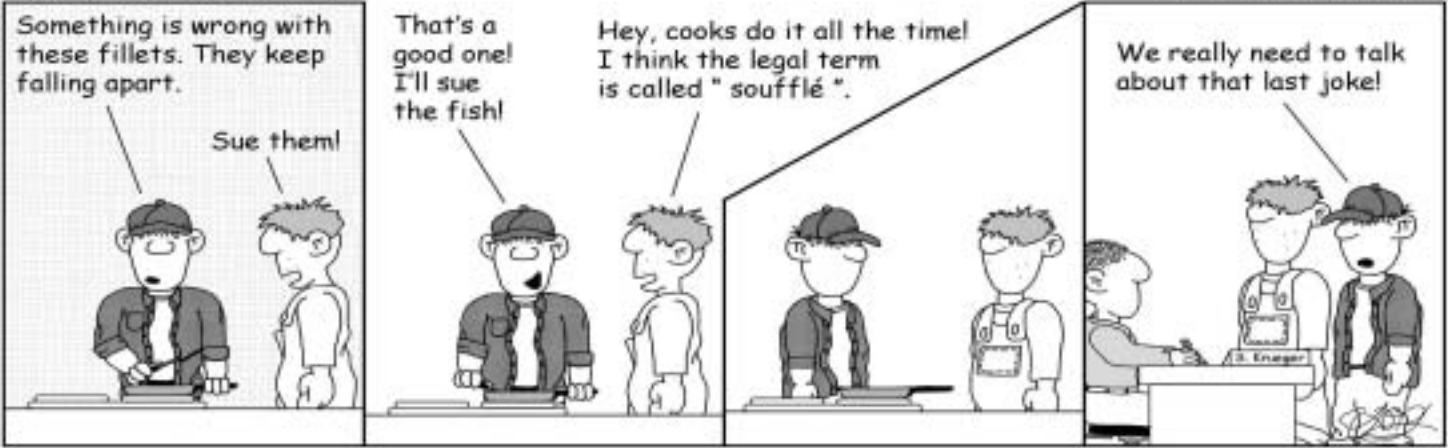
WILD WORLD / Ed Frohning



OFF SHORE



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Loop Arts

**Sugarcane Mutiny at the Red Bicycle
Friday, February 20, 9:30 pm**



Seattle's SUGARCANE MUTINY takes two shots of single-malt rock and adds a dash of twang. The band's lyric-driven songwriting and power-pop beats blend the dark humor and storytelling of a Cracker or Wilco with the loud jangly pop of the Smithereens and Fastball. Reviewers have compared the band's sound to Billy Idol, X, REM, and U-2, while others say they hear hints of Midnight Oil, Talking Heads and the Cult.

Whatever you call it, it's all-original Seattle rock — loud, wet

and quirky. The band took 2nd place in Roy's Battle of the Bands last October, winning a bunch of cool gear and rehearsal time, and their song *Your Town* won "best bass in pop rock for the week of November 19th" at Garageband.com. Recent gigs have included shows at Hempfest and Tacoma's First Night Celebration. A 4-song EP is now available.

This show starts at 9:30pm and is for those over 21 years of age. Free cover and lots of delicious food available at the Red Bicycle!

Tingstad and Rumbel CD Release Concert

By Janice Randall

Grammy award winning duo, Eric Tingstad and Nancy Rumbel will perform at the Blue Heron, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 21. They will be joined by one of the region's hottest electric



reeds and ocarina, they will perform works from the new CD as well as previous recordings, including 2003 Grammy winner, Acoustic Garden..

Tingstad and Rumbel have been making music together since 1985. Seattle native Tingstad learned guitar in the Segovia tradition at Western Washington University. His diverse influences include Led Zeppelin, Ravi Shankar and Hawaiian slack key guitar. Tingstad was nominated for a Grammy in 2006 for solo project, Southwest.

Rumbel, native Texan, was coaxed into playing oboe by her band director after a bad experience with the clarinet. She pursued a classical career at Northwestern University in preparation to play with the Chicago Symphony. She toured as a member of the legendary Paul Winter Consort four years. Tickets \$15/\$17.

bass players, Gary Shelton. Tingstad and Rumbel are celebrating the release of their 19th recording, Leap of Faith in this CD release concert.

Internationally known for their perfect blend of Tingstad's finger style guitar and Rumbel's double

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Café Luna Music



Marilyn Kay & Company, an organic blend of acoustic musicians, will be bringing their energetic mix of Americana, bluegrass and classic country to Cafe Luna on Friday, February 20th at 7:30. Marilyn Kay & Company's innovative approach to acoustic music unites tradition with modern sensibilities through the honesty and charm of Marilyn Kay's original compositions and chilling harmonies.

Timothy Everett Bertsch plays Original Acoustic Compositions performed on Rare, Antique Harpguitars and Guitars Saturday, February 21, 7:30



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Local Artist Featured in Statewide Art Exhibit

Local artist, Nan Joy, of Vashon Island, has been accepted into the 2009 CVG Show, a statewide juried art show held at the Collective Visions Gallery in Bremerton. Her artwork, Found Object Assemblage, titled Naturalization, is one of 130 artworks chosen by exhibition juror Gary Faigin, Artistic Director of the Gage Academy in Seattle, from over 800 works submitted by artists throughout Washington State. Accepted artists will be competing for \$8,000 in prizes and purchase awards and will be on display at CVG during the month of February. For a complete schedule of events visit www.collectivevisions.com.



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Adrian Xavier Sweet Reggae Beats at Red Bicycle

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 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.

Performing almost two decades now, Adrian Xavier grew up being exposed to the music industry in a special way and began studying music at a very young age. Working with many established

legendary artists over the years has helped build his foundation as a strong singer, songwriter and performer. Seattle born Adrian Xavier now takes music to new heights, bridging musical styles to



create music that relates to people all over the world. Join Adrian Xavier on Saturday February 21 at 9:30pm for a 21+ show. No cover.

Petition from Citizens of the US

Continued from page 1

maturity, honor or decency in encumbering our children with massive debt to pay for our generation’s mistakes and the inept management of our affairs. We must demand an alternative course of action from our government. This Petition offers such an alternative.

In this Petition we citizens propose that in exchange for US taxpayer infusions of capital all of the securities representing the ownership of these businesses (see Provision #3 for the exception) will be treated as though the business had actually made a bankruptcy filing. When US taxpayers recapitalize the insolvent institutions, a new class of shares shall be issued. Those securities will: **(1) become the property of the US taxpayers and (2) be deposited into a Trust, called the Social Security Trust, for the benefit of all Social Security system participants.**

As the business activity of the citizenry revives the economic vitality of these institutions, the value of shares in those rescued institutions will increase. As they increase in value they will become the financial backbone for the Social Security system – a system that now has no real assets but for the social security taxes taken from future payrolls. The SST shall be managed by a **FIDuciary Oversight Board (FIDOB)** whose members shall; be experienced investment fiduciaries, report directly to the President of the United States and be subject to oversight by the General Accountability Office. When there is clear evidence that the rescued financial institutions are stable, the FIDOB may examine the prudence of selling the securities to the highest bidder in the marketplace. While such a program would require the President’s and GAO’s approval, the proceeds from a sale will remain as SST assets.

By implementing the actions proposed in this Petition, we citizens of the United States will: recapitalize the financial infrastructure of the country,

- Employ market-based principles consistent with the intent of our laws,
- Substantially alleviate (not solve) the financial burden upon our children of paying for Social Security benefits we have promised to give ourselves,
- Create a governance model grounded in and guided by an authentic fiduciary standard of care (not how banks or bank regulators operate now),
- Establish a Trust with real assets that serve as a financial backbone for Social Security, and
- Exemplify our President’s call for individual responsibility.

Please visit www.sociallyresponsiblerescue.org to read the Petition and sign it. Pass it along to friends, family and colleagues; after all, this is OUR country. Thank You.

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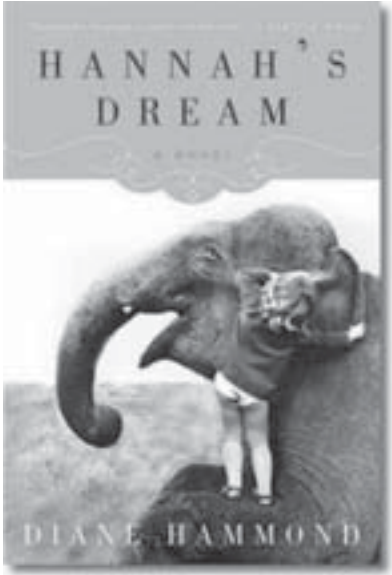
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Author Diane Hammond at Books By the Way

Thursday, March 5 at 7:00 pm - Diane Hammond reads from her new novel *Hannah’s Dream*. The book touches on the subject of animals in captivity, in this case an elephant. Diane’s book, however, is really based on her real-life experiences with Keiko, the infamous killer whale from the Free Willy movies, who was rehabilitated in Newport, Oregon before being released. Solitary elephants in zoos, though, are what have been making headlines of late and Diane’s book has proven to be rather timely in that respect.

Diane’s presentation includes reading of excerpts of her book as well as sharing stories about the conflicts that went on behind the scenes with Keiko and which inspired her to write this book.



Slum Dog Millionaire will play one week starting Feb 20

Oscar Night! Feb 22 4pm

Wrestler will play one week starting Feb 27

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Many thanks to you Vashon

Dearest Friends and Neighbors,
It has been a great honor to serve you these past few years. We want to thank each one of you who have shared with us your special celebrations, your weekly nights out, your passions for food and music, your laughter, your love of this island and most of all, your friendship. Without you and all you have given us we could have never made the dream we had for the Back Bay come true.
Our heartfelt thanks to all of our staff, past and present, each musician, artist and guest chef. All have become permanent members of our family. We would love to be able to name each person who has contributed something special to our journey unfortunately there isn't enough space. Please know that we bless each name every time we think of the Back Bay and Quartermaster Pub.

Sincerely
Victoria Davies and John "Stormy" Storms

Thank you for your generous contributions Loop Rock Stars

Joyce Olson
Norm and Lee Ockinga
Julia Lakey and Steve Self
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Jim Warren and Vashon Island Energy
Kevin and Maria Pottinger and a lot of kids
Mike and Donna Donnelly
Everyone who gave cash at the Spotlights benefit - you know who you are!
True rock stars Loren Sinner, Dan Cadman, Jerry Todo and Scott Johnson (The Spotlights)
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It's not too late to get your name on this list! Please send what you can to PO Box 253, Vashon, WA 98070 so we can pay off our printer and hire back Editor Ed. With your help, we will continue to publish Vashon's favorite newsmagazine. Thank you!

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And as always THANKS VASHON!! And thanks Loop!)

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Executive Director needed for Vashon Household, a vibrant, healthy low-income housing non-profit. Assets include CLT sweat equity homes and rental apartments. Need strong organizational and relationship-building skills. Must have fundraising, public relations, grant writing, and real estate development experience. Competitive salary (DOE), excellent benefits, and stunning location. For application, contact Kim Nelson 206-604-9666 or e-mail EDsearch@vashonhousehold.org.

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