

Upgraded Facilities The Silent Educational Partner

Deirdre Grace, Co-Chair, Communications, Yes for Kids!



Five times a day, Anders Blomgren hurriedly packs up his teaching materials, checks the room for papers and belongings his students might have left behind, and drags two backpacks and a pile of papers outside and across campus to his next teaching space. By the time he gets there, most of his students are already settling in. Moments later, the bell rings.

There's no chance for between-bell questions or encouragement, no moment of reflection as one group of kids exits and another begins to file in. Never the ability to create walls that showcase student ingenuity or provide learning opportunities in the subject he teaches – Freshman English.

Blomgren is a roaming Vashon High School teacher. Out of classrooms

years ago, high school administrators created new classrooms out of time instead of space by instituting a policy of sharing and roaming. Some teachers lucky enough to have their very own classroom must vacate it each day during their planning period, giving it over to Blomgren and the other roamers or space-sharers while they find a corner elsewhere to plan outside the easy reach of materials and resources.

"I work hard to minimize negative impacts on students such as too little time to provide support between classes, and compromises related to not being able to establish the learning environment I want in my classroom," says Blomgren. Principal Susan Hanson agrees. "Applied learning requires a consistent space where projects can remain over a period

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VMICC President Calls for Community Involvement

By Steve Amos

Carl Sells, erstwhile Vice President of the Vashon Maury Island Community Council (VMICC) and now acting President in the wake of the recent resignation of previous Council President Jake Jacobovitch, has called for increased community involvement and public awareness regarding the challenges that the VMICC is currently facing, especially within the context of its role as one of King County's Unincorporated Area Councils (UACs).

Though it would be difficult to establish an exact date as to when the VMICC clearly became embarked upon turbulent waters, the clear end to smooth sailing was apparently the end of October, 2008, when the K2 property rezoning occurred as part of the 2008 update to the King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP), changing the prior zoning of I-P (industrial with P-Suffix conditions) to CB-P (Community Business with P-Suffix conditions). Slightly previous to

this time, the VMICC, through one of its committees, had been looking into ways of making positive use of the otherwise unused facility, but the exploratory effort failed to yield community agreement as to an appropriate use for the facility.

Notwithstanding, the rezoning still took place. Vashon Island resident Thomas F. Bangasser (who has subsequently become a member of the VMICC Executive Board himself) was not in favor of the rezoning and attempted to appeal the rezoning directly and, apparently lacking standing to appeal directly, attempted to convince the VMICC Executive Board to appeal the rezoning itself, which the VMICC Executive Board declined to do. The relationship between Bangasser and the VMICC Executive Board continued to decline and by May of 2009, Bangasser launched a lawsuit naming the King

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The Documentary, "Race to Nowhere"

School reform has become an urgent national issue and 2010 is the year of the education film. Race to Nowhere presents one filmmaker's perspective on what is happening to American children as a result of current policies and practices focused on testing, performance and competition. Race to Nowhere gives voice to those on the front lines who are most affected by education policies - the students and teachers themselves. The film spotlights the intersection of health and education and empowers everyone to get involved and take ownership of what's happening in our schools and communities.

The Vashon PTSA and the Vashon Theatre present Race to Nowhere for one showing, Sunday January 23, 12pm. This fundraising event is co-sponsored by the Harbor School and the Vashon Education Association. The film will be followed by a moderated panel discussion at 3pm. The panel will include Harris Levinson (VHS Teacher), James Cardo (Head of Harbor School), Julie Wilson (VHS Junior) and Madeline Morser (Instructional aide, Harbor School and VHS Graduate). The event is a fundraiser for PTSA and the Harbor with a \$10 suggested donation to cover the costs for bringing this acclaimed film to Vashon.

PTSA President Lauri Hennessey comments, "This was so exciting to have a chance to partner up with the Harbor School and the Vashon Education Association to bring Race to Nowhere to the island. Most everyone involved in education has been following this movie. We are excited to find a way to all work together to bring the movie here to our fantastic theater."

Concerned mother turned filmmaker, Vicki Abele, was inspired to make Race to Nowhere out of concern for her own



children. She pointed her camera at the high-stakes, high-pressure culture that has invaded our schools and our children's lives, creating unhealthy, disengaged, unprepared and stressed-out youth. Featuring the heartbreaking stories of young people in all types of communities who have been pushed to the brink, educators who are burned out and worried that students aren't developing the skills they need, and parents who are trying to do what's best for their kids, Race to Nowhere points to the silent epidemic in our schools: cheating has become commonplace; students are disengaged; stress-related illness and depression are rampant; and many young people arrive at college and the workplace unprepared and uninspired.

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"We All Belong" Imagine The Possibilities

By Shannon Flora

Vashon is a terrific place to live and in the eyes of many, a utopia of openness, friendliness and small town charm. But for some, it can be hard to break through the surface of affability to truly feel like they are part of the community. It was with this challenge in mind that a diverse group of concerned citizens created Welcoming Vashon a movement with the mission "We All Belong - a creative hub for projects and activities that will make Vashon a welcoming place for everyone".

Their first event, "We All Belong" will be held at the "O" Space, 9am-Noon, Saturday February 5th. Breakfast will be provided and it is free of charge. Any and all are invited and encouraged to attend. Facilitators, Jim Diers and Bruce Anderson will lead attendees through a series of enjoyable interactive activities to generate ideas leading to specific projects, designed to impact all of Vashon in concrete and positive ways. Diers promises "I guarantee that it will be the

most fun that people can have on Vashon on the morning of February 5th!"

The term "asset based community development" might be new to many and is at the core of this effort. The principle suggests that for a community to be healthy and sustainable, it requires the gifts and talents of every citizen. People who may not be seen as valued members of the community because they are too old...too young...disabled...poor...look different...aren't from 'here' – begin to believe they are not important citizens. Welcoming Vashon aims to change that by developing fresh ideas and creating the tools to be an even more welcoming and productive community where every person is valued.

Vashon has a plethora of organizations, causes, and agencies. So why is this needed? The synergy of these diverse groups working together in partnership with the inspiration of individual citizens is the essence of

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Get in The Loop

Submissions to the Loop

Do you have an event or Public Service Announcement? Email questions or submissions to Steven Allen, editor of the *Loop*, at editor@vashonloop.com. Photos are welcome as jpeg or pdf attachments.

Community Drumming

All ages are welcome to join Vashon Drum Circle and Buffalo Heart, our big community drum, on Friday, January 14, 7-9 PM at Vashon Intuitive Arts. Facilitated by Jim Burke with Amy Wolff, we will explore drumming to honor the directions through the wisdom teachings of Celtic mystical tradition. As we drum for east, south, west, north and center, we will incorporate songs as well as elemental chanting and meditation to explore deeper meanings and messages. This is a free event; donations help with facility rental. Sponsored by Woman's Way Red Lodge, a non-profit dedicated to promoting balance and wholeness by enlivening the sacred feminine in our communities, Vashon Drum Circle meets every 2nd Friday at Vashon Intuitive Arts.

Jim Martin Fund

Jim Martin was the epitomy of community service - the kind of guy who would step up when anything needed to be done. When he passed away on Sunday night, the island has lost a valuable member of its community. By request of the Martin family, an account has been set up at Bank of America in the name of Jim Martin in support of the Vashon Fields Capital Campaign.

Actor auditions

Actor auditions - 2 new plays at Blue Heron Arts Center for Vashon Allied Arts New Works Series. Open call for adult-age actors and actresses from 10 a.m.-12 on Sat. Jan. 22 at Blue Heron, and 7 p.m.-9 Thur. Jan. 27. Prepare 1 short monologue. Excerpts provided from scripts at auditions. For info, call Marc at (206) 225-8058.

Compost the Loop

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

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, Peter Bond.
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Fruit Club Workshop

Vashon Island Fruit Club is conducting a winter pruning workshop Saturday, January 22nd, where we will be pruning mature fruit trees. The workshop will begin at 1:00 in the orchard of Dan Carlson, 5120 SW 244th St on Maury Island.

This is a great hands-on opportunity to fine-tune your pruning skills. Dr. Bob Norton will be joined by Michelle Ramsden and other experienced pruners to demonstrate pruning concepts and techniques and to guide the rest of us as we do maintenance pruning on mature fruit trees, working in small supervised groups.

Directions from Center: south on Vashon H'way to east on 204, continue on Ellsport/Dockton/Pt Robinson Rds (follow signs for Pt Robinson Lighthouse). Take the first right on to 59th Ave, and the first left on 244th.

Don't forget to bring your clean*, sharp pruning tools! *In order to avoid spreading disease from orchard to orchard, it is recommended that you wipe your blade surfaces with a 3% hydrogen peroxide or 10% bleach solution, or with isopropyl alcohol.

Filmmaker Abdi Sami

Iranian-American filmmaker Abdi Sami will speak about contemporary issues facing Iran and its people on Wednesday, January 26th at 7:00pm at Vashon Lutheran Church. Abdi Sami was Associate Producer of the highly successful "Rick Steves' Iran" for PBS and has led two United Nations Association delegations to Iran.

Bond Mathematics

\$51,200,000 amortized over twenty years at a modest 5.5% interest rate has us paying \$84,527,592. Is that reasonable?

Celebration of Mutual Ministry

Last July, the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit was delighted to welcome the Rev Canon Carla Valentine Pryne as their permanent rector. The time has come for a Celebration of Mutual Ministry, where the Episcopal Diocese joins with the local congregation to recognize the shared service of priest and parish to the community and to the world.

On Wednesday, February 2nd at 7 pm, this festive worship will take place. Along with the Rt Rev Gregory Rickel and Deacon Gen Grewell from the Diocese of Olympia, representatives of various faith ministries on the Island will participate in the service. It is very integral to Carla's calling as a priest that service comes from all the people and not just from the ordained, and that all service is part of a wider community.

All are welcome to attend. Please carpool if possible. There will be a reception following the service.

Support School Bond

As a long-time island resident and parent of recent graduates from the high school, I will be supporting both Propositions 1 and 2 in the upcoming school bond election on February 9. The focus of my column today is on Proposition 2. Over the past several years much has been learned about the state of our high school and the clear need for upgraded classrooms and facilities, but less is known about the situation with the track and field.

The track and field are nearly 50 years old and no longer meet the demands of co-curricular activities that have grown from the original needs for football and track to also supporting soccer and lacrosse, and heavy use by both boys and girls teams. In addition the WIAA standards for track meets and playoffs for football and soccer require a rubberized track and FieldTurf field, respectively. Thus, we have not hosted a track meet on Vashon for over 15 years, and we have to play our "home" playoff games for Vashon High School soccer at Foster HS in Tukwila. At the Homecoming football game in 2009, poor drainage and heavy rains resulted in 1-3 inches of water on the track and extremely sloppy field conditions. We are one of just a handful of schools in the Puget Sound area that have neither a modern track nor field.

On Vashon, greater than 60 percent of our kids are involved in some type of sport. We have 550 kids playing organized soccer on the island and participation by girls has more than doubled in the last 10 years. Due to the limited amount of fields, heavy use and grass surfaces, fields are regularly closed for practices during the fall soccer season. This past November, nearly half the practices were canceled due to unplayable fields, significantly limiting exercise opportunities for our kids. In addition, most of the school fields are closed during the summer for grass regeneration and rest. An all-weather field at the high school stadium would allow unlimited use in the summer, use by the youth and high school football teams, and use by up to four soccer teams at a time for practice in the fall. This would help reduce wear on the McMurray athletic fields and keep them playable throughout the school year.

A modern track is safer for athletes, can be used by a broad section of the community for after-hour use and promotes exercise for all ages. An all-weather field requires no irrigation, fertilizers, or mowing. This saves money and water, while reducing maintenance needs.

Please join me in supporting Propositions 1 and 2, for our schools, for our kids and for our community.

Lorin Reinelt is a former school board member and high school boys soccer coach and currently coaches club soccer.

Next Edition of The Loop Comes out Thursday, February 3

Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, January 28**

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Need Help With Your Federal Taxes? Or Property Tax Exemption??

Come to the Vashon Library on Thursdays from 10:30AM - 12:30PM. Starting January 27th & Ending March 31st

This tax help is FREE 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 61 years of age and your income must be under \$35,000 and that includes Social Security.

No appointment necessary
Drop in
All forms will be provided
Hilary Emmer
463-7277

Arlette's Dance Workshop

When: Sunday, January 30th 1-2:15
Where: Vashon Dance Academy
Cost: \$10

Who: Anyone with a body and the wish to freakin dance! Please dress in layers, stretchy clothes and bare feet if possible!

I am experimenting with putting together a dance class and I am starting with this workshop. I want to see what my fellow community members would like and what I would like. I truly enjoy moving my body especially dancing. I wish to "infect" you with the joy of movement, where the body, brain and spirit can all come together. Humans are meant to move and dance. It's not inspirational to me to exercise only to "be fit". I want to access my body to fly with my spirit and to use dance and exercise as my tool. This class will involve some following the leader, and some movement technique. The way you perform the steps is up to you however, so you can keep it simple and be gentle to your body, or you can go all out and add turns and leaps! We will be learning movement in various forms such as jazz, ballet, modern, improvisation, and sensual grooviness with a yogic and pilates based warmup.

Let's rock out and explore movement, have fun, sweat and actually learn something about ourselves and how we "connect our dots".

I want your feedback after class, so allow yourself some time to answer questions and tell me what worked for you and what didn't!

Thank you for reading and please consider coming! Arlette Moody
arlette000@centurytel.net 463-1839

Find the Loop on-line at www.vashonloop.com.

The Vashon Athletic Club is having a “New Year’s Healthy Body Special”

Make your New Year’s resolutions come true by enrolling in VAC’s six-week fitness and nutrition program!

This unique program features both one-on-one and group personal training with certified VAC trainer Jason Everett. As well as a personalized nutrition program and support from Certified Nutritionist Jennifer Foege.

Don’t miss the unique opportunity to work with these professionals in a combined setting. Enrollment is limited to six students. Deadline for signing up is January 26th. Class begins on Wednesday, Feb. 2nd.

For pricing and enrollment details, please call the Vashon Athletic Club at (206)463-5601 or stop by the VAC front desk.



February is Fix-a-Cat Month

Vashon Island Pet Protectors and Fair Isle Animal Clinic sponsor low cost spays and neuters in February.

Cat spays \$25

Cat neuters \$15

Call for an appointment
206-463-3607

Fair Isle Animal Clinic



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Care Packages Sought for Fallen Soldier’s Platoon

When Vashon’s 1st Lt. Robert Bennedsen was killed in Afghanistan last month, he had only been in the country three weeks, but he had already come up with a plan of support for men and women under his command.

He told his family that while he enjoyed care packages from home, many in his platoon never received anything. He hoped the people of Vashon would change that.

Bennedsen’s family and friends wish to fulfill Bennedsen’s plan and ask that Islanders donate cash to the cause or give items the men and women there have requested. The list includes mechanic’s gloves, green uniform socks, sunscreen, hand warmers, preserved foods, powdered Gatorade, cans of tuna, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, reading material, flip flops and hard candy, according to Lauren Chinn, who is helping to organize the effort.

Islanders can drop off both types of donations for Bennedsen’s platoon at James Hair Design or Bank of America.

Advertise in the Loop!

Winter is a great time to get back in the Loop.
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Next Loop comes out February 3

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Loop Ad Rates

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2.5x2.5	\$37.50	\$33.75	\$30.00	\$26.25
2.5x3	\$45.00	\$40.50	\$36.00	\$31.50
2.5x4	\$60.00	\$54.00	\$48.00	\$42.00
2.5x5	\$75.00	\$67.50	\$60.00	\$52.50
2.5x6	\$90.00	\$81.00	\$72.00	\$63.00
2.5x7	\$105.00	\$94.50	\$84.00	\$73.50
2.5x8	\$120.00	\$108.00	\$96.00	\$84.00

Inches, WxH	Horizontal rectangle or square			
	1-4 issues	5-10, 10% Off	11-18, 20% off	19-26, 30% off
5x1	\$30.00	\$27.00	\$24.00	\$21.00
5x2	\$60.00	\$54.00	\$48.00	\$42.00
5x3	\$90.00	\$81.00	\$72.00	\$63.00
5x4	\$120.00	\$108.00	\$96.00	\$84.00
5x5	\$150.00	\$135.00	\$120.00	\$105.00
5x6	\$180.00	\$162.00	\$144.00	\$126.00
5x7	\$210.00	\$189.00	\$168.00	\$147.00
5x8, Qtr Pg	\$240.00	\$216.00	\$192.00	\$168.00
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Full Page	\$960.00	\$864.00	\$768.00	\$672.00

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Advertise month by month on VashonPages, VashonNews.com or VashonMap.com. No long term contracts.

Stories Around the Campfire

It's mid-winter, the days are short and the nights are long. What a perfect time to gather round the fire to share stories. In the past, families would gather round the fire in winter to hear stories from their elders. It's a way for important life lessons and history to be passed on from one generation to the next.

Here on Vashon, we have the opportunity to hear one of our Island's prominent storytellers, Joe Meeker, share his tales of early Northwest settlers. Joe is doing so as part of Vashon Community Care's Telling Stories, a Speaker Series by and about Vashon Locals. Joe will share enthralling tales about early Northwest settlers, including his own ancestor and Northwest pioneer, Ezra Meeker.

How did the early settlers cut down the very large Douglas fir trees they found in the Pacific Northwest when they came west with only very small saws? We'll hear the fascinating story about Chief Leschi's murder trial. Ezra Meeker was on the jury at his trial. And how did the Meeker Mansion in Puyallup come to be built? These are a sampling of the stories we will hear from Joe, a master storyteller, historian, scholar and comedian.

Please join us round the campfire at 4 pm on Sunday, January 23rd at Vashon High School Theatre. Tickets for Joe's talk are by donation to Vashon Community Care and are available at Books by the



Way, Vashon Book Shop and Vashon Community Care.

VCC is delighted to offer Islanders the opportunity to hear and learn from the stories of our Island elders. Telling Stories Speaker Series is made possible by a generous donation from the estate of David W. and Catharine A. Carr.

It's Labor of Love Auction Time

Yes, it's already here again, time for Vashon Community Care's annual Labor of Love Online Auction. This much-loved Island tradition, where Islanders bid on items or services that are made or performed by their Island neighbors, will begin at 12 noon on Wednesday, January 26 and run for two weeks, ending at 12 noon on Wednesday, February 9.

During these two weeks, you can bid on hundreds of unique Vashon items and services. How about purchasing a large quantity of homemade baklava for an upcoming party? Or maybe you'd like to have your pet's portrait painted by a famous Vashon artist. Or maybe you'd like to learn how to kayak or try riding a recumbent bicycle. These are but a few of the items, services and experiences you can bid on during the Labor of Love Online Auction. To view and bid on auction items, visit the website, www.LaborofLoveVashon.org.

VCC is still accepting donations for this auction. Being an online auction,



people can continue to donate items during the auction. You can donate directly online or by picking up a Labor of Love donation form at VCC.

All proceeds from the Labor of Love Auction benefit the residents of Vashon Community Care. Don't miss out on your chance to purchase an item or service made by your Island neighbor. Visit www.LaborofLoveVashon.org to place your bid. Let the bidding begin!

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Vashon Library February 2011

Children & Families Toddler Story Times

Tuesday, February 1, 8 and 15, 10:40am
Ages 21 months to 3 years with adult.
Enjoy a 20-minute program of stories and songs just right for toddlers.
Registration not required.

Preschool Story Times

Tuesday, February 1, 8 and 15, 11:30am
Ages 3 to 5.
Join us for 30 minutes of stories, songs and fun!
Registration not required.

Baby and Me Story Times

Wednesday, February 2, 9 and 16, 10am
Ages newborn to 20 months with adult.
A 20 minute program of stories, songs, rhymes and bounces for babies and a caregiver.
Registration not required.

Teens SAT Preparation

Saturday, February 5 and 12, 1pm
Four sessions will help you prepare for the SAT. They will focus on the exam format, how the questions are ordered, when to guess, how to guess and general test-taking strategies. Students will receive suggestions about how to prepare further on their own. Prerequisite: students must take the SAT practice test online BEFORE the first session. A library card is necessary to log in to the Testing & Education Reference Center, a database that can be accessed from the KCLS web site. Register at the Vashon Library, 206.463.2069.

Late Night @ the Library

Saturday, February 12, 6pm
Bead a bracelet with Mary Ann. Have a psychic reading with Morgan. Limber up with Dance Dance Revolution, play Super Smash Brothers Brawl or Outdoor Challenge on our Wii, and join the strummers at Guitar Hero open play. Enjoy the Vashon Library Cyber Cafe and surf the web or play a game.

Adults ESL Classes

Tuesday, February 1, 8, 15 and 22, 6pm
Come to the Vashon Library for free weekly lessons in speaking English as a Second Language.
Childcare can be provided. You must request it one week in advance, by

speaking to the teacher or calling the library, 206.463.2069.

Tax Help for Lower Incomes

Thursday, February 3, 10, 17 and 24, 10:30am
Professional tax preparer, Hilary Emmer, will help those with incomes of \$25,000 or less, prepare their 2010 tax forms. It's all free and no appointment necessary.

Great Operatic Duets with Norm Hollingshead

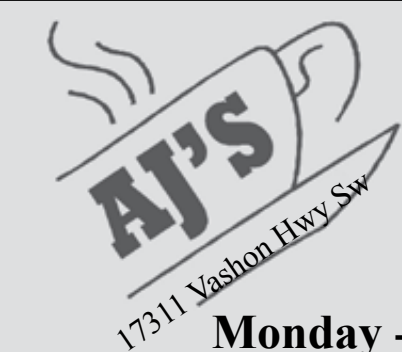
Sunday, February 6, 2pm
For many opera lovers, the duet is their favorite part, when two voices are blended in love, hate or friendship. Join veteran opera lecturer, Norm Hollingshead, for this second of a two part series on the greatest operatic duets of all time. Norm illustrates his commentary with recorded musical excerpts from his own collection, many quite rare.

Great Books Discussion Group

Monday, February 7, 6:30pm
The Great Books Discussion Group meets on the first Monday of the month, October through June. The selection for February 2011 is An Interest in Life by Grace Paley in Great Books #3. Visitors are welcome. The only requirement to participate is that you have read the material under discussion.

Opera Previews with Norm

Hollingshead: Don Quichotte by Jules Massenet
Sunday, February 20, 2pm
In Don Quichotte, Jules Massenet utilized only a few scenes from Cervantes' famous novel but those are brought charmingly to life by Massenet's wonderfully "Frenchified" Spanish music. Don Quichotte was originally composed as a vehicle for the greatest singing actor of his time, the fabled Russian basso, Feodor Chaliapin. The opera was a great success whenever Chaliapin performed it and, since Chaliapin's retirement in the 1930s, the opera has been performed successfully whenever a dynamic basso has assumed the title role.
Mr. Hollingshead will illustrate his commentary with recorded musical excerpts from his own collection, many quite rare.



Espresso
Latte and Wisdom
To Go

Monday - Friday 5:30am - 3:00pm
Saturday 7:00am - 3:00pm
Sunday 8:00am - 2:00pm

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Island Life Target

by Peter Ray

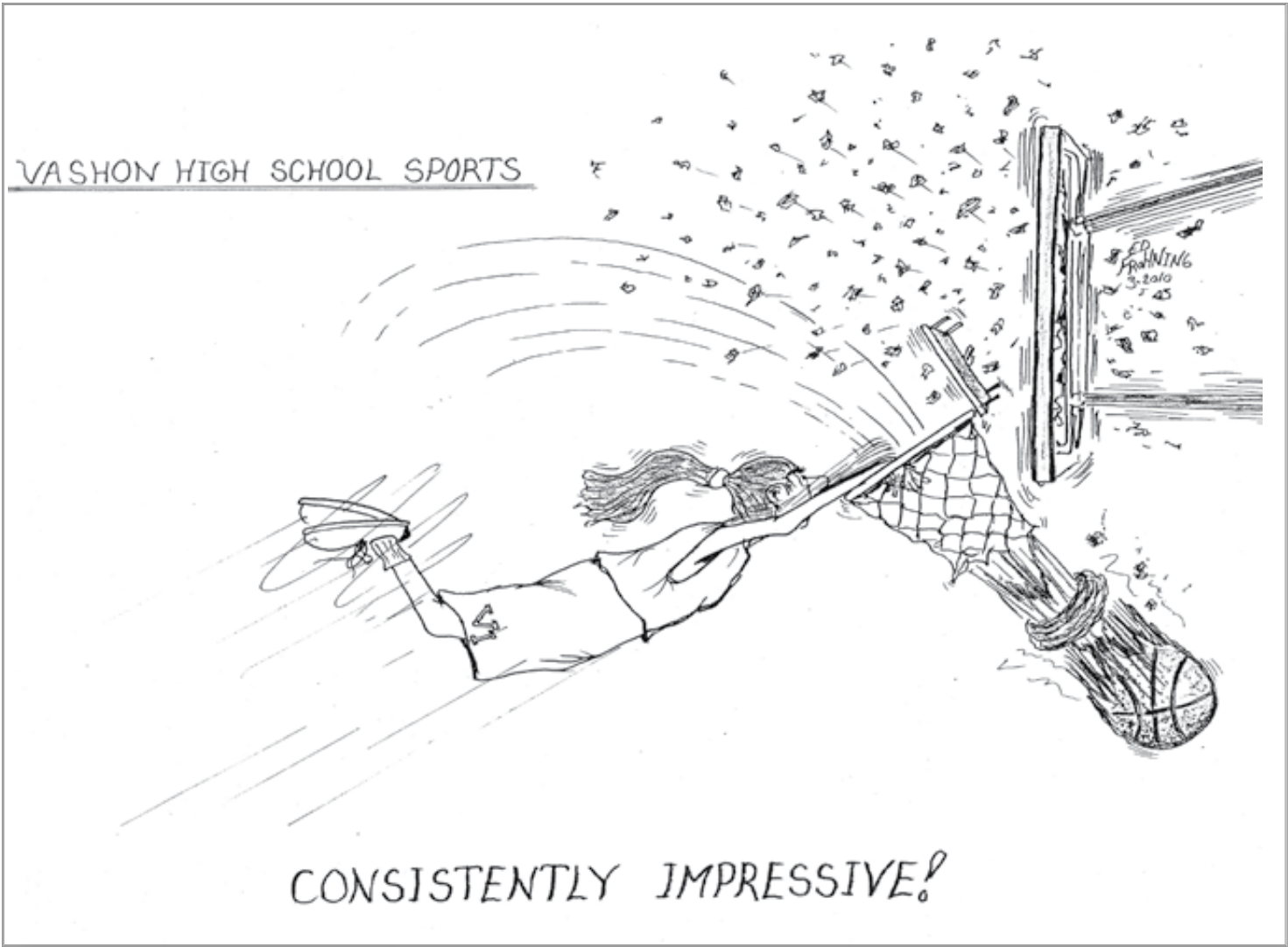
I can remember the first time I felt confident on a bicycle. It was in our front yard on a flagstone path that lead from the driveway to the front door of the house I grew up in. My Dad was following behind me, holding my seat and keeping me upright. I couldn't believe it when he said he had let go and so, of course, I had to turn to see that I was riding on my own. I had mastered the balance, but I had not quite grasped the concept that one's gaze and one's body position can, and often should, operate independently. As I noted over my shoulder that my Dad had set me free, I also saw a look of distress come over him, the reason for which I quickly came to understand as, in turning to look back, I had also steered myself into the rose bush that was draped over the white picket fence that bordered one end of the path. I think that may be why I've always been suspicious of roses.

I can also remember the first time I felt uneasy about my place in the universe while straddled over a steel frame and two wheels. It wasn't anytime through the years where I progressed from that first single speed and coaster brake wonder, to the blue, three-speed Schwinn Traveler or the gold Schwinn Varsity 10 speed that took me out of the neighborhood on various "bike hike" adventures or across town to spend the day at the swim club. It was on the Woodinville-Duvall highway in the early eighties, on at least three occasions as I was riding to work, when a turquoise Ford van nearly took my elbow off as it sped by. As far as I could see, there was no good reason for this act of intimidation. I was a bicyclist, which as I have seen since then in a number of iterations and variations, classifies one in some people's minds as a target that needs to be removed from the road regardless of the consequences.

This may be changing soon, as I noted recently in a communique from the Cascade Bike Club, since the Washington State legislature will be considering once again the passage of Senate Bill 5838- what has been dubbed the "Vulnerable User" bill- which establishes legal precedent for punishing people who choose to use their vehicles as lethal weapons. Some people will take exception to that categorization. To them I would say that if you choose to view all cyclists as renegades and scofflaws (which seems to be the curious hole cyclists get buttoned into) and seek retribution through vehicular assault, then you are no better than Jared Loughner firing into a crowd of innocents to achieve some twisted, higher goal of better living through less government and an existential culling of the herd.

One of the most interesting stereotypical comments I've seen leveled against cyclists, besides the complaint that one has to slow down to get past them or that they never stop at stop signs, is that they think they are immortal. One very rarely hears complaints about having to slow down for dogs or cats or deer on the road. One would be hard pressed to admit to having always come to a full stop at every stop sign one has encountered in their automobile. As for immortality, it is on a bike where I feel most alive and acutely aware that that could cease to be at any moment. Mortality and the defense of ones existence are of paramount concern when one is on a bicycle. If you want to see a vision of immortality, have a look at an SUV driver in the snow.

I guess that in a way I may take exception to the term vulnerable



user, in that in many ways it serves to separate the invulnerable, steel and air bag encased vehicle operator from the pedestrians, equestrians, tractor drivers and cyclists it intends to protect. It tends to draw a line that separates human beings into two groups, when in reality we are all vulnerable users to one degree or another. In reading about all this, I came upon a term that is how vulnerable user is translated and named in bicycle legislation in the Netherlands, and that is "soft traffic". With the term "soft" it acknowledges an implied vulnerability, while at the same time including that softness as a recognized part of the general traffic flow. For some reason, both of those aspects still seem to elude many out on the road today. For those who are still having a hard time with this, both car drivers and cyclists as well, I am including an extract from the body of the revised code of Washington below. As they say, it's the law.

RCW 46.61.755- Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle, and every person riding a bicycle upon a sidewalk or crosswalk must be granted all of the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to a pedestrian by this chapter.



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Information

Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Museum Consignment Store Offers Historical Items

The Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Museum has opened a new Consignment Store, located just inside the front door of the museum on Bank Road. The small space in the lobby area will now serve as a display of historical artifacts and collectibles that are offered for sale to visitors to the museum. It is the hope of the museum that area residents will bring small antique items that can be put on display for sale on a consignment basis. Thirty percent of the sale will go to help the museum continue offering new exhibits, and seventy percent will go to the seller. "It's a great way to help support the museum, and make some money, too," says museum Trustee Yvonne Kuperberg. She adds "It's not for old clothes or furniture, but for charming antique items, one of-a-kind bits of Americana that might be around your home. We hope Islanders will also bring collections, whether it's vintage tools or carved chickens."

Larger items will be photographed and stored, with the photos and descriptions displayed in the store.


Ms. Kuperberg notes that it is items that reflect the island heritage that are most sought after by the museum. "This is a Heritage Museum, and anything that reflects the history and legacy of Vashon will benefit from the setting provided by the Museum exhibits and atmosphere," she says. "To us, it all



The Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Association and Museum is located just west of the Vashon town center on Bank Road, across from the Vashon Fire Station.

ties into the island's enduring culture and collective memories." Residents who offer items for sale will have the help of the Museum's staff, who will answer questions from visitors about the items, and help tie them to what they meant to life on Vashon. "We expect the store to be something very special," said Ms. Kuperberg, "like a continuing, ever changing exhibit, curated by the island folk themselves, from their own collections. We hope many people will want to buy these treasures, and take them home to enjoy for more generations."

Stop by the Vashon-Maury Heritage Museum and talk to Yvonne Kuperberg or Gay Rosser for more information about how to consign your historical items for sale in the new space.



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Well here we are with most of January behind us already. At this point you have probably received a credit card bill or two leaving you time to scratch your head about how all those little charges add up. If you attempted to make some change this year with resolutions, this can be a trying time to follow through.

Humans weren't intended to live such a stressful existence. Always pushing the limits of what can be done in any given 24 hour period for the sake of creating a more meaningful life. But is that really the case?

Somehow we contrived this idea that if we work hard, each and every one of us is entitled to more and better. Maybe in a simple life this equation would add up. If we only had to provide the essentials (water, food, shelter) then the equation makes sense. But it doesn't anymore...at least not the way you might think.

Don't get me wrong, if you have all your ducks in a row you can still live a healthy, balanced life. Unfortunately, they don't teach those skills in school which means most of us have no idea how to go about getting things done and making time for the basic necessities of healthy living.

Maybe if the Declaration of Independence included the importance of caring for oneself along with life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, we'd be more apt to seek out the time to do just that. Unfortunately it doesn't so when stress and change adjoin in time and space; we honor the Declaration and forego our needs.

It is at this juncture of stress and change we begin to feel it. Experiencing failure is customary among the masses this time of year. What you may not be cognizant of is the fact that failure is necessary to a healthy existence.

Inherently we know we need and should be caring more and better for ourselves. When we don't comply with our own ideas of proper self maintenance

and care, guilt lies heavily upon us. This guilt increases our sense of feeling failed by no one other than numero uno. This can and does lead to more self deprecating behavior.

In order to break the chain, one must give new meaning to our ideas of what failure really is. Failure does not have to be the end of a pursuit. Attempting and failing means you just eliminated a path that doesn't lend itself to the guidelines of this pursuit. Try again...differently. By this definition, failure is the opportunity to begin fresh. I suppose this would also mean failure is the opportunity to create a more promising outcome if the new attempt does not too fail. Failure, in essence, is the refinement of a worthy pursuit.

When your next failure delivers a blow to your Ego, think of yourself as a fine craftsman with sander in hand refining a pursuit worthy of excellence. You may need to deconstruct, rethink and rework your attempt a few (dozen) times before it becomes an art form. And all that sanding has created a master at the craft of eliminating failure.

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The Documentary, “Race to Nowhere”

Continued from Page 1

A mother of three and former Wall Street attorney, Abeles awakened to this crisis as her 12-year old daughter was being treated for stress-related illness. She saw personally how the pressures were overwhelming not only to her own kids, but to students everywhere – in every kind of school environment and community.

The film is the second in the Vashon PTSA/Vashon Theatre Parent Film Series, following December's showing of “Waiting for Superman”, which was also followed by a panel discussion. To suggest other films as part of the series, contact PTSA President Lauri Hennessey.

For more information, visit: www.racetonowhere.com , www.facebook.com/RaceToNowhere
or www.vashonptsa.org

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VFW Essay Contest Winners

Olde John Croan

Chairman of the Youth Essay and VOD Contests

Vashon VFW Post 2826



Essay Winners: back row, left to right, Hunter Mask, Alden Rogers, Roy Bumgarner; Ian Stewart. Front row, Left to Right, Burdell Hollis, Molly Dillon, Tess Mueller; Sam Briggs, Madisen Chapman, Olde John Croan

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) were able to enlist fourteen judges in November, 2010, to review 202 essays provided by students from the Chautauqua Elementary, The Harbor, the McMurray Middle and the Vashon High Schools. 202 Youth Essay Certificates were awarded in the class rooms during the week of January 2nd with the following twenty eight students receiving framed certificates and cash for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards in each participating class, that amounted to \$2425:

5th Grade - Liesl Bogaard, 3rd Place; Taylor Brooks, 2nd Place; Sam Briggs, 1st Place: 6th Grade - Oakley Reid, 3rd Place; Selah Bellscheidt, 2nd Place; Merideth Hackett, 1st Place: 7th Grade - Hannah Van Dusen, 3rd Place; Emily Arnesen, 2nd Place; Tess Mueller, 1st Place:

7th Grade - Joshua Davis, 3rd Place; Elliot Carleton, 2nd Place; Molly Dillon, 1st Place: 7th Grade - Isaac Roter, 3rd Place; Kaija Elenko, 2nd Place; Alden Rogers, 1st Place: 8th Grade - Leonardo De Blasé, 3rd Place; Ellen Chappelka, 2nd Place; Madisen Chapman, 1st Place: 8th Grade - Marie Trudel, 3rd Place; Mara Drape, 2nd Place; Kali Heffernan, 1st Place: 8th Grade - Lila Wooden, 3rd Place; Levi Teachout, 2nd Place; Benjamin Stemer, 1st Place; Ian Stewart, 1st Place: High School - Jonathan Kim, 3rd Place; Randi Gibbons, 2nd Place; Hunter Mask, 1st Place. Note: Benjamin Stemer and Ian Stewart's essays were so close that we pronounced two 1st Place Winners for their Award Group, but we could only forward one name to VFW District 2. Ian's name was forwarded.

Vashon forwarded nine 1st Place Winners to District 2 for their evaluation. District 2 receives essays from Seattle and Vashon schools. At the District 2 Youth Essay & VOD Awards Ice Cream Social on

January 9, at Ballard Eagleson VFW Post, eight of the 9 Vashon students won 1st, 2nd or 3rd Place Awards, with the following 4 students essays being forwarded to the Washington State Level for their evaluation. 6th Grade: Sam Briggs; 7th Grade: Tess Mueller; 8th Grade; Ian Stewart; and High School; Hunter Mask.

The VFW Youth Essay Contest for the Elementary Schools is sponsored by the Washington State VFW organization and the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contests that are conducted at the Middle Schools and the Voice of Democracy that is conducted at High Schools are National Programs. The Washington State and Patriot's Pen Contestants, typically receive their State Awards during an open assembly at the school facility; however, the Voice of Democracy presents their Washington State Awards at the Mid-Winter Conference at Yakima, WA, from January 21st to 23rd. Hunter Mask and his family have been invited to the Mid-Winter Conference. One Washington State Patriot's Pen and one Washington State Voice of Democracy contestant are invited for a five day all expense paid trip to Washington DC and awards that are in the thousands of dollars.

We Veterans of Foreign Wars are very proud of our students, teachers and school administrators, the volunteers that judge the essays and provided the certificates for the students, the family and friends of the students and the loving and caring Vashon Community. Thank you all very much for making a significant contribution to the success of the VFW Essay Awards program for our leaders of tomorrow. May each and every one of you have a blessed life that is filled with good health, serenity and joy.

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Aries (March 20-April 19)
Actual independence may not exist in human relationships, but for the sake of discussion, let's call it the difference between thinking for yourself, or not. Your astrology, both in the current moment and for a long stretch of the future, is about you doing precisely that. There is a necessary first step -- noticing all the ways you're going along with the gang. There is a necessary second step, which is taking the risk of doing something else. Generally, you know you've reached the second step because you feel like it's risky, like you might somehow be cast off. Encountering that fear consciously is vital, so that you can overcome it. Think of this as an initiation -- as becoming a full-fledged member of the tribe, because you're willing to be uncompromisingly yourself.

Taurus (April 19-May 20)
Every religion professes that God's love is more important than human love. Then we can get caught in a game where human love becomes a religious enterprise. What the two typically have in common is guilt. Can you imagine your relationships being free of this emotion? It may be challenging, though think of it this way. Start with the fact that you exist. You belong here, and you have a right to possess your existence. You're not the property of anyone else -- be it a person or an ideology. To act on that takes more strength than most people think they have, yet strength is built through exercise. Learning to be free is an ongoing journey that includes regularly reminding yourself that others are free as well. When this inner process starts to gather momentum, it makes a lot more sense.

Gemini (May 20-June 21)
What is so compelling about a certain person with whom you seem to be growing enthralled? In what ways do they challenge you? In particular, how does their presence relate to what you witnessed in your childhood family? One potential is that this encounter is dismantling your early examples of relating, the ones you once thought of as the only kind that existed. The other is that the situation is so similar to the lives of your parents and grandparents as to be indistinguishable. A lot depends on your discernment right now. If you find yourself needing to make decisions you don't feel strong enough to make, that is a sign to listen to. Remember that you have the faith to live your life your way. Let me remind you how much depends on your doing so.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
Consider whether your relationships have had the quality of sacrifice and how that came to be. You grapple with possessing two profoundly different tendencies in your most personal encounters, each of which seems to negate the other. One is attraction to traditional, stable situations. The other has shades of potent individuality and group consciousness, which are closely related (only individuals can be part of a group). Based on the first quality, you crave deep one-to-one bonding, yet the models you've used throughout your life are falling apart. Based on the second, you're likely feeling the need to be absolutely yourself, and to seek others on a similar mission. All of this may be leaving you feeling less than normal -- and if so, congratulations. There is no such thing; there never was.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)
This will be an easy few weeks to find yourself getting totally wrapped up in the experiences of the people around you. If that works for you, and it just may be perfectly natural, then go for it. If not, I can make a simple suggestion -- meditating for a short time every day will keep you centered. Not for long; you need perhaps half an hour of focused time. This will help you open a tap into yourself that's continually available. This will free you to do something unusual, which is to be in a space of self-awareness and conscious self-relating no matter what is going on in your environment. Whatever that is, it sure looks interesting, fun and just a little weird. The time you take for yourself will allow you to throw yourself in with full abandon.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)
You seem to be incredibly busy -- over the top. And, you may have an idea that you're going to get results. I would propose that you'll get the same results with a lot less effort; therefore, you can put the formidable power of your mind onto the assignment of figuring out how to do less, work less and take better care of yourself. You will have some brilliant ideas for how to do this, though I would propose that your desire is what is going to make this real. One of those ways of taking care involves how you direct the high-voltage energy of your mind. You are like a live wire; I suggest you figure out how to ground your energy, prioritize and take action based on the one thing you're certain you want the most.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)
You're about to experience a rare burst of creative energy, and it looks like you're in an environment where you're truly appreciated for that. I don't suggest you concern yourself with the second part, any more than you need in order to be grateful and welcoming. Notice the ways in which the people around you are happy and willing to support you, and get back to what you're creating. Start while the idea is hot and fresh. As you move through your journey, you will probably encounter various sensations -- doubt, fear, inspiration and a sense of release -- but remember the sense of mission that's at the core of what you're doing. In a few words, I could describe that as making direct contact with the curious, raging child within you, notably, in the healthiest possible way.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)
Do you wonder where your insecurities come from, or what it will take to create a space where you feel safe and welcome? You're more accustomed to living on the edge of what you think of as safety than in the middle. You're now being invited to go deeper first into the concept of what comprises a solid and dependable space -- and then the reality of whatever that idea is. This does not need to take time; most of the time it does take is likely to be spent in a kind of negotiation about who you might betray by giving yourself what you need and want. I suggest you raise that question to full consciousness, and that you leave no stone unturned -- especially the sense that you're betraying someone by being free.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)
If you have an idea, run with it. It may not be perfect or up to Hollywood scale, but your deeper vision clearly is. Beginning something is the biggest

step -- and the most significant. You will establish an energetic anchor, spark your creative process, and commence a situation where one idea leads to the next. While you're doing this, remember that true creative process is really about self-creation. You're being born along with what you're making, or whatever vision you're bringing into the world. This is excellent news, and I am guessing you'll agree. I can tell you that where you are at the beginning of your experience bears little resemblance to where you'll be when it's at full fruition, except that one led directly to the other, and there will be many innovations along the way.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
Astrology draws a direct connection between wealth and self-esteem. On the one hand you could rightly say that the better you feel about yourself, the more money you can make. Another way to consider the equation is that your life-affirming feelings about yourself are your greatest asset. You have a truly unusual opportunity to tap into this idea in the coming weeks, and in the process to leave many of your old doubts behind. One of your most deeply held values is equanimity; that is, a state of authentic fairness. Events are likely to demonstrate that this quality must include you first; it goes both ways. Count yourself in. In doing so, you will set yourself free from the disappointments not only of your own past, but of past generations. This is a radical gesture. So be it.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)
Feminism typically proposes that women must stand up to men. I think there is something more significant, which is the need for women to stand up to their mothers: to the ideas that came from them (particularly about relationships), to the emotional issues passed down the generations, and in particular to mothers' frequent refusal to allow younger women to be free. This affects all of us, regardless of our sex or gender. A fiery New Moon in your birth sign conjunct Mars (planet of desire) and Ceres (the old story with mom, or mom's treatment of her daughter) encourages you to blaze the way forward, away from your past and your childhood; to vote for your own independence by bonding with independent women; and to encourage the daughters around you to be free people.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
Your deepest desires are stirring; they seem to be coming to life, making themselves known to you as if they had an existence of their own. But they don't, and they're not separate from you -- you give your desires life, and you may continue to do so a little more with each passing day. What you want often has a feeling of deniability, as if it's not quite up to existing in the world; that is a form of doubt, and it's rapidly being replaced by passion. It is true that to experience this passion you have to leave old grief behind, and at the same time you must risk future disappointment. It will be worth taking those chances. Your dreams are wild and you can now set them free, which is to say, you can set yourself free.

Read Eric Francis daily at www.PlanetWaves.net.

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Drying the Dog

by Mary Tuel

Every time Jive the dog comes in these days he's sopping wet. He smells great, too. Well, he puts off a great smell.

There is a pile of old towels by the door, and a folding chair for me to sit in, and we have a few minutes of communion. I throw a towel over him from head to tail, and then commence rubbing him down and drying him off, and telling him what a good boy he is. This praise is most important when I get to his feet.

There may be dogs who like to have their feet messed with, but Jive is not one of those dogs. It is the foot drying that makes him start to walk away. He especially dislikes it when I run the towel between his toes, and try to get the mud loose from his claws. So I've learned to say, "Good boy, good boy," to him while I perform this delicate maneuver. That seems to calm him and get us through the tedious business.

Then when I'm done and he's only slightly damp and his paws don't leave little mud prints on the floor I sit back, and he stands there looking at me expectantly. Usually I'll throw another towel over his head and rub down his head and back again. We both enjoy that part.

Finally I say, "That's it," and we are done. He looks at me to make sure I really mean it, and walks off to whatever corner of the couch he has in mind.

When my husband dries Jive, he usually reminisces fondly about Sadie, our Doberman mix, who passed on a few years ago. When he was drying Sadie off, he would say, "Footy," and she would obligingly raise a paw for him to dry. She didn't like it, but she understood the necessity. Dobermans have reasoning powers.

Jive is a Lab mix, and is not burdened with reasoning powers.

While animals have always been a part of our family, we are not of the persuasion that animals are our babies or children. We had babies and children; animals are animals, with definite animal personalities and natures, and we love and respect them as such. Rick says now that after Jive goes, he would like to have no more dogs, or cats, or rabbits, or rats, or mice, or guinea pigs, or gold fish, all of which have lived with us over the years.

I understand his reasoning: you get so attached to them (except for some of those awful killer rabbits), and then they die. That's the main reason. Rick is tired of having his heart broken. Also there is maintenance and money. We're at a time of life when we need to take care of ourselves, and animal companions take time and care. You have to train a dog, you have to clean the cat's litter box, and you have to pay for food and vet bills. Dogs chew things up, and dig up the yard, and run off and roll in disgusting rotten things and come home grinning. Cats leave disgusting things in the middle of your bed. Worst of all, you will probably have to make the decision to have an animal put down at the end of its life.

Sometimes as I'm toweling Jive down I'm thinking, he may be the last dog. It makes me a little sad, and it even makes getting the mud off his feet a sweet chore. It's a sad part of growing older, realizing that you are doing things for the last time, and that parts of your life are gone forever.

Then I think, I'll bet if I brought home a cat or a dog, Rick would fall in love with it and they'd hang out together. Maybe if as I presented it I said, "Good husband, good husband?" That might calm him down.

Don't tell him I'm thinking this, though. I want it to be a surprise.



Upgraded Facilities The Silent Educational Partner

Continued from Page 1

of days, she says. "Really, every teacher deserves his or her own classroom."

Indeed, teaching takes on additional challenges when its silent partner, the bricks and mortar that should serve to support learning, is overcrowded and crumbling.

Roaming and the impact it has on teachers and their students isn't the only consequence of a high school so long overdue for renovation and new facilities. Every hour, doors all over the scattered and disjointed campus open to the outside as students pour in and out, heating the great outdoors and leaving learning spaces cold and inefficient.

Facilities Director for the district Dave Wilke says the band-aids he and his staff have gotten good at applying to the old boiler, the putrid boys bathroom, and countless other maintenance nightmares can only do so much - but the band-aids sure do consume a distressing percentage of staff time. "With modern, efficient systems in place - at all the schools, but certainly most dramatically here at the high school - my staff would be freed-up to do more routine prevention, rather than troubleshooting repairs. Most systems no longer have replacement parts available leaving no alternative but less effective workarounds and patchwork solutions."

Even the district's newest school - now almost 20 years old - needs upgrades to its ventilation and heating system, as well as modernized technology infrastructure to support the expanded network traffic of today's world.

"This is a modest bond request to modernize and upgrade our buildings and essential systems," says Superintendent Michael Soltman. "We're talking about renovations to much of the high school campus, remodeling for energy efficiency and safety, and a new classroom building that finally consolidates teaching into a logical, supportive learning environment. Across the district, it's just needed upgrades and essential improvements - in some cases, we're actually talking about fire sprinklers."

The school bond is separated into Proposition 1 and Proposition 2. Most of

By the numbers

Proposition 1: \$47.7M
Proposition 2: \$3.5M

Cost to \$400K property:
\$11 more per month
Vote by: February 8

the upgrades and costs are contained in Prop 1. Prop 2 addresses the inadequacies of the track and field, replacing the current grass field with now-standard artificial turf and replacing the dangerous cinder track with standard materials.

"There is an ever increasing need by the entire community to have outdoor field space with the ability to be used year round on a 24-hour, 7-day a week basis," said Scott Rice, Vashon Commons Fields Subcommittee chair. "All the fields now have to be rested usually 3-4 months a year due to the current demand, and programs are being turned away due to lack of field space. Having at least one turf field would help a great deal"

Dave Wilke adds that the availability of even a single year-round field would ease wear and tear, and the domino costs associated with over-use, on the district's other fields and even to some extent its indoor facilities. "When all the fields are resting, the gym often has to take up the slack" he says.

Wilke also points out that the water-saving qualities of modern turfs are no small consideration. "The reality is that water on this island is truly a precious commodity and not something we should be wasting," he says. Wilke estimates the district would save in the neighborhood of 80,000 gallons of water each year with the new turf.

Energy and water efficiency, improved learning environments, a classroom for every teacher, and three schools ready to prepare tomorrow's leaders while serving as today's community center - that's the heart of the Vashon school bond.

Propositions 1 and 2 give our teachers the silent partner they deserve.



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Peace Will Not Be Assassinated

by swaneagle harijan



Every week i vigil on Thursdays with Women In Black on Vashon. Sometimes it is just me and one other woman, mostly it is about 4 of us. The experiences these various women have standing for justice is impressive; so many unknown tales of vast courage, vision, action. Millions of such people populate this country whose names we will never know. The underpinnings of a great massive resistance to violence, corporate/military/colonialist take over of all life is simmering in the nooks and crannies of this country. No, the billionaire greed mongers and their hate filled shells shall not prevail.

The time has come for those of us who are guided by the deep principals of nonviolent resistance to prepare for our final duty. Many of us may die in the days to come. I am sad to say, many of us will die. To shirk our duty now is to leave an unbelievable nightmare to our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. A very difficult task faces us here. It is the violence cultivated by the slave owners' descendants, the off spring of the KKK, the death squads trained to kill their own friends, families and neighbors. It is the violence cultivated by invaders from Europe still foisting genocide against Native Americans whether on reservations or walking down a Seattle street carving a piece of wood. It is violence that has stockpiled weapons of mass destruction such as the largest nuclear arsenal in the US (possibly the world) that resides across the water at Bangor Nuclear Navy Base. It is the violence of crazed militia men fearing Mexico's supposed plans to take over the US or slandering the environmentalists attempts to save what is left of nature, our very sustenance, in the name of a contrived right wing Jesus. It is violence that we are all immersed in here, in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia, Yemen, Haiti, Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador, anywhere US trained Special Forces (highly trained death squads) and their troops have disrupted survival possibilities of the people to make way for corporate rape and pillage of remaining resources.

Perhaps we face the most serious task ever laid before a privileged people in humanity's time on earth. I do believe this is the case.

Last night i was part of an event celebrating the successful halt of a massive sand and gravel mine operation on tiny Maury Island that would have extracted 7,500,000 tons a year exposing arsenic, contaminating drinking water, killing fragile sea life in a declared Aquatic Reserve. 2 years ago i participated in a

lockdown roadblock as well as 2 kayak actions of civil disobedience as part of the tail end of 13 years of arduous community efforts to prevent this debacle. None of us were ever arrested during this time tho several of us received written warnings by the US Coast Guard that further such interference with the construction of the 305 foot steel pier would

bring us felony charges, \$250,000 fines and possibly 2 years in jail. At least 1,000 people showed up for the wonderful food, drink, talks, music and happy victory as the 250 acres will now be a state park. It was a fine gathering thanking all of us for the multi faceted efforts that seemed to create this shining success.

But i was troubled. In all my many years of doing civil disobedience, never have i been part of any action that actually worked. I have faced felony charges before standing in front of a bulldozer threatening the burial site of Roberta Blackgoat's baby son and mother at Big Mountain in 1989. Along with 3 traditional Dineh (including Roberta) and 6 other nonIndians, we were arrested that cold sub zero day, put in the Hopi Tribal Jail, divided from the Dineh and shipped to the Coconino County Jail in Flagstaff. Tho the charges against all of us were dropped, the bulldozer did it's dirty work.

Last night my son, who is of African American/Cherokee/Irish heritage, said to me, "If this had been a resistance of Indian people against Glacier's mine, they would not have won."

It is undisputed that Vashon is a place of great privilege. Many extremely wealthy people have fabulous homes out here, if not second or third as well. Fundraising succeeds in maintaining a quality of life that is fast disappearing elsewhere. Vashon is charmed. It also is stolen land.

Shomamish Peoples were forced off Vashon taking their long houses with them. Many residents erroneously believe the Indians didn't live here. To this day, the Puyallup, whose reservation absorbed the Shomamish, have access to the Chinook Salmon runs under their fishing treaty rights. Maury is where one of the only remaining healthy runs of Chinook still return in the Puget Sound.

So in all of what happens in daily life locally and beyond, i wonder how will we make it right where i live? How can we activate restorative justice where we each live in this country? What about calling back Vashon's first drum and the people whose songs were here long before invasion?

The Nisqually people have a huge Glacier mine operating on lands taken from them in the delta that destroyed homes, burial sites, salmon runs and sacred land. This monstrosity receives little attention as it grinds along as the greatest source of sand and gravel in the Puget Sound. Glacier is now negotiating expansion which will endanger the Sequelitchew Creek watershed. They may be gone from Vashon, but they keep up destruction justified by use in roads we drive on.

To stop genocide anywhere else requires addressing it where we live; where we stand is sacred land. To stop war elsewhere demands we make it right at home.

The massacre that targeted Gabrielle Giffords in Tucson January 8, 2011 seriously



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wounding her head, was truly shocking. Splashed all over Facebook is the map Sarah Palin had posted, which she took down shortly after the shooting of at least 20 people, 6 dead, showing rifle cross hairs marked where she feels opposers to the right wing corporate agenda should be eliminated. Efforts by Tea Partiers to distance themselves from the shooter are proving shabby at best.

This is truly frightening as these people, and they are many, are very well armed.

We who stand for peace will be facing people fallible to scapegoating who view us as a dangerous enemy. The climate of interaction has been fanned with flames of ignorant hatred via FOX news, Rush, Savage and all those who enjoy large and wide voice while those struggling nearly invisibly for peace and justice are known only to those of us with pre existing website access to healthier updates on reality. How long we will have means of gaining vital information remains to be seen. Newspapers are all but gone, cell phones faces warrantless search and seizure, draconian laws suppressing truth are in place. Oh, it is mighty serious.

But what will we do about this? Perhaps it is time to haul out the supplies for erecting permanent peace camps. We cannot let up for one second. We need to be talking to everyone who crosses our path. We all are in this together like it or not. Time to talk seriously to our scary neighbors and relatives. Time to shift how we live into highly visible solution, if not to the so called media, to those we live among. We must display a more sane take on the course of enacting peace in these volatile times.

By stopping all the wars backed by the US NOW, we can begin to rebuild a sensible society allowing a spectrum of views that are not committed to killing anyone who thinks differently. This is what war is all about, here and abroad.

We do have a war here. Seriously. Too many people have been killed already while those in power tip toe around the hooligans, the true domestic terrorists, who always are able to get more guns. The NRA has played a key role in keeping the extreme racist right well armed. NRA also insured that the Mexican cartels can still keep the US guns coming. Meanwhile, peace activists in the mid west who have no guns, kill no one, are being harassed by the FBI. Something is way off kilter.

Every action until this point has been preparation for what is demanded of each one of us now. We must be vigilantly pursuing ways to move the society in a direction of great love, forgiveness, community. Bring the Billions Home, Stop All Wars, Save Our Earth, The People, All of Life.


Truly Peace can never die. It lives in the hearts of each person. We all have the capacity for great love. It is all we have left now. If that peace only comes with the deaths of us all, so be it. Otherwise, we better get going on this big mess we all are in. It is up to us, we know that.

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Positively Speaking

“Crosswords”

By Deborah H. Anderson

If the answer to 5 across was “AROD” for the clue “Yankees 275 million dollar man”, then 7 Down “feline in the forest” had to start with an “O”. But the only six letter cat that started with “O” I could think of was “OCELOT” and they live what I would call the jungle not the forest. Or so I thought. Turns out it’s kind of a foresty jungly kind of environment they live in. The next morning’s paper revealed it was indeed “OCELOT”. Hmmmmm. Ok so Brazil’s jungles are called the rainforest. Right.

I’ve learned a lot from crosswords. Not only new words but life lessons. Sometimes I miss the obvious answer that, had I realized it, would have sent a chain reaction of correct answers my way. Other times I know the most difficult answer but can’t get the easier ones. Occasionally the answer totally fits but nothing around it is correct because the right answer is another word that has the same number of letters and is a better fit. And then, of course, there is the clue with the answer that is such an obscure word even after I write it in I still don’t get it.

Sounds like communication doesn’t it?

One person is thinking of a jungle as a forest but you are both thinking of the same place. Or you are in a relationship and completely misreading the cues. Or one person is being “Friendly” and the other person is being “Familiar” (“eight letter word for behaving in a kindly manner.”) which leads to all kinds of misinterpretation. That particularly happens between men and women. Women are frequently friendly in the greetings and men can mistake that for a familiar come on. Men are frequently friendly in the conversation and women can misinterpret that as an indication of desire for a deeper level of being familiar.

Same with kids and bosses. Kids and bosses can think you are being “Controlling” when you offer a suggestion when actually you are being a mom, dad, teacher or worker who “Contributes”.

The answer to both difficult crosswords and communication issues is the same: coffee. Big mugs of hot steaming coffee however you like them prepared.

I created a tradition many years ago. It came from a ritual with my oldest son . Every Sunday when he was in town we would go out for coffee. Over our favorite brew at various venues in Seattle we would sit and chat the fat, deep fat: political issues, economic issues, family issues. As long as we had coffee every week we could work things out. We would stay present in the sharing of our personhood.



Now I am very use to deep sharing. I belong to a small group movement called Relational Theology that is anchored in groups of eight to ten people sharing deeply about their lives. We call it “taking the mask off”. (You know, the mask we keep on for public performances so we can play the world’s rules of never let them see you sweat.) Anyway the sharing part is not the hard part for me. What felt dicey as I transferred this practice was doing it one on one.

It worked once, then twice, then another time. In all these years it has repeatedly made things better. If I want to get to know you better I’ll ask you out for tea (but feel free to order coffee). If I have advice I want to receive or give I’ll ask you out for a meal. But if I feel we have a disagreement or something else between us I will ask you out for coffee.

Only one time did it backfire. My mistake. The woman was a practicing alcoholic caught in the drama triangle. (Maybe I never shared about the drama triangle. It has three positions, rescuer, persecutor and victim. The people in the drama triangle keep moving around the three positions changing roles but never stepping out of those roles and the drama they engender). Anyway it doesn’t work if the person has another liquid trumping the coffee. And even after she threw her coffee at me as she left the table (people in the drama triangle get very very angry when you are calm and conversant) I felt OK because I knew that I had done everything possible to reconstruct the relationship and I could walk away from it with a clear sense of disengagement.

With that rather colorful exception, I have to say in the rest of the coffee times I have always walked away with a new friend. And you know what is the bonus? So few people are willing to initiate positive engagement in that way the receivers are always enamored of the process. It gives a little honeymoon kick to a new friendship and a means of communication for when the friendship settles in a little. It’s really lovely.

The answer for the clue “fair trade potable” is definitely “COFFEE”

Love
Deborah



Deborah will be out and about offering free words of encouragement at various venues on the Island in February. Look for her table and have a seat to receive brief words of cheer and good wishes.

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Community Council

Continued from Page 1

County Council, K-2 Corp., the King County Rural Library District and the Vashon Maury Island Community Council all as defendants, with potential added defendants being the K-2 Commons LLC, King County Water District 19, the Vashon Sewer District, the Vashon Fire District, and the Vashon Park District.

While Bangasser ultimately was unsuccessful in prosecuting his lawsuit against the named defendants, he continued to pressure the VMICC Executive Board by filing numerous requests for information under the Public Records Act (PRA) and the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). At the time, the VMICC Executive Board maintained the position that they were not formally subject to these acts, while asserting that they had provided Mr. Bangasser with all of the documentation that they could practically and reasonably provide, and insisted that while they were not technically bound by the acts themselves, they certainly agreed with their spirit.

Interestingly, as part of the many twists and turns in this Island saga, Timothy D. Ford, Open Government Ombudsman from the office of Attorney General of Washington Rob McKenna, issued an opinion that the UACs (remembering that VMICC is also a UAC by virtue of a UAC contract they signed with King County) were in fact subject to the PRA and OPMA, as did some attorneys from Daniel Satterberg’s King County Prosecuting Attorney’s office, even though the UACs were not actual government entities, which fact was also a ruling of the Hon. Jeffrey Ramsdell, the judge in Bangasser’s lawsuit.

In August of 2010, Lauren Smith, Unincorporated Area Relations Manager for King County, attended the VMICC meeting and presented a memorandum from the prosecuting attorneys from Satterberg’s office asserting that the VMICC was subject to the PRA and OPMA. Within a day or two, the entire VMICC Executive Board had resigned believing that the legal opinions left them exposed to further lawsuits under the PRA and OPMA; why the VMICC Executive Board waited until the August 2010 opinion to feel threatened when a similar opinion by the Ombudsman from the Office of the Atty. Gen. of Washington to the same effect occurred as far back as 2007 is unclear. In any case, losing lawsuits brought under the PRA and OPMA can carry significant financial penalties, something King County itself discovered when Island resident Armen Yousoufian brought suit against it on an unrelated issue and won.

Subsequently, VMICC Executive Board member Hilary Emmer rescinded her resignation and returned to the board for the purposes of providing interim financial and leadership functions until the board could regroup. By December of last year, a new board reformed, one in which Bangasser was a Board member.

Unfortunately, enmity and strife within the Board itself has continued and recently VMICC President Jake Jacobovitch resigned over a disagreement about direct access to official VMICC mail. At approximately the same time, Frederick Woodruff also resigned citing the unpleasant atmosphere pervading the Board. Woodruff subsequently rescinded his resignation. Hilary Emmer, after receiving another formal demand for information under the PRA and OPMA from Bangasser, has again resigned and says she has no intention of returning.

Upon the resignation of Jake Jacobovitch, pursuant to VMICC bylaws, Vice President Carl Sells assumed the presidency of the Board. On January 16, the VMICC Executive Board held a retreat mostly consisting, according to Sells, of goodwill and trust building exercises attempting to build cohesion and a sense of cooperation between the members. The challenges facing Acting President Carl Sells are many and complex. He must find a way to resolve the long-standing hostility between Bangasser and the Board, which hopefully will be easier to accomplish now that he is a Board insider. Sells must also find a way to solidify and strengthen the relationships between the

other Board members and build an overall sense of unity. Unfortunately, Sells is only the Acting President, and though he is deeply hopeful that the Board will formally elect him president at the next Board meeting, his continued Presidency is by no means assured.

Externally, the VMICC Executive Board faces even more problems. The question of whether or not they are formally subject to the the PRA and OPMA has yet to be fully determined, although apparently they are moving forward under the assumption that they are and are working to bring themselves into full compliance, although there is some question regarding the exact technical details of what that might mean.

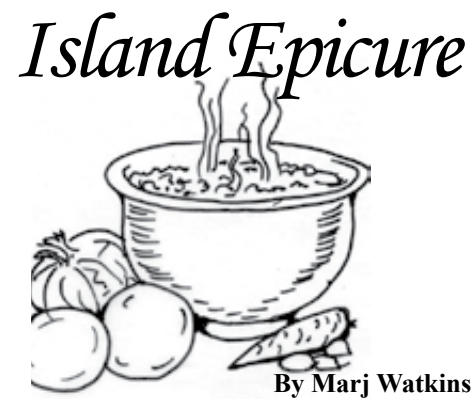
Lastly, the entire infrastructure of the UACs itself is under fire. As per the VMICC’s contract with King County to be the UAC representing the Island, the VMICC normally receives an annual \$10,000 in funding from the County, and on the King County side of the relationship there are County employees to facilitate and administer the relationship between the UACs and the County. Funding has been dropped to only \$1200 (which doesn’t even cover the insurance the UAC contract itself requires the Community Council to buy) for a partial contract term and the County has proposed dissolving the current UAC structure and replacing it with a single UAC entity consisting of six representatives, one person each from the existing six UACs, then having them meet at County facilities off island. Funding for two of the three people facilitating the UAC system on the County side is to be cut and the employees sent elsewhere.

In a recent speech to the County, Sells said, “VMICC has not signed the UAC contract with the county. The recent changes proposed for the UAC system for consolidation are not acceptable and we will not participate. The preferred change to the UACs that is acceptable to my constituents is to strengthen the existing system with more funding and staffing. We will be voting on a motion to approve the contract at our meeting on January 17th. The original motion was to disapprove the contract, but after much discussion it was amended. We have another motion, which we managed to table, to withdraw from the UAC status. King County cannot expect volunteers, working under the CPI, to put their personal assets on the line without the insurance that the county demands and it’s financial support provides. I hope that we don’t withdraw from the system we helped to create. Without your continued support Vashon Maury Island will cease to be a community. It will become a wilderness or a haven for rich people.”

Calling upon Island residents to become more involved and to support their Community Council, Sells said, “The UAC structure is all we have that approximates any notion of self-determination for the Island. King County has ultimate authority on what happens here on Vashon, and prior to the UAC system, we had little formal voice with the County. Reducing the funding and the infrastructure for the UAC system will most likely have the effect of setting us back to a time when communication with the County was haphazard and Island expenditures from the County did not accurately reflect our own desires. While we are mindful and empathetic to budgetary constraints, the amount of money being saved by the proposed restructuring is paltry compared to the probable loss of our political voice in our own affairs. Islanders need to know that this is happening, that the County is slated to make the final budgetary action decision on the UAC’s on April 15 this year. VMICC and the UAC system represents the collective voice of the island; Islanders need to come forward and participate en mass in the Vashon Maury Island Community Council meetings until then and make their voices heard. If they don’t do it now, it will be too late, and we will have lost our Island voice to dilution in the proposed system.”

Those wishing to express their opinion or support for the VMICC can

e m a i l C a r l S e l l s a t carlsvmicc@aol.com.



It’s National Soup Month

A bowl of steaming, aromatic, flavorful of nourishing soup cheers the heart and soul like nothing else. Let the wind blow and the rain pour or the slow pile upon the ground, you’ll be cozy and content sipping and inhaling the goodness of a well-made chicken soup. Something magical in it helps ward off colds and flu or get you over it if illness strikes. When someone you love is in a sad, wintry mood, a bowl of delicious chicken soup lifts the spirit like a splash of sunshine.

Homemade soup conveys love and caring. It’s easy to eat, easy to digest. Accompany it with crackers or toast, and a side of fruit salad featuring apples, walnuts, and dried cranberries on lettuce. Go gourmet and be thrifty at the same time with this a leek soup featuring chicken gizzards, of all things.

LEEK SOUP A LA CAROLINE
2 generous servings
1 slim leek
1 medium size red potato, diced
1 teaspoon chicken granules
water to cover plus ½ inch
½ cup chicken gizzards, cooked (see below for how), cooled and cut small
1 cup milk
1/3 cup half-n-half cream
black pepper to taste
Cut the leek in half lengthwise, carefully wash between leaves in running water. Slice, keeping the dark green slices separate from the paler green and white slices.
Cook the dark leek slices with the chicken granules until tender in about 1 hour in enough water to keep them from burning.

Thinly peel and chop the potato. Add all the leek slices plus the water left in the pan you cooked the dark green pieces in and the stock from cooking the gizzards. Bring to boiling, reduce heat to a gentle boil, cover and cook until all vegetables are tender, about 15 minutes.

Add milk and cream. Reheat to steaming. Taste and season with black pepper as desired.

To cook gizzards. Immerse in boiling water, reduce heat and cook gently until tender with 1 bay leaf, 1 fat garlic clove sliced, 1 teaspoon dried tarragon leaves,

and 3 slices gingerroot.
Whip up a lovely soup by basing it on homemade or ready-made chicken broth. Add green onions cut in 1 1/2 inch pieces, a few spinach leaves, a carrot shredded in an instant with your food processor. Cook until vegetables are tender. Add a package, or half a package, of ramen. Stir and cook 3 minutes more.

Every country has a favorite chicken soup. The Thais simmer the chicken in coconut milk. The French always include wine. Mexicans add lemon juice. The soup below is probably made in all Scandinavian countries, and in Belgium we encountered one very much the same. Probably your mother made one like it right here in America. Chicken soup is universal. Wherever and however you make it, you’ll love it and it will do your body an spirit good.

Even if you’re cooking for two or just you, make the whole recipe. It’s even better the next day. You can freeze some in tightly capped containers or refrigerated in tightly capped glass jars to reheat later. Date the containers, and tightly cap them. Enjoy unfrozen soup within four days. Still got leftover soup? Reboil it and it will keep another four days.

UNIVERSAL CHICKEN SOUP
6 servings
1 whole chicken breast or 2 legs, or 3 or 4 thighs
¼ cup sherry or other white wine, or 1 Tablespoon vinegar
2 large or 4 medium size onions, wedge-sliced
2 large or 3 smaller garlic cloves, peeled and sliced
1 leek, halved lengthwise and cleaned and sliced
2 long carrots, sliced
2 ribs celery cut in 1-inch chunks, optional
4 Russet potatoes, peeled and diced
4 cups stock – chicken, beef, or any meat
1 bay leaf
½ teaspoon turmeric
1 teaspoon dried tarragon leaves
2 teaspoons salt, or to taste
½ teaspoon coarse black pepper, or to taste
Water as needed to keep ingredients well covered plus an inch or two
In a large kettle, place all the ingredients. Bring to boiling. Reduce eat to medium low, cover and simmer until vegetables are very tender and meat if almost falling off the chicken bones. Scoop out the chicken pieces. Discard skin and bones. Cut meat into bite sizes. Return to kettle. Bring back to a boil. Serve hot.

Bon Appetite!

Call for Entries
Final Vashon Flag Competition

Following on last year’s fun Vashon Flag Competition, we are hosting a Second (and final) Vashon Flag Design Competition, with the intent to finally choose a flag design that the community can support as The Official Vashon Flag.

Last year we had 40 entries from about 15 people, and after much disagreement among both the judges and the public, we chose Adria Pontious’ charming design that incorporates the bicycle tree. We recognized then that no design captured the majority of the community’s support, and also that many of the designers did not follow the standard design principles for creating a flag, mainly because we didn’t know them ourselves. This time, we’re doing it differently.

Here’s how it will work. Anyone can submit a design for a flag for Vashon and Maury Islands. There is no age limit or residence requirement, and you don’t have to be an artist. But we require that you follow the design guidelines established by the North American Vexillological Association (NAVA) as available on their website at <http://www.nava.org/>. They have a web page on flag design (<http://www.nava.org/Flag%20Design/index.php>) that includes a downloadable publication entitled “Good Flag, Bad Flag.” READ THIS PUBLICATION. The judges will be using those same principles to judge the designs.

To enter, you must submit the following:

- 1) A paper (or cloth) copy of the design (a mock-up of your flag), colored as you intend, no smaller than 8.5x11 inches;
- 2) Your contact information (name, phone number, email address); and
- 3) A paragraph describing your design and why you think it represents Vashon.

Applicants can submit more than one design, but please accompany each design with the required submittal elements. Drop off your submittal at the Heron’s Nest Gallery, c/o George Wright, or mail it to:

Greg Wessel
11055 Palisades Ave SW
Vashon 98070
ALL SUBMITTALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 15. LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

After March 15, all of the entries will be reviewed by a panel of five judges, who will choose a limited number of finalists (5-10) to be presented to the community for consideration. The judges will select the finalists using the principles established by NAVA. The finalists will be displayed at Two Wall Gallery during April, when they will be voted on by the community. The community will choose the winning flag.

If you have any questions, email Greg Wessel at twowallgallery@aol.com, or call him at 206-250-2222.

We look forward to seeing your design!!

Titus Needs A Home...

Talk about a very handsome gentleman! Meet Titus - a sweet and loving 8 year old chocolate lab mix. Titus has a patch of white on his chest which only makes him more handsome! Titus is very energetic and fun and loves his walks and playing fetch... and watch this guy swim! Titus loves/thrives on glucosamine for his joints and at his age, is doing very well. Titus is a wonderful and sweet guy and deserves a person or people who he can love and bond with. Older children, please...and a person or family who has the time for a dog who is so very loving and deserves the best home ever. For more information on visiting with Titus, please contact Vashon Island Pet Protectors at 206-567-5222. There is a \$100 adoption fee.



Go To www.vipp.org Click on Adopt

“We All Belong”

Continued from Page 1

Welcoming Vashon’s vision.

Diers and Anderson are residents of Vashon and also happen to be nationally and internationally known experts in asset based community development”. Like anyone, they want our community to be the best it can be and have volunteered their expertise and enthusiasm towards this effort. Both men are authors and consultants. Anderson is co-manager of the organization Community Activators. Diers was Director of the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods for 14+ years and currently works with community organizations and governments throughout the world.

Diers helped launch a similar process in the Columbia City neighborhood of Seattle. From seeds generated at the initial community gathering, a largely boarded up business district was revitalized through a series of community initiated projects. Where a vacant lot once stood is a vibrant farmers market that has become a true community gathering place. A vacant church is now home for an arts center. One vacant storefront become a cooperative art gallery and another a place where young people refurbish used bicycles and donate them to homeless families and foster children. There are examples from other communities as well: a travelling teashop in Portland, a smiles per mile campaign in Melbourne Australia, community currency programs, retail business cooperatives, and a Taiwanese village where neighbors have created public parks in their front yards.

Those attending the Feb. 5 event will hear more examples from other

communities that have successfully launched this process. Anyone with an idea for a project that builds on people’s gifts will have an opportunity to present it and recruit other attendees to initiate the process to make it happen. Welcoming Vashon aims to be an incubator for fresh ideas that will lead to a more welcoming and productive community.

Event organizer Dan Kaufman states, “We are looking for more than creative ideas. We are looking for people who will grab hold of what excites them and turn it into reality. There will be follow-up events throughout the year and a celebration at the end. We hope to inspire folks to return to their organizations, businesses, and neighborhoods to spread the vision of an island where everyone belongs through meaningful conversation and significant action.” The event is happening with the support of early sponsors, Vashon Chamber of Commerce, Learn 2 Earn, and Community Activators with grant support from Sustainable Vashon. As enthusiasm for the cause builds, more businesses and agencies have been jumping on board.

The event is free of charge. All one need to bring is curiosity, creativity, and commitment to community. What is your dream for Vashon? Imagine the possibilities!

We All Belong, Sat. Feb. 5. 9 am-noon at Open Space for Arts & Community: 18870 103rd Ave SW

For more information contact Dan Kaufman: dan@integralpotential.com

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Author Events at Luna

Kurt Timmermeister



Island Farmer, Kurt Timmermeister, know for his delicious raw milk, farmhouse dinners and Dinah’s cheese, joins us to celebrate his new book, Growing a Farmer: How I Learned to Life off the Land. In his book Kurt describes how he discovered Vashon, fell in love with his land and forged Kurtwood Farms. Kurt’s book is inspirational offering insights and reassurance to all entrepreneurs. Don’t miss this special celebration! www.kurtwoodfarm.com

Sunday, January 23, 4pm, At Cafe Luna,
9924 SW Bank RD
www.cafelunavashon.com

Lyn D. Nielsen



Author Lyn D. Nielsen (aka Lynda McLaren, VHS Class of ’78) brings The Place of Sage Books Inspiration Tour to Café Luna on Sunday, January 30th, at 4:00pm. She’ll read excerpts from The Road Back to Sage, book #2 of her series; and sign copies of both Place of Sage (book #1) and The Road Back to Sage. Set in the desert of Eastern Washington, the Place of Sage Books chronicle an ordinary, modern family as they journey through extraordinary circumstances . . . circumstances as real as they are fiction, all part of a master plan. The stories are timeless; the themes, universal. And the twist? Launched with her tour, is Nielsen’s mission: to inspire her readers, and raise funds and awareness for senior meal programs in each town she visits. She is proud to support the Vashon-Maury Senior Meal Program with this event. To learn more, visit her website at: www.lyndnielsen.com.

Sunday, January 30, 4pm, At Cafe Luna,
9924 SW Bank RD
www.cafelunavashon.com

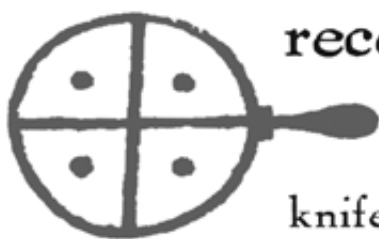
Aprons To Tell Tales

Everitt, Publicity Chair, Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Museum

Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Museum (VMIHM) will host a discussion at the Land Trust Building, entitled “Aprons Tell Tales”, at 7:00 pm on Thursday evening, February 3rd. The event will be hosted by C. Hunter Davis and Susan Hedrick, Co-Curators of the “String of Aprons” exhibit, (currently showing at VMIM until February 20, 2011). The evening will begin with a few introductory remarks from those involved in the exhibit, followed by an open discussion, giving audience members an opportunity to share their stories behind their own aprons. Door prizes will be given away, adding to a festive atmosphere and a memorable evening.

“Aprons Tell Tales” is an opportunity to meet the people behind the exhibit of one-of-a-kind aprons that has been a

huge success at the VMIHM since the first Friday Art Walk in December. People will share their stories about how these aprons were made and how they were used. Every apron is a tale of personal sagas, and every apron demonstrates the limitless ingenuity of seamstresses and stitch artists. This will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to hear the story of many of these practical, wearable items of American folk art. Nearly 200 aprons were collected, more than could be exhibited, and many of these additional aprons will be on display and discussed at the event. The public attending is encouraged to bring a special family apron, and to share their stories. It is anticipated that the group sharing will be a unique glimpse into a kind of personal craft and lore that reflects the essence of our American identity and heritage.



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Loopy Laffs

Love is one long sweet dream, and the marriage is the alarm clock.

The sewer expansion project is nearing completion but city officials are holding their breath until it is officially finished.

A couple is having a drink together in a bar. The man raises his glass and says, "Here's hoping you're in Heaven ten minutes before the devil knows you're dead!" "What's that mean?" asks the girl. "That," answers her date, "is an authentic Irish toast." "Oh. Well, here's to bread, eggs and cinnamon." "Bread, eggs and cinnamon? What's that?" The girl says, "French toast."

I asked my wife to help me find a match for my sock. She answered, "What for? Are you going to set it on fire?"

Grandmas are moms with lots of frosting.
~ Author Unknown
Grandmothers are just 'antique' little girls.
~ Author Unknown
Perfect love sometimes does not come until the first grandchild.
~ Welsh Proverb
Never have children, only grandchildren.
~ Gore Vidal
If I had known how wonderful it would be to have grandchildren, I'd have had them first.
~ Lois Wyse
You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother.
~ Proverb
Grandparents are similar to a piece of string - handy to have around and easily wrapped around the fingers of their grandchildren.
~ Author Unknown



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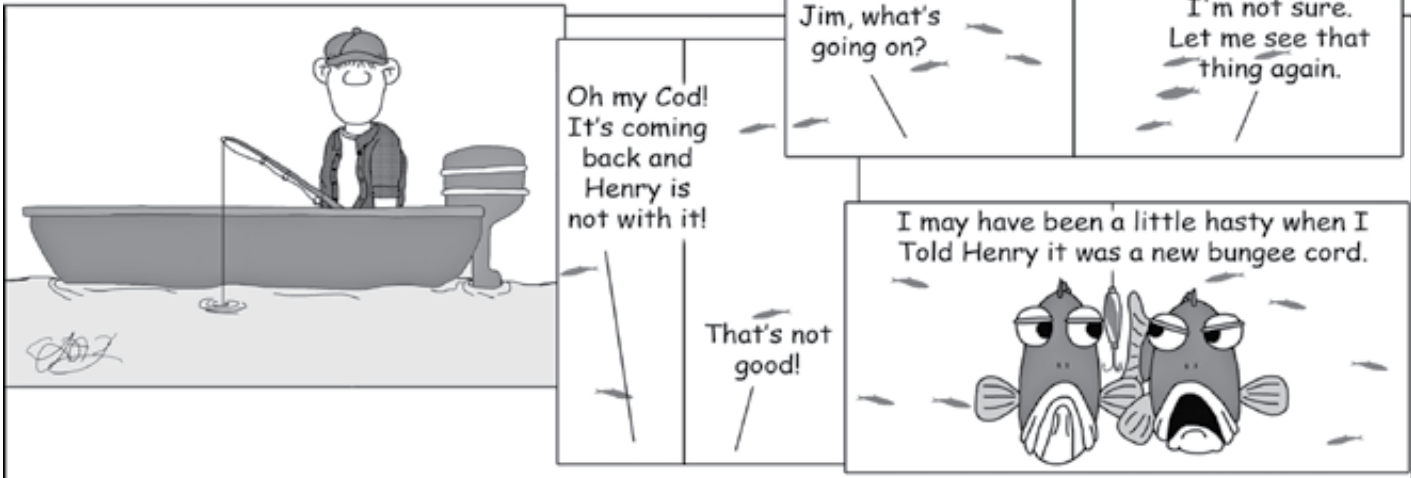
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Where the locals go!

The owner of a large factory decided to make a surprise visit and check up on his staff. Walking though the plant, he noticed a young man leaning lazily against a post. "Just how much are you being paid a week?" said the owner angrily. "Three hundred bucks," replied the young man. Taking out a fold of bills from his wallet, the owner counted out \$300, slapped the money into the boy's hands, and said "Here's a week's pay -- now get out and don't come back!" As the young men left, the boss turned to one of the supervisors, he said "How long has that lazy bum been working here anyway?" "He doesn't work here," said the supervisor. "He was just here to deliver a pizza..."

Moose Lake



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41 Miles

Joshua Scott and Kristine Failla of 41 Miles crossed paths for the first time in the summer of 2007. Since then, they’ve been wowing audiences around The Sound with their beautifully interwoven voices showcased in songs that are sometimes deep, often funny, and always enjoyable.

“Joshua Scott & Kristine Failla are a modern day Gram Parsons & Emmy Lou Harris, blending their vocals together to create a very special brand of folk rock that is completely unmatched in today’s bustling music industry.” – Auriemma, ReverbNation

“...sings, plays, produces, and writes songs that bore into a listener’s everyday psyche...” and “...wraps intelligent, imaginative lyrics inside unobtrusively appealing melodies.” –Music Critic, Berkeley California

“a remarkable mixture of freshness and



urgency, incorporating the best discoveries of the 60’s into a contemporary sensibility which is attractive and coherent” - Daniel Langton, San Francisco State University

“Beautifully arranged songs with lush, warm vocals; intelligent, well-crafted lyrics; excellent guitar work and much more.” - Nota Bene.

This is an all-ages show until 11pm, 21+ after that. Free cover!

Friday, January 21, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

Glenn Rukwid - Ukulele Performance

Island musician Glenn Rukwid, one of the founding members of Rumpus, The Phuckleberry’s, Bob Scott n the Pocket’s, Tiny Bit o Love, Moon Fruit and The Digger’s, will be performing a solo act (with special guest’s) on his Ukulele.

Friday, January 21, 7pm, At Cafe Luna, 9924 SW Bank RD
www.cafelunavashon.com



Waterlogged

Roger Taylor and Kevin Almeida had been playing “obscure vocal-based acoustic music by well-known artists” for over four years now in their highly regarded band Watermark. Their vocal chemistry had left many first time listeners with their jaws dropped in praise. Of late had come the need to pull out the electric guitars, get loud, put their groove on and get folks rockin. To do this, they needed another guitar player and a tight drummer!

Kevin had experienced playing with the awesomely multi-talented, barely restrainable Pat Reardon and thought he would be a good fit, as long as they could keep the girls away. Patrick has a huge, beautiful voice- developed by years of Pike Street busking and trying to be heard over his brothers at the dinner table. Pat jumped in with a litany of tunage, hot lead guitar, vocals and harmonica.

Next came Gib “the human clock” Dammann, who had an illustrious, 1980’s



music career in his band “the Casuals” playing a lot of gigs up and down the east coast sharing the bill with the likes of Bonnie Raite, the Nevilles and Stevie Ray. So he added his patented brand of tasty, powerful drumming and a fourth vocal to the mix.

Watermark now masquerades part-time as Waterlogged!

This is an all-ages free cover show until 11pm, then 21+ after that.

Saturday, January 22, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

Hejira

Hejira is a genre-bending musical hybrid combining ancient world styles, global rhythms and exotic scales with modern instrumentation. The band consists of founder/composer Don Baragiano on guitar, Anil Prasad on the Indian percussion (tabla), Kenyon Curtiss on acoustic/electric guitars, Godin Electric Oud, keyboards, and bass guitar, Dale Speicher on percussion and Azula, singer/dancer from Chicago. www.hejiramusic.net/band/Hejira.html



Saturday, January 22, 7pm, At Cafe Luna, 9924 SW Bank RD
www.cafelunavashon.com

Lunavision and Transitional Vashon Present:

To judge from our gas-guzzling convenience based life styles it appears that the news that we are killing ourselves and the world hasn’t sunk in. That’s one reason “The 11th Hour,” an unnerving, surprisingly affecting documentary about our environmental calamity, is such essential viewing. It may not change your life, but it may inspire you to be the change you want to see. The film offers hope as it explores visionary and practical solutions for restoring the planet’s ecosystems.



Saturday, January 29, 6pm, At Cafe Luna, 9924 SW Bank RD

McDougall
One Man Folk Band

Scott McDougall is a noble little grizzly with precious old timey wisdom. His songs of travel, discovery, and perseverance will purify your every day lifestyle and ring adventure when driving home from another day at the office. As the bush bearded road wrenched McDougall quietly sits down at his humble set up of: kick drum, high hat, harmonica and simple stringed instruments, the fans making up his growing national following begin taking turns shouting “McDougall!”

www.mcdougallmusic.com

Friday, January 28, 7pm, At Cafe Luna, 9924 SW Bank RD
www.cafelunavashon.com



The Accordion Babes

Renee de la Prade and Amber Lee Baker are two accordion players from the San Francisco Bay Area. They are featured on this year’s West Coast Accordion Babes Pin-Up Calendar and CD, a nostalgic, tongue-in-cheek, woman-celebrating calendar and CD combo. Amber Lee’s sultry vocals and whimsical songs are the perfect counterpoint to Renee’s fiery, stompin’ interpretations of Cajun, Irish, and rock n roll music. They are on a ten-day tour of the northwest with plenty of Accordion Babes Calendars for sale (and Sharpies to sign them with!) Their show at



the Red Bicycle Bistro (on the bar side) on Wednesday night at 8pm is not be missed. This is 21+ free cover event.

Tai Shan Plus
The Alice Evans Band



Singer Song-writers Tai Shan and Alice Evans come to you with their deeply reflective lyrics, catchy melodies, and strong vocal performances that will make you dance, laugh, and reflect. Tai Shan’s music is “like hugging a total stranger; kind of awkward and totally wonderful.” – City Arts. Singer-songwriter Alice Evans’ songs are “...woven through with irresistible melodic hooks; her lyrics draw you in with their complexity, truth, and passion.”- Kelly Harland, acclaimed Seattle jazz vocalist

TAI SHAN- Described as sounding like John Mayer and Jack Johnson with the voice of Joni Mitchell. Her clear soprano voice and complex guitar melodies have been featured on nationally released CD’s, international videos, local TV and radio stations. She has performed throughout the West Coast at venues such as Seattle’s Benaroya Hall and San Francisco’s Grace Cathedral. Her songs have been featured on several promotional albums. Grammy Nominee Jovino Santos-Neto calls her a “Seamstress of Melodies,” and Earshot

Jazz winner Randy Halberstat states “She will ambush you with her compositions and unique guitar voicing.” Tai Shan has shared the stage with Washington’s Governor Gregoire when Tai performed her environmental song, “Tiny Planet.” The song was later featured in the HBO documentary The Search for Turtle Island.

Alice Evans - Inspired by weaved her jazz piano stylings into singer-songwriter territory, creating a genre that evokes the sound of Tori Amos, Lucinda Williams, Fiona Apple, and a touch of Tom Waits. Her mentors -Wayne Horvitz and Kelly Harland- along with her collaborators- Ben Smith of Heart, acclaimed Seattle bassist Chuck Deardorf, and guitarist Maximillian Keene from the Lani Rose band- made a world-class album.

Tai Shan www.TaiShanMusic.com
Alice Evans www.myspace.com/aliceevans2



This is an all-ages show ‘til 11pm, 21+ after that. Free cover!

Friday, February 4, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

...UMO's Little Black Dress... Cabaret and Benefit



UMO's Annual cabaret and benefit returns to the Hardware Store for a very intimate and special evening featuring all of the UMO artists, stunning aerial acts, music from the raucous Seattle band God's Favorite Beefcake, featuring remnants of the Circus Contraption band, and many more guest artists. Come dressed in your hottest little black outfit, feast on a fabulous dinner served by the Hardware Store and enjoy some of the best talent in the Northwest,

while supporting your local artists! Sunday, January 30th at the Hardware Store. Kick off the evening with a performance from UMO's Young Aerialists beginning at 7:00pm, doors open at 6:30pm. Buy your tickets now, seating is limited! Tickets are \$40, which includes dinner, the show and a champagne toast, On Sale at the Hardware Store Restaurant or by calling 206-408-8059.

The Diggers



The Diggers (Islanders Camille Coldeen, Nick Simmons, Danny Salonen and David Salonen) began as a busking project, making its haphazard, impromptu debut at the Farmers' Market one Saturday morning in the late Spring of 2009, says Camille. The group's namesake is a historical English political group of agrarian, egalitarian communists who were active in 1649. Their idea was that if all the common people of England banded together to form small, self-sustaining communities based on ecologically integrated farming practices, the oppressive ruling class would either have to join them or starve.

Being non-violent led to their almost immediate downfall, since they were trounced by the enthusiastically violent Cavaliers. The members of Vashon's Diggers are not only musicians but also farmers, activists, autodidacts and enthusiasts. "Through the fun we have with our music," Coldeen said, "we experience a sense of creative and cultural solidarity within our own community. We encourage heckling, commentary and sing-a-longs." This is an all-ages show 'til 11pm, 21+ after that. Free cover!

This is an all-ages show 'til 11pm, 21+ after that. Free cover!
Friday, January 28, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

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Nick Vigarino

"That slide is naaaasty!!" - Bo Diddley. On Saturday, January 29th, you'll have an opportunity to see what Bo was talking about. Nick Vigarino accompanied Long John Baldry with the "Flying Blues Circus" tour, which led to an enthusiastic follow-up tour with acclaimed national recording artist Kathi McDonald.

Nick's original music captures the expressive passion of the blues masters, he also bring his intense interpretation to covers, both obscure and classic. An incendiary slide guitar style, Nick holds audiences enthralled. He is the winner of numerous Washington Blues Society awards and performs in venues and festivals all over the Pacific Northwest.

From his humble beginnings in Ohio to his waterfront home on Camano Island, Vigarino is an accomplished songwriter as well as a commanding performer. With that unmistakable baritone voice and his Saturday, January 29, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959



slide making those six strings sing, Nick Vigarino will make you dance and smile and forget about those blues. "Wear comfortable shoes. Dancing is not exactly mandatory, but you might want to check for a pulse if this doesn't do it for you." - Anacortes American This is an all-ages show 'til 11pm, 21+ after that. Free cover!

The Kings of Mongrel Folk Mark Graham & Orville Johnson

Why would two of the most talented, zany and widely-respected roots musicians in the United States - both of whom have appeared on Garrison Keilor's Prairie Home Companion - choose to go on the road as a duo? Simple: Mark Graham and Orville Johnson love the magic when they play together as much as their audiences do. "People comment on that all the time," says Orville. "They can tell we're having a good time up there. We play on a lot of different emotions."

Wry humor, virtuoso harmonica, soulful blues, hot pickin' and sweet country vocals - that's what you get when Orville and Mark combine forces as the Kings of Mongrel Folk.

Graham's harmonica virtuosity on Irish and American fiddle tunes and his rich, woody sound on clarinet are well-known to fans of Kevin Burke's Open House. Graham's sardonic skewering of contemporary life, in such songs as "I Can See Your Aura and It's Ugly" and "Zen Gospel Singing" have been cult classics for years. His songs have been recorded by many, including the Austin Lounge Lizards, Bryan Bowers, and the Limelighters.

Orville Johnson, an instrumental gunslinger whom the Seattle Times describes as "player's player," has a gift of finding the "secret ingredient" that makes a song sound letter-perfect, whether it's an R & B tune from New Orleans, a country blues or a jazzy



ballad. Orville's guitar, dobro, and quavering, honeyed vocals have seasoned more than two hundred recordings, soundtracks and countless TV and radio commercials. He also produces records and teaches at events like the International Guitar Seminar and Pt. Townsend Country Blues Workshop. He has shared the stage with artists such as Doc Watson, Bonnie Raitt and John Lee Hooker. Between the two of them, they have played many of the most coveted gigs in North America and Europe: the Newport Folk Festival and Caffé Lena, out East; South by Southwest, in Texas; the Bay area's Freight and Salvage and Kuumbwa; London's Festival Hall and Glasgow's Celtic Connections Festival, in Europe; and on their home turf, Bumbershoot and the NW Folklife Festival.

This is an all-ages show 'til 11pm, 21+ after that. Free cover!
Friday, February 11, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

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