



VASHON

THE LOOP

Vol. 8, #24

TO INFORM AND AMUSE -- TO PROVOKE THINKING AND ACTIVISM

November 23, 2011

Santa Comes to Town on a New Night

Santa Parade & Tree Lighting Saturday, Dec. 3rd



Vashon Maury Fire and Rescue, Puget Sound Energy and other Volunteers help string lights on the Town Holiday tree, located next to US Bank.

Mark your Calendars as Santa will arrive on a new day this year! Dasher, Santa, and Mrs. Clause will ride into town on his sleigh in the early evening on the first Saturday of December (12-3-11). In past years Santa has arrived on Friday night, but after hearing from disappointed commuting parents who could not arrive in time for the celebration, the decision was made to make the change.

You too can join in the Santa Parade! Line up for the parade is in the Vashon Market parking lot (100th Ave) at 5:30 PM. The parade will begin promptly at 5:45 PM. The Holiday Tree Lighting, where music and magic combine for a delightful kick-off to the evening festivities will be at 6:00 PM near Santa's Cottage (Village Green). Elf Gretchen will lead the Chautauqua third graders in

the traditional singing of "Oh Christmas Tree" which along with magic elf dust is needed to light the town tree. Santa and Mrs. Claus will return to their sleigh in the middle of town so all the kids, young and young at heart, can say hello and get their picture taken with Santa.

Stores will be open until 8 PM on Saturday for their traditional Holiday Open House. Enjoy refreshments and the nostalgic experience of shopping where you will find a warm welcome, a unique experience, genuine appreciation, AND the perfect gift!

New this year will be the Gingerbread House Contest, sponsored by the Vashon Island Chamber of Commerce. Sure to delight, these fun "houses" will depict each business's unique style. Grab a Gingerbread House Tour Map

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Island Arts Tour



David Erue and Bobbi Arnold

The Holiday 2011 Vashon Island Art Studio Tour will be held on two weekends, December 3rd and 4th and 10th and 11th, 10-4 each day. It's a free, self-guided event with over 40 participating studios. Follow the numbers designated on the Studio Tour map which is available online at www.VashonIslandArtStudioTour.com and at most island businesses. There are many studios to visit, a few of which are profiled below.

Roxy Hathaway and Nancy Scott Wienker of ReGenr8 (#34 on the brochure) make artful handbags created from found materials. "We use everything we find that we can turn into a beautiful artful handbag." This year a very talented group of friends will join them and be offering items including jewelry, re-surfaced menswear, collaged cards and encaustics, organic skincare and even scented fans! All will be in the Two Door Gallery hallway for the December First Friday.

Mary Hosick (#28 on the brochure) is a potter and a painter. Her colorful still life paintings line the entryway of her comfortable home. The view from her front door is of her kiln shed, a pleasant pavilion where she fires her clay art. Down the stairs into the studio it is all business. Unfired pots line the shelves and souvenir posters from her time studying pottery in China cover the

walls. Mary is a talented artist whose fascinating wares and interesting studio will tempt anyone on the studio tour.

Mike Magrath (#33 on the brochure) is a sculptor and a teacher. His spacious, airy studio is located at the Beall Greenhouses. "We offer classes here in sculpting and drawing, and I do figurative bronze and public art as well as commissions. I'm also a teacher at the Gage Academy in Seattle. There's a large number of people on Vashon who take classes at the Gage and we've been offering some similar classes here. In terms of my own work, I work in clay and bronze and other cast media as well. When people come by they'll see me working on this sculpture of children jumping into a swimming pool."

David Erue and Bobbi Arnold (#4 on the brochure) have very different artistic interests. Bobbi is a felter who describes her colorful and tactile creations with a magnetic passion. Their house is filled with her wearable and displayable handcrafted objects made from many exotic wools and other fibers. If you live on Vashon, you already know Dave's metal art. He made the Giraffe across from Subway downtown as well as many other Vashon landmarks. Dave also teaches classes in welding in his no-frills workshop next to their lovely home. His fascinating and whimsical

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Road to Resilience

Climate Forecast

By Terry Sullivan, Transition Vashon

The predictions for climate change in the Pacific Northwest are relatively benign compared to most of the rest of the world. According to Cliff Mass, climate scientist at the UW and weekly commentator on KUOW, the increase in water vapor in the atmosphere due to higher average temperature, will mean a predominance of offshore marine air for us here in the Northwest. That means cooler and wetter weather. The only change for the worse might be that the increased rainfall we are expected to get will fall more in shorter, harder rains. That means that it will not be able to percolate into the soil as readily as our lighter rains do now. Another possibility is that we may not be able to maintain adequate snow pack during the summer leading to summer shortfalls. We on Vashon, having a sole source aquifer, supposedly do not access water from snow pack, so that doesn't affect us.

As much of the world is warming and drying out, water will become an

even more precious commodity, and we can expect refugees from areas with more or less permanent drought. Historically dry areas that depend on imported water, such as all the Southwest and most of the state of California are in immediate trouble. The tens of millions living in the Southern California basin are dependent on water from the Colorado River. I expect that the Colorado's waters will be co-opted by its users upstream. Right now, the Colorado is basically gone before it gets to its historic mouth at the top of the Bay of California in Mexico.

The drying up of California has repercussions for us because a great deal of the food we consume comes from irrigated fields in the interior valleys there. For this reason alone, we need to step up our efforts to grow more of our food locally.

We know as well that stronger, more destructive weather events can be expected. Again, it appears that we will

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Mary Hosick

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.

VIPP Holiday Wreath/Swag Sale

At the Land Trust Building
Fri, Nov. 25th 12-4p.m.
Sat. Nov. 26th 10-4p.m.
Sun. Nov. 27th 10-2p.m.
Stop by & purchase one or more of Vipp’s Holiday Wreaths/Swags starting at \$20. Each year Vipp’s all volunteer crew craft these holiday delights out of fresh fir, cedar, holly & lots of extras which is then topped off with a beautiful bow. They make the perfect hostess gift or will add a warm & festive look to your home. If you would like to pre-order a wreath or swag please call: 206-947-7163.
Vipp will also hold a Holiday Pet Food/Care Drive. We are in need of clumping litter as well as wet and dry cat and dog food. Please drop off any donations at the Land Trust Building during the Holiday Wreath Sale.

Sci-Fi Saturday

Sci-Fi Saturday is a new film series at the Vashon Theatre. These will be the classics form the 50’s & 60’s! Such titles will include, “War of the Worlds” “When Worlds Collide” “Invasion of the Body Snatchers” “Them!” and many others.
1st Saturday of each month
Show time 1:30pm
Admission \$5.00-\$10.00 + A can of food. Proceeds willll benefit The Chicken Soup Brigade.
The feature will be, “It Came from Outer Space” December 3rd!

Christmas Broadcast & Dessert Extravaganza

Come get into the Holiday Spirit with a wonderful Christmas Broadcast featuring the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and select speakers. Afterwards treat yourself to a wide variety of desserts. If attending, please bring your favorite Holiday Dessert to share.
The chapel is located just East of the High School on 204th.

The Vashon Loop

Writers: Kathy Abascal, Deborah Anderson, Marie Browne, Eric Francis, Troy Kindred, Terry Sullivan, Orca Annie, Kevin Pottinger, Steve Amos, Ed Swan, Mary Litchfield Tuel, Marj Watkins, Peter Ray.
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Gift Wrapping to Support Camp Waskowitz

Want to support the 5th graders going to Camp Waskowitz this year? It’s easy! Just come to Movie Magic on Saturday, December 3rd, December 10th, or December 17th, where parents and 5th graders will be wrapping your holiday presents and also putting on a bake sale, with all proceeds going to the camp trip this year. Volunteers will be wrapping gifts for whatever donations you can make (you can even drop them and get them later!), and selling baked goods. Hours are Saturday the 3rd from 10 until 7, and the 10th and 17th from 10 until 4, at Movie Magic. The fundraiser will be staffed by parents and this year’s 5th graders, as well as some high school students who are volunteering their time because of their support of Camp Waskowitz.

So here is a Million Dollar Question (maybe more)

Here we are, a group of tree huggin, carbon foot print reducin, “environmentally conscious” Islanders who love our land. We teach our youngsters about the ozone layer, and conservation, RIGHT? But if one is present at the beginning of the school day one can see NUMEROUS parents driving gas guzzling suv’s with one child getting a ride to school when the school district spends hundreds of thousands of dollars to hire qualified drivers and lease perfectly good busses, for this purpose. Why is this alright? I think this needs to come to an end. The traffic jam at the school is completely ridiculous, and all that air pollution, just so someone’s child doesn’t have to ride a bus? Lets see these parents put their money where their mouth is..... instead of their gas tanks. Tell you kid they are not too special to ride the bus like all of the other kids. This is why the school has bus ridership week. Without the volume of riders we could lose the funding necessary to keep this system in place. Can you imagine the mayhem of not having busses? This would be akin to removing the passenger only boat. Besides which the environmental impact of all you who think Johnny is too cool for the bus, is a complete lack of understanding and care for the mounting problem of air pollution and dwindling resources. Maybe we need an community action team to put an end to this complete waste of resources.....come on folks, it’s just not cool!

Sincerely,
Roger Lehet.

Compost the Loop

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

Its New and Free Visit Our New Website
www.VashonLoop.com

Vashon-Maury Island Community Council - General Meeting Agenda

At the next Vashon Maury Island Community Council meeting, the three speakers will be Sergeant John Hall of the King County Sheriff’s Department, who will discuss the drug, crime and safety issues on the island; real estate broker Beth de Groen, who will explain house sales and foreclosure statistics; and Paul Reitenbach, King County, who will take comments and answer questions about the draft of the county’s Comprehensive Plan.

Sgt. Hall will address concerns of Vashon residents about the methamphetamines and other drugs on the island and how residents should respond and contact the police when they see or suspect criminal activity.

11/21/2011 7:00 PM McMurray Middle School

- 7:00 Welcome & Call To Order
- Introductions
- Approve Minutes of 10/17/11
- General Meeting
- Approve Agenda
- 7:10 Treasurer’s Report: Submission and Approval of 2012 VMICC Budget
- 7:20 Presentation: Sergeant John Hall of the King County Sheriff’s Department
- 8:00 Presentation: Paul Reitenbach Regarding the King County Comprehensive Plan
- 8:30 Presentation: Beth De Groen Regarding Vashon Island Real Estate Market
- 9:00 Committee Reports
 - Transportation Committee
 - Public Safety Committee
 - Outreach Committee
 - Town Plan Committee
 - Land Use and Natural Resources Committee
- 9:10 Announcements
- Unfinished Business- None
- 9:15 New Business - New Motions (NOTE:Please provide a legible copy of the motion with your name, contact info, and name of the person who “seconds” the motion)
- 9:20 Public Comments (Three minutes per person)
- 9:35 Adjourn

You are invited to an Open House

Homestead School
Wednesday, December 7th, 6-8 pm
Join us for a presentation of our new 2012/2013 curriculum with Homestead mentors Dana Schuerholz, Shane Jewell, Sharon Shaver and Sarah Wright. You will have an opportunity to talk with our mentors and to experience a class, Homestead style! We will discuss this year’s new curricular model and next year’s lesson themes.

Please call or email with any questions, we would love to hear from you. starlight@homesteadschool.org
www.homesteadschool.org
16245 Westside Hwy, Vashon, WA 98070 (just north of Cove Road and Crescent Drive) (206) 463-0822

Caregivers Support Group

Vashon Community Care Center hosts a monthly Caregivers Support Group meeting. The group meets on the second Thursday of every month at 7pm.
This group is geared toward family or friend caregivers, rather than paid caregivers. If interested or if you have questions, please call Julea at 567-4421.

Donate to B.A.R.C Rumage Sale

You can bring your gently used treasures to The Skatepark at B.A.R.C. (on 228th) Saturday and Sunday every weekend until December 1
You can drop off your contributions to the MASSIVE Rummage Sale during skatepark hours: 11:30AM to 5:30PM
Or call: B.A.R.C. stewards Allison Reid at 206-898-1013 or Jenni Wilke at 206-697-2377, and they will be happy to coordinate pick-up of your items.

Treat Yourself ...to UNBELIEVABLE Deals

At the MASSIVE Rummage Sale at B.A.R.C. on 228th in Burton
December 2, 3 & 4
9AM- 4PM
Make it one of your holiday gift stops as you travel the Island Studio Tour.



Green Party’s monthly meeting

The Vashon-Maury Island Green Party’s monthly meeting (second Tuesday of each month) will be at Joy Goldstein’s home. Greens, Democrats, Independents, and other interested progressives always welcome!

DATE: Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 to 9:00 PM
LOCATION: 10329 SW Bank Road, Vashon
DIRECTIONS: From Vashon center, go west on SW Bank Road 0.3 miles. Joy’s home is on the south side. Park along Bank Road.

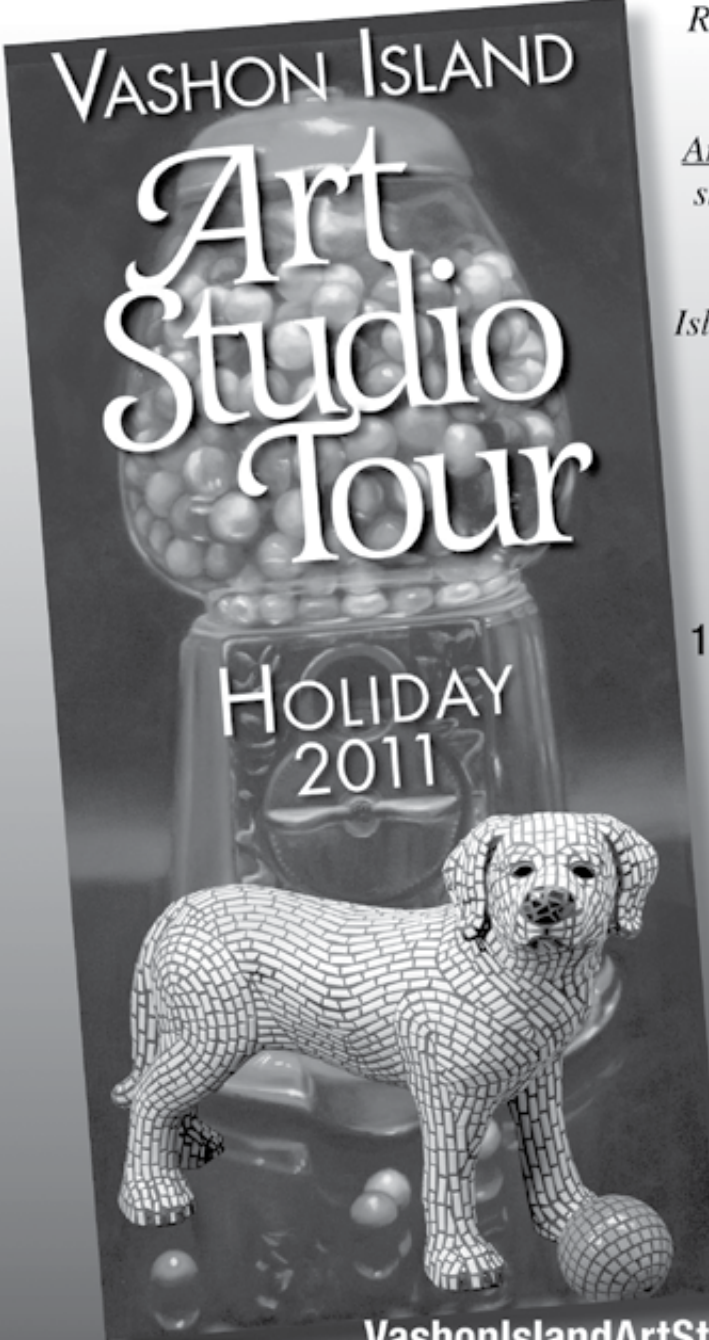
- Our four priorities for 2012:
- 1) Transition Vashon.
 - 2) Vashon Governance.
 - 3) Occupy Everywhere.
 - 4) The Green Team.

Questions: Melvin Mackey, Secretary, (206) 463-3468

Next Edition of The Loop Comes out Thursday, December 8

Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, December 2**

Holiday Shopping... Island Style!



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2011**

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Waterworks Studio- Simply More Stars in the Jar

By Christine Beck

While a working studio all year, Waterworks Studio, truly shakes its sleepy head and come vibrantly alive for the Holiday Art Studio Tour, kicking off the 2 weekend long Tour with the Waterworks Preview Party Friday, December 2, from 6 pm on. Waterworks Studio on Maury Island is #26 in the gorgeous Holiday Art Studio Tour brochure, available at most Island merchants and on line at www.VashonIslandArtStudioTour.com. Waterworks can also be seen online at www.waterworksonvashon.com.

Waterworks is the working studio of Darsie and Christine Beck but, for the Holiday Art Studio Tour, it is the venue for 15 of the best artists the Island has to offer. For the studio, Tour is a microcosm of community, starting with the holiday preview party which gathers friends from all over the Island to view the new work, sample hors d'oeuvres made by the artists, sip hot and cold refreshments and simply catch up with one another at the start of the busy holiday season. From the party on, it's "Open House" at Waterworks, welcoming visitors from on and

off Island for each of the two weekends of the Tour, warming them with hot cider, tea and cookies, introducing them to the artists and providing an opportunity to purchase gifts large and small from the artists they love.

Looking for those incredible silk scarves by Dana Illo? Hoping to grab a few more new and unique paintings and drawings by Darsie Beck, Bob Horsley, Mike Maher, Stephanie Harlan and Nancy Wing? Fascinated by the photographs and encaustic work of Ray Pfortner? Need a handmade gift in textiles by Jill Andrews or ceramics by Heidi Richards for that very special child? Can't get enough of the organic stone bracelets, necklaces and earrings by Kate Rutherford or whatever incredible new jewelry, altars and boxes Ginny Cizek as dreamed up this year? Desperately desire Susan Bates' fabulous felted wearables or those gorgeous banners and prayer flags by Lindsay Aickin? Love those ceramics, both Asian influenced and completely whimsical by Chris Beck? Or just addicted to all things lavender grown and prepared by the Lavender Sisters? Waterworks has it all and more throughout

the studio in prices to fit every budget.

As always, the art is new every year as the artists change and evolve and Waterworks as a studio changes too. New this year is our Christmas tree with a bounty of ornaments created by each artist and for sale to our guests. Pick your favorites to have and treasure on your own tree for years to come. In addition to the Artist Tree, two of our artists, Darsie Beck and Ray Pfortner, will be unveiling their new books at the Preview Party. Darsie will be celebrating the release of the new edition of his book, *Your Essential Nature*, which has been revised and now comes with a separate personal journal while Ray Pfortner will debut his new book, *Island Home*, that will become a "must have" for every Island home in the days to come.

Join the Waterworks community for the Preview Party Friday, December 2 from 6 pm on, or visit the studio December 3-4 and December 10-11 from 10 am to 4 pm and become a part of the celebration of the holiday season!

Waterworks Studio appreciates personal checks and cash but Mastercard and Visa are also welcomed.



Give Thanks for the Beach and Stars

By Rayna Holtz

This Thanksgiving, share a memorable and truly Vashon experience with your loved ones. The day after the big feast day, bring your friends and family to see the wonderful creatures of the Puget Sound shoreline by starlight and flashlight. Vashon Beach Naturalists will be offering a free guided walk along the north end ferry dock beach from 9 to 11pm. The tide will be withdrawing to minus 3.4 feet at 10:45pm, which will expose a broad swath of the lower intertidal zone filled with many species of animals who are uniquely suited to thrive in this environment despite its big waves and moving stones.

The life forms that populate the pilings and beaches are as strange and wonderful as a miniature Jurassic Park. Among the colonies of spiky white acorn barnacles, there may be encroaching armies of soft, speckled half-inch long barnacle-eating dorids, resembling caterpillars but able to penetrate the tiny castles of the barnacles. Clinging to pilings or rocks deep in the intertidal there are knots of white flexible tubes that look like bits of leftover electrical conduit, but these can transform under water into beautiful fans of blue and maroon plumes when the feather duster worms comes out to sift food from the water through their feathery radioles. Along the beach west of the dock, the cobbles increase in size and harbor dozens of species. On top there may be gardens of rockweeds



Clown nudibranch, north end under ferry dock, January 29, 2010, 10pm, by Sherry Bottoms

sheltering frilled and channeled dogwinkles, limpets, barnacles, chitons, blue mussels, and/or jingle shells. Underneath, brown or white scaleworms may rest beside bright orange sea cucumbers, with nearby flattened mauve porcelain crabs, a speckled black clingfish guarding its eggs, and a small black-clawed crab with a bright blue carapace. Red rock crabs the size of an adult's hand can be spotted prowling through the undulating eelgrass in the shallows, while a sharp-eyed beach naturalist may discover evidence of a moon snail just under the sand sneaking up on a buried cockle, one of its favorite meals.

The Vashon Beach Naturalists are volunteers who have undergone a series of classes and field trainings to learn about the intertidal life of Puget Sound. In return, they present walks such as these to

share what they have learned, and to initiate others into the spell of the mysterious shallows whose many inhabitants are usually only glimpsed from docks or boats.

The Starlight Beach Walk will run from 9 to 11pm on Friday, November 25. We will park in the ferry lot on the hill and meet by the dock. There will be an illuminated canopy with tea and hot chocolate available while we gather and talk about the beach for a few minutes. Then naturalists will guide little groups of participants onto the beach, walking carefully to avoid crushing animals as much as possible. The VBN recommends warm and rainproof clothes, gloves, snug hats, rubber boots, bright flashlights and spare batteries. For more information contact Rayna at 463-3153, Michelle at 406-3723, or Erin at 463-4357.



Low Tide Walk, Audubon Chapter, Vashon Island, WA photograph © Ray Pfortner

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Island Life

All Right?

by Peter Ray

*For them that must obey authority
That they do not respect in any degree
Who despise their jobs, their destinies
Speak jealously of them that are free
Do what they do just to be Nothing more
than something they invest in.*
Excerpt from It's Alright, Ma- Bob Dylan

I'm not really sure why it popped into my head as I was contemplating this particular meditation, but it did. At the time of those times of Dylan the Younger, when the other major groundswelling of activism pulsed through my generation, I was living in Leave it to Beaver land, where protest consisted of refusing to eat that liver no matter how "good" it was for me, secretly not wearing my retainers for three nights in a row and faking sleep and exhaustion when the call came down for everyone to get in the station wagon to go to church. I did, however, proudly wear a Cub Scout uniform and march in formation in the Memorial Day parade. On the other hand, the day after one particularly wild Halloween in the neighborhood when I decided to take it upon myself to drag my red wagon around the block to pick up all the shaving cream cans that had been emptied on mailboxes and smaller, weaker goblins by the big kids with bully budgets, I learned that being proactive about the environment was bad, as my mother put it, because doing something about it implied that I had something to do with creating the mess in the first place, and "what would the neighbors think?" In some ways, I've had some unlearning to do.

In spite of those times, Dylan and protest were not a big part of my sixties experience, so I'm not sure why I picked this particular song title to play on my brain loop. I certainly wasn't familiar with the lyrics, except for that one refrain about it being alright. The bleeding part, I'm only bleeding, only appears as a parenthetical addition to the it's alright, ma of the title. It is perhaps



that the reference to blood, combined with the title's overt weight of irony, was what triggered my memory vault while watching the multitude of police state brutalizations being acted out in response to the various Occupy occupations, with Free Speech TV and Democracy Now, at least, doing their best to contradict the late Gil Scott Heron's claim that the revolution will not be televised. It was with a bit of stunned amazement that I read the entire lyric sheet for Dylan's song, and was made still by a shock in the recognition of its stark relevance nearly five decades later. This should have not been such a surprise, as this activist déjà vu has been anything but a singular phenomenon. One of the best examples of this for me was in finally seeing Hearts and Minds a few years back. I had heard about this Oscar winning documentary from 1974 for many

years, but it wasn't till I brought it home and watched it that there was a palpable chill rising in my spine, along with the realization that one needed only to replace references to Vietnam with the names of Iraq or Afghanistan and one wouldn't know for certain whether one was in the Nixon or Bush era. The more it changes, the more it stays the same.

The Occupy movement was still eight years away when the Oscar nominated documentary the Weather Underground was released. This film contained many revelations for me, along with another spine-tingler at the end when Weatherman and student leader Mark Rudd was asked in a contemporary interview what he thought he had accomplished. His look and length of time to answer spoke volumes. Googling him earlier today, it seems that the Occupy clan has given him a brighter perspective on things. In being asked what advice he had for the Occupy movement, Rudd applauded the adherence to non-violence, now regretting his own turn to bombing and destruction. He also lobbied for seeking alliances with politicians, something else he now regretted not doing back then. One can only do one's best to sidestep the irony here as well, since it was a Dylan lyric- "You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows..." that gave the Weather Underground its name. And the last refrain in It's Alright, Ma suggests that Dylan had thoughts of anything but a peaceful means to better ends. As the Occupiers have already noted, the politicians are already owned by the residents of Wall Street, so joining forces with them seems a less than prudent venture. And with the president of these United States just announcing that he is sending troops and advisers to Australia, one can only shake one's head in bewilderment at how history threatens a rerun in the South Pacific, while congress proclaims a pizza to be a vegetable as they puzzle over how a spending limit of \$10 will affect their choice of baubles for the congressional secret Santa gift exchange.

If it were me, I would be advising a move to occupy the MBA programs around the world, as that is where the keys to greed are being cut and handed out. And of course, they/we should occupy the media. And you know, we should dispense with the irony and tell it like it is, which it seems like what this whole Occupy thing is about. It is, after all nowhere near alright, ma- I'm just sayin'.



On Parade in Chappaqua, N.Y. 5/30/63 photo Anne Ray

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Art Tour Debut for Baby Bird Children’s Art Gallery

Baby Bird Pictures & Books announces the debut of their first Art gallery for children on December 3-4 and 10-11, in conjunction with the Vashon Island Art Studio Tour (see #5 on Art Tour map).

The new gallery presents a learn-to-read program for children 3 through 7 based on the educational synergism produced by art works that are tied to storybooks. The storybooks are about the adventures of Baby Bird, who teaches kids how things work, while they learn to read.

The Baby Bird concept is about



the stimulation of deeper thinking in a child. The program combines books and pictures that work together. Decorating a child’s environment with pictures from their favorite parts of the stories provides links to things that are important to them, long after their books are put away. Over time, intangibles become more tangible as they are stimulated by the art.

Baby Bird Children’s Art Gallery is located at Bird Land, home base for Baby Bird Pictures & Books. The new gallery will be open through Christmas. More at www.babybirdbooks.com.

VFW Essay Results

Olde John Croan

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2826 thanks the following citizens of Vashon Island for judging 115 Essays from the Chautauqua Elementary, McMurray Middle, The Harbor Schools and Boy Scout Troop 294. Norm Mathews, Karen Fuller, Henry Porter, Tim Marsh and Clay Gleb, from the Vashon Thriftway Store; Dave and Connie Parker, Jim Scott and Ed Williams from the Kiwanis Club; and Burdell Hollis, John Moore, B/ Gen. Joe Ulatoski, Bart Queary and Roy Bumgarner from the VFW Post 2826 and the Vashon Community.

The VFW Post 2826 thanks the Presbyterian Church for permitting the Judging to be conducted at their church, on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 and the Administrators and Teachers of the Schools and Scout Master Peter Milovsoroff for encouraging the students and scouts to participate in the VFW sponsored National Patriot’s Pen Program (6, 7 & 8 grades) and the Washington State VFW sponsored Youth Essay Contest (3,4 and 5 grades).

First place winners in the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Grades will be forwarded to VFW District 2, for their evaluation, by November 19th and VFW

Post 2826 will conduct their Essay Banquet, at the McMurray Middle School, during the week before District 2 conducts their Essay Award on Saturday, January 7, 2012, at a Post in Seattle. VFW District 2 receives essays from schools in Seattle and Vashon. The VFW Post 2826 will award a certificate to each student, that participated in the contest, and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards in the five classes noted above will receive a framed certificate and a cash award.

The VFW is attempting to contribute, in a small way, to prepare our leaders of tomorrow for their awesome tasks.

Kiwanis Toy Drive 2011

by Ray Konrad

Every year, for many, many years, the island community of Vashon has drawn together to make sure that everyone has a merry Christmas, and especially the youngest ones among us. This year is no different. Once again Vashon Kiwanis will work together with all our social service organizations and churches to gather up the names of those who truly need our care.

Already requests for the names of families with children have gone out and by mid November, all the information forms will have been sent to our sponsoring agencies or to Kiwanis post office Box 262.

Collection boxes for new toys, clothes and school supplies will be placed in the usual places (Vashon Pharmacy, Thriftway, True Value, Island Lumber and Vashon Market) on November 25. These will be collected on

December 16th and gifts for the children will be picked up by the families on December 18.

Once again we will use the space available at the old auto parts store in the Vashon Market shopping center for our work space and pick up point. Joyce Smith is our volunteer coordinator, and she can be reached at 206-372-5030.

We cannot begin to thank all those on the island that have helped in the past, and who, we know will help again this year. We welcome any form of participation, unwrapped items of new clothes, games, sports items or monetary contributions (which can be used to buy needed items). Our goal is to provide each child in need, warm school outfits , a pair of pajamas, a special toy or sport item and a some school supplies. Please put this on your list of things to do as we near the holiday season.

Veterans of Vashon Raise Funds

Olde John Croan

The Veterans of Vashon sold Poppies at the Vashon Market and Vashon Thriftway on Sunday, November 13, to obtain funds to help homeless and addictive Veterans in Distress, for volunteer programs at the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospitals, Veterans Assisted Living and Skilled Homes,

USO facilities at major transportation centers such as Airports and generally to show returning veterans that they are appreciated and respected for helping to keep the United States of American a Nation that provides Liberty and Justice for all. We Veterans, thank the Vashon Market and Vashon Thriftway for permitting us to

offer Poppies to the generous Vashon Island Citizens. You wonderful Citizens of Vashon provided us with \$1,340 to help our deserving veterans. The Veterans thank the following veterans and community citizens for offering the Poppies for possible donations, but also to remind us all of our responsibility to thank our military for providing the freedoms that we enjoy in this great nation, The United States of America: Roy Bumgarner, Phil Volker, Chris Gaynor, Joanne GoForth, Don Lester, George Nelson, Phil Bomber, Richard Moore (a visiting VFW District 2 visitor), Olde John Croan and Burdell Hollis.

Santa Comes to Town on a New Night

Continued from Page 1

(available at the Vashon Island Visitor Center/Chamber of Commerce and participating business) and vote for your favorite! A drawing from the ballot boxes will be held on Sunday. You could win \$50 in Gingerbread House Bucks to spend at participating shops. Gingerbread houses will be on display throughout the weekend.

Road closures will be in effect on Saturday, Dec. 3rd from approximately 5 PM to 9 PM.

Detailed information about Vashon Island Winterfest Weekend will be available on our website www.VashonChamber.com

Happy Holidays and please remember to “Shop Local First”. Support those that support you!

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Send to: Editor@vashonloop.com

Creative Tea for Hestia Retreat

By Pam Bredouw

We’d like the women of Vashon/Maury to help us design Hestia Retreat, a sanctuary for women. Lend your creativity by sharing what you’d love Hestia to look like, and what programs you’d like to see offered there. Come learn more about this exciting retreat center, and meet the women who are bringing the vision to life.

Join us, November 30, for tea, snacks and sharing about this women’s retreat center being planned for Vashon/ Maury Islands. To make it easier for mothers to participate, childcare will be provided on-site.

There will be opportunities to help design the physical appearance and feel of the

place, which is being planned to provide a beautiful, serene, and nurturing environment for women to restore and recharge. In addition to solitude for personal retreats, Hestia will offer workshops and other gatherings for community and education. You will be asked for suggestions as to what workshop leaders and topics you’d most like to see offered on the Islands, as plans are refined.

Two sessions will be held, Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at Cohousing Common House, 10421 SW Bank Road. The first session is 2pm - 3:30pm A second session will be help 5pm - 6:30pm. Childcare provided

To learn more about Hestia, visit our website at www.hestiaretreat.com or email info@hestiaretreat.com.



Planet Waves
by Eric Francis <http://www.PlanetWaves.net>



Aries (March 20-April 19)

Are you feeling like you're about to explode? That's what it looks like from your chart, more or less. There is indeed something in you that's pushing to be reborn into the world, which is a version of yourself that has faith in your own confidence. You keep going through this, and every time you hope you'll get it right. Try this visualization. You're standing face to face with a being you perceive as much greater than yourself: taller than you, enormous on a scale different than human, and the essence of creative power. Now imagine this being morphs into someone who resembles you, before your eyes. It is you, and you can 'become' this seemingly separate entity -- and then you remember. You've made a promise to yourself. It feels more like a sacred vow, and you know that the time has arrived to honor that commitment. But how? I am sure you know.

Taurus (April 19-May 20)

You may feel like you're out of place, in over your head or that too much is expected of you. Yet at the same time, you're a determined, persistent person, who loves a challenge and who has some real ambitions to do the right thing in the world, and for the world. How can both conditions be true at the same time? Well, they can be, though the meeting point is making peace with being called to live up to your potential. Yet called by whom? If it feels like you're being called by someone or something outside yourself, you may be projecting the matter. But then, that's often how 'callings' arrive in our lives. We are presented with opportunities, and the means to explore them. What is presenting itself directly to you, in your immediate environment or your mental environment? What are you doing in response?

Gemini (May 20-June 21)

When we admire someone, the question is, are we seeing something in them, or seeing something about ourselves that we identify with in them? And is one more legitimate than the other? These are questions you have to ask for yourself, with regard to one particular relationship. Both conditions may turn out to be true. This would also be worth inquiring about if the situation is a negative attachment of any kind, which might be a judgment or the perception of someone as egotistical, self-serving or arrogant. I know that first impressions mean a lot; if that is the case, go back to your very first impression for more information. In the meantime, I suggest you give this involvement the rest of the year to work itself out, and make careful observations before you take any action or make any commitments. In the world of personality, anything can be a mirror, so use your discernment.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

This may feel like a particularly messy or alienated time where your relationship commitments are concerned, but what if those mattered far less than being true to yourself? You may think that you've lost your way, but your astrology suggests that your true quest has just begun. It's far less about your relationships and more about a soul journey that you've been preparing to embark upon. Most of the time, this gets confused with having a 'soul mate', which is a distraction from the elemental truth that your journey through the world is an experience unique to you. The intimacy you're seeking is a state of spiritual harmony with yourself. This is something you can share with others; and

the more in tune you are with yourself, the more meaning their self-presence will have for you. I would just remind you that this is not about relationships, it's about being in tune with your own existence.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)

The next few days you may feel like you're walking through a fog. It's likely you've driven through a fog, and you know what to do: slow down, increase your mental focus, and relax at the same time. The problem with this fog is that it has a psychic charge to it, and the charge is a kind of reactivity. If you have any sensation of mistrusting others, or the feeling of lurking betrayal, slow down. I don't know the source of these thoughts, but a careful reading of your solar chart advises caution about believing your own fears. Once the Sun enters your fellow fire sign Sagittarius next week, you will proceed with new confidence, but I suggest you be vigilant any time you feel your confidence falter. You're stronger than you think, and your awareness gives you more information than you know. Proceed with care rather than caution, and faith rather than hope.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)

Be careful what promises you make for the next few months; make sure you're fully prepared to come through immediately when you offer something to someone. I also suggest you conduct an inventory of promises you've made but have not kept. You don't have to fulfill all your old commitments at once, though I suggest you keep them in mind, and get in contact with anyone you feel you've neglected and let them know you're aware of that fact. You're doing this more for your own sake than for anyone else's. The chances are that you've injured people far less than you may fear, if at all. Yet the way things go in our particular world, people are always grateful when someone voluntarily makes amends. Often the result is a greater overall gain than if the whole thing had not happened, coming with the subtle but authentic feeling of faith in humanity being restored.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)

You've had an unusual week, that's for sure. I suggest you write some diary notes about what you experienced, thought, felt, heard and said -- because it's going to come in handy. The beauty of it all is you've had a chance to assert yourself in some unusual ways, but this is not the moment to stop: rather, it's your jumping-off point. You may not at this moment recognize the influence you've had, or the strength of your ideas; you may not know the power of what you've discovered or indeed that you've discovered anything at all. This is why I'm suggesting you put some notes in your journal, take some photos of yourself, save a few artifacts and bookmark the whole thing. What you've created is a formula that blends freedom and responsibility, neither of which is meaningful without the other.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

As the Sun moves through the final degrees of your sign, it's making an aspect to Neptune in Aquarius -- a square, which implies tension, emotional conflict and the sensation of not knowing what's true. This looks like a playback of confusion you've experienced many times before, particularly around your birthday. If you've never quite arrived at the point where the confusion became your teacher, now is a great moment to let it be just that. The space of not knowing is a vital one to

enter fully. Usually we react with denial, which often comes in the form of false certainty. The thing you want to watch out for these days is false uncertainty. You know you're pushing certain issues a little more than some people who say they like you would prefer. Don't worry about being popular. Don't argue for your cause. Pause and walk away before you respond or react in an emphatic way. Instead, make sure you know your facts cold, and let anyone challenge you at their own peril.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)

If our culture is infused with narcissism, how can we distinguish it from anything else? We live in a society that confuses self-esteem with arrogance, self-love with vanity, creativity with self-obsession and self-awareness with having a big ego. Yet there's another layer as well. Having grown up in such an environment, many people lack any sense of who they are or what they want, since that rarely mattered to their early caregivers. Being raised by narcissistic people means their goals became your goals, and their fears became yours -- another way of saying that you didn't exist in your own right. In the midst of a sea of narcissism, the first step is often to come back to -- or find for the first time -- what we value and desire. Be aware of that, and take the next step and encourage others to discover what matters the most to them.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Someone close to you may be offering intuitive or common sense guidance, but you may still have your doubts. I suggest you take a look at why you feel that way. It may be reluctance to take any guidance at all, or it may be that you're questioning their motives. You may be concerned that you'll have to rearrange your life if you change your mind about something. But most likely you're resisting information that comes from this elusive thing known as intuition. Fear may be getting in the way of your own subtle senses, and you may think you're getting conflicting information. Anyone who is offering their viewpoint is likely to have a lot deeper information than they're letting on. If you want to know more, ask. In the end, you're responsible for any decisions you make, but decisions are best made having considered several points of view.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

You may feel like you're under some unusual pressure that you have no idea how to respond to. It's like the air is getting heavier and the walls are growing closer in, but I suggest you pause and ask how much of this is some combined effect of your mind and your feelings. This is adding up to a sensation that feels like it's coming from your environment. I suspect this is true, though you'll have confirmation (and some relief) soon enough, when the Sun changes signs to Sagittarius next week. Meanwhile, Neptune has just stationed direct in your sign, about to exit after a 12-year journey. There's some natural advice that comes with this: you have a window of a few months to tidy up any matters of self-deception that have afflicted you going as far back as you can remember. The pressure you may be feeling is the need to be real with yourself, something that's best done gently.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

I suggest you do a little study of the times when taking care of your own needs was used against you. This can include anything from being responsive to your own feelings to taking care of your dietary needs. Start with your parents and other dominant adults who were present when you were a child. One result, especially for you, can be a guilt complex around taking care of yourself, which many try to

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assuage with self-neglect. It doesn't work. But neither does fighting for the 'right' to look after your own basic interests. You can go a long way by noticing when you're having either response -- guilt, or fighting. You may have the impulse to run from either. I suggest you hang out with the feeling and see if you can map it out, and learn something from it. Then, observe how you feel as you focus on basic self-care with a clear conscience. I know, it can be a little strange.

Read Eric Francis daily at
www.PlanetWaves.net.

Spiritual Smart Aleck



www.spiritualsmartaleck.blogspot.com

Good-bye to a Good Friend

by Mary Tuel

My friend and constant email pal, Susan Bardwell, passed away on Friday, November 11, at the age of 57. She had inoperable lung cancer, and after a course of radiation and two chemo sessions her body couldn't go on.

By the time I knew Susan, she was retired from working the crime beat at the Houston Chronicle. She and her husband Micheal Boddy were doing an online paper called the Angleton Journal, for which she wrote a column that was often funny, touching, and thoughtful.

A few years ago David and Jane Shepherd told me I should look up Susan's column and get in touch. They thought we'd like each other. They knew Susan because their daughter, Laurie Heath, who is one of the world's best photographers, had known and worked with Susan for years.

So I did look Susan up, and read one of her columns and liked it very much and wrote to her to say so. She wrote back, "Let's be friends." We ended up emailing each other almost every day for the last four or five years.

We had a lot in common: both of us had adult sons living at home, and had a grand child who lived with us or had lived with us. We were both writers, and smart asses. We both liked to knit.

She became a good artist in the last couple of years, working with acrylics mostly. I sent her pictures taken here on the island, and she sent me a painting of Tramp Harbor that is now on our

kitchen wall.

I'm a singer, and hey wow, she really liked music. She even included a song I'd recorded in a Christmas mix she made for people last year - or maybe the year before. It kinda runs together.

We called each other FASTOBs, meaning: fat, average, sarcastic, tough old broads. We told each other our sorrows and our joys, we told stories of our lives, we discussed music - man, did she know music! What a memory she had for artists and lyrics.

We talked about our families, past and present. Her love for her family was so much a part of her. It was huge and awesome and solid. She understood my own soft-heartedness toward my own family.

What can I say? She was funny, and brilliant, and talented, and loving, and I'm going to miss her every day for the rest of my life. I haven't really had a good cry about her passing yet. Knowing me that will come a few weeks down the road. Right now I'm still on auto pilot. I know my friend is gone, but it hasn't sunk in, you know?

It's odd when someone you love who is far away dies. All that has really changed about the relationship is that she's gone to a different far away place - a better one, I believe, where she suffers no more of the pain and fear she went through the last few months. What will make her passing real for me is that I will get up in the morning and check my email and there won't be an email from Susan. Every morning. From now on.

Her husband, Micheal, who is another one of the world's greatest photographers, took this picture of Susan in a porch swing with her grand son Ian, last summer. I love this picture because it shows so well who she was, and what she meant to her family.

Spare a prayer or a thought for her husband Micheal (yes, Susan told me, that's how his name is spelled because that's how his mother spelled it when she named him), their sons Sean and Eric, and their grand sons Ian and William. They have to get up every morning and not have her there, and that is so hard. Please send them blessings and peace. Thank you.

Love and appreciate each other, now - you never know.

You can look up Susan's obituary at the Houston Chronicle web site, under S. K. Bardwell.



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Vashon Library December 2011

Children & Families

Toddler Story Time

Tuesday, December 6, 10:40am
Ages 21 months to 3 years with adult.
Enjoy a 20-minute program of stories and songs just right for toddlers.

Preschool Story Time

Tuesday, December 6, 11:30am
Ages 3 to 5 with adult.
Join us for 30 minutes of stories, songs and fun!

Ready-Set-Read!

If you are in elementary school, take the Reading Challenge! Read at least 20 minutes per day for 20 days in one month and choose a new paperback book at your community library.
Forms are available online and at the library.

Teens

Study Zone

Thursday, December 1, 8 and 15, 3-5pm
Grades K-12.
Drop in for homework help from trained volunteer tutors.

Late "Movie" Night @ The Library

Saturday, December 17, 6pm
For grades 6-12.
Watch Tim Burton's, The Nightmare Before Christmas and enjoy munchies and drinks!
Seating is limited. Starting December 3, call 206.463.2069 to save a seat.
Generously funded by the Friends of Vashon Library.

Online Study Zone, Homework Help and SAT Tutoring

- Go to www.kcls.org and click on Research & Homework for 3 choices to help with homework: Live Homework Help (K-12, 2pm-midnight, 7 days a week)
- Study ZoneOnline (by Brainfuse, live chat and whiteboard functions)
- MSP, HSPE, SAT Service Tutoring (by Brainfuse, 1-10pm, 7 days a week).

Read Three, Get One Free

This is a book-review-and-reward program that is available at any KCLS community library. Participating teens in middle school, junior high or high school may select a FREE paperback book for every three books read and reviewed.

Adults

Mongolia as Experienced by a Peace Corps Volunteer

Saturday, December 3, 3pm
Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Christina Szirmai, will share her

experience from her two year commitment in Mongolia with photos, stories, traditional Mongolian clothing and other cultural items.

Things to Come: Visions of the Future on Film

Sunday, December 4, 2pm
Film critic, Robert Horton, discusses how movies, from the silent era until today, have imagined what the future would look like, from utopian visions to dystopian nightmares. Film clips from classics such as Metropolis, A Clockwork Orange, Blade Runner, and Wall*E demonstrate how such visions have changed over time.

Great Books Discussion Group

Monday, December 5, 6:30pm
The Great Books Discussion Group meets on the first Monday of the month, October through June. Visitors are welcome. The only requirement to participate is that you have read the material under discussion. December's selection is, To Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch by Immanuel Kent.

Free ESL Classes

Tuesday, December 6 and 13, 6pm
Learn how to speak, read and write in English. Join us for free weekly lessons, beginning to intermediate level, taught by an ESL Instructor. During the class, homework tutoring is available in the library for elementary and middle school students of ESL families.

Meet the Author: Jennifer K. Chung

Saturday, December 10, 3pm
Terroryaki! is funny, spicy and a creepy-sweet ode to food, family love, Seattle and the best, if slightly cursed, dish of chicken teriyaki to be found in this or any realm of existence. Meet Jennifer Chung, the author and winner of the 33rd Annual International 3-Day Novel Contest.

Blog Basics

Monday, December 12, 10:15am
Learn the basic concepts of blogs and starting a blog using Google's Blogger service.
Prerequisite: Students must have an email address.
Seating is limited. To register, please call 206.463.2069.

Facebook Basics

Monday, December 12, 12:30pm
Learn the basics of the social networking web site Facebook. Instructors will demonstrate how to use it, why it is useful, discuss privacy and help set up accounts.
Prerequisites: Basic understanding of the Internet and students must have an email address.

Rosie Needs A Home...

Rosie is a precious 11 month old Brittany Spaniel mix who is just coming out of her shell and is on her way to being a happy, playful and wonderful puppy. Just a few weeks out of a hoarding situation, she needs a family to continue building her self-confidence and keep her safe. She is going to make a wonderful buddy and family member. If you would like to meet Rosie, please contact Vashon Island Pet Protectors at 206-567-5222. There is a \$125 adoption fee.



Go To www.vipp.org Click on Adopt

Island Epicure



By Marj Watkins

Turkey Revisited

This column will reach you a bit too late for presenting ideas for stuffing a turkey, but just in time for ideas on what to do about the leftover meaty carcass.

First, I pick off all the meat bits the Thanksgiving feasters left on it. I freeze them in plastic packets. Then I break the remaining meaty skeleton into at least two or three plastic freezer bags full of turkey parts.

Later I make Turkey and Peas in Cream Sauce, Turkey Tetrazzini, or a Spanish whole meal in a pot called Pote Gallego. My cream sauce is enlivened with chopped green onion and parsley and tarragon. The Turkey Tetrazzini is a Turkey and noodle dish finished off in the oven. I given that one in this column last year

TURKEY BROTH

- Turkey carcass, or part of it water to cover
- 1 bay leaf broken in bits
- 12 peppercorns or several fresh grinds of pepper
- 2 teaspoon dried tarragon
- 2 whole cloves
- 1 to 2 teaspoons sea salt
- 1 yellow onion, chopped
- 1 long carrot, sliced
- 1/3 cup minced fresh parsley or 2 Tablespoons dried parsley
- Bring all the ingredients to a boil, reduce the heat and simmer about 2

hours, or until what meat was left on the bones has fallen off. Store in sterilized jar, tightly capped. Refrigerate. If not used within 4 days, reboil or freeze leaving 1 inch space at top to allow for expansion.

POTE GALLEGO

- Serves 4 to 6
- 1 15-ounce large white beans
- 1 to 1 1/2 cups diced turkey or chicken meat
- 1/2 cup diced smoked ham
- 6 garlic cloves
- 1 onion, quartered
- 2 cups coarsely shredded cabbage or kale
- 4 potatoes cut in chunks
- 3 turnips, diced
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon coarse black pepper
- Water or turkey broth to cover

In a large saucepan or stove-to-casserole, put the above ingredients. Cover with cold water. Bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer gently 30 minutes, adding boiling water as needed to keep the level the same. Taste and adjust seasoning. Before serving stir in:

- 1 Tablespoon Vinegar + 1 Tablespoon Olive Oil
- Chopped Fresh Parsley or Dried Parsley.

Strain cooking liquid into soup bowls. Garnish with chopped parsley or green onions.

Serve the vegetables, meat, and beans as a second course.

A salad of leafy, green lettuce and diced fresh orange, plus wholegrain bread and butter complete the menu.

THE GODFATHER: PART II



Saturday

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Voice of Vashon wants to Hear from YOU!

Voice of Vashon has launched the public phase of a major master planning effort – an online survey of Islander’s desires and needs for broadcast and webcast music, informational television, entertainment shows and emergency alert information. Emails and leafleting teams have started reaching out on the Island to find out what people most want from Voice of Vashon, how they’d like to receive it and how service can be improved as the station moves into the future. The master planning and survey work comes more than a decade after Voice of Vashon went on the air with its first webcast.

“To make this more fun, and in a total effort to bribe people to participate, everyone who takes the online survey will be entered into a free drawing for some great prizes,” said Voice of Vashon President Jeanne Dougherty.

The brief survey takes about five minutes. To let your opinions be known, go to www.VoiceOfVashon.org/survey.

Anyone who wants to be entered into the free drawing simply needs to leave their email at the end of the survey so the station can reach them if they win. Dozens of prizes include gift certificates for island dining and services, tickets to local shows, CDs, VOV memorabilia, and even emergency-preparedness supplies. For more information on all the prizes, go to www.VoiceOfVashon.org/prizes.

Dougherty went on to explain why Voice of Vashon wants to take this fresh look at the station’s future. “So much has changed in the years since our dream was born. In that time we’ve become a fundamental part of the Island community, a home grown and volunteer operated local information and entertainment source. At the same time, technology has really changed. TVs, radios, phones, the way people use the Web...these things have all moved on. The survey will help us do a better job of continuing our long tradition of community service.”

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Well, we are all missing Buddy.
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Thanks for all the kind words of condolence.
It is comforting to know that he touched so many.

Cheryl's Pick of the Week:
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Live Entertainment
November 25, 8:30pm
Dave McGraw & Mandy Fer

December 2, 8pm
Thomas Marriott

December 3, 9pm
Soul Senate

December 9, 9pm
The Grunge-ing Black Dogs

The Loop has a New Website
New Look
On Line Classifieds
Weekly Updates
www.VashonLoop.com

Positively Speaking

\$35,000 Worth of Raising Cain and Passing the Buck

By Deborah H. Anderson



Herman Cain and the circus at Penn State have just plain ticked me off. Outside of the obvious, you know why? Because men and the women who want their approval have been saying ‘Ain’t no big thing’ for entirely too long.

I can write it now because nobody cares about this story anymore.

Let’s just say I had friend.... This friend drove out to Point Robinson Park about two years after it happened, where it happened, and was happy to see that the look out bridge was broken in two and there was heavy overgrowth all around it. Metaphorically speaking it looked like it couldn’t happen to anyone else ever again. It looked like the moment was closed.

That bridge, that look out spot, is the place where she stopped after a hard week of work and paused to reflect. He had said to her, ‘Come take a walk with me.’ It seemed slightly less innocent than when he said ‘Let’s throw the ball around ‘ and started to throw a football. That moment had seemed slightly less innocent than when he said to her at the Malt Shoppe. ‘I have knots in my stomach and I don’t think I want to go home.’ The week had been filled with more of the vague disenchantments he always shared about how he didn’t really care for his wife and off handed comments from him about kissing and condoms. Each time she rebuffed them trying to allow them both their dignity by shadowing with humor. ‘I don’t ever want there to be a cautiousness between us’ he had stated. To that, she ardently and stridently said, ‘Look, I’m here to work’. She was, at the time, married and regularly intimate with her husband with whom she was very much in love. But let us also note at the beginning of this story that she did not take care of herself very well, or hold herself in any kind of high regard.

Nonetheless, there on that bridge, my friend suddenly found he had moved behind her and was massaging her back as if it was an appendage of his. You know, that one that can get stiff if a hand touches it.

She froze. “Don’t turn around”” she thought to herself. Whatever you do, don’t turn around””. It seemed like hours before he stopped. She has never doubted what would have happened if she’d turned around. She’d been raped when she was eight.

He was waiting for her to protest so he could get her into position. He was going to pull a Herman Cain and a Penn State with a pass completion.

Because they had worked together for years, she gave him the benefit of the doubt. She had been well groomed. Confused and conflicted doesn’t even begin to describe what she felt. She

reported it to two of his ranking superiors immediately. And she went out to meet with his wife and him to tell them to stop dragging her into their mess.

By now she felt like someone had put her in a washing machine on spin and kept lifting the lid. What did this have to do with work? How could she have not seen this coming?

Suddenly she was offered a position from the organization in which they both worked. A great position. A position that was going to put her in the position of breaking a gender barrier. And if she didn’t want that one, “We’ve got three others from which you can choose”.

Innocent that she was she didn’t realize it was hush money. The position was with an organization that had gone through huge turmoil in the previous years. She sorted things out at the local level but then the short men decided she was a threat (she being tall) and after she told one he couldn’t kiss her, and another woman she would be better off not having an affair... well the brown stuff hit the fan. She was not at all hushed. Both of those people, by the way, were victims of childhood sexual abuse. It’s the gift that keeps on giving if you don’t deal with the trauma.

This part is important because when she filed a formal complaint they used a bunch of that stuff against her. That’s what they do to victims who complain. They discredit, malign and shut you off at the pass. The larger organization had over three hundred complaints of assault and harassment the year she reported. No one at the top did anything. In fact the biggest sex offender embezzled the money they gave him for therapy. When they found out what did they do? They threw him a beautiful going away reception when he resigned as they asked him to. Why? Because “He’s such a nice guy and we really like him” was the response from the regional supervisor. The man had not only sexually assaulted hundreds of women but also all four of his daughters. He was a professor of Hermeneutics and Homiletics.

Please understand Herman Cain really believes he didn’t do anything. It’s called dissociation. That Sandusky guy really believes it was just horseplay that got out of hand. And they are all really nice guys. That’s how they operate

And the women that knew? They’re just as bad. In my friend’s situation there was one enormous woman whose career was her life and she was eager to label my friend a ‘man hating feminist’. Later the men made her the executive of the organization (after the guy who had assaulted my friend and was promoted to supervisor of the region moved of to other parts of the state. Years later the guy’s wife was arrested

and convicted for embezzling \$15,000 from a Senior Citizen’s Arts Fund).

Two more women reported to this female executive. The same man had raped them both. She stepped down from any decision making process because ‘she had a conflict of interest’. No sh*t Sherlock. The husband of the executive’s secretary was the man accused of the rapes. But the real reason was she had no cahones. Is that how they’re spelled?

The therapist who headed the investigative committee, did he offer support? No, actually he circulated one woman’s documents to the population she served outside of the investigative committee. Shameless. All of it shameless voyeurism.

It’s time for men and women to step up to the plate. Take Herman Cain into account.

To those men who fired some men at Penn State, it’s a start. Unfortunately we don’t know if that was just public pressure or some clear sense of morality and justice.

But you ordinary men have to raise your consciousness. Don’t go out in the woods drumming or read ‘Iron John’ again. That got no one anywhere. Just own up to your own sexual desires. And no ancient feminists, it’s not about power to them, it’s about sex. Men love to have sex. To men sex is life, not power.

My friend? She spent 15 years being blackballed in the cruelest way possible. They kept telling her ‘if you do this, we’ll correct all this’. When she would accomplish that task they would move the bar again. They did that for ten years. And then she dropped the rope. She had another degree she could use in early childhood rather than her theology degree.

Five years later one man apologized and to this day is actively seeking to bring her career, her calling back into active service. God bless him.

Her children were irretrievably damaged with a dozen lost years of their lives in the ensuing turmoil. She received no compensation. She gained eighty pounds so she wouldn’t be attractive to a man (dumb meaningless solution to ‘not the problem’). And nowadays... she’s more wary.

If you’re a victim, RECOGNIZE, RESIST & REPORT. If you’re a man... man up, police yourselves. Call each other to higher ground from childhood. And if you’re a woman defending one of these men... stop it.

How does this person I know feel today? For the first time since August 1991, I feel free. I just wish I would have known I could have gotten \$35,000.

Love
Deborah



Road to Resilience

Continued from Page 1

escape the worst of that. We do have severe weather that causes flooding and wind damage, but nothing that holds a candle to the more destructive cyclones and hurricanes that others face. We do have an occasional tornado, and I’ve noticed, for the first time, hurricanes in the Pacific approaching Mexico from the west. I don’t know if I’ve just not noticed them before or if it is something new. I suppose the warmer ocean temperatures could bring hurricanes farther up the coast. It’s still a long shot for us.

We need to understand that any change in climate will put a lot of stress on all life forms as they struggle to adapt. The web of life is so complex and finely balanced that the appearance or disappearance of some seemingly insignificant microbe could have huge ramifications; we really can’t predict such things.

What can we do to lessen the severity of climate change? Put as little carbon as we can in the atmosphere and sequester as much as we can. We would need to get to 350 ppm of carbon in the atmosphere to support the climate that we know. However, we can’t remove the carbon we have already released. Scientists have determined from past events that it has taken

about 1000 years to scrub carbon out of the atmosphere after the inputs have stopped. We are now approaching 500 ppm. The media and our government tell you that we have 20 or 30 years to reduce our output. We don’t! We have yet to see the effects of the carbon we have already put in the atmosphere. That carbon is there to stay for many lifetimes ahead, and we will not be returning to the climate we know in less than geologic time. We can lessen the severity by drastically reducing our output right away. Don’t expect your government to act on this; their actions thus far have been dismal. The impact on our fossil fuel economy is simply too great to allow our government to take appropriate steps. What the government can’t ask of us, we can ask of ourselves. We have the intelligence to see trends into the future and to modify our behavior accordingly. For those of you who are not yet convinced that humans are causing climate change, I suggest that you hold on to your hats because the change that has occurred thus far will continue with or without us. In any case, we can all agree that we don’t want a future scenario in which our grandchildren have to ask us: “Why didn’t you do something while you had the chance?”



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www.socialcontemplative.blogspot.com -encourages faith based leadership for those in the church world.
or you can email her at dha@lgcmin.com

Island Arts Tour

Continued from Page 1

welded sculpture, of every size and purpose, fills the drive and entry.

Brian Brenno (#3 on the brochure) is a glass artist. “Our studio is a great place to come and see glass blowers in action all day long. It’s fun to sit on the

addition to my wall art, I am also using a technique called punch embroidery to create wearable art, primarily pins and pendants. These pieces are constructed of fine wool yarn. Like my wall pieces, I often incorporate metal objects into my wearable art.”



Above Kira Bacon

couch and watch us blowing glass. Families, kids adults can come in and be part of the process of blowing a Christmas ornament. They’ll choose their colors and blow the air in the pipe and be involved in the actual making of it. Families really love it and we have people coming back and turning it into a tradition. We also have lots of under \$50 gift things: stuff for the garden, stuff for the home and of course my famous hand-blown glass hats.”

Kira Bacon (#1 on the brochure) is a fiber artist. “My work takes a new approach to a traditional fiber craft. Using a rug-hooking technique, I integrate hand-dyed silk, rusted metal and found objects to create two and three dimensional wall pieces. The refined, richly colored silk and the rough steel creates a textural contrast that defines my work. In

Morgan Brig (#20 on the brochure) is a copper artist. She describes her art as “copper and enamel that’s been torch fired. And then there’s a lot of other methods that have been added on like etching with brass, etching with nickel silver



Below Morgan Brig

and also photo transfers that have been applied to the enamel surface after it’s been fired. People coming to the studio will see a multitude of things. They will see clocks, they will see figures, houses, boats, magnets and other gift items. The houses are the new thing I have going this year. Each one has its own personality. They are UBU houses. Each one has a face and a certain personality that goes with the image on it, and there are certain characteristics like magic or being stubborn or being a good thinker for instance. The houses are the big new thing this year.”

Biffle French of Heron Cove Studio (#14 on the brochure) is the author of “Paddling the Waters of Vashon Island.” He is also a photographer, wood turner and furniture maker. “I spent six months shooting photos of herons, eagles, terns, osprey and loons, all around the island from my kayak. I was often able to get very close, and so the shots are quite detailed.

Men Who Don’t Work

By Team Beiderman

VHS Alums, Alexander Atkins and Andrew Franks, return to Vashon Theater with their short film adaptation of a short story by Raymond Carver.

Vashon Theater - Friday, December 9th, 9:30pm - FREE w/ Q&A after the screening. www.menwhodontwork.com

For years, VHS alums, Alexander Atkins and Andrew Franks, have been making films

the uncertainties of 1960’s Americana. Shot last May in Portland, Oregon by an entirely volunteer cast and crew, the film was completed last month and is currently being submitted to film festivals worldwide.

Andrew and Alex will always credit Vashon Island as the birthplace of their individual and collaborative creativity, and they are eager to share their latest effort with the community



Jim Craig, as The Postman.

individually and collaboratively, and sharing them with Vashon. Last April, they reached out to Islanders to help support their latest short film and its online fundraising efforts. Not so much to their surprise, but certainly to their delight, Vashon became their biggest supporter, and with the contributions of over one hundred individuals, from which more than half were from The Island, they raised over \$6000 in four weeks!

Their new film is titled, “Men Who Don’t Work,” and is based on Pacific Northwest Writer, Raymond Carver’s short story, What Do You Do In San Francisco? It tells the story of a small town postman who becomes enthralled by the mystery of an unusual family that moves into a house on his route. The film’s captivating imagery brings Carver’s simple realism to life, transporting the viewer into the mind of a man forced to grapple with

that has supported them from the beginning. “Men Who Don’t Work” will be premiering at Vashon Theater on December 9th at 9:30pm. This public screening is free, and will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmakers. For more information about the film, you can visit www.menwhodontwork.com.



Andrew Franks & Alexander Atkins

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Send in your Art, Event, Meeting Music or Show information and get included in The Vashon Loop. Editor@vashonloop.com



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In the heart of Beautiful Burton By the Sea...

VAA Musical Theatre performs Really Rosie

By Janice Randall

“Really Rosie,” a well-known children’s musical theatre production, began as a collaboration in the 1970’s, between author Maurice Sendack and iconic songwriter Carole King. VAA Musical Theatre’s troupe of more than 20 theatre-savvy Island kids will perform their adaptation, complete with characters and stories they created, December 1, 3-4, at the Blue Heron Art Center. Creative team for the project, Director Sue Wiley and Artistic/Musical Director Marita Ericksen, have met with the students after school at the Blue Heron since mid-September.

Great entertainment for all ages (with music we all know and love) the story begins when Rosie, the new girl in town, inspires bored, grumpy neighborhood kids to use their imaginations to create stories. Rosie and her friends demonstrate how one person (even a kid) can affect change and bring the community together through positive energy and creativity.

In addition to three public performances of “Really Rosie,” cast members will perform with Vashon Island Chorale on the evening of Dec. 3

Really Rosie
Thursday, Dec 1, 7 pm
Saturday, Dec 3, 3 pm
Sunday, Dec 4, 5 pm
Tickets: \$7/\$10-Blue Heron, Heron’s Nest,Vashon Bookshop



Ten year old Sarah Hotchkiss plays Rosie in VAA Musical Theatre’s Really Rosie

Pray For Rain!

Church of Great Rain Holiday Show

Church of Great Rain, Vashon Island’s own music, comedy and variety show, is now celebrating its fourth year presenting world-class live music and hilarious comedy sketches to enthusiastic congregations from our islands and beyond.

Join your friends and neighbors at 4PM on December 11 at Open Space for Arts and Community to celebrate the spirit of the season at Church of Great Rain’s Holiday Show. Joining the cast will be Island thespian Louis Mangione who has performed with Drama Dock and Vashon Dance Academy. Louis also sings with Portage Fill-Harmonic, Vashon’s swingin’ big band.

Special musical guests will be Manooghi Hi, an East meets West collaboration between family, friends and international connections from a variety of musical backgrounds. From the day singer and Bombay, India native Mehnaz relocated to the US, she and her Northwest accomplices began constructing a new breed of rock music, mixing up rock-and-roll instrumentation and presentation with Indian scales, harmony & rhythms. At their live performances, electric guitars, funky, florid keys and bass, and a slamming rhythm



section align with soaring vocal gymnastics that are heavily rooted in Indian tradition and intense mysticism.

The Holiday Show will feature the Church House Band, twisted news and irreverent views by the Holy Roller Radio Players, and a lively inspiring sermon by the preacher. Over sixty uniquely talented actors, musicians, writers, and technical crew contribute to these wonderful collaborations.

Tickets are \$10 at Vashon Bookshop and brownpapertickets.com. Golden Circle Passes for four including a reserved table in front are \$60 at brownpapertickets.com and at the door.

For a unique Holiday gift, advance tickets for December 11, February 12, April 1, and May 20 shows are available at Brown Paper Tickets. Discover more about Church of Great Rain, gift tickets and Manooghi Hi at www.churchofgreatrain.com.

The Crunge-ing Black Dogs

True story: Two guys debated as to whether the music they were hearing was a Led Zeppelin cd or an actual band playing live music in the studio next door. A bet was made, hands were shook. One guy made off with some easy money. He had heard the band practice last week. And so it goes, with The Crunge-ing Black Dogs.

The C.B.D's originally formed to play a full set of Creedence Clearwater Revival for a Big Lebowski party on Vashon Island. In short, the C.B.D's played C.C.R on V.I and it was B.A. They were then asked to play a set of Led Zeppelin for a group of Led Zep enthusiasts at an outdoor party. Neighborhood Watch called it the "party

of the summer". The cops were equally impressed calling it "loud enough to be heard several blocks away".

The Crunge-ing Black Dogs are made up of Mike Marlatt on guitar, Jeremy Lightfoot on bass, Keith Jaeger on drums and Paul Gullede on vocals. They will be playing an entire set of Led Zeppelin. They don't look like Led Zeppelin but they kind of sound like them most of the time. So if you kind of like Led Zeppelin, then it looks like you will mostly like the sound of the Crunge-ing Black Dogs.

Friday, December 9, 9pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy 206-463-5959



VAA exhibits Masters in Miniature

By Janice Randall

Blue Heron Gallery will host the 5th annual Miniature Show and showcase over 100 pieces by 40 Island artists. Mediums will include wood, painting, mixed media, photography, fiber, clay and more – with one catch, all pieces must be under 50 sq. inches for 2-D work and no bigger than 6 in. x 6 in. x 6 in. for 3-D work. Artists will each show one to five pieces.

Co-curators, Janice Mallman and Carol



Big Kahuna by Morgan Brig

artists-who love the challenge-and the art collectors, who have been so supportive, the miniature show has become a much anticipated annual gallery event."

First time participants in the Miniature Show are: Margie Amstrup, Jan-Eric Schafer, Jane Neubauer, Tom Northington, Tami Anderson, Mike Devoe, Mary M. Briggs, Sheila Park, John Martin, Lisa Guy, Don Glaister, Rondi Lightmark and Peter Serko.

"I like the idea of involving so many artists and presenting the challenge of going beyond their comfort zone," adds Mallman.

VAA Gallery Opening
Masters in Miniature
Friday, December 2, 6pm-9pm
Showing through December



Standing Stones by Kristen Reitz-Green

Schwennessen collaborated, as they have from the inception, on this exhibition. "When Carol and I started this, little did we know we would do it again, much less five years in a row," exclaims Mallman. "Between the

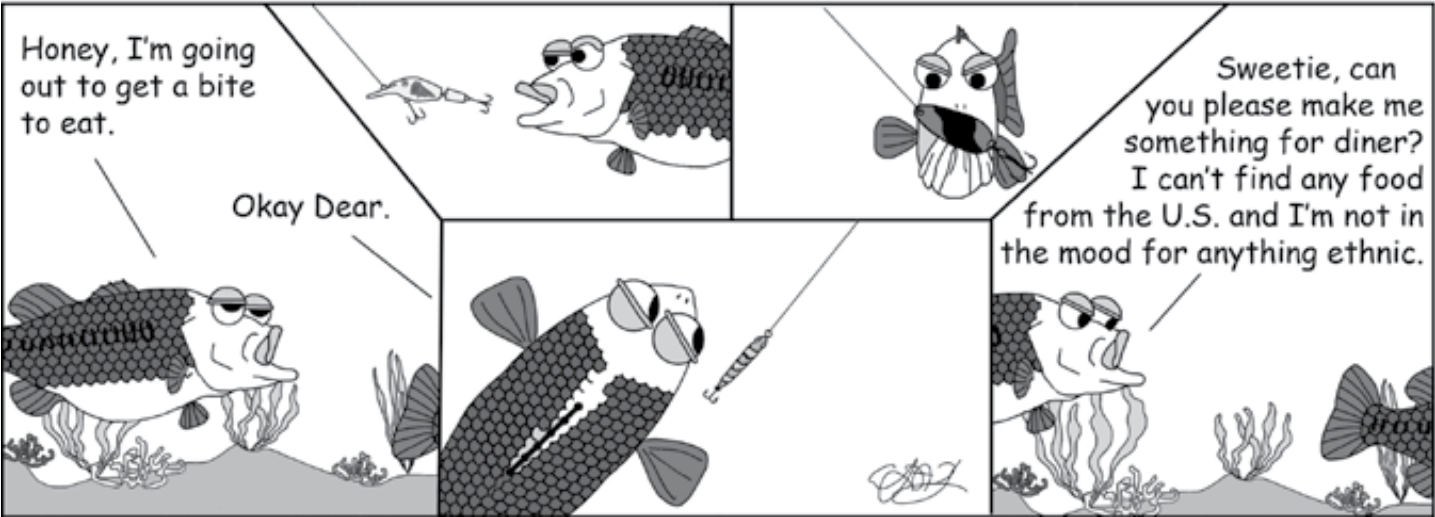
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Next Edition
of *The Loop*
Comes out
Thursday,
December 8

Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is
Friday, December 2

Loopy Laffs

Moose Lake



Weekend Entertainment November 11-13

Dave McGraw & Mandy Fer

Human chemistry is indeed a mercurial thing. And adding any artistic endeavor into that mysterious balance can, every so often, create some true magic. For Dave McGraw and Mandy Fer (pronounced fair), the delicate intertwining of music, life and that always-fine interpersonal equilibrium has borne fruit in the shape of a truly one of a kind artistic partnership.

McGraw and Fer have amassed an admirable résumé and an ever-expanding fan base during their time playing music together. Having toured the U.S. from coast to coast, performing in highly esteemed theaters to intimate listening rooms, the



pair has honed their skills sharing stages with fellow troubadours including Willy Porter, the Swell Season, Tony Furtado, Jeffrey Foucault and many others.

Friday, November 25, 8:30:pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

TV Dinner
Jazz, Blues & Rock from TV and Movies

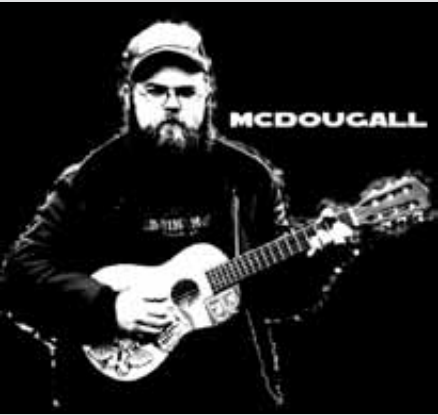


Put away the leftovers and get your TV Dinner on! Its our holiday edition of

Friday, November 25, 7pm, At Cafe Luna, 9924 SW Bank RD
www.cafelunavashon.com

Scott McDougall
One Man Folk Band

Scott McDougall is a noble, little grizzly with precious old time 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: kick drum, hi-hat, harmonica and simple stringed instruments, the fans making up his growing national following begin taking turns shouting “McDougall!” Once the banjo begins . . . everyone moves. I’ll bet a hundred bucks you can’t stand still through a McDougall set, seriously. His toe tapping, punk infused old time songs bring fury to the dance floor, and poetry to your record player. Don’t fight it . . . this is the way. After just returning from



a western states tour to support the new album, McDougall will continue stirring up some of his captivating one-man band old time ruckus in the Northwest this January. See it for yourself and become a fan for life. mcdougallmusic.com

Saturday, November 26, 7pm, At Cafe Luna, 9924 SW Bank RD
www.cafelunavashon.com

Keepers of Point Robinson
Announce Photographic Exhibit

Timed to coincide with the December Arts Tour, the Keepers of Point Robinson will be exhibiting photographs from the past and present of the Point Robinson Light Station. The exhibit, entitled “Changes At The Light”, will be in the lighthouse itself, and will be open from 11 AM to 5 PM on 3 and 4 December, the first weekend of the Arts Tour, and on 10 and 11 December, the second weekend. Visitors who come on 4 December can also come to the annual Open House, when both of the quarters will be open for visitors, the Lighthouse Santa will be aboard at about 1 PM, there will be food of the season, and the Ship’s Store will be open.

The exhibit is sponsored by 4Culture, the King County arts and heritage organization, the Vashon Park District,

and the Keepers of Point Robinson. It will be an interactive exhibit, in that visitors can help the Keepers by telling us of errors in captions, for as in all historical research, we may not have the correct information. Some of the photographs have never been seen before. The lighthouse itself will be manned by Keepers, who will take visitors to the top of the tower to view the original 5th Order Fresnel lens all lighted up, and get a great view of the Sound from the gallery.

Both the exhibit and the Open House are free. Donations for the always-ongoing work at the light are always welcome.

Both the exhibit and the Open House are free.

Thomas Marriott Performs
December 2nd

Trumpeter Thomas Marriott is one of the most exciting musicians to emerge on the national jazz scene in more than a decade. The seven-time Golden Ear award winner is a skilled instrumentalist, composer and producer, always seeking to expand the boundaries of jazz music in all its forms.



After winning the prestigious Carmine Caruso Jazz Trumpet Competition in 1999, Marriott headed east from Seattle to New York where he gained initial acclaim through his work with Maynard Ferguson’s Big Bop Nouveau band. Marriott completed 3 world tours with Ferguson (who called Marriott “a truly great jazz trumpet player”), and then continued to work in New York and on the road with the likes of Rosemary Clooney, Joe Locke, The Tito Puente Orchestra, Brian Lynch, The Chico O’Farrill Orchestra, Eric Reed, Les Brown and the Band of Renown, Kenny Kirkland, Charlie Hunter, Ritchie “Alto Madness” Cole, and many others.

Marriott’s diverse interests and skills are reflected in the range and success of his albums. His 2005 release on Origin Records, “Individuation,” was named among the top 10 jazz records of 2005 by WBEZ radio, Chicago. 2007’s “Both Sides of the Fence” received over 3300 spins nationally, pushing his album into the top ten on jazz radio. The album “Crazy: The Music of Willie Nelson,” was released in early 2008 to wide critical acclaim. Jazz Times Magazine declared Marriott a “first-tier trumpet player” with “serious chops and a luxuriant trumpet sound....This album is a kick in the pants.”

“Flexicon,” released in April of 2009 on Origin Records, also made it into the top-ten on the national jazz radio airplay charts as did 2010’s “East-West Trumpet Summit,” a collaboration with trumpeter Ray Vega. The album made it all the

Friday, December 2, 8pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

Soul Senate

Soul Senate is a 7-piece, high-energy, adrenaline-inducing, audience-oriented, original soul/funk party powerhouse.

Bridging the decidedly funky sounds of the 60s & early 70s--such as the Meters, Stevie Wonder, and the Stax label of Memphis--with a distinct modern sound in the vein of Raphael Saadiq, Alice Russell, Eli Paperboy Reed, and the New Mastersounds; Soul Senate claims their own musical territory with booty shaking grooves, well-crafted arrangements, sizzling horns, and memorable instrumentals and vocal songs.



Each member of the band has over 10-30 years experience on the local or national scene: in sum, playing countless venues & festivals--from Bumbershoot to the 100,000 person West Fest--with

Saturday, December 3, 9pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

experience opening for touring acts like Orgone, Delta Nove, Will Bernard, Roy Ayers, and the Monophonics.

Soul Senate’s goal is to lift people up by playing tight in the groove, making a night with Soul Senate a party that is not to be missed, and one that will not easily be forgotten.

This is a free cover all-ages show ‘til 11pm, then 21+ after that.

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The Vashon Island Chorale presents “Dona Nobis Pacem - Grant Us Peace”



Dona Nobis Pacem, Grant Us Peace is the name of the annual holiday concert to be presented by the Vashon Island Chorale on December 3 and 4. Seventy-five singers, a full orchestra and a guest appearance by a brass quintet promise a spirited musical experience.

Under the artistic direction of Gary D. Cannon, and with soloists Jennifer Krikawa, soprano, and Andrew Krikawa, baritone, the majestic Dona Nobis Pacem by Ralph Vaughan Williams will fill the first half of the program. This powerful piece has not been performed on Vashon Island previously. British composer Vaughan Williams wrote this cantata in 1936 as a plea for peace amid growing fears of an approaching war in Europe. The six movements include passages from the Roman Catholic Mass, poetry by Walt Whitman, text from a speech by John Bright and writings from the Book of Jeremiah in the Bible. Interspersed with the theme of peace are haunting messages about the disruption of war and conflict.

The second half of the concert program features Eight Days of Chanuka, new works recently composed by Abraham Kaplan, Ave Maria by Franz Biebl, Peace, peace by Rick & Sylvia Powell and several traditional Christmas carols by Sir David Willcocks. Members of the Vashon Youth Chorus under the direction of Marita Ericksen will join the Chorale to close the program.

The concerts will be held at Bethel Church on Saturday, Dec. 3, 7:30pm and Sunday, Dec. 4, 3pm. Tickets (\$12.50/general, \$10/seniors & students) are available at www.brownpapertickets.com, the Vashon Bookshop and the Blue Heron.

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The Spotlights

Join The Spotlights, Danny Cadman, Lauren Sinner, Scotty Johnson with Steve Amsden for a great night of classic rock & roll songs.

Playing at At Sportsmans Inn, 17611 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-0940.
First Friday art Walk,
December 2, at 8:30pm



Free Social Partner Dance

VASHON SOCIAL DANCE GROUP hosting a FREE Social partner dance.
6:30 - 7:30 Night Club Two-Step lesson with Ari Levitt and Whitney Evans. Night Club Two Step is an easy partner dance that makes all level dancers look graceful on the dance floor. Ari has been dancing and teaching for decades and travels the globe teaching many forms of partner dancing. Ari trained under Buddy Schwimmer, the originator of the Night Club Two-step dance and he is probably the most incredible dancer and instructor in the region. For more information about Ari, visit his website. www.rolluptherug.com (suggested \$10 donation for the instructors)

7:30 - 9:30 - Dance to an eclectic selection of deejayed music. Music to swing, night club two-step, waltz, one step, wiggles, foxtrot, zydeco, salsa, etc. with dancers at all levels.

No partner needed, lots of friendly dancers to dance with. Bring a smile and comfortable dance shoes for dancing.

Questions? Contact Candy (206) 920-7596 or visit www.vashonparkdistrict.org or, www.vashoncalendar.org ; -) Thanks to Parks District for the on-going use of the performance hall.

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Blue Heron Dance Nutcracker

By Janice Randall



Blue Heron Dance transports one and all into the magical world of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Ballet on the VHS stage just in time for the holiday season. Performed by countless dancers for more than a century, the story, in dance, revolves around Clara, a young girl whose imagination takes flight during her Christmas Eve dreamscape.

Showcasing Island dance talents, 60 students ages 8 to 18, Nutcracker represents a dancer's rite of passage. The beloved annual production is reinvented every year, with the additions of new choreography, costumes pieces, set designs and new dancers rising through the ranks. But Tchaikovsky's magnificent score and the tale remain timeless.

Artistic Director Christine Juarez says, "I'm refreshing this year's production with new choreography, integrating more formal movement in short vignettes of children preparing for the Party Scene.

Cornish College of the Arts danseur Sam Opsell, will again join the Company as the Cavalier in a pas de deux with Sugar Plum Fairy Camille Kappelman. Also the Snow Queen, Kappelman will partner with Opsell as Snow King and Ballet 4, 5-6 in the all newly choreographed winter wonderland of

the Snow scene.
Veronica Jannetty will dance the bewitching Arabian Princess role. Meg Sayre, as Waltz Queen, will lead the famous Dance of the Flowers and Mara Drape brings drama to the Mouse Queen who sword fights the Nutcracker.
A popular addition in recent years, the interactive, narrated, abbreviated version of Nutcracker will be offered again for Island pre-school audiences. The lobby, transformed into the land of sweets, will also offer Nutcrackers and other delightful gift items, to benefit the VAA dance program. Saturday night's performance, as always will feature local talent in a pre-show musical performance.

Blue Heron Dance in Nutcracker
Friday, Dec 9, 3:30 pm
Pre-School Show \$5 per person
Friday, Dec 9, 7 pm
Saturday, Dec 10, 1 pm & 7 pm (Live music Pre-show 6:30 pm)
Sunday, Dec 11, 1 pm
Tickets: \$10/\$13
Blue Heron, Heron's Nest, books by the Way, Vashon Bookshop, Thriftway, Brownpapertickets.com or by phone: 463.5131

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wishes to take this time to thank all our loyal customers for their business. In mid-November, we received notice that the fee we pay for Septic/Sewage disposal will be rising over 20% as of January 1st. Consequently, our prices will be rising at the first of the year to accommodate this unexpected change. We realize that year-end and holidays are often tight, financially, thus poor times to hear of increasing costs. But we feel it only fair to allow you as Much time as possible to take advantage of our current pumping prices.

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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.