



VASHON

THE LOOP

Vol. 9, #15

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July 19, 2012

The Mukai House and Garden a Very Vashon Story



There is a property just outside downtown Vashon that tells a unique and important story. It is the universal story of those who come to America to build a future for themselves and their family, yet it also tells how one of those immigrants expressed the deep cultural roots of her homeland. Recognized as a local, regional and national treasure, the Mukai House and Garden combines a typical American suburban home of the late 1920s designed and built by Japanese immigrant B.D. Mukai, and a traditional Japanese hill garden designed by his wife, Kuni Mukai.

Denichiro Mukai, born in 1870 on

a small family farm in Osaka, Japan, immigrated to the U.S. in 1885 at age 15. He was determined to make America his home from the start, and quickly changed his name to Ben, then to B.D. He learned English working as a domestic in San Francisco, and after the 1906 earthquake he moved to Seattle to run a restaurant. From there he worked for a commission house buying and selling fruits and vegetables, where he developed his awareness of the potential for farming. In 1910 he married Sato who emigrated to the U.S. as a picture bride from Yokohama.

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Vashon Strawberry Festival Music Schedule starts on page 10



Road to Resilience Scientific Consensus

Last time, I published my reply to a climate change doubter. In it I stated that it is not difficult to find support for any position if you search the internet. However, as a friend recently pointed out, the validity of a position or opinion must be weighted by credible evidence, and agreement with that evidence by the greatest number of credible experts. It is the kind of evidence that allows us to state as fact that the sun is the center of our planetary system and that it is 93 million miles from Earth, even though none of us is likely to have ever checked it out for ourselves. We have complete faith that science has ferreted out the truth.

I remember talking about climate change back in the 1980's with a friend of mine, Steve Hodge, a glaciologist then working for the US Geological Survey. At the time, there was a vigorous debate among scientists around world as to whether climate was in fact warming and, if so, if it could be attributed to human activity. It was several years later, in 1988, that he told me that a consensus had been reached that climate

By Terry Sullivan, Transition Vashon

was warming and that it was most likely caused by humans.

It is a tribute to the rigorous search for truth by thousands of scientists applying the scientific method that another 13 years had passed before an official statement was made. In 2001, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published this statement:

An increasing body of observations gives a collective picture of a warming world and other changes in the climate system... There is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities.

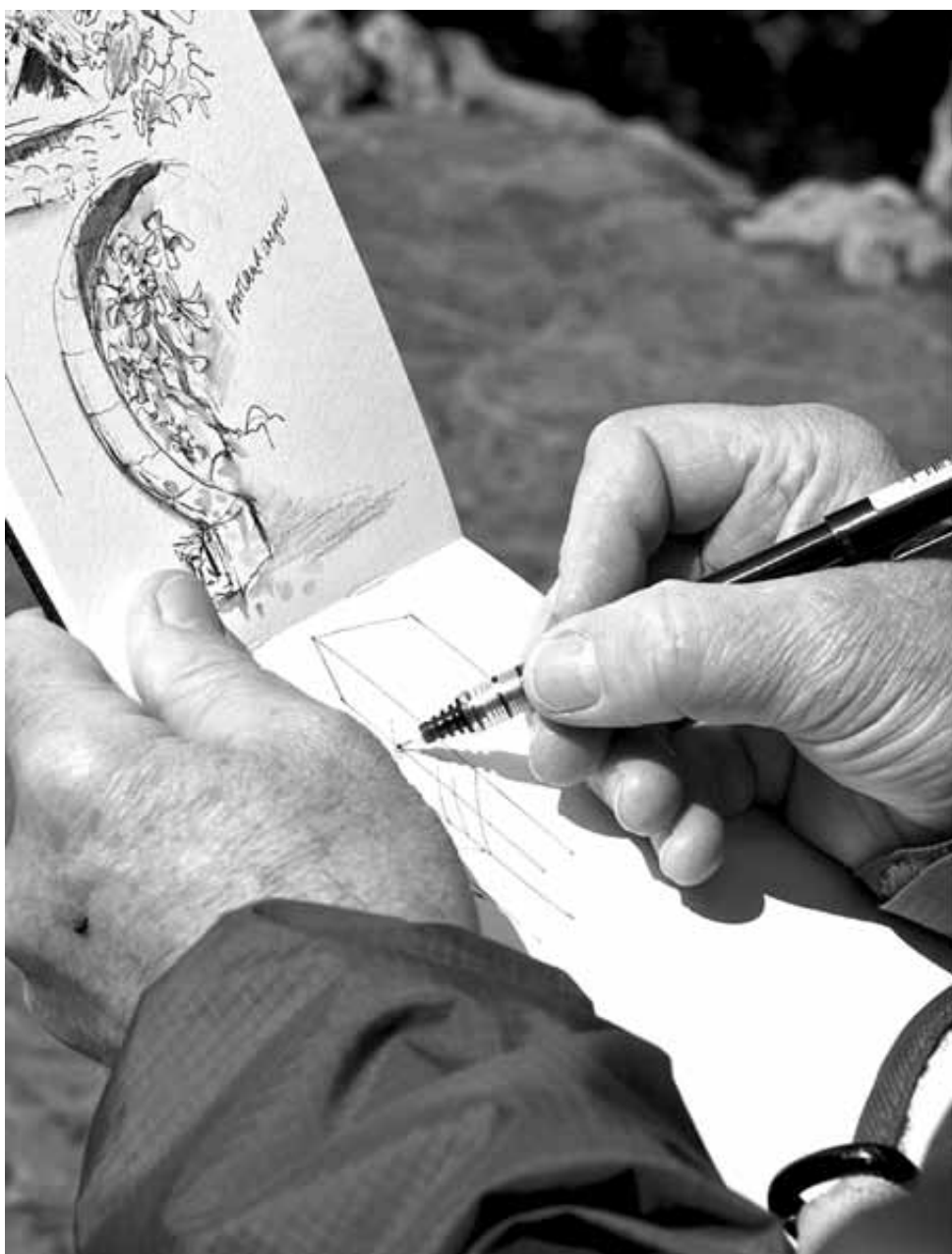
The main conclusions of the IPCC on global warming were the following:

The global average surface temperature has risen 0.6 ± 0.2 °C since the late 19th century, and 0.17 °C per decade in the last 30 years.

There is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities, in particular emissions of the greenhouse gases carbon dioxide and methane.

If greenhouse gas emissions continue
Continued on Page 6

Darsie Beck's Workshops are EVERYWHERE!



Darsie Beck, watercolorist, author and sculptor, has a full plate for the next few months presenting workshops on Vashon, in Port Townsend and for Rick Steves in Edmonds. Beck is best known for his incredible travel journals that combine watercolors of the places he visits along with small narratives or quote. The journals that he has created over the years now number over 39 volumes and delight students and his many workshops.

And the upcoming workshops will offer students the opportunity to see the nature travel journals as well as work with Beck in the field, creating memories of their own.

On July 26 and 28, Beck is offering a workshop on Vashon inviting students to join him for a six hour workshop on the art and joy of nature and travel journal keeping. Learn the basics of on the go sketching techniques with pen and watercolor pencils. Beck will share his time proven journal sketching methodology and the best travel sketching gear to carry whether exploring the island or on a European travel adventure. A two hour introduction session will be held at Waterworks Studio on Thursday from 7-9 pm followed by a four hour field journal sketching outing at Point Robinson on Saturday from 10-2pm.

Learn to experience your environment through your journal where ever you are and create memories for a lifetime. Space is limited as the class is limited to 6 students and will start at Waterworks Studio on Maury Island. Tuition is \$60.00.

August 16 and 18th, he is presenting a second nature and travel journal workshop at Waterworks but this time the focus is historic Dockton. The first session will be held from 7-9 pm while the second, from 10-2pm will be spent in and around Dockton. Space for this workshop is also limited to 6 students and tuition is \$60.00.

Beck moves away from Vashon and will be presenting a Travel Journal Workshop for Rick Steves in Edmonds on September 8 from 12- 1:30 pm. For more information and enrollment for this workshop, call 425/771-8303 or www.ricksteves.com.

Back on the Island in September, Beck is offering his well-known "Your Essential Nature: A Practical Guide to Creativity and Spiritual Harmony". This two day class on September 15 and 22 from 10- 2:30 pm will teach students to Learn to live closer to your inner genius and essential nature. Class will focus on creating a personal centering practice

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Get in The Loop

Submissions to the Loop

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

Annual flower fair at the Vashon Library

Come and enjoy the Vashon Maury Island Flower Fair at the Vashon Library, Friday August 3rd 12pm to 6pm and Saturday August 4th 10am to 3pm. Be dazzled by the varieties, colors and scents of flowers grown on the island by our members. Open to the public, free event.

Caregivers support group

The Caregivers Support Group at Vashon Community Care is experimenting with a change of time. For the next few months, the group will meet at 1:30 in the afternoon, on its usual second Thursday of the month. This group is geared toward family and friend caregivers, as opposed to professionals. Interested in attending? We’d love to meet you and hear your story. Please leave a message for Julea at 567-4421.

Sci-Fi Saturday

The month of August will feature the wonderful hit “War of the Worlds.” This film was once note in the top 100 greatest science fiction films. Show time is 1:30 at the Island Theatre on the first Saturday of the month. That will be on August 4th. A donation of cash and food will be taken at the box office.



Vegan Potluck Cooked or Uncooked

Our monthly potluck gathering is coming up on July 28th (last Saturday of the month) from 5-7pm at Linda’s house -- 11703 Vashon Hwy. SW. What to bring: A prepared dish of organic vegan ingredients (no animal products!). Whole organic fruits, as well as salads are especially welcome! Please provide a detailed list of the ingredients. These events are about abundance! If eaten alone, one person’s potluck offering should fill themselves and at least 2-3 additional people. If it’s your first time and you don’t know what to bring, but are interested in coming, just bring an organic salad (greens or fruit) with dressing on the side. Please bring your own plates and silverware. Call Linda at 963-1058 with questions

Women’s Alliance To Enhance the Rock (W.A.T.E.R.)

Are you looking for ways to serve your community? Are you interested in meeting new friends and having some fun? If so, consider coming to the Women’s Alliance To Enhance the Rock (W.A.T.E.R.) meeting. This month, we’ll continue working on the two projects we’ve chosen to support this year: DoVE’s Free As a DoVE Freedom Dance and DoVE’s Domestic Violence Awareness Month campaign. The meeting is open to all women ages 16 and over. We will be meeting at the Vashon Fire Station, 10020 SW Bank Rd. Please contact Pam Robbins at pam@jprobbins.com or 206-724-2096 for more information.

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

Join Us for Trivia Night

Prizes! Entertainment! Great company! And some serious competition! Join Vashon Island Chorale for its Second Annual Trivia Night fundraiser. The event takes place Saturday, August 25th at 6:00pm and will be held at the Bethel Church Fellowship Hall. Spend the evening with some of the island’s foremost trivial pursuers. You bring the food, drink, and brainpower, we supply the questions, prizes and the fun! Once again, Chorale Artistic Director, Gary Cannon will be our host for the evening. Whether you’re part of a table team or on your own, this promises to be another fun and important event for the chorale! Proceeds will benefit the Chorale’s concert orchestra fund. Hope to see you there! Tickets: \$20 per person, \$150 for a table of 8. Tickets available at Vashon Book Shop or purchase online at www.VashonIslandChorale.org Bethel Church Hall, 14736 Bethel Lane Southwest

VashonCalendar.org Now has Yard Sale Category

VashonCalendar.org now makes it easy to tell Islanders about Yard Sales. Go to the Calendar, www.VashonCalendar.org. Select the individual posting link, select the date enter your information and select Yard Sale as your category. Your Calendar listing will be seen on the Vashon Community Calendar which is also displayed on the Vashon Loop website, www.VashonPages.com business directory and www.VashonGuide.com Check the Calendar weekly to see where the Yard Sales are!

Make a date with Vashon!
www.VashonCalendar.org
Vashon Library Events
Art & Music Events
Submit your Event on line at
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52nd Annual Salmon Bake of St. John Vianney Church

The 52nd Annual Salmon Bake of St. John Vianney Church will be held from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, July 29, on the church grounds. All Islanders are invited to attend. On the day of the Salmon Bake, there will also be a silent auction (for a Cioppino Boil dinner for 14 prepared by the parish priest, Marc Powell) and two raffles — one for a wheelbarrow full of goodies from True Value, and the other a 50% split with the church of the raffle’s ticket sales. The most

delicious baked goods ever to come out of Island kitchens will also be on sale at the event, and a rummage sale will also happen on the day of the Salmon Bake, as well as the day before, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 28. Tickets to the Salmon Bake are \$15 for teens and adults, and \$5 for kids ages 5 to 12. It’s free for anyone younger than 5. Tickets are available after all St. John Vianney Church masses during July and at the Vashon Pharmacy, Windermere Realty and Vashon Book Shop.

Vashon Community Vacation Bible School

Adventures On Promise Island is the theme for this year’s Vacation Bible School. Young people of all ages will be learning about God’s life saving love through Bible stories, music, crafts & skits. 1st through 6th graders will meet at the Methodist Church from 9:30-noon each day. Youth from Maple Valley Presbyterian Church will once again be leading the program with their boundless energy and love for children. Call Carol Potter at 463-6749 with any questions. 3, 4 & 5 year olds will be meeting at the Presbyterian Church from 9:45-11:45 each day. Tina Parrish will be

training Vashon teens to run a program specially designed for pre-schoolers. Tina can be reached at 463-5066. Registration forms are now available at all area churches. This year there will be a registration booth on Saturday during Strawberry Festival in front of the Presbyterian Church. Or, you can wait and fill out the form the first morning of Bible School. There is a suggested registration donation of \$15/child or \$25/family, which ever is less. Scholarships are available upon request. Just call Carol Potter at 463-6749 to register or ask at the sign-up desk.

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Stop by and see us at our Strawberry Festival booth! torahinmyheart.com	

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Next Edition of The Loop Comes out Thursday, August 2

Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is
Friday, July 27

The Vashon Loop

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Porpoise CSI



By Orca Annie Stateler,
VHP Coordinator

With considerable help from some observant Islanders, your VHP Coordinator responded to an unusual cetacean stranding on July 6. Bob Lane called me that morning about a deceased Harbor Porpoise on the beach at Sandy Shores. His emailed photos showed that the fresh-dead porpoise was in pristine condition -- a rarity.

I initially examined the sadly beautiful adult female porpoise. She was skinny and she had diatomaceous growth, an algal coating, on her skin. I have not previously seen a stranded porpoise with such growth. Tooth rake marks and old, healed injuries indicated that the plucky porpoise survived a Transient killer whale attack. The carcass, however, showed no overt signs of recent physical trauma, such as a ship strike. The cause of death was not immediately apparent. A thorough necropsy and other lab work will identify factors that contributed to the porpoise's death.

Marine mammal carcasses in excellent condition are highly sought-after for research. Biologists at National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and Cascadia Research Collective were notified of the exceptional find. A biologist who conducts long-term studies on Harbor Porpoises came from NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle to collect the valuable specimen. I am grateful to Mr. Lane for his above-and-beyond assistance in preserving the porpoise. We sat with her, wetting her skin and shooing away scavengers, until the biologist arrived.

After decades of decline, the shy Harbor Porpoise seems to be rebounding in lower Puget Sound; sightings have increased in the last decade. Harbor Porpoises, our smallest resident cetaceans, are susceptible to entanglement and drowning in fishing nets. Decreased fishing with large nets in Puget Sound ostensibly benefits the Harbor Porpoise.

The VHP seldom gets calls about Harbor Porpoises in local waters. Islanders are more likely to see and report the larger, black and white Dall's Porpoises. Finding an intact carcass of either porpoise species on Vashon-Maury is uncommon. Finding one dead for just a few hours is astonishing. Thank you, Bob!

Gauntness and diatomaceous growth suggest our Sandy Shores porpoise was ailing in her final days. She could have succumbed to an infection, perhaps

from the fungus *Cryptococcus gattii*, a spooky emerging pathogen in the Pacific Northwest. Since 1999, *C. gattii* has been found in dozens of dead porpoises. Signs of *C. gattii* infection include pneumonia-ravaged lungs and tumor-filled, swollen organs. The disease is contracted by inhaling the fungus, though *C. gattii* infection is still rare in humans and treatable with anti-fungal meds.

C. gattii, a member of the yeast family, may be a harbinger of global warming. One theory about its presence on Vancouver Island is that it arrived on the bark of eucalyptus trees imported from Australia. Another theory is that *C. gattii* lurked there already and warmer summers allowed it to flourish. What spooks me: if *C. gattii* infects porpoises, it could infect killer whales, too.

Back to stranding -- Odin and I are authorized marine mammal stranding responders; so is T Yamamoto of Wolftown. Several federal laws (e.g., Marine Mammal Protection Act, Endangered Species Act) protect marine mammals. It is illegal for unauthorized persons to touch, feed or disturb marine mammals. Collecting or possessing marine mammal parts from dead strandings is also illegal.

Most of our stranding calls are about pinnipeds -- seals and sea lions. Again, fresh-dead specimens are the most promising for research, so we appreciate timely reports. Little or nothing can be gleaned from deteriorated, gooey carcasses; they typically stay on the beach to return to nature.

Harbor Seal pupping season is underway in Puget Sound. Mother seals leave their pups alone for hours on shore, using beaches, boat ramps, and bulkheads. If humans and dogs harass a seal pup or prevent the mother seal from returning to care for her baby, she might abandon the pup. Ideally, maintain a 100-yard distance from seals.

Please support the work of the Vashon Hydrophone Project (VHP): REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS ASAP TO 463-9041, as well as sick, injured, or dead marine mammals on Island beaches. Do not intervene with marine mammals by yourself, without clear direction from an authorized stranding responder. Many situations involving seal pups can be resolved with a phone call. Check for updates at Vashonorcas.org and send photos to Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com.

A Tale of Three Rodeos



by Biffle French

The life of a National Rodeo Correspondent is one of desperate privations: gas station food, cheap motels, loneliness and long hours in the saddle. I wanted my mind to soar, but sometimes it just makes my butt sore. The Rodeo, always just ahead, is worth it, though, and it is always a surprise.

Abe and I summit the pass heading toward Bickleton for the Alder Creek Pioneer Picnic and Rodeo, the oldest in Washington, and arrive early for the "Morning Program" thinking to see small children being humiliated by disagreeable farm animals. Instead, what we find is a church service with amplified hymn singing. The sign says "Family Friendly" which translates into English as "no beer." This is very tame, I think, but since at least

several hundred in the crowd have brought camp trailers and are staying the weekend, the prohibition is hardly enforceable. "Do you want a hand stamp?" asks the ticket taker. "Yes" I say, and looking at the mark later I notice it says "CONFIDENTIAL" in red.

The rodeo begins with Wild Cow Milking, which is a timed team event. Each three-person team is on foot and must lasso a cow and extort a visible amount of milk from her into a clean bottle which is issued just before the event starts. The event is won by the first team to show the judges milk in a bottle. The cow does not cooperate.

Later the performance takes an ugly turn when bullfighters fail to protect their bull riders on two separate occasions. Both cowboys are caught on the horns of huge,

Continued on Page 6



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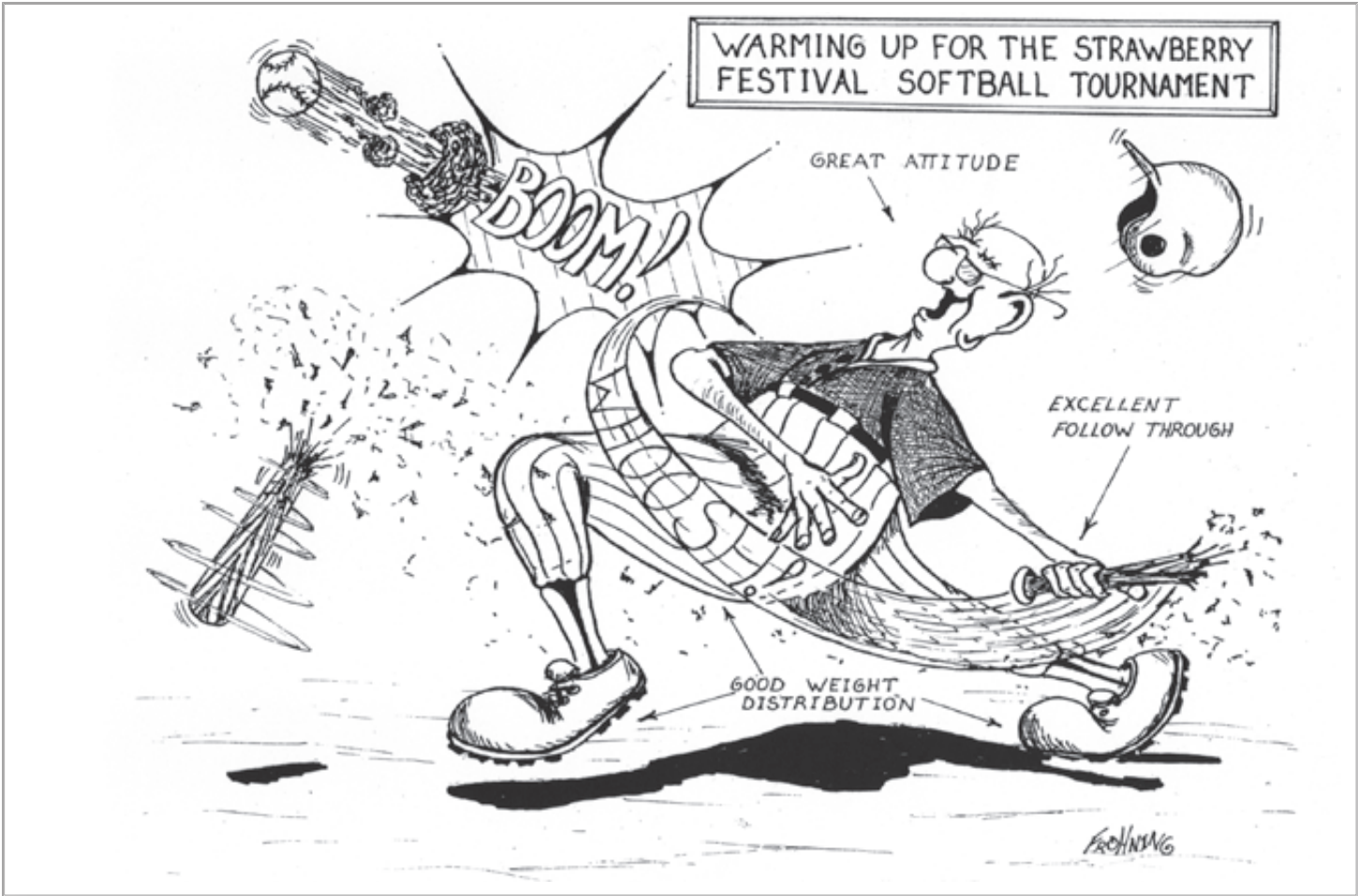
Stranded adult female Harbor Porpoise at Sandy Shores. Bob Lane photo, 7/6/12.

Island Life the Slave of Duty

by Peter Ray

In a part of my own set of loosely interpreted personal guidelines, one can find a provision that grants little or no time or reasonable recognition to musicals. As a middle school kid, I remember breaking into semi-uncontrolled laughter in our living room because of the sing song aspect of an Encyclopedia Britannica salesman’s pitch to me and my parents. When asked why I was laughing, I covered by saying I had just remembered a funny joke. I don’t know that he believed me, and of course it was one more reason for my parents to find another of my actions embarrassing- so it goes. While it wasn’t singing, the wild variations in emphasis and intonation that had been a part of his vocal presentation had been intended to make the pitch interesting, it only served to turn the whole thing into a joke for me. As it is, operatic incantations do very little for me, either in the realm of selling soap or as a melodic medium for spinning a yarn. Or at least that used to be the case.

From this perspective, I continue to maintain that good olde spoken word conversation is perfectly adequate for communicating ideas between people on the street or on the stage and screen. A spoken, as opposed to sung, conversation has the advantage of relatively audible understandability without the impediments of vibrato,



a poetry reading by Anne Sexton many years ago in high school. I had only the slightest idea who Ms. Sexton was- I was there to photograph the reading for the school paper. I was only partly listening to the reading when composing of the image and concern over light and focus began to wane, and in listening a bit more intently it began to dawn on me almost



Vashon Pirates Rule!

elongation and interminable sustain. In song, simple words can at times become collections of too many notes where the poor listener is forced to reassemble a song-ified word dissection while trying to remember what the intent of this tuneful tirade had been from the start of what otherwise would have been a simply spoken bit of wordplay. That all being said, one might wonder why I recently found myself in the front row for the performance of Drama Dock’s staging of Gilbert and Sullivan’s Pirates of Penzance.

One could invoke the alternative title for this particular operetta/musical comedy/ light opera here as a part of the explanation- I was just being a slave of duty and running my video cameras to record the performance. At least that was how it all started. There is a certain amount of detachment that one maintains from behind a lens that allows one a sense of objectivity that one doesn’t have when they are somewhere to be entertained. One is composing, framing, zooming and anticipating where the next action will occur, and other than being sure that the audio is capturing what is necessary, one tends to let go of what is being said or sung- at least to start with. As it turned out, I experienced with Pirates a similar, gradual revelation that I had gone through while photographing

three quarters of the way through the piece that, through simile and metaphor, she was describing a male erection. Nothing so risqué comes along in Pirates- it did after all come out of Victorian England. What I did come to realize, as the lines from the songs ringing in my headphones began to tell the story, was that this was actually a rather funny and enjoyable play delivered through operatic vocal excellence on stage, and similarly skilled live instrumentation from the orchestra pit.

Through all of the four performances I’ve witnessed so far, there was a riff that continued to loop in my head and intrigue me- enough so that I had to look up. It involved the signature song performed here by Gordon Millar as he sings about his character, stating with no uncertainty that he is the Pirate King. What I discovered in my googling, along with what drew me to the search to begin with, is that there is a minor controversy over whether or not a segment of this tune was the influence behind Sammy Lerner’s 1933 composition of the theme song for the Max Fleischer cartoon about Popeye the Sailor. As both Popeye and Pirates are from nautical themes, it would seem at least somewhat likely that they are related. As there is already a pirate presence of sorts on Vashon, it should come as no surprise that this production



1919 Production of Pirates of Penzance- courtesy Wikipedia

with its all Island cast and crew does the piratical profession proud. This locally grown theme carries over to a diva ditty at the end that is also worth waiting for. So if festival crowds have you ready


to walk the gangplank, take a musical break at the Bethel Church this Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 or on Sunday at 4pm. As Steve the Pirate once said.... Yarrrr!

Lilly Needs A Home...

Lilly is a little BIG dog! She is a very cute 4 year old, Corgi/Boxer mix. She is about 50 lbs and a “low rider” - big body, short legs. Lilly is smart, spirited, and active. She is good with other dogs but would be best in a house with older kids and no cats. Call 206-389-1085 or email dogs@vipp.org to meet this sweetheart! The adoption fee is \$125.



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Cousin Nancy Comes to Visit, Part 2: Fruits Mix Juice

by Mary Tuel

My Cousin Nancy and I went to the Quinault Resort and Casino (“\$89 rooms!”), out by Ocean Shores. It was a good trip for both of us, getting away from our regular lives for a couple of days and doing pretty much nothing. Nancy and I are skilled at doing nothing, especially together. Oh, we talked a lot about our lives, “solved the world,” as Nancy likes to say, and we also napped, watched TV, gambled a little, and walked on the beach.

There is a walking bridge that goes over a little marshy area that’s between the resort and the beach, and as you enter this bridge there is a sign that talks about earthquakes and tsunamis. It says that historically there have been a lot of both on the Washington coast, and there is a map showing the location of the Cascadia Subduction Zone about 70 miles offshore, which is the location for epicenters of huge earthquakes like the one in Japan in March, 2011. These earthquakes can set off subsequent tsunamis, again like the ones in Japan.

The sign advised in the event of an earthquake to, “stop, drop, and hold.” In other words, lie down before you are thrown down and hold on to whatever you can – the sand, or each other. This advice reminded me of a sign I saw once when I was a child in a garage where my father took a car for service. The sign said in the event of an atomic attack, you should bend over, put your head between your knees, and kiss your ass good-bye.

When the earthquake was over,

the sign instructed, head for higher ground. Which made us ask, what higher ground? The Lodge is about 18 inches above sea level, and things do not get higher fast as you go inland. We talked about jumping in the car and driving inland, but then realized everyone else on the Long Beach Peninsula would have the same idea. Finally we decided we’d go upstairs to our room and hope and pray that the building would not crumble in the tsunami. Besides, Nancy said, “I’d want to see it. Wouldn’t you?”

Yes. In videos. On my computer. At home. Later.

Strolling on the beach I saw a lot of Styrofoam chunks. Most of these were probably from Japan. They ride high in the water, so the wind pushes them along faster than some other floating material. I also found a few pieces of rope, but what I saw more of than anything else was plastic bottles. They were mostly the small ones that water and soda pop come in. They had their caps screwed on tightly, which is why they were able to float in on the waves. Most were missing their labels, but I found a couple with labels, and the labels were in Japanese. One had three English words: “Fruits Mix Juice,” but the other one, which was faded to a silvery blue, was entirely in Japanese. I concluded from this evidence that probably a lot of what I was seeing on the beach had come over from Japan.

I wished I’d had the presence of mind to bring a garbage bag to the beach with me so I could pick up some of that stuff. Other people are thinking about that. Governor Christine Gregoire visited Ocean Shores the day we arrived and told people that the state can’t afford a tsunami cleanup and she’s hoping to get the federal government to kick in some money for the job. Nobody was saying, “I’ll go pick up some of it,” but I think most of the picking up is going to be done by people like you and like me, volunteers who go out on the beach and pick up pieces of Japan that have washed ashore.

So far only the leading edge of the rubble has arrived. There is a prediction that the big flotilla of debris will get to our coast around October. You’ll be hearing more about it then.

Nancy and I enjoyed our two days at the Quinault Lodge, especially the Olympic Breakfast in the lounge for \$1.99. A heck of a deal. There were no earthquakes during our stay. Whew.

We headed back to the island, and a couple of days later I took Nancy to the airport, and she went back to her life and I came home to mine. It was great to get together and do nothing. We plan to do it again soon.



The Road To Resilience

Continued from Page 1

the warming will also continue, with temperatures projected to increase by 1.4 °C to 5.8 °C between 1990 and 2100. Accompanying this temperature increase will be increases in some types of extreme weather and a projected sea level rise. On balance the impacts of global warming will be significantly negative, especially for larger values of warming.

According to Wikipedia, “Scientific Opinion on Climate Change”, there is today no scientific body of national or international standing that maintains a dissenting opinion to this statement. The last was the American Association of Petroleum Geologists which in 2007 updated its position rejecting human influence on climate change to the present one of non-committal. I can’t find the exact source of this statement, but would appreciate hearing from anybody that can disprove it.

Science seems to be one of the best systems we have developed for “knowing” things. It is designed to eliminate the influence of bias or preconception. To maintain its credibility, all findings are subjected many times over to rigorous review by disinterested peers. Only in this way would we have been able to reject the long held intuitive belief that the Earth is flat and the center of the universe. If you don’t trust the overwhelming scientific consensus about climate change, what system of “knowing” are you using? Is it really so good that you are willing to buck the consensus and ignore its warnings of dire consequences for

everything you hold dear.

I think the real playing field is not the rational analysis of science but in the realm of belief and intuition. For 5000 years, we have been on a campaign to master nature. About 50 years ago, some began to introduce the idea that the master to slave relationship needed to change to one of dancing partners where we would lead nature in a collaborative way into the future. More recently, many are beginning to believe that perhaps we shouldn’t be the leading partner in this dance. This is a subtle change but deeply disturbing to many. It’s one thing to accept that Earth is not the center of the universe, but to be expected to accept that man is not central and sovereign on this planet is very difficult to swallow. Meanwhile, the master to slave paradigm continues to predominate. Never has there been a more important time to carefully weigh the facts and act.

Climate change doubters, please consider this analogy: You are crossing an apparently sturdy bridge and are told by a very reliable source that in fact the bridge would very likely fail and send you into the abyss. If you don’t use the bridge as is, you fear that someone else will, and will beat you to a customer you were hoping to make a sale to. If you spend the time and money to shore up the bridge, you will lose the sale. If you take your chances on the bridge you stand a very good chance of losing your life, and, of course, if the bridge fails, nobody gets to make a sale. What’s your choice?

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A Tale of Three Rodeos

Continued from Page 4

enraged animals and pitched long distances through the air. They fly like rag dolls and land like dust storms. Once in Juarez I saw a matador gored through the thigh and thrown high into the air. He died the next day. Rodeo stock contractors dull the points on the bulls’ horns, but the danger is still there.

Montana is not like Idaho - the road signs are different. In Idaho, dangerous curves are marked well in advance with yellow signs giving a suggested curve speed, but they don’t bother with that in Montana. Instead, a spray of white crosses marks the passing of each soul who fatally failed to negotiate that particular turn. Sometimes they are as numerous as snowflakes. The ghostly multitude encourage me to keep the pickup proceeding prudently.

The Belt Valley is a secret marvel. A small road turns off the highway and disappears down a deep cut between two high ridges. Later, in Belt itself, I am surrounded by forested slopes high above in every direction. The Belt rodeo does not resemble Bickleton. The sign at the gate says “No Coolers.” That is not the same as “No Beer,” but rather means that you must purchase your beer from approved vendors inside the rodeo grounds. The Belt Rodeo is not exactly “family friendly” even though there are lots of families there. Rather, it is rowdy and impetuous. The crowd is young, muscular, excited and loud. Girls wear revealing and fashionable western attire - short skirts or tight jeans, always with boots, and low-cut tops. Children play close to the rail fence and many climb it carelessly while the events are in progress. Large, wild animals brush close to where the little tykes are perched while their parents busily engage in intense, laughing conversation.

I arrive in Wilsall (pronounced like “Will” and “Sally” for whom it was named) just in time for the parade. I park in line at the curb and get out to watch

the silly Norwegian comedy floats and “uff-da” signs roll by. A thin woman in a fading yellow housecoat stands behind a chain-link fence in the neat yard of a pink clapboard house. “Are you going to the rodeo?” I ask her. A dark look of fearful memory crosses her worn face. I see that she has lost some teeth and her skin is quite wrinkled, but she can’t be more than 60 or so. “I stay inside when the rodeo is in town. I used to work in the bar...those cowboys... and...the... cops. The cops are in town today and you could get arrested. They’re just looking for anybody.” I wonder what such a sweet and shy person got pinched for and how long ago, but I don’t ask. I just smile sweetly and wish her a fine day.

The Wilsall rodeo grounds are wide open. If you get there early enough you can back your flatbed or pickup right up to the rail fence and sit on lawn chairs for the best possible view. A couple of ancient and disreputable farm trucks are still parked there from yesterday’s performance, thickly covered in dried mud, their beds full of crushed aluminum beer cans. The owners, no doubt fearing to brave high police season for the late night drive home, have taken transportation with more temperate acquaintances.

It is a clear, warm, blustery afternoon and tall snowy mountains fill the sky not far beyond the fence, just across the arena. The strong gusts blow up dust clouds as a blue tractor plows the field. We stand and uncover for the National Anthem, hat to chest. Mounted girls carry colorful flags and their horses prance before us in a pageant of precision equestrian dancing. An intense anticipatory pleasure pervades my senses. I am home. This is America. Let’s rodeo!

Biffle French is a Vashon writer, artist and the National Rodeo Correspondent for the Vashon Loop. Watch for his new photo book “American Rodeo in Black & White” on sale soon.



Aries (March 20-April 19)
You may feel like you’re backed into an emotional corner, though I strongly suggest you not react that way. Instead, consider what your current circumstances are describing, and ask yourself: is it time to sweat this out, or is it time to make a change? There comes a point when persistent frustration can no longer be considered as something that will pass -- especially if the years are passing faster than the situation. The deeper question is, what insecurities stand between you and making a decision? I suggest you be patient and carefully examine all the facts. Make a timeline and see how far back you can trace this. Then I suggest you design a plan that will take you through the end of August to implement. Timing is everything; the pressure you may be feeling now is likely to increase over the next week, and with Mercury stationing retrograde over the weekend, you really want make clear decisions with your mind rather than your emotions.

Taurus (April 19-May 20)
Over the next week you may get a taste of how complex an emotional situation is, though the outer circumstances are truly the superficial layer. When you start asking yourself the right questions, you will discover that the real subject involves your self-esteem. A central question is not how much someone else values you -- rather, it’s how much do you value yourself, and are you able to live and breathe that value? As you move through the events of the next week, quietly ask yourself that question over and over again. You can also inquire whether you feel like you’re associating with people who really do honor the best things about you. While you’re doing that, it would be healthy to inquire whether you notice and appreciate the qualities that others offer you. Sincere and openly expressed gratitude is a remarkably accurate measure of self-esteem.

Gemini (May 20-June 21)
It’s time you recognize the value of your words. Indeed, I suggest you consider that what you say and how you say it are your most precious assets. If you were to keep that firmly in mind, you might say less, and you would ensure that any promise you make is something you’re fully prepared to honor. While Mercury is retrograde for the next few weeks, I suggest you consider any commitments you have that you haven’t come through on yet, and make a plan for what to do about them. You can renegotiate rather than renege; the most vital thing is that you have a clear understanding with whomever you have an arrangement, or with anyone to whom you’ve made a promise. If you go through your life systematically and settle your affairs with people, you will proceed differently when making commitments in the future. And remember -- everything you say is a kind of promise.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
You may be feeling hemmed in or backed into an emotional corner. If that’s true, it’s essential that you keep your cool and take stock of your situation before you react or even respond. What you may be perceiving as a negative situation could easily be an opportunity for cooperation, lending itself just as well to a creative response. That’s all a matter of perspective -- and how confident you are. I would propose a litmus test for your own life: if you have options, you’re safe, and your situation is workable. If you don’t like the options you have, be creative and think of new ones. If nothing else, the astrology of the coming week or so is designed to spur you into action on some of your most meaningful goals. This can feel like having a fire lit under your ass, or it can feel like responding to the call of destiny; the choice is pretty much all yours.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)
Mercury has been in your sign since

June 25, and it will be there through Aug 31 -- longer than two months, owing to the fact that it’s about to be retrograde for the next 24 days. If I may suggest something bold, this is an excellent opportunity for you to use and develop your mind. You would be amazed how rarely this happens. If you are doing something and you encounter resistance, stop and use your mind. One thing to avoid right now is anything with the feeling of pushing a rock up a hill. If you want to accomplish something but you feel like you lack the confidence, stop and think. If you do, you’ll notice that you have more than enough experience to achieve what you want -- if you remember to use what you know. The extent to which so many people forget or refuse to keep their mind in the ON position is astounding, and you will benefit handsomely from remembering.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)
One key to happiness is learning from your mistakes. This is a skill in itself, and indeed it may even qualify as a talent. The extent to which you master that skill reflects how serious you are about living your life fully. Learning is one of the best ways to save time. When you have a reason to learn something, do it well: truly get a grasp of the subject matter. At the moment, I suggest you slow down where a career or professional matter is concerned, pause making decisions, and study your relationship to authority. That means people who seem to have authority in your life (including benefactors) and situations where you’re personally responsible for something. The lesson? How not to be guided by your insecurities, or said another way, how not to be afraid of yourself, or your power to make decisions. If you make a mistake, figure out what went wrong, and start over.

Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)
First of two thoughts: I suggest you consider the value of your image. It may actually be worth something, and more meaningfully, worth something to you. How you’re perceived actually has a bearing on your life. You may be involved in a series of adjustments to make sure that how you present yourself to others is consistent with who you actually are; your current solar chart is a study in sincerity. Being authentic saves energy -- a lot of it, too. Second: this is the time to appreciate your friends, and let them know how much you care about them. Of all the things or circumstances in the world that have actual meaning, the people who have demonstrated that they’re there for you are at the top of the list. Count yourself among the most fortunate people on Earth if you understand the concept ‘trust’ and if you have even one person you know in your heart is a friend.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)
You can turn the mental or emotional pressure you’re feeling into a brainstorm. The psychic radar known as astrology looks like you might be stressed, even to the point of panic attacks. Don’t be fooled by the subject matter: remember that energy is energy, and the first skill of the Scorpio Jedi is directing all energy into a constructive, creative or healing force. By all energy, I mean everything from passion to anxiety, from desire to curiosity. The key is going to be remembering this when the energy manifests in some form you would not prefer -- and keeping your head on. Meanwhile, I would maintain a good vibes posture. Walk away from arguments. Remind yourself how safe you are (and if you’re not, make a decision), and remember that the light you hold around yourself shines out into the world.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)
Your life would be a lot easier if you start from the premise that you don’t understand the changes someone else is going through. This will get your past perceptions, opinions and ideas about the relationship out of the


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way, and grant you the ability to do the one thing that rarely ever happens: to see someone else clearly in this moment. You may seem to be the one that’s changing, though a lot more is going on than that, no matter what anyone else may say or accuse you of. It’s way too easy to go into blame mode when it comes to intimate encounters with others, and you can do yourself a big favor by setting that aside, and noticing when others are doing it to you. In fact, you are changing, someone close to you is changing, and the whole relationship seems to be taking a step into the abyss. This will be less stressful than what you’ve been through recently.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
There’s no debate that people are free: both you and the people close to you. This is true no matter how trapped anyone may feel, by whatever they think is trapping them. I suggest you take some time over the next few weeks and consider the agreements you have with others, or what Carolyn Myss calls ‘sacred contracts’. Those are all up for review now, which does not mean cancellation but rather a clear evaluation. Consider the commitments you have to others, the commitments they have to you, and where these promises intersect with your life path. You need to ask some basic questions, such as, does this agreement serve to benefit everyone involved? Under what circumstances was the agreement made? What was its purpose and does your arrangement still serve that purpose now? This is an approximately one-month review phase, so you actually have time to think -- and to feel -- your way through the questions.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)
It would be just brilliant if you spent some time hanging out with the idea that sex is an experiment. That’s a way of saying it’s a direct experience, driven by curiosity, which tends to have an outcome that’s uncertain till you get there. Part of the experiment is how the experience changes any of the people involved. When sex is alive within an alive relationship, that state of change is going to be pretty much continuous, and you’re about to get a taste of that. Rather than responding with the famous ‘fixity’ of Aquarius, I suggest you adapt the flexibility of Gemini and the multiple viewpoint property of Mercury. Over the next few weeks you’ll have the ability to look back over the whole story of the relationship, and the potential to work through some of the unresolved material -- though as with the rest, I suggest you proceed in the spirit of an experiment.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
Take advantage of any factor you have available to make your work easier and more efficient. The place to pause is when you feel yourself exerting excess effort. The moment you get there, stop and rethink what you’re doing, and how you’re doing it. You may decide that something isn’t necessary; you may discover that you’ve already solved a problem; in some instances, changing the order in which you do a series of tasks will lead to considerably improved efficiency. There’s a deeper theme, though, which is the value of your work. If you really understood how useful what you do is, and how much what you do benefits others, you would think

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about it differently. You are due for a pay raise, though this isn’t the kind that’s coming from a boss or the accounting department; it’s coming from the recognition of your value, and making a series of adjustments honoring that fact.

Read Eric Francis daily at
www.PlanetWaves.net.

Island Epicure



By Marj Watkins

Cold Soups for Hot Days

Really hot weather is so unusual here in the Puget Sound region, and especially on Vashon and other islands in the sound, that it really wipes us out. Few of us have air conditioned kitchens. The recipes below require little or no cooking. They taste great cold and supply needed moisture for our sweat-dehydrated bodies.

We tend to think of pumpkin around Halloween, but it’s a good idea to keep a can or two of pumpkin pulp on hand for a really quick and satisfying soup that provides energy for summer activities as well as a cool meal, and comes from the can already cooked.

Cold Pumpkin Curry Cream Soup

4 servings

Preparation: 5 minutes

Cooking: None

- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin pulp
- 2 cups chicken or vegetable broth, divided
- ½ teaspoon onion salt
- 2 teaspoons curry powder
- 1 cup milk or half-and-half cream

Garnish: minced fresh parsley, slivered fresh basil leaves, snipped chives, or thinly sliced green onion tops

In a large mixing bowl, with fork or wooden spoon, combine the pumpkin pulp and most of the broth. Mix about 2 tablespoons of broth with the onion salt and curry powder to make a thin paste. Stir this into the pumpkin and broth mixture. Transfer to a tureen or individual bowls. Garnish with the minced green vegetable.

Should the weather turn cooler, You can quickly heat this soup to steaming in a saucepan on the stove, or with 3 or 4 minutes in the microwave.

Cool Creamy Tomato Soup

4 small servings

- 1 15-ounce can tomato sauce
- 2 cups whole milk or part milk and part 1/2 and 1/2 cream
- 1 green onion, tops only, washed and thinly sliced

Combine tomato sauce and milk in a small tureen. Garnish with sliced green onion tops. Serve with rice crackers or buttered rye bread.

No real chrysanthemum flower has to sacrifice its petals for this soup.

Japanese Chrysanthemum Soup

4 servings

- 1 block of firm tofu
- 1 can Campbell’s condensed chicken broth

Basil leaves, optional
Drain tofu. Place on a wooden cutting board. Put a weight on the tofu to force out more moisture. Let rest a few minutes. Remove the weight. Cut the block of tofu in four equal smaller blocks, cutting once lengthwise and once crosswise.

Cut each little block similarly but be careful not to cut all the way down. Carefully transfer each little block to a Japanese rice bowl. Tuck s few basil leaves around the tofu to look like chrysanthemum leaves, sort of.

Pour the chicken broth over the tofu, dividing it among the four bowls. You will see the “chrysanthemum petals” open up. The condensed broth is salty, but the tofu is bland. They complement each other.

A Century-Old Sport Teams Dog with His Best Friend

Vashon Sheepdog Classic

By Kathryn True, Freelance journalist and resident of Vashon Island

Many Americans watched their first sheepdog competition in the 1995 movie, Babe, in which a runty pig rises above barnyard prejudices and his own insecurities to become a prize-winning sheep herder and the pride of his farm. A century-old sport originating in Britain and New Zealand, sheepdog (sorry, no pigs) trials are gaining popularity in the U.S. and Canada, with more than 1,500 dog handlers participating nationwide in competitions like the Vashon Sheepdog Classic, scheduled for September 14, 15, and 16 on Vashon Island.



During competition, the handler and dog work in partnership to complete a series of tasks based on jobs required of working farm dogs. Sheepdog trials originated in the late 1800s as a way for shepherds to show-off the talents of their canine partners. Considered quintessential sheepdogs for their speed, work ethic and intelligence, Border Collies are the main dogs competing at these events.

“It’s like Babe in that the dogs must be controlling but compassionate, and do their job in efficient manner,” said Maggi McClure, a Vashon-based dog handler, dog trainer and organizer of the event. “Now if only I could whisper ‘baa-ram-ewe’ to the sheep I would have had more success.” McClure jokingly referred to the “sheep password” that led the movie’s sheepherding pig to victory.

About 100 dogs and their handlers will compete at the event, including the 2010 national champion, Patrick Shannahan. The United States Border Collie Finals are two weeks later in Kalamath Falls, CA and the expectation is there will have more teams traveling from the Eastern States to Vashon this year. The international-standard course is set on 30 rolling acres at Misty Island Farm. McClure considers it ideal not only because its hilly topography provides an extra challenge to the contestants, but a sloped eastern edge creates a natural amphitheater and wide-frame view for picnicking spectators. “This year we wanted to give our competitors a very different sheep challenge,” added McClure. To add to the legitimacy of the 2013 contest 300 lambs will be trucked to Vashon from the Anderson Ranch in the

Willamette Valley. The lambs will be wily but unorganized. “The leaders of the flock haven’t been established by 9 months of age so the lambs can be a bit unpredictable. The dogs will need to settle and relax them.”

During each “run” a dog has 10 minutes to precisely and calmly move five sheep down the field. The handler remains near the finish at the opposite end of the course, communicating with the dog via whistle. A judge deducts points for errors as the dog and handler team complete six “tasks” including the critical “lift,” in which the dog establishes a relationship with the sheep.

“It may only take only 10 seconds, but the dog’s first contact can set the whole run,” McClure said. “If the sheep are treated compassionately and are comfortable moving with the dog, they let the dog take control and be the leader of the game.”

“The drive” showcases a dog’s ability to keep control of the sheep while taking directional cues from the handler as it moves the sheep through a series of gates. One of the most challenging events is called “the shed,” in which the dog and handler must separate two sheep from the group.

“It’s an equal partnership between handler and dog, and we’ve got to work together,” McClure said. “Certain dogs make it look so easy –like a dance, where things are just flowing so easily in this unspoken language.”

She said spectators recognize a successful partnership when they see one, and can feel a sense of peace when a duo is working seamlessly together. McClure thinks this is one reason why people get hooked on dog trials: “It’s a carefree social event that takes you back to simpler times.”

If you go: Vashon Sheepdog Classic (www.vashonsheepdogclassic.com), Sept. 14, 15, 16, dawn to dusk, \$5/ person (kids under 12, free), corner Old Mill Road SW and SW 220th St., Vashon Island. Parking on Old Mill Road SW. Great local ood, fiber arts, and kids’ activities on site; picnics welcome. Bring a chair, binoculars and dress for the weather.

Partners In Education will be hosting a free screening of Babe at the Vashon Theatre on Sunday Sept. 2nd at 1:30. All are welcome!

Darsie Beck’s Workshops

Continued from Page 1

and a daily creativity journal. Become the everyday artist you were meant to be. Class held at Waterworks Studio. This class is offered through Vashon Allied Arts and tuition is \$210.00 for VAA members and \$235.00 for non-members. For enrollment call Vashon Allied Arts at 463-5131.

And finally, in Port Townsend, Beck has been invited to present “Your Essential Nature: A Practical Guide to Creativity and Spiritual Harmony” on September 29 at The Writer’s Workshoppe. Similar to the Vashon class, the main focus is learning to create a daily centering practice that allows one to connect to his/ her deeper self and higher power through writing and drawing. Writing and drawing are the main tools and because order begets creativity then daily organization is a powerful element freeing us up to remain in touch with our creative center.

For details including tuition and enrollment, call The Writer’s Workshop at 360/379-2617 or www.writersworkshoppe.com.

Available at each of the workshops will be the newest edition of Beck’s book, “Your Essential Nature: A Practical Guide to Creativity and Spiritual Harmony”, a two volume set that includes the book and a starter journal. Also available will be Beck’s newest addition to his journal keeping, a portable easel he has developed that affixes to his travelling art bag and includes a holder for his watercolor pencils. Just released, this easel is an exciting item for any travel journal keeper.

For more information or to enroll in any of the classes, contact Darsie Beck at 206/669-0745 or darsiebeck@yahoo.com. More about Darsie is available online at www.darsiebeckartist.com and www.waterworksonvashon.com.

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Positively Speaking

Strawberry Fields Forever

By Deborah H. Anderson



Gosh almighty! Twenty years!! How did it happen? I finally have my twenty-year pin. I'm a real Islander. I was told when I moved here it took twenty years to be a real Islander.

Sure enough, Twenty years is coming up this November. So technically this is only my nineteenth Strawberry Festival.

Yes, I've been the mother that made the gi-normous Strawberry Felt hat that kept flopping over the whole route of the children's parade back when madras shorts and shirts still had some semblance of fasionista to them. I've moved through the progression of independence remembering the first year I sat and talked with friends while various kids checked in every hour.

This year I'll sit and knit in front of the Presbyterian Church on a rented chair having used my parking pass. I will have helped Friends of the Library set up the day before = remember to buy books at the sale on Saturday= and later Saturday a group of my spoken word cohorts will be arriving and, at this point, we're still in the final stages of working out how to have a speakers 'corner' in front of the bookshop right before the swing dance. During the swing dance I'll don some wings to advertise the 'Free as a DoVE Dance' next March 30th = do you have your SAVE THE DATE magnet?= that is a fundraiser for ending domestic violence on the Island.

That's the way it is on the Island. If you are actively involved there are most likely some fun things in your life, some serious things, some passions, some visionary things.

For one weekend we get together uptown and celebrate our community.

I heard they aren't going to call it the Strawberry Festival anymore. Since the IGA is still called Kimmels or Beck's depending on which generation is yours, and it's either Dairy Queen or Zoomies due to the same, the chances of us moving away from our heritage is slim and none.

See ... we need to keep the

memory of days when twelve year olds could work the fields, when the Island's core commerce was about stuff that came out of the ground or the Sound. As a writer I can hardly be noble about the non-digital. It's all about the Internet for writers these days baby...

But even if we import the strawberries as frozen slush we need to preserve = pardon the pun= the heritage. I've been reading through the history of Vashon book with some of my teenagers. It's fascinating to know there was a time when the easiest way to get from East to West, or vice versa, on the Island by taking a ferry to Tacoma and then dock at one of the mid Isle ferry locations.

Here's how heritage works. Every year at Strawberry Festival I run into a Mom I knew when we were both doing coop preschool through North Seattle Community College at Ingraham High School = yes that's how it's spelled. I was the teacher and her oldest boy and my oldest boy were creepers in diapers. The boys are now thirty year old. So, Diane usual marches with the Basset Hounds and Donnie is usually somewhere. Isaac hasn't been to the festival in years so it's not like the boys run into each other, but Diane and I have a little chat.

Heritage is about remembering where you started. Where did you start? The Island started with Strawberries.

We need to keep it the Strawberry Festival because strawberries are not a botanical berry but an aggregate accessory fruit. = thank you wikipedia. That is so important. That is so us. Aren't we all just a bunch of aggregate accessory fruits? What better mascot could we have for our little Island?

Wear your red seeds that are almost shaped like hearts proudly! Resist the disconnect. Put me on a waffle, cover me in whip cream and call me delicious.

Love,
Deborah



Deborah is blogging again.
www.onewiththerootbeer.blogspot.com for parents
www.socialcontemplative.blogspot.com for pastors
www.mealsandmoments.blogspot.com for personal growth
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The Mukai House and Garden

Continued from Page 1

Because of Sato's poor health, They moved to Vashon Island to grow strawberries and give Sato a healthier environment. Their son Masa was born in 1911. B.D. was not active in the Japanese community, nor did he allow Masa to attend Japanese schools because he believed "a boy born in America should be educated in American schools." After Sato's death in 1915, B.D. married Kuni, Sato's sister. She had traveled with Sato to Seattle where she worked as a domestic until she married B.D. and moved to Vashon to become a full-time wife and mother.

After his success as a strawberry farmer, B.D. used his commission house experience to begin a barreling business in 1924 to process strawberries through a process of "freezing" by packing them in sugar. This allowed B.D. to avoid the commission houses and was the beginning of the Mukai Cold Process Fruit Barreling Plant. At its height the business employed 400-500 seasonal workers, packing 200 tons of strawberries per season.

In 1926 B.D. and Kuni began construction of a house and garden on land purchased in the name of their 15 year-old son Masa, since neither of them could own land because they were Japanese and could not become American citizens. Masa, who was born here, was an American citizen and could legally own property. The house and garden represented two adjacent cultures, Japanese and American, existing together. Kuni designed the garden and B.D. designed the house and front lawn. What resulted was a traditional "Japanese hill garden" and a "typical 'American' suburban home." B.D. considered himself "American," but Kuni "sought to express her Japanese heritage in her garden." Her motivation for creating the garden was for "aesthetic and social pleasure." The garden is a significant achievement by a Japanese-American woman.

The garden and home became the first Japanese American site to qualify as an Historic Landmark.

The story of the Mukai family offers an interesting and instructive description of two cultures, of ingenuity, and of "fitting in." They represent the two stages of Japanese immigration into the United States. The first stage, from 1870-1907, often termed the Pioneer Stage, consisted of immigrants, who were primarily male. B.D represents this stage. The second stage, from 1908-1924, often termed the Settlement Stage, was characterized by the arrival of women and families. Sato and Kuni represent the second phase. It narrates the ingenuity of Japanese Americans in adapting to a new culture. The Japanese were drawn to strawberries and other forms of garden farming because it was labor intensive, required less capital investment to begin production, which suited cash tight Japanese immigrants. In addition, the high yield for small parcels of land was attractive since Japanese could not own

land and were forced to sublease it, or put their farms in the names of their American born children. Because their situation was tentative, Japanese farmers chose crops that matured and produced more quickly. The Mukais not only became successful farmers, but their success was also due to their ingenuity in diversifying into the frozen fruit packing business. Finally, the Mukais fit in. They were able to balance their Japanese heritage and their newly adopted American home. They became successful and well accepted members of the Vashon-Maury island community.

In 1993 the Mukai House and Garden along with the neighboring Mukai Cold Process Fruit Barreling Plant was designated a King County Landmark as the Mukai Agricultural Complex. The next year the House and Garden was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2000, the House and Garden was purchased by Island Landmarks,

a non-profit organization dedicated to "preserve significant architecture and historic landscape" on Vashon-Maury Island. An impressive fund raising effort resulted in over \$469,200 to purchase the house and garden for \$327,806. Funds for the purchase came from the National Park Service, the Washington State Legislature, the Casteel Family Foundation, the King County Office of Historic Preservation, the King County Office of Cultural Resources, and individual gifts and loans. The provisions attached to these funds included restoring the garden, developing interpretive public exhibits, pro-actively implementing facilities maintenance, providing programs and educational opportunities, free or reduced costs of admissions, and an

annual review with funding agencies. Unfortunately, none of these provisions were fully implemented by Island Landmarks.

As a result of lack of due diligence by the former board of Island Landmarks, a membership drive was held and a special meeting was called for by the members on June 4, 2012 to remove the former board and elect a new board to fulfill the original promise of restoring and opening the Mukai House and Garden to the residents of Vashon-Maury Island and to other interested visitors. Vashon residents were invited by the new board to view the garden and house on June 18th to assess what needs to be done, but the Mukai Open House was locked out by a deer fence installed that afternoon by former board members, invoking for the 100 persons present the internment of the Japanese presence of Vashon-Maury for the second time, a replay of 1942 in 2012, 70 years later.

Meanwhile the new board has filed a law suit in superior court against the former board, is taking memberships and donations, and has submitted a funding proposal to 4-Culture to replace the roof on the house. To date, 120 members are supporting the organizational effort to revitalize, repair and restore the Mukai property to its former glory and its intended use. The Board will have a booth at the Strawberry Festival to share Mukai house and Garden plans, take memberships and donations, and sell "Free Mukai" bumper stickers.

For more information and future updates about Island Landmarks and Mukai House and Garden, check out the website at www.mukaihouseandgarden.org.

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Vashon Strawberry Festival Music Schedule

Ober Park Stage

Saturday, July 21
Portage Fill
1pm-1:45pm

Gregg Curry
1:50pm- 2:25pm

Bossmosis
2:30pm - 3:15pm

Glenn Rukwid
3:20pm-3:55pm

Sarah Christine
4:00pm- 4:45pm

Chuck vanNorman
4:50pm - 5:25 pm

Avaaza
5:30pm - 6:15pm

John Browne
6:20pm-6:55pm

The Diggers
7:00pm-8:00pm

Sunday, July 22
Free Range Folk Choir
11:30am-12:15pm

Cami Lundeen
12:20pm- 12:55pm

Riverbend
1pm - 1:45pm

bobrick
1:50pm-2:25pm

Julie Mainstone
2:30pm- 3:15pm

Mary Win
3:20pm - 3:55 pm

Rumor Has It
4pm - 4:45pm

Daryl Redeker
4:50pm-5:25pm

Loose Change
5:30pm-6:30pm

Glenn Rukwid is an Island musician. He’s played in a number of bands that you may have heard of: The Diggers, Moon Fruit, Phuckleberry’s, Tiny Bit O love and Rumpus. Glenn started playing the guitar when he was a teenager and a couple years back, he picked up the Ukulele and has never looked back. Some people think he’s pretty good. You should check him out and make up your own mind.



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Pandora’s Box Stage

Saturday, July 21
Walter & Donny
1:30pm - 2:15pm

Pretty Little Feet
2:30pm-3:15pm

Will van Spronsen
3:30pm - 4:15pm

Kiki, Maddy, & Julia
4:30pm - 5:15pm

Carter Castle
5:30pm - 6:15pm

Sunday, July 22
Geordie’s Byre
11:30am - 12:15pm

Blueberry Frousting
12:30pm-1:15pm

The Magpies
1:30pm - 2:15pm

Tuesday Nights
2:30pm - 3:15pm

Juniper
3:30pm - 4:15pm

Fendershine
4:30pm - 5:15pm



Singer-songwriter Gregg Curry brings the energy of a trio to his solo performances as he performs his powerful original songs and a selection of covers that says so much about his musical roots. His music can best be described as Americana, as he mixes rock, country, blues, folk, bluegrass, and gospel ingredients into a delectable musical stew.



Main Stage

Saturday, July 21
The Highlife
2:00pm - 2:45pm

The Four Horsemen
3:15pm-4pm

Old Dockton
4:30pm - 5:15pm

Posse Impossible
5:45pm - 6:30pm

Portage Fill Band
7pm - 9pm

Spotlights All-Star Band
9pm - 12 midnight

Sunday, July 22
Shark Biscuit
1pm - 2pm

Voice of Vashon
2pm-3pm

Shark Biscuit
3pm - 4pm



Bossmosis plays mostly original compositions along with a sprinkling of John Mayer, Eric Clapton and B.B. King covers. With two guitars, voice, harp, sax and trombone working together, their harmonies and pounding rhythms provide a plethora of musical inspiration and tempos that make you want to tap your foot and say “Hell Yeah!”

Beer Garden

Friday, July 20
Loose Change
7pm-11pm

Saturday, July 21
Bob’s Your Uncle
1pm - 2pm

The Riptide Ramblers
2:30pm-3:30pm

Poultry In Motion
4pm - 5pm

The Fieldhands
5:30pm - 6:30pm

Bill Brown & The Kingbees
7pm - 11pm

Sunday, July 22
Radio Daddyo
12pm - 1pm

Monkey Bat
1:30pm-2:30pm

Assia Hamani
3pm - 4pm



The Highlife presents the Pacific Northwest with a new sound, combining Reggae, Jazz, Latin and Caribbean elements.



Walter and Donny will be performing cosmic Americana music on 2 dates the weekend of Vashon’s Strawberry Festival: Saturday, July 21 at 1:15 on the Pandora’s Box Stage and Sunday, July 22 at 6pm at Snapdragon.

Walter and Donny is a band from Vashon, WA, USA, which plays Cosmic Americana music

"... so many influences are evident: the Dead, some of the stalwarts of outlaw country (Jennings, Nelson), maybe even a sprinkling of Eagles and James Taylor. But, it's hard to draw a straight comparison."

You can check them out online at www.walteranddonny.com.



This years line up for Old Dockton is Patrick Bennion,

Earl Clay and Jeremy Lightfoot. Patrick founded Old Dockton 10 years ago, named after his town of birth. Earl Clay, born and raised on Vashon, is well known as the drummer with Island band Trolls Cottage. Jeremy Lightfoot is well known for his bass playing with Satchel, 959 and Trombone Cake. Together, the three compose and perform simplistic roots music.



Mrs. Melissa Lucy James at the age of 104 was the Queen of the Strawberry Festival on Vashon Island in 1923. In her honor (lovingly known to us as Ms. Lucy) the Vashon-Maury Island Heritage Association will kick off this year’s Strawberry Festival with the Ms. Lucy’s Strawberry Festival Dinner on Friday night.

It will be a night of family fun and the beginning of a new tradition. Friday, July 20, 6pm-8pm, \$15 per ticket.

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Adrian Xavier

Seattle-based reggae musician Adrian Xavier, explores themes of peace, journeys and nature in his music. Incorporating elements of soul, dub, hip-hop and rock 'n' roll, you'll want to check out the free Xavier Band concert at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 26, Ober Park.

Deeply committed to causes that benefit the environment, indigenous peoples, youth organizations and more, Adrian Xavier's authentic reggae crosses social and cultural barriers and is guaranteed to make you smile and at least bob your head. Xavier's audiences include a broad range of ages and backgrounds. Playing events for nonprofit groups like "Power of Hope" has established him as a public figure who cares about the communities with whom he works. Listen to Xavier's music at adrianxavier.com, or better yet, come to Ober Park. Free summer concerts are co sponsored by Vashon Park District and Vashon Allied Arts.



Thursday, July 26, 7 pm
Ober Park
Free

Strawberry Festival Weekend at the Red Bike Friday, July 20, One More Mile

One More Mile is a band that came together over the passion of playing real blues and making the blues real!

Guitarists Jason Lollar and Tommy Bean both have been playing since they could walk, and ever since Tommy saw Lollar performing with a band he had put together called Shakey Jake, he knew he would get together with him one day. Both men come from a long line of bands playing rock, rhythm and blues and straight blues, and their years of performing excellence can be heard on such numbers as Black Cat Bone or Reconsider Baby.

Opening up for One More Mile is Islander Phil Royal. Because Phil was, at age eleven, small of stature and of only average rhetorical wit, he started strumming the guitar in a bid to be noticed by the girls. Forty three years later he is still trying to impress his



wife. Although he really has no durable insight into the true nature of life or who we genuinely are to each other, he claims to have caught rare glimpses on occasions where music was involved. All-ages 'til 11pm 21+ after. \$5 cover

Friday, July 20, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

Saturday, July 21, Rewind

If you were at the Bike for their Sat night show last year during Festival, you were undoubtedly blown away by them...so back by popular demand, the HIGHLY danceable 80's band, REWIND, returns on the craziest Vashon night of the year.

Remember the days of watching The Breakfast Club and playing Atari? Rewind takes you back to those days, if only for the evening.

Rewind is a high-energy '80s cover band specializing in the hits you can dance to, and the classics you can't help but sing along with... Rewind plays many of the popular live music hot spots, such as Nectar Lounge, High Dive and El Corazon to headlining the main stage at The Bite of Seattle.

The six band members of Rewind bring more than just music - it's an 80s concert event. Rewind keeps the audience engaged and entertained with their energy and charisma, making them one of the premier cover bands of the Northwest.

Go back to the 80's with Rewind - find song lists, videos, nostalgia and more at www.rewindseattle.com

This is the hottest night of the year on Vashon...and the Red Bicycle is proud



to present this amazing dance band... because it's what everyone has been telling us they want for Festival...a band they can get out on the dance floor and dance to. This will be THE place to be on Festival Saturday, don't miss it!

All ages 'til 11pm 21+ after that. I.D. required. \$5 cover

Saturday, July 21, 9pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

Blumeadows

Blumeadows was gifted by God and the Earth mother. He is a descendant of the Mississippi Choctaw Nation and is a 'magda vehu', which means 'Black Indian'. He discovered the magic of music through his voice and guitar, which he picked up left-handed, at an early age and has been determined to follow an unbeaten path. Blumeadow's appetite to perform blossomed but he was summoned by his mother to finish his formal education.

It was a blessed time where Blumeadows combined what was in his heart and head so he could reveal his soul.

Saturda, July 21, 8pm. At Sportsmans Inn, 17611 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-0940



Open Air The 2nd Annual Outdoor Aerial Festival

Open Space for Arts & Community invites Vashon to our second annual Open Air - a light, bright, outdoor aerial festival with a splash of circus... and even a bit of SNOW in July!

Producers Janet McAlpin and Lynelle Sjoberg are excited to bring together fabulous aerialists from the Northwest - and San Francisco - to perform new work that will delight all ages.

Featured performers include Moisture Festival and Teatro Zinzanni favorite Kari Podgorski (aka Miss Sally Pepper), performing on cloud swing. Cherie Carson from San Francisco's UpSwing Performance Company brings "Snowbirds", a rope and harness piece featuring Elizabeth Milne-Kahn, Cara Zeisloft, and snow (yes, snow in July), on the stage; maybe some will drift over the audience, too!

Vashon favorites include Janet McAlpin and Lynelle Sjoberg, Lisa Elliot, and David Godsey, all bringing new work (or reviving work not seen for years). And students of all ages once again will fly - Esther Edelman's adult students, along with youth from the UMO School of Physical Arts.

Open Air will take place in the beautiful Open Space meadow. Relax, enjoy the view of Mount Rainier, bring a blanket to sit on and a picnic and be prepared to fly with us! A great event for all ages; admission is by donation. Attendees are encouraged to bring



blankets to sit on. Picnics are welcome.

WHAT: Open Air - the 2nd outdoor aerial festival at Open Space

WHERE: Open Space for Arts & Community, 18870 103rd Ave SW, Vashon

WHEN: Saturday, July 28th, 4pm; Grounds open at 3pm

TICKETS: Admission by Donation (Suggested \$8 for Adults and \$3 for kids. No one turned away for lack of funds!)

In addition to the festival, our guest artists Cherie Carson & Kari Podgorski will offer workshops in rope and harness, and cloud swing for beginners, on Sunday, July 29, for ages 12 and up. Email info@openspacevashon.com for more info.

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V.I.P.S.

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LOGJAM



BY Jeff Hawley

HEY, EVERYBODY! I JUST GOT IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT THE VASHON U.F.O. MEGA-FESTIVAL AND ALIEN EXTRAVAGANZA!

IT'S BEEN RENAMED THE VASHON STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL!

I AM UN-FRIENDING THIS GALAXY!

SHIELDS UP!!

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