

Vashon Girl Scouts celebrate 100 years

Radio Theatre brings mystery & intrigue to stage

By Karen Pruett

CALLING ALL GIRL SCOUTS! A group of former Vashon Girl Scout leaders have planned a celebration in honor of the 100th anniversary of Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low's very first Girl Scout meeting in her Savannah, Georgia, home on March 12, 1912. Please join us at the Vashon Sportsmen's Club on Sunday, October 28th, 2012, from 1pm to 4pm to share memories of your time as a Girl Scout on Vashon Island and elsewhere. Everyone is welcome!

For more information please contact Carol Slaughter at 463-2274 and Becky Baumgartner at 463-5767 or visit our anniversary page on Facebook, Vashon Girl Scouts.

www.facebook.com/pages/ Vashon-Girl-Scouts/299979793369926? sk=wall&filter=1

In 1912, those eighteen brand new Girl Scouts had no way of knowing that they had just paved the way for millions of American girls by showing them a new way to have fun while learning life skills. Within a few years Juliette received requests from women all over the United States asking how to start their own troops and today Girl Scouts USA is home to over 3.2 million girls and adults. For every ten women you know one or more is a former scout. Collectively they will have hundreds of tales to tell about campfires, stargazing, crafts, badges and cookies. Seasoned Scouts can even tell your era by what cookies you sold.

Oh yes, Cookies! It all started with the Trefoil because a woman wanted to make life better for girls.



Scouting has left its mark on American women, thanks to a European's dream. Sir Robert Baden-Powell and his sister Agnes Baden-Powell, founders of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides in Europe, met Juliette Low in 1911. Juliette was immediately inspired and, with the Baden-Powell's guidance, channeled her considerable energy into the fledgling movement; the cookies came about as the girls earned money for field trips and community projects. Juliette's vision has left millions of women with fond memories and practical experience. Cookie sales taught my daughter valuable skills that she applies in her life today and for me it was always a pleasant experience to bring a little sweetness to our neighbors and earn money for campouts; Girl Scout cookies literally sell themselves on our little Island. Once baked by hand, Girl Scout Cookies are now made by "Little Brownie Bakers," a collection of bakeries all over the United Continued on Page 8



Steve Tosterud and Marc Powell, two of the actors performing in the radio dramas collectively titled "Vashon Noir." Photo by Janice Randall

By Janice Randall

Vashon Allied Arts presents Vashon Radio Theatre in Vashon Noir, an evening of old-time radio drama, with believable yet quirky characters, Saturday, October 20, 7:30 pm, at VAA.

Featuring live recording of crime fiction thriller Taskmasters and studioversion of Old Flames, Islander Fr. Marc Powell adapted both pieces from short stories written by award-winning California novelist Simon Wood. Wood will attend for post-show Q&A. Wood has published over 150 stories and articles. He is included in "Best of" anthologies, and contributes to Writer's Digest. He won the Anthony Award (a literary award for mystery writers) for Working Stiffs, Accidents Waiting to Happen, Paying the Piper and We All Fall Down.

In addition, Vashon Noir will include the studio-version of radio play *Continued on Page 10*

Barn Dance

By Jenn Reidel

Open Space for Arts & Community is celebrating CiderFest by putting on a Barn Dance, featuring the dazzling singer Jennifer Sutherland and The Barnyard Boys on Saturday, October 13 at 5:00 pm. Before the band plays some kickup-your-heels country tunes at 6:00 pm, Sandi Silagi will teach some dance steps, including the cuddle, inside and outside turns, and the two-step.

Sure to put you in the swinging mood will be Vashon's one-and-only country crooner Jennifer Sutherland. "Singing country comes very natural to me," said Sutherland. "I am from Idaho, and I was raised on a quarter horse ranch. I wore cowboy boots and rode horses as a child. Country is always the music I lean to, other than my Washington State Fairies work which is just pure fun and a whole other pretend." Before moving to the island with her family eight years ago, Sutherland sang with the alt-country band Evangeline in the '90s. They recorded several CDs and regularly played the Tractor Tavern, The Sunset Tavern, and The Crocodile. It was then that she became known for her silky and sweet vocals and reviewers compared her to her favorite singer Emmylou Harris. Sutherland also sang in a Hank Williams cover band and has performed as a Patsy Cline impersonator. During that time, she was lucky (and now so are we) to make friends with many talented musicians, including Seattle guitarist Garth Reeves who will share the Open Space stage with her - a reunion for them. Reeves has played



Reflections on Water By Terry Sullivan, Transition Vashon

I would like to thank Emily MacCrae for the wonderful lead in sentence last issue. It referred to air, water, and soil as the "holy trinity of life." Having talked some about soil as a prelude to The Symphony Of Soil that was shown

surface of the planet. One theory holds that all the water on our planet came here in that form originally from space. The violent tectonic activity on the early Earth brought this matrix water to the surface where it became all the H20 that

here recently, I'd like to talk about water.

I've recently read a book on water, "The Big Thirst", by Charles Fishman. I learned an amazing set of facts, and found hope in some data and insights that he provided.

We all know that water exists in only three states: ice, liquid, and water vapor. Right? Wrong. Water also exists as a solid within the molecular matrices of certain rocks. At a depth of 255 miles and 2000 Degrees F., water molecules are broken into a single Hydrogen atom and an OH molecule, which work their way into the molecular structure of rock. These are known as hydrous minerals. When conditions of lower pressure occur, such as when magma rises to the surface, these OH molecules find another hydrogen atom and become water molecules again. This is the explosive force of volcanoes. It is estimated that the amount of water in this state is from four to ten times the amount present on the

. we know today.

Unlike gasoline or hot dogs, water is not destroyed when we consume it. All the water that ever existed here is still here. We are not running out of water; we are running out of water that exists in a state that we can use. It is the ultimate solvent; most things dissolve into it. This makes it the ideal carrier for the chemistry of life; every cell in your body contains trillions of water molecules. It is also ideal for absorbing all other kinds of pollutants that make it unsuitable for life. Miraculously, cubic miles of fresh water are distilled from the oceans everyday by sunlight to be carried over land by clouds to replenish our supply.

The devil is in the details. We can't make that water fall where we most need it. We know prevailing winds, temperature, topography, and vegetation affect rainfall and it's absorption into the earth. The sheer volume of water *Continued on Page 6*

with bands Dangermouse, Nubbin, and Blue Spark. His solo work is steeped in American roots traditional music. Sutherland relied on Reeves' expertise to select the songs for the dance. Expect to hear a wide array of old danceable country songs by such greats as Hank Williams, Lefty Frizzell, Patsy Cline, and Willy Nelson.

Reeves invited some very exceptional musicians to make up this one-nightonly, honky-tonk band The Barnyard Boys. Joining him is Vashon's Jason Staczek on the Hammond B3 organ. The two often record together. Staczek is also a composer and his keyboard *Continued on Page 11*



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.

Book writing

club

like to be in a book writing club.

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First meeting on Monday Oct.

22 at 6:30 at the library. Contact

Gabriel Smith at 206-818-6728

with any questions.

Wanted: Others who would

Drum & sing w/Buffalo Heart

All ages are welcome to drum and sing with Buffalo Heart, our big community drum. Vashon Drum Circle meets Friday, Oct. 12, 7 PM at Vashon Intuitive Arts. Free event; donations gratefully accepted. Sponsored by Woman's Way Red Lodge, a non-profit dedicated to promoting balance and wholeness by enlivening the sacred feminine in our communities.

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.

Find us on Skype Vashon Loop 206-925-3837

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

Cider Fest & Fruit Club program

Vashon Island Fruit Club is making cider and selling apple crisp at the Village Green this Sat, Oct 13 from 10:00 to 2:00. Come visit, sample apple products (at the height of apple season!), and talk to club members.

FRUIT CLUB QUARTERLY MEETING October 16th at the Land Trust. Doors open for refreshments at 6:00. Members only business meeting at 6:30.

Oct 16th PROGRAM, 7:15 to 8:00: Your Orchard Questions Answered Dr. Bob Norton will field any fruit-growing questions you may have. For example: How can I tell if my apples are ripe? Is it okay to prune my blueberries (or apples, peaches, pears)? Is it time for dormant sprays? What clean-up/sanitation practices should I be doing in the orchard now? How do I keep raccoons off my apple trees? Here is your chance, so bring your questions for Dr. Bob!

This year the apple identification tables and talks by experts will be on November 10.

Delta Dog Meetings in October

Our October meetings will be on Monday, October 8,15,22,29 - 6:30pm at the high school.

Ask me about... Vashonsolar VASHONSOLARLLC.COM

Gib Dammann

206.919.3546

BARC Annual Rummage Sale

The BARC SkatePark will be having it's 2nd Annual Rummage Sale to raise funds for the SkatePark. Item donations can be dropped off during regular skatepark hours (Wed, Thurs, Fri from 2:30 - 5:30, and Sat & Sun from 11:30 - 5:30). Volunteers are also available to pick up your stuff -- call BARC Stewardship Council members Jenni Wilke (206-697-2377) or Alli Reid (206-898-1013) to arrange a pick up.

Harbor School Open House

Harbor School will hold a Fall Open House on Wednesday, October 17 at 7 PM for prospective students and their families.

Harbor School, a non-profit, independent school serving Grades 4 through 8, invites local families to attend our Fall Open House and learn more about the school and its offerings.

Head of School James Cardo will present an overview of the school's curriculum and Travel Study program. Faculty members will be on hand to answer questions and meet prospective candidates and their families. Current Harbor School students and parents will also be in attendance to offer insights and give tours through the classrooms. Science teacher Zoë Hughes will provide a special tour of the school's new science lab, showcasing improvements made over the summer. Refreshments will be provided.

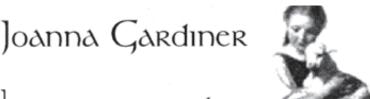
Harbor School invites families interested in attending the Fall Open House to RSVP by phone at (206) 567-5955 or by email at info@harborschool.org. For more information about Harbor School, please visit http://www.harborschool.org.

Admission applications will be available at the event. Harbor School encourages interested families who plan on applying for the 2013-14 school year to submit their applications before February 28, 2013. Enrollment decisions are made in early March of each year.

About Harbor School

Harbor School is an independent day school serving grades 4 – 8. Situated on North End acreage and entering its 18th year as an island institution, Harbor School is dedicated to the education of the whole child in a challenging and supportive community. We provide our students with a strong academic foundation and require them to actively apply their knowledge and skills. The ultimate goal is to instill a life-long passion for learning that will enable our students to contribute their wisdom, compassion, and leadership in a rapidly changing world.





Ed Frohning, Rick Tuel, Jeff Hawley

Ad sales and design: Steven Allen Phone 206-925-3837 Email: ads@vashonloop.com

The Vashon Loop

Contributors: Kathy Abascal, Deborah

Anderson, Marie Browne, Eric Francis, Troy Kindred, Terry Sullivan, Orca

Annie, Steve Amos, Ed Swan, Mary

Litchfield Tuel, Marj Watkins, Peter Ray.

Original art, comics, cartoons: DeeBee,

Editor: Steven Allen Email: editor@vashonloop.com Publisher: Steven Allen PO Box 1538, Vashon, WA 98070 Phone 206-925-3837

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Your donations are tax deductible. The BARC Stewardship Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to BARC Park and island youth.

Thanks for supporting the SkatePark! --BARC Stewardship Council

Harbor seal pups need time ashore!

Please my dear Islanders, Could you help me out? If you are on a beach and there is a baby seal could you tell people to leave it ALONE, for crying out loud! The Mama is fishing and will be back. The baby must rest on the beach! If everyone keeps disturbing it, and yes that means, poking it with a stick, letting your dog bite it, trying to put it in a blanket and put it BACK in the sound, all are considered HARASSMENT! Most of the Islanders know this and it is off Islanders that cause me the most problems. People need to stay 100 yds away. And Lastly, if you see anyone in a boat taking photos of the Orcas and he is in amoungs them, please call me and the Coast guard. Islanders your help is so greatly appreciated, I am only one person. I also need more seal sitters. Educate with me! Thanks T Email to wolftown@centurytel.net Or Phone 206-463-9113

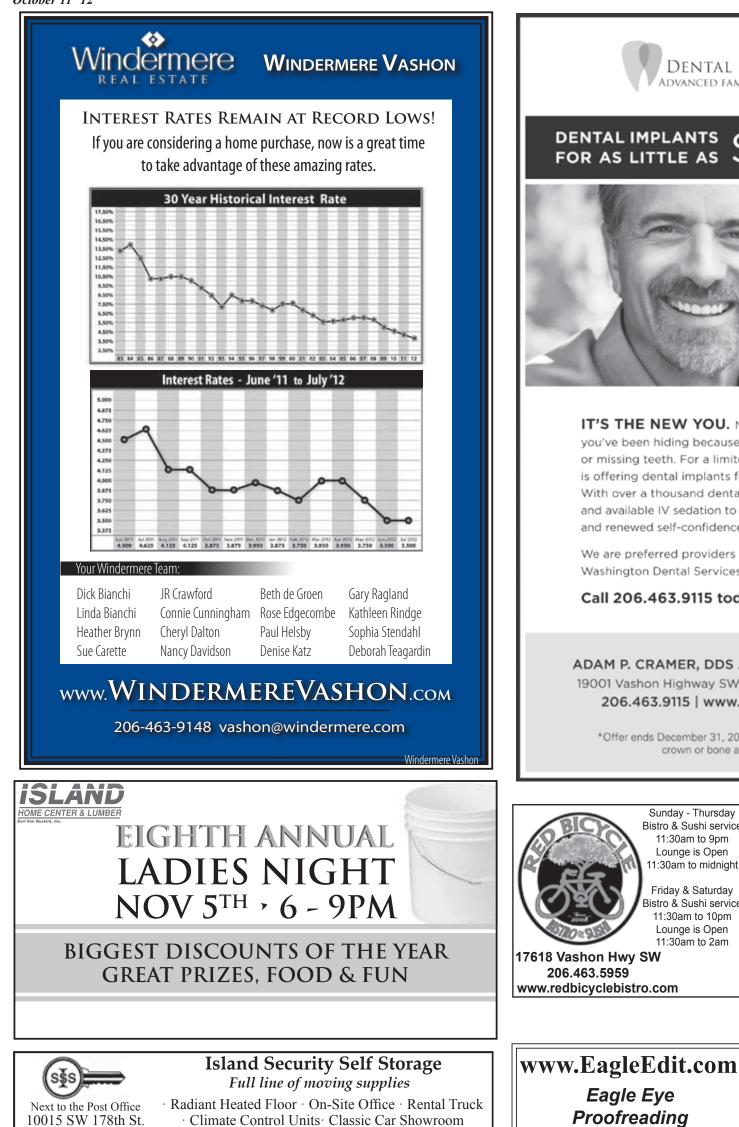
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Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is **Friday, October 19**





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By Orca Annie Stateler, VHP Coordinator

If anyone deserves an orca superpod on his birthday, surely our esteemed friend and VHP associate Mark Sears does. On October 8, a large group of Southern Residents traveled south in East Passage and cavorted mid-channel off Mark's house at Lincoln Park. Alas, Mark had elaborate birthday plans with his human pod, so he was unavailable to obtain ID photos and collect samples.

At Chez VHP, we had a restless night by the hydrophone. Lacking Mark's meticulous data on the number of whales present, as well as individual and pod identities, the precise configuration of the alleged superpod remains speculative at Loop deadline. Reliable spotters in West Seattle reported J Pod members, such as J26 (Mike) featured in this week's photo. The group size suggests orcas from K and L Pods were likely present.

Our West Seattle friends last saw the Southern Residents still moving south, approaching the Vashon-Fauntleroy ferry lanes at sunset. We surmise that the orcas changed direction after dark; to our disappointment, we heard nothing on the hydrophone on the 8th. We understand, though – our endangered killer whale relatives must go where their food abounds. In fall, Southern Residents come here in search of Chum salmon. A profusion of Chum has yet to penetrate Vashon-Maury waters.

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. Reporting directly to the VHP sustains an ongoing, accurate dataset of whale sightings for Vashon-Maury and nearby Central Puget Sound waters, initiated more than 30 years ago by researcher Mark Sears. Check for updates at Vashonorcas.org and send photos to Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com.

The VHP is the only whale conservation effort with a physical presence on Vashon-Maury. Your timely reports to us vastly improve our dataset for local waters. We garner the best information by talking to you, and from your detailed phone messages when we are in the field.

When reporting a sighting, the following information is helpful: date; time; location; species description, such as color or markings, size, number of animals, height of dorsal fins; travel direction and speed; are the whales spread out or tightly grouped? Particularly relevant for killer whale sightings: how many boats are near the orcas? Do not hesitate to contact us for help regarding what to include in a VHP sightings report.

Ferry riders and water taxi commuters, your calls to the VHP are important to our on-Island research effort. Give us a jingle when you see whales, and do not assume someone else is calling us. We rarely hear from folks on our boats, yet we are delirious and grateful when ferry staff or riders do call! Keep your binoculars and cameras handy – 'tis the season.

A community in time of tragedy

By Roger Lehet

By now most everyone on the island is aware of the horrific event which resulted in the loss of a young man just beginning to move from childhood to young adult. I find it very endearing that our town sees fit to do whatever it takes to surround our friends in need. I was moved to tears when the father of this youth stepped foot into the Red Bike and was instantly mobbed with hugs and offers of what ever this man needed. I do wish to suggest that this activity not stop for some time, as it is when the dust settles and the lonely sets in that this family may need us more than ever.

There is however a sad fact I wish to bring up that I took notice of in a large way during my recent travels to Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, and Oregon. This thing I noticed is quite typical of the heartland where people have lost everything. We drove through Joplin Missouri and visited the site where half the town was swept away by a tornado. Entire blocks of business core, and scores of homes as well as lives were lost. Two years later much of the damage still lies in heaps in the fashion the twister deposited it. What was surprising was the level of interaction between people. The pace of life is slower allowing for more time to chat, and care. People made a point of saying hello or good morning to everyone they met. The simple things are cherished, and words like God are still politically correct.

I was discussing this with my Mother who agreed that the heartland does have nicer manners, a slower pace, and more

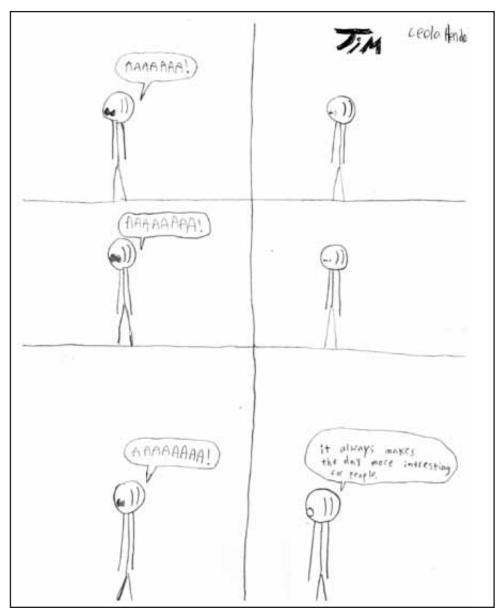
value where community is concerned. I find this very sad, in fact baffling that we live in a relatively wealthy area rich with beauty and most of us do not lack things like food, shelter, and the like, yet we often have little time for one another.....until the tragedy strikes. I do not profess to be free from sin, nor have "all the answers" to anything, but why can we not practice a bit of old fashioned chivalry and take some time to get to know our neighbors. I came to realize that I only know about half of my neighbors by name, and in most cases know little about many of them. In some ways this could even be dangerous in a time of natural disaster or medical emergency. It only makes sense that our neighbors would be the first place to go for help or to offer help in such cases. And yet many of us have lived next to these folks for years and do not even know their names, myself included. I remember a Vashon which was much more like what I witnessed during my travels, and wish it would return

In a conversation about this with a local merchant whom I thought everyone loved, she was of the opinion that all too often the majority of chat on our island is damaging gossip, the exact opposite of what I believe we need.

Even before the news of this loss I had decided to try hard to take a few extra minutes out of my day to say hello to everyone I can, and have some chat when and where I can, now I think I will double up on that. Just maybe if we all tried this we would not have some of the loneliness which could maybe have contributed to the tragedy.



Adult male Mike (J26) off Point Robinson, 10/28/11. Andrew Uber photo.



VFW Youth Essay Contest

By Olde John Croan

The Vashon Veterans of the Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2826 offer all students from the 3rd through the 12th grades, our Leader of Tomorrow, an opportunity to participate in a VFW Youth Essay Contest. Two of the contests are National VFW programs, Voice of Democracy (grades 9 through 12) and Patriot's Pen (grades 6 through 8) and one is the Washington State Youth Essay program (grades 3 through 5). The following schools have been provided the Essay Entry Forms and Rules for the VFW sponsored contest for 2012 -2013 and the schools will make that data available to their students: Vashon Island High School, McMurray Middle School, Chautauqua Elementary School and the Harbor School. Students can enter the contests by contacting the Vashon VFW Representatives Directly: Roy Bumgarner, Vashon VFW Post 2826 Commander, 463-5767, rrmbumgarner@ comcast.net or the Post Chaplain, Olde John Croan, 463-2852, oldejwc@comcast.net. You can get the Entry Forms and Rules from the Internet by contacting one of the VFW Post Representatives and we will give you the address and directions to get all the data that you need. The following important rules apply to the three VFW Sponsored Essay Contests: 1. The students name, city or school can not be written in the Essay. The students name must be unknown to the Essay Judges. 2. All contest data must be submitted to the VFW Representative by November 1, 2012. 3. All written Essays or CD or Cassette Tapes data must be reviewed and judged and the results submitted to the next higher contest level, VFW District 2, by November 15, 2012. 4. The Vashon VFW Post will have an Essay Awards and Desert Banquet prior to the VFW District 2 Essay Awards and Ice Cream Social in January 2013. 5. The Vashon VFW Post 2826 will award a certificate to all the students that participated in the VFW Sponsored Contest. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner from all the Vashon participating students in each class from the 3rd through the 8th Grades will receive framed certificates and cash and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners from all the high School Grades will receive framed certificates and cash. 6. The 1st Place winner in each grade from 3rd through 8th grade and the 1st Place winner from all the High School Grades will be submitted to VFW District 2 for their evaluation. We could possibly forward 7 students Essay/Cassette or CD to District 2. Only the students receiving 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Awards will be invited to their Awards and Ice Cream Social. The invited student and family, friends, teachers and administrators are also invited to this special event.

The VFW District 2 judges evaluate essays from Seattle and Vashon Island. VFW District 2 Essay Award and Ice Cream Social typically provides 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards for essays received from each of the grades from 3rd through the 8th grades and High School, 9th through 12th grades are considered as one VFW contest eligibility grade.

Each of the fifteen Washington State District will forward one essay from the Patriots Pen, 6th through 8th Grades, and one essay from the Voice of Democracy, 9th through the 12th grades, to the National VFW Essay Contest.

Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy will provide an all expense paid 5 day trip to Washington DC from every state and other selected areas and the Patriot's Pen will provide 46 awards, with the 1st Place being \$5,000 and Voice of Democracy will provide more than 2.3 million in scholarships. Roy Bumgarner, Commander of Vashon VFW Post 2826, will be the primary contact for all the VFW Youth Essay Contest. I wish to thank every student and supportive family, every Superintendent and Principal and Teacher and every volunteer that has judged youth essays, developed and printed the award certificates, prepared for the judging and banquets and all that have told the great story of preparing our youth to be the spiritual, family, community, national and world leaders of tomorrow. The Vashon Community constantly demonstrates that is the best place to live and to raise our families. I thank God for the opportunity to be part of this volunteering, supporting, understanding and caring community that provides love, serenity, joy and a deep sense of gratitude for being able to help each other.

Island Life Certified Humane by Peter Ray

Mornings are often a blur- some days more than others. At times, donning one's reading glasses while going about the morning breakfast preparation routine can be of some assistance. Other times, however, nothing one does can help, or improve upon the ante meridian miasma. Lately I have been more likely to have my reading glasses available as I prepare the morning repast after the repeated round of mocking I received from my visiting sister and brother-in-law. This followed two straight mornings of my bringing in representatives from our local selection of garden fauna amongst the raspberries and strawberries picked for consumption along with my scratch waffles. It became a source of amusement for them, as each bowl of berries I brought in from the backyard was scanned through for evidence of lifeusually in the form of small spiders and baby slugs which had gone unnoticed as I grabbed for reddish, roundish objects that seemed of the right firmness and color. Some forms of adaptations to the troubles of older age do not always cover all the bases left open by some of the ravages of the years.

I believe it was for another reason and a few days worth of breakfasts later, after my sister's departure, that I was wearing my glasses again before breakfast. We have been having a plague of rodents in our house as of late. Rats have been running under the floor boards and across ceilings and up and down through walls and insulation. Mice have been everywherestashes of dog kibble in wayside shoes and nibbled holes out of fruit left in bowls on the kitchen counter stand as a non verbal testament to their omnipresence. The problem with their being here, beyond the rampant destruction of attic insulation and the stench from unbridled and indiscriminate rodent urination, is the fact that it is basically non-negotiable in so-called humane terms- you can't sit down with this type of rat pack and work out a mutually agreeable separation. I was wearing my glasses this morning because on the previous morning in one of the three mouse traps I had set out the night before, I had found a mouse- one that because of my blurry morning state I hadn't realized was still alive until I caught a glimpse of some motion from it that continued even after it had been bumped and then left alone by the cord on the coffee grinder. To put an end to its motion and apparent suffering I dispatched it with a blow from my Teva.

And so it was that this next morning I had on my reading glasses as I inspected the latest Victor trap catch. While it did not have those cartoon X's over its eyes, it did have that particular glazed look of a being that wasn't still inhabited by a spirit or presence. And while still wearing my reading glasses I happened to notice, as the waffle building

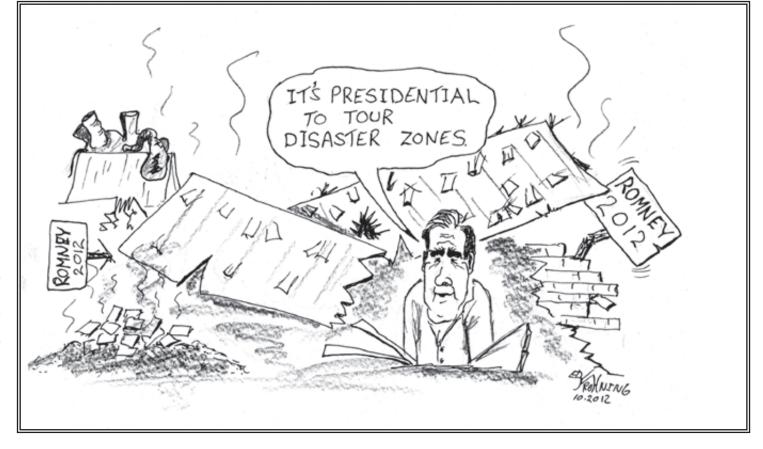
process was just about to begin again, that a small, printed box on top of the egg carton contained the two words: "Certified Humane". There they were there, staring at me like the piercing eyes of a rat in a trap, in small but prominent type. It did give me pause in regard to my rodent killing frenzy, but only until I glanced over to the plums on the counter with the random divots gnawed out of them, along with the scattered remains of the rodent digestive process dotting the ledge above the sink and stove. This was the sixth catch in the past week, with others still uncaught and seen making mad dashes across the floor in various places around the house. I know about live traps, but I also know that they just transfer the problem elsewhere. And as it is, the carcasses go outside to obscure but open places in the yard, and more often than not they have disappeared in a few days as a prized meal somewhere in the food chain.

In truth, my concept of what "humane" really is was rattled and shaken the other day during a viewing of a small but quite amazing documentary- People of a Feather- by Joel Heath. It tells the tale of the Inuit people living in Canada out on the ice and the Belcher Islands of Hudson Bay. It shows how these people have, and in many ways still do, lived in a delicate balance with nature, and how, with the balance of nature being disturbed most aggressively through climate change, life in the polar regions of the globe is becoming even more of a challenge on top of the already daunting task it previously posed. We have all heard about the plight of the polar bears- I just noticed another two save the polar bear emails in my mailbox this morning. I have taken to deleting these

that the bears had started mixing their genes, most likely as a means to their mutual survival in response to changing environmental conditions. Most of my reason for deleting polar bear mail as of late is this: the only reason the griz-lar genetic cross had been detected was because this bear had been hunted down and killed for sport- so much for human concern and survival of the fittest.

I tend to avoid films whose focus is animal cruelty. I was given a copy of Earthlings a few years ago and still haven't watched it. It documents conditions in stock yards and slaughter houses that I do not want to see- these visions are at least a part of why I stopped eating animals over thirty years ago. Another such film would be the Cove- I will probably not ever sit down to watch dolphins penned and clubbed for profit, or any other reason. But there was one scene in People of a Feather that will always be etched in my memory. It was a quite remarkable underwater shot of an eider duck diving below the ice and coming back up to the surface after feasting on mussels and sea urchins off the relatively shallow bottom. It was caught by a remote camera on a pole through a hole in the ice. It looks as though the duck is flying in slow motion through the water. But one soon realizes that it is fighting against a current that is going the opposite direction from where the exit to the air and the surface is. A good part of the film deals with how hydroelectric dams on rivers that feed into the Hudson Bay are causing the trapped water behind them to warm more than their former river forms allowed them to, and thus warming the bay and changing the persistence of the ice there, which is in turn causing a decline in the population of the eider ducks that the Inuit at least partly depend upon for their survival. As we watch the duck that was swimming to the air and the light slowly lose its struggle and become one with the current, one can't help but imagine who will be watching when nature takes us for our final ride.







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www.spiritualsmartaleck.blogspot.com

Queen for a Day by Mary Tuel

My beautiful cousin Nancy and I were talking the other day, having a nice canter down memory lane as we so often do, and we remembered the 1950s television show, "Queen for a Day." We both watched this tear-jerker show, which some have called a forerunner to today's reality shows.

The idea was that a few women would be interviewed by host Jack Bailey, and the one who told the story that got the loudest applause as measured on the "Applause-o-meter" was crowned Queen for a day, crowned with a glittering tiara, wrapped in a sable-trimmed velvet robe, seated on a grand throne and given a dozen long-stemmed roses, as well as given many prizes, starting with whatever she had specifically requested - such as a new wheelchair for her disabled child. Yes, the stories were sob stories, and the winner was the one who made the studio audience of women cry the most and applaud the hardest. The other contestants were also given prizes for being on the show, so none of them went away empty-handed, which makes me feel better about the show all these years later.

I suppose many people would now and did then consider the show maudlin and manipulative in the extreme, which it was, exploiting the grief and misery of women in order to sell advertising. But that is a grown up retrospective on my part. As children, Nancy and I both watched the show in wide-eyed wonder.

Nancy watched it with her mom, Chick, who was my father's baby sister. Chick had multiple sclerosis and by the time we were small children it had progressed to the point that she was in a wheelchair full time. Nancy had only part of a normal childhood. She had to be home after school and in the summer to take care of her mom and help her make dinner. Chick died when Nancy Multiple sclerosis, or MS, is a sneaky disease, and it goes at different rates for different people. Some people live with it for decades without much discernible effect. Some, like Chick, are quickly disabled and die within 15 or 20 years after diagnosis, when the nervous system finally fails to function enough to support life.

What is it? Now we say it is an autoimmune disease, where the body's immune system attacks the nervous system, and damages the myelin sheath which covers nerves, causing nerve impulses to slow down or stop. I have heard it compared to the fraying of the covering of an electrical cord, a metaphor that was more accessible back when electrical cords were covered with woven fabric. No one knows what causes it, although there are a lot of theories. There is no cure, although I've been hearing people talking about searching for a cure since I was a small child looking at my aunt in a wheelchair. People are doing research, looking for a cure, constantly.

Nancy told me that she and her mother would sometimes play Queen for a Day. "It was probably on summer days. We'd do our work in the morning, and then we'd play."

Nancy would make a tiara out of cardboard and cover it with aluminum foil, and use a wooden kitchen spoon for her microphone.

"Mom would roll up close to me in her wheelchair, and I'd ask her questions, and she'd make up stories. It was different every time. She'd maybe say, 'We can't afford to buy food for the kids,' and say she had ten kids. She'd pour on the sob story. Then we'd do a drum roll and announce that Mom was Queen for a Day."

Nancy would crown her with the foil crown, wrap a blanket around her mom as her royal robe, and hand her the wooden spoon as a scepter instead of the dozen roses. Nancy would hand Chick a piece of paper upon which Nancy had written the prizes being awarded.

"Then when we were done, we'd say, okay, let's play cards now, or maybe it would be time to make dinner.

"The last couple of years of Mom's life, when she was bedridden, we reversed the roles. She'd be in bed and I'd roll in in the wheelchair. In those days I'd come lie on the bed next to her, and we'd talk, and nap together. Those were great bonding times."

So this week we've been telling each other, "You are Queen for a Day!" and we laugh. We live our own hard stories, as all the rest of you do, and we tell those stories to each other, and we applaud each other's courage in the face of life's random insults. We agree to meet for lunch, to go to Ivar's for chowder, or to Gale's in Capitola for Marion berry pie. And we laugh some more. Ah, it's good



The Road To Resilience

Continued from Page 1

that we need to live is so great that it is a huge and expensive task if we have to move it ourselves, as in the case of Las Vegas and Los Angeles. Coastal cities have the option of building desalination plants which are expensive up front, as well as to run.

The trick is to use the water that we have as efficiently and appropriately as possible. Since water can't be destroyed, we know that we can use it over and over. We also know that different levels of contamination remain suitable for different uses. Clean potable water for drinking should not be used to flush toilets. Graywater is perfectly useable for toilets and to water plants; the added nutrients are either not a problem or actually an asset. Our graywater is already captured in our waste pipes, so we can redirect it relatively easily. 70 million people! Agriculture, which uses 60% of our water, has cut back by 15%, so our household use may not have changed much. We know that agriculture is still extremely wasteful and that our personal use can improve greatly so our prospects of reducing our use are very good.

Unlike petroleum or most other resources, water is a stable and indestructible resource that will always be with us. That is not to say that we will not be in serious trouble if we don't change our current water habits. Also, climate change may require many of us to leave areas that no longer receive enough precipitation. It will not be a matter, though, of whether the water exists, but whether it is available for our use. We can do a lot to insure that it is.

and I were 16.

to be the queen.



Nancy's mom, Chick, with Sam and Charlie the cats, about 1960

Water comes to us from the sky as well as from the ground or from surface streams: we should take advantage of all of it. Permaculture provides methods of maintaining the moisture in your soil so that you needn't do much extra watering at all. It goes without saying that we respect our water by not wasting it; turn that spigot off when you are not using it.

When we are through using the water, we need to be sure that it has an opportunity to be cleaned for the next user downstream, and there will always be a user downstream. Minimize large runoff areas like roofs, paved areas, and lawns. We can control runoff by using vegetation and swales to allow the water to filter back into the ground where it can be purified once more. We can avoid using harmful chemicals that persist in our water.

Some good news is that the USA is using 7% less water today than in 1980 despite the fact that we have grown by Comments? terry@vashonloop.com



October 11 '12



Plavef-Waxes

by Eric Francis http://www.PlanetWaves.net

Aries (March 20-April 19)

What is a healthy level of dependency in your relationships? There are two ways to answer: one is whatever degree feels helpful and functional, understanding that we need one another. The other is the level of dependency that supports your pressing agenda of being a more independent person. You have many options open along these lines, though what I suggest you remember is your drive for freedom from codependency (choose your definition of that word) and the many reminders you've had that you're on the right track with this agenda. At the same time, notice the many ways that relationships as we think of them are often places where giving up independence is one of the first requirements. You're walking a fine line in sorting out this material, though I am sure you recognize the time has come to work this out.

Taurus (April 19-May 20)

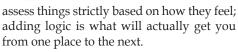
There is such a thing as a mature relationship, though it's not what most people think it is. I can leave out the definition, not because it isn't essential but rather because it takes care of itself when an essential element of authenticity is present: and that is trust. Trust does not take care of itself; it needs to be cultivated and maintained as a conscious act, usually from day to day. I suggest you do a trust inventory of your relationships, and include looking at the ways in which you extend trust to others and signal that you've done so, as well as the ways that the people you're in any way partnered with extend trust back to you. Then, consider the ways that any given relationship reaches out into the social environment. Is anything missing? Now is the time to address it.

Gemini (May 20-June 21)

Your sign is associated with the health of the lungs, though I would take the story a little lower on the totem pole -- your pelvis and any function associated with it: for example, your reproductive health. We live in an era when this topic has become a political bonfire, but it's distinctly personal. It relates to how you feel about your body; what you do with and how you take care of your body; and what you tell your children. Now is the time to take care of all necessities related to reproductive health, as well as sex education. Start with educating yourself, going deep enough that you get answers to all of your pending questions. Then, make the information easy enough to understand so that you can relate it to your partner(s) and any young people who need to know.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Risk and reward -- the time has come to balance these. This includes being willing to take risks for the rewards that you want, as well as being willing to delay gratification while you take the necessary steps to keep your life functional while you build what you want. What both of these have in common are the idea of a conscious, long-term goal. There's the implication that you have a diversity of responsibilities, and that these must be taken into account simultaneously, when they seem to conflict. The ability to embrace contradiction and paradox is one mark of maturity, and this is a core theme of your life now. To do this, you can no longer



Leo (*July 22-Aug. 23*)

The time has come to stretch your boundaries, and deepen your roots. This may come in the form of making room in your life for your relationships -- which could include putting yourself into a larger, better space. The physical space you live in must accommodate your life, and the people in it. Looked at one way, that means that your space serves as a container for your emotions. Remember this, as you make decisions for how to organize yourself, where to live and how you coexist with any space you're in. Said another way, I suggest you locate yourself in places where you feel good about yourself, and where you feel like a larger person -- not a more powerful or authoritative one, but someone more embracing of your own potential. Remember to leave yourself room to grow.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)

True intelligence blends every level of thought, perception and sensation. It's a whole-being kind of experience. This is to say, if you want to be smarter, be more open to the many facets of who you are. And remember, there's nothing like self-criticism to get in the way of these things, though it often feels like the opposite should be true. For example, it might seem logical that the more you push yourself to be perfect, the more perfect you'll be, however, human sensitivity doesn't work that way. I suggest you work on being open minded, exactly in the place where you discover yourself to be closed. Monitor your language; when you make an argument for a limitation, open up to the possibility that you can go beyond it. Remember that there are no limits on who you can become.

Libra (*Sep.* 22-Oct. 23)

This month's New Moon in your birth sign opens up a new phase of your life and of your relationships. Yet there's a specific focal point, which is moving forward remembering that you don't have to make up for the emotional inadequacies of others, or tell them who they are, or provide stability when they act like they don't know. The heart of the matter is a caution about 'bringing out' who another person is, or helping save them from their personality chaos. You have your hands full figuring out who you are, what you want and what your purpose is; doing this for anyone else right now would qualify as a significant distraction. Yet there's a lot you can learn from the ways that people 'search for' themselves: in particular, what doesn't work so well.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

Saturn's ingress into your sign opens an extended phase of what one astrologer once described to me as 'coming to terms with yourself'. That's a kind of reconciliation, an understanding, and an exploration of your potential and your limits. Though they're not usually considered compatible ideas, your potential and your limits are closely related; they're aspects of the same thing. You might think that your limits are a description of your outermost potential, though I think that they show you what you can, and will, go beyond. Therefore I suggest you look at everything as an opportunity. When you reach a spot where you think you cannot go any further, that's the place to reach beyond. Use your intelligence, use your determination, use your desire -- use everything to your advantage.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)

You're embarking on an extended phase of psychological housekeeping. This may involve 'cleanup' from years, decades or generations of ordinary living and perhaps some neglect as well. You could say that this is a time of revealing your secrets to yourself. One aspect of your nature is that you tend to see yourself as a simple person with easily understood motives; what you're about to discover is the complexity of both who you are, and what drives you to be that person. Said another way, there's a lot you don't know about yourself -- and you're now on the way to finding out just what that is. There are facts of your life that you can no longer deny, and I would propose that this can come as a relief.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

You need fewer, better friends who understand that friendship is more than palling around. It's a matter of mutual support and integrity. Some of the people who will become more significant in your life over the next few years you already know. Some you've yet to meet, though the situation is similar with both -- their presence will come into focus as you make certain recognitions about your own self-worth, your value to others, and what this informs you about your role in the world. This is about a phase of settling in: it's as if you relax into how you present yourself, what your purpose is and accepting what you offer to others. That will have a way of commanding the loyalty and respect of others, based on both emotional harmony and sense of purpose.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)

You've always felt like it was your place to accomplish great things. Now you get to address the obstacles that were in the way -- and take the next step into tangible achievement. Yet this is very much a matter of taking things one step at a time, which you may have figured out was necessary a while ago. Remember that the idea is to learn how to get out of your own way -- rather than to put new obstacles in your path. Yet you're not always sure the difference between these two things. Initially, I suggest that you set out to accomplish less than you think you're capable of, rather than shooting for the Moon. Know vour vision, select one key piece of it, and give yourself the rest of the year to make it real. This will help you build your confidence on something solid.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Remember the importance of agreements, and how this differs from a tacit understanding. I suggest that you start a trend of making things conscious, if not in writing, then in words spoken. Remember to state outright what is important to you, and to remember to listen when others state what is important to them. That's one thing you can depend on -- people will say what matters, though most of the time, nobody is listening. I suggest you listen, both to others and to yourself. This will help you have grounded expectations, which are the only legitimate kind, as well as the grounds to pass

The Vashon Loop, p. 7



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on situations that don't serve your own good.

I assure you of one thing: you have options, and therefore can afford to be selective.

> Read Eric Francis daily at www. PlanetWaves.net.

ANDORA'S

Fall is here!!! Fleas are STILL here. Pesky little buggers. All the season's sweaters, coats and rainwear are here now. Get your's while the selection is still good.

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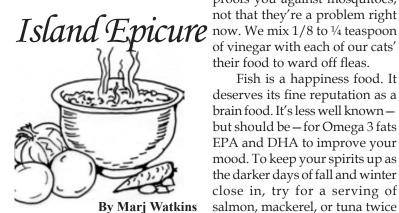
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This adorable chow mix has plenty to talk about and he expects you to listen! We laugh and say "Tell us all about it Bosley!" and he does, with his whole body wagging along. He is a joyful little dog with bright, intelligent eyes and a quick grin that's even cuter because he's missing some teeth on the bottom. Your life will be more complete with a Bosley dog to keep you company. To find out more about Bosley, call Cindy at 206-910-5102. Adoption fee is \$125.

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The Happiness Foods

Chocolate, of course. Who doesn't love it? Choose cocoa, for a temporary boost to your brains' seratonin, the happiness chemical. It won't give you lasting happiness, but it willfor a little while-make you smarter.

A quick cup of hot chocolate made with milk, and a stack of cinnamon toast made with whole grain bread could fire up those brain cells, make balancing your checkbook easier, and even lighten your mood. Make that French toast, and you'll have a higher protein breakfast, one that stays with you longer.

Tomatoes, whose red color signals the carotenoids that counteract free radicals that destroy fats in the brain-and fat is what brains are mostly made of - assist memory and for thinking straight, as well as being food mood lifters.

Spinach and other leafy greens, and lentils, and beans, all bring you lots of folate, a happiness B vitamin. Your brain uses it to make seratonin, and a couple of other moodboosting chemicals, dopamine and norepinephrine.

Spinach, cooked only in the water that sticks to the leaves when you wash them, tastes best when cooked just long enough to wilt it. Sprinkle your serving with rice vinegar or balsamic vinegar for a taste treat that proofs you against mosquitoes, not that they're a problem right of vinegar with each of our cats' their food to ward off fleas.

Fish is a happiness food. It deserves its fine reputation as a brain food. It's less well knownbut should be – for Omega 3 fats EPA and DHA to improve your mood. To keep your spirits up as the darker days of fall and winter close in, try for a serving of salmon, mackerel, or tuna twice a week. Salmon gives you the most Omega 3 fat, and the most protein, plus 400 mg. of Vitamin D, a magical nutrient itself.

A salmon steak needs only gentle braising in butter with a sprinkle of salt and pepper and dill, and a couple of lemon slices on it. Cover and cook 10 minutes, or until the fish flakes easily, and is opaque all the way through.

A much less expensive choice, and a low-fat one, is cod, splendid this Greek way.

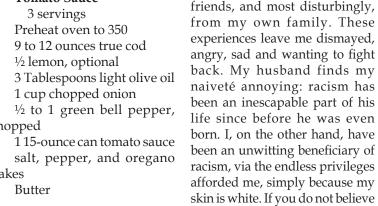
> Baked Cod in **Tomato Sauce** 3 servings Preheat oven to 350 9 to 12 ounces true cod ¹/₂ lemon, optional 1 cup chopped onion

chopped

salt, pepper, and oregano flakes

Butter a baking dish. Cut the cod in 3-inch pieces, approximately. Sprinkle it with lemon juice, or not. Arrange the cod pieces in the baking dish.

Heat the oil in a frying pan. Stirring occasionally, fry the onion and green pepper. Stir in salt, pepper, and oregano. Strew over the cod pieces. Pour the tomato sauce over all. Bake 25 minutes. Serve with steamed brown rice or millet.



in white privilege, I wonder then, would you trade places with a person of color? Honestly? The oppression of people of color is deeply-embedded in our society.



Sometimes racism is overt: clear and obvious to all. Sometimes it is covert and much harder to identify. Sometimes racism is intentional, sometimes, I believe, it is not. The impact of racism remains the same regardless of the intention. Today I am going to address what I like to think of as "accidental racism" by possibly well-meaning white people. I

because the oppression of people of color is so deeply-embedded in our culture, it is impossible to remain uninfected. Growing up white in this country leaves us, white people, susceptible to making comments, questions, assumptions, and jokes that inadvertently perpetuate racism and alienate people of color. These missteps can be so subtle as to be imperceptible to white people but people of color have no trouble identifying them. Today I am no longer oblivious to racism and am obligated to counter racism every chance I get. I believe we all do. We are not blameless and should be ashamed. My hope is that you, like I, will appreciate knowing what these accidents might look like that are hurting our friends, our children, our neighbors and that inevitably prevent us all from achieving our full human

So for those of you who care, here are some tips on how NOT to be an accidental racist. Please try not to feel defensive, intimidated or embarrassed. If you are guilty of some of them, it is not entirely your fault. My list comes from first-hand experience as witness and/or perpetrator.

1. Do not say: "I'm not racist, my best friend is black." Particularly when it's just not true

with: "Not to be racist but..."

3. Do not call a person of color racist. The misuse of this word only reveals your ignorance. The definition of racism is a system of oppression based on

October 11, '12

By Stephanie Beecroft Moore

As the white wife of a man of color, and as the mother of two biracial children, I have developed a keen awareness of racism. I can smell racism a mile away. Maybe farther. Unfortunately it is a lot closer than that. It's the policeman stopping my husband on the street to verify ownership of his bicycle. It's the stranger in the grocery store raving about my son's hair. It's the acquaintance describing my husband as "casing the joint" when he is being given a tour of a friend's home. It's the friend asking: "Is your hair real? Can I touch it?" It's my doctor, my accountant, my mechanic. It's my mother, my father, my sisters. It's me. We are not necessarily bad people, we just don't know any better. Right?

My husband and I

frequently endure covertly racist

comments and questions from

our neighbors, acquaintances,

potential. Am I racist for even writing this article? For even wanting to protect my family? Maybe. My husband can take care of himself. He doesn't want, let alone need, the infamous "Great White Hope" coming to his rescue. But I am tired of these stories. Tired of cringing in silence when I fear someone is about to say something racist. I am tired of being right. I don't want to run to my son's elementary school in a panic when I find out the theme is "Weird Hair Day". I don't want white kids to call my children racial slurs. I don't want to find "Little Brown Koko," a racist fabrication from 1940, at the school book sale. Honestly, in 2012, the presence of that book at my child's school is inexcusable.

2. Do not start a sentence

4. Do not tell completely irrelevant stories about your exboyfriend back in high school who was black, or Mexican or Chinese.

5. Do not insist proudly that you "don't see color, I'm colorblind." It is not inherently racist to see people as they are.

6. Do not mention a person's ethnicity unless it is germane.

7. Do not comment on hair or skin color. Do not ask, or surreptitiously try, to touch a black person's hair, especially if you barely know him/her.

8. Do not ask a black person if his/her hair is real.

9. Do not assume racist stereotypes are true. Any of them.

10. Do not say someone is "acting white" because he/she does not fulfill stereotypes for vou.

11. Do not use the word "dark" to describe anything but colors or the time of day.

12. Do not use disparaging slang such as "ghetto."

13. Do not "accidentally" tell racist jokes. Do not laugh at racist jokes.

14. Do not ask a person of color to explain racism to you. Get a book. Take a class. Go to an anti-racism workshop.

15. Do not expect a person of color to "speak" for his/her race.

16. If anyone comments that what you just said sounds racist, ask them to tell you more. Do not get defensive. It's not entirely your fault.

17. If anyone says something you believe may be racist, say so.

18. Recognize and accept that doors everywhere open for you solely because your skin is white, or more specifically: because white people and institutions are racist. Open the door for people whose skin is not white. Just do it. Open as many doors as possible. I promise it won't hurt.

19. Entitlement and privilege go hand in hand with being born with white skin in this country. Imagine a different experience. Read about it. Try to make it better for the next generation.

20. And remember, "Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third, is to be kind." - Henry James

It's really quite simple: whatever you think you know about any group of people of color, just toss it out the window. I guarantee you, if you're white and you grew up here, it's wrong and it's undoubtedly racist. Open your mind. Notice your thoughts. Question them but please, unless you happen to be in an all-white consciousness-raising group, keep them to yourself!





want to believe that most people skin color, inflicted on one group, by the one in power, i.e. white are good, that they believe in equality and justice. However, people.

> **Vashon Girl Scouts** celebrate 100 years

Continued from Page 1

States that contract with Girl Scouts USA to provide us with the delicious varieties that we all know and love.

More than 50 million women in America are Girl Scout alumnae and some women remain Scouts for a lifetime; Vashon is home to two of them. In 2011 Carol Slaughter and Becky Baumgartner received their 70-year and 55-year pins, respectively, and Vashon Island is home to hundreds of former

scouts.

So everyone who spent a year or decades camping, selling cookies and making friends is invited have your cake and cookies too and we'd love to hear about your experiences and share pictures. Dust off your memorabilia, your pictures, your uniforms and come spend an afternoon with the Girl Scouts.

Celebrate a job Well Done!

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Positively Speaking

The Part of Our Family's Story I Learned not to tell in the Eighties and Early Nineties

Joe and Caity have given me permission to write the following. I figure it's time to come out of the closet but it pretty much finishes my career off in traditional evangelical circles....

I was just snuggling in to drift off when Caity appeared in the doorway.

"Mom, I've got something to tell you and Isaac says if I don't tell you he's going to."

Half asleep, I roused. She anxiously rolled back and forth leaning from side to side, edge to edge of the doorway.

All summer long she had been ecstatic every time a certain young friend who was a girl would call up and ask if they could go driving.

So there she is in my doorway having a panic attack just about and I begin to go to a fantasyland while she garners the courage to say her truth out loud. I start to decorate for a gay wedding out in the backyard. I put out white fancy lawn chairs with bows down the aisle. An arbor with white flowers appears in my mind's eye. I ponder briefly if she will wear a dress or a tux. Oh for heaven's sake, it's Caity. She'll wear a dress – huge princess ball gown of a dress, or possibly slinky little number.

Caity is now sounding like she's going to say it out loud. She takes a deep breath and states.... "I've been smoking." Then buries her shamed filled soul in her hands.

It took me a minute. I had to send home the imaginary, carefully chosen guests I'd invited, take down the arbor, and put away the chairs. Then back to reality, it hits me. In my big girl voice I say, "You've been SMOKING!!!!" "Caity," I begin in a more controlled appropriate tone. "Do you know how many people have donated their precious dollars for you to develop that voice!?" The volume rises at the end of the sentence as I lose my ability to be that carefully controlled 'so be it' parent that I love to be.

OK...I'll tell you the end of that story at the end of this column. But now let me tell you why on earth I would immediately go to a place where I think my daughter is going to come out to me.

The answer lies in the story of my son Joe. In early 1989 the best social worker in the world, Debbie Spurling by name, who had placed my beloved first adopted daughter with us came to me and asked if I could do respite care for a weekend for Joey. I'd known Joey since he was three and placed with another family in our group for adoption. The adoption had disrupted. A delightful, fast-moving towhead with a wonderful joy about him, I said 'yes'. "I wouldn't mind if you fell in love with this one, " she went on. "I've got nowhere else to place him." He was an end of the line kid. In the adoption business that means he's headed for residential care if they can't find a placement. Residential care has, in America, traditionally been a breeding ground for the lost to get loster and learn new bad tricks of the trade in acting out behavior. "Why did it disrupt with ____?" I asked of his placement with the previous family. 'Issues" she stated.

By Deborah H. Anderson



Well the 'issues' were this. At the age of three Joey had been diagnosed with 'gender confusion'. That's what they called it in those days. And a very bad therapist who for some reason believed that a child who was perhaps going to identify as gay when he became of age to know to do so needed to have a basket of women's clothes. They had trained him in preschool day treatment to wear women's clothes. Since when does 'gay' mean 'cross dresser'?! I had him taken out of the program as soon as I could.

I did fall in love with him. Bought him a dinosaur blanket to let him know how much, and after a long series of events that ended up in a court date with destiny to fight to keep him out of a path that would cause him to end up staying in the system long past his pull date, I adopted him. Only one condition to that adoption, I had to agree to support and raise him as gay if he so identified.

Now here's the interesting part. I was under care for ordination at a time when the only question anyone wanted to seem to ask was 'how do you feel about the homosexual issue'. My standard response was, 'it's a personal issue not a political or theological issue to me. Could you ask me another question?" I couldn't tell them, "I'm the mom of a gay son. I have two gay cousins -actually more than two--and regularly talk with my aunt, their mother, about how to support and love my son. My biggest problem is that I'm more comfortable with my son being gay than he is"

I was a theatre major at an all women's college. You were either comfortable with gay, or you transferred and chose a different major. It wasn't a big deal to me. My friend Betty and I used to have these random conversations when yet another woman would come out that went something like, "Do you think there's something wrong with us because we're so hetero?" We were serious. It was like, did we miss a memo or something?

My son has battled his way to acceptance and I couldn't be more proud of him. I want to tell more of his story but space limits this. Obviously I would love for him to find his life partner someday. What I want for him in that partner is the same as I want for my other children: someone who loves them for who they are and wants to support them as the become who they might be, someone who will care for them, stand by them, never betray them and never ever ever clip their wings. And I want it to be a real marriage.

Here's the rub. I couldn't find a place in the church where I could walk my walk openly. Not only do I have a gay son but also I love Jesus a whole lot and walk daily with the Spirit. In the church if you love gay people, chances are Jesus is just a great teacher to you and supporting gays is part of social action, a political statement. If you walk in the Holy Spirit, you most likely start quoting scripture about how they are going to hell. Jerry Falwell declared gays would end America. Lo and behold it was greedy bankers on Wall Street with no moral compass.

Play pays homage to teachers

By Janice Randall

Seattle's Book-It Repertory Theatre launches VAA's Family Series with Thank You Mr. Falker, a poignant, fullystaged play based on the book written by Patricia Polacco, Sunday, October 21, 1:30 pm, at VAA.

Geared to grades K-8, the play portrays Trisha, a kid who struggles with math and reading. To make matters worse, playground bullies harass and call her names until her teacher Mr. Falker steps in to save the day and change her life.

"This story is truly autobiographical. It's about my own struggle with not being able to read...I remember feeling dumb; that terrible feeling about myself was compounded by being teased... Mr. Falker, my hero, not only stopped the boy from teasing me, but he also noticed that I wasn't reading well and got a reading specialist to help. Thank you Mr. Falker!" says Polacco, now a prolific author of children's books with a Ph.D. in Art History.

"When one is a writer, actor, dancer, musician; a creator of any kind, he or she does these things because they listen to that 'voice' inside of them. When I talk to

What I want from the church about gay marriage is this. I want them to stop making it an issue. I want them to just accept it. Not because it's politically correct and trendy like the liberal church, but because it's about love. And I want the people who love Jesus and walk in the Spirit to be more concerned about the 39% of clergy who admit to inappropriate sexual relations with a member of their flock, the people who spank their children and call it discipline instead of domestic violence, and throw more effort into reducing the divorce rate amongst married people and hey... how about ending patriarchy in the church ? Both liberals and conservatives live by that outdated mode of operation.

Quote scripture to me and I will point you to Leviticus 13 and if you are a priest in the Northwest get busy because it's a whole chapter on ministering to those who have mildew on their walls. Scripture says we are meant to be letters of love written on the heart, the aroma of Christ, and like a child-not gatekeepers.

I hope someday those imaginary chairs I dragged onto the lawn and those guests I invited will be real for Joe and the man of his dreams. The 'why' of Joe's gay identity doesn't matter, the 'how' he lives it out does.

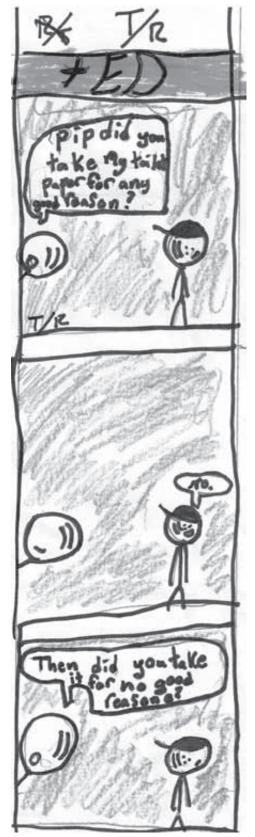
You are voting for people who love each other to have the opportunity to be recognized by the church ,or in front of a judge, all dressed up and happy as can be. They will not have any more or less happiness than us heteros, and they will have to fight for their marriage everyday and not quit if they wanted to be married a long time,



children and aspiring writers, I always ask them to listen to the voice, turn off the TV and listen, listen, listen."

Special thanks to lead sponsor Vashon Rotary Foundation and additional sponsor, Goforth Gill Architects for making this terrific series accessible for Island families.

Individual tickets for this show are \$5 kids, \$8 adults. Discount Family Series tickets also available for five additional events through April 2013. Contact VAA for more information, 463.5131.



Free Family Film Series Returns!!!

Sunday 14 October at 1:30 the classic comedy 'Mystery Men' starring Ben Stiller, Janeane Garofalo,William H Macy and a host of other comic geniuses will be shown for free for the entire community. This movie is rated PG-13 for showing more seventies wardrobes than is legally allowed and playing more disco music than is morally sound. Perfect for kids from 4th or 5th grade on up through Seniors. Come see what good satire is all about and watch the Mystery Men take on the bad guys and kindasorta win. just like heteros.

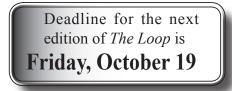
Ok...the end of Caity's smoking story is roughly this: She was excited about her friend being with her because the friend smoked and had cigarettes to donate to Caity's cause. When Caity returned to her university which is a non smoking institution and her music department, where you can lose your scholarship if you smoke, she had to go to her chorale conductor and get permission to skip rehearsals for several weeks to enroll in the recovery program, put herself in therapy and quit smoking. I'm forever grateful the right child went into a program to correct her identity.

Jesus is my Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit is real and I willingly adopted a gay son.

I love all my children just as they are. So be it. I hope they all get married.

Love, Deborah





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.

With the release of the songwriters' first official collaboration, Seed of a Pine, the duo's striking ability to blend their lush folk and Americana-influenced styles is on full display. McGraw's consoling, velvety baritone voice, reminiscent of Greg Brown, coupled with Fer's soaring and subtly powerful vocal approach, likened to that of Patty Griffin, puts a spit-shine polish on the finely crafted body of songs they have generated together. The intricate weavings of their vocal harmonies are undeniably exceptional. McGraw's hardhitting tunes echo narratives of the culture and landscape of the American West, wherein he thoughtfully spins tales of everyday folks looking for a little something more in their earthly existence. Fer takes a more dreamy approach, evoking complex and ethereal imagery within her sultry and haunting

melodies. Her potent electric lead guitar playing, in the vein of jazz-fusion guitarist John Scofield, bravely propels this duo through their uniquely heartfelt and spirited live performances, winning over audiences night after night.

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.

Seed of a Pine itself was recorded in Chicago during the summer of 2011 with renowned producer Zach Goheen and includes contributions from a litany of acclaimed musicians, including Wisconsin singersongwriter Peter Mulvey, Po'Girl songstress Allison Russell, and Chicago's JT Nero (of JT and the Clouds). This record is slated for official release in the winter of 2012.

Friday, October 12, 8:30 p.m. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

All-Ages Show 'til 11pm, 21+ After that. FREE COVER

Art History Talks

By Janice Randall

Known for her quick wit, engaging talks and deep knowledge of art history, Rebecca Albiani launches VAA's weekday morning Masters of Color Series, with Paolo Veronese: Fabulous, Scandalous Feasts, Tuesday, Oct 16, 11:30 am at VAA.

Albiani will focus on artists who reveled in color and pushed the limits of time and place with color. Veronese painted monastery dining halls and filled walls with figures, costumes and animals, imagery which during the Inquisition became considered seditious. "His later reputation was based on his skill as a colorist," she adds.

Her November talk will investigate the short and mysterious life and works of



Art Historian, Rebecca Albiani

Dutch painter Jan Vermeer. "Everyone loves Vermeer," she says. For tickets call 463.5131, \$14 VAA members, seniors, students/\$18 general. More information at www. VashonAlliedArts.org.

Carter Castle Concert line-up Announced



Carter Castle By Janice Randall

Island singer/songwriter Carter Castle's new CD release, Walking to Phoenicia, coincides with his VAA New Works Series concert, Saturday, Oct 13, 7:30 pm, at VAA.

Known for his bluesy roots musical style, Castle introduces 10 new original songs and obscure covers from the likes of Paul Seibold, John Prine and Bob Dylan. The Carter Castle Band includes Chris Anderson (lead guitar, vocals) and Bob Kueker (vocal, bass). They will be joined by an all star roster of guest musicians including: Paul Colwell, mandolin; Steve Amsden, guitar and vocals; Nancy Morgan, flute; Gordon Millar, vocals; Mindy Manley Little, guitar, banjo and vocals; Graham Hazard (VHS sophomore), drums; and Gary Giggins, drums.

Tickets, \$12 VAA members, students, seniors/\$15 general are available at Heron's Nest, Vashon Book Shop and VAA, 463.5131.

Birdhouse



Formed in 2010, Birdhouse is a group of creative songwriters, poets, and composers that capture the California sound with youthful energy and force. The band has recorded one self-titled EP, a live album and has shared the stage with bands like Melvin Seals & Jerry Garcia Band, The Mother Hips, Jackie Green, The Wooden Sky, Father John Misty (Fleet Foxes), members of Garaj Mahal, OAR, Gomez, and many other bands.

This quartet embodies the Americana sound and moves it into a new direction. Dedicated to the mentality of jazz, the traditional value of country and americana, and the spirit of rockn-roll, Birdhouse makes a tourde-force of composition and poetry that provides a unique experience for the listener.

Within their music you can discover nods to The Band, Paul Simon, Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan, John Hartford, Steely Dan, and many others.

Birdhouse presents an enthusiastic and qualified opportunity for musical expansion and gathering. The members – Jeff Wilson on drums, Daniel Talamantes on vocals and guitar, Evan Penza on lead guitar and vocals, and Chris McIntyre on bass – offer their craft to a unique and new sound.

Saturday, October 20, 8:30 p.m. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

All-Ages Show 'til 11pm, 21+ After that. FREE COVER



PERRY'S VASHON BURGERS With Gluten Free Buns! 17804 Vashon Hwy SW Open 10am to 10pm Monday-Saturday 12pm to 5pm Sunday

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350 Pounds, an environmental cautionary tale Powell adapted from the short story by Marybeth Holleman. She also penned The Heart of the Sound: An Alaskan Paradise Found and Nearly Lost, a memoir about the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill into Alaska's Prince William Sound. Works by both Wood and Holleman will be available at the show provided by Vashon Bookshop.

Tickets: \$10/\$13, are available at Heron's Nest, Vashon Bookshop and www.VashonAlliedArts.

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

October 11 '12 The Garth Reeves Band

Garth Reeves has been playing professionally for over 18 years. After cutting his teeth in the halcyon days of the Olympia scene, Garth moved to Seattle to explore that cities burgeoning music explosion. A short of list of bands Garth has been in include: Dangermouse, Nubbin, Goodness, Blue Spark... and now as a solo artist and in collaboration with others, Garth is expanding on a catalog of solo work that mines the roots of American musical vernacular.

After returning to Seattle from a stint in Brooklyn, Garth and producer/ keyboardist (and Vashon Island resident) Jason Staczek began recording the follow-up to Garth's first record Nothing But Time in several Seattle studios. Collaborating notably with Ian Moore, Timo Ellis, Pete Droge and Garth's regular touring band The Unfaithful Servants (Jeff Fielder, Andy Stoller, Mike Musburger), Garth and Jason are honing the song craft and production style of Nothing But Time, while continuing to mine that albums musical landscapes.

Garth's album Nothing But Time, released in 2005, was made using analog tape, an old Trident board, and a tight knit group of Seattle musicians (Jason Staczek, Pete Droge, Rob Brill,



Jeff Fielder, Andrew McKeag, Carrie Akre, Danny Newcomb, and Dan Tyack, and others). The result is a stunning and emotional record deeply rooted in tradition.

Saturday, November 3, 8:30 p.m. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

This show is going to be a real treat for Vashon – don't miss it! This is an all-ages free cover show 'til 11pm and 21+ after that.

Burlesco Notturno Little Black Slip

Saturday, October 20, 8pm; Doors open 7pm

Burlesco Notturno, that sexy, saucy soiree, returns to Open Space for Arts & Community wearing a lovely Little Black Slip. Wear your little black slip to the show, and receive the most delightful surprise!

Extraordinary artists and musicians take the stage: The Love Markets bring the sound of Weimar Berlin, with songs old and new springing from that era of decadent, gorgeous, absurd freedom. Lily Verlaine, she of the luscious bath, returns with new glorious dances. Paris Original brings an entirely new, balletic, boylesque twist to our stage. Sally Pepper, who soared at Open Air, returns with cloud swing magic and sexier garb. And Dr. Calamari & Acrophelia will perform effortless and stylish acrobalancing and macabre dance movement.

Burlesco Notturno Little Black Slip is hosted as ever by the infamous Mme X (played by Janet McAlpin) premiering a brand new costume - and her Lawyer (played by the infamous David Godsey).

Past attendees have raved about Burlesco Notturno, calling it: 'The Best Date Night Ever!' This is an evening of funny, sumptuous, delightful entertainment by world-renowned



performers - it's a night unlike any other on Vashon.

In the nouveau burlesque tradition that waves back to Gyspy Rose Lee, Open Space's Burlesco Notturno series brings the Northwest's most extraordinary burlesque and varieté artists together for an evening of exotic entertainment unlike anything else on Vashon. The nouveau burlesque tradition is firmly rooted in Seattle, and is celebrated in venues such as The Triple Door, The Pampas Room, The Pink Door, Teatro ZinZanni's "Mezzo Lunatico" and many others.

Tickets available at Vashon Bookshop and online at: www.brownpapertickets. com/event/279462

Subconscious Population



The Red Bicycle Bistro is bringing back the annual Subconscious Population Halloween Masquerade Ball that was an Island Halloween tradition in the community for years. This event was the most anticipated party of the year....so the staff at the Red Bicycle plan to make this particular party bigger and better than ever before.

There's plenty of time to think about your costume and start putting something together, because it's going to be a crazy night at the Red Bicycle.

Subconscious Population....a band that everyone knows and is a huge part of Island history when it comes to music. If you think that maybe, just maybe... on a quiet summer night, sitting on your porch perhaps...you might have heard wisps of "Jah Lee Kali", "Funkified" or "One In A Million" floating through the air...you just might have. Yes, one of the island's most mysterious and captivating bands ever is back at it and having a blast blazing through their classic songs, as well as creating their own spin on some very cool covers. Like Pink Floyd's "Wish You Were Here"....or Jimi's "All Along The Watchtower". These boys are having some fun and if you're lucky, you'll hear some of that from your porch, if the wind carries it just right. Now it's time we call them out for one of their captivating magical mystery shows.....

Save your strength for this Halloween show....you're gonna need it! This is a 21+ event and ID will be required at the door. Unlike previous years, this years event will be absolutely



Hunter Holcombe has a 26 minute documentary showing this Saturday night at the Vashon Theatre at 9:30PM following the regular show.

This is the story of a young veteran in Puget Sound that was injured in an explosion in Iraq. It tells the story of his recovery through an outdoor program called "HIgher Ground" where he is able to bond with other veterans suffering with PTSD while experiencing nature as he learns to snowboard.

Hunter was raised and educated on Vashon. He received his master's in Journalism recently from UC Berkeley.

He is a journalist at Current TV in San Francisco.

The film is free to the public, donations accepted for the advancement of the film.



free! Costumes are encouraged!

Saturday, October 27, 9:30 p.m. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy -206-463-5959

All-Ages Show 'til 11pm, 21+ After that. FREE COVER

Barn Dance

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work appears on the recordings of many Sub Pop artists like Zen Guerilla and the Black Halos. He has appeared on stage with Isabella Rossellini and Alanis Morissette.

Adding to the twang is guitarist Jeff Fielder who has recorded with such artists as Rocky Votolato and has toured with Mark Lanegan. On bass is Robin Cady who performs with the Roy Cay Trio, known for playing utterly danceable music. And on drums is Eric Eagle who frequently tours with Jesse Sykes and the Sweet Hereafter and jazz giant Wayne Horvitz.

"I feel honored to be playing a show with these amazing musicians," beamed Sutherland. "I am going to need a really great dress. Not to stand out from them, but to trip on," she laughed. "I always want to entertain people, but really, I want to make them laugh." And she warns folks ahead of time that she can't dance. "I think people will appreciate when they see me trying to dance that anybody can do it." Island Escrow Service Complete Escrow Service Licensed & Bonded

October is Dental Month

Get a 10% Discount on dental procedures and supplies, including TD & DH Diets, C.E.T. HEXtra Chews, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc. Call for an appointment 206-463-3607 Fair Isle Animal Clinic The Vashon Loop, p. 12

