



VASHON

# THE LOOP

Vol. 9, #9

A VASHON-MAURY ISLAND COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

April 26, 2012

## Tools for Open Studio Patrons & Artists



Kristen Reitz-Green (studio #9 on the Art Tour) uses a traditional palette & brushes to make her brilliantly colored paintings.

By Leo Toye

In this ink-and-paper illustration, Leo Toye shares his impressions of the dynamism of Vashon's Open Studio. And for the more linear, he explains below:

While one thinks easily of the many tools we artists use, it is less usual to note & celebrate the tools used by the visitors, our guests... who must follow

their intuition & take the initiative to create a personally unique experience of the Vashon Art Studio Tour...

Getting your feet into our studios is absolutely important to this process!

Whether you consider yourselves adventurers, seekers or day-trippers, clients, customers or patrons... Welcome!

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## Rumble on Vashon Island Life

by Peter Ray



Rumble Strips already etched into the main road north of Town.

***"... The noise and vibration produced by rumble strips is intended to alert inattentive drivers that they have departed from their lane, or to give advance notice of a change in the roadway ahead...." from WSDOT Rumble Strip Design Policy Pages***

Unlike in the above stated intent of adding etched grooves to the sides and centers of the state's highways to protect drivers from themselves, there was almost no advanced alert or notice given for the recent appearance of crews and heavy equipment, carving up both older and nearly new sections of the Island's main highway this past week. The qualifier "almost" is used here, since there was a short article over a year ago in the Beachcomber indicating that something like this might be in the works. It was around that time that an application was made for a federal grant to apply rumble stripping out here because Vashon was determined to be an apparent statistical nightmare in terms of run-off-the-road incidents and crashes. In speaking with Island roads supervisor Jim Didricksen, he had to dispatch part of the Island road crew to find out what was going on when private contractors arrived and set up work signs on the north end of the highway last Wednesday. Didricksen had been aware of the possibility that this was in the works, but had assumed that since it had been so long since he'd heard anything more about it that perhaps the project had been cancelled because of recent budget cuts.

***When the road dept. is out of money for basic maintenance and can't fix potholes and other hazards, but has the money to put grooves in the pavement, it has to make you wonder.- Mike DeBlasi***

I first heard the news of the rumble strip project through an email from Mike DeBlasi, an Islander, former Cascade Bicycle Club president and board member and general cycling advocate and activist. This started a

chain of communications throughout the Vashon cycling community, along with pleas to King County officials and politicians for information about why this work was being done, why no one had been informed of its happening, and what could be done to get it stopped. It was not long after that that I received an email from John Cornelison, Islander and former executive director of the League of American Bicyclists, whose website, [www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org), has an extensive position paper on rumble strips, which have been gaining national attention as being troublesome for cyclists everywhere. At this point, I also put in a call to Henry Perrin, an Islander and a senior engineer with King County DOT. As a part of the design team that worked on this project, Perrin sited a high occurrence of run-off-the-road accidents on Vashon as the reason that the project was deemed necessary, and that rumble stripping of the main highway seen as the solution. The practice of adding rumble strips on rural roadways has been found to reduce these types of accidents by statistically significant numbers. Besides the basic numbers of 92 crashes, 1 fatality and 43 injuries on Vashon between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2008, no other information about these accidents is available from the King County Sheriff's office. Because this data is unavailable, what is not clear is whether these incidents were weather related, involved vehicles dodging various animals on the roads, or if the vehicles were being piloted by drivers under the influence, all of which would benefit little from sound and vibration generating grooves cut into the side of the roadway.

***On routes used by bicyclists, rumble strips should not be installed indiscriminately; a careful traffic safety study should be conducted to demonstrate a clear problem and a projected impact on safety.- From "Bicycling and Rumble Strips"-League of American Bicyclists***

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## Road to Resilience Making Your Mark

By Terry Sullivan, Transition Vashon

As with a car or any democratic organization, the direction it takes depends on who is in the driver's seat. Among the couple dozen or so organizations that concern themselves with some aspect of the general welfare of the Island, you tend to see a lot of the same individuals. Why is that? Some of the more obvious reasons are: they have the time, they really care about the community, they like the social outlet, they have a vision for a better future, or maybe they just like to control things. Almost all of us fit into one or more of these categories, yet only a few serve.

If you have some free time, you may have a hobby or pastime that you are passionate about or you may just want passive entertainment, what we call "vegging out." You may not be happy with the way things are, but you are intimidated by groups. You may feel that your beliefs are way out of sync with the popular positions here on Vashon. (Yes, there does seem to be a thread of continuity in the politics and ideas of those that are most active here.)

The problem is that, like a household, a community needs some routine maintenance and repair or things start to get a little shabby. It also needs some whimsical and loving attention to make it a home. Between our paid-for county services and volunteer accomplishments, we do a fairly credible job in a lot of areas. However, applying more creative

imagination to your home or your community can make it so much better. When a lot of people in a community decide to contribute, really great things can happen.

In a park near where my brother lives in Sacramento, there is a play structure built by the neighborhood under the supervision of a private company. It has a pirate ship, gangways, hideouts, communication tubes popping up here and there, slides, swings, you name it. The project was built at relatively low cost by a large number of people playfully and creatively engaged, and building community at the same time. An alternative is to pay a private company tens of thousands of dollars to build something far less imaginative or extensive, as we did at Ober Park. We are not going to "keep Vashon weird" for very long if we keep hiring professionals to design and provide for us. The mysterious appearance of exercycles at Portage was guerilla community activism at its best, not to mention weirdest - community mythos in the making!

In the last All Island Forum, we looked at what we care about and what our vision is for Vashon. We held a followup meeting to look at the results and a predominant theme was a desire for more connectedness, more community. In our discussions of

*Continued on Page 9*



# 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](mailto:editor@vashonloop.com). Photos are welcome as jpeg or pdf attachments.

### Yard sale donations needed for VIPP

Its a good time to clean out your closets, garage and basement and donate the usable good to VIPP

Vashon Island Pet protectors will hold their annual Yard and Plant sale, Saturday May 19th 9am to 4 pm at the Variety Store across from the Post Office. Donations of usable items are being collected or can be dropped off at the store Friday 10am-4pm. Small usable furniture and kitchen items, books and jewelry are being accepted. No mattresses or clothing . All proceeds of the sale will go towards the caring and medical needs of VIPP's sheltered or fostered cats and dogs. Contact Gail at 567-4361 or Bister at 567-5890 for information or a donation pick up arrangement.

Lois Yunker VIPP Volunteer  
[lois.yunker@gmail.com](mailto:lois.yunker@gmail.com) or  
465-5841 if questions or more information needed.

### Green Party's Monthly Meeting

The Vashon-Maury Island Green Party's monthly meeting (second Tuesday of each month) will be at Joy Goldstein's home. Other interested progressives always welcome!

DATE: Tuesday, May 8, 7:00 to 9:00 PM  
LOCATION: 10329 SW Bank Road, Vashon  
DIRECTIONS: From Vashon center, go west on SW Bank Road 0.3 miles. Joy's home is on the south side. Park along Bank Road.

Major Topics:  
1) Vashon Governance/ All Island Forum.  
2) Transition Vashon/Resilience Circles.  
3) Occupy Seattle/99% Movement.  
4) The Green Team.  
Questions: Melvin Mackey, Secretary, (206) 463-3468

### The Vashon Loop

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### Water District 19 Meeting

Water District 19's regular meeting set for Tuesday, May 8th, 2012 at 4:30 PM here at the district office.

Agenda will be sent out on or before the 4th of May.

### Debi Richards Announces Retirement

Debi Richards, Executive Director of the Vashon Island Chamber of Commerce has announced her retirement effective August 17, 2012.

"This decision was very difficult for me." Richards told the Board in a meeting on April 18th "I am passionate about this job and Vashon Island. Most importantly, I believe in the Chamber and its mission. I am, however, looking forward to new adventures with my husband Gary, but plan to remain active within the community."

Patti McClements, Board President said "Debi has been an essential member of the Chamber staff for six years and under her direction as the Executive Director our organization has grown and become stronger than it has ever been." She added "Although Debi will be missed; she's leaving us poised to do great things in the future."

The Chamber of Commerce will begin the search for Richards' replacement immediately

*Make a date with Vashon!*  
**[www.VashonCalendar.org](http://www.VashonCalendar.org)**

**Vashon Library Events  
Art & Music Events  
Submit your Event on line at  
[www.vashoncalendar.org](http://www.vashoncalendar.org)**

### All Island Forum

Wednesday, May 9, 7-9 PM, Open Space for Arts & Community

Where, how and why do you serve your community? A deeper look and more learning

Join friends and neighbors in an interactive forum to discover the ways, reasons and places we each invest time, energy and resources in areas that matter to us. What role do I have in caring/acting upon the well being of my Island community?

### 6 SUV Week Challengers come into the home stretch

Three cheers for these teams who have reported weeks three and four:

7 AM Pool Women  
Champions VCC1  
Fair Isle Animals Grr  
PRL  
Rubber Duckies  
Scuttle Butts Windermere  
Sensational Seniors VAC1  
ShapeUUup  
SNF'rs  
SPSR  
Svelte Windermere  
Terrifically Toned Toddler Moms

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**[www.vashonpages.com](http://www.vashonpages.com)**  
**Vashon Business Information**

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Orca Annie Stateler and Mark Sears  
[Vashonorcas@aol.com](mailto:Vashonorcas@aol.com)  
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### Genealogical Seminar

The Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society Spring Seminar "When Genealogy Meets Technology" will be held Saturday, May 12th at La Quinta Inn and Suites, 1425 East 27th St, Tacoma, WA.

Cyndi Howells of "Cyndi's List" and Emily Aulicino will each present two talks.

Cyndi's topics: The Internet: A Genealogist's Printing Press and Social Networking: A Genealogist's Water Cooler.

Emily's topics: The Gene in Genealogy and Writing Your Childhood and Family Memories: A simple technique.

Additional information can be found on the website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~watpcgs/seminar.html>

### Opens April 27 Salmon Fishing in the Yemen



### April 28 60 Second Film Festival

**Vashon Theatre**  
**17723 Vashon Hwy**  
**206-463-3232**  
**Call for Times**

For show times and info check  
**[www.vashontheater.com](http://www.vashontheater.com)**

*Best Rural Movie Theatre*  
*2010- Seattle Weekly*

### Caregivers Support Group

Vashon Community Care Center hosts a monthly Caregivers Support Group meeting. The group meets on the second Thursday of every month at 7pm.

This group is geared toward family or friend caregivers, rather than paid caregivers. If interested or if you have questions, please call Julea at 567-4421.

Find the Loop on-line at  
**[www.vashonloop.com](http://www.vashonloop.com)**

#### Bible

7th Day is Holy (Saturday)

Feasts of Unleavened Bread, Shavuot, Tabernacles, Purim

Torah in Heart = New Covenant (Jeremiah 31.10-33 and Hebrews 8.8-12)

Which do you believe: the Bible or Oral Tradition?  
[torahinmyheart.com](http://torahinmyheart.com)

#### Christian Oral Tradition

1st Day is Holy (Sunday)

Feasts of Easter, Halloween, Christmas

Torah = Not for Today (Various theologies and doctrines of men)

### Next Edition of The Loop Comes out Thursday, May 10

Deadline for the next edition of *The Loop* is  
**Friday, May 4**



One-Day Portraiture Workshops

With Portrait Artist  
Ryan Finnerty



([www.finnertyfinnerty.com](http://www.finnertyfinnerty.com))

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Premier  
ESTATE



100 year old teak Kudus House



200 year old Chinese Merchant House

*A world unto itself...*

Located in the Needle Creek neighborhood---one of the most desirable areas on Vashon Island---the buildings and grounds of this unique 12.5 acre estate meld Northwest contemporary styling with classic Asian design on a site that has wide views, copious sunlight, and stunning gardens. There are several granite paths traversing the property, which connect three substantial buildings; the main entry to the residence, is across two 20 foot-long slabs of antique Chinese granite, bridging the water feature and pond.

The approach to the front door winds through a canopy of Northwest old-growth evergreens, ferns and other native plants, as well as Asian artifacts, creating a contemplative and other worldly ambience. The primary house, designed by notable Seattle architect, Patrick Gordon, features red wood siding, reclaimed CVG fir posts/ beams/ floors/ceilings/ windows and doors, in an open floor plan. Adjacent to the main residence is a 200 year-old Chinese merchant's "rummah/ gudang" house with guest quarters and a lovely great room for use as a studio or group space.

Slightly further from the house is the grander scale, 100 year-old plain-air teak house from the Javanese region of Kudus, famous for its mystical architecture. The house, resplendent with carving developed by centuries of Arab and Chinese cultural influence, is surrounded by gardens and water features, both designed by renowned northwest landscape architect, David Pfeiffer.

This is a singular estate, poised on the leading edge of the Pacific Rim, reflecting its legacy through timeless materials and a perfect blending of many great cultures, melded into a place of spectacular expectation!

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# Vashon Maury Island Annual Plant Sale



By Kathy Bosler

Put May 5th on your calenders and come early because by noon we are mostly sold out. Members have been busy dividing and cultivating perennials, shrubs and grasses all year long. We will have lovely Fuchsias and Geraniums from Kay White’s garden. The perfect gift for Mothers Day!

There are MANY vegetables this year. Our capable Karen Dale has been in charge of the array of vegetables that we have been propagating since February. There are onions, cucumbers, and lots of leafy greens: chard, kale, spinach, and lettuces. There’s sugar peas, beans and corn. A medley of tomatoes: Siberia, Early Girl and Siletz which are excellent for slicing and Oregon Spring, another

early one for our NW climate. There are Sun Gold cherry tomatoes....so sweet and Tomatillos for salsa.

Our Boutique should not be missed. Yard art and collectibles that you will not be able to resist.

There will be a Bake Sale for those standing in line early who neglected breakfast! Doors open at 9AM in the Old Napa Store across the street from the Post Office. Proceeds are used for VHS Scholarships, student benefits and community projects for the Senior Center, Vashon Community Care Center, horticultural education in Vashon schools and Community Garden Awards.

Thank You Vashon!

# Life in the USSR During the Cold War “My Stories” with Edie Ulatoski

Edie Ulatoski, General Joe’s “better half,” will share the other side of their story, what was it like to be married to an assistant Army attaché in the former Soviet Union during the Cold War and raise their family behind the Iron Curtain, living in the American Embassy in Moscow. Edie will tell her story at 4 pm on Sunday, May 6th at the Blue Heron Arts Center as part of the Telling Stories: A Speaker Series By and About Vashon Locals to benefit Vashon Community Care.

Come hear how Edie, who was born and raised in a small town in Nebraska during the dust bowl, ended up helping as Joe’s partner, observing the capabilities of the Soviet military. We’ll hear how Edie and Joe raised their two small girls behind the walls of the America Embassy in Moscow, travelled throughout the former Soviet Union, staying in ‘bugged’ hotel rooms, where available, during the height of the Cold War. These promise to be fascinating life stories.

Come join us to hear Edie’s story, Sunday, May 6th at 4 pm at the Blue



Heron Arts Center. All proceeds benefit the residents and programs of Vashon Community Care. Ticket sales are by donation and are available at Vashon Book Shop or Vashon Community Care. The Telling Stories Speaker Series is made possible by a generous donation from the estate of David W. and Catharine A. Carr.

# The Storefront Studio Needs You!



The Storefront Studio is part of King County’s Downtown Revitalization Initiative, and is conducted in partnership with architecture and urban design students from the UW’s College of Built Environments. At a well-attended kick-off meeting on March 30, Island residents talked with the students about the history and development of the Island and their ideas for potential projects. Over the next two months the students will refine these ideas and develop practical preservation and development strategies for strengthening community character and stimulating economic growth.

During this time the project team will host public open houses, exhibits and information exchanges on Vashon in order to develop a visual analysis of the town and nearby areas. The open house format of the project, combined with the speed and relative low cost of digital printing, means that a fully illustrated public exhibition will be mobilized in a short period of time. The student’s ideas will be illustrated with computer-altered photographs of individual buildings

and entire streetscapes providing a clear visual graphic of their community generated proposals.

Please join us at the upcoming open houses. We welcome your comments, concerns, and connections!

WHERE: Movie Magic, 17636 Vashon Highway SW

WHEN: Friday, May 4, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm & Saturday, May 5, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Final presentation will be Friday, June 1, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Contacts:

Jim Nicholls  
UW College of Built Environments, Department of Architecture  
206.616.4366  
jnicholl@u.washington.edu

Julie Koler  
King County Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks, Historic Preservation Program  
206.296.8689  
julie.koler@kingcounty.gov

# Strawberry Festival Grand Marshal & Vashon Island’s Unofficial Mayor

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2012 Strawberry Festival Grand Marshal. When nominating someone please tell us how they have enhanced Island life, given back to the community, their involvement in community service work, how long they have lived on Vashon, and generally why you think they should be Vashon Island’s Grand Marshal.

Please send nominations for Grand Marshal to the Chamber of Commerce at PO Box 1035, clearly marked “nomination” or email to debi@vashonchamber.com .



Nominations must be received by May 30th.

**Enter Your Candidate for Vashon Island’s Unofficial Mayor**

Have you dreamt about a career in politics? Here is your chance to become the Unofficial Mayor of Vashon Island AND support your favorite non-profit organization at the same time!

Anyone can register to run for office (with the written permission of the non-profit organization they wish to represent). Responsibilities include announcing you are running for office to the Chamber and local newspapers, campaigning for your election, placement of up to 12 ballot boxes in participating locations, and riding in the Sunday Tom Steward Memorial Car Parade.

Your supporters can vote (as many times as they like) by depositing a dollar

(or more) in the ballot box. Each dollar counts as one vote with the winner earning the title of Vashon Island’s Unofficial Mayor. All money goes to benefit non-profits on the Island. Money is collected and sent to the Chamber of Commerce for counting and verifying. The Mayor’s race has been known to raise up to \$15,000 to benefit Island causes!

The Unofficial Mayor may be invited to participate in other events throughout the year, but participation is totally optional. Once elected, the fun starts... all year, the Unofficial Mayor can do whatever he or she pleases! (Just a word of caution, the Unofficial Mayor has as much power as they have budget for this position!)



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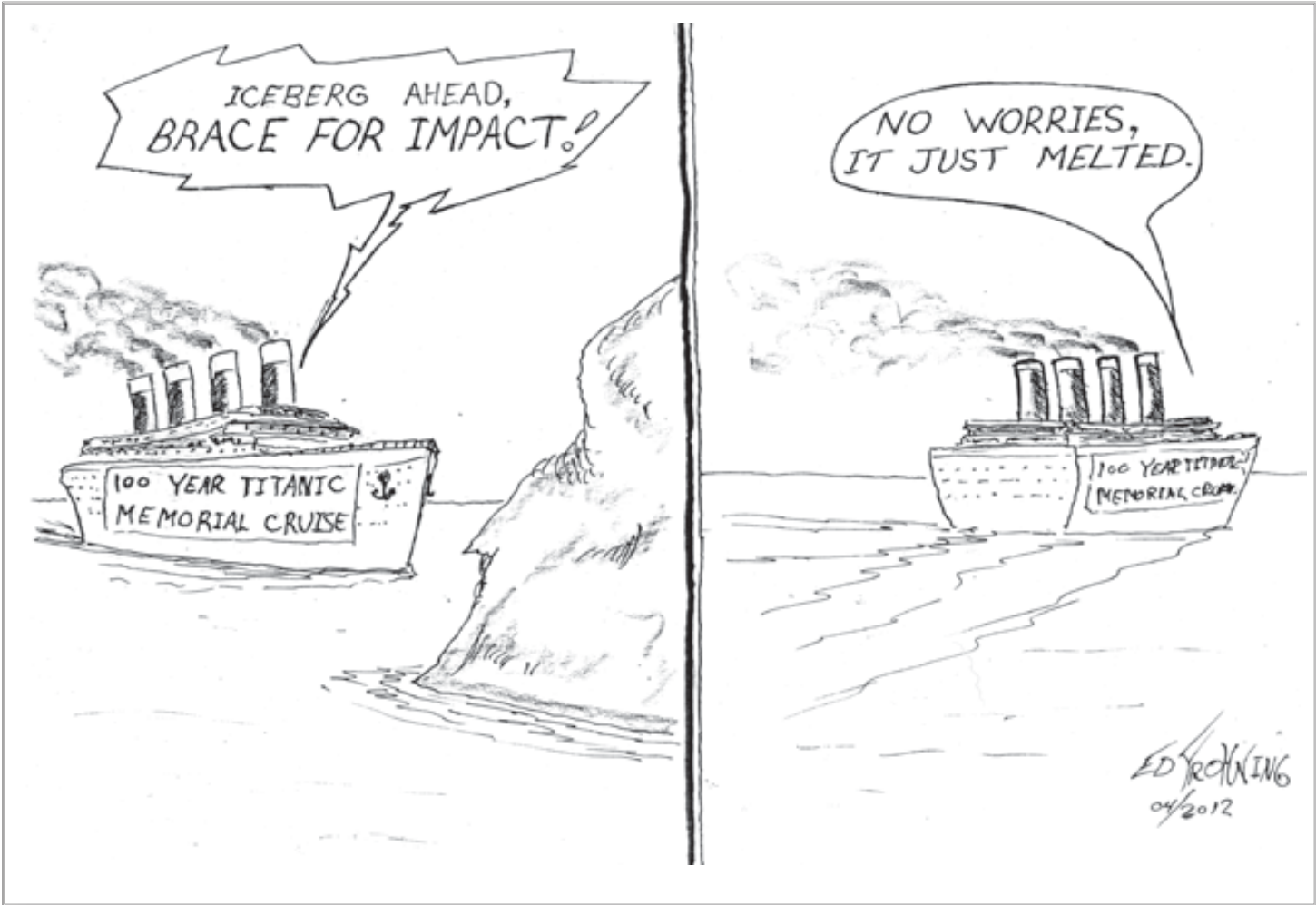
# Island Life

## Rumble on Vashon

by Peter Ray

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With calls and over a hundred emails received by Thursday night, all of which were trading information and voicing frustration over what to do, a suggestion was made that some sort of action be taken to stop the roadwork before any more damage was done. By this time it was learned that, while Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) guidelines state that rumble strips not be applied in areas where the speed limit is less than 45mph, a design decision had been made to lower that limit to 35mph in this case. It was also noted that in at least one case, a hundred yard section of shoulder area on the east side of the Highway just north of SW140th (Old Vashon Highway) had been rumble stripped leaving only 3 to 3.5 feet of shoulder for the bike lane, and the minimum requirement is stated at four feet, with five feet being necessary if a guardrail is present. Having been a part of working to get shoulder areas expanded to better accommodate a rising number of cyclists out here, both for commuting and recreational use, it was frustrating at best to watch as those efforts were subverted by a process that the community had had no say in. So Friday morning, as work resumed in carving rumble strips in the centerline south of 204th and Sound Food, a group of cyclists lead by Steve Abel informed the project manager that they were intending to commit civil disobedience to stop the etching of Island roads. Cell phones were deployed. It is unclear whether the police arrived because of this statement of intent or because of



came out of that was a need once again for a voice for cyclists on the Island. To that end, John Cornelison has created a website, [www.BikeVashon.org](http://www.BikeVashon.org), that is intended to be a contact point for cycling information on the Island. Obviously, given the stealth nature of this project, a website or an organization would not have gotten us much further than the present network did. One of the three beginning goals of this site, and hopefully the group that will grow around it, is to work with other communities and to help inform and advise around this and other cycling issues. All in attendance wanted all shoulder rumble strips



threats made against the work crew by an irate motorist who was late for the ferry and being further delayed by the road work being done. A few minutes later, as the etching machine parked and shutdown next to where we were standing, word came through that work was being suspended for the day.

*In 2010, WSDOT had to re-do inappropriately applied rumble strips on Whidbey Island. The Federal Highway Administration cites the installation cost of rumble strips at between \$500 and \$3000 per mile, with Vashon's current installation cost estimate being \$1200 per mile, while the removal cost, in one example case, was \$13,000 a mile.*

On Saturday, a group of cyclists met at Minglement to discuss what the next steps should be now that it was clear that work had been suspended for at least three weeks, in part to finally allow community input into the process. What

repaired. The group was indifferent about the centerline strip, although safety records have shown that centerline rumble strips have been known to keep motorists from yielding to cyclists they are passing. The third main point we wanted to emphasize, was to increase access to Vashon cycling community, which will hopefully be accomplished at least partially through Bike Vashon.

As it turned out, just as the meeting was breaking up out on the front porch, a group of women cyclists rolled up. Having been randomly sampling passing cyclists about how they felt about the rumbles throughout the meeting (thumbs down), James Cottrell asked one of the women how she felt about them. In answering, Tracey Gramenz said that she was on a trial run of her new bicycle touring business, Real Active Women Retreats- [rawretreats.org](http://rawretreats.org). They had actually driven on the Island and were staying at a rental on the south part of the Island, so they hadn't



quite experienced the full rumble of the road edge etchings just yet. But she was excited about the possibility of bringing groups to the Island to ride, and to support Island businesses in the process, like buying fresh locally grown produce for their meals, as well as having already partnered with an Island yoga instructor for helping to enhance flexibility and relieve post ride stiffness. And of course, having safe and comfortable riding conditions was of paramount concern. Having lead other commercial bike tours around the state and elsewhere, she was aware of rumble strips and not excited to see them become a part of the Vashon cycling scene.

As the rumble ruckus proceeds, it will be interesting to see how facts, logic and common sense prevail though all of this. It seems that the stated intent of applying rumble strips to our highway, or any roadway for that matter, is flawed from the start. It was always my understanding that while driving one is supposed to be paying attention. If one is texting or reading a letter or

drunk, buzzed and mostly not all there, you shouldn't be driving to begin with. And why is it that the cyclist is the one who is asked to pay in available bike lane space and reduced ride quality? There is, in fact, another type of rumble strip- edge line rumble strips (elrs) which are applied over where the fog line is, and therefore not rendering useless 20%-30% of the bike lane most motorists would prefer that the cyclist remain in (although according to state law cyclists have a right to however much of the right side of the car lane one needs to feel safe while cycling.) There is no third alternative for a rumble strip application to the left side of the fog line. This potentially would warn errant drivers that much sooner as they inattentively drifted and/or "departed their lane", and would take transit space from the side of the line from where the perceived problem is threatening. In terms of justifying things, it has been said that numbers don't lie. But in this case it would seem that these numbers- the accident statistics- are not telling the whole truth.



Custom made PEN & INK drawings  
of island homes by Vashon  
artist Ed Frohning.

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206-462-9632



# What’s happened to the bees and why should we care?

by Mary G.L. Shackelford

Beekeepers on the Island are all stirred up. You should be too!

Beekeepers’ grumblings have mounted into horrified rumblings – the situation is dire. I hear them at Church and at Free Range Folk Choir. They talk about it at Saturday Market. It’s not just members of the Fruit Club or the Beekeepers Club. And it’s not just Vashon: there is concern from the Harvard School of Public Health to the New York Times. (For one online report, see [www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/04/120405224653.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/04/120405224653.htm))

The buzz is out. It’s mounted to an insistent drone:

The bees are dying. No, the bees are dead. No bees again this spring.

How many bees have you seen this spring? Even the bumblebees are scarce.

We have to do something. The hazardous waste mobile comes to Vashon April 27, 28 and 29 – it’s time for a rodeo to rid our homes of Roundup, amidocloprid and other poisonous chemicals. It’s time to exercise the power of the dollar and stop buying the stuff. It’s time to talk to friends and neighbors. It’s time to raise awareness in our personal circles of influence. We may not be able to stop Monsanto, Bayer or Dow, we may not be able to overhaul American agricultural practices tomorrow, but we can take action in our community today.

That’s the clear message coming out of a recent eclectic roundtable gathering hosted by GreenTech. Beekeeper Bob Dixon and Sheila Brown (Vashon Food Security working group) shared anecdotal stories of massive bee Colony Collapse Disorder and overwhelming evidence from scientific studies that puts the sting on our use of toxic pesticides and herbicides. Even undetectably low exposure levels impair bees’ learning and memory. Low-level exposures synergize to dramatically increase bees’ susceptibility to infection and likelihood of death. Accumulation of the poisons is the critical catalyst in decimating bee populations.

Honeybees pollinate most things in our gardens: apples, asparagus, blackberries, blueberries, broccoli, cabbage, cherries, cucumbers, pears, plums, pumpkins, sunflowers, raspberries and squash – to name a few that grow in mine. With beekeepers continuing to lose more that one-third of their hives EACH YEAR, scientific evidence concludes that neonicotinoid pesticides are the key culprit. We have to stop using these chemicals or all we’ll have to eat are beets, said Bob.

The wide-ranging GreenTech discussion opened the mind of at least one participant, and others were put on notice: our justification that we just use a little bit and only now and then is lame. As Tag Gornall points out, if you put out something that kills, that’s what it does: it kills or mutates – and not just the weeds.

And it’s not just the bees, either. The trickle down effect of upland use means that we risk contaminating our watersheds and contribute to pollution in Quartermaster Harbor and Puget Sound. The dispersal through natural systems



*Bob Dixon is a veteran beekeeper. He began more than 20 years ago, and now he’s alarmed. This spring three of his six hives are dead. Bob reports fellow Island beekeeper Ter Roth lost all three of his hives. Scientific studies show that Colony Collapse Disorder results from use of neonicotinoid pesticides.*

is mind-boggling with these kinds of poisons mounting the food chain to accumulate in apex species – like whales and humans. Neurological problems, respiratory disease and infant mortality are just a few of the confirmed results.

I know a virtuous woman who never uses Roundup. She hides in the house and pretends not to know when her husband gets out the poison. He’s one of the only-a-little-now-and-then types. Their neighbor is another. She puts her hand to the side of her mouth as she whispers guiltily not to tell her husband, but what am I gonna do? Things get out of control here.

I know, I know. Our mild climate nurtures prodigious growth of briars, quack grass, escaped ivy, and such. Some of us wage war on dandelions. Moss grows on the roof. What’s a girl to do?

Well, there are the obvious solutions like eliminate your lawn or dig out the bad stuff. Planting trees is good. You can try baking soda; we all know the beer in the can trick for slugs. You can spray with homemade vinegar solutions. You can pick bad bugs off by hand. And there’s middle ground, too: instant solutions for those of us who simply can’t keep up with the weeds and the bugs and the slugs and don’t have the time, inclination or youthful vigor to labor mightily.

A few years ago, on behalf of the Vashon Groundwater Protection Committee, Michael Laurie and Susie Kalhorn prepared simple red (bad – don’t buy), yellow (warning – be careful!) and green (okay to use) cards listing locally available products. The info is outdated, they are looking for funds to update and print new cards, but meanwhile, it’s

a start. Email Michael ([mlaurie@mindspring.com](mailto:mlaurie@mindspring.com)) for one, and you can easily see what’s okay to buy. And don’t roll your eyes, yada-yada-yada: in researching for the update, Sheila reports she and Emily McCrae experienced headaches and other neurological distress just by standing in aisles of the poison for 20 minutes or more.

Sheila also says that Country Store sells only benign products. There’s nothing bad at DIG. They are getting rid of some bad stuff at Kathy’s Corner this weekend, and Kathy will have fewer of the toxic products to sell. At other outlets, you have only to ask. While the varieties, supplies and displays are smaller, organic non-toxic products are available everywhere.

It’s a matter of money, says Joe Ulatoski. Use the power of the pocketbook. If you don’t buy it, they won’t stock it or sell it.

Other suggestions came out of the roundtable as well: Jay Becker told how he stopped using bad stuff years ago when he learned that raising the mower blade to 5 and a half would do the trick for his lawn. After about three years, the grass beat out most of the weeds.

Tom Bangasser suggests asking VAA to feature gardens that are poison-free on its annual Garden Tour.

Tag advocates talking to groups who have a vested interest like landscapers and the Garden Club and also those who maintain open space on Vashon: your church congregations, the radio stations, our parks department, the school maintenance department, the road folks, the golf and swim club, the water districts.

Poison is in widespread use as GMO crops dominate American agriculture. “Roundup-Ready” seeds are treated to resist aerial spraying of pesticides. Researchers have proven that in a single flight over freshly-sown corn fields, bees suffer acutely toxic exposure from neonicotinoid contaminated dust raised by planters depositing treated seeds.

This is a huge, closely related topic, and buying organic, non-GMO products is another way to protect your health and exercise power as consumers. But let’s bring it back to the bees. Let’s bring it home to the question of what’s going to pollinate our gardens?

What can we do? I’ll say it again: Stop using poison, get it out of our homes, take it to the waste mobile. Tjomsland Gravel Pit (17001 107th Ave., just south of Cove Road on the west side of 107 Ave.), 10-5, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 27-29. See you there.

## Queen of The Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us?

VIGA, Vashon Island Growers Association, is hosting a screening at Vashon Theatre of Queen of The Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us? We’ve added the trailer link below so you can get a taste of how compelling, engaging, and entertaining this movie is. We hope to see you there:  
WHEN: Sunday, April 29, 1:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Vashon Theatre  
Suggested donation: \$5  
Proceeds will support the EBT Market Buck Match program.

Watch movie trailer at [www.vigavashon.org/2012/04/09/vashon-screening-queen-of-the-bees/](http://www.vigavashon.org/2012/04/09/vashon-screening-queen-of-the-bees/)

# Celebrate our Shoreline

Come enjoy the Puget Sound at the Seventh Annual Vashon-Maury Island Low Tide Celebration, Wednesday, July 4, 2012 from 10am to 3pm at Point Robinson. It’s family fun that’s free, local, educational and all natural.

The Low Tide Celebration is an event for everyone to explore, discover and appreciate the panorama of marine life that populates this island shoreline. Experience the beach at a noontime low tide of -3 ft’ and gently explore the tide pools using proper “Beach Etiquette” with the help of Vashon’s own expert Beach Naturalists on site.

Welcome Skipper Mike Evans and the Blue Heron Salish Canoe Family with a song as they paddle their way to the Point. Learn about traditional native uses of shoreline resources from Odin Lonning, Tlingit artist and cultural educator. Tour an operating lighthouse and hear its history from the Keepers. Appreciate the beauty of the Maury Island Aquatic Reserve

and learn the many ways you can help restore & protect our valuable natural resource.

A shuttle bus will run along Point Robinson Road to transport people from their parked cars to the festivities. Refreshments will be available for sale on-site.

The mission of the Low Tide Celebration is for Vashon Maury Islanders and other Puget Sound residents to come to Point Robinson to learn how to protect, preserve and appreciate our marine ecosystem and its unique creatures.

The Vashon-Maury Island Low Tide Celebration is sponsored by: Vashon Beach Naturalists, Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources, King County Natural Resources, Washington Scuba Alliance, Vashon Park District, Vashon-Maury Island Audubon Society, Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust, Vashon Hydrophone Project, Vashon College and Keepers of Point Robinson.



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**Aries (March 20-April 19)**  
Feeling good about who you are is the most important stepping stone to building your vision of a successful life. But how do you get there? I suggest you continue to work and rework a tangible concept, which you may have discovered just recently, that applies to how you experience self-esteem and the ways in which you honor the importance of valuing yourself. As you push into this area of your psyche, notice any resistance that comes up, examine what you find in terms of your mother’s attitude toward existence and her self-worth, and what she passed along to you. Her personal philosophy is the first one you learned as a small child, and the foundation from which yours grew. Acknowledge any of her ideas that do not fit with your own. You will be able penetrate a blind spot involving how your emotional body experiences the sensation of honoring your intrinsic value. In other words, upcoming aspects suggest you can actually feel how loved and beautiful you are.

**Taurus (April 19-May 20)**  
Having a healthy relationship with your community is vital to having a fulfilled existence. But how many people have that? Who even considers the issue? Your solar charts suggest that you’ve adjusted your behavior with the people around you to fit in with their expectations. This has brought you the illusion of stability because your group structures did not change like they would, had you asserted your creativity, passion or authentic self. Eventually illusions crack, and yours is doing so as you re-evaluate what is truly nurturing your highest needs. As your personal identity shifts in relation to your network, the community around you will change. I suggest you see this less as a disruption to your inner state of calm and more as a sign of progress toward a more authentic life.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**  
Gaseous elements cannot be touched, felt or examined without special equipment. But if that gas is brought into solid form, you can hold the material in your hand. This is happening to a number of ideas that have been just beyond your reach of your awareness. Like the process of centrifuge, this material is getting stirred up so fast that the critical pieces of information are able to crystallize into solid form. What is taking shape are ideas surrounding your calling in life and other’s role in the development of that process. Your life is your own, though others are available to help you. For you, any discussion of an idea involves more than one concept or perspective; your mind works best by seeing things from multiple points of view at the same time. I suggest you work with this multiplicity of your highest goals and achievements and not see them in as mutually exclusive. Not only can they co-exist in your life at the same time -- they support one another.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)**  
As the week progresses, spend time out of the house meeting new people. You are in a period of forming new bonds and connections with individuals, groups and the environment that contains them all. I understand that the world is filled with a lot of groups whose purpose ranges from meaningless to those whose ideals and values do not support yours. Yet you only need to discover what will

actually serve you, which is relatively little in contrast to the whole. And, there is another process in motion -- a subtle shift is bringing more individuals into contact with an idea you embody. You could say there’s a tribe bonding together around unhindered acceptance of each other’s true self is the thing of mutual value. Proceed from a place of seeing each new person you meet as a possibility for connecting with a larger group united by the idea of caring for one another.

**Leo (July 22-Aug. 23)**  
Before achievement is reached a period of buildup occurs. Many times, work is done without necessarily fast advancement. That’s not a popular idea in a society where people line up to buy lottery tickets, but it’s a true fact. Real accomplishment is not instantaneous, but rather based on exponential growth. This type of progress appears to remain static for a while, though there is quiet multiplication going on behind the scenes. When the process reaches a threshold there is a burst of energy that moves events along quickly. Your projects, many which have appeared stalled, are approaching this point of acceleration. As the pace increases, maintain focus on the details. Harness the increased energy by applying it back to your work. Feed the tree, and remember your purpose. What you’re doing is producing work that has a long-lasting quality.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22)**  
Your instinct when it comes to sudden change is to hang on even tighter to what you know as tried and true. That is not to say you’re afraid of change, more you hold yourself to such high standards that you want to ensure a ‘perfect’ outcome and in your eyes that is done through controlling every aspect. Lately, your ability to find the tried and true methods of the past may feel compromised. This might feel like a sensation of being out on an edge with no map back to stable ground. Resist the urge to scramble around frantically for something to grab. What this experience is leading you into is the idea and the reality of flexibility. You’re learning how to bend and how to move with the flow of events. Once you do this, you might notice a seeming paradox: how well adapting blends with your love for preparation.

**Libra (Sep. 22-Oct. 23)**  
For an agreement to be mutually beneficial both sides entering into the exchange must give and receive. This doesn’t have to be an equal exchange, but more of an equivalent one, based on what’s possible for everyone involved. As long as everyone feels that the contributions are fair, then that is fair enough. You can think of jointly profitable contracts in terms of a word you know very well -- balance. Your special sensitivity to this aspect of life (not everyone has it) is one of your resources you have to offer to your current situations. With a short break in personal planet retrogrades, now is a good time to consider any contracts or agreements you’ve been delaying. You’re in a unique position at the moment to see all angles of the issue, and help craft an agreement that benefits all parties. More importantly, you now possess all the knowledge you need to make a good decision.



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**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)**  
A close partnership is currently offering you much in the way of stability and nourishment. The challenge for you is slipping into a state of receptivity. Ask any therapist and they will tell you just how many people struggle with receiving, because receiving implies being open. I suggest you think of this less in terms of being vulnerable and more as allowing someone to walk with you. This is a simple idea. Your emotions are a complex layered web that often seem too murky and interwoven for you to be able to separate and explain. Don’t let this overwhelm you. Start small -- your partner or someone you care about is not looking to see the entire web of your emotional sphere at once. Begin with the uppermost level, the piece that you understand most clearly. This will provide you with the confidence you need to relinquish a measure of control over the outcome.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 22)**  
Projects that have been on hold will move forward rapidly this week. The past few months may have felt like you were a horse at the starting gate of a race waiting for the gun to crack so you could burst forth. A kind of limbo settled in over your life surrounding your projects. What had the sensation of being stuck was in fact a building of energy, which is releasing in a series of stages. In terms of work and creative projects, proceed steadily and methodically. This will keep you from exerting energy in too many different directions. Energy spread out laterally is often wasted, yet energy focused like a laser can carve and craft and shape the world to your desires. This same formula will influence your personal life. Focus on the situations that you want the most, and that you think will be the most fulfilling -- not on the rest of it.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)**  
With Pluto moving through your birth sign, you are in a prolonged period of deep introspection. At times it may come with the sensation of being pulled so far into yourself that the light from the outer world does not reach you. Yet the Sun’s light is essential to feeling warm, strong and alive. Recently, you have started to make contact with that light, and have entered a period of revitalization. There will be a boost to your emotional resources, a chance to infuse your soul with the liquid light of Vitamin D. Take time this week to indulge in activities that make your highest sense of self feel alive and connected to the universe. Get out into the sunlight. Resist the urge to do more work (or housework). When you’ve fully charged your fuel cells, work will have an effortless feeling, and being introspective will be replaced by the sensation that you actually exist.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)**  
You are currently working the fine edge of a question that has been drifting through your subconscious for some time. It’s not necessarily that you’re

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closer to having the answer -- but with a well-considered question you’re most of the way there. The subject involves the nurturing you received as a child, and how this influenced everything you believe about yourself. Many people discount this transaction -- but it’s one of the most potent in the universe. This material has been subtly crystallizing out of your subconscious, making the themes and issues easier to work with and consider. You’ll know you’re making headway processing this material when you run up against some tangible resistance. That’s a metaphor for blocks that were imposed on you long ago; it’s like you’ve reached the limit that was set on how you could define yourself. Once you get there, you know where the edge is -- and then you will figure out a way to cross the boundary.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
Like your symbol the fish, you are one with your environment. You absorb into your psychic system the people, places and environment around you, and you radiate an influence that has more of an effect than you think. This is both a gift and a challenge. On one hand, you receive much information from your environment and can utilize your surroundings to nourish your soul. Conversely, your environment can also drain you and overload your sensitive psychic body. Over the next few days, notice who and what is around you, and tune into how they influence you. Be specific -- your home, your neighborhood, the people you interact with on a daily basis. Assess each in terms of how it nourishes your connection to your vital life force. Some do this better than others; some influences are depleting, and the time has come to be certain of the difference. You’re approaching a truly unusual -- maybe one of a kind -- intersection along the path of your life, and this skill will help you make the best choices.

Read Eric Francis daily at  
www.PlanetWaves.net



# Spiritual Smart Aleck



www.spiritualsmartaleck.blogspot.com

## Lo, the Wandering Anatidae

by Mary Tuel

Our dog, Jive, passed on about a month ago. I'm sorry if I forgot to tell you. I thought I'd told everyone, but I was talking with Sonya yesterday and said in passing, "Now that the dog's dead..." and she shrieked, "WHAT?"

So, yeah, he's gone. He was almost fourteen years old, and he'd been ill for about a year, and he went downhill fast the last few months. One day he lay down and couldn't get back up, and we knew it was time. Our thanks and appreciation to the good people at Fair Isle Animal Clinic who helped him, and us, through that tough day.

In the weeks since his passing Rick and I have been adjusting to life without the dog. There is silence in the house. I am not awakened by that cool nose on my arm. Rick does not start his day by feeding the dog. I do not end my day by letting him out that one last time and waiting for him to come in so I can go to bed.

I find myself looking out at the yard and thinking, well, maybe we can eat the chives this year. The chives were usually Jive's first stop after he went out the door. He anointed them with his precious bodily fluids before moving on to trample the columbines and forget-me-nots. Rick suggests maybe waiting until next year before eating the chives. He might have a point.

They did thrive with all that nitrogen.

Last year Rick built a little fountain/rockery outside our front door, and we've

been meaning to put in a flower bed next to it. Last week I put in some annuals – snapdragons, nicotiana, impatiens. After I'd finished planting this little area, I thought I'd better lay down a little slug bait because I didn't know if these precious little starts would attract slugs. The package says it is "worry free" and safe for animals and people, but it also says in the fine print to wash your hands thoroughly if you touch it, and I figure if it's meant to kill anything at all, how safe and worry free could it be? But I wanted my plants to survive, so I sprinkled it around.

So there I was sitting in my folding chair on the kitchen porch one sunny morning, thinking how great it is to be alive, listening to the birds singing, watching the trees swaying in the gentle breeze, and then I looked over to our driveway, and there was a pair of mallards, male and female, waddling toward the house.

They were heading for the new flower bed. Oh, no, I thought. The slug bait. I beat it through the house and out the front door. They were already in the bed, busily pecking up bits of slug bait.

"Shool!" I cried, waving my arms in the air. "Don't eat the slug bait!"

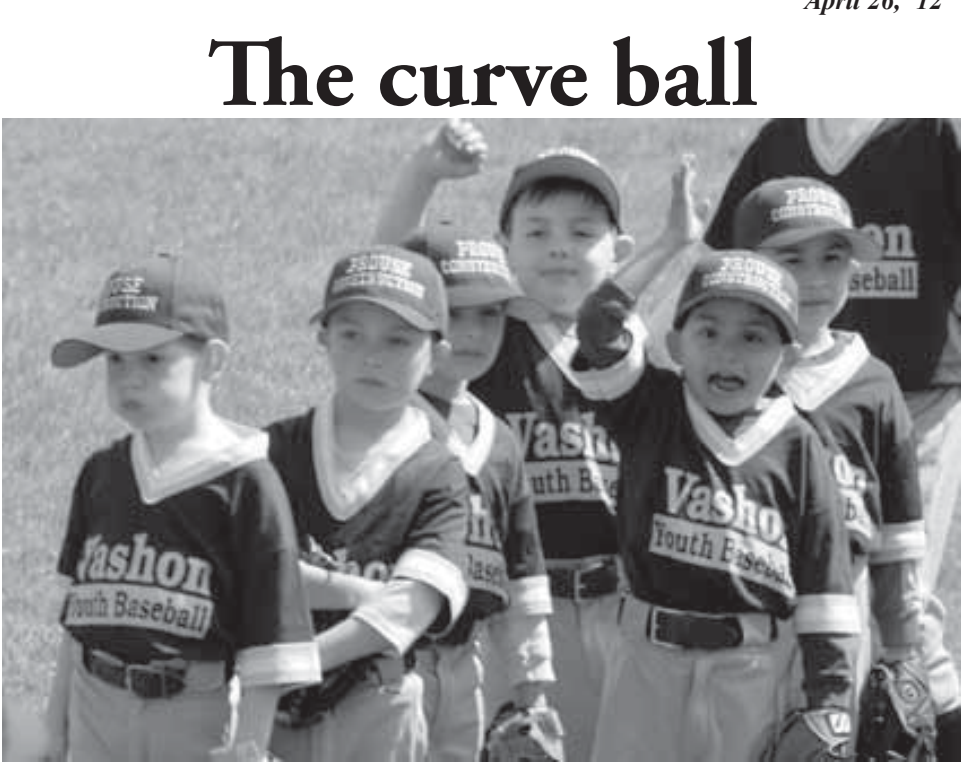
They looked up in amazement and slowly waddled out of the flower bed, went about a foot and a half, then stopped and turned around and looked at me. I looked at them. We looked at each other.

After staring for a few minutes they decided I wasn't much of a threat and started waddling back into the flower bed. I shoed them off again. They stared at me again for a while, and then decided to forage elsewhere, and started waddling away up the hill.

They've come back, of course, and we can't be out there 24/7, so I notice that the slug bait is mostly gone and that two of my snapdragons have been broken off at soil level by little webbed feet. Mr. & Mrs. Mallard are still waddling around the neighborhood, so apparently the slug bait was safe enough. I won't be putting any more slug bait out, though. I've heard that ducks eat slugs, anyway.

My lesson in this? Maybe I am not directly responsible for the welfare of any animals any more, but I'm part of a world where I need to be mindful of living creatures who may wander into my life. It never occurred to me that some ducks might stroll in, but they did. How about that.

Now you must excuse me. It's time to put peanuts out for the squirrels.



The 7th annual baseball Social to benefit Vashon Youth Baseball & Softball Will be held Saturday April 28 6pm-9pm, at the former Sound Food Restaurant, 20312 Vashon Hwy. S.W., Vashon

\$45 per coupleor \$25 per individual.

Please join us for traditional ballpark fare with a gourmet twist as well as the amazing dessert buffet. Debate the fate of local teams over the Memorial Jim Martini or hoist a cup of Curve Ball Ale or Home Run Punch.

This year we are pleased to offer: Waterbrook Chardonnay & Waterbrook Merlot.

There will be live music throughout the evening, fantastic door prizes and select silent auction items.

Step up to the plate! Space is limited and pre-paid reservations are required. Please call 206-463-9033, the Little House. Ticket price includes all food, entertainment and two drink script per person.

All proceeds benefit Vashon Youth Baseball & Softball.

Many thanks to Heidi Witherspoon of Percept Wines.

For questions about the event, please contact Cheryl Pruett, 206-595-1057

**Compost the Loop**  
*The Loop's soy-based ink  
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Jive the dog. Photo by Laurie Shepherd Heath.



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Island Epicure



By Marj Watkins

Beans, Broccoli, and Beyond

Seven superfoods that taste good and keep you healthy are beans, peas, broccoli, eggs, blueberries, oatmeal, walnuts, and yogurt. To come people, broccoli tastes bitter. If you can’t stand broccoli, opt for one of the other members of the crucifer family: kale, bok choy, and collards, as well as cabbage and nappa. They all give you most of the same nutrients as broccoli, calcium, folic acid, Vitamins C and A, plus fiber and chlorophyll. Just remember that the more color in the vegetable, the more nutrients. One cup of kale, for instance has 5963 I.U. Vitamin A; cabbage has 2100.

Coconut oil has been

found to boost brainpower, to help Alzheimer’s patients actually regain some cognitive abilities, according to Dr. Frank Shallenberger’s newsletter, Real Cures, April, 2012 issue.

For a superbly delicious main dish that gives you the nutritional qualities of cabbage, coconut, and peas plus chicken for protein, treat your family to this recipe. I learned to make this by eating it at a café in Macao decades ago. It’s been a favorite of our family ever since.

CHICKEN a la CAFÉ BOLO  
4 to 6 Servings

- 1 chicken breast, boned and skinned
- ½ Bermuda onion, diced
- 1 large garlic clove, minced
- 2 Tablespoons peanut oil or light olive oil

- About 4 cups nappa or cabbage cut in 2-inch squares
- 1 cup bok choy leaves, optional
- 1 can coconut milk

- Curry paste:
- 2 teaspoons curry powder
  - 1 teaspoon coriander powder
  - 2 to 3 Tablespoons coconut milk
  - 1/2 cup fresh or frozen peas

or pea pods, strings removed and halved crosswise

Cut the chicken breast in bite-size pieces. Stir fry the onion and garlic in the oil until onion is glossy and wilted. Open the coconut milk and make the curry paste.

Add the remaining ingredients ,omitting peas, but including the rest of the coconut milk. Simmer until chicken is opaque and cabbage half-tender. Add peas. Cook 5 minutes more. Serve over Golden Rice, below.

- GOLDEN RICE  
4 to 6 servings
- 1 ½ cups brown rice
  - ¾ teaspoon turmeric
  - ½ teaspoon salt
  - 3 cups boiling water

Combine all ingredients. Stir. Reduce heat to medium low. Cover. Cook 50 minutes, adding a 2 Tablespoons more water the last 5 minutes.

To complete your menu, add a fruit salad.

This meal should make your reputation as a gourmet cook, yet will not bust your budget. It’s just as good made with plain green cabbage.

Island Art tour

Continued from Page 1

Now we invite your use of more subtle tools like observation, discernment & consideration... appreciation of our work, whether enthusiastic or questioning. Studio is about study; we all use the tools of eyes & minds as we make the engagement which is such an essential part of this rare sharing. By opening our studios we are inviting your skills to help us learn as well. We love talking & listening with you, seeing though your eyes!

Creative critique thus becomes inherent & welcome. Choices are inevitably made, with possibilities for sooner or later, but ultimately your energetic support is our goal, whether critical, emotional or as an actual sale.

The Vashon Art Studio Tour happens twice each year: always the first two full weekends in May & December, which means you should put May 5th & 6th plus May 12th & 13th on your calendars. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You may find a brochure &



Emily Pruiksma (studio #9 on the Art Tour) uses fire to melt bee’s wax for her hand-dipped candles.

map online at [www.vashonislandartstudiotour.com/Spring2012/](http://www.vashonislandartstudiotour.com/Spring2012/) or pick up a printed copy at many Island business & art venues.

Leo Toye is a doppelganger for Vashon Island jeweler and artist Gordon R Barnett, whose GRB Bells studio on Dilworth Point is a popular Open Studio stop.



Ralph Moore (studio #4 on the Art Tour) planing smooth one of his cutting boards with a #7 Bailey plane. Photo by Ruth Anderson.

Joanna Gardiner

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The Road To Resilience

Continued from Page 1

what to do next, we realized that we were curious about what motivates a person to be active in the community; what discourages another person? What can we do to encourage people to make their ideas and dreams public, to apply their creative energy, make their mark, and take personal ownership in this community?

Our next forum, “Where, How and Why Do You Serve Your Community?” will be on Wednesday, May 9, 7-9pm at the “O” Space. If you are active in the community, either through your job or as a volunteer, we want to know why. We want to know what frustrates you or makes your work a joy. What insights can activists and non activists share with each other?

We realize that we are testing the patience of a lot of you. There have been a lot of all island meetings over the years that seemed to be a lot of talk and no action. Why do we keep having the same result? We feel that we need a solid foundation of communication and community building expertise to more easily move from talk to action; we need to build a bike before we can ride down the road. We would like to restore our confidence in the ability of the Community Council, or any other body, to deliberate on community concerns and make decisions that result in effective action. I hope I’ve piqued your curiosity about finding out what makes your neighbors tick. It might just be the thing you’ve been waiting for.

Comments?  
terry@vashonloop.com





# Positively Speaking

## Hearts of Water

By Deborah H. Anderson

Like a living icon, the heart at Calvary Full Gospel has kept me grounded and hopeful all winter long.

You must go see it. The parking lot at the corner of Wax Orchard and SW 220th is a school bus stop during the week and there, at the entrance to the church parking lot/bus stop is a gigantic puddle in the shape of a heart.

In the winter it was covered with ice. Then we had a bit of a dry spell and it disappeared (or missappeared as one of my young one’s use to say). The relentless rains filled it again and full it remains today.

Did you catch that? The heart only reveals its true shape when it’s full of water.

It’s such a lesson to me to remember to cry; remember to be sad about my pain. Do you know why we have such a substance abuse problem on this Island? People don’t cry enough tears that come from being in touch with their pain.

I think I shared with you I use to be queen of the 16 tears. It went like this:

“Oh my, I am having a sad thought. I think I’ll cry. (Sixteen tears) Oh... I’m being silly. I’m making too much of this. I need to just get on with it.” Tears dry up.

In those days psychology only had two types of responses to trauma: fight or flight. That’s patriarchy for ya. Patriarchy is about power. Then men started beating drums in the woods to bond. Women had gotten strong enough and vocal enough to say “Hey! Feel or else!” and suddenly psych types said, “Oh, there’s a third choice— frozen”.

Most of the world is frozen actually. That’s why we’re in such a mess everywhere. It’s that simple, really.

Now learning to thaw is not simple. That’s a long, arduous, complicated path.

Back to the puddle. When the water, in the middle of deep winter, was frozen in that puddle, surely you could see the outline of the heart. But it didn’t look mysterious. It didn’t look like a phenomenon. It didn’t look like magic.

Water hearts look like magic. When you look at them they have depth and movement and shimmer and stability all at the same time. They have movement and strength and effect.

The colors have variation. There can be sixteen shades in one single puddle.

Ah... that’s what I traded from frozen. I traded sixteen tears for sixteen shades of emotionally flexible living. Hard path... easy trade.

For so many years I couldn’t figure out how God could allow so much cruelty to come into my life. Then I realized, if God always wants the best for me, frozen is not best. God is not a patriarch. God is not interested in power. (remember those of you who like to track Words ... ‘not by might, not by power but by my Spirit’). God is about authority. Authority is about encouraging independence and authenticity. You can’t have authority to live your own best life if you are living in power. If you have power, you’re just



a bully. There are nice bullies and there are despot bullies, but being a bully is never good for you. We are meant to live in relationship with each other. You can’t live in relationship with each other unless you are exchanging interactions through the authority you have discovered in being your own best self.

(Ok... so that’s my editorial comment about the mommy wars and priests and nuns war that is currently rising from the shadows. Proof that there are women patriarchs -- in the mommy wars -- and male patriarchs --in the priest/nun wars).

Back to shimmering water hearts... trust me, you don’t want to botox your heart with stoicism or rejection of the truth of your own painful experience. It wasn’t until I came to this Island and saw so many people who had shot a needle full of cow urine (apparently what botox is) into their hearts because they thought getting in touch with their pain and having their heart broken would break them. It won’t. A broken heart just makes you more alive. Yield. Reassuringly, there are more people invested in thawing in the last decade. Yea us!!

I was lucky. When my oldest was born I snapped out of it the minute they put him in my arms. I looked at this exquisite miracle looking at me with all the request for trust he could have in his eyes and any investment I had in remaining frozen slipped away into the desire to be utterly and completely bonded to this little guy.

What was it like to feel pain, gut wrenching sorrow, anger, fear and uncertainty? It was a killer. And it took years of processing and trying to figure out how to live in an emotionally botoxed world. But the other thing God can give you if you’re willing to have your heart broken is this...healing. My life became about healing. Oh my... there are not words enough to describe the Joy of that.

I don’t know when we’ll have a long enough dry spell for the water hearts to vanish. But long after they are gone I will remember how God told me one winter when I was at the end of my personal thaw, “Don’t look at the world’s stoicism and power and feel failure. Look at your pliant, wonderful, broken heart and follow that to your heart’s desire I long to give you.” Choose life.

Love,  
Deborah



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### Deborah is blogging again.

[www.onewiththerootbeer.blogspot.com](http://www.onewiththerootbeer.blogspot.com) for parents  
[www.socialcontemplative.blogspot.com](http://www.socialcontemplative.blogspot.com) for pastors  
[www.mealsandmoments.blogspot.com](http://www.mealsandmoments.blogspot.com) for personal growth

Have a comment to write to Deborah?  
Contact her at [dha@lgcmin.com](mailto:dha@lgcmin.com)

## Vashon Library programs May 2012

### Children & Families

#### Toddler Story Times

Tuesday, May 1 and 8, 10:40am  
Ages 21 months to 3 years with adult.  
Enjoy a 20-minute program of stories and songs just right for toddlers.

#### Preschool Story Times

Tuesday, May 1 and 8, 11:30am  
Ages 3 to 5.  
Enjoy 30 minutes of stories, songs and fun!

#### Baby Story Times

Tuesday, May 1 and 8, 3:30pm  
Ages 3 to 21 months with adult.  
Enjoy stories, songs, bounces and tickles just right for your baby.  
Registration not required.

#### Cuentos En Español Para Niños/Spanish Story Times

Friday, May 4, 11, 18 and 25, 10:30am  
¿Busca actividades de aprendizaje para sus infantes y preescolares?  
Si esta interesado en exponer a su niño/niña a un segundo idioma o si el español es su primer idioma acompañenos a un programa gratuito en español especialmente diseñado para los más pequeños.  
Cuentos acerca de colores, formas, animales, opuestos, y más!  
Hablantes de todos los idiomas son bienvenidos.

If you are interested in exposing your child to a second language or if Spanish is your first language join us for a FREE program in Spanish especially designed for little ones. Stories and songs about colors, shapes, animals, opposites and more! Speakers of all languages welcome.

#### Words into Music, Dance and Fun with Charlie

Tuesday, May 15, 11am  
Presented by Charlie Hope.  
All ages welcome.

For young children, singing is a way to play with language. Rhyming and singing are important Early Literacy skills. This fun, interactive concert will get families singing and dancing!

### Teens

#### Study Zone

Tuesday, May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 4-6pm  
Wednesday, May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 3-5pm  
Thursday, May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 3-5pm  
Grades K-12.  
Drop in for homework help on from trained volunteer tutors.

#### Late Night at the Library

Saturday, May 19, 6pm  
For teens, grades 6-12.  
Thomas Pruiksmá, local poet and magician will present a magic workshop. Play video games, boardgames or use the library computers for online gaming. Drinks and munchies will be available and everyone is eligible to win raffle ticket prizes!  
Funded by the Friends of the Library.

#### Read Three, Get One Free

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

#### Online Study Zone, Homework Help and SAT Tutoring

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

### Adults

#### Free ESL Classes

Tuesday, May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 6pm

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

#### Master Builders Association: Senior Housing and In-Home Care Options

Saturday, May 5, 2pm  
Learn the many options available for seniors, including housing from independent living communities to memory care, in-home care and remodeling options to secure a safer home environment. Learn how to discuss with seniors the right to move or seek in-home care and learn more about the costs and services available to meet your specific needs.  
Presented by the Master Builders Association Speakers.

#### Great Books Discussion Group

#### Major Barbara by George Bernard Shaw

Monday, May 7, 6:30pm  
The Great Books Discussion Group meets on the first Monday of the month, October through June. Visitors are welcome. The only requirement to participate is that you have read the material under discussion.

#### American Sign Language for Hearing Babies and Toddlers

Thursday, May 17, 6pm  
Presented by Nancy Hanauer of Hop to Signaroo ®  
In this two-hour, hands-on workshop participants will learn how to use American Sign Language (ASL) with hearing babies and toddlers to aid early communication, reduce frustration and give little ones a jump start on early language and literacy. Topics covered include the “How’s and Why’s” of signing in a childcare setting, best signs to start with, the two different philosophies of signing with hearing babies and toddlers (ASL vs created gestures), and how to incorporate signing into your center’s typical routine. Signing with bilingual and special needs children can also be addressed. Participants will learn and practice signs through songs, stories and games and will leave with ideas for implementing signs in fun and easy ways throughout a typical day.  
For adults only. Please register in advance online at [www.kcls.org](http://www.kcls.org) or by calling 206.463.2634.

#### Guide to Falling Down: Stories About Finding Balance On and Off the Bicycle

Sunday, May 20, 2pm  
Join Joe Metal Cowboy Kurmaskie’s for stories and images from his most current book including the author’s adventure on a bicycle from Costa Rico to Australia, Africa to Canada, Italy to Mexico. Joe tackles why we take to the road and how we make it mean something in this performance which is both hilarious and heartfelt. Joe Metal Cowboy Kurmaskie is a syndicated columnist, bestselling author, Cable TV personality and dynamic performer.

#### Owning All Our Hats: Using our “Outside” Skills for Business Success

Wednesday, May 23, Noon  
Often we business owners fail to recognize obvious talents in ourselves. “Care giving,” “home improvement planning,” “child rearing,” “cooking” – these are skill sets we usually associate with our personal life, yet when we acknowledge and integrate these proficiencies, we actually become more powerful in our business life. As a published author and radio commentator, Christine Hemp will address her own creative work and how it has informed and enriched her business in myriad ways. Learn how we can integrate the whole of our lives to create a richer, more successful business.  
Call 206.463.2069 to register.



# Student Artwork of Birds for Gallery Cruise



Students at Chautauqua Elementary School show bird illustrations they painted as part of the 4th Grade Birding Program. Their art will be featured during the May 4th, First Friday Gallery Cruise. Photo by Harsi Parker

This Spring, eighty-five 4th grade students at Chautauqua Elementary School have been studying the birds of Vashon-Maury Island with the help of volunteers from Vashon Audubon. This program has been conducted at Vashon elementary schools for more than twenty years.

With support from Vashon Artists in the Schools and Partners In Education, Vashon artist Rose Belknap has taught the students how to draw and paint birds to create their own bird portrait.

The birding program began in 1990, when fourth-grade teacher and Audubon member Carol Ferch used a Partners in Education grant to link art and science. A watercolor artist worked with students to paint the local bird of their choice,

and Audubon members came into the classroom to introduce the kids to the birds of Vashon-Maury. The 4th Grade Birding Program is now a regular part of science programming for all fourth grade students. Volunteers from Vashon Beach Naturalists also help the students learn about marine bird habitat during a birding field trip to KVI beach.

The students' bird artwork will be featured as part of the May 4 First Friday Gallery Cruise at Wings Birdseed Company, Vashon Book Shop, the Heron's Nest and the Little House. Greeting cards of the bird art will be available for sale with proceeds supporting the 4th Grade Birding Program.



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**April 28, 8:30pm**  
**Fendershine**  
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**May 5, 8:30pm**  
**Bossmosis**

**May 12, 9pm**  
**Vashon Household**  
**Subconscious Population**

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# Lost in Detention



The PBS Frontline documentary “Lost in Detention” will be shown at the Land Trust Building on Wednesday evening, May 2, at 7 pm, with an opportunity for discussion following.

The event is sponsored by the Immigration as a Moral Issue Study Action Group of the Vashon Island Unitarian Fellowship, which is also supporting a vigil at our own local immigration detention center in Tacoma on May 12.

The description of the documentary from PBS: A year-long investigation by Frontline and the American University Investigative Reporting Workshop examines the current U.S. immigration enforcement system and stories of hidden abuse in detention centers.

The Obama administration has deported or detained more immigrants than any other administration. The Frontline documentary ‘Lost in Detention’ begins with a closer look at the Secure Communities program, in which Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) records are shared with local law

enforcement agencies. While the goal has been to target criminals, thousands of non-criminal immigrants have also been deported.

Once illegal immigrants are detained they are sent to detention centers, often far from their homes. In an interview with Hari Sreenivasan, FRONTLINE correspondent Maria Hinojosa said that their investigation uncovered many cases of sexual and physical assault by guards against detainees. Hinojosa said that the bigger issue is that detainees have little, if any, legal rights or recourse to confront abuse.

The political implications of these immigration policies are far-reaching. With over 50 million Latinos in America, Latino voters represented a strong base in the 2008 election for President Obama, who made immigration reform a key part of his platform. And, as Hinojosa points out, immigration will be crucial point of debate heading into the 2012 election.

For more information about these events, email: [immigration@vashonuu.org](mailto:immigration@vashonuu.org).

# Vashon Opera presents costume designer Jocelyne Fowler



Anna Martinsen and Jocelyne Fowler

Simple and elegant 1830’s era costumes grace center stage when the curtain rises on Vashon Opera’s production of Tchaikovsky’s Eugene Onegin. Costuming the cast is Jocelyne Fowler, young designer and current Wardrobe Supervisor for Seattle’s Book-It Repertory Theater. A busy woman, Fowler is also in demand designing costumes for other area theaters including Second Story Rep, ReAct Theater and Youth Theater Northwest as well. Graduating from UW in 2009, Fowler earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theater with a concentration on Costume design and construction. “I knew I wanted a career in theater when acting in middle and high school plays. I just didn’t know where,” she said. Ultimately it was in a costume history class where she knew costuming was her niche.

Creating and designing a wardrobe for opera presentation is a delight for the newly minted costumer. With this period piece, Fowler realizes a lush palette of colors, progressing in story development from lighter to more robust tones and more formal attire. As more than a decade passes, the shy romantic Tatyana matures from the powder blues of youth into a gold and red palette as a woman of status. Onegin’s breeches and cut-aways become well fitted pants

and a tail coat set off by a stylish cravat.

Vashon’s volunteer seamstresses (pictured clockwise from center back ) Jocelyne Fowler, Harriet Van Buren, Nancy Sipple(Co-Chair), Susan Sullivan, Pam Saunders-Osness, Betsy Frazee, Sandra Cooper, Jill Andrews, Lieschan Lopuszynski, Anna Martinsen (Co -Chair) and Judi Burwell eagerly undertake design challenges. “It’s a wonderful experience for us to participate in the creative process of opera with the construction of each garment. What a privilege it is to work with Jocelyne, “ enthused Anna Martinsen, Costume Co-chair. Also pictured is Anna Martinsen (foreground) and Jocelyne Fowler.

As you witness Tchaikovsky’s melodic lines, your eyes will take in the period of duels and romance accented by original couture. “Vashon Opera presents the largest professionally designed wardrobe ever assembled by the company,” said Jennifer Krikawa, Vashon Opera’s Artistic Director. “And, we are so grateful for our own talented seamstresses bringing to life Jocelyne Fowler’s fabulous costume designs.”

Vashon Opera, Eugene Onegin  
Fri, May 18, 8pm, Bethel Church  
Sun, May 20, 2:30pm  
Tickets \$32, at [vashonopera.org](http://vashonopera.org) and Vashon Bookshop



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From Jocelyne Fowler in center clockwise: Harriet Van Buren, Nancy Sipple, Susan Sullivan, Pam Saunders-Osness, Betsy Frazee, Sandra Cooper, Jill Andrews, Lieschan Lopuszynski, Anna Martinsen, Judi Burwell



# Summer Outdoor “Artists Market”

Summer is blazing its way to Vashon in a whole new way, at Ignition Studios, starting May 4th! Not only is Ignition on the May Studio Tour map with artist David Blad in residence, but new plans are in place for a summer outdoor “artists market”. The Gallery is also now enrolling for two May Weekend Portrait Painting workshops and a huge new space has opened up in the garage area for art parties throughout the year—birthdays, “girlz nite”, bridal or baby showers, you name it! All of these things will debut on this week’s First Friday Gallery Cruise, which will include the usual festivities—La Zamarana’s Taco truck (come before they sell out!), s’mores at the outdoor fire pits, new artists in the gallery, music, refreshments—plus this Friday one of Ignition’s newest artist market members, Sara Drew, will be selling GELATO!

February, March, and April saw amazing growth for Ignition Studios & Gallery with huge turn outs at each First Friday, and a warm outpouring of Vashon community support;

and, new things continue to happen there every month. The owner of this new enterprise, Lisa Hurst, envisions the historical auto shop and garage as a new artistic community space for the production, exhibition, and sales of fine art; as a gallery space for emerging area artists; an enjoyable warm weather local for local artisans to share their wares; and, as a space for lessons and learning exchange throughout the year. The old 1940’s four-bay garage and auto parts store has had a facelift and been recognized by major local magazines, and arts calendars as part of what defines Vashon as a summer destination.

May welcomes stunning portraiture in the Gallery by Seattle artist Ryan Finnerty. Ryan will lead two Saturday workshops during his exhibition, with a live model, all tools and supplies provided, plus a catered lunch—on May 12th and May 19th. Classes are small. Minimum age is 14 and all experience levels are encouraged to attend; bring nothing but your enthusiasm,

everything is provided. At the same time during May, local steel sculptor, Randy Kirk, will exhibit in the Studio side of Ignition; his robustly textural post-industrial sculptures—made from old Chevy trucks, steel drums, and other found materials—resonate perfectly in the historic garage!

During June and July in the Gallery, Vashon artist, Anelecia Hannah, will host a show entitled “You and I” in collaboration with her partner, Charles Bishop. Summer classes will be offered in still-life, encaustics painting, plein air, and more as June approaches. Curriculum is under continuing development and classes will be posted on the website for Ignition as they open. So, stroll by any Friday evening, Saturday, or Sunday afternoon to see what is sparking at Ignition and be a part of Vashon’s unique artistic energy; Ignition is located at 17630 Vashon Hwy. S.W. in the middle of Vashon, across from Express Cuisine, just behind the Red Bicycle Bistro. Call 206-856-6906 or visit [www.ignitionartists.com](http://www.ignitionartists.com) for a complete calendar, information, and enrollment options.



Ryan will lead two Saturday workshops during his exhibition

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Weekend Entertainment April 27

Jeff Kanzler at The Roasterie

**KEXP SEATTLE** - This Seattle-born, Alaska-based singer-songwriter debuts with a jaw-dropping set of beautifully crafted country-folk. Kanzler has a fine, expressive voice with a touch of gravel and his melodies are often sublime, reminiscent at times of early Dylan. The warm, rich production is also flat-out gorgeous, with trumpets, mandolin, dobro, pedal steel and harmonica adding lots of rootsy color to a variety of stunning, fully-realized songs. Incredibly, Kanzler has been living in the woods of the Alaskan interior for the past few years in a cabin with no running water and recorded this album up there with locals – it’s just mind-blowing, considering how great it sounds. 5/1/2007 –Don Yates, Music Director

**DUTCH MUSIC-ZINE** - Singer/songwriter Jeff Kanzler, who brings to mind a young Bob Dylan and perhaps John Vanderslice, in more contemporary terms, was born in the busy town of Seattle , but lives in Alaska and seems to love the place and people. In his outstanding debut CD “Black Top Road” you can hear not only the loneliness of



the Alaskan landscape, but also the fun and beauty that Kanzler’s music radiates. His voice, full of expression singing beautiful melodies against a melancholic tone keeps you fixated. “Black Top Road “ is better than far above average; to this listener, the CD is almost addictive. Surprisingly, Kanzler is able to take downhearted themes and wistful instrumentation (the sorrowful harmonica line, a poignant mandolin part or a lonesome pedal steel) and combine it into the easy and natural playfulness that this album emphasizes. Maurice Dielemans

Friday, April 27, 7pm  
Vashon Island Coffee Roasterie, Vashon Minglement  
19529 Vashon Highway, 206-463-9672.

Bay Area bluegrass band plays Vashon

San Francisco-based roots lead singer Nell Robinson and her smokin’ All Star Band play Alabama soul music with a Bay Area twist, 7:30 pm, Saturday, April 28, at Vashon Allied Arts. “Utterly won me over, charmed me silly,” said Sing OUT Magazine.

“Sexy vocals, whirling banjos, a romp and stomp,” Robinson and her all star back up has been hailed as one of the “freshest voices” in roots music today. Robinson’s heartfelt vocals and soaring harmonies have rightly been compared to early Emmylou Harris and political activist/singer Hazel Dickens. Robinson’s debut album Nell Robinson in Loango, met with national critical acclaim and her second album On the Brooklyn Road (named for the red dirt road to her family’s rural Alabama farm) brings original compositions. “Most of my songs are stories...They foster this deep connection to people and place, so much that sometimes I miss a past that I wasn’t even present for,” she says.

After working on Loango,



John Reischman & the Jaybirds offered to back Nell, and they became the All-Star Band, providing backup for Robinson’s distinctive vocals and fresh new bluegrass. Reischman adds vocals and mandolin, Jim Nunally, vocals, guitar and slide steel, Nick Hornbuckle, banjo, Greg Spatz, fiddle and Trisha Gagnon sings and plays evocative string bass. The Jaybirds released five critically acclaimed albums, received two Juno nominations and landed two Canadian Folk Music Award nominations.

Tickets, \$14/\$17 are available now at VAA, Heron’s Nest, Vashon Bookshop, brownpapertickets.com. Special student discount ticket of \$10 available at the door. Take a listen at nellrobinson.com.

Fendershine

This band has been fermenting for years. The members have been eyeing each other as potential band mates, while continuing to play with other Island musical configurations, such as Island Fusion, Shy Sundays, BeSides and Goldaline.

At long last, these diverse musical ingredients got tossed together to create a tasty musical fizz bang! We bring you Fender Shine, a fine blend of great tunes, both original and obscurely covered rock and roll, with a twist of lime. Fender Shine is Rick Vanselow (guitar), Eric Frith (guitar), Steve Meyer (bass) and Kim Thal (violin).

Also on the bill is Joe Panzetta. Joe Panzetta is a Vashon based multi-instrumentalist, composer, and singer. He performs original songs on guitar, banjo and harmonium, singing melodic ballads with a signature percussive guitar style.

Panzetta has been recording and performing music since 1989 when he



started the band Big Sky with Peter Mulvey, and has released 7 Cds. Joe also leads mantra concerts with the kirtan band, Mandali, and is in the midst of collaborating with choreographer/poet Dominique Gabella (Next Stage Dance Theatre) on the multi-media project “Short Stories for Long Life”. Panzetta has composed numerous pieces of music for Gabella shows in the past, and with the latest project the duo explores spoken word poems set to sound scapes/music over animated short videos.

All-ages ‘til 11pm, 21+ after that. Free cover!

Saturday, April 28, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

Bossmosis



Bossmosis-combining the word boss (slang for awesome, totally cool, wicked...) and osmosis, like when we play there is a process of Bossmosis going on between all the players and the audience.

Bossmosis is an eclectic group of island musicians playing mostly originals that fall in the genre of blues, funk and jazz flavored rock, a conglomeration of styles synthesized by who they are at the moment. And when playing their music, they get lost in the creativity of it all and can sound quite unique. They’re a wildly eclectic & lovable bunch of guys & girl who will charge you up and spit you out satisfied.

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!” The players are:

- Luke McQuillin – gtr/vocals
- Maya Battisti – voice
- Chaz Reed – gtr/vocal
- Jack Barbash – trombone
- Mike Nichols – Harp
- Gib Dammann – drums/vocal
- Slab Findley – sax/vocal
- Matt Eggleston – bass/vocal

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

Saturday, May 5, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

Subconscious Population

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. They’re back in full force and tighter than they have ever been. Now it’s time we call them out for one of their captivating magical mystery shows.....

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



Saturday, May 12, 9pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

Sarah Browne  
Hairstylist

Call or text  
206-550-8975



# Shark Biscuit



Emerging like the phoenix from the flames of the New World Shambolics, SHARK BISCUIT is your Vashon Island Surf Band! Shark Biscuit plays surf and rock instrumentals from the golden age of the 1950's and 60's, plus a few surprises! This all-Vashon ensemble is six strong, and parlays reverb-soaked guitar stylings, tribal drumming and rumbling bass lines with a powerful horn section and a rockin' keyboard. Their music is highly danceable and brings smiles to all ages. The classic Shark Biscuit sound evokes tonal memories of Dick Dale, the Belairs, the Chantays, the Ventures and Herb Alpert & TJB.

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

Friday, May 19, 8:30pm. At the Red Bicycle, 17618 Vashon Hwy - 206-463-5959

# VAA Center for Dance spring production of Giselle



Camille Kappelman as Giselle in the upcoming VAA Center for Dance spring production of Giselle, Original Works & Under the Big Top. Performances will take place:

Friday, May 11, 1:30 \$5 (All Island school show)  
Friday & Saturday, May 11 & 12, 7 pm  
Saturday & Sunday, May 12 & 13, 1 pm  
VHS Theater  
Tickets: \$10/\$13 available at VAA, Heron's Nest, Vashon Bookshop and Thriftway  
Call 463.5131 to reserve by phone.  
Photo by Mike Urban

Find the Loop on-line at [www.vashonloop.com](http://www.vashonloop.com).

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

# Fiddler on the Roof Jr.

By Janice Randall



Aleia Durston as the Fiddler; Photo - Janice Randall

VAA's Musical Theatre production, Fiddler on the Roof Jr., under Marita Ericksen's direction, explodes on stage with 35 talented singers, actors and musicians, ages 7 to 17. Since January, the multi-age cast constructed characters, learned choreography and rehearsed songs. The performance takes place Thursday (Food Bank benefit), Friday, Saturday, May 3-5, 7 pm, and Saturday, May 5, 2 pm.

Due to large cast and scheduling, production will be held at Vashon Methodist Church. Ericksen said, "Space has been our biggest challenge; I'm so appreciative of the kids' flexibility. I didn't want to turn anyone down. We double cast lead roles; it gives more kids the opportunity to perform."

A story about revolution, a family with five daughters and traditions, Ericksen also embraced the opportunity to bring cultural and historical depth to the production. Guests Merna Hecht and Karin Brusletten shared Russian

Revolution history. Brusletten (who played Golda) discussed acting. They emphasized that while the play contains humor; it's also about struggle. "They set the tone for the cast. This has been cultural education immersion, building bridges across cultures and centuries," Ericksen adds.

Gaye Detzer violin students join in, and Ericksen credits Pam Hotchkiss with choreography. Thanks to Drama Dock for costumes with assistance from Gorette Hu and Kim Thal.

Leads are: Isaac Hughes and Ian De Graaf as Tevye, Lilly Robinthal and Maria Gilmour as Golda, Ellie Hughes and Emma Greenlee as Yente. Sarah Perlman's violin student Aleia Durston plays the Fiddler. Kathy Gilmour fills role of stage manager and rehearsal mistress.

Tickets are \$7/\$10, and available now at VAA, Heron's Nest and Vashon Bookshop.



Fiddler on the Roof Jr. cast takes a break from rehearsals to gather on the Blue Heron stage.

# PANDORA'S BOX

April showers bring May flowers. So true, the crocus from February are just now up!

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