

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 4, No. 4

Bainbridge Public Library, 1270 Madison Ave., Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Spring 2002

Mark your calendar

These spring events take place in the library unless otherwise noted.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Library Book Group: Ward Just's "The Translator", 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Visually Impaired Persons support group, 1-3 p.m.

Washington Nature Weekends: 52 Vacations in Nature (slide program), 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Friends of the Library Book Sale, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Friends of the Library Book Sale, 1 - 4 p.m.

Poetry Celebration, 2 p.m.

Islanders read their favorite poems.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Island Theatre: Play Reading at the Library, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Inquiring Mind. Baseball in America: A Cultural Epic of Biblical Proportions. 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

Estate Planning Seminar, 9-11 a.m.

Finding favorite fiction with "Novelist." 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25-

THURSDAY, MAY 2

Chamber of Commerce Business Fair, beginning with After Hours gathering April 25, 5 p.m. Continuing all week during library hours.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Opera Preview: Un Ballo in Maschera, 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

Library Book Group, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

On the road to Santiago de Compostela Slide program. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

Visually Impaired Persons Support Group, 1-3 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 11

Friends of the Library Book Sale, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 21

Stewards of the Library program: "Buon Viaggio", Touring Italy, from the Rick Steves Tour Center. 7 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 27

Library Closed. Memorial Day

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

Library Book Group, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

Friends Book Sale, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

Friends Book Sale, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

Island Theatre: Play Reading at the Library, 7:30 p.m.

ONGOING EVENTS

Friday Tidies garden volunteers, every Friday, 9 a.m.

Senior Computer Hours, every Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.



A time for poetry

Mayor Darlene Kordonowy is just one of several well-known islanders who will be on hand at the library Sunday, April 14, to celebrate National Poetry Month with readings of their favorite poems. This is part of a nationwide Favorite Poetry Project initiated by Robert Pinsky, former poet laureate. The poetry hour will follow a special Sunday book sale.

Library launches a full year of anniversary events

BY VERDA AVERILL

The Bainbridge Public Library turned 40 in March, and library staff and volunteers celebrated with an open house March 23 and 24.

If you missed that weekend's events (which included a super book sale and an afternoon with Nancy Pearl and Martha Knappe) never mind. Other anniversary events will be coming up all year.

The Friends of the Library, for example, have expanded their popular book sale schedule at the request of many book collectors. In addition to the usual sales the second Saturday of each

month, they will try Sunday sales twice this spring (see calendar). And super sales of new and like-new special books (signed special editions, coffee table and art books, out of print volumes and the like) will be held from time to time.

Also coming up this year are several special events to inform and educate local library users.

On April 23 an estate planning seminar will be offered in the library meeting room. Here's a chance to hear from experts the answers to those estate planning questions that may have come up during income tax season (and should be considered by everyone who is thinking ahead). The seminar is presented

at no charge, just another of the many services offered by your local library.

A week-long Bainbridge Business Expo will get under way April 25, with an after-hours reception for Chamber of Commerce members. The exhibit will continue through May 2 in the library meeting room, and the public is invited to drop in and browse. This is the first library exhibit of local business products and services since the building was enlarged in 1997.

"We held a similar exhibit several years ago, when the building was much smaller, and though it was crowded, people loved it," said branch manager

continued on next page

Annual appeal begins in spring

BY VERDA AVERILL

The Bainbridge Public Library's second annual appeal for funds gets under way this spring.

During 2001, the library board of directors decided to switch from an events-directed way of fund-raising to a simpler, more cost effective annual appeal for funds.

The 2001 appeal, which got under way last summer, raised \$105,000 in donations from island residents and former residents and went a long way toward meeting the annual budget of \$130,000.

Over 97 percent of the funds raised went directly toward library maintenance and operation; only about three percent was used for postage and other expenses. (The library board and all fund raisers volunteer their efforts.)

Several reasons prompted the board to make the annual appeal a spring, rather than summer, happening. March is traditionally the big month of celebration at the library, and contributing to the building's present and future seemed an appropriate way of celebrating anniversaries. Then too, many islanders said they like to take family vacations in the summer and

aren't always here to receive notices of fund-raising events.

During the annual appeal library volunteers mail notices to those islanders who have indicated a willingness to help, either by previous donations or by inquiring about the library funding. Some people on the list have been suggested by friends and neighbors who know of their interest in the library. But the library board and staff do not buy lists of residents from companies which peddle direct-mail lists and the library does not share its list of cardholders with other organizations — or even with local

continued on next page

Also in this issue:

New fiction and non-fiction..... Pages 4, 5

Children's library events..... Page 6, 7

Artworks by Cameron Snow..... Page 12

We celebrate an anniversary

By DAVID GUTERSON

A little more than 40 years ago, Bainbridge Islanders raised the funds needed to build themselves their first library. The Rotary Club held its first rummage sale and auction on behalf of this campaign, and generous citizens from Agate Point to South Beach contributed the remaining funds. On March 17, 1962, our library opened to the public.

The foresight and enthusiasm of islanders then means a library for us to enjoy now.

In the interim, hundreds of civic-minded islanders have done their part to nurture our library, insuring its continuing vitality. So today we celebrate not only an anniversary — 40 years of local library service — but also the many volunteers and contributors who have helped to sustain this institution. Our library today has strong friends and stewards, hundreds of supporters who care about it deeply and understand its critical role in our community.

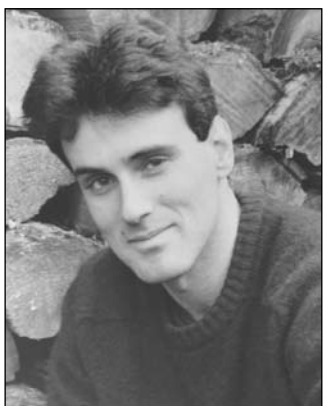
In fact, last year's first annual library appeal for funds garnered donations from about 400 island residents. These donors recognize a simple truth: without them there is no library. There are no tax dollars from any source — city, county, state, or federal — for the cost of constructing or maintaining our library. So without the donations of caring citizens, its doors would have to close.

Since 1962, our island's population has grown enormously. In 40 years, Bainbridge has evolved from a quiet, agricultural community to a city of almost 21,000 people. Use of the library has increased accordingly, and its supporters have always stepped up to insure that the facility meets our growing needs. The library has been blessed by the generosity of newcomers and old-timers alike for four decades now.

As a member of the Bainbridge Library Board, I hope that you will continue to support the library during our current annual fund-raising campaign, now a springtime feature. I ask, simply, that you give what you can to insure that our library doors stay open, our lights stay on, and that we're warm through the course of the rainy winter months to which we can look forward next year.

Meanwhile, spring suggests itself and we are fortunate to live in this tide-washed place, beautiful in its beaches, forests and hills, but most of all beautiful in its people. My thanks to all of you for caring about our library and for doing what you can to keep it thriving.

(Award-winning author Guterson is a long-time islander and former Bainbridge High school teacher.)



David Guterson

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

1270 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

The Bainbridge Island Library News is published every quarter by the Bainbridge Library Board, a non-profit organization, and distributed to all Island residents and local library users. Verda Averill is editor; contributing writers are all regular library volunteers.

Board members are Steve Larson, president; Verda Averill, Susan Bottles, Susan Bray, Marite Butners, David Guterson, Don Harrington, Richard Hassell, Wyman Johnson, Marlene LeMire, Bob Linz, Marty Sievertson, Val Tollefson, and Tom Yamasaki. Branch manager is Cindy Harrison, Kitsap Regional Library representative is Althea Paulson, and Hans Rothert is past president.

Take a literary tour of scenic Italy

Take a literary trip to Italy on Tuesday evening, May 21, with Dave Hoerlein, a 20-year veteran guide with Rick Steves' Europe Through the Back Door.

"You may have the world, if I may have Italy."



Rick Steves tours will present a literary tour of Italy on May 21.

The words of Giuseppe Verdi, an Italian known more for his operas than his writing, sums up the way most travelers feel about Italy, says Hoerlein, who has led tours of Italy every year since 1982. His talk, *Buon Viaggio: Pages From a Book Called Italy*, will highlight the literature of and about Italy. Slides will feature landscapes, monuments and people of a diverse country that has inspired many authors.

"We'll travel from Lake Maggiore to Tuscany to Sicily, hearing quotes along the way from an antipasto platter of foreign writers like Lord Byron, Mark Twain, and Frances Mayes. We'll also learn about Italy from the pens of local authors like Dante and Luigi Barzini," Hoerlein says.

Hoerlein graduated with a degree in architecture, then began traveling with a passion — and hasn't stopped yet. After two decades with ETBD, he's still guiding travelers through Europe, planning tours, making maps for 22 Steves books, and managing ETBD's consulting department.

"Bella Italia" is his favorite country, with Siena, Rome, and Venice the top cities, he says.

The program, free to all Library Stewards, begins at 7 p.m. May 21 in the library meeting room. Space is limited, so reservations are requested. Reservation cards will be mailed to all Library Stewards, and will be available to others at the library. A donation is requested of non-Stewards.

from front page

Anniversary events

Cindy Harrison. "People are always amazed when they learn how many things are produced here."

The Bainbridge Chamber of Commerce, like the library, is observing an anniversary — its 75th — this year.

Another special event occurs May 21, when the Rick Steves Tour Center will present a literary tour of Italy. This program, planned as a special thank you to Library Stewards (those library supporters who donated to the 2001 annual appeal), is free to Stewards and open to others who wish to make a donation. Since space is limited and the program is a popular one, reservations are suggested. (Reservation cards will be mailed to Stewards and be available at the library for others.)

Throughout the year, many established

programs will continue: the Inquiring Mind series, Island Theatre's play readings at the library, opera previews, and the Bainbridge Speakers Forum will go on as usual. And new offerings will be added from time to time.

The Bainbridge Public Library of today got its start back in 1962, when a new building designed by local architect John Rudolph and funded by donations from the community was built at its present site on the corner of Madison Ave. and High School Road. The original building was soon outgrown and another community-wide drive raised the funds for its expansion in 1982. Both the 1962 and 1982 buildings were dedicated in March.

The most recent building expansion occurred in 1997 when still another community campaign raised \$2 million to double the size of the previous building.

from front page

Spring annual appeal

fund raisers. Donors who wish to remain anonymous may do so, merely by checking the appropriate box on the donor card.

The special annual appeal, which goes out only to known library supporters, actually reaches less than one-third of Bainbridge residents. The only all-island appeal in which the library participates is the fall Bainbridge Foundation drive.

Why a drive for funds? Doesn't the library receive tax money for maintenance and operations? The answer is no; not a dime of Bainbridge homeowners' taxes has ever gone for either the library building or its continued maintenance. From the first, Bainbridge Island citizens decided to do it their own way — by voluntary contributions from local residents, businesses and library boosters. For 40 years now, that's the way it's been, and that's the way it is likely to continue.

The citizens of Bainbridge Island own the building through a non-profit corporation managed by a volunteer board of directors of local citizens. It pays for the building maintenance and improvements, and offers a variety of special services. (It does not, however, pay staff salaries;

those and most of the circulating materials like books and periodicals and CDs are paid by Kitsap Regional Library, which does receive tax dollars.)

Aware of this year's tight economy, the library board will hold the line on expenses; the budget will not be raised from last year. But heavy expenses continue: power usage at about \$3,000 a month, additional costs for cleaning and building repairs, maintenance of elevator and other systems, etc. And of course, expenses grow with longer hours.

This year, while many libraries in the state are cutting services, Bainbridge Island's branch will actually be open longer hours. The building will be open three evenings a week — Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays — instead of just two. That means more costs, of course.

"We appreciate the wonderful support Bainbridge residents have given their library in the past, and we trust they'll continue their generous giving this year," said board member Dick Hassell, who heads the fund-raising committee. "These people make all the difference."

(Please see David Guterson's editorial elsewhere in this issue.)

NEWS BRIEFS

THE LIBRARY SPEAKERS Forum closed its 2001-2002 season with a standing-room-only crowd when Mary Randlett appeared in March. Plans are now under way for the 2002-2003 season.

THE WALKER provided by Friends of the Library to assist patrons is in almost constant use. Anyone needing assistance while browsing in the library should ask a staff member about it.

The case of the missing library

By BARBARA WINTHER

The Rolling Bay Public Library served the readers of Bainbridge Island from 1914 to 1962.

At first it was in a one-room, architecturally designed building, located in a wooded area south of where Messenger House is today.

After 10 years at that site, volunteer workers sought a more accessible location where electricity would be available. Milly Logg Woodward's grandmother, Mary Ballard, donated a piece of property on Valley Road across the street from where Falk Road ends.

Some old-timers claim the building was moved and its appearance modified. Others insist the old building was torn down and a new one built, using the old wood. Whichever way, the new, still one-room building had a wood-burning stove, electricity and a covered porch to keep rain from hurtling in through the front door.

Volunteers painted the building a cheery yellow and attached a big sign, "Rolling Bay Library", above the entrance.

That sign now hangs on the wall of the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum. Also in the museum collection are pictures of the two Rolling Bay libraries, the blueprint for the original building in the woods and a ledger listing the titles of the library's books in 1929.

A few locals complained about having to climb steps into the new building, but most citizens thought the library greatly improved. Although it was only open one day a week, patronage increased dramatically.

In 1962, with the Bainbridge Island Public Library at the present site nearing completion, the Rolling Bay Public Library Association met for the last time. When the members asked Realtor James Johansson to appraise the building, he concluded it was worth about \$500.

However, a May 1963 addendum to the final minutes states as follows:

"The Rolling Bay Public Library was sold for twenty-five dollars to Mr. William Browning of Seattle who moved it to a location near Agate Pass Bridge. Mr. Browning intends to use the library for a home. This sum, plus a balance of \$26.62 remaining in the library bank balance, were combined into a gift of \$51.62 which was sent to the new Bainbridge Island Public library in Winslow. With the sending of the check, the final act of the Rolling Bay Public Library was accomplished."

What happened to the old library building? I wondered. Does it still exist? If so where is it?

I queried a number of Rolling Bay residents. Two gentlemen believed it went to Skiff Point. Several other folks said it was near Agate Pass Bridge, but they had no idea where.

Photographer Linda Quartman Younker thought she saw a home that looked like the library on Valley Road; no, said the owner. Island historian Jerry Elfendahl thought it might be Bob Cederwall's house, but others thought Cederwall's home was another building



Old library (inset) has become a home near Agate Pass.



moved from the Rolling Bay area. A plea in the Bainbridge Review gained no new information.

Then, Todd Westbrook, island resident and freelance reporter for the Bremerton Sun, wrote an article about the missing library. A few days later my telephone rang, and the mystery was solved.

Mrs. June Browning, newly returned to the Northwest, now living with her son in Kingston, just happened to read the Sun article.

"My husband bought the Rolling Bay Library," she stated. "It was trucked to our place near Agate Pass Bridge. Several times he had it moved around on the property."

She went on to say how disappointed they were to find out the library had no

bathroom. "We had thought one existed behind the rear curtain."

The Brownings sold the property years ago. The former library building, remodeled and scarcely recognizable with an addition, a new sliding glass door, brown paint and minus the front porch and steps, is now a rented home. Heading north on 305, it is located to the left of the highway, up a gravel road called Jambo Lane, just before the Agate Pass Bridge.

For more information on the two Rolling Bay libraries and the people who worked there, see Act I, Scene 2 of *They Like Noble Causes*.

First in a series

News from Friends of the Library

By JAX DONNELLY

The Bainbridge Public Library is part of the Kitsap Regional Library System. It maintains its own collection of books, but shares books with patrons of all libraries within the system. The Bainbridge community owns and maintains its own library building, and it is up to the Bainbridge Library Board to cover these expenses. The Friends contribute annually to the building expense fund of the board.

The Friends of the Bainbridge Island Public Library is a non-profit organization. Its primary purpose is to support the services provided by the Bainbridge Public Library. The Friends raise money for the library through the sale of books and magazines, and from direct contributions.

Book sales are held on the second Saturday of every month, as well as at other times throughout the year. The

library volunteers sort through donations, finding thousands of books each year to add to the library's own collection. The Friends then sell donated books that have not been accepted into the library collection. After books have gone through at least one book sale they may be sold on the two library magazine racks maintained by the Friends.

One special book, Katy Warner's *A History of Bainbridge Island*, is always available at the library front desk. All profits from the sale of Katy's book are donated to the Friends, to be used for the library's benefit.

Inquiring Minds

Twice a year the Friends host a presentation sponsored by the Washington State Commission for the Humanities. These lectures and historical dramas are open to the public and free of charge.

Book sale dates

The Friends of the Library are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the library this year with several additions to regular book sale dates. A special sale of new and nearly new books was held Saturday, March 23, to celebrate the anniversary.

And this year, for the first time, Sunday book sales have been added. We've had requests for Sunday sales from several shoppers who can't always attend Saturday sales.

So look for Sunday sales in both April and June. This spring, book sales are scheduled for Saturday, April 13; Sunday, April 14; Saturday, May 11; Saturday, June 8; Sunday, June 9, and Saturday, July 13.

New column, columnist

This column is the first in a series on Friends of the Library activities to run in

the Library News. It replaces the former Friends of the Library newsletter, which was mailed to Friends members only.

Beginning with the summer issue, Cathy Stevenson Nickum will take over the columnist's duties. Nickum, a member of the Friends board and long-time Bainbridge resident, is a University of Washington journalism graduate and former reporter/photographer for the Bainbridge Review, Kitsap County Herald, and other Northwest publications. We'll introduce Cathy in the next issue of the Library News.

Join the Friends

Islanders who would like to support the library with a donation or by helping at book sales are always welcome as Friends members. Membership forms are available at the library, and will be included in this publication when space permits.



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Crime pays when it's fiction

By SUSAN WIGGS

When she turned her talents to writing fiction, ex-police officer Judith Smith-Levin didn't have to look far for inspiration and drama. She writes about cops. So well and so realistically, in fact, that she has penned a popular series around African-American Homicide Lieutenant Starletta Duvall and her partner, Sergeant Dominic Paresi.

The prolific Bainbridge author chose homicide as her field because, according to Smith-Levin, **"Along with vice, it's about the worst, most emotionally demanding job in the police department. I wanted to show a woman doing that job, and also having a life outside of the department."**

Rave reviews and growing popularity for the author's gritty page-turners point to her success in creating a world of violence, justice and redemption.

Smith-Levin's road to writing fiction was as circuitous as her road to Bainbridge Island. Born and raised in Chicago, she has traveled extensively and has lived in a number of places, including London, England. She's worked as a secretary, a disc jockey, a model, a television news line producer, the mother of a grown son, a bookstore owner and a police officer. In fact, she made history as the first uniformed female patrol officer ever in the city of Worcester, Massachusetts.

The busy writer tends to work at night. "I have a skewed body clock. I've always been a night person. It's quiet and calm, and I get my best ideas during that time," she said.

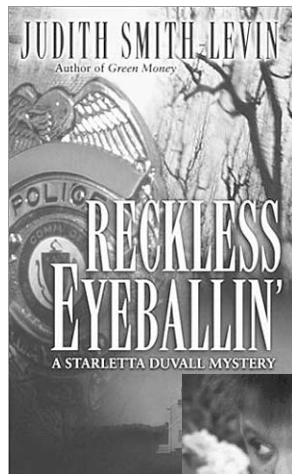
Smith-Levin's books appeal to a broad range of readers. The former owner of a mystery bookstore in Carmel initially assumed most mystery fans were women, but as the Starletta series progresses, she's getting mail from men who appreciate the action and realism of her books.

"When I appear at [writing] conferences," the author says, "I'm approached by a lot of different types of people, some of whom I would never think would enjoy my books, such as elderly women, but they do. The character seems to have appeal across racial, age and gender lines."

After a decade of living in Carmel, the author reports, "I was 'Californiaed out.' I took a vacation to Bainbridge Island, and because it reminded me so much of the East Coast with milder weather—I've lived in both Worcester, Massachusetts and New York City—I decided to move here."

Judith Smith-Levin describes Bainbridge Island as "Pleasant—a quiet place and a moderately friendly one."

She is a big fan of the library, adding, "I'm a big believer in and user of libraries, and Bainbridge has one of the best. The staff is knowledgeable, friendly and accessible. I have a



Smith-Levin and lates best seller



'favorite librarian,' Eleanor Wheeler. She's a good friend, and my unofficial editor. She's read most of my books in manuscript form, and never fails to catch 'little errors' or to give an honest opinion. Plus, she grows great plums during the season.'

Smith-Levin has a major presence on the web, with about 119 websites, all of which can be accessed through Yahoo.com. She is also linked to www.Randomhouse.com and to <http://members.aol.com/starduvall/>.

Her books, (in order) are:

1. *Do Not Go Gently* - The introduction to the Starletta Duvall series. A serial killer is murdering young, professional black women. Will Star be tempted into his web? Hint: Just when you think you've got it...you don't.

2. *The Hoodoo Man* - Star and Paresi are on the trail of a series of killings seemingly the work of practitioners of the ancient religion of the Voudon, (voodoo.) Can a person die, simply because another person wills it?

3. *Green Money* - A series of horrendous killings in a park near an exclusive boys' prep school send Star and Paresi back to campus. In this bastion of the Ivy League, could these moneyed, bored young men be making life and death decisions?

4. *Reckless Eyeballin'* - When the wife of a brutal corporate raider is found viciously beaten to death, evidence points to her lover—a noted African-American judge. His only chance for truth lies with homicide Lieutenant Starletta Duvall, and theirs is a long-standing, blood feud. Can Star overcome her personal feelings regarding the judge, or is he as guilty as he appears?

5. *The Champagne Room* - coming in 2002. Lieutenant Starletta Duvall, and Sergeant Dominic Paresi find themselves immersed in a case of savage brutality that plays out in the world of nightclubs and exotic dancers.

Whose will? Yours or the state's?

If you do not have a valid will, the state, not you, may decide who will receive your estate, what they will receive, how and when they will receive it, and who will be the guardian of minor children.

Whether you are 30 or 80, if you have valuable assets and/or minor children you should be thinking about a will. You may also need or want to know about estate taxes (whether they apply to you), how trusts can save you taxes, and charitable planning ideas.

To help you learn more about these matters, the Bainbridge Library Board is sponsoring a free informational seminar on Tuesday, April 23, from 9 to 11 a.m. in the library meeting room. The seminar will be informal, and refreshments will be served.

Two experts in the field will present general information and be available for your specific questions. They are Dorothy Foster, JD, estate planning attorney with offices in both Seattle and Bainbridge Island, and Marite M. Butners, JD, LLM-Tax, a charitable planner located in Seattle. Butners lives on the island and is a member of the Bainbridge Library Board.

This is one of a series of informational seminars sponsored from time to time by the Bainbridge Public Library.

Bainbridge Island author is eclectic reader

As popular local writer Judith Smith-Levin's latest novel, *Reckless Eyeballin'*, hit the shelves, she took time to put together a list of some of her all-time favorite books:

The Prince of Tides by Pat Conroy - One of the best-written books ever. The words are lyrical, and the music they play stays with you well beyond the final page. It's a family story that breaks your heart, but compels you to keep reading.

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver - I guess I like family stories, because this one is amazing. Again, you hate to see the end coming. It's an outstanding account of a missionary family's life in the Congo during the Uprising. Every character is full-blooded and real, including the Africans, who are given great respect and dignity. If I had to be stranded on a desert island, with just a few books, this would definitely be one of them.

The Walter Mosley "Easy Rawlins" mystery series, beginning with *Devil In A Blue Dress*, and ending with *A Little Yellow Dog*. Mosley has given us Ezekiel (Easy) Rawlins, whom we first meet in the post-war Los Angeles of the 1940s. It's a great account of life for African-

Americans at that time, and what one does to keep his hold on his property. Easy is a homeowner and World War II veteran at a time when black skin negated both of those achievements for him. The latest book brings Easy into the 1960s. It's a great series which introduces one of the most complex characters of mystery fiction, Raymond (Mouse) Alexander. Former President Clinton was so enamored of Mosley's novels that he named him his favorite mystery writer. When Walter Mosley visited the Clinton White House, the President greeted him the way the author's fans do—by asking about "Mouse."

I had the same question when we met in Monterey a couple of years ago. I won't disclose the question for fear of spoiling things for people who have not read the books. But trust me, once you start, you'll devour the series and no doubt ask the same question left lingering by *A Little Yellow Dog*. There's also a fine prequel, *Gone Fishing*, which introduces Easy and Mouse as young men, growing up together, before their adventures in book one, *Devil In A Blue Dress*.

On Writing by Stephen King - The best book on writing, ever. I am a huge admirer of Stephen King. His near fatal accident is related in this book. In addition to showing his total commitment to the craft, and his appreciation for the gift that writing is, this work demonstrates the healing power of writing. It's a combination how-to and biography detailing one of the most (literally) painful periods in this writer's life, and how his commitment to his art saved him. I think it should be required reading for every writing class in the world.

A Measure of Time by Rosa Guy - I'm not sure this book is still in print, but it's worth a search. It's about an African-American woman who comes north from the cottonfields of the south to start a new life in New York. Set during the Great Depression, the story mirrors life for blacks in America at that time. It's by turns laugh-out-loud hilarious and extremely engrossing and moving. I read this book almost 20 years ago, and it stays with me.

(Visit Judith Smith-Levin on the Web at <http://members.aol.com/starduvall/>)

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Books can help you find your life

By ELIZABETH WIGGS

“Honey ...”

My mom uses her “I’m about to say something you won’t like so I’m trying to sound nice” voice. I brace myself.

“I was thinking ... maybe when you go off to college, I can come with you and earn my Ph.D. It would be fun! We could be roommates!”

Oh Lord. I’m still not sure if she’s kidding, but my mind’s already taking the plunge off the deep end.

Sure, I love my mom, but really, I’ve been looking forward to the freedom waiting for me in college. I mean, it would be nice to have fresh-baked cookies and maid-service in my dorm, but I’ll sacrifice that just to be rid of my curfew.

So I’m faced with the age-old dilemma: What do you do when you’ve grown up and you’re ready to leave?

I look around at my classmates and I see other kids in the same position. We’re not all going to college, but every one of us is going to turn 18 at some point and feel the desire for independence. Even if you’re just a freshman reading this, I can tell you that it’s never too early to start preparing yourself (and your parents) for the day that you find yourself on your own.

Here are some books that I hope will help. I apologize that I couldn’t find one entitled: “Chains of Motherly Love: What to Do About Obsessed Parents.” And by the way: *She wasn’t kidding.*

Here are some books that might help you on your quest:

Life Strategies for Teens by Jay McGraw. This hunky young man asks, “Are you as tired as I am of books constantly telling you the same old *Brady Bunch*, Beaver Cleaver, goody-two-shoes BS about doing your best to understand your parents, doing your homework, making curfew, getting a haircut, dropping that hemline, and blah blah blah?”

Even if I weren’t shallow enough to buy a book based on the author’s looks, this question would make me pick it up. Jay McGraw’s straightforward approach deals with everything from overprotective parents to unprotected

sex. The message is: Make things happen rather than waiting for things to happen to you. Not even my mother would argue with that.

Who Are You? : 101 Ways of Seeing Yourself by Malcolm Godwin. Despite somewhat scary anatomical computer-graphics illustrations, this book is fun. I don’t know if I trust it when it tells me who my ruling goddess is (Athena, in case you’re interested), but some of the self-administered tests seem valid and revealing. It certainly revealed my grandfather’s impatience with verbal reasoning tasks (i.e: “I’m ashamed of myself! I can’t take this anymore!” Followed by slamming the book shut and stomping out of the room.).

Cool Colleges: For the Hyper-Intelligent, Self-Directed, Late Blooming, and Just Plain Different by Donald Asher. Early in this book, Asher admits he was a misfit in high school and in the first college he attended. So right away, that makes him suspicious—will this be another bitter diatribe about the cruelty of mainstream America? Happily, no.

He turns up some seriously cool schools and tidbits of information, like this little fact about the Stormy Petrel, the mascot of Oglethorpe University: natives of the Orkney Islands use the very oily body of the sea bird as a torch. They insert a wick in the bird’s beak and it burns merrily, smoking, making a useful extempore torch that borders on the abstract principal of the lamp, for the body of the dead bird acts as a reservoir for the fat that the burning wick melts down.

Too much information? Sorry.

Choosing the Right College: The Whole Truth about America’s Top Schools by Intercollegiate Studies Institute, Winfield J. C. Myers (Editor), William J. Bennett. At last, a book that doesn’t RANK everything! After pouring over guides that give a numerical value to everything from dorm toilets to shoe styles, I enjoyed reading the essays in this book. This guide discusses relevant factors such as specific professors, student life, liberal learning, political atmosphere, social climate and other



Elizabeth Wiggs

things that actually matter.

Success Without a College Degree : Dissolving the Roadblocks Between You and Success by John T. Murphy. It’s discouraging to see so few resources for people who aren’t necessarily looking at going to college. I searched high and low to find even one non-Christian book that says it’s okay if you don’t go to college. This guide carries an endorsement from Retired Admiral Bill Owens, former vice chair of Joint Chiefs of Staff, president and CEO of Teledesic.

Whether high school grad or college grad, READ THIS BOOK. Its lessons and perspective will make a difference.

This guide helps readers to define success, overcome the past, tap hidden potential, find strengths and weaknesses, set goals and get a life. On average, 25 percent of people in America don’t have a college degree which is why I expect at least 75 percent of you to read this book.

The Real-World Aptitude Test: Preparing Yourself for Leaving Home by Homer E., Jr. Moyer. Forget the SATs. Here’s what you really need to know in order to prepare yourself for the real world: The rules of Blackjack, How to hammer a nail, How many teaspoons of sugar the average 12-ounce can of soda contains, How to change a flat tire, How to install computer software.

This book quizzes your ability to survive on your own. Formatted like

the agonizingly familiar SAT, it’s lots more fun. Subject areas include cooking, managing money, etiquette, sports and many more. As a test of preparedness for the real world, the R.A.T. provides answers to some of life’s most common stumbling blocks, as well as facts on generalized knowledge in areas such as geography and politics. The R.A.T. is perfect for young adults leaving the nest and adults who are entering a new phase of life such as parenthood or retirement.

Okay, so you’re going to be fine. But what about your poor, abandoned parents? My mother has been obsessively reading books on this topic, and some of her favorites in this collection include:

When Your Kid Goes to College; A Parent’s Survival Guide by Carol Barkin. A mother who’s been-there-done-that provides helpful tips for handling separation.

Empty Nest, Full Heart : The Journey from Home to College by Andrea Van Steenhouse, and Johanna Parker. This is a practical, hands-on guide that doesn’t delve into the whys and wherefores so much as the how-tos.

Almost Grown : Launching Your Child from High School to College by Patricia Pasick. Psychologist and parent Pasick discusses practical issues such as a college search plan, handling money, sex and substance abuse. She also explores the psychological issues that arise during this family transition.

Letting Go : A Parent’s Guide to Understanding the College Years by Karen Levin Coburn and Madge Lawrence Treeger. The authors offer practical information and advice about the college-age child’s search for identity, independence, and intimacy. Everyday problems and major traumas—including date rape, crime, eating disorders, drug and alcohol use, and sexual issues—are explored. Coburn and Teeger write movingly of the disorientation parents feel once the drop-off has been made.

(About the Author: Elizabeth Wiggs is an honor student at Bainbridge High School.)


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Children's books of long ago

By GAIL CHRISTENSEN

The Bainbridge Library is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. Listed here are a few of the children's books that were enjoyed in the 1960s and are still found in the library's collection.

CDB! by William Steig. Letters and numbers are used to create the sounds of words and simple sentences 4 u 2 figure out.

The Chronicles of Prydain by Lloyd Alexander. Blends rich elements of Welsh legend to create the imaginary tale of enchantment, both good and evil. Five books comprise this series.

Dance in the Desert by Madeleine L'Engle. Describes an encounter in the desert when the animals come to a caravan campfire and dance with a

child because fear was absent.

Early Thunder by Jean Fritz. On the eve of the American Revolution, Daniel has to make the most important decision of his life.

Frederick by Leo Lionni. Frederick the field mouse stores up something special for the long cold winter.

From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L. Konigsburg. Having run away with her younger brother to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, 12-year-old Claudia strives to keep things in order in their new home, and to become a changed person and a heroine to herself.

Horton Hatches the Egg by Dr. Seuss. When a lazy bird hatching an egg wants a vacation, she asks Horton, the elephant, to sit on her egg.

The Little Juggler by Barbara Cooney. Retells the legend of the little juggler's search for a special Christmas gift for the Christ Child and the Blessed Mother.

Mitch and Amy by Beverly Cleary. The adventures of a 9-year-old twin brother and sister who, despite constant bickering, support each other loyally at home and at school.

My Friend John by Charlotte Zolotow. John's best friend tells everything he knows about John, the secrets they share, their likes and dislikes, and the fun they have as friends.

Want more? Try these authors: Betsy Byars, Jean Fritz, Arnold Lobel, Robert McCloskey and Maurice Sendak. For quick picks, visit the Children's Library and ask a staff member for suggestions.

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars now for some summer fun in the library. Wednesday mornings in July will feature special presentations and activities for children. Plans include crafts and a puppet show, as well as some musical events. Check the next edition of Library News for details.

For young adults, a jewelry-making workshop will be presented on Tuesday, July 2. Kristin Tollefson will demonstrate how to work wire into decorative, wearable shapes. Watch for more information in the next Library News.

APRIL POETRY

For the past two years, the Kitsap Regional Library has sponsored a children's poetry writing contest to celebrate National Library Week. Young readers at the Bainbridge Island branch have always participated and they are warmly invited to submit their poems again this year. The winner will receive a book of poetry.

Children should write about reading, books, or the library, and may submit their work to the librarians at the check-out desk. Poems may be submitted anytime, but the final deadline will be April 20. The contest is open to children between kindergarten and sixth grade. Authors should be sure to include their name, age, and telephone number with their poems.

The winning poem, along with a short biography of the poet, will be published in the next edition of Library News. As library wall space allows, as many of the entries as possible will be posted for library users to read.

VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE

Every Friday afternoon, Zon Wang comes to volunteer her time at the Children's Library. Zon is a junior at the high school, and she came to the library because a health class required that she spend six hours doing community service, anywhere, her choice. Young People's librarian Peggy Hughes snapped her up immediately. Zon liked working with the librarians and the children so much that she has continued on, long after her class requirements have been met.

Zon has many jobs at the library: she processes magazines, cleans books ("sometimes the younger kids have messy hands"), and makes flannel board stories, as she is doing in the photograph.

Zon came to Bainbridge Island from Hong Kong, where she attended the Hong Kong International School. She likes reading all kinds of books, the sciences are her favorite classes, and she doesn't play sports. In addition to her library work, Zon also volunteers her time at the Humane Society in Silverdale, where she walks dogs and cares for the puppies.



Zon Wang at work.



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VISITORS

Students from the Carden School toured the young people's library recently. At left, Mitch Main and Sueann Lund check out a desk-top computer with Eleanor Wheeler of the library

staff. Above right, Sarah Harvey, Kathryn Clevon and Johanna Lund look over some of the books available for students' pleasure and research. (Photos by Peggy Hughes)

There's something about these authors

By MARY CURTIS

There is a wonderful set of blue books that can be found in the reference section of the Children's Library, in the first case along the west wall. It's called "*Something about the Author*," a series that collects biographies, photographs, and drawings of children's authors and illustrators.

The series began with volume one in 1971, and continues right up to the present, with volume 126 published in 2002. It is amazingly comprehensive (over 25,000 authors are included), and the entries are easy to find and easy to read. I found some interesting details about the lives of some well-known children's authors.

J.R.R. Tolkien was born in South Africa and orphaned at the age of 12. He had a fondness for fairy stories that developed at an early age: "I desired dragons with a profound desire." He became an esteemed linguistic professor at Oxford University, after having spent some time as a graduate student working on the Oxford English Dictionary, and as a Lancashire Fusilier fighting in World War I. Tolkien wrote stories as a philological game. He loved to invent languages, and created Middle Earth as a place where they could be spoken. "The invention of languages is the foundation. The stories were made rather to provide a world for the languages than the reverse. I should have preferred to write in 'Elvish.'" Luckily for his readers, his publishers convinced him to write in English. It took 14 years to write *The Lord of the Rings*, which was typed entirely by Tolkien with two fingers, as he could not afford to hire a typist "who used ten."

Madeleine L'Engle grew up as the only child of two professionally

successful parents, a father who was a foreign correspondent and author, and a mother who was a concert pianist. She was educated in British-style boarding schools, and eventually attended Smith College, where she became involved in acting and writing for theatre. She then put her writing on hold to raise her family. Her first novel, *A Wrinkle in Time*, was published in 1962, when L'Engle was 44 years old. It had been rejected by 26 publishers in the previous two years. *A Wrinkle in Time* won the Newberry Medal in 1963, and L'Engle has written prolifically ever since.

James Marshall, author/illustrator of the *George and Martha* books, among countless others, grew up an only child on an isolated farm near San Antonio Texas. He studied the viola as a young boy, and soon he was good enough to win a scholarship to the New England Conservatory of Music. A serious injury to his hand soon changed his life's course. Marshall got a B.A. in history and French, and began to teach in a Boston private school. He then resurrected his love for drawing, which he had totally abandoned after a teacher laughed at one of his third grade efforts. A friend saw his drawings, the friend showed them to a neighbor, the neighbor showed them to the director of children's books at Houghton Mifflin, and the director asked Marshall to write and illustrate a book. The first *George and Martha* story was published a year later.

Avi, who has written mystery, adventure, historical, supernatural, coming-of-age, and comic novels, really does have a full name: Avi Wortis. He was raised in Brooklyn in a creative, artistic environment. Great-grandparents, grandparents, and parents wrote, uncles were painters and composers. For Avi, living in such a family meant there was

"always a kind of uproarious sense of debate. It was a very affectionate sharing of ideas—arguing, but not arguing in anger, arguing about ideas." As a child, Avi had great difficulties in writing, and actually flunked out of one school before he discovered that he had a learning disability called dysgraphia, which caused him to reverse letters and misspell words. One of his aunts commented he could "spell a four-letter word wrong five ways." But Avi kept writing, despite constant criticism at school, and he credits his family emphasis on books for his strength of perseverance. He went to night school to study librarianship, and had a 25 year career as a librarian before he retired to write full time.

Poet **Jack Prelutsky**, who has written, translated, and edited over 70 books of poetry, describes himself as a difficult child: "My overactive mind made it hard for my mother and teachers to handle me." However by age 10 he had developed a magnificent singing voice and was singing at weddings and other special occasions. The choir master of the New York Metropolitan Opera considered him so talented that he gave him free singing lessons. He attended the High School of Music and Art in New York City, graduating in 1958. His determination to pursue a career in music was shattered when he heard Luciano Pavarotti sing. "I knew I could never compete with him ... I didn't have the fire in the belly." Instead he turned to photography, manual labor, and in the 1960s became an itinerant folk singer, potter, and sculptor. Still casting about for his life's work, he drew up some illustrations and poems. The second publisher he showed them to was interested in his poems, not his art, and his writing career was launched.

Dick King Smith, who writes such

vivid stories about animals, was a soldier in World War II, where he was "wounded just south of Florence and practically all over my person." He was sent home because of his injuries, and at age 25 he returned to England and spent the next 20 years farming. King Smith then decided to go to college. To support himself, he sold asbestos suits for fire fighters and worked in a shoe factory while he earned a bachelor's degree in education. At age 53 he began a second career as an elementary school teacher and worked until he retired at 60. Then he began a third career as a children's author.

Page after page. Author after author. Of course there are also splendid autobiographies of children's authors that can be found interspersed among the biography section of the children's library. Sid Fleischman tells a fascinating story about his career in magic before he started writing. Yoshiko Uchida writes movingly about her experiences growing up in Berkeley and being sent to a relocation camp in Utah during World War II. Beverly Cleary writes about growing up in Portland and becoming the librarian in Yakima. Ronald Dahl survived the Royal Air Force as well as English boarding school. Check them out. There's nothing like a true story.

Children's Library Calendar

TERRIFIC TWOS

Ages 2-3, with adult

Mondays, 10:30-11 a.m.

April 15, 22, 19, May 6, 13, 20

Stories, songs, fingerplays

and fun for 2-year-olds and their

grown-ups. Registration required.

Sign up at the young people's

check-out desk or by calling 842-

4162, extension 9816.

PRE-SCHOOL STORYTIMES

Ages 3-5 years, adults welcome

Wednesdays, 10:30-11 a.m.

April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22

Join us for stories, music,

fingerplays and activities designed

for this age group. No registration

necessary.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

Kitsap Regional Library's

Summer Reading Program begins.

Summer reading program is for children, young adults

Many young readers really look forward to the annual summer reading program at the young people's library. Last year, over 1000 children logged well over 1200 hours of reading time. By now, almost everyone knows the ins and outs of how to participate, but for those new to the program, here's how it works.

Beginning June 15, children of all ages are invited to sign up at the young people's checkout desk. Children who can't yet read themselves qualify by having someone read to them—parents, grandparents, friends, even older siblings. Each summer brings a new theme – this year it is "Camp Wanna Read".

The young readers receive reading rosters as part of the sign-up, and their goal is to log 10 hours of reading time.

When children complete the 10 hours, their names will be displayed on the library walls and they may choose a free paperback book. Children are also given a raffle ticket for every 10 hours of reading, and these tickets are collected for a drawing at the end of the summer for a special book prize.

The summer reading program is not just for young children. Young adults are especially welcome, and the library has designed a program just for them. Young adults may sign up

at the reference desk upstairs, where they will receive a punch card to record the time they spend reading. After 10 hours of reading, they may select a new paperback book from the assortment available at the reference desk.

Children are encouraged to read as much as they can over the summer. The program doesn't end until September 1. The names on the library walls grow as the summer progresses. This year look for pup tents.

The paperback awards are generously supplied with funds from the Friends of the Library and the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation.

Kitsap Reads presents two authors

Kitsap Reads continues to bring a number of notable authors to Kitsap County. On May 6, at South Kitsap High School in Port Orchard, Montana writer Pete Fromm will speak about his short stories, fiction and nonfiction works. Fromm has won the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Award three times—for *Dry Rain*, a short-story collection set in America's heartland; *Indian Creek Chronicles*, his true-life account of living alone in a tent for seven months in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area; and *How All This Started*, a novel about a brother and sister and their shared love for baseball. The talk begins at 7:30 p.m. On Friday, June 7, at 7:30 p.m., world-renowned author Ursula Le Guin will talk at the Bremerton High School Performing Arts Center.



Pete Fromm



Ursula Le Guin

Irish fiction

Authors' works have universal themes

By MARTHA KNAPPE,
Fiction Collection Manager

Irish literature, which includes a powerful storytelling tradition, is definitely alive and well at the beginning of the 21st century. A number of notable Irish authors have published new works within the last few years:

Across the River, by Alice Taylor. (A sequel to *The Woman of the House*). Taylor continues the story of a widow in rural mid-20th century Ireland who battles both her son and neighbors to retain the farm she loves. The Los Angeles Times states, "Taylor's telling makes the world of her village universal, and sets her firmly in that mysteriously potent Irish storytelling tradition."

The Blackwater Lightship, by Colm Toibin. In this heartbreakingly beautiful tale, Declan O'Doherty, who is dying of AIDS, forces his sister Helen to confront her estranged family when he asks her to accompany him to their Irish grandmother's cottage so that he can die at home.

By the Lake, by John McGahern. In this humorous, sympathetic novel, prizewinning author McGahern chronicles a year in the life of a not-always-cozy Irish village, which includes the requisite new residents from London, as well as the head of the local IRA.

Emerald Germs of Ireland, by Patrick McCabe. In this deliciously twisted tour through small-town Irish life, 45-year-old Pat McNab manages to do away with a number of local citizens after the act of conking his mother on the head with a frying pan unleashes Pat's homicidal inhibitions. McCabe, twice nominated for the Booker Prize, has also written *Mondo Desperado* as well as *Breakfast on Pluto*.

The Fall of Light, by Niall Williams. An adventurous tale of a father and four sons who are fleeing from the law in 19th century Ireland. Williams' previous novel, *As It Is in Heaven*, was short-listed for the Irish Times Literary Award.

In the Forest, by Edna O'Brien. Based on a true story, *In the Forest* considers the consequences of abuse and neglect, as a violent, troubled young

man returns to wreak havoc on the Irish village that both nurtured and feared him.

My Dream of You, by Nuala O'Faolain. Kathleen De Burca, an expatriate travel writer, finds her own journey home to Ireland fraught with meaning, when she attempts to research the mysterious story of a famous 19th century divorce trial involving a noblewoman who fell in love with a groom.

A Star Called Henry, by Roddy Doyle. Henry Smart, born in the Dublin slums in 1901, survives and thrives throughout the years of the Irish

Rebellion by grabbing what he needs—bread, love and weapons—wherever he can get them. This is the first title in a planned trilogy that aims to tell the story of 20th century Ireland.

Sudden Times, by Dermot Healy. Ollie Ewing, who has returned to Sligo after working as an itinerant laborer in London, finds himself descending into madness after his best friend is murdered. *The Times Literary Supplement* states, "It's a wonderful book which asks to be compared with Joyce and Beckett in more than just an idle way."

New York tour is postponed

The New York! New York! Travel/study tour for Bainbridge Library users has been postponed indefinitely.

Originally scheduled for October 2001, the trip was postponed after the destruction of the Twin Towers on September 11. Tentative plans for a 2002 trip were put on hold when several of the original participants had to cancel.

The tour would have included behind-

the-scenes tours of the New York Public Library and other sites of literary interest.

Library board member Susan Bray was to be tour leader, and Louise Mills was making travel arrangements. Anyone still interested in a future library trip should speak with one of them.

While the 2002 calendar is filling up fast, there is always a possibility of a similar trip in 2003.

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You can reach NOVELIST on the library's computer system through the *Magazines/Newspapers/Databases* icon, then by clicking on NOVELIST under the Research Section. Reference desk staff will be happy to help you get started.

NOVELIST searching classes will also be available for the public soon. The first class is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 7 p.m., at the Bainbridge Library.

"This is a great new resource for book groups as well as fiction fanatics!" said Martha Knappe, fiction collection manager for Kitsap Regional Library.

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Non-fiction books on the Emerald Isle

By GAIL GOODRICK
Nonfiction collection manager

Books on Ireland often seem to run to extremes—from tales of extreme poverty and hardship to wonderful tales of love and high spirits. Here are a few titles to explore this lovely, green island:

Around Ireland with a Fridge by Tony Hawks. OK the author is really British but it would not have been nearly as funny trying to hitchhike around England with a refrigerator. This book is fun and it really does show the natural warmth and kindness of the Irish.

Ireland: An Island Revealed is a lovely book, which features many photographs showing the scenic beauty of the land.

I'll Know It When I See It: A Daughter's Search for Home in Ireland by Alice Carey (on order). Written by a New Yorker who struggled with her Irish heritage but finally made peace with it after moving to Ireland.

McCarthy's Bar by Pete McCarthy is written by an Englishman with Irish roots. A charming and humorous book, this is sure to lure you to visit Ireland with his tales of unexpected discoveries while he was "creatively lost."

The Mountain of the Women: Memoirs of an Irish Troubadour by Liam Clancy (on order). Liam was "the cute one" of the Clancy Brothers who brought traditional Irish music to America in the 1960s—starting out in New York with the folk singing scene and continuing to tour today. The book tells about his childhood, from being a naïve young Irish boy to his experience with the fabulous cultural scene he witnessed in New York and Boston.

On Celtic Tides by Chris Duff describes his one-man tour around Ireland by sea kayak. At times, this trip was filled with danger from the wild seas but traveling by boat also allowed the author to explore little-visited historical sites as well as modern places along the shore. This will appeal to kayakers as well as dry-landers interested in learning more about Ireland.

Walking in Ireland published by Lonely Planet will help you plan your own walking tour of Ireland.

Passing on property

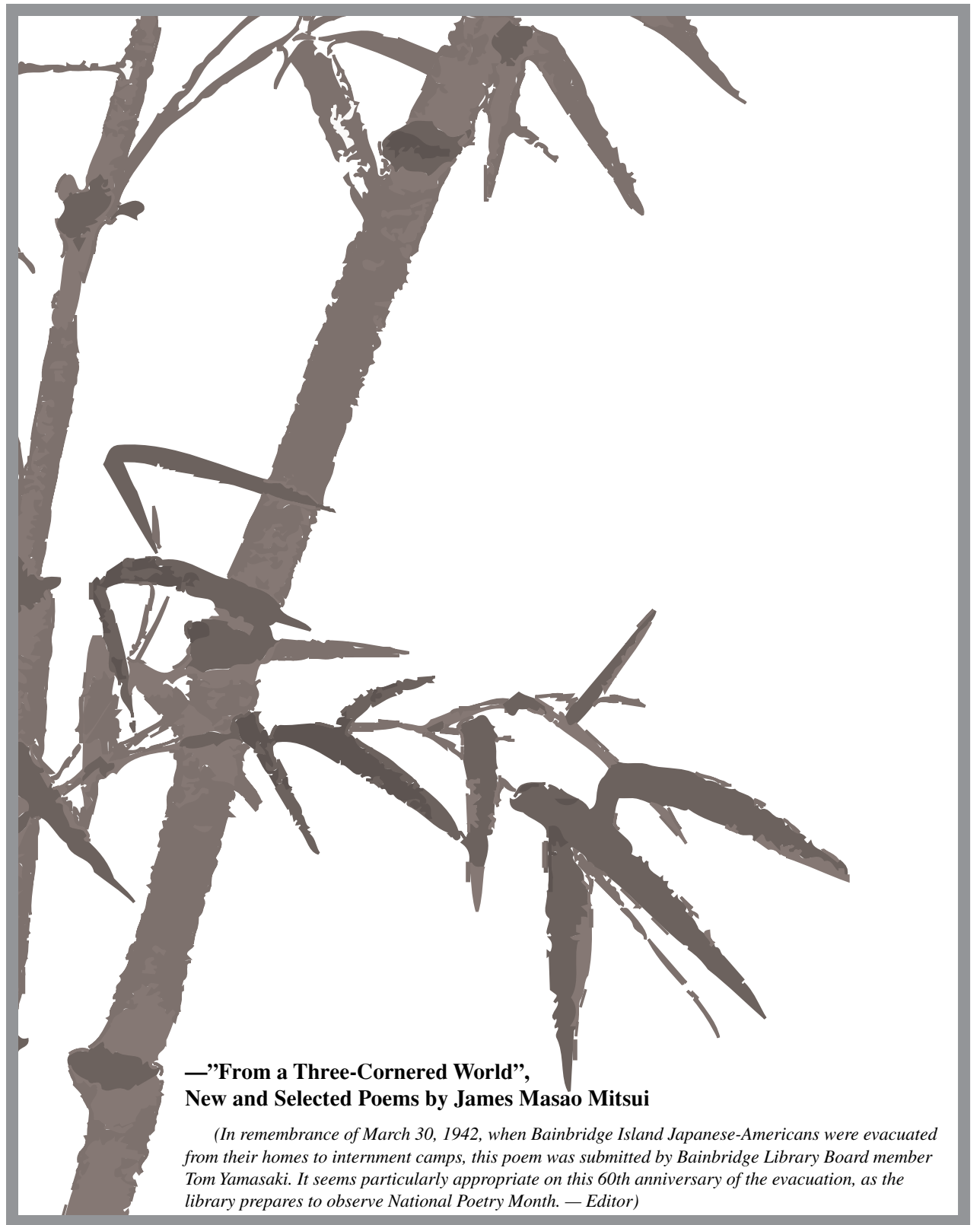
Estate planning article prompts queries from readers

By MARITE BUTNERS

The last estate planning article prompted a question on whether there were other ways, in addition to a transfer by will or trust, that property may pass at death. There are actually several other ways that property may pass at death, and it is important to be aware of them.

As you probably know, Washington is a community property state and property may be transferred between spouses, by way of a community property agreement. As the agreement only transfers the property between the spouses, you would not be able to incorporate tax savings trusts, provide for minors, or any number of other estate planning goals you may have. For that reason, it would be very important to work with your attorney before making use of this vehicle.

Property may also transfer at death by "joint tenancy, with right of survivorship" designations. At the death of the first joint tenant, the property will transfer to the surviving joint tenant. It is important to remember, however, that once you have created a joint tenancy with another individual, you have created an undivided



—"From a Three-Cornered World", New and Selected Poems by James Masao Mitsui

(In remembrance of March 30, 1942, when Bainbridge Island Japanese-Americans were evacuated from their homes to internment camps, this poem was submitted by Bainbridge Library Board member Tom Yamasaki. It seems particularly appropriate on this 60th anniversary of the evacuation, as the library prepares to observe National Poetry Month. — Editor)

interest in that property and it will take two signatures to pass title to that property. Also the property will appear in ownership records in both names, which may be important in case of divorce actions or other law suits.

A third way that property may transfer is by simple designation. Bank and many other accounts may be designated in your name only but may have a "payable on death" provision indicating to whom the account is payable when you pass away. Likewise insurance policies, IRAs, Keogh and other employee benefit plans may be designated as to who should receive the funds when you pass away. (Needless to say, gifts to the library may also be made by designating Bainbridge Public Library as the payee after death.)

It is important to review from time to time how you hold title to your property to ensure that it will pass to the individuals or charities you desire in the most appropriate way.

(Attorney Marite Butners specializes in planned giving and estate matters. She is a member of the Bainbridge Library Board.)

Nishimura book added to library

A new book was added to the library's multi-cultural collection in February. Board member Tom Yamasaki presented the book "Trials and Triumphs of the Nikkei:" to branch manager Cindy Harrison. It is a gift from the author, Hiro Nishimura, who signed it "In memory of the Island's 60th anniversary of E. O. 9066." Nishimura, a world War II veteran, is a member of Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5760, the Seattle Buddhist Church, and other Seattle organizations.

NEWS BRIEFS

COMMUTERS who can't make it to the library by 5:30 will be happy to hear that the Bainbridge Public Library is now open three weekday evenings — Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays — until 8:30.

THE LIBRARY MEETING room, with a capacity of over 100, is available for rent at low rates. Call 842-4162 for more information.



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Emily Groff, library page

Emily Groff likes her 30-hours -per-week job as a page at the Bainbridge Public Library. It pays the bills, yet leaves her free time for her hobbies.

You'll see Emily putting books in order on the shelves, checking in returned books, and doing a variety of tasks necessary if the library is to keep running smoothly. Occasionally, too, she helps out at the circulation desk.

Emily is one of the newer staff members. She's been here three years now, and is beginning to think she'd enjoy making a career of library work.

She grew up in Minneapolis and attended Grinnell College in Iowa. At Grinnell, a small liberal arts college in the city of the same name, she majored in anthropology, which she found "a little too abstract". She then worked briefly in Minneapolis and Grinnell.

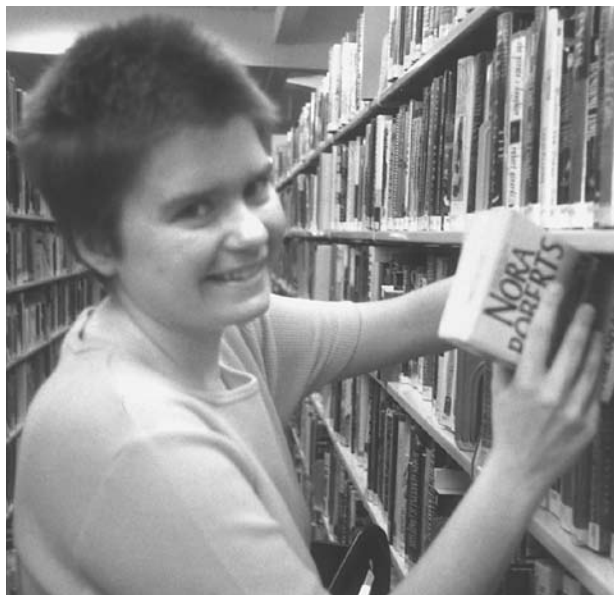
Groff made a big change when, in 1998, "my folks decided to move out here, and I hitched a ride with them," she said.

She saw an ad for a part-time library staff person and decided to apply for it. She has no regrets.

"I've always been a big library fan," she said, adding that she got her library card as soon as she was settled here.

Like most library staffers, she enjoys reading in her free time. Right now she's reading mostly non-fiction, works on spirituality, languages, and animals. She's fond of fiction, too, but admits that when she's really engrossed in a page turner she's tempted to retreat to a corner to read and put off other things.

Those who've heard her perform here on the island speak warmly of her musical talents. She's a vocalist — "a first alto, second soprano, folksinger's range",



Emily Groff

she says. She also plays "a little guitar" and a 36-string folk harp, sometimes accompanying herself. She hopes to spend more time this year developing her skills as a harpist. She's already made one CD recording, "Live at Seabold Hall", which is available at the library. Music is an important part of her life and the lives of those around her. "My sweetheart is also a musician," she said. "He plays the guitar and sings."

Emily grew up with two brothers and a variety of pets, so she thought it would be nice to have an aquarium here. But she admits it's gotten off to a slow start, with just a few plants and a goldfish so far. Her hours at the library and her music are top priority.

Donors help keep library doors open

The Bainbridge Library doors have been kept open year after year by donations from generous island residents who appreciate the library's many services.

Last year over 400 Bainbridge Islanders gave during the summer and fall during the library's first appeal for funds.

Names of those who gave early in the year were printed in a previous issue of the Bainbridge Library News. Following is a list of those who made donations between October and the end of 2001.

Janet & Christopher Brookes, Anne Browne & family, Bruce & Janet Woolever, Vivian Chesterly, Joan & Tom Gardiner, Bob & Donna Linz, Colleen Byrum, Gregg Dawson, Joanna Pyle, Drs Timothy & Kathleen Fowler, William Woods & Angela de Oliveira, Elizabeth Black, James Kondek, David & Caroline Browne, David & Nancy Williams, James Ryherd & Dottie Parcheski, Bruce & Ivy Stevens, Mark & Susan Shaffer, Marci Burkel, A I & Kathryn Janofsky, Bill & Jean Frankland, Harold & Nancy Johnson, Janet & Bill Pauli, Jim & Sue MacFarlane, Karen Teal, David & Sheryl Bothell, Charles & Evelyn Laird, Edwin & Helen Shepard, Rainier Investment Management, Inc, Larry & Lois Glostien, Dale & Carol Sperling, Kenneth & Jeannette Fox, John & Marjorie Sharp, Scott Harrison, United Way of King County, Clovis Foundation, Cameron Bahnsen Stouder, Kathy & Dan Huxley, Ralph & Deborah Cheadle, Welcome Wagon, Mr. & Mrs. Everett Paup, Dick & Patty Christiansen, Dick Hinton

The first generous donor of 2002 is Marjorie Woodworth Howie, who made a major contribution to the library in the name of her late husband, Matt Howie.

Mr. Howie, a resident of Bainbridge since 1979, had an infectious enthusiasm for life which touched many lives. He designed and built many contemporary homes from Marin and Sonoma counties in California to Bainbridge Island. He bicycled the wing Point/Yeomalt area daily, stopping to visit with friends. He was also an innovative cook, jazz enthusiast, and enjoyed painting and mixed media art. An inquiring mind made him a regular at the library; he visited it several times a week. A Seattle native, Matt Howie attended Garfield High School and Seattle University. At the time of his death at 73, he was part owner, with his wife, of Madison & Co. commercial real estate in Seattle.

His gift will be acknowledged on the major donor wall in the library lobby.

Althea Paulson joins KRL board

By VERDA AVERILL



Althea Paulson

Althea Paulson joined the Kitsap Regional Library Board in February as Bainbridge Island's official representative. She succeeds Janet Brookes, who has completed her five-year term.

"Janet Brookes was a strong advocate for Bainbridge residents' library

services," said branch manager Cindy Harrison. "She is largely responsible for the fact that, at a time when many libraries are offering fewer services, Bainbridge library hours have been extended. We are now open three evenings a week.

"And Althea Paulson will be another strong advocate for us."

"I'm just a book fiend," says Paulson. She's enthusiastic about her new position. She's also a good friend of Martha Knappe, KRL fiction collection manager.

Paulson's reading tastes vary, but she's especially fond of literary non-fiction and philosophy. Annie Dillard is a favorite writer. Paulson herself writes poetry and non-fiction, and has been working on a book about family and the search for meaning. (Working title: Novice at the Hearth.)

Her own family includes her husband Dan and three boys, ages 15, 13 and 10. She enjoys spending time at home with them, and likes gardening and tending a small flock of chickens. She also enjoys skiing, and is a pianist, continuing her regular studies in Seattle.

Her life today is clearly different from that of a few years ago. A graduate of the Syracuse University Law School, she practiced law for 10 years in Seattle, where she served as general counsel for Associated Grocers. She met her husband, also a lawyer, in law school.

Slide program slated

Richard and Mary Frank will present "On the Road to Santiago de Compostela" on Tuesday, May 7, at 7:30 p.m. The slide program (using two projectors at once) follows their journey down the 400-mile road of pilgrimage in Spain focusing on history, scenery, art and architecture. It takes a step back in time to Medieval Spain, when thousands journeyed in faith to the reputed resting place of the relics of the apostle Saint James.

Richard Frank is on the faculty of the University of Washington School of Dentistry; Mary is a long-time student of Spanish.

Islander Betty Gates arranged for the program to come to Bainbridge after she heard and viewed it at a University Women's Group in Seattle.

Are you interested in writing classes?

The Bainbridge Library Board is exploring the idea of offering writing classes at the library.

At a retreat in early March, Nichole Vick presented a proposal for a series of writing classes beginning this fall, taught by university-level instructors from the Puget Sound area.

The board expressed interest, and a committee is now evaluating the project. Your input would be helpful.

Survey forms are available at the library. If you are interested, please fill one out and drop it in the box at the reference desk by April 15.

The first classes would probably be on writing fiction, and future offerings would be determined by library patrons who respond to the survey.

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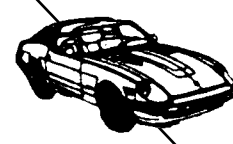


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Cameron Snow: poems inspire paintings

By NAN WOOLDRIDGE

A red leaf. A swirl of the brush. The ground is carpeted with leaves, each one a different shape and hue, in a watercolor forest in Brussels painted by Cameron Snow.

She curves her arm across the air to show me how she renders the shape even as she makes the stroke, explaining that she uses different size brushes for the array of leaf shapes.

This is a basic technique she learned from a book about Japanese brushwork when she studied under Ralph Ducasse at Mills College in Oakland, California, back in the 1960s. It still informs most of her work — seaweed, grasses, creatures — whether abstract or realistic.

“They tickle the eyeballs,” says Cameron, “these dynamic brush strokes that seem to be in motion and contrast to each other.”

Her most inspirational teacher in college, Ducasse “really described for me what picture making was all about and gave me the tools.” She learned about the aesthetics of abstract painting as well as how to work in perspective and make architectural drawings, “but what really took for me then was the abstract painting.”

Hailing from a literary family in Salt Lake City, Cameron grew up loving the written word, not doubting that she too was a writer. Since her mother, Ouida Johns Pedersen, was a published poet, and her grandfather, Cameron Johns, was President of the Utah Poetry Society.

The genesis for her work in the April through June Bainbridge library exhibit is a slim gray volume of poems by her mother with pastel and charcoal drawings by Cameron. In 1983 for a part of her master’s degree requirements from the Royal College of Art in London, she made 100 copies of this book from start to finish. She ordered materials, set the type by hand, and sewed, bound and gold-stamped each copy. The college took 50 copies to present to distinguished visitors.

A favorite poem of Cameron’s “Daffodils”, was written by her mother in defiance; few dared to write about that subject because of Wordsworth’s famous poem. Cameron reads in deliberate but honeyed tones: “Sometimes I think they look like children going on an excursion to the British Museum/ bobbing and shoving in uneven rows/noses keen to the wind/smelling out the day’s adventure/ stockings falling, hats askew/feeling unlocked/from chalk-dust rooms”

Because Cameron majored in biology at Mills and was fascinated by botany and anatomy, she thought she would probably earn her living as a scientific illustrator. Instead, she



Cameron Snow with book.

married an old flame, Christopher Snow, who was accepted into the Foreign Service and given his first assignment in Karachi, Pakistan. The next 37 years they traveled the world from assignment to assignment.

Besides nine framed images from her mother’s book, the library exhibit is a retrospective of her own work through the four decades she spent abroad. Immersed in new cultures, different philosophies, and ways of being, she used both images and words to define who she was.

When Cameron and Chris moved to India and Pakistan for eight years, she tried to understand Hinduism by reading the Upanishad, complicated stories that still left her perplexed. Some Hindu friends explained the concept of duality, that good and evil are equal forces and the God, Brahma, is the destroyer and creator.

hymn the Brahmin sings.”

The lush language in the imagery of Walt Whitman, such as the comparison of grass to the “uttering tongues”, captivated her when she and Chris lived in Bulgaria and Iran in the 1970s. Using the texture of linen and feathers along with the brush, Cameron addresses visual sensibilities in her series of paintings from Whitman’s “Song of Myself” in *Leaves of Grass*. She reads: “I guess the grass is itself a child, the/produced babe of the vegetation/And now it seems to me the beautiful/uncut hair of graves. . . I perceive after all so many uttering tongues . . .”

With the revolution of 1979 in Iran, the United States government moved people out of Teheran to other openings, and her husband was transferred to London to become cultural attache’.

The exhibit is a retrospective of her work through the four decades she spent abroad.

“In other words,” says Cameron “there’s this life cycle, and if you think you’re dead you’re not.” She found the poem “Brahma” by Ralph Waldo Emerson, and tried to make a painting for each line. Her oil painting, “I Am the Doubter and the Doubt”, a big black and white calligraphic abstract, illustrates the stanza: “They reckon ill who leave me out;/When me they fly, I am the wings;/I am the doubter and the doubt./And I the

Deciding she wanted to learn to draw “really well”, Cameron returned to school to get her MA in graphic design and illustration at the Royal College of Art in London. For the first time, people became her primary subjects. Everywhere, especially in the underground where all the trains converge, she encountered a world of “punk” people who she imagined in terms of Shakespeare’s Midsummer

Night’s Dream. From her own poem, “Midsummer Night at Victoria Station,” emerged a set of pastel drawings depicting people like “tatty Tanya” who “Rises through the underground shafts/ Crowned in spikes of violet hair./ . . . Did her mother have rainbow hair?/ . . . Fall for an ass?” and Puck, “A punster in stove-pipe jeans/ and heavy boots/ He shrugs a shoulder labeled/ ‘Love Exploits.’”

By the time the Snows returned to the Middle East, specifically the embassy in Tel Aviv (on the very day Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait), Cameron’s style had undergone considerable transformation. They lived near the coast where “the trees and bush shapes are back-lit by brilliant light reflecting from the earth.”

Every day, she would take a great drawing board to the fields or sand dunes where she recorded the scenes in pastels and charcoal on textured paper. A poster was made of one, The Crown of Sharon, by the Society of the Protection of Nature in Israel to show the beauty of the coast along the Mediterranean with the hope of saving the coastal dunes and the wild iris from the ravages of development.

An exhibit featured her drawings with the poems of two women. “Spring” speaks to us today: “And after the flower-spattered hills/ the Dead Sea. Sunlight/ peeling off the old skin./ . . .So that the body loosens itself/ to kindness. The one thing/ we’re ready for.”

Through her years abroad, Cameron’s inner and outer landscapes changed, calling for different mediums and techniques. The aesthetics are always paramount. She wants the viewer to approach and enter her work, then come away refreshed or altered in some way.

From her glass-doored studio on Bainbridge, she looks out to a woods—perhaps reminiscent of the one in Brussels—of alder, red cedar, wild cherry, big-leaf maple, hemlock and Douglas fir trees. The Snows were drawn to this island by its quiet retreats and proliferation of green.

Her hand is still trying to make shapes. The calligraphic quality of her plants and grasses still hold traces of the abstract.

Cameron Snow’s Paintings and Drawings Paired with Poems will be on exhibit from April 1 through June 30. Her poster, The Crown of Sharon, is available for sale with all proceeds returned to the library. Call (206) 780-9230.

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THE SPRING COLOR just bursting forth in the library gardens was provided in large part by Junkoh and Chris Harui of Bainbridge Gardens. The bulbs were planted by volunteers from the Friday Tidies, under the direction of Ann Lovejoy.

CAMERON SNOW (see art feature above) has completed a 15-minute video on art and poetry, using some of her mother’s work. The video will be shown soon on Bainbridge Island Broadcasting.

SENIOR COMPUTING hour continues every Tuesday at the library from 9 to 10 a.m.

Volunteers are available to assist seniors in using the computers.

THE ROTATING art exhibits in the library change every three months, and most of the art shown is for sale, with a portion of the sale money going to the library. Prospective buyers should inquire of branch manager Cindy Harrison or Joanna Newnham, art exhibit manager.

LIBRARY BOARD members have chosen their officers for the coming year. Steve Larson is president; Susan Bottles, vice president and recording secretary; Don Harrison, treasurer; and Marlene LeMire, corresponding secretary. Past president Hans Rotherth was named to a non-voting position on the board.

FOUR NEW MEMBERS were elected to the Bainbridge Library Board this winter. They include Marite Butners, Bob Linz, Val Tollefson, and Tom Yamasaki. Read more about them in a future issue of the Library News.

ADVERTISING in the Library News helps defray printing and mailing costs.

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon / Tues / Wed	10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Thurs / Fri / Sat	10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

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