

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 9, No. 4

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

Spring 2007

Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated.

- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4**
Wills & Trusts seminar presented by George Edensword-Breck. Sponsored by Bainbridge Public Library 10-12.
Library Book Group. *Revenge of the Middle-Aged Woman* by Elizabeth Buchan. 7 p.m.
- SUNDAY, APRIL 8**
Library closed: Easter Sunday
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11**
Low Vision Support Group. 1-3 p.m.
- THURSDAY, APRIL 12**
Second Thursday Readers at the Library: Novels by John Steinbeck. 1 p.m.
A Good Yarn, the library's knitting and reading group. 7-9 p.m.
- FRIDAY, APRIL 13**
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society. 10 a.m.-12 noon
- SATURDAY, APRIL 14**
Great Decisions at the Library: Climate Change. 9-10:30 a.m.
Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10a.m.-2p.m.
- TUESDAY, APRIL 17**
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Michael Donnelly discusses "When do you give a book the hook?" 7 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18**
Southwest Travels with Thomas and Deb Fenwick. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore. 7:30 p.m.
- FRIDAY, APRIL 20**
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society. 10 a.m.-12 noon
- SATURDAY, APRIL 21**
Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. "Stop Kiss" by Diane Son 7:30 p.m.
- SUNDAY, APRIL 22**
Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. "Stop Kiss" by Diane Son 7:30 p.m.
- THURSDAY, APRIL 26**
Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-2p.m.
- SATURDAY, APRIL 28**
Great Decisions at the Library. 9-10:30 a.m.
Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: Puccini's "La Boheme." 2 p.m.
- SUNDAY, APRIL 29**
Spring Family Storytelling. 3:30-5 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 2**
Library Book Group. *River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey* by Candice Millard. 7 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 9**
Low Vision Support Group. 1-3 p.m.
- THURSDAY, MAY 10**
Second Thursday Readers at the Library. Reader's Choice selection. 1 p.m.
A Good Yarn, the library knitting and reading group. 7-9 p.m.
- SATURDAY, MAY 12**
Great Decisions at the Library. 9-10:30 p.m.
Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10a.m.-2p.m.
- TUESDAY, MAY 15**
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Mary Buckham discusses: "How do you craft believable characters of the opposite sex?" 7 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 16**
Travelogue: Croatia with Matthew Brumley. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore. 7:30 p.m.
- FRIDAY, MAY 18**
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society. 10 a.m.-12 noon
- THURSDAY, MAY 24**
Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-2p.m.
"Migrating woman with bird" Solo dance and storytelling 6:30 p.m.

Continued on Page 2

'In the Garden of the Gods' Writers slate annual conference

"Writing in the Garden of the Gods", the second annual one-day writers' conference sponsored by Field's End, is slated for Saturday, April 28, at Kiana Lodge on Agate Pass.

It's not too late to register – yet. But registration closes April 20; there will be no registration on the day of the conference.

(For details of the conference, see the Field's End Website—fieldsend.org. A registration form on the site may be downloaded and mailed in with a check for the \$150 event fee.)

Modeled after the successful conference of 2006, this year's event begins with registration at 8:30 a.m., includes a full day of writers' talks and panels, and ends with book signings and a wine and cheese reception.

Field's End is the writers' community affiliated with the Bainbridge Public Library. All active or aspiring writers are welcome.



Robert Dugoni: He'll lead workshop
(See related story on Page 5)

Among the speakers and presenters scheduled are keynote speaker Malachy McCourt, conference opener Debra Dean, moderator George Shannon, workshop leaders Robert Dugoni, Clyde Ford, Mary Guterson, Priscilla Long, Kelli Russell Agodon, Katherine Ramsland, Veronica Randall, Garth Stein, Elsa Watson, and Susan Wiggs.

The conference fee includes a salmon or vegetarian buffet lunch, continental breakfast, your choice of breakout sessions and/or writing workshops, an afternoon panel, two speakers, book signings, and the wine and cheese reception.

New this year are an afternoon panel and a workshop entitled Page One centering on individuals' writing.

Kiana Lodge is just over the Agate Pass Bridge from Bainbridge and is owned by the Suquamish Tribe, in whose language "kiana" means "garden of the gods".

Ten reasons to vote Yes for libraries in May

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

In just a few weeks – late April – Bainbridge voters (and those throughout Kitsap County) will receive ballots for a special Kitsap Regional Library levy election on May 15.

Approval of the requested levy lid lift will enable the county library system to maintain existing services and meet increasing demand for services during the next five years.

The measure would increase the library levy from 30 cents in 2007 to 48 cents in 2008. That's an increase of \$18 per hundred thousand dollars of assessed value.

Only once before in its 55-year history (in 1979) has KRL asked voters for additional library funding.

Why raise the levy now?

The county's rapid growth and increased library usage mean that KRL faces a 20 percent funding shortfall for basic operating expenses. If the measure fails, basic library services will have to be cut.

But Jill Jean, the new KRL director and Bainbridge Island resident, doesn't like to talk about that possibility.

"We've had tremendous community involvement," she says. KRL board members held many public meetings, met with 40 community leaders, and

gathered 1,000 public surveys before deciding upon the levy amount.

Funding priorities were addressed at a dozen "Great Libraries" community discussions, and 926 survey respondents listed their funding priorities.

Finally, a diverse 16-member Community Advisory Committee reviewed the library system's financial options and recommended a spring vote on the levy lid lift.

Bainbridge Islanders are proud of their library and the honors it has received. (It's featured as one of 80 great North American libraries in a new coffee table book, *Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love*.) We use it often: for reading, research, meetings, to check out audio/visual materials as well as books. For many of us it is, indeed, the heart of the community and our second home.

While the Bainbridge library building is owned by Island citizens and supported completely by donations—never any taxes—staff salaries, circulating materials, and many services are provided by the Kitsap Regional Library. Those costs are going up. The levy lid lift will cover those necessary expenses.

Here then are 10 top reasons—in no particular order—to vote Yes on the ballot you receive soon after April 25. Remember, it must be postmarked by May 15 to count.

- Kitsap Regional Library ranked No. 2 out of 13 medium and large-size libraries in Washington in the Hennen's American Public Library Ratings 2006 report.
 - Spending by KRL is a bargain: \$33.97 per person, far lower than other library systems in Washington (2005 Washington Public Library Statistics).
 - Voters in Pierce, Jefferson, Spokane, King, Snohomish, and Island Counties have recently passed similar measures to increase taxes.
 - The levy will provide for more specially trained staff to help people find information.
 - More new items will get to shelves faster, with reduced wait time for popular items.
 - 60 additional adult programs per year are planned, plus 60 more children's programs and 50 additional teen programs.
 - Increased outreach to special populations (homebound, seniors, children).
 - Improved technology for faster, more reliable access to KRL Website and catalog.
 - Additional service desk staff
 - More self-service options.
- (For more about library funding, see Page 4.)



Also in this issue:

It's spring! New gardening books are here Page 9
Young people's fun at the library Pages 6-7
Library exhibits the art of Sheila Ross Page 12

Join local writers at spring Roundtables

Fields End writers' community invites all Island writers, aspiring or experienced, to attend this spring's Writers' Roundtables.

The Writers' Roundtables take place the third Tuesday evening of every month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Bainbridge Public Library's large meeting room. The library is located at 1270 Madison Ave. North. Newcomers are always welcome; the evenings are structured to include everyone. There is no charge.

Longtime Washington resident and novelist **Michael Donnelly** addresses the topic, "When do you give a book the hook?" on April 17.

On May 15, **Mary Buckham** opens with the question, "How do you craft believable characters of the opposite sex?" Mary is a novelist, freelance writer and editor.

The final spring roundtable on June 19 features best-selling non-fiction author **Gary Kinder**, who will lead a discussion on "What is the secret to writing clear and compelling sentences?"

Michael Donnelly served as head of labor relations at the Bangor Submarine Base before embarking on his career as a novelist. His first book, *Awakening Curry Buckle*, a mystical San Juan Island adventure featuring high-school-aged characters, is an American Libraries Association Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults nominee. Michael's new mystery series based in Friday Harbor



Michael Donnelly

introduces tenacious investigative journalist Egret VanGerpin, in *False Harbor*. The Kitsap Sun writes, "You won't regret getting to know Egret." Michael has a keen interest in ancient history which will be apparent in his next VanGerpin mystery, *The Olmec Artifact*.

National writing workshop presenter **Mary Buckham's** latest release, *Invisible Recruit*, was a May 2006 Silhouette Bombshell that earned reviews such as "page-turning", "to-die for sexual tension" and "couldn't put it down". Currently Mary is working on a thriller series set in Seattle's Pike Place Market. She has hundreds of freelance articles to her credit, plus a non-fiction book, and is a former magazine editor. She conducts writing workshops online and at conferences around the country. Mary is one of the co-founders of WriterUniv.



Mary Buckham

com, an online workshop venue offering aspiring writers courses taught by authors and industry professionals.

Gary Kinder offers a unique blend of talents, including a penchant for doing exhaustive research while writing his books. A resident of Seattle, he is the author of three books of narrative nonfiction, including the critically acclaimed *New York Times* bestseller, *Ship of Gold in the Deep Blue Sea*. Not only does Gary write evocatively and persuasively, he can also explain how good writing works and why, injecting healthy doses of humor which makes his seminars both memorable and enjoyable.

Roundtable format

If you have an idea for a Writers' Roundtable topic or guest author, send an e-mail to info@fieldsend.org (please



Gary Kinder

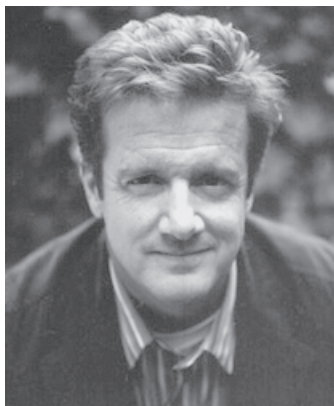
include Writers' Roundtable in the subject line), or write to Field's End at the library, 1270 Madison Ave. North, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110.

The monthly Roundtable, free and open to writers of all levels and interests, takes place the third Tuesday of each month. The guest author introduces the topic, and then participants join in a question and answer period followed by a large group discussion. The evening closes with socializing, coffee, and cookies.

Field's End, the writing community affiliated with the nonprofit Bainbridge Public Library, conducts the monthly Roundtables. Additional support for Writers' Roundtables comes from the City of Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Fund, administered by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council. For other Field's End programs, including the 2007 Writers' Conference, "Writing in the Garden of the Gods" on April 28, go to www.fieldsend.org.

Field's End sets first online writing class

Registration opens on May 15 for Field's End's first online writing class, "The Original Idea: The Heart of Your Story (and Key to Selling Your Book)" with best-selling author Bob Mayer to be held July 1-31, 2007. The course meets in cyberspace; tuition is \$50. The class is limited to 50 participants. Find the instructor's biography, class details, and registration at www.fieldsend.org. For questions write the Field's End Registrar at registrar@fieldsend.org.



Bob Mayer

released in 2006. Bob and Jenny are working on their next book, tentatively titled *Agnes and the Hitman*, due out in summer 2007.

About the class

Can you describe what your book is about in 25 words or less? This is essential to both writing

and selling your book. In this interactive online class, participants will discuss ways to find and state their original idea, excite the reader, and stay on course while writing the book. Participants will get the opportunity to share their "Original Idea" and have it discussed by the instructor and group in an interactive e-mail format.

The instructor will post regularly with topics for discussion, assignments, general commentary, feedback and responses to specific queries from

participants. Discover what you really meant to write, the level of interest and self-motivation your idea generates, how to hone your original idea, and how to

focus your creative energies.

Note: While each participant can benefit from the interactive discussion of "Ideas," all "Ideas" may not be discussed.

Continued from Page 1

Calendar of events

FRIDAY, MAY 25

Bainbridge Island Cultural Representatives meet at the library. 8:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

Great Decisions at the Library: South Africa. 9-10:30 a.m.

MONDAY, MAY 28

Library closed: Memorial Day

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

Library Book Group. *Night* by Elie Wiesel. 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Wills & Trusts seminar, presented by Ken Rekow. Sponsored by Bainbridge Public Library. 9:30-11 a.m.

Low Vision Support Group. 1-3 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Second Thursday Readers at the Library. *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides. 1 p.m.

A Good Yarn 7-9 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society. 10 a.m.-12 noon

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. "Euridice" by Sarah Ruhl 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. "Euridice" by Sarah Ruhl 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Gary Kinder discusses: "What is the secret to writing clear and compelling sentences?" 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

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

Results are in from library's recent survey

Bainbridge library users – 170 of them – filled out print or online survey forms during Kitsap Regional Library's recent countywide survey.

Islanders, like others throughout the county, said the library's most important service was "specially trained staff to help people find information".

Also highly rated were services to homebound patrons, seniors, and children; online access to magazines and other information sources; and expanded meeting space, technology, and seating capacity at the library.

The survey results will be useful to board members and library staff who are constantly working to improve services to patrons.

Early deadlines for June issue of Library News

New ads ... May 1

News items ... May 4



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MONDAY - SATURDAY 10 - 6, THURSDAYS 'TIL 8, SUNDAYS 12 - 5

A visit to Sweden in lingonberry season

By BARBARA WINTHER

A jar of lingonberry jam at a US grocery store is expensive, since most likely it must be imported from Sweden, where the berries grows wild.

The jam, a cousin of cranberries but not as pungent, has a unique, mouth-watering flavor and is delicious on pancakes or waffles with whipped cream either mixed in the jam or dolloped on top. Our family loves the jam and always has some on hand.

So, imagine our excitement when we and two other friends received an invitation from Trygve and Inga-Lena, whom we met a few years ago, to visit their farm in September—lingonberry season.

The farm, located on a river near the town of Bolnäs, is a three-hour drive north of Stockholm. Ten years ago, Trygve logged off what he referred to as the “upper forest” of his farm. Because of the added light, lingonberries and blueberries now flourish there along with a multitude of small trees and seedlings.

The afternoon we arrived, my husband, not one to wait for anything good, said, “Let’s pick the berries now.” So, the six of us pulled on our boots, and off we went.

The best way to pick lingonberries is with a comb-edged scooper. For about an hour, we worked the hill, stopping now and then to eat nearby blueberries until our lips and tongues turned purple. We filled three big buckets full of lingonberries and headed back to the farmhouse.

“Stage one accomplished!” cried Trygve. Before we could progress to stage two, Inga-Lena announced we should all sit down around the kitchen table. “We need to recoup our strength,” she insisted.

An afternoon break is as important in Sweden as in England, except more often they drink coffee instead of tea and eat blueberry cake rather than scones.

After that, Trygve brought out an old-fashioned sorter tray that must have been at least 100 years old. A person sits on either side of it, eliminating



Trygve and his sauna (above). Inga-Lena’s birchbark box (top right); a lingonberry sorting tray (lower right).

—Photos by Grant Winther

the bad berries and leaves by pushing them through parallel wires onto the ground, allowing only the good berries to flow down into a container. It took an incredibly long time to fill three buckets. I could see why the afternoon break had been necessary.

When the sorting was completed, Inga-Lena boiled the berries in huge iron kettles on the kitchen stove, using a measured amount of water and sugar.

“Shouldn’t we take out the white, unripe berries?” I inquired.

“No,” she replied. “We must have some in there. They contain the pectin needed to jell.”

That evening after supper, which included wonderful Swedish meatballs, we hiked across the hay field to the sauna. Trygve had recently built it from lumber logged off his lower forest. He peeled the logs and milled the lumber

for the floor and roof at a nearby mill, working alongside the owner. He then took a class to learn about notch construction. It took him two years to build the sauna.

As we sat inside, the atmosphere grew so hot, what with ladling water on the stove to build up the heat, that we had to rush outside every 10 minutes or so, and sometimes leap into the icy river to cool off.

The next day we learned about birch bark boxes. Not only is Inga-Lena a fine painter, she also makes felt objects such as hats and slippers, and, much of her time these days, creates birch bark boxes, the bark collected from trees on her farm. Still taking classes from Nils Blixt, Sweden’s most famous birch box artist, Inga-Lena now excels both in technique and design. First she draws what her mind sees,



using a tool to press in the outlines which are then inked. She then paints with watercolors and beer. When the color has dried, she mixes turpentine and linseed oil to cover the box so the design won’t run or fade. The joining side of the bark is interlocked in a process called “Tampning.” Root is sewed on for a decorative edging. The top and bottom of a box is carved of wood, the bottom pegged in.

We came home from the Swedish farm with a large carton of lingonberry jam, well taped up in our suitcase, and one of Inga-Lena’s beautiful boxes that I hand carried.

Read more about Sweden

Bringing It Home, Sweden, Cheryl MacLachlan—the qualities of a Swedish home plus kitchen recipes (including meatballs).

Carving and Whittling: the Swedish Style, Gert Ljungberg—the basics of carving traditional Swedish items.

Of Swedish Ways, Lilly Lorenzen—social life and customs.

Sweden, Jane Hutchings—information on different areas of Sweden.

Swedish Handcraft, Anna-Maja Nylén—a large book with many illustrations.

Travel talks continue in spring and fall

The popular series of illustrated travel talks at the library continues this spring and will be resumed in the fall. (No lectures are planned for summer, when many Islanders are traveling.)

The evenings are co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore and the library.

Check the calendar on Page One for spring topics and dates, and watch for the fall schedule in the September Library News.

Armchair travelers, and those planning trips, will find a large assortment of travel books, magazines, and DVDs on the library shelves.

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Kevin is a proud board member of the Bainbridge Public Library

What does it take to show you're a follower of Jesus?



Join us Sunday 9:30 a.m. at Woodward School

The Bible says you'll know we follow Jesus by how well we love each other. Sometimes that's pretty hard. Which is why we gather on Sunday to practice. When we get it right it's way more convincing than a tattoo, t-shirt, or bumper sticker.

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A few words about our library's funding needs

Newcomers and visitors to Bainbridge often remark on our beautiful public library with its great book collections, special gardens, collected artworks and—most of all—its warm and friendly, knowledgeable staff.

We who have lived here for a few decades take pride in this building which was created by all of us, constructed and maintained by donations only—never any taxes.

Most newcomers have moved here from places which pay for their libraries—both the buildings and the staff and collections within—by property taxes.

So it comes as something of a shock when they discover our unique means of funding. For those of you who are recent arrivals, here's a short, simplified explanation:

The Bainbridge Public Library is owned by the citizens of the Island, through a non-profit corporation, administered by a volunteer board of local residents. The Island's first small central library was built at its present location in 1962 and has been expanded twice (in 1982 and again in 1997).

So far, generous donors and rents from a recently acquired professional building have paid for all maintenance and operation of the facility and its grounds. Most Islanders would like to continue funding the building this way—without additional taxes.

But the salaries of our excellent staff, circulating materials, the computers, many services—the things that make the building a library!—are paid by a county-wide library system, the Kitsap Regional Library. That system is supported by your property taxes—and right now, it's underfunded. Our county has grown rapidly, and the library system's needs have grown right along with our population.

That's why voters are asked to approve a levy lid lift this spring. (It's an all-mail election, and your ballot must be postmarked no later than May 15.)

The \$18 per hundred thousand dollar valuation increase in taxes means that an owner of a \$500,000 property will pay \$90 more in 2008. That's less than \$2 a week to keep our library system growing.

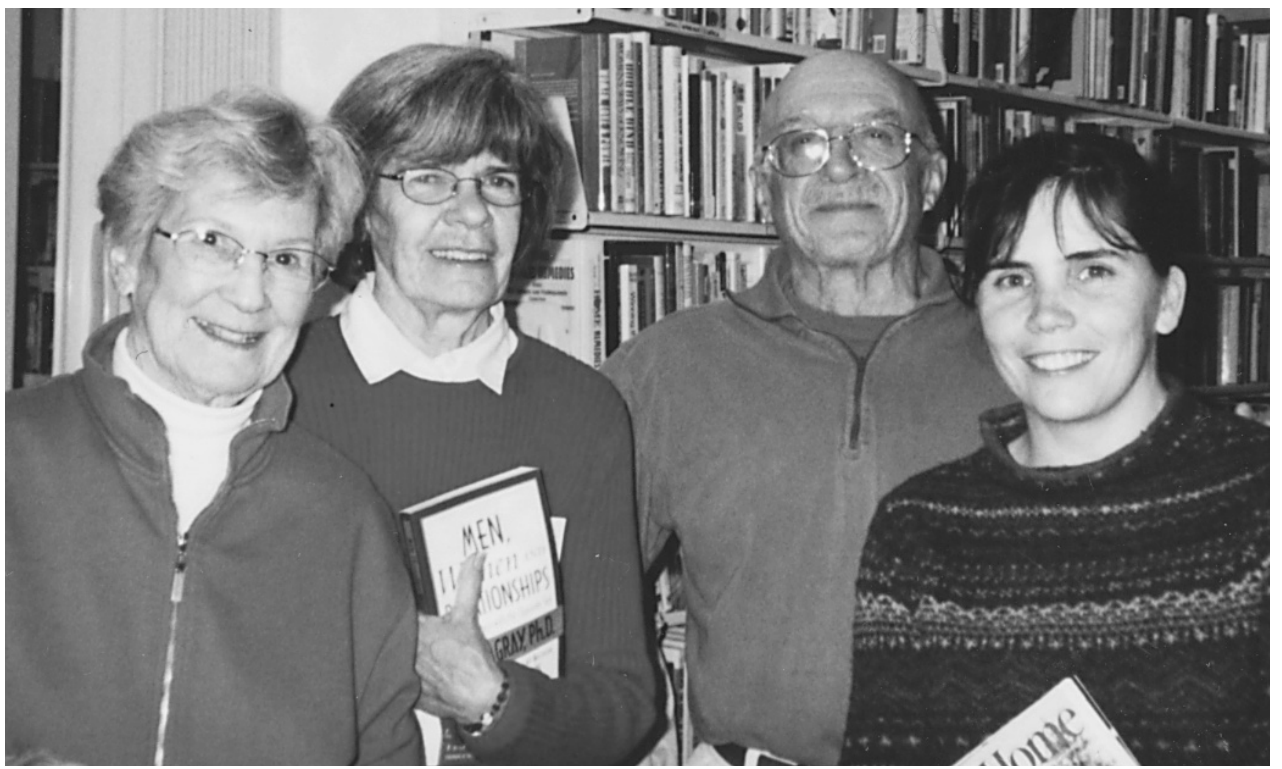
Whether you think of it as smaller lattes a couple of times a month or the cost of a few new books (which will be available more quickly through the library) it seems a small price to pay for much-needed improvements and growth in our outstanding library system.

Questions?

Fact sheets about the levy are available at the Bainbridge library, and most library volunteers are happy to talk about the library's needs. Jill Jean, the new director of Kitsap Regional Library is an Island resident and so is Althea Paulson, who represents us on the KRL board of trustees.

One final thought: This increase in the library is the first one requested since 1979! It's about time we did a little catching up.

—Verda Averill



Library Friends at work

Four Friends of the Library pause for a candid camera shot as they set up books for an upcoming sale. From left are Delores Bussell, Dorothy Klavins, Ken Fox, and Selena Mordue. Book sales are held second Saturdays and fourth Thursdays from 10 to 2.

Val Tollefson leads new board; Ann Lovejoy serves as adviser

With the new year in January, several changes were made in the Bainbridge Library Board.

Val Tollefson, local attorney, succeeded Ann Lovejoy as president. Lovejoy, who served for two years as president, will continue to work with the group as an adviser (and, of course, continue her work with the Friday Tidies garden volunteers).

Sue Bottles retired from the board after six years of service, two of them as president. She will continue to work for the library as a committee member and remains involved in Field's End, the writers' community affiliated with the library.

All board members volunteer their time, and board membership is limited to two successive three-year terms.

In one of his first acts as president, Tollefson signed a letter to library supporters expressing the need for ongoing funding. It read in part:

"The library continues to need your support. But this year, we need it in multiple ways.

"To keep the lights on, the building in good shape, and the lovely grounds maintained, we need your financial commitment. This is your library. No tax dollars are available to keep this house in order. . .

"But the library would be a cold and empty place without the amazing resources provided by Kitsap Regional Library which, unlike BPL, IS supported by your tax dollars. . .

"KRL needs to get its tax levy in line with current economic conditions (and) will be asking you, through a special election later this spring, to approve an increase in its tax levy. Your approval of that ballot measure is as important to Bainbridge Island as is your continued direct financial support of the Bainbridge Public Library through its annual appeal and through One Call For All."

Reflections of a Friend

By PATRICIA MILLER
President, Friends of the Library Board

The library that Islanders flock to today is a tribute to the tradition of community involvement that began in Port Madison nearly 150 years ago; in 1863, donated books were available there to all "in space above the mill store—the second community public library (established) on Puget Sound".

Fifty years later, The Good Templars, a community temperance organization, provided space for a library in Winslow, and in 1916, volunteers gathered to build the Rolling Bay Library.

That library served Islanders well until the 1960s, when they recognized the need for "a larger, more central library". In 1962 and later, in 1997, volunteers stepped forward again when the need arose, and the community responded to provide the funds necessary to expand the library. *

The Bainbridge Public Library has been uniquely successful; it's listed among the top 80 libraries in **Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love: Treasured Libraries of the United States and Canada****, and branch manager Cindy Harrison was one of only 40 librarians nationwide honored this year with The New York Times Librarian Award.

The library is also unique among the nine branches of the Kitsap County Regional Library. While KRL provides staffing and books, the Bainbridge community provided the funds that built it, provides the funds necessary to maintain

the physical plant, and the funds needed to sustain various community and library programs.

This tradition has required Island-wide commitment. Every year, Islanders donate funds that volunteers on the Bainbridge Public Library Board use to pay for heat and power, for building maintenance and repair. The Friends of the Library sell donated books in twice monthly sales, in the foyer sales and online. The proceeds purchase furniture, support reading programs, pay for magazine subscriptions and provide emergency funds to fill gaps.

To say that the Bainbridge Library is crowded these days is to state the obvious. Moreover, its role has expanded exponentially with a rapidly growing population, rapidly changing technology, and the increasing demand for community meeting space. The time is coming when we must turn to the Island community once again for the funding necessary to expand the library and maintain its now nationwide reputation for excellence.

Those folks who gathered back in 1863 in the room over the mill in Port Madison would be amazed to see the library that anchors the corner of Madison and High School Road today, but they would not be surprised to know that their example continues to inspire today's Islanders to carry on their tradition.

*All historical information is from *They Like Noble Causes*, by Barbara Winther (2000). Barbara's book is available at the library.

**book edited by Karen Christensen and David Levinson and published by Berkshire Publishing Group.

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 president; Marc Adam, Janet Brookes, Marite Butners, George Edensword-Breck, Joan Gardiner, Caryl Grosch, Kevin Hawkins, Wyman Johnson, Jim Laughlin, Channie Peters, George Shannon, Jenifer Shipley, and Delight Willing. Cindy Harrison is branch manager, Althea Paulson is KRL board representative, Kate McDill is facilities manager, Ann Lovejoy is board adviser.



Children's Corner

Activities of interest to young people and their families

News from young people's area

By CARMINE RAU
Youth Services Librarian



Summer reading is coming

It's no mystery that summertime means summer reading. This year's theme is "Get a Clue @ Your Library."

Look for fun events and mysterious happenings at the BI Public Library. Summer Reading will kick off Saturday, June 16th. That's when you can start reading your way to a free book. Children need not be independent readers to participate- even the youngest child can sign up. Parents, when you read to your little ones the time you read aloud counts toward their summer reading hours. We look forward to seeing you at the library this summer where you don't have to be a super sleuth to find a good book.

Girl Scouts sleep over at library

Fifteen Junior Girl Scouts plus two leaders, a brave parent and one Youth Services librarian equals non-stop fun in the library. On Friday, February 2nd troop 1400 became the first to spend the night at the Bainbridge Island Public Library as they worked toward their books badge. "It rocked!" "An awesome experience." "Really cool." Were some of the comments the girls had about the sleep over. The evenings activities included putting on skits based on various world folktales, making posters to promote the library (which are currently on display in the Young People's Department), and taking a behind the scenes tour of the library. "I had no clue there were so many different library jobs," commented Emma Spickard. But the most fun, far and away, in the opinion of the girls was playing Sardines in the dark library. After all that fun, Jenny Conde spoke for many when she said, "The worst part was when we went to bed."



Troop 1400 shows why the game is called Sardines by squeezing themselves into the non-fiction stacks. Pictured are Alison Snare, Natalya Niehaus, Jenny Conde, Brittany Greene and friends.

Penguin Books: Black and white and read all over

By CARMINE RAU
Youth Services Librarian

You can't turn around lately without seeing penguins. There must be something in the air, but people can't get enough of these funny black and white creatures lately. In response to recent requests here are a few of my favorite penguin picture books:

Penguins ABC (2004) – Kevin Schafer. This board book is filled with fabulous photos from the daily lives of penguins from Antarctica to Zero degrees.

I Like it When (2002) – Mary Murphy. A wonderful book to share with toddlers, a mother penguin and child list things they like to do together.

365 Penguins (2006) – Jean-Luc Fromental. An anonymous package containing one penguin arrives on January 1st and from there the adventure multiplies for one family and their growing penguin population.

Lost and Found (2005) – Oliver Jeffers. The mysterious appearance of a lost penguin on the boy's front step leads to a long voyage and unlikely friendship.

Tacky the Penguin (1988) – Helen Lester. The first of many Tacky books, here we meet the odd ball penguin who marches to his own beat, literally.

And Tango Makes Three (2005) – Justin Richardson. Based on the true story of two male penguins at the central park zoo that save the day when a penguin couple at the zoo has more eggs than they can care for.

Filbert Flies (2003) – Karl Ruhmann. Penguins can't fly...or can they?

Penguin Dreams (1999) – J. Otto Seibold. What do penguins dream of? Flying, of course! Fly along with Chongo Chingi the penguin in this rhyming story of one penguin's nightly voyage.

Children's literature in other languages

By GAIL CHRISTENSEN
Youth People's Department

We have had many requests for children's books in foreign languages. At last, we can say "Many have arrived!"

We have Harry Potter in Spanish as well as some of the Captain Underpants series. They can be found in J 863.

Mama goose: a Latino nursery treasury is found in E 398.8094. If you look in the area of E 863, you will find La Mariquita Malhumorada (The Grouchy Ladybug) by Eric Carle.

Looking for a book in German? Check J 833. There you will discover, Die Schonsten 1 2 3 Minutengeschichten by Manfred Mai.

A little French will be found in J 843. Here resides Asterix le Bouchlier Arverne by R. Goscinny.

We also have an assortment of books from the Pacific Rim area.

Alamat ng Ampalaya by Augie Rivera is located in J 899. She also wrote Mga Puno ni Elias which is an adaptation of The man who planted trees by Jean Giono.

We have a few books in Chinese. A visually lovely one is Beyond the Great Mountains by Ed Young (J 895.11).

There are many books in Japanese (J 895.63) that have been donated. A few have English titles including Captain Underpants, but the majority of the titles are written in Japanese characters so I can not share a title with you.

Remember the young people's area has a multitude of stories in various foreign languages. Just ask. We are here to help you.

Click computer classes are for everyone

By SHARON SNYDER

Our cadre of dedicated Click volunteers continues to offer classes and tutor individuals on computer basics and the fundamentals for Internet searching. People who attend classes and those who receive individualized instruction are quite appreciative of this service. For many, it is their first great leap over the digital divide.

Did you know that Internet 201, a class offered at least once each month, is geared for people who are comfortable with Internet

searching and want to improve the quality and the efficiency of their time spent online? We have received rave reviews for these classes and pleas for us to get the word out to writers, researchers and all kinds of other folks about this service.

Our Internet 201 class introduces some of the online database resources available through the KRL Website at no charge to those with a library card. It also covers browser shortcuts, strategies for Web navigation, and tips for locating quality, credible information. Our

Internet 201 may just be the right class for you.

Check it out.

Sign up for any of our Click computer classes at the reference desk upstairs at the library.

See class schedule on next page.

—NEWS BRIEFS—

FREE SEMINARS on Wills and Trusts will be offered at the library from 10 a.m. to noon on April 4 and in June. Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited; please call (206) 866-1250 to reserve your space, and indicate date.

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At Scouts sleepover



Photos by Carmine Rau



The staff's own Candid Camera caught these Scouts in action at their recent library sleepover. (Story on Page 6)

Top, Jenny Conde, Brittany Greene, Carly Millerd and Anika Vroom take a bow after their rousing performance of "The Enormous Turnip" by Aleksey Tolstoy. Lower left, Kate Matthews roars as lion in "Anansi and the Moss Covered Rock" retold by Eric Kimmel, and, lower right, Anika Vroom poses in costume for her role in the traditional Russian folktale "The Enormous Turnip".

Storytime schedule

- MONDAY, APRIL 9**
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am
- TUESDAY, APRIL 10**
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11**
Preschool storytime, 10:30am
- MONDAY, APRIL 16**
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am
- TUESDAY, APRIL 17**
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18**
Preschool storytime, 10:30am
- MONDAY, APRIL 23**
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am
- TUESDAY, APRIL 24**
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25**
Preschool storytime, 10:30am
- MONDAY, APRIL 30**
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am
- TUESDAY, MAY 1**
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 2**
Preschool storytime, 10:30am
- MONDAY, MAY 7**
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am
- TUESDAY, MAY 8**
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 9**
Preschool storytime, 10:30am
- MONDAY, MAY 14**
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am
- TUESDAY, MAY 15**
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 16**
Preschool storytime, 10:30am
- MONDAY, MAY 21**
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am
- TUESDAY, MAY 22**
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 23**
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

Children and family programs

- THURSDAYS, FEBRUARY 1 – APRIL 26, 3:30 - 5 PM**
Read In at the Library! Drop by to hear stories from our Reading Friends volunteers
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 3 PM**
Globe Trotters Club: around the world through stories and crafts for children 7 - 12
- SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 3:30 PM**
Spring Tales: guest storytellers perform tales for children and adults age 5 and up
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 3 PM**
Globe Trotters Club: around the world through stories and crafts for children 7 - 12
- SATURDAY, JUNE 16 ALL DAY**
Summer Reading Kick Off

Click computer class schedule

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| FRIDAY, APRIL 6 Computer Basics, 10 a.m. | MONDAY, MAY 7 Computer Basics, 6 p.m. | MONDAY, JUNE 4 Internet 101, 6 p.m. |
| TUESDAY, APRIL 10 Internet 201, 6 p.m. | FRIDAY, MAY 11 Internet 201, 10 a.m. | THURSDAY, JUNE 7 Computer Basics, 10 a.m. |
| TUESDAY, APRIL 17 Internet 101, 10 a.m. | TUESDAY, MAY 15 Internet 101, 10 a.m. | TUESDAY, JUNE 12 Internet 201, 10 a.m. |
| FRIDAY, APRIL 27 Internet 201, 10 a.m. | THURSDAY, MAY 17 Computer Basics, 10 a.m. | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20 Internet 101, 10 a.m. |
| FRIDAY, MAY 4 Internet 101, 10 a.m. | WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 Internet 201, 10 a.m. | FRIDAY, JUNE 22 Internet 201, 10 a.m. |

— NEWS BRIEFS —

NO TAXES have ever been levied for either construction or maintenance of the Bainbridge Public Library and Gardens. (Property taxes do, however, pay Kitsap Regional Library for its many services, including staff salaries.)

A **DAYTIME** library book group now meets regularly on the second Thursday of each month. See Calendar on Page One for times and topics. Newcomers are welcome.

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A potpourri of spring nonfiction

By GAIL GOODRICK,
Non-fiction Collection Manager

Of local historical interest is *The White Cascade: The Great Northern Railway Disaster and America's Deadliest Avalanche* by Gary Krist. This is about two passenger trains of people caught in a deadly Cascade avalanche in February 1910.

Animal lovers will enjoy reading about the dramatic rescue of many of the

abandoned animals of the Baghdad Zoo during and after the invasion of Iraq in *Babylon's Ark: The Incredible Wartime Rescue of the Baghdad Zoo* by Anthony Lawrence and Graham Spence.

The noted novelist William Vollmann has written a meditation on *Poor People and the nature of poverty*. While many of the families and individuals he interviewed would be described as poor, Vollmann also considers what constitutes happiness and community.

Mississippi Sissy by Kevin Sessums is described as a funny and sad coming-of-age memoir set in the changing social and racial climate of Mississippi in the 1960's and 1970's.

Hyper-Chondriac: One Man's Quest to Hurry Up and Calm Down by Brian Frazer is a funny exposition of his life-long obsession with various cure-alls for both physical and mental health problems—all in the pursuit of lasting happiness and inner peace.

The twilight of the Edwardian era is portrayed in the book titled *The Perfect Summer: England 1911, Just Before the Storm* by Juliet Nicolson. A wonderful example of social history as storytelling with rich subjects such as the crowning of a new king, industrial strikes shaking the social order, a killer heat wave and the first appearance of the Ballets Russes in London. This book was a best seller in the UK.

— New at the library —

Morningstar.com Library Edition at your fingertips!

By PEGGY BRANAMAN,
Information Services Coordinator

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Morningstar.com Library Edition is the Internet-based investing resource that can do all that for you, and more. This new KRL electronic resource takes you through the entire investing process – finding stocks and funds, evaluating them, and seeing how they work together in a portfolio.

Right inside Morningstar.com you can attend an online classroom and access a full glossary of terms through the extensive on-board help system. Even if you're new to investing, Morningstar shows you how to get the most from the information provided. Make no mistake, this is the full-blown Morningstar.com product that will also serve and satisfy the most experienced and sophisticated investor. With powerful screeners to help you build lists of stocks and funds based on hundreds of different criteria.

Morningstar offers accurate, up-to-date data on 20,000 stocks and funds. And

it lets users build and test portfolio ideas online, and even print their results for later reference. You'll also get premium access to Morningstar Analyst Reports – which include buy and sell direction – for 1,600 stocks and 2,000 mutual funds.

All this paid for you by your library! So visit www.krl.org, select "Electronic Resources" and give Morningstar.com Library Edition a try. It's another way

Kitsap Regional Library is serving the need for information that educates residents and helps them to achieve their personal and professional goals.

For more information or a demonstration, feel free to contact me anytime at pbranaman@krl.org.

Please let me hear from you, and tell me how you like this addition to our collection. Happy investing.

BAC continues to support Bainbridge Public Library

By SUSAN JACKSON,
Executive Director

Over the last two years the Bainbridge Arts and Crafts has raised \$5000 for the library to buy new books on art, architecture, and design for our community.

This year we're out for more! Here's how it works: You bring your beautiful, but neglected art books to BAC located at 151 Winslow Way E

Monday through Friday, 10-6, or Sunday, 11-5. The Bainbridge Library will choose the titles it needs to go directly into its collection. The other donated books will be made available for purchase at the Gallery.

All proceeds from donations will be given to the Bainbridge Public Library to purchase new books on art, architecture and design.

NEWS BRIEFS

THE BAINBRIDGE Public Library is a member of the community-wide One Call For All. Donations for the library's

maintenance and operation may be made through One Call in October or directly to the library during its annual appeal.



Chinese New Year

was recognized in the Bainbridge library with this colorful display in the Young People's Library. Pei Wang, a library staff member born in China, was among Islanders who planned the community-wide celebration of the Chinese New Year, Year of the Pig.

— NEWS BRIEFS —

TWO MEETING ROOMS are now available at the library for use by local groups. For more information and rental rates please inquire at the library. Kate McDill schedules room reservations.

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It's spring, and new gardening books are here

By JULIE O'NEILL,
Reference Librarian

With spring here, it's time to get serious about getting your garden into shape. These new gardening books will inspire you to start digging and planting. Even on rainy days you can curl up with a few of these books to plan and dream about your bountiful, beautiful summer garden to come.

Peaceful Gardens: Transform Your Garden into a Haven of Calm and Tranquility by Stephanie Donaldson. Complete descriptions for planning a garden, with over 250 full-color photographs to inspire the creation of your own peaceful garden.

Ask Ciscoe: Oh, La La!: Your Gardening Questions Answered by Ciscoe Morris. The Pacific Northwest's garden guru (with his signature "Ooh-la-la!" delivered in a thick Wisconsin accent) addresses a range of garden questions from "Can I grow an apple tree on the deck of my condo?" to "How do we get the yellow jackets to leave?" in his humorous but practical style.

The Spare-time Gardener: Tips and Tricks for Those on the Go by Barbara Hill Freeman. This book is for those who need to squeeze gardening into an already hectic schedule. Realistic advice focuses on minimizing garden chores and getting down to essentials.

Deer in My Garden by Carolyn Singer. Volume 1 in the "Yucky Flower Series" covers perennials and shrubs that are distasteful to deer.

Hardscaping: How to Use Structures, Pathways, Patios and Ornament in Your Garden by Keith Davitt. Great photos and illustrations show how trellises, walkways, fountains, paving, walls, patios, etc. can add dimension to your garden.

Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants by C. Colston Burrell. This award-winning author recommends native plant species to use in gardens instead of invasive non-native species that are a threat to native plants and animals.

Designing the New Kitchen Garden: an American Potager Handbook by Jennifer Bartley. The traditional European potager, or kitchen garden, is an intricately patterned outdoor room that provides the ultimate in fresh, healthy herbs, fruits and vegetables. The author recommends suitable plants and designs for American potagers.

Late Summer Flowers by Marina Christopher. Here's how to extend the garden season by choosing the right plants for late summer and autumn blooming.

Instant Gardens: High Impact Makeovers That Look Great Right Now, Meridith Books. While "instant gardening" may be an oxymoron, this book is full of tips and techniques to improve



the appearance of your garden in a single day. From fast color in beds and borders to quick privacy screening, overnight party preparation, curb appeal and entryway makeovers, you'll find suggestions for speedy and gratifying results.

Shade: Planting for Shady Gardens by Keith Wiley. You can create tapestries of color in dense to dappled shade conditions with both common and not-so-common plant choices.

The photos will inspire you to treasure your shady spots.

Outside the Not So Big House: Creating the Landscape of Home by Julie Messervy. Drawing on the Japanese philosophy of *katei*, meaning unified home and garden, the author and Sarah

Susanka, author of *The Not So Big House*, offer ideas for integrating smaller homes with their sites.

P. Allen Smith's Colors for the Garden: Creating Compelling Color Themes by P. Allen Smith. This celebrity garden designer offers simple ways to create gardens that burst with color.

And a few titles from Bainbridge garden writers:

Fragrance in Bloom: The Scented Garden Throughout the Year by Ann Lovejoy. Bainbridge's own garden guru recommends and describes over 300 scented flowers that will provide fragrant beauty throughout the year.

A Garden Gallery: The Plants, Art and Hardscape of Little and Lewis by George Lewis and David Little. The gardening duo, Little and Lewis, have created a unique and dramatic garden on their small lot on Bainbridge. The exceptional photography of this book opens their garden gate and captures stunning tropical plant combinations, inventive water features, fantastical art and sculptures, along with practical and inspirational advice from the two gardeners.

Gardening With Stone: Using Stone features to Add Mystery, Magic and Meaning to Your Garden by Jan Whitner. The gorgeous photographs by Bainbridge's Linda Younker show how stone enhances many garden styles: Asian, formal, natural, water-wise, cottage and water gardens.

Penguin Lives: Biography in a nutshell

By PATRICIA MILLER

The **Penguin Lives Series** is a collection of compact biographies featuring modern and historical figures, each authored by a notable contemporary writer. Whether the subject is from literature or science, religion or psychology, theater or politics, this series offers a window into the lives of people who have shaped and altered the way we think and live.

Noted Canadian author Carol Shields writes about **Jane Austen**, who anticipated for herself the kind of happily-ever-after-ending she arranged for her heroines. But, says Shields, "Seductive powers were informally factored into the dowry arrangement. Intelligence, on the other hand, was more likely to present a negative weight."

So Jane, who was burdened with a fine mind, ordinary looks and a loving family of modest means, lived out her life within her family and died unwed at age 42. Following her death, her sister Cassandra burned much of Jane's correspondence. No doubt this was a loss to biographers,

but says Shields, in the end what really matters is "the novels themselves, and not the day to day life of the author." Two centuries after her death, Jane Austen's books still provide a window into a colorful society that no longer exists.

Herman Melville's ambitions, like Austen's, were inhibited by lack of fortune, but it also played a part in his early success as a writer. In her book, **Herman Melville**, Elizabeth Hardwick writes that he was only 13 years old when his insolvent father died, and his family's "reluctance to practice economy" forced his decision a few years later to sign on to a merchant ship as a cabin boy.

His first book, **Typee**, evolved from that ocean going experience and was enormously popular. A failure during Melville's lifetime, **Moby Dick** gained a wide audience in the 1920s and became an American classic.

His success of course, was unknown to him and that knowledge only compounds the effect on the reader of the emotional isolation and sense of failure he endured during his lifetime. In her examination of other less well-known works, especially **Redburn**, Hardwick

speculates that Melville was further isolated by homosexuality.

For dramatic contrast to Melville, read **Charles Dickens**, by Jane Smiley. Dickens's life teemed with events and activities in the same way his novels teemed with lively characters and surprising plot turns. He was, says Smiley, "the first true celebrity in the modern sense, a social phenomenon, a figure unique among his contemporaries, and yet representative of them—".

Smiley relates the evolution the author's life concurrently with his novels and reconstructs the man in all his surprising dimensions.

A prolific writer, he was working on **Oliver Twist** at the same time he was writing the last of **The Pickwick Papers** and editing a magazine. He was a performer, traveling through Great Britain and the United States to perform dramatic readings. He walked 20 to

30 miles a day through London streets. He fathered 10 children, then left his long-suffering wife Catherine for a young actress who was rumored to have given birth to yet another son.

Among spiritual figures in the Penguin Series you'll find, **St. Augustine**, **Martin Luther**, **the Buddha** and **Pope John XXIII**. In his book, Thomas Cahill follows Angelo Roncalli from his

Continued on Page 11

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Top teen reads in 2006

By CONSTANCE KOEHLER-O'SHEA

While working at Eagle Harbor Books a few years ago I discovered teen or young adult literature and developed a passion for it. These are some of the best new titles that I have come across and I wanted to share them with you.

King Dork, by Frank Portman

Saddled with an unwelcome assignment to read *The Catcher in the Rye* again, high schooler Tom Henderson, the titular *King Dork*, finds a copy of this classic in a box of books left by his father, who died under strange circumstances. As Tom sets out to learn more about his father through reading his personal collection of books, he finds himself enmeshed in a series of mysteries that may unearth the puzzle of his father's death. Or they may provide the key to attracting hot girls.

If I had to pick just one favorite novel from 2006, it would easily be *King Dork*. It is a unique homage to high school, rock and roll, and, ironically, *The Catcher in the Rye*. *King Dork* is hilarious, heartfelt, sometimes cynical, and always honest. Some of the content is adult; sexual encounters and drug use are both frequently referenced. But, all ring true-to-life and none are gratuitous.

Grand & Humble, by Brent Hartinger

Popular, athletic Harlan and geeky outsider Manny have nothing in common. Or do they? Both share a series

of ominous premonitions that lead them to a shared past at the downtown intersection of Grand & Humble.

While the carefully constructed unraveling of the storyline will keep you guessing to the end, it is the rich and thoughtful characterizations that make this novel truly one-of-a-kind. Grand & Humble is a testament to how each of us is more than the labels we sometimes wear.

Teens Read!

By SHARON SNYDER,
Assistant Branch Manager

Last summer the young people of our island broke the record for number of teens participating in our summer reading program. Finishers claimed their very own paperback books from our young adult prize collection. We decorated the library teen scene with punch cards. It looked great.

This coming summer we get to do it all over again. The teen theme is, YNK—You Never Know @ Your Library.

And you know what? You never do. There is always more cool stuff to discover.

Sign-ups begin in June. Start thinking about all those great books you're going to read over the summer and get ready for the Teen Mystery Night on Friday, July 13th.



AT SCOUTS' SLEEPOVER – Allison Snare, Emma Spickard, Page Adams and Emma Cohen prepare for their performance of "One Potato, Two Potatoes" by Cynthia DeFelice. (See story on Page 6.)

Library donors are honored at party

The Bainbridge Public Library depends on donations from Bainbridge Islanders and their friends to keep its doors open and building and grounds available to all, seven days a week.

No taxes have ever been levied to pay for construction or maintenance of the library.

The Bainbridge Library Board, staff, and library patrons thank the following for their gifts to the library during 2006.

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Newcomers you'll see at the library

Have you met them yet?

Hannah Caitlin Greer and Margaret Matzinger-Tchakerian are new at the library this year—Greer as a staff member (page and library assistant) and Tchakerian as a volunteer in several areas (including the Friends book sales),

Both have many skills, varied career histories, and a love of libraries—especially the Bainbridge Public Library.

Hannah Caitlin Greer

Hannah Greer moved to Bainbridge Island about four years ago, after living in Seattle, Chicago, and Geneva, Switzerland, among other places.

She was a theater major at the University of Washington, and has had several careers – in theater, radio broadcasting, as a volunteer elementary school librarian; once she even “played Martha Washington”. (Ask her about that.)

But her favorite career, she’s quick to admit, has been as a single mom to her son, Ian Abbott Jagel.

Now that Ian is in college—she calls herself “an empty nester”—she feels free to move on into a new, “mission-oriented” career.

Work at the library suits her perfectly. She enjoys working with people—sometimes, as a page, shelving books, other times serving in another way, as a library assistant, helping patrons directly.

When not working at the library Greer enjoys making jewelry, gardening, and



Hannah Caitlin Greer

reading and watching videos (especially those from BBC productions—anything from Miss Marple to Poirot).

“We have many of the BBC/PBS DVD collections here at the library,” she notes, suggesting that “Anyone can go online and put them on hold.”

Her reading interests range over a wide variety of topics, from ancient Mesopotamia to Pompeii to spirituality, and she’s currently writing her memoirs.

She also loves to travel. “I’m not afraid of the unknown,” she says.

Here at home, she finds her work at the library more than satisfying.

“I love the fact that the library serves our whole community,” she says. “The staff is really helpful. . . very supportive, and they make the system work very well.”



Margaret Matzinger-Tchakerian

Margaret Matzinger-Tchakerian

Margaret is a newcomer to Bainbridge, and she didn’t waste any time discovering the library.

“Two days after we moved here I came into the library,” she says.

She liked it so much she offered to work as a volunteer.

You’ll sometimes find her upstairs—processing donations, helping to cover books, and doing whatever she can to help the staff – and sometimes downstairs, working with the Friends of the Library, sorting books for sale and helping out at the Friends book sales.

She finds all the work “very rewarding”. Margaret was born in Austria, and

grew up in the small town of Waidhofen an der Thaya, north of Vienna. She came to the United States to attend college, the University of California at Los Angeles. She liked UCLA so much she stayed on as an academic counselor, married, and remained in southern California for 25 years.

But recently both she and her husband found themselves “at a new place in our lives”.

They wanted to live in a place where “it rains more than Los Angeles” (their California home was near an area with frequent fires) and where living was on a “more human scale”. (The day after her interview for this Library News they were scheduled to close on the purchase of a Bainbridge home.)

She doesn’t mind the long, rainy winter days of the Pacific Northwest. They are, she finds, perfect for reading—something she had too little time for during a long and very busy career. What does she like to read? Non-fiction mostly. Recently she enjoyed *Galileo’s Daughter*, recommended by Friends president Pat Miller.

When not working at the library, reading, or enjoying walks in her new hometown, Margaret is often found volunteering for the WestSound Wildlife Shelter. (The group is currently planning for its annual auction in April.)

Margaret has always liked libraries, but finds the Bainbridge Public Library exceptional. “I’ve never seen a library that was so well integrated into its community,” she says.

Continued from Page 9

Penguin Lives

village origins to his unlikely election to St. Peter’s Throne. Pope John is best remembered for his attempts to reform the Church and bring it into the 20th century.

His more rigid predecessor, Pope Pius VII, had left the Vatican only once in his 19 years in office. John, on the other hand, seemed to be everywhere, smiling and joking during his visits to prisons, orphanages and hospitals.

In *Pope John XXIII*, Cahill employs the direct voice and colorful prose you encountered in *How the Irish Saved Civilization*, effectively summarizing the history of the Catholic Church, its influence on European history and politics, and, of course, popes behaving badly.

The Penguin Lives Series also includes such diverse personalities as Isaac Newton and Rosa Parks, Marlon Brando and Robert E. Lee, Anton Chekhov and Martin Luther, Crazy Horse and Proust, Virginia Woolf and Andy Warhol, and many more, 34 at last count. Books in the series are available from the library.

Continued from Page 5

Local author Dugoni

difficult that pursuit can be at times.

People who like David vs. Goliath stories and stories in which the outcome remains unknown until the very end will like this novel. It’s also a very personal story of one woman’s battle when she is diagnosed with breast cancer. Female readers in particular will relate to Dana’s struggle to be a mother, wife and professional under very trying circumstances.”

Readers who enjoy a local setting will not be disappointed in *Damage Control*. “This is actually the first book I’ve written in a city in which I was currently living.

The Jury Master took place in San Francisco, where I spent 15 years of my life, but wrote it after I left, as well as Washington D.C., which required a lot of research. This book takes place in Seattle and Hawaii, and I was in both places as I wrote it. It gave me a chance to really focus on the details and settings.”

Dugoni’s voracious appetite for books of all kinds was fed by his mother, and by his local library.

“As a kid, one of 10 kids, my mother often took us to the library to pick out books to read or to do our term papers. I think it was a respite for her and gave us the chance to fall in love with books, as she did. My mother has a night stand constantly filled with books. When I go home to visit it’s like being in a library and I’ll ask her, ‘What good books have you read lately?’

“Now, as a writer, I rely on the library and librarians constantly to research my novels. I do a lot of research on any number of topics and usually first approach a librarian to get direction. It’s a fun project. Recently I’ve spent a lot of time finding and reading firsthand accounts of soldiers who served in Iraq for a new novel on which I’m working. I think I’ve worn out a path in the biography section at the King County Library in downtown Seattle.”

Author Robert Dugoni is also beating a path to Bainbridge Island, courtesy of the Field’s End Conference, “Writing in the Garden

of the Gods,” on April 28. He will be presenting two workshops and signing his books at the say-long event. For more information, please see www.fieldsend.org and visit the author on the web at www.robertdugoni.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

VISION IMPAIRED persons of all ages are always welcome at the monthly V.I.P. meetings at the library. There is no charge for this support group, and newcomers and visitors are always welcome. (See Calendar on Page One for meeting times.)

MEMBERS of the Bainbridge Youth Orchestra performed at the March 18 party honoring library donors of 2006.

VOLUNTEERS make a difference. Hundreds of hours of work are donated every year by scores of library volunteers. Do you have a skill to volunteer? Talk with branch manager Cindy Harrison or any member of the library staff.

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A Sheila Ross retrospective

By NAN WOOLDRIDGE

"She excelled in whatever she did" was the first comment I heard from those who knew Sheila Ross.

Artist, psychologist, philosopher, writer, dancer, the list goes on.

Charming and unassuming, she was best known on Bainbridge Island and in the Seattle area for her highly reputed prints and paintings.

More than 400 of her art pieces reside now with a friend, Suellen Cunningham. A retrospective of her work will be on exhibit and available for sale at the Library from March through May.

Gary Groves, print maker, and Sheila were telephone buddies. They'd met through a loose-knit artists organization on the Island.

"She was an excellent critic of my work," he said, "and we'd often talk for an hour or so, always about art. She and her sister, Dori, were the most giving and caring people I know."

One evening last July no one answered Gary's call to the Ross house. Sheila had always answered within a day or two. When a week went by, he became concerned. He called back and Dori answered, "Oh no, Sheila's not here. She died you know." He was stunned.

The sudden death of Sheila Ross, 77, on July 28, 2006, caused her friends to both grieve and rally to the support of her 83-year-old sister.

Lawyer Karen Bertram left a vacation and immediately stepped in to handle all legal arrangements, gratis, and make provisions for Dori. Gary, with others, moved furnishings from the house that the two sisters had built on Sandpiper Lane when they moved there in the 1980s. Suellen is storing her large body of artwork in her own guest house and assumed the role of guardian for Dori who lives now at Messenger House.

Cynthia Sears has agreed to store the documents and records of Sheila's artwork. Roby-King Gallery has shrink-wrapped many of her pieces. Bridget Young is selling the Ross house without taking a commission. Bainbridge Arts & Crafts squeezed in a reception and exhibit of Sheila's work from November 27 to 29 eschewing commissions and raising \$14,000 for the Ross estate. Art Grice provided the same service, with no remuneration, in his studio/gallery from December 2 to January

20. He brought in close to \$5,000.

"What's been positive is the teamwork that has gone into this situation that has brought so many together," said Gary. "People are coming out of the woodwork to help."

One reference to Sheila was, "She walked softly and carried a big paintbrush."

As modest and meticulous as she was, Victoria Josslin, director of education at Bainbridge Arts and Crafts, said, "She was surprisingly fearless in exploring many techniques not only in oils, watercolors, and monotypes, but also in ceramics, stained glass, etchings, wood block prints, collages and hand-made books."

She used different styles, from her lush magnolias in sensuous floral paintings to abstract Asian-flavored prints to scary masks.

When she veered from representational work, Sheila wrote in defense of her "deliberate ambiguity, My work combines architectural features such as verticals and diagonals, with landscape elements, but nothing is spelled out completely. This lack of specificity means that the viewer becomes an essential participant because he or she must actively draw on his or her own experiences, ideas, or memories in order to make some sense of the picture."

From the age of 2, when she first put pencil to paper, art was integral to Sheila's life. A Canadian citizen, she attended classes at the Vancouver School of Art and received an M.A. from the University of British Columbia. When she and Dori, with whom she lived most of her life, decided to get their PhDs, both sisters were accepted at Stanford. Sheila would



The late Sheila Ross displays a piece of her artwork at a talk at Bainbridge Arts and Crafts in November 2002. Works by Ross are on display this spring in the library meeting room, and proceeds from their sale will benefit her sister, now a patient at Messenger House.

Photo courtesy of Bainbridge Arts and Crafts

her belongings were costumes and many blue ribbons that indicated she was a talented ballroom dancer. She kept notes on everything, and there was a stack six to eight inches high of details on dance steps. She loved to shop and dress up in interesting combinations that complemented her auburn hair.

Driving her used Lincoln-Continental car to the openings at Art Grice's gallery she brought some harrowing moments to Gary and Art. "When we saw her coming, all conversation would stop," Gary said. "She would start backing up, and we would all hold our breath until she stopped."

Recognized for her accomplished work in the art world, Sheila exhibited monotype prints in various San Francisco area galleries and museums back in the 1980s. From 1992 on, her work was shown at the Frye Museum, the Jacob Lawrence Gallery at the University of Washington, the William Traver Gallery, the Artworks Gallery, Fortner Books, Bainbridge Arts & Crafts Gallery and Roby-King Gallery.

Her pieces were priced at William Traver Gallery in 1996 for \$1,800 to \$2,200 depending on their size.

In order to help support her sister, her friends want to sell as much of her work as possible. It will run at "friends" prices as low as \$400 or \$500.

All of the proceeds will go to the Ross estate to assist with Dori's ongoing care at Messenger House.

Gary points out that this artist "left a wonderful and meaningful contribution to the art community here and that it's much better to see her work hanging on Island walls than stored someplace."

"Even now," he says, "I find myself not thinking and say to myself, 'I've got to call Sheila about this. There's this problem...'"

For more information call Gary Groves at 842-7154 or Suellen Cunningham at 842-2547.

be the first to say that they loved to play golf, and the real reason they attended Stanford was because they heard there was an excellent golf course nearby.

In 1962, after four years of study, both Dori and Sheila were awarded their PhDs in philosophy with an emphasis on developmental psychology. They both did research and wrote numerous articles and books that focused on pain, anger and aggressive behavior, in particular that of bullying and its impact on children. Eagle Harbor Book Company has the second edition (written after the Columbine murders) of their book *Childhood Bullying and Teasing*.

But Sheila never lost sight of her great love. She continued studies at Stanford in painting with Frank Lobdell and Keith Boyle, and learned print making from Joseph Zirker, known for his innovations in monotype printing. The monotype became her specialty.

Like her diverse art, Sheila's personal life had some surprisingly playful quirks and turns. Found among

Two new additions to reading corner

The library reading area, originally funded by the Friends of the Library, has a couple of welcoming new features.

An electric fireplace was added during the winter to warm readers who came in from the cold.

Also new is a comfortable leather reading chair in the Nancy Pearl Corner. (Pearl is a former Seattle Public Librarian who is now a nationally recognized reading specialist.) Collection manager Martha Bayley has selected

several reference books for this corner, to help library patrons find great reading suggestions. Included are Book Lust, The Read Aloud Handbook, and The Book Club Companion.

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(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

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