

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 10, No. 3

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

Winter 2008

Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1
Library closed: New Years Day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2
Bainbridge Library Book Group: *An Infinity of Little Hours* by Nancy Klein Maguire 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5
Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "Pagliacci" by Ruggero Leoncavallo 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9
Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10
Bainbridge 2nd Thursday Readers: *The Highest Tide* by Jim Lynch 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15
Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Matt Smith presents "How can improv improve your writing?" 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16
-Friends of the Library Meeting 4 p.m.
-Travel program: Living on an African Shamba; 4 months with the Kikuyu, Samburu and Masai presented by Barbara and Grant Winther. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society 10 a.m.-12

MONDAY, JANUARY 21
Library closed: Martin Luther King Day

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27
Symphony Preview with Bernard Jacobson: "Love & Tragedy –the music of Brahms and Schonberg" 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29
William Stafford Birthday Celebration: poetry readings and open mic 7:30-9:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31
Circulo de Lectores Iberoamericanos (Spanish Book Club)
La isla de los amores infinitos, by Daina Chaviano 7pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6
Bainbridge Library Book Group: *Madonnas of Leningrad* by Debra Dean 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
Great Decisions at the Library. Sponsored by the Bainbridge Arts and Humanities Council. 9-10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Bainbridge 2nd Thursday Readers: *Catherine de Medici* by Leoni Frieda 1 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society 10 a.m.-12

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16
-Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "Tosca" by Giacomo Puccini 2 p.m.
-Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library: A reading in honor of The Big Read's *Fahrenheit 451* 7:30 p.m.

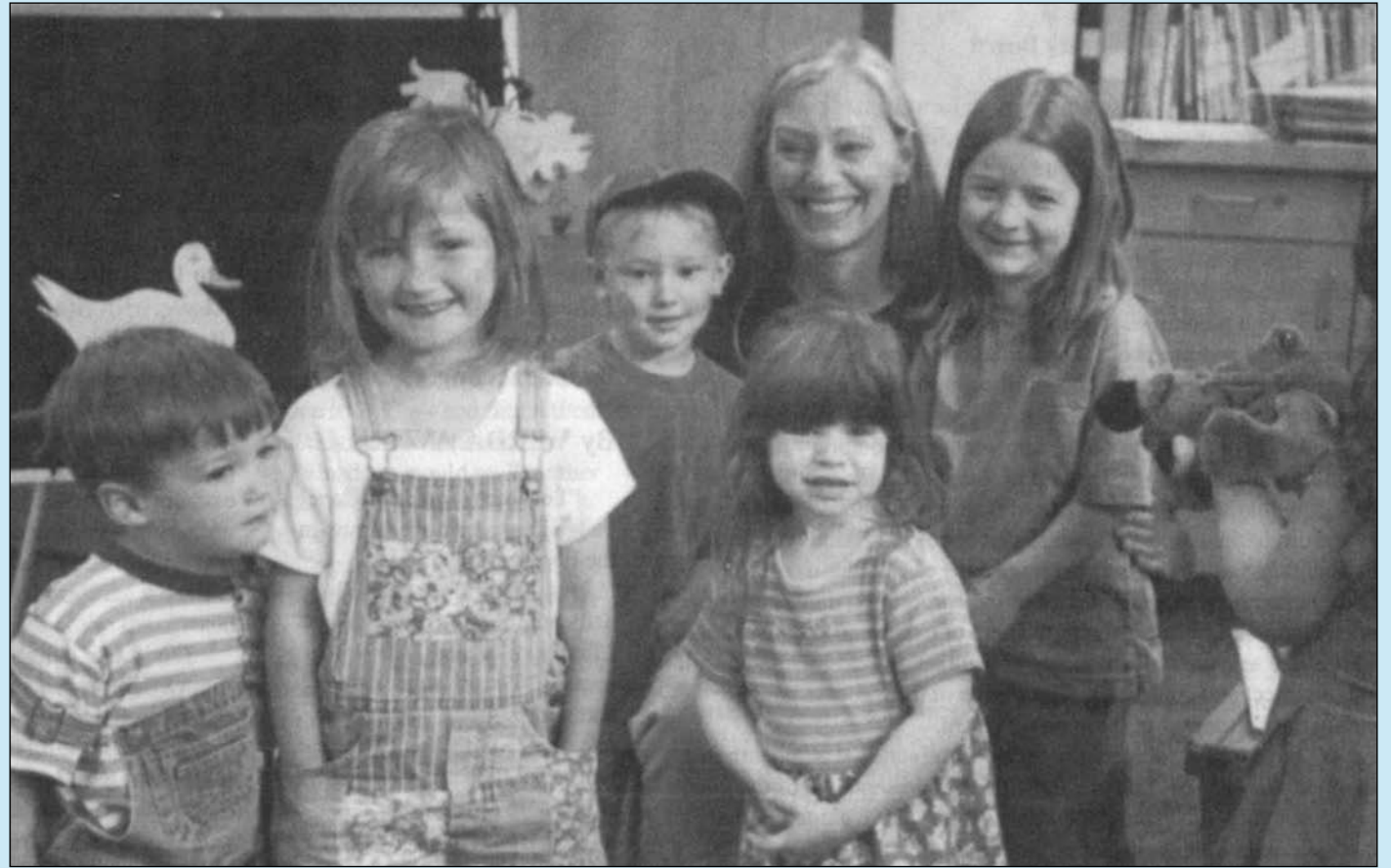
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Island Theatre –Repeat performance 7:30p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Library closed: President's Day

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19
Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Paul Hanson leads a discussion on "Speculative Fiction" in honor of The Big Read's *Fahrenheit 451* 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
-Friends of the Library Meeting 4 p.m.
-Travel program: Norway, an insider's guide; a virtual tour with native Norwegian and travel expert, Karin Larsen 7:30 p.m.

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Where are they now?

These youngsters with then Young People's Librarian Peggy Hughes attended a story hour soon after the library was expanded in 1997. Where are they today?

(The Library News staff would like to know what they're doing now, as teenagers. Let us hear about them; we'll update readers in a future issue.)

Looking back, looking ahead

Library notes 10 years of change

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

What a difference a decade makes. Ten years ago, as 1997 drew to a close, Bainbridge Islanders were just settling in at their recently enlarged library.

Strolling around the spacious main floor, they admired the work created by local artists, reflected on the sentiments of the Haiku Garden, and scheduled public events in the large main floor meeting room.

In the children's library, nearly 1,000 youngsters turned out for the summer reading program. The Friends of the Library drew large crowds to their Saturday book sales every month. An upgraded computer system was just a hint of things to come.

Today's library, so new and spacious in 1997, was built entirely by donated funds – over \$2 million given by individuals and groups – without any tax money. That's the way the first small central library was built in 1962, and enlarged in 1982. And that's the way

Islanders said they wanted to create the expanded library of 1997.

If the building which seemed so spacious at its first open house a decade ago now seems a bit crowded, it's not that the building has shrunk. Rather, the Island's population has grown -- to an estimated 23,000 – and for many residents the library building has become the cultural center of the community.

Islanders still flock to the library for books and CDs, to study reference

Continued on Page 16

The Big Read: Bainbridge Library receives NEA grant to celebrate reading

The national media are wringing their collective hands.

Americans, they tell us, are reading less than ever – especially young people. Some people haven't read a single book all year.

Clearly, Bainbridge is bucking a trend. Islanders from toddlers to senior citizens are checking out more books than ever and buying them by the thousands at library book sales. This year, hundreds of Bainbridge readers turned

out for Bainbridge and Beyond Reads programs and discussions featuring Greg Mortenson's book *Three Cups of Tea*, the story of one man's mission to promote world peace one school at a time.

Another major reading event comes to the Island early in 2008.

The Bainbridge Public Library is one of 127 organizations nationwide to receive a National Endowment for the Arts grant to participate in The Big

Read project. Kitsap Regional Library's Bainbridge branch will work with other community organizations to celebrate reading by focusing on one major work of American fiction, Ray Bradbury's prophetic *Fahrenheit 451*, throughout the month of February.

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Photo by John Sherffius

Also in this issue:

Cindy Harrison to retire as branch manager.....Pages 4, 16

Young People's Library: 10 years of growthPages 8, 9, 10

Field's End slates winter events..... Page 2

Field's End offers winter classes

By KERRY SMITH

You don't have to be an experienced author to learn from some of the area's accomplished writers. Field's End is offering classes this fall that will help you explore the essay, short story, or book ideas that you have, and get you organized and motivated.

Registration is required for each course. Forms may be found in the lobby of the Bainbridge Public Library or downloaded at www.fieldsend.org. For questions, write the Field's End Registrar at registrar@fieldsend.org. Tuition assistance is available for all Field's End classes through the Jack Olsen Memorial Writer's Tuition Assistance Fund.

Brenda Peterson will teach a five-week course, "Memoir," on six consecutive Thursdays—January 17, 24, 31, and February 7 and 14, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the library's large meeting room. Tuition is \$200. Registration opens on December 1.

Garrett Bennett's class, "Dialogue," meets on two consecutive Saturdays—February 2 and 9, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. in the library's large meeting room. Tuition is \$100. Registration opens on December 1.

Finally, **Garth Stein** offers "Truth or Consequences: Keeping Fiction True" on four consecutive Mondays—February 11, 18, 25, and March 3, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the library's large meeting room. Tuition is \$160. Registration opens on December 1.

About the classes

Peterson's five-week class will explore narrative techniques to give one's own story the same drama, character evolution, and epiphany as any good novel. Memoir is an intimate dance between writer and memory. The narrator's growth is the plot that drives the story, yet that story contains characters that rival the writer's own reality. The class will include strong guidelines and individual exercises to help the participant find his or her own voice.

Her two collections of essays: *Living by Water*, and *Nature and Other Mothers* established Peterson as a leading nature writer and she was extensively profiled in the two-volume reference work *America's Nature Writers*. Peterson is the author of three novels, *River of Light*,



Garth Stein

Becoming the Enemy, and *Duck and Cover*, which was selected as a New York Times Notable Book of the Year. Her creative non-fiction work *Sister Stories*, was hailed by the New York Times as an "inspiring, thought-provoking and strong book." Peterson's non-fiction has appeared in the New York Times, Seattle Times, and magazines such as New Age Journal, Sierra, Orion, and The Utne Reader. In addition she was featured in *Edge Walking on the Western Rim: New Works by 12 Northwest Writers*. She has lived in Seattle for more than 20 years.

Utilizing various exercises and examples, Bennett's class, will illuminate the power of natural dialogue that reveals character, carries subtext and tension, and moves your plot and story forward. Participants will examine noted playwrights, authors, and screenwriters such as David Mamet, John Irving and Quentin Tarrantino, in order to understand the different styles and uses of dialogue. Each participant will be required to write an opening exchange of dialogue or line of dialogue that sparks enough interest and mystery to warrant the exploration of an entire new story.

A graduate of the American Film Institute, Bennett received his master's degree in film directing. Known for creating stunning visual and imaginative worlds in motion pictures, he developed



Brenda Peterson



Garrett Bennett

his visual style in the theatre. He founded Annex Theatre, which has become well known across the country. Bennett's stage credits include *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, which he co-wrote, produced, and directed. He wrote, produced, and directed three award-winning films including *End of the Icon* and *Farewell to Harry*, which won the Best Film award at Worldfest Houston. *A Relative Thing* received numerous film festival awards, including Best Film at the 2005 Sedona International Film Festival. The Spy and the Sparrow, Bennett's latest film, is in post production. He is completing his first screenplay set in the horror genre. Bennett resides on Bainbridge Island and is the president of Hat Factory Studios, a feature film and commercial production company located in Seattle and Bainbridge Island.

Using in-class exercises and discussion, Stein's four-week class will explore story-mapping, structure, cause-and-effect, character voice, and thematic arcs, all of which are crucial in creating

Field's End Calendar

These events take place in the library, unless otherwise stated.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1
Registration opens for Field's End Winter Writing Classes. Registration ends when classes begin or are filled. Info at www.fieldsend.org.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Matt Smith discusses: "How Can I Improve My Writing?" 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17
Winter Writing Class begins: "Memoir" with Brenda Peterson. Info at www.fieldsend.org.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Early (reduced-rate) registration begins for "Writing in the Garden of the Gods," Field's End's annual writers' conference. To be held on Saturday, April 26, 2008 at Kiana Lodge on Agate Pass.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2
Winter Writing Class begins: "Dialogue" with Garrett Bennett. Info at www.fieldsend.org.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11
Winter Writing Class begins: "Truth or Consequences: Keeping Fiction True" with Garth Stein. Info at www.fieldsend.org.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Paul Hanson discusses what's new in Speculative Fiction. 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29
Early (reduced-rate) registration closes for "Writing in the Garden of the Gods," Field's End's annual writers' conference. To be held on Saturday, April 26, 2008 at Kiana Lodge on Agate Pass.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Lynn Brunelle discusses "How do you go from an idea to a pitch?" 7 p.m.

and maintaining dramatic truth. Just because it's fiction, doesn't mean it isn't true. As a writer, you have an obligation to maintain the dramatic truth of your work. Fail, and you will lose your reader. Students will be encouraged to offer their own work for group deconstruction.

A former filmmaker, Garth Stein was co-producer of the Academy Award-

Continued on Page 15

Join local writers at winter Roundtables

On January 15, Bainbridge Island-based improv artist and actor, Matt Smith opens with the question, "How can improv improve your writing?"

Paul Hanson, a local writer and bookseller, introduces the session on February 19 by asking, "How necessary are truth and reality in Speculative Fiction?"

The final winter Roundtable on March 18 features Bainbridge Island writer Lynn Brunelle, who introduces the session by asking, "How do you go from an idea to a pitch?"

A member of the fine arts faculty at Seattle University, Smith teaches improv there and at the Freehold Theatre Studio Lab. He appeared in *Outsourced*, a romantic comedy shown at the 2007 Seattle International Film Festival, where it won the Audience Award. Since 1985, Matt has taught ongoing workshops and courses for numerous dramatic programs including Youth Theatre Northwest,



Matt Smith



Paul Hanson



Lynn Brunelle

Seattle Children's Theatre, and Northwest Actors Studio. He is the former artistic director for Seattle TheatreSports, a founding member of Seattle Improv, and co-founder of Stark/Raving Theatre. Matt's television credits include Northern Exposure, PBS's Bill Nye the Science Guy, and the NBC production of The

Caine Mutiny, directed by Robert Altman. Matt's message for writers: "Improvisers learn tools that they can use to be creative even when they're not inspired. If you embrace certain improvisational principles, you'll never be blocked again."

You may know of Hanson as the manager of Eagle Harbor Books, co-

editor of the store newsletter, and host of the Eagle Harbor Readers Circle. He has been in the bookselling business since 1989 and with Eagle Harbor Books since 1995. In 1999, Hanson and local writer Ann Lovejoy founded the Science Fiction Writing Cooperative (SFWC), where, under the aegis of speculative fiction, writers of all experience levels hone their skills in fantasy, science, horror, mystery, and magical realism. Tuesday Night Publishing, the publishing arm of the SFWC, produced its first anthology, *Off the Ecliptic*, in 2004, which included a short story by Hanson. Following that they published a short story collection, *Obliquity: Speculative Fiction from the Pacific Northwest*, which includes the work of 14 area writers including Hanson's story, "Lodestone: An Orphan's Tale."

Continued on Page 15

Lit up at the library

By SUSAN WIGGS

Roy Blount, Jr. is one of the country's most distinguished men of letters. Add -ist to almost any form of writing, and he's been there, done that—journalist, novelist, humorist, panelist...And he's also written plays, biographies, memoirs and screenplays. He starred in a PBS documentary ("The Main Stream"), is a regular on NPR's game show, "Wait Wait, Don't Tell Me," and occasionally performs in the literary-themed band, the Rock Bottom Remainers with Stephen King, Dave Barry, Amy Tan and other writers.

But like all writers, his journey began at the public library. "My childhood library, in Decatur, Georgia, was a large grey-stone building, which is still there but greatly expanded and better lit inside," Roy says. "The old one was lit well enough for me, the books lit it up, and I wanted to read all of them. Lots of orange biographies of pioneers, Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett and Kit Carson. I can't remember reading any biographies of anybody who didn't wear buckskin. I



Photo credit Valerie Staff

Roy Blount

read all the Oz books, and the Dr. Doolittle books. It was a family joke that when I was a little boy in the library I would get so excited I would have to go to the bathroom real bad and be dancing around not wanting to leave the books. I guess that is not a very delicate story, but there it is."

With memories like that, how could he *not* grow up to be president of the Authors Guild and a member of the Fellowship of Southern Writers? And with a writer's voice like that, how could we *not* invite him to be the keynote speaker at our Field's End spring conference, "Writing in the Garden of the Gods"?

Roy will be joined by Pulitzer-prize and National Book Award winner Timothy Egan, bestselling novelist Stephanie Kallos and other distinguished guests at Kiana Lodge on April 26. Registration for the event opens on February 1, so get out that calendar you got for Christmas and write it down now. Better yet, subscribe to the free e-newsletter at www.fieldsend.org. For further information about the conference, please see <http://fieldsend.org/conference08.html>.

The author recalls:

By ROY BLOUNT

One afternoon I was in the library of a small town in Mississippi, in need of some information, so I went up to the lady behind the desk there. Ahead of me were an elderly white man and a young black woman. The white man was saying:

"...just hit me suddenly, you know, that I wanted somethin', and then...it hit me what it was. That I wanted. It was pie."

"Well," said the lady behind the desk.

"A piece a pie. It's funny cause u-sually I don't want pie, this time a day. But I did, that's exactly what it was, that I wanted. But I couldn't think who would

have pie...this time a day."

"Uh-hmmm," said the librarian.

"Miz Boyd a course serves extremely fine pie. But a course Miz Boyd wouldn't be open..."

"I was goin' to say," said the librarian.

"...this time a day. So I said to myself, I said, 'Now Wawltuh, where in town would they be liable to know...where a body could get a piece a pie.'"

"Mm-hm," said the librarian, looking thoughtful. "This time a day."

"I said, 'Well I tell you where somebody is liable to know. At the li-berry.' So I told myself that what I would do would be to just come on over here and..."

"I declare, Mr. Owsley, I don't believe I know...where..." She raised her voice: "IOTA?"

A faint voice came from back in the stacks: "Uh-huhhhhh?"

"DO YOU KNOW WHERE MR. OWSLEY COULD GET A PIECE OF PIE?"

"You mean...this time a day?"

At that point the young black woman stepped forward and said, "'Scuse me, do you have anything about the Army? 'Cause I got to get out of this damn town."

—from *Long Time Leaving: Dispatches From Up South* by Roy Blount, Jr.

Library book sale hours extended for coming year

Those library book sales are becoming so popular the Friends of the Library have extended their hours beginning in January.

All-day sales—from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.—are scheduled twice each month, on Tuesdays and Saturdays, throughout the year. (Yes, the Saturday sales will begin at 10 a.m., although the library itself will not open until 1 p.m.)

In addition to the all-day sales, half-day sales are planned for one Thursday a month, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The winter schedule will be:
ALL-DAY SALES

- Saturday, Jan. 12, 10-3
- Tuesday, Jan. 22, 10-3
- Saturday, Feb. 9, 10-3
- Tuesday, Feb. 26, 10-3
- Saturday, Mar. 8, 10-3
- Tuesday, Mar. 25, 10-3

HALF-DAY SALES

- Thursday, Jan. 3, 1-4
- Thursday, Feb. 14, 1-4
- Thursday, Mar. 13, 1-4

Mark your calendar, and check the full year's schedule posted in the library.

We'll bring you dates of spring, summer and fall sales in future issues of the Library News.

The sales will, as always, be held in the Friends room downstairs (next to the young people's library) and access is through the lower level entrance when the library itself is closed.

Continued from front page

Mark your calendar

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Great Decisions at the Library. Sponsored by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9-10:30 a.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Fahrenheit 451: A screening of the original 1966 film version at the Historic Lynwood Theatre with discussion following.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Circulo de Lectores Iberoamericanos (Spanish Book Club)
Pantaleon y las visitadoras, by Vargas Llosa 7pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

Library Book Group. *Out* by Natsuo Kirino 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

Great Decisions at the Library. Sponsored by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9-10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

Symphony Preview with Bernard Jacobson: Works by Aaron Jay Kernis, Glazunov and R. Strauss 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

Bainbridge 2nd Thursday Readers: TBA 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Lynn Brunelle discusses "How do you go from an idea to a pitch?" 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

-Friends of the Library Meeting 4 p.m.
-Travel program. Silk Road Adventure: Joe Laumer's 8,000 mile motorcycle tour of 8 countries in 53 days. 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society 10 a.m.-12

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Great Decisions at the Library. Sponsored by the Bainbridge Arts and Humanities Council 9-10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

Library closed: Easter

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

Circulo de Lectores Iberoamericanos (Spanish Book Club)
Margarita, esta linda la mar, by Sergio Ramirez 7pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Family Storytelling at the Library 3-4 p.m.

Reminder

Northwest artist Duane Pasco will present a special slide show at 4 p.m. Sunday, December 16, in the library meeting room. Sponsored by Grant and Barbara Winther, this is the last in the series of 2007 Library Speakers Forums.

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Librarian & super-hero: Cindy Harrison hangs up her cape

By VAL TOLLEFSON
Library Board President

After nearly 20 years making sure that YOUR library experience was world-class, Bainbridge Island's favorite librarian is going to curl up with a good book. Cindy Harrison retires at the end of January.

Cindy's service to Bainbridge Island has unmasked her identity as a true super-hero. She is not, of course, the first librarian to have super-powers. Batgirl, in the 1960s Batman television show, was a librarian who became a major information provider to other super-heroes. And more recently, Nancy Pearl of *Book Lust* fame has her own Librarian Action Figure ("with *Amazing* push-button *Shushing Action*"). But unlike Batgirl and Nancy Pearl, Cindy Harrison has performed her feats on Bainbridge Island, for us.

Cindy came to Bainbridge Public Library in 1990. As Kitsap Regional Library's manager of its Bainbridge branch in the mid-90s, she was the public face of the library as more than \$2 million was raised solely from private donations, and the current, beautiful facility was built.

Use of the library in its new home grew along with the population of the Island. Cindy has been at the center of virtually every effort to meet the increasing demand for services. She has encouraged and supported a broad range of programs that have cemented Bainbridge Public Library's place as the cultural heart of our community.

Cindy has made the library a better place in every way. Her stewardship has ensured that the building and programs have adapted to the changing needs of library users. Her leadership has given us a skilled, professional and adored staff. Her imagination and dedication to learning have made the library a magnet for virtually every age and interest group on the Island. Young people, teens, senior citizens, theater lovers, genealogy researchers, all have a home, and a favorite place, at Bainbridge Public Library.

Cindy's dedication to Bainbridge Island has not been limited to her performance as our librarian. At one time or another she has sung in the Bainbridge Chorale, and has served on the boards of two of our most important social service organizations, the Housing Resources Board and Helpline House.

In 2006, Cindy was recognized with the New York Times Librarian Award, cementing her place as one of the best of the best. In the same year, Bainbridge Public Library was chosen as one of the 80 libraries selected from hundreds of nominations to be included in *Heart of the Community: The Libraries We Love* (Berkshire Publishing 2007). What's not to like about Cindy Harrison?

One of the nominators for Cindy's New York Times award said, "I cannot imagine my life – or the Island – without the library and Cindy Harrison." Fortunately, Cindy has steadily employed her super-powers to ensure that we will always have both. The library is part of the DNA of Bainbridge Island, due to the efforts and dedication of a committed and professional staff, countless volunteers, supporters, patrons, and Cindy Harrison. There will always be a part of Cindy in the library.

Pretty big shoes to fill, one might say. By early January, we will have a new branch manager, trying to do just that. The new branch manager won't be Cindy Harrison, but with the staff Cindy is leaving us, and the volunteer force standing ready to do what is needed, the new branch manager should be well positioned to take Bainbridge Public Library to the next level.

Life – and the library – is an adventure! Thanks, Cindy, for being our companion and guide. Enjoy that book.



Members of the Bainbridge Library Board who were present for this recent photo in the library's Haiku Garden include: Jenifer Shipley, Janet Brookes, Channie Peterson (front row); Caryl Grosch, Wyman Johnson, Val Tollefson (center); and Marc Adam, George Shannon and Kevin Hawkins (back row).

Meet your Library Board

and some of the books they recommend

First of a series

Bainbridge Public Library is a non-profit organization that oversees planning and maintenance for the library facility and grounds. A dedicated all-volunteer board of directors represents the citizens of Bainbridge Island as owners of the library.

The board meets monthly to discuss maintenance, future demands on the facility, safety, fund-raising, programming and other matters critical to operation of the library.

Below, some of the members of the current Library Board – and some of their favorite books – include:

Val Tollefson, Board President

A native Washingtonian, Val has been part of a general commercial litigation practice (Danielson, Harrigan, Leyh and Tollefson) since 1986. He was co-chair of The Friends of Pritchard Park and has been a director of BPL since 2002. He has Navy and commercial pilot credentials and enjoys hiking, flying, winemaking and writing poetry. He recommends *Death and the Good Life*, a mystery novel by poet Richard Hugo; *Blind Your Ponies*, by Stanley Gordon; Doris Kearns Goodwin's biography of Lincoln, *Team of Rivals*; and Garrison Keillor's *Good Poems*.

Wyman Johnson, Board Treasurer

Wyman retired from his dental practice in 1999. He has volunteered for the Bainbridge School District, coached youth sports, and was a co-founder of Hoopfest for BEST. He is a basketball fan as both player and observer, and also enjoys fly fishing, gardening and reading.

Janet Brookes, Board Secretary

Janet recently retired from her position at the law firm of Sherrard, McGonagle, Bohannon and Miller. She and husband Chris are avid sailors (in Puget Sound, the Caribbean and the Mediterranean). She was part of the leadership team of the 1982 Bainbridge Public Library capital campaign, and served for years on the Kitsap Regional Library Board. She's now reading Nancy Horan's book *Loving Frank* (about the love affair between Mamah Cheney and Frank Lloyd Wright) and just finished Susan Susanka's *Not So Big Life*. For pure pleasure, she recommends the novels of Joanna Trollope.

Ann Lovejoy, Former President (Special Adviser)

Ann is a nationally recognized writer of garden books and columnist for several newspapers. She founded and leads the Friday Tidies group who tend the library gardens, and she works actively with Eagle Harbor Congregational Church and Harmony House.

She recommends *A Gentle Plea for Chaos* by Mirabel Osler, "a wonderful appeal to gardeners to be less obsessively tidy and more respectfully observant of the artless natural beauties of the world."

Channie Peters, Former Vice President

Channie has a professional background in corporate banking and charitable trust grant administration. She has also worked as a professional reference librarian and volunteers for activities that promote peace and environmental causes. She is passionate about knitting, Nordic skiing, and writing Haiku. She recommends *The Source* by James Michener for its unique perspective on the

Middle East and *Possession* by A. S. Byatt for its complexity of three interwoven story lines and beautiful writing.

George Shannon, Art and Program Committee Chair

A nationally acclaimed children's book author and former children's librarian, George has been a speaker and storyteller at conferences, libraries and schools from Indonesia to the Arctic Circle. His ALA Notable books include *White is for Blueberry* and *Unlived Affections*. He says writing still feels like a favorite hobby, though it's now his job. Richard Scarry's *Rabbit and His Friends* was his most beloved childhood book. He also recommends *Free Play: Improvisation in Life and Art* by Stephen Nachmanovitch, which has been "chum, mentor, mirror and vamin ever since I found it at a remainder book sale 15 years ago."

Marite Butners, Planning and Fundraising Committees

Marite is the system director of Foundation Support Services for Providence Health System in Seattle. In 17 years in the trust industry she's published many articles on estate management; she now organizes the library's Wills and Trusts seminars. Her community service includes work for Seattle Children's Museum, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Archdiocese of Western Washington. She likes Thornton Wilder's *The Bridge of San Luis Rey* (for its character development and insights) and, for non-fiction, *The Legacy of Sacco and Vanzetti* by Louis Joughin and Edmund Morgan (which "asks real questions about American justice. . .")

George Edensword-Breck, Planning Committee Chair

George has been in private law practice with offices in Seattle and Bainbridge since 1983. His principal focus in life has been the rights of the disabled since he worked as a camp counselor for developmentally disabled campers during his senior year in high school and his founding of Education for All. His law practice emphasizes elder law issues. He recommends Scott Turow's *Ordinary Heroes*, "a compelling and beautifully written novel based on World War II", and Art Buchwald's *Too Soon to Say Goodbye*, which tells of his facing the reality of his own dying "with characteristic humor and perhaps less typical tenderness".

Marc Adam, Facilities Committee Chair

Marc is a civil engineer and partner in Adam and Goldworthy in Poulsbo. He enjoys restoring old boats and chairs. Marc says that Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma* "is a book that every eater needs to read".

Jenifer Shipley, Facilities Committee

Jenifer has been selling residential real estate on Bainbridge for five years but also has a multi-faceted employment background (in retail merchandising, travel insurance, interior design and property management). She is a member of two book clubs, enjoys all kinds of art and design, antiques and boating. Among her favorite books are *Winds of War* by Heman Wouk because "it sparked my curiosity and opened the door to my becoming an avid reader and traveler", and the entire *Outlander* series by Diana Gabaldon.

(Read more about the Library Board in the next Library News)

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 Val Tollefson, 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.

At home in a Kenya shamba

By BARBARA WINTHER

Through a medical network I was invited in 1988 to Kenya to write a grant proposal for a Dr. Kanyi of the Kikuyu tribe.

I jumped at the opportunity, excited about the chance to experience an African culture. My husband, Grant, and I—without any knowledge of who Dr. Kanyi was, where we would stay, where and what we would eat or what the grant proposal was about—bought a round-trip ticket to Kenya.

We obtained our visas, grabbed our passports and a bottle of Pepto Bismol, and packed one duffel bag each. The polar flight from Seattle to London took about nine hours; the night flight to Nairobi, 10 hours.

We arrived exhausted.

Nobody met us at the airport; no message greeted us at the Nairobi hotel. We spent an anxious night, wondering what to do. Were we nuts to have come? What if the invitation wasn't serious? Our dollars were limited. If this deal didn't work out, we would have to fly home.

From Nairobi to Nyeri

The following morning a rugged-looking Englishman appeared at our door. He wore a khaki outfit and a green beret.

Raising his chin in a determined manner, he announced, "I am R.J. Prickett, Dr. Kanyi's friend."

We recognized him from the photo safari we took to Kenya four years before. He was the guide who, with a rifle slung across a shoulder, uttered witty remarks before leading us along the bush trail to Treetops Hotel. I had heard that in his younger days he was known as the Great White Hunter.

Prickett eyed us keenly and snapped, "Dr. Kanyi awaits you in the town of Nyeri, where he lives and runs his clinic."

He raised his chin even higher. "The doctor fears you are too civilized to take up residence on his shamba. That's a farm. It has no electricity, hot water or means for you to cook. This would necessitate your sharing in the Kikuyu pot. Never fear, other arrangements can be made. Sort it out when you get up there. First, you must procure an auto rental. Follow me."

With an abrupt turn, he marched away as if leading the cavalry up the mountain.

When we reached Nyeri, Dr. Kanyi offered us a friend's in-town home with modern conveniences, which he said was more befitting our "station in life."

We turned it down, saying we would be thrilled to live at the shamba among the Kikuyu.

He frowned and explained that Agnes Wairiru Thuge was in charge of the farm.

"She milks the cows, digs the sweet potatoes, takes care of the chickens, tells the three Kikuyu male workers what to do and performs all the cleaning and cooking. Facilities for you will be minimal. Are you sure you want to do this?"

"Yes," we answered and drove the 15 miles to the shamba.

On the Shamba

For the next four months our home was a small, tin-roofed building built of cement blocks with iron bars on the windows.

The shamba, on the Gura River within sight of Mt. Kenya, had been Dr. Kanyi's mother's home before she died, a month prior to our arrival.

The toilet was inside, but the shower was outside, used by everyone on the shamba. We had one kerosene lantern, two cots, two blankets and, on the porch, four

rattan chairs and a small table.

Each night Agnes locked us inside, fearing for our safety. I didn't dare go to the bathroom after dark because the floor was usually covered with tiny fluorescent jumping spiders, nothing dangerous we were assured, but disconcerting.

Each morning around six Agnes unlocked our door and brought us a pail of hot water, a pitcher of boiled milk and a thermos of boiled coffee.

During our stay, Dr. Kanyi supplied us with bottled soft drinks and cautioned us not to drink the water.

What concerned us was the food. Agnes cooked the shamba meals in a big iron pot on a tiny charcoal stove set on the ground. Her spoon rested on the dirt; flies circled about.

For the first two days we feared we would end up with stomach trouble, so surreptitiously we fed our meals to pet cats lurking nearby. We drove to the Nyeri store, run by an East Indian, and bought corn flakes, cookies and chips. Realizing we couldn't continue this way, we bolstered our courage and ate Agnes's meals: mostly vegetable stews, such as githeri (maize, cabbage, onions, and white beans) and ugali (thick cornmeal mush that is sliced). Sometimes we had roasted sweet potatoes. Agnes brought brimming bowls to our porch each evening.

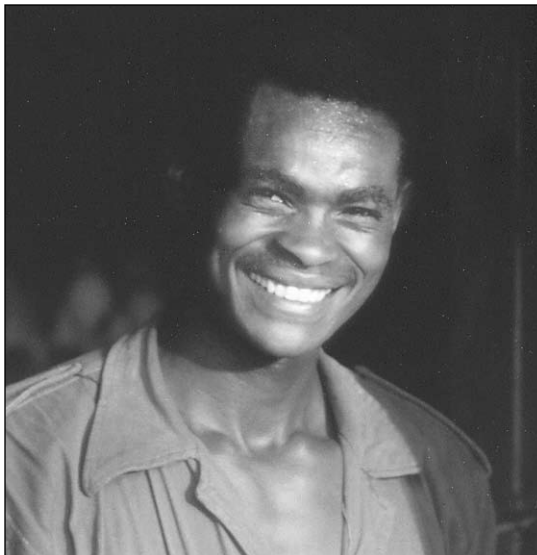
Although chickens clucked about, we were not offered eggs—perhaps they were sold. Once Agnes killed a hen for us; what a tough bird. Over the four months, we never got sick and shed a few unwanted pounds.

The grant proposal

My job for Dr. Kanyi was to write a proposal for the Central Province to fund free operations in mini-laparotomy, a process of tying the tubes of women who wanted no more children.

Dr. Kanyi was a Sub-Saharan Africa pioneer in performing this operation. For three months I researched the project, studying government statistics, visiting villages and hospitals, talking through an interpreter to Kikuyu women.

The average number of children in a family was eight.



Agnes sifts chaff from maize (upper-left); charcoal stove cooks shamba meals; Barbara carries milk to dairy; Bongo (left), a shamba worker.

— Photos by Grant Winther

Many families lived entirely on subsistence farming.

As families grew bigger, shambas became smaller, partitioned out among family members when they married and bore children. Soon, the land in a divided-up shamba was too small to raise enough food to feed the children. Women with large families were eager for the operation and said they would walk miles for it.

As an added benefit, the process could be done in a clinic rather than a hospital, a place many Kikuyu women feared, for outside the front door men built

Continued on Page 15

Books on expatriates living in Kenya

Books on expatriates living in Kenya
Out of Africa, by Isak Dinesen—the story of a Danish woman who ran a plantation in the Ngong Hills of Kenya.

The Flame Trees of Thika, by Elspeth Huxley—the memoir of a girl's childhood in Kenya.

West with the Night, by Beryl Markham—a beautifully-written story of a woman who trained horses and became a bush pilot in Kenya.

NEWS BRIEF

IT'S STILL not too late to give to the Bainbridge Public Library this year. Return that One Call for All ballot with your check and take a tax deduction for 1997.



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Bainbridge preschoolers meet librarians from afar

Bainbridge welcomes librarians from around the world

A highlight of 2007 at the Bainbridge Public Library was a summer visit by professional librarians from many countries.

They came from Bahrain, Egypt, Germany, Georgia, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Slovak Republic, and the West Bank, and represented national and regional libraries in their home countries.

Their visit was sponsored by the International Visitor Leadership Program of the United States State Department, and coordinated locally by the World

Affairs Council of Seattle.

Designed for library professionals involved in overall management and planning, the program was intended to promote a better understanding of the role and function of libraries and information specialists in U. S. society.

Other goals were to provide information on a wide variety of U. S. libraries and information management systems, to demonstrate the diversity of library services here, and to study technology and its use in library systems,

including online and digital services.

The distinguished visitors arrived in Seattle after touring various libraries throughout the United States.

They spent an afternoon at the Bainbridge library observing the technology at work, meeting staff and volunteers, and listening attentively to briefings by library personnel. Some took notes, others merely listened; a few asked questions, in flawless English. The mood throughout was serious, even

scholarly. Until, at mid-afternoon a group of Bainbridge pre-schoolers trooped in for a reading session.

Pillows were plopped down, colorful children's books appeared as if by magic, and the distinguished visitors sat on the floor, each surrounded by several children, as they read the books together. Laughs and children's voices punctuated the last half hour of what turned out to be a memorable day for both visitors and Bainbridge Island children.

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Bainbridge author Sheila (Rabe) Roberts strikes a Christmas chord

By SUZANNE SELFORS

Attention female readers.

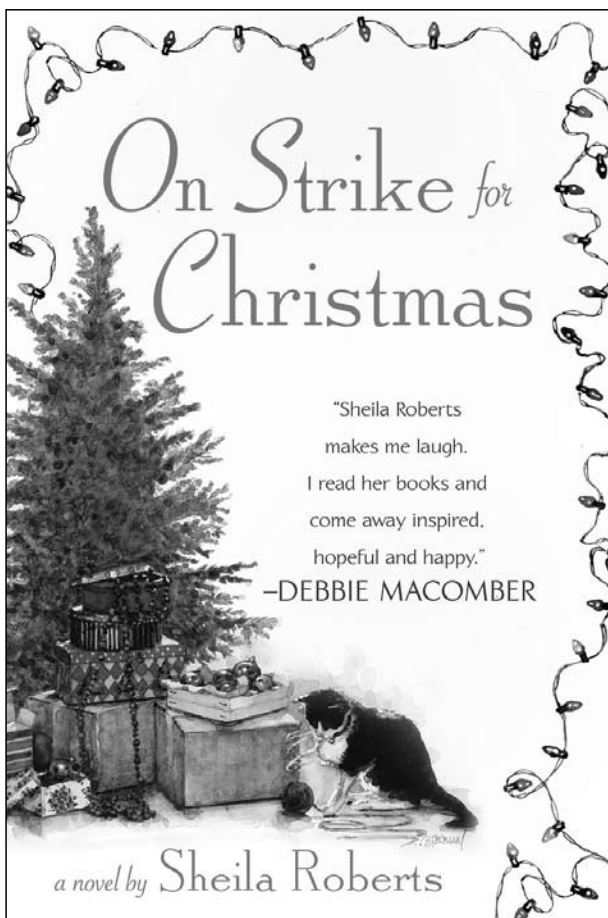
How many of us dread the holiday season? Not the tidings of peace and goodwill, but the constant stream of messages telling us that, starting in October, we'd better get organized and get shopping because our families and friends depend on us to make the season sparkle.

I've been quietly staging my own small mutiny. Three years ago I stopped sending out the cards, two years ago I stopped putting up the outdoor lights, and last year I conveniently "forgot" to cut and decorate the cookies. What about this year? Well, I already intend to forgo the neighborhood gift baskets because, let's face it, I'm totally exhausted. And I bet that you are, too.

That's why I predict that a new novel titled, *On Strike for Christmas*, is going to fly off the shelves. It's written by Sheila Roberts, the pen name for our very own Sheila Rabe (pronounced raw-bay). If you've lived on the Island for more than five minutes you probably know Sheila. An active member in Bainbridge Alliance Church, she often greets visitors in the Chamber of Commerce kiosk at the ferry terminal. She also teaches water aerobics classes to seniors, golfs at Meadowmeer, hosts board game parties, and teaches writing classes in her home and through Field's End.

On Strike for Christmas marks a new beginning for Sheila, who began writing in 1989. Since that time she has published dozens of novels, mostly in the romance category. *On Strike*, published by St. Martin's, takes her career in a new direction—that of mainstream women's fiction.

"Since I'm writing books in a new genre I decided I should have a new name to go along with it," Sheila said. "My husband and son are both Roberts, so hence the new last name. I'm way too attached to my first name to give that up."



"Sheila Roberts makes me laugh. I read her books and come away inspired, hopeful and happy."
—DEBBIE MACOMBER



Sheila (Rabe) Roberts has a new book for the season.

On Strike for Christmas is the story of the women of Holly, who brace themselves for stress and overwork as Christmas approaches. But then inspiration hits. Joy Robertson, Laura Fredericks, and their knitting buddies decide to "go on strike" and give their husbands an opportunity to see firsthand what it takes to make the holidays merry and bright. Soon other women join in and men all over town get a crash course in decorating, shopping, and what to wear to see Santa, and search frantically for an interpreter to translate the mysteries of holiday recipes.

Sheila's editor, Rose Hilliard, is excited about the book. "Sheila writes such funny, poignant women's fiction, and the storyline resonated with me in a big way. I grew up in a home where the mom did all the work to make Christmas special, and I always took it for granted until reading this book. After I read it, I surveyed women around the office and found the same was true in their families. What's up with that? I knew this book would strike a chord with many women, in addition to being a heartwarming, entertaining holiday read. I am dying for it to hit shelves so other women can enjoy it too."

Publisher's Weekly says, "By the end of this gently feminist sendup, each side learns to be grateful for the other's efforts."

What's next for Sheila? "My next book, *Bikini Season*, will be out in summer of 2008, and should be a perfect beach read. It's a book about friendship, diets, and chocolate, and it's got lots of great diet recipes in it."

If you are interested in learning more about Sheila's writing classes, contact her at www.sheilasplace.com. For hopeful writers she says, "Never stop trying to improve. Never visit the library without checking out a book on writing. Never give up."

Volunteers make click! computer training a stunning success

By KHARA WHITNEY-MARSH

Who are the click! volunteers and what do they do? They are volunteers with families and full time jobs who show up at the library to tutor computer novices several times a month. Retiree volunteers drive from Bainbridge to Bremerton to teach ninety minute classes on the Internet on a regular basis. Others teach college math by day, and then volunteer to teach Computer Basics at night. Two volunteers living in Poulsbo and tutoring patrons at their local branch, also drive up to the Little Boston branch to tutor for several more hours each week.

Click! volunteers help people develop some of the computer skills needed to reenter the workforce. They also introduce people to email. Are click! volunteers making a difference in people's lives? Here is a true story. Recently a patron came into the library

seeking help with an Internet search. He had no computer experience and was quite upset because a company he was dealing with informed him their catalog was only available online. They told him they didn't have computer illiterate customers.

Feeling marginalized and more than a bit disgruntled, the patron asked a librarian for assistance. Not only did she help him log on, she registered him for his first click! computer class. The patron managed to find the information he was looking for, and before he left the library he stopped to tell the librarian, "As a result of today's computer experience in the library, I feel I have re-entered the human race. Thank you!"

If you would like to volunteer for the click! program, please contact Sharon S. Lee at the library.

Khara Whitney-Marsh is Kitsap Regional Library's Volunteer Coordinator. She can be reached at 360-475-9033 or emailed at volunteer@krl.org.

Sheila's favorite books:

- Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen
- The Masqueraders*, Georgette Heyer
- Borrowers of the Night*, Elizabeth Peters
- The Eight*, Catherine Neville
- Home Before Dark*, Susan Wiggs

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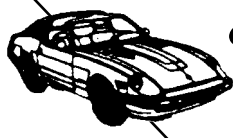
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Children's Corner

Activities of interest to young people and their families



A retrospective

Our young people's area through the years

By THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S STAFF

Peggy (Meg) Hughes 1988 to 2003

When Peggy Hughes was hired as half-time children's librarian in 1988, the local tradition of Monday and Wednesday storytimes was firmly established with toddler time for ages 18 months to 3 years on Mondays and preschool storytime for ages 3 to 5 years on Wednesdays.

Parents and families looked forward to hearing Peggy read stories aloud from picture books and tell tales with the help of a felt board and puppets. There was a lot of laughter; kids loved singing songs with silly hand motions and actions.

After the 1997 renovation, toddler time programs were soon over-crowded and the solution was to offer Terrific Twos twice per Monday with pre-registration required to even out the numbers of participants in each session. This enabled us to continue to use the small program room located near the picture books in the Children's Library. In those years, storytime was scheduled three times each year for six week stretches during fall, winter and spring.

Summertime meant the Summer Reading Program for school age kids. Special event programs included stories, puppets, folklore and drama presented by KRL staff and volunteers including: Peggy, Nora Gelineau, Eleanor Wheeler, Barbara Winther and the KRL puppeteers.

Over time the crowds attending our Summer Reading Program events grew too large for the library building to accommodate. A relationship was established with St. Cecilia's Church across the street from the library and the much larger Conger Hall was contracted for these large events.

In 1999 an area on the second floor of the library was set aside for teens or young adults. Peggy recognized that teens needed a space in the library separate from the children's area and distinct from the adult section. She and a group of committed volunteers gathered a number of titles of particular appeal to teens and put them out on display. This area was the forerunner to the teen space we enjoy in the library today.

Sharon S. Lee 2004 to 2006

Bainbridge Island continued to grow and the needs and interests of children, teens and families burgeoned. Commuters wanted an evening storytime, a former television producer wanted to film storytime for community access television, children of all ages wanted to hear local storytellers share folk tales from around the world, teens needed a space to call their own in the library and a number of young people wanted an opportunity to volunteer.

This gave rise to a great expansion in programs and volunteer opportunities at the library. Sharon began to offer pajama storytime at 7pm on Tuesday evening and it developed a loyal following. Baby or lapsit storytime followed soon thereafter. Sharon did not have children of her own so the moms and dads who brought babies in for stories, wordplay and songs shared as much with her as she did with them.



Pierre the storytime mouse loves to read and sing and paint.

Kit Spier donated his time and talent to film storytimes at the Bainbridge, Port Orchard, and Poulsbo Branch Libraries that made their way onto BKAT and Bainbridge Island Broadcasting. Families with young children who had never attended a storytime were introduced to the simple joy of hearing a story read aloud and to some of the resources available to them through the library.

Ed Sheridan and a cadre of storytellers from the Frog Rock Storytelling Circle came to the library to offer tales from around the world to children of all ages. The original concept was to attract families with school age children on a quarterly or seasonal basis and it did. Over time, a good portion of the audience proved to be adults without children in tow who were interested in hearing a rich tale well told. This development helped to broaden the range and flavor of the stories offered and shrank the number of tellers to two instead of the original four.

Teens came forward to help plan and design a new teen space upstairs at the library. Salisbury Timberbuilt offered expert assistance, the Friends of the Library, BPL Board, KRL Foundation, KRL and the Bainbridge Island Rotary provided funds. The teens chose Bewilder Blue for the wall color and helped move the shelves and young adult collection to its current location.

The Teen Scene with its clear sound tempered glass is now a place for teens that is separate from both the children and adult sections. They sure seem to like it.

And finally, readers as young as 8 years of age were invited to apply, interview, and train to become Reading Friend volunteers. This program paired kids and teens with younger children for reading aloud informally at the library and it was a hit. On summer Reading Friend mornings or February afternoons, big kids and little kids could be found reading picture books together all over the young people's area. Some of the rowdiest big kids proved to be generous and patient readers as they shared some of their favorite books with little kids. Some of the shyest big kids were able to bring out the shyest of small children and

engage them in the fun of a bright picture book.

If you were to ask Sharon what one thing she is most proud of facilitating during her tenure as a young people's librarian, Reading Friends would be it.

Carmine Rau From 2006

In the year and a half that Carmine has been here as the young people's librarian, the primary trend has been to maintain established popular programs and to simply expand upon them. Storytime sessions, which were once offered in six week sessions three times per year, now run year 'round with few interruptions; 2007 will see 114 storytimes by year's end. This is double the amount the library was able to offer a decade ago.

Carmine brings dramatic flair and panache to each and every storytime she offers.

In her hands, characters jump from the pages of picture books into vivid life. Children and families clamor for these and other titles to take home to read and re-read. She keeps a ready supply of favorite titles in the basket at the checkout desk, too. A very little and very French mouse named Pierre often joins Carmine and the kids at storytime. They say he has a wonderful singing voice.

1998 saw 800 kids sign up for the Summer Reading Program. Over 1,400 children signed up during the summer of 2007.

The last few years, Kitsap Regional Library has been able to hire professional performers to come entertain crowds of up to 500 people across the street at St. Cecilia's Conger Hall. Performances inspire interest in reptiles, puppetry, juggling and more. When children and families come to the young people's area to find a particular title, or to ask for reading suggestions, they find Carmine to be a walking encyclopedia of children's literature. She loves books and reading so much that she can often place that half-remembered story in a few short minutes and press it into your hand with a smile.

One of Carmine's proudest achievements to date has been the creation of Kits for Kids. You can find them listed on the KRL Web site under Kids Book Club Collection Kits.

She learned through conversations with parents of the numerous parent run book clubs on the island and wanted to help facilitate children coming together to share books. She wrote a grant to the KRL Foundation and received funding to create kits of books similar to the adult book club collection: 15 books that check out all together in a handy tub with discussion questions. There are now 35 titles available county wide for checkout to parents, home-school groups, after school clubs, teachers or anyone else who wants to bring kids together with books.

Carmine continues to offer quarterly storytelling events with guest storytellers sponsored by the Friends of the Library, the ever-popular "Read to a Dog" program, summertime Read-Ins at the library with Reading Friends and Spanish Storytime. In addition, Carmine and the dedicated young people's staff host book clubs, craft programs and crazy dress up days at the library just for fun. Teen Mystery Nights roll around every year or so and a grand time is had by all, as well. What does the future hold? Let us know what you would like to see.

Follow the Reader

Mother, daughter discover joy of books

By CARA TODD

So many books, so little time. After becoming a parent I have found so many more books and even less time, but as a family we have found new treasures and I love to watch the delight on Fiona's (age 7) face as she discovers all the wonder in the world of books.

Starting with early board books, up through the different levels of picture books, fairy tales and chapter books we have thoroughly enjoyed our journey. The great thing is the journey never ends, but keeps building and becoming richer.

Some of Fiona's recent favorites have been about dolls and toys. There is *Big Susan* by Elizabeth Orton Jones and *Toys Go Out* by Emily Jenkins, and the beautiful and poignant story, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo.

But the series that has most enchanted Fiona and some of her friends is *The Doll People* and its sequel, *The Meanest Doll in the World*, by Ann M. Martin and Laura Godwin. It is about an old fashioned china doll family who meet up with a modern, plastic doll family and the challenges of keeping their life secret from humans. They have many adventures and eventually learn the true meaning of being in "doll state." I have listened to Fiona and her friends include this doll world in their imaginative play because it has so captivated them. We read this series aloud, and Fiona has since read them on her own several times.

Another book that has a doll as the central character is *Almost to Freedom* by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson. We came across this book while studying about slavery in the United States. It's about a doll that is with a young slave girl who is escaping with her parents. Through the voice of the doll the story and tension of their flight unfolds until the doll is left behind during a quick escape from a house on the Underground Railroad.



Fiona, age 7, and her Mom, Cara Todd.

Later she is united with another girl who needs her very much. This was one of Fiona's favorite books we read from that period of United States history.

Nancy and Plum by Betty MacDonald (author of the famous Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle series) is another favorite. It is about two orphan sisters who are kept in an orphanage run by harsh Mrs. Monday. The story of the sweet natured and highly spirited girls makes for a satisfying adventure. It shows how strong, pure hearts can resist adversity.

Kitsap Regional Library has an audio book copy of *Charlotte's Web* read by the author, E.B. White. After reading this book many times it was a pleasure to listen to White's voice read in a simple cadence that suits the story to perfection. It shed new light on some favorite passages of ours and we highly recommend listening to it.

For a great fantasy adventure book for younger readers, *Hanne's Quest* by Olivier Dunrea is wonderful. Hanne is a quiet, little, black-speckled, hen who must go on a magical quest to save Mem's farm. Along the way she finds

that she is capable and brave. The story is exciting, but not too scary for younger readers.

The *Melendy Quartet*, a series of books by Elizabeth Enright set in early 1940s America, begins with *The Saturdays*, followed by *The Four-Story Mistake*, then comes *Then There Were Five* and the series ends with *Spiderweb for Two*. Fiona has read these titles so many times she often quotes them during the day when the appropriate moment arises. They feature a family with four children full of initiative, spunk and camaraderie. A full image of each child is developed and reveals each one's strengths and weaknesses. The characters come to life for the reader. Fiona talks of them as if they are her friends.

The Wind Boy and the *House above the Trees*, by Ethel Cook Eliot have also been read many times by our family. They are

beautiful stories about children who have the unique ability to see beyond the obvious. They can see creatures such as the Wind Boy, Tree Mother and the Forest Children. Eliot's magical descriptions of the natural world and the mystical world blend wonderfully. The imagination and the view of the artist are highly regarded.

Our family eagerly continues our hunt for those special books and stories that become treasures as they weave themselves into our lives. We wish you all well on your trek to find stories that become part of your family's reading adventure.

(Fiona Todd was the top reader at Bainbridge Island Public Library for the 2007 Summer Reading Program. She read and listened to a phenomenal 230 hours over the summer.

If you would like to share your family's recent favorite children's and young adult books for our *Follow the Reader* column, please contact Carmine Rau at 842-4162.)

Children and family programs

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 6:30 PM
Family Board Game Night

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 6:30 PM
Family Board Game Night

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 6:30 PM
Family Board Game Night

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 3:30 PM
Spring Storytelling Afternoon
Come see tales performed by special guest storytellers.

Storytime Calendar

MONDAY, JANUARY 14
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 21
Library closed- no storytime

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 28
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Library closed- No storytime

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MARCH 3
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MARCH 4
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MARCH 10
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MARCH 11
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MARCH 17
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MARCH 18
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MARCH 24
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MARCH 25
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

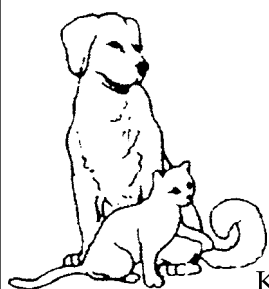
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

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The year 2007 in review

Crazy Clothes Thursdays were a summer hit



Jesse and William Thiele came to the library to walk the plank on a Crazy Clothes Thursday.



Lafayette Chabot spied land ahoy at the library on a Crazy Clothes Thursday.



Maeve and Jean-Luc Boon wore their own crazy hat creations at the library on a Crazy Clothes Thursday.

Photos by library staff

For pre-schoolers through teenagers, special events filled a busy year



A recent preschool storytime at the library included a visit from a local fire fighter, Garrett Kimzey, who arrived in a fire truck.



Becky Gordon designed and hand crafted a beautiful new cover for Carmine's storytime chair.



Susan Bisnet, library assistant, holds up a giant slice of blackberry pie that was hand crafted by Marcia Millican and several young artists from the community.

Save room for pie

By THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S STAFF

Some of our favorite pie picture books.

Pie's in the Oven- Betty Birney

The Perfect Pumpkin Pie- Denys Cazet

A Pie Went By- Carolyn Dunn

Where is the Apple Pie?- Valeri Gorbachev

All for Pie, Pie for All- David Martin

Edward Lear's I Was Once an Apple Pie- Suse MacDonald

How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World- Marjorie Priceman

Mr. Putter and Tabby Pick the Pears- Cynthia Rylant

A Apple Pie- Gennadii Spirin

Apple Pie Fourth of July- Janet Wong

Symphony previews begin in January

— and library books on music will inspire you —

By JULIE O'NEILL,
Reference Librarian

Curtain up! It's time to settle into your seat, watch the house lights go down and, ah, here comes the maestro!

Bainbridge Library will present symphony previews by Bernard Jacobson, former music critic for the *Chicago Daily News*, beginning in January 2008. Jacobson will introduce music currently featured in concerts by the Seattle Symphony, including works by Brahms, Mozart, Schoenberg and Schubert. Jacobson is a graduate of Oxford University, has been artistic director for orchestras in the Netherlands, and visiting professor of music at Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University.

Opera previews have long been popular programs at the library, featuring the lively presentations of Norm Hollingshead who introduces and plays excerpts from each opera currently in production at the Seattle Opera.

The opera and symphony preview programs are made possible by a grant from the Friends of the Bainbridge Library. Whether you are a long-time aficionado or a newcomer to opera and

classical music, you will enjoy the two music lecture series throughout the year. All programs are free.

Here are some books from the Kitsap Regional Library collection to get you ready for your musical experience.

This is Your Brain on Music: The Science of a Human Obsession by Daniel Levitin. Why do certain songs lodge in your memory and warm your heart when you hear them? Neuroscientist and professional musician Levitin explores the relationship between music and the mind, and the role of melodies in shaping our lives.

For the Love of Music by Michael Steinberg and Larry Rothe. Two noted writers on music explore the allure of Western classical music. Their witty, personal and jargon-free essays cover subjects ranging from how to acquaint oneself with the works of Robert Schumann, to a musical tour of Vienna, and when NOT to applaud during a concert. The essays in this excellent collection originally appeared in program notes for the San Francisco Symphony.

Fortissimo: Backstage at the Opera with Sacred Monsters and Young Singers by William Murray. In this

enjoyable chatty read, a journalist for *The New Yorker* looks at what it takes to make it in the world of opera, through the lives of 12 young singers at the Lyric Opera of Chicago. Murray also shares his own early experiences as an aspiring tenor, as well as his none-too-subtle opinions on modern day icons like Luciano Pavarotti and Renee Fleming.

Who's Afraid of Opera? and Who's Afraid of Classical Music?: a Highly Arbitrary, Thoroughly Opinionated

Guide to Listening to and Enjoying Symphony, Opera and Chamber Music by Michael Walsh. Two lively, sometimes hilarious, and frankly biased guides to what the author describes as "the greatest art form yet invented by humankind."

Classical Music 101: a Complete Guide to Learning and Loving Classical Music by Fred Plotkin. This is a highly accessible guide to discovering the glories

Continued on Page 15

OPERA PREVIEWES

with Norm Hollingshead • Sundays at 2:00PM
January 5 - Pagliacci • February 16 - Tosca • April 26 - I Puritani

SYMPHONY PREVIEWES

with Bernard Jacobson • Sundays at 4:30PM
January 27 - Music of Brahms • March 9 - Kernis, Glazunov and R. Strauss
April 13 - Mozart and Schubert

All programs are at the Bainbridge Library.
Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Free.

Food for thought

By GAIL GOODRICK
Nonfiction Collection Manager

Those of us of a certain age probably think of M.F.K. Fisher or Julia Child when we think of inspirational food writers.

Fisher was a master storyteller who could transport you to an earlier time or to a different place in time. Both women loved France and wrote with inspiration about the French appreciation for good food. Some of Fisher's shorter articles have been gathered together in a book called *A Stew or a Story*, edited by Joan Reardon, which is a good introduction to this author.

One of our most famous American chefs, labeled the "most influential figure of the past 30 years of the American kitchen" by *Gourmet Magazine*, is Alice Waters. She has a brand new book called *The Art of Simple Food*. Waters made her mark by cooking simple food that focused on flavor and the use of seasonal and locally produced foods.

Since Eric Schlosser's book called *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal* appeared in 2001, there has been a spate of books promoting healthier food. One of the best of them is Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma*.

Barbara Kingsolver vowed to eat locally by moving her family to a farm where they could grow their own foods which is the story she recounts in *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*.

A similar theme is the basis of *Plenty: One Man, One Woman and a Raucous Year of Eating Locally* by Alisa Smith and J. B. MacKinnon.

If you need more inspiration to change your diet, check out *Twinkie Deconstructed: My Journey to Discover How the Ingredients in Processed Foods are Grown, Mined (Yes Mined), and Manipulated Into What America Eats* by Steve Ettlinger. After that you may need relief so be sure to check out *The Zen of Fish: The Story of Sushi from Samurai to Supermarket* by Trevor Corson. You will not only learn about the history and science of this art but be entertained by tales of "sushi school."

Finally, just to illustrate that books about great food in exotic places will probably never go out of style, here are two to check out: *Mediterranean Summer* and *Chocolate and Zucchini. Mediterranean Summer* by David Shallick is the story of an American chef's summertime adventure cooking for a wealthy Italian couple sailing a yacht along the coasts of France and Italy. It's the perfect book for a chilly winter's day in the Northwest.

Chocolate and Zucchini: Daily Adventures in a Parisian Kitchen by Clotilde Dusuliers is a cookbook by a young writer who presents some traditional French fare along with her own original creations. Whatever your taste, the library has something to offer!

Making sense of our world today

By PEGGY BRANAMAN

As we strive to understand developments in our modern world, the library is here to help with authoritative sources on history and contemporary issues, including primary documents available online through our Electronic Resources collection.

Discover for yourself the rich multi-media and full text articles, images, hard-to-find statistics, reference articles, journals and primary sources in our online History Resource Centers, Opposing Viewpoints database, Historical New York Times and Culturegrams online.

These online resources are often used by students. They provide quality material for debate arguments, school reports and projects. Students in honors classes and independent study save time in locating and gathering required information which allows more time for comprehension, synthesis and analysis.

The online resources are also useful tools for the adult researcher, lifelong historian or political observer. Many

discover a depth and breadth to the materials meet their immediate needs and promise further recreational research at another time.

I invite you to explore these resources and send me feedback about your experiences. I am always available for questions or to visit your group to demonstrate or explain these tools.

Visit the library at www.krl.org, select Electronic Resources, then choose "Current Events & History" from the subject links on the left-hand column. These are five electronic resources you and your family won't want to miss: Culturegrams, Historical New York Times, History Resource Center - Modern World Edition, History Resource Center - United States Edition, and, most popular of all, Opposing Viewpoints.

You make the decisions, you make a difference, we, at the library, are just here to help with the tools that support your journey.

Peggy Branaman, Information Services Coordinator, may be reached at Kitsap Regional Library, pbranaman@krl.org.

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Library volunteers feted at brunch

More than 200 men and women have served the Bainbridge Public Library as volunteers this year. They've been active members of the Bainbridge Library Board, the Friends of the Library, the Friday Tidies and other groups. Working together and in solitary pursuits, they've helped raise money and keep the building and grounds in good shape, so that the Bainbridge Library remains truly the heart

of the community. Once a year – this year in early November – the library staff and Friends give back to these people who give so much. The occasion: a morning brunch filled with songs and laughter, and lots of talk about books and the library.

These faces in the crowd are just a few who were present, Paulette Rhoades was the photographer.



Cindy Harrison's words to volunteers

Each year the Bainbridge Public Library's brunch for volunteers seems to grow. Not surprisingly, for the number of volunteers keeps growing.

This year, there was a special feeling of warmth and excitement. Choirs of library staffers and the Friday Tidies presented original songs, and Martha Bayley, Kitsap Regional Library's fiction collection manager, suggested some great new reads for the holiday season.

But for many, the highlight of the morning was the greeting from Cindy Harrison, Bainbridge branch manager. Harrison was making her final appearance at the annual brunch as branch manager; she'll retire at the end of January, after 18 years on the Kitsap Regional Library staff.

For some of those attending, this was the first they'd heard of Harrison's coming retirement, and they savored every word.

Here are excerpts from her talk:

"Special thanks to the Friends for underwriting this brunch and to the many staff members who helped set it up and provided goodies for all.

"Thanks also to Barbara Tolliver and Susan Taylor (of The Traveler bookstore), who gave us the pre-publication books that will be your party favors today.

"Just to give you an idea of the variety of skills that you all offer that make such a difference to staff and library patrons, I want you to raise your hand if you are:

- On the Bainbridge Library Board
- Serve on the Planning Committee (or a former capital campaign)
- Serve, or served, on the Kitsap Regional Library board
- Serve on the Friends of the Library Board

- Work on the Library News
- Work on the Friends of the Library book sales
- Manage our magazine donations
- Garden with our Friday Tidies
- Teach library users computer skills through the Click! program
- Keep me from killing our plants with your Garden Club green thumbs
- Serve on the Field's End team
- Provide workroom and collection support – mending, reports, prep of donated books
- Provide tax assistance
- Support programming
- Provide building maintenance help
- Assist in the Children's Library."

As the hands went up and down, and the applause quieted, she continued:

"You are library supporters in other crucial ways. You are readers, and you actively contribute to your community. I am proud that the Bainbridge community stepped up to support the library levy campaign. You know that the library is THE place where ANYONE, regardless of means or educational level, can access free information for pleasure or education whether it is electronic, print, audio or video."

The Big Read

Moving from the local to the national book scene, Harrison announced that the Bainbridge Public Library

has been selected as one of 127 organizations in the country to participate in **The Big Read**, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts which challenges communities to restore reading to a central role in American Culture.

The Big Read was inspired by a 2004 NEA and Census Bureau study which revealed that there has been an alarming decline in the number of people reading literature in our country – particularly among teens and young adults. There has also been a significant reduction in the number of people who read ANY books.

The library and the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council have chosen Ray Bradbury's classic, *Fahrenheit 451*, for a month-long series of **Big Read** events. (*Fahrenheit 451* is a parable set in the future when the state has banned all books because of their potentially dangerous ideas. Some people have hidden books or committed them to memory at their peril. Bradbury asks: If you could save only one book from the flames, what would it be?)

A teen's memories

"When I was a young teen, I tried to check out *To Kill a Mockingbird* from my local library. The librarian told me that it was inappropriate and my parents would disapprove. (This was suburban Boston, not rural Mississippi!)," Harrison noted.

"When I persisted, she told me that I would have

Continued on Page 13

Library volunteers in 2007

They serve the community in many ways

Sharon & Dick Abrams
 Marc & Jenine Adam
 Peggy Adkins
 Jean Atwater
 Verda Averill
 Leila Ball
 Monica Basile-Hatfield
 Linda Beluche
 Cathy Bellefeuille
 Dominique Bemis
 Annie Berfield
 Betsy Bidinger
 Peggy & Ron Booth
 Susan Bottles
 Mary Braden
 Susan, David, Courtney Bray
 Janet Brookes
 Denise Brown
 Barbara & Charles Browne
 Matthew & Danna Brumley
 Amber Bryant
 Amber Buck
 Mary Buffington
 Delores Bussell
 Marite Butners
 Joanna Cairns
 Anne Campbell
 Karyn Carpenter
 Liv Cartwright
 Kate Carruthers
 Bernice Cavalluzzi
 Stella & Norman Chivers
 Robert & Betty Clark
 Barbara Clarke
 Sheila Crofut
 Barbara Crosslund
 Eileen Cudlip
 Steve Davis
 Sherri DeBoer
 Eleanor Deines
 Laura Denney
 Cheryl Denton
 Angela De Oliveira
 Earl and Tena Doan
 Tatiana Dudley
 Monica Duran
 George Edensword-Breck
 Mildren Eremic

Rose Euchner
 Barbara Ferrin
 Mike Flora
 Ken Fox
 Gayelynn Galusha
 Pam Galvani
 Joan Gardiner
 Lona Gartrell
 Betty & Charles Gates
 Ruth Gibbons
 Mary Gleysteen
 Lois "Pete" Glosen
 Priscilla Greenlee
 Jola Greiner
 Elaine Grippi
 Caryl Grosch
 Kathy Gross
 Mary Guterson
 Harriet Harburn
 Don Harrington
 Kevin Hawkins
 Linda Heys
 Shirley Howe
 Buff Hungerland
 Bill & Emma Iulo
 Teri Jellad
 Wyman & Karoline Johnson
 Hajni Josyln
 Janet Keating
 Dorothy Klavins
 Lily & Joe Kodama
 Sharon Kulfan
 Phyllis Kummerou
 Janet Kutina
 John Lange
 Jim Laughlin
 Betsy Lawrence
 Renee Leiter
 William LeVeque
 Marlene LeMire
 Mary Lewis
 Tom Lindsley
 Joanne Little
 Ann Lovejoy & Bud Alger
 Ginny MacKay
 Pat Madson
 Marilyn Mathis
 Sandra Matson

Karen Matsumoto
 Linda Meier
 Marian Melim
 Jeri Meyer
 Pat Miller
 Marcia Millican
 Louise Mills
 Jesse Mittleman
 Elaine Moline
 Kathy Morse
 Priscilla Mullins
 John Murray
 Judy & Wayne Nakata
 Joanna Newnham
 Eileen Nicol
 Carolyn Nowadnick
 Gertrude Nye
 Jackie O'Brien
 Paul Oden
 Donna Oldford
 Laurel Oliver
 Lydia Olsen
 Helen Quistorff
 Teree Parman
 Althea Paulson
 Channie Peters
 Paul Pival
 Joanna Pyle
 Helen Quitstorff
 Nancy Rekow
 Susan Richards
 Rosalind Renouard
 Beverly Robinson
 Stephanie Rohl
 Christine Rolfes
 Joyce Rudolph
 Carol Sanderson
 Dwight Sandlin
 Lilly Schneider
 Pat Scott
 Sara Scribner
 Anne Seeley
 Charlene Selvar
 Dallas Shaffer
 George Shannon
 Jenifer Shipley
 Ann Sievertson
 Penny Sluis

Christy Smith
 Verna Sorenson
 Marie Spearman
 Peggy Spencer
 Paulette Staab
 Peggy Spencer
 Kit Spier
 Regina Spoor
 Jan Stanton
 Virginia Stave
 Elaine Stewart
 Marvel Stewart
 Steve Stolee
 Jane Stone
 Shannon Sumner
 Edith Sutton
 Deb Sweet & Kate McDill
 Margaret Tchakerian
 Sally Thompson
 Kathleen Thorne
 Val Tollefson
 Barbara Tolliver & Susan Taylor
 Margarit Trent
 Niki Tugwell
 Cathy Tusler
 Louise Urness
 John Vandenmeerendonk
 Susan Vincent
 Bonnie Wallace
 Daryce Walton
 Tilly Warren
 Elsa Watson
 Eleanor Wheeler
 Susan & Jay Wiggs
 Marilyn and Don Williams
 Delight Willing
 Trese Williamson
 Karen Wilson
 Barbara & Grant Winther
 Judith Woehr
 Nan Wooldridge
 Lawrence Worcester
 Sheri Yin
 Beverly Young
 Sylvia Zonoff

Continued from Page 12

Cindy Harrison's words

to get a permission slip from my parents. It was my first experience with the possibility that someone could take away my right to read. . . So I think it is not just the beautiful writing, the compelling themes of justice, compassion and love, or the unforgettable characters that make me cherish this book. It is the fact that I was almost deprived of the right to read it.

"When my younger son and his now-fiancee were first 'sparking' (as my husband calls it) I took special joy in hearing that they would call each other after midnight with free cell phone minutes between California and Minnesota. They read the entire book of Watership Down aloud to each other - (and talked about other important matters, I'm sure).

"Dana Gioia, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, says that adult life begins in a child's imagination and is sustained by reading - that magical ability to transform written words into pictures and voices.

"Nancy Pearl talks about how reading is one of the few ways we can truly enter someone else's world. The empathy gained through this experience is priceless.

"I want us as library supporters to take up this challenge: to help young people in particular know that reading is a precious privilege and life-long civic responsibility. Thank you for being engaged citizens and champions of reading. Along with your selfless volunteer time, these are invaluable gifts to our library."





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Volunteers keep the library lobby bookshelves stocked

Walk into the Bainbridge Public Library almost anytime, day or night, and you'll likely find a patron or two looking over the collection of books and periodicals for sale in the lobby. The prices are right – just a dollar or two for recent hardcovers and a quarter or two for paperbacks. The variety is seemingly endless. And the popular titles come and go so quickly there's always something new to buy.

This little lobby bookstore – run on the honor system, just put your money in the slot and take the book – has become so popular with library visitors it now returns several hundred dollars in a typical month. (One recent month brought in almost \$1,100.)

The Friends of the Library, who operate the book sales downstairs three times a month, also manage the upstairs sales.

A conversation with two volunteers who oversee the lobby sales, indicates some of the reasons for their popularity.

Rose Euchner and Eleanor Deines work regularly two days a week to keep the shelves stocked with clean books, in good condition, on a variety of topics. Also helping out are two more Friends, Annie Berfield and Anne Campbell, who come by a day a week.

"So we have somebody checking on the area almost every day," Rose noted.

That means when gaps appear in the collection they're immediately filled with fresh stock from downstairs in the Friends' sorting and salesrooms.



Eleanor Deines

The lobby sales have been increasing steadily since Rose began managing the area; she thinks it's because of the increasing variety of subject matter and the fact that the books are frequently rearranged.

"We started with just a little fiction in one area and then we decided to change the subject matter from time to time, and then we had this idea to expand the shelving," she explained. "That was last spring, and the sales have just kept growing."

Recently there have been a lot of books on history, and lots of humor, too. A while back, Rose noted, there were many books about animals. Magazines as well as books sell quickly.

Keeping the books rotating on the shelves seems to increase sales. And those which don't sell soon, either at the



Rose Euchner

regular book sales or in the lobby, then go into a special OST box in the Friends room where they are often sold online through Once Sold Tales. (The online sales are also expanding rapidly, another source of funding for the library.)

Rose and Eleanor are especially delighted to see the older books recycled through OST.

"That's one of the great things about this community – it's great on recycling," Rose said.

Both Rose and Eleanor, like other Friends of the Library, are enthusiastic readers. Eleanor says she likes to read "everything". Rose mentioned that she has just reread Pearl Buck's classic *The Good Earth*, which she'd first read in 1980, and enjoyed it even more this time.

The two women have much in

common besides the library. Both are widowed and mothers and grandmothers, and they often attend exercise classes together.

Eleanor, a youthful 94, has been working as a library volunteer for about five years. She and her late husband Harry lived in various parts of the country and she says, "Wherever we lived, I always got to the library right away." When they lived in Colorado Harry, an advertising man, ran a small bookstore in their home: Collectors' Books. Now she's at home in a Bainbridge condominium, with her four children and six grandchildren nearby.

Rose is a third-generation Islander of the Wallberg family, though she was born in California and lived there briefly while her father was in the service.

She is the mother of two daughters and grandmother of four.

As a young adult she was kept busy working as a nurse and mother. But when her husband passed away, a friend suggested she might like to consider volunteering at the library.

She's been doing just that for about two and a half years, and enjoys the work as a way to "give back to the community." She works about 25 hours a month, and like Eleanor, enjoys cashiering at the book sales as well as setting up the lobby displays.

"It's exciting to see how much people are getting at the sales for \$7 or \$8," they agree.

Friends of the Library: 1997 to 2007

Friends group, book sales, grow with community

By PAT MILLER
FOL Board President

On July 6, 1997, the newly renovated Bainbridge Island Library opened its doors for the first time.

It was the realization of a community-wide dream, and it signaled a remarkable change for the Friends of the Library and the way they would continue to serve both the library and the community.

Susan Richards, a 20-year FOL veteran, says that during the organization's early years the Friends sponsored a variety of projects. There were sales, of course, but they also had membership lunches that featured guest speakers such as Jack Olsen and Ann Lovejoy.

They published Katy Warner's *History of Bainbridge Island* and distributed it to schools and local stores. They also established the FOL Book Group, one of the first discussion groups on the Island.

Book sales often involved Friends' families and they took place in various sites around the community. Given a room in the new building, the sales

became monthly second Saturday events with two months off in the summer.

The FOL bank account had grown sufficiently to allow the Friends to provide funds for the reading corner upstairs, for the teen section, and for the aquarium in the Children's Library.

More customers found the sales, and by the end of the first year in the expanded building, FOL yearly income was approaching \$15,000.

The Friends' room was bursting with books and customers, so "with patience and perseverance", says Susan, "we invaded the larger back room and spent money installing both doors and the storage cabinets."

They also began to price books individually, and customers arrived from "all over Kitsap, Jefferson and King Counties as the quality and quantity of the books increased."

By late 2005, it became obvious that it was time to take advantage of online sales, so the board contracted for the sale of high-value books online; one year later they contracted with a company which

markets books online that have failed to sell during the Friends' on-site sales.

By spring of 2006, what had become a virtual flood of donations spurred the Friends to involve more volunteers and to expand sale days. Currently 40 active members cooperate to process the books, to conduct three monthly bookroom sales, and to keep the foyer shelves well-stocked with books and magazines.

The happy consequences: since 1997 FOL income has more than tripled. Thus the Friends can step up when the need

arises: when children's library furniture needs to be recovered, when books are needed to reward children for summer reading, and – as earlier this summer – when Kitsap Regional Library can no longer pay for magazine subscriptions.

New opportunities and problems are always just below the horizon, and organizations succeed or fail according to the way they meet change with creativity, optimism and common sense.

Change is the challenge and adaptation is the key to continuing FOL success.

Coming May 10: A literary affair

If you enjoy fine dining and the works of local authors, you'll want to attend DinneReads: A Literary Affair on May 10.

That's the evening when the Bainbridge Library Board will present a special four-course dinner, with a selection of fine wines, and a group of distinguished Bainbridge Island authors reading from their own works.

The evening, at the Wing Point Country Club, will also include a small auction.

You'll read more about the event—which authors are coming and what they'll be reading—in the weeks to come.



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Great Decisions at the library

New series begins February 9

By KATHLEEN THORNE

The Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council and the Bainbridge Public Library will co-sponsor a third series of eight free, drop-in Great Decisions discussions every other Saturday morning, from 9 to 10:30, beginning February 9 in the library's large meeting room.

This year's discussion topics (not in

this particular order) include: Iraq End-Game; European Union at 50; Talking to Our Enemies; Russia; U. S. Defense & Security Policy; Latin America: Shift to the Left?; U. S.-China Trade Policy; and Private Philanthropy.

Great Decisions is a nation-wide, non-partisan program of the Foreign Policy Association to broaden public involvement with the most important foreign policy issues facing the United States.

While enjoying coffee and pastries, participants first view a 30-minute Foreign Policy Association DVD on the topic to be discussed. To assist with advance preparation, relevant news articles are posted on the BIAHC Website, www.artshum.org. (Check the Website about a week before the discussion.) A copy of the Great Decisions Briefing Book, published by the Foreign Policy Association, is available at the library for photocopying

or can be purchased from BIAHC for \$15.

At the end of each session, participants vote on the next discussion topic. Anyone with an interest or expertise in a particular topic is welcome to take on the role of moderator or to recommend guest moderators and experts. Please contact BIAHC at admin@artshum.org to be added to the Great Decisions email list for updates on the topic schedule and to receive topic background information.

The 2008 discussion dates are February 9, February 23, March 8, March 22, April 5, April 19, May 3, and May 17. For more information visit the BIAHC Website at www.artshum.org or contact BIAHC at 206-842-7901.

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Winter Roundtables

Brunelle is a former classroom teacher, a best-selling children's book author, illustrator, and an Emmy Award-winning writer. Her educational projects range from the board games *Cranium* and *Brainquest* to the television shows *Bill Nye the Science Guy* (PBS) and *Pop Bottle Science* (ABC). Brunelle is a regular contributor to NPR's *Science Friday Kids' Connection* and has also written for *The Discovery Channel*, *National Geographic World*, and *Family Fun* magazine. She has also developed Web and television projects for Scholastic, A&E, Disney, and The Annenberg Foundation. Brunelle's books

include *The World Almanac for Kids Puzzle Deck*, *Bottle Top Science*, *Yoga for Chickens*, and the juvenile nonfiction, *Campout!: The Ultimate Kid's Guide*. She lives on Bainbridge Island with her husband and sons, two cats and a dog.

Roundtable format

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

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Field's End winter classes

winning short film, *The Lunch Date*, and director of the award-winning documentary, *When Your Head's Not a Head, It's a Nut*, which aired on PBS. He is the author of an acclaimed play, "Brother Jones," which was first produced at the Lyric Hyperion Theater in Los Angeles. Stein's first novel, *Raven*

Stole the Moon, draws from his Tlingit Indian heritage and his latest novel, *How Evan Broke His Head and Other Secrets* won a 2006 Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award. Known for his great humor, accessible teaching style, and captivating charm, Stein is a favorite at writer's

workshops, conferences, and speaking events throughout the country. He lives in Seattle with his wife and three children where he is wrapping up his next novel, *The Art of Racing in the Rain*.

(Kerry Smith is a volunteer for Field's End, a community of writers.)

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Cindy Harrison

with local artists' work and surrounded by beautiful grounds, including a Haiku Garden donated by the Bainbridge Island Japanese-American Community.

During the past decade, Harrison has noticed a number of changes: increased demand on library resources and services caused by growth of the community; more telecommuters who use the library for business; multiplying media types from CDs to DVDs to MP3s, and much more.

She leaves with a great feeling of

pride in the library and its people.

"I'm proud that the library is a vibrant learning place – although I am only a piece of that successfully completed puzzle," she noted.

"I'm proud of the Bainbridge Library staff and its dedication to excellent service. . .

"I'm proud also that our outstanding program partners like Field's End, the Friends of the Library, Speakers Forum, Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities

Council, The Traveler Bookstore, the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society provide a variety of mind-expanding experiences for library users. . .

"I'm proud also of the excellent collection developed by Kitsap Regional Library's management team, and I am proud of the almost 200 volunteers who share their vital time and skills to create a library hat has been nationally recognized for its unique contribution to the community."

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Symphony preview

of classical music by developing the skills to truly listen (rather than just hear) how each piece of music possesses its own unique style and voice, made even more distinct by the musicians who play it.

Opera: a Critic's Guide to the 100 Most Important Works and Best Recordings by Anthony Tommasini. Anyone drawing up a list of the "most important" works of opera should expect to generate plenty of debate. Tommasini, chief music critic for the *New York Times* recognizes that his list, with emphasis on 20th century works, will prompt second-guessing, but he makes the case for his selections with conviction in this opinionated, quirky guidebook.

Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain by Oliver Sacks. Sacks has chronicled neurological medical cases in his previous books, *Awakenings* and *The Man Who Mistook his Wife for a Hat*. Now he takes on the relationship of music and the brain in cases ranging from a song that gets stuck in a continuing loop in the brain, to patients whose symptoms are calmed by certain types of music, and the man struck by lightning who develops a talent for the concert piano.

Violin Dreams by Arnold Steinhardt. Steinhardt was, for 40 years, an international soloist and first violinist of the Guarneri String Quartet. In this warm and witty memoir, he details his lifelong

obsession with the most beautiful and seductive of instruments. He vividly describes his terror of a legendary violin teacher, his quest for the perfect violin, and a pilgrimage to the Polish village where his love of the eerily evocative sound of the violin was born.

The Rest is Noise: Listening to the Twentieth Century by Alex Ross. Ross, music critic for *The New Yorker* takes readers from Vienna before World War I to New York in 2000 in this history of the century through its music. Ross explores the widening gulf between classical and popular music, music personalities and battles, and the musical works that defined the era in this lively and comprehensible narrative.

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Kenya shamba

coffins, and inside the hospital they had to take off their clothes, put on a white gown and climb up into a strange-looking bed.

For writing the grant, the doctor gave me an old Underwood typewriter. As I sat on our house porch and pecked away on the proposal, people on the shamba and children living nearby stole up and quietly watched, as if I was producing magic.

Shamba life

About a week after we arrived, the workers on the shamba started coming up evenings to our porch. They taught us Kikuyu, we taught them English. We shared stories and jokes mainly through pantomime.

In the daytime I helped Agnes with her work, daily carrying a full can of milk in a basket on my back to the local "dairy," a shack on the top of the hill where milk was weighed, poured into a huge container and a voucher given for end-of-the-month payment. Grant helped dig sweet potatoes and drove Agnes to the open market in town.

By the time we left Kenya, we had become such good friends with everyone on the shamba that at five a.m. on the final day, all came to bid us farewell. I hugged Agnes, and we both cried. I will always remember the group smiling and waving at the shamba gate as we drove away.

A year later, Dr. Kanyi's project was funded by Pathfinders, a Canadian group. (On January 16 at 7:30 p.m., under the auspices of *The Traveler Store*, Barbara and Grant Winther will present a slide lecture at the Bainbridge Library about their lives on the shamba.)

Stradivari's Genius: Five Violins, One Cello, and Three Centuries of Enduring Perfection by Toby Faber. Antonio Stradivari (1644-1737) was a perfectionist whose pursuit of excellence changed the world of music. During his long career in Cremona, Italy he created more than one thousand stringed instruments of which about 600 survive. Stradivari's instruments are still among the most valuable and sought-after in the world. Faber traces the rich histories of six of these instruments and the towering artist who created them.

The library also carries classical music and opera recordings on CD and opera DVDs, as well as books of sheet music and opera libretti.

Cindy Harrison will retire as branch manager

By VERDA AVERILL

Cynthia Harrison, better known to her many friends as Cindy, will retire at the end of January as Bainbridge branch manager of the Kitsap Regional Library.

After 18 years with the regional library system, and Bainbridge manager since 1991, she says it's time to pursue some other passions.

"Although I can't think of a better job than managing the Bainbridge Library, it is an all-consuming obsession with me. . . I would like now to be outside more – hiking, birding, kayaking, and exploring," she said.

"I would also like to attend our playwright son's productions, tour Yellowstone Park with our geologist son, audit some college courses, improve my garden's flourishing/expiring ratio, nurture my interest in photography, and read more books than book reviews."

She and her husband, David, will continue to live on Bainbridge, and would like to travel as time allows. She says firmly that she plans to remain connected to the community, where she's enjoyed serving with Helpline and singing with the Bainbridge Chorale. She'll remain close to her 93-year-old mother, who lives in Silverdale.

Like many of our readers, I've wondered why she decided to become a librarian.

"I grew up near Boston and went to

college in the Midwest," she recalled. "I graduated as one of the seemingly millions of English majors looking for work. Librarianship appealed to me because it was a saleable skill that would allow me to work in the world of literature and learning.

"I planned on being a reference librarian in a college library and worked

my way through graduate school at Western Michigan University typing and filing those endless catalog cards. (Librarians are not sentimental about the transition from the card catalog to computers!)

"My husband and I moved several times early in our marriage, and I worked in a variety of academic, school, special



Cindy Harrison reads from Three Cups of Tea during Bainbridge and Beyond Reads earlier this year

and public libraries. I found that I preferred public libraries because of the variety of information needs and the connections with people."

The Harrisons moved to Bainbridge Island when their sons were young, lured here by the excellent school system and the beautiful environment.

She was hired by

Kitsap Regional Library on a grant to develop a consumer health collection, then worked as the Day Care outreach librarian and as temporary branch manager in Silverdale.

"All of those experiences were valuable in learning about Kitsap County and the library system itself," she said

and "I was thrilled to become manager of the Bainbridge branch."

That was in 1991, and how things have changed.

"It was clear to me, both as a regular library patron and as the new manager, that the library was cramped and the collection was inadequate for our growing community.

"The staff at the time worked very hard to overcome the limitations of the facility. . ."

The eight staff members shared one desk and one file drawer, she recalled. Books arriving from other branches for patron holds were stored in a broom closet. Patrons sat elbow-to-elbow in the magazine reading area, and the meeting room was gloomy and inaccessible to anyone with mobility challenges.

"As it had in 1960 and 1980, the Bainbridge community recognized that the library provided essential community services and contributed the volunteer people power and funds to transform the facility," she said.

The biggest challenge

What would become the biggest challenge of her long career as Bainbridge branch manager – the capital campaign to double the library's size – started out with a discussion of ways to improve library parking.

"Then, when Tom Olson took over as library board president, he was determined to move forward. . . I clearly remember a meeting where the board decided to make the commitment to a capital campaign.

"This was a very courageous decision – 'a little like jumping off a cliff' as Wayne Nakata put it. . . They then assembled an outstanding group of more than 75 volunteers, and Trese Williamson resigned from the board to become the exceptional volunteer administrator of the campaign."

Harrison says it was the biggest challenge of her years as branch manager because of the sensitive negotiations with all the stakeholders. There were countless meetings and planning sessions – almost like a second job for the branch manager.

"I had never been involved in a library expansion before, and I and other staff members worked hard to improve the operational design of the facility without adversely impacting the aesthetics.

"Our staff member Paulette Rhoades contributed much to this effort, thanks to her knowledge of building construction, and board member and contractor Rick Blumenthal devoted countless hours to project oversight," she noted.

The expanded library building, which preserved much of the original building designed by John Rudolph, was filled

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Looking back at 10 years

materials, and bring their toddlers to story hours – as they did in 1997.

But there is so much more.

The past decade has brought constant growth of services and programs.

The young people's summer reading program now attracts nearly 1,500 children each year. Story hours have mushroomed, and special entertainers have drawn as many as 500 youngsters to some events. (For more about the past decade in the children's library, see pages 8, 9, and 10 inside.)

Teens now have their own special retreat upstairs, next to the Haiku Garden.

The community meeting room is a place where groups with a variety of interests convene regularly (and the modest room rental fees help pay for library maintenance). Many days and evenings you'll find it filled with best-selling and aspiring authors belonging to Field's End, the writers' community associated with the library. Or audiences listening to the distinguished speakers on the library's own Bainbridge Speakers

Forum. The Visually Impaired Persons group meets there monthly. So does a new and enthusiastic genealogy group. (Read more about it in a future Library News.)

Thanks to partnerships with many local businesses and organizations, scores of free programs are presented every year at the library. The travelogues hosted by the library and The Traveler bookstore are extremely popular. So are Norm Hollingshead's opera previews and now, this coming year, a symphony preview series will begin. (Read more about that on Page 11.) Play readings at the library have grown by popular demand.

The monthly library book sales staffed by enthusiastic Friends of the Library were so popular they are now offered three times a month. (See calendar.) What's more, books not sold here are often sold on-line, thanks to Friends' efforts. And a help-yourself bookstore has sprung up in the library lobby, with fresh offerings of books and periodicals put out almost daily, thanks to library volunteers.

During the past decade, far-sighted library board members acquired property to the south of the main building, which provides income from business rentals and allowed for expansion of the library parking area. The gardens were also expanded, thanks to the volunteer Friday Tidies, the Hardy Fern Foundation, and of course, the Japanese-American community of Bainbridge Island.

What will the next decade bring?

Certainly continued growth of Field's End, now nationally recognized for its ongoing programs and annual writers' conference.

Definitely more programs and special events in the Children's Library, thanks to an enthusiastic staff and a new group of volunteers (adults and young people).

More computer services like the Click! program and more access to reference materials via a few clicks of the computer (see articles inside).

And more than a few surprises. Keep reading. We'll keep you informed through the Library News.

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The Big Read

The Big Read events will include a theatrical reading by Island Theatre, a Field's End Roundtable discussion on "speculative fiction" led by Paul Hanson of Eagle Harbor Book Company, art and essay competitions for students, a public debate on the impact of TV and other technologies on our cultural life, and a screening of the 1966 version of *Fahrenheit 451* at the Historic Lynwood Theatre.

The Big Read is a national initiative designed to restore reading to a vital role in American culture. Now in its third year, The Big Read was an inspired

response to a 2004 study by the NEA and the U. S. Census Bureau. It revealed that less than half of adult Americans now read literature (novels, short stories, poetry and drama). The percentage of the U. S. population reading any book has declined seven percent in the last decade – and even more dramatically among teens and young adults.

Although it was published in 1953, *Fahrenheit 451*'s insights about censorship, the role of the state in the private lives of its citizens, the impact of contemporary media and technology

on our consciousness, and the power of books in nurturing our spirits are themes that remain compelling today.

Notices about events and times will be posted regularly on the Kitsap Regional Library Website (www.krl.org). Multiple copies of the book will be available at the library, schools and through Eagle Harbor Book Company.

For more information, or if you are interested in being a volunteer for The Big Read, call the library at 842-4162.



LIBRARY HOURS

Mon / Tues / Wed
10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Thurs / Fri 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sat / Sun 1 to 5 p.m.
(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

KRL WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.krl.org

LIBRARY PHONE NUMBERS

Bainbridge Island Branch 842-4162
For Computer Support 1-360-405-9131
Other Departments 1-877-883-9900