

# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 10, No. 1

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

Summer 2007

## Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. "Eurydice" by Sarah Ruhl and directed by Sara Scribner. 7:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 17

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

### TUESDAY, JUNE 19

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

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

\*Library closed: Independence Day  
\*Children's Library Fair: Storytime, crafts, games and book sale in the library's Madison Ave. parking lot. Come celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> at the library! 10 a.m.-12

### THURSDAY, JULY 5

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

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JULY 14

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

### TUESDAY, JULY 17

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

### FRIDAY, JULY 20

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

### THURSDAY, JULY 26

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

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1

Library Book Group. *The Lost German Slave Girl* by John Bailey. 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 2

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

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

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

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

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

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society 10 a.m.-12

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library: "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" by Edward Albee and directed by Mary Granfors.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

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

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 21

Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Brent Hartinger discusses "How far is too far? The limits of teen lit." 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 23

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

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Library closed: Labor Day

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Library Book Group. *Collapse; how societies choose to fail or succeed* by Jared Diamond. 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

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

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

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

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

\*Estate Planning Seminar 10 a.m.-12  
\*Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.  
\*James Alan: Living History Performance. Co-sponsored by the BI Parks and Recreation District. Island Center Hall 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

\*A Good Yarn: the library knitting and book group. 7-9 p.m.  
\*2nd Thursday Readers Book discussion *River of Doubt: Roosevelt's Darkest Journey* by Candice Millard 1:00 p.m.

Continued on Page 2



## Reading volunteer

*Ryan Henesey reads and works puzzles with young Colin Vanderberg in the young people's library as part of the popular Reading Volunteers program.*

*(For more children's activities please turn to pages 8-9.)*

— Carmine Rau photo

## Field's End Conference 'magical'

By BUFF HUNGERLAND

"My Field's End trip was one of the most magical days of my entire adult life," writes Karen Henry of Cooperstown, NY.

Henry was one of more than 180 attendees at the second annual Field's End Writers' Conference, "Writing in the Garden of the Gods" at Kiana Lodge, on April 28.

Conference opener Debra Dean, author of *The Madonnas of Leningrad*, described the moments when a TV special about *L'Hermitage* Museum in

Leningrad sparked a short story that grew, with the urging of her agent, into a novel about a place she'd never been and paintings she'd never seen—except in her mind's eye and thorough research. Her process inspired many conference goers to get back to work on their writing projects, given heart by a successful novelist whose own writing was tucked in between a mid-life career change, grading papers and a few summers off from teaching.

Luncheon keynote speaker Malachy McCourt spoke about the power of

storytelling and the importance of words and their implications, from song to poetry, from reportage to theatre, from rhetorical to creative writing. McCourt has juggled several creative careers including movie and stage actor, columnist, memoirist, playwright with his brother Frank, humorist, and historian. The autodidact McCourt left school at a young age but read his way through a classical education. The joy he elicited from words themselves drew the

Continued on Page 2

## Despite Bainbridge support KRL levy vote fails in county

By VERDA AVERILL  
Library News Editor

The votes are in and it's official. Kitsap Regional Library's May 15 request that voters raise the levy lid and increase taxes was turned down, hard, in most county precincts.

Bainbridge Island was a notable exception. Here voters approved the tax increase of 18 cents (\$18 per hundred thousand dollars of assessed value) with over 63 percent Yes votes and 36 percent No.

North Kitsap residents voted about 52 percent Yes, and Bremerton voters were divided almost equally, 50-50. Central and South Kitsap voters were especially negative, with only 42 and 34 percent approval respectively.

Jill Jean, director of the KRL system and a Bainbridge Island resident, was — like the scores of volunteers who worked hard to pass the levy lid lift — stunned by the defeat, which had not been expected since there

was little, if any, organized opposition.

But she was thankful for the support of Bainbridge Island voters.

"We've always known Islanders love their library. Thank you all for your ongoing support," she said.

Library patrons and staff are still puzzled by the returns, and will be seeking answers for weeks and months to come.

Of particular significance may be the low vote throughout the county — only a little over 40 percent of registered voters. Even on Bainbridge, just 46 percent voted — and that was the highest percentage in the county.

Why the low turnout? Disappointed library boosters guessed at many reasons. It was an all-mail election, and people didn't notice the ballots. There was no exciting general election to prompt them to vote. Postage had just gone up and they didn't have stamps. Gasoline prices are escalating. Taxes in general are too high, and this was an easy way to protest.

A look at precinct-by-precinct voting shows that everywhere in the county — from Bainbridge to Bremerton and beyond — the turnout and Yes votes were highest in those precincts nearest to branch libraries. (Complete returns are available on the County Website, kitsapgov.com.)

The failure of the levy vote will mean some major altering of plans for the regional library system.

The KRL Board of Trustees must make some hard decisions: whether to hold another election, and if so when. Meanwhile, at KRL headquarters work must begin at paring costs and producing a much slimmed-down budget by sometime this fall.

Before the election, Jean and the board had not talked about what would be cut if the levy request failed. Their many meetings with citizens encouraged optimism. Now, they will need to sit down and do some serious cutting.

### Inside this issue:

**Children's summer reading program begins ..... Pages 8 & 9**

**A close-up look at Ometepe at the library ..... Page 16**

**Island author Selfors publishes first novel to acclaim ..... Page 6**

Continued from Page 1

## Writers' Conference

audience into singing along with him.

"Page One" workshops focused on the roadmap, "the macro and micro themes and arcs," as Garth Stein put it, as well as techniques that make the reader care about what happens to the characters in the work. Robert Dugoni, author of the just-released *Damage Control* and Sheila Rabe, author of *On Strike for Christmas* (Fall 2007, writing as Sheila Roberts) conducted one of the workshops in which pre-submitted work was critiqued. Sitting opposite each other, their verbal counterpoint underlined engaging techniques and temporary flaws of submitted first page drafts. Garth Stein (*How Even Broke His Head and Other Secrets*) and prolific author, forensic psychologist, and biographer (*Inside the Minds of Serial Killers: Why They Kill*) Katherine Ramsland critiqued another set of first pages.

In other workshops, Mary Guterson (*We Are All Fine Here*), Hurston/Wright award-winner Clyde W. Ford (*The Long Mile*), and Elsa Watson (*Maid Marian*) presented concrete steps and practical advice for writers of all levels. Award-winning author Susan Wiggs (*The Winter Lodge*) took her participants through the evolution of a book and teamed with Rabe for an after-lunch seminar to help writers understand their role in the editorial process. Ramsland exhorted her audience to immerse themselves in their subjects and to listen without judgment. A 2006 Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award-



At the conference were Mary Guterson and Elsa Watson, Island residents and presenters, and (right) panelists Malachy McCourt, Debra Dean, and Clyde W. Ford with moderator George Shannon.



winner, Garth Stein presented methods to stay in charge of one's fiction. Poet Kelli Russell Agodon (*Small Knots*) discussed how deeply personal interests can be turned into powerful poems that make a difference. According to one reviewer, master writing teacher, award-winning poet and feature writer Priscilla Long, who discussed working with sound in poetry and prose, "packed weeks worth of writing tips into one hour."

The last workshop of the day brought the participants together for a panel discussion, "Of Lightning Bugs and Lightning: A Discussion of Craft" with McCourt, Dean and Ford, moderated by author George Shannon. A wine

and cheese reception and book-signing concluded the day-long conference.

Said one reviewer, "I just got home from your conference and want to say that it was definitely the best writing conference I've ever attended, and I've attended a lot. Why was it so good? The focus on writing, the intimacy, the high quality of the presenters, the absolute respect for writing that everyone embodied, the graciousness of the organizers, their attention to detail, the beauty of the setting, the comfort of the facility, the food was even good. Unlike many writing conferences, it was easy to talk to people and everyone was friendly. I came away with many good ideas,

and energized to do more writing. The workshops were the right length. I liked the elegant balance of social time with instruction, and the way you brought everyone together at the end."

Premier sponsors of the conference were Prudential Northwest Real Estate and Gilbert Thomes Jewelry. Eagle Harbor Books coordinated the conference bookstore. Field's End receives support, in part, from the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council and the City of Bainbridge Island. Named "Best Writers' Community 2006" by *Seattle Weekly*, Field's End is an affiliate of the nonprofit Bainbridge Public Library.

## Book review: *The Translator*, by Ward Just

"The past is never dead. It's not even the past." William Faulkner

By PAT MILLER  
Library Book Group

Of Ward Just's 20-plus novels, three find particular resonance in current events.

His Viet Nam novel, *A Dangerous Friend*, should have been required reading for the neo-cons prior to their adventure in Iraq. *The American Ambassador* puts a disturbingly familiar face on terrorism, and *The Translator*, set in post-cold war Europe, vividly illustrates the weight of history on individual lives.

This book stands out because of two memorable characters. German expatriate Sydney Van Damm lives in Paris where he translates German novels into English; translating Germany itself, he says, because it cannot speak for itself. American Junko Poole is an existentialist villain of sorts who navigates the chaos of cold war European politics with charm, savvy and cold manipulation; "the devil himself, tempting in white tie and tails."

Junko, rumored to be a CIA operative, introduces Sydney to Angela

Dilon the woman Sydney will marry, and 15 years later to Eric a sinister East German ex-Stasi.

Angela is Sydney's American counterpart. While he is disaffected by Germany's actions in World War II, she is disaffected by the war in Viet Nam, and their marriage is foreshadowed by presentiments of tragedy: the wedding itself, made awkward by tension between Angela and her egocentric father, by their ill-starred honeymoon on a gloomy German island, and finally, by the birth of their damaged son who may or may not speak, who may or may not be violent; the child is symbolic of the murky, unpredictable European society emerging from the cold war.

Sydney and Angela find some measure of contentment together, but 15 years into their marriage, history intervenes with the fall of the Berlin Wall and the torrent of irrational European exuberance and corruption that follows.

Angela's father has frittered away her trust fund, crushing her modest dream of a house in the country where she and

Sydney can escape to care for their son. Meanwhile, Junko Poole, the perennial opportunist, is everywhere in France and Germany where lucrative deals are to be plucked from the currents of political and economic chaos. Junko needs a translator to meet with "businessmen" in newly

opened East Germany. Sydney is reluctant, but driven by his desire to fund Angela's dream and the money Junko offers, he signs on—with predictably tragic results.

Sydney "had no idea why they [he and Junko] were friends; they did not enjoy the

Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 1

### Calendar of events

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**  
Library Speakers Forum. Vikram Prakash, PhD. Architecture in the non-western world. 4:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**  
Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Suzanne Macpherson discusses "How do we create snappy dialogue?" 7 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**  
"Romantic Paris" presented by celebrated Parisienne and travel writer, Thirza Vallois. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore. 7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**  
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society. 10 a.m.-12

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**  
Bainbridge and Beyond Reads *Three Cups of Tea: one man's mission to promote peace one school at a time*, a multi-media presentation and discussion with authors Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. Bainbridge High School Gym. 7 p.m.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**  
Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10a.m.-2p.m.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**  
Library Speakers Forum. US Court of Appeals Judge William Fletcher discusses the impact of international law on US law and foreign policy. 4 p.m.

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# Field's End slates summer and fall classes

By KERRY SMITH

You don't have to be an experienced writer 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](http://www.fieldsend.org). For questions write the Field's End Registrar at [registrar@fieldsend.org](mailto:registrar@fieldsend.org). Tuition assistance is available for all Field's End classes through the Jack Olsen Memorial Writer's Tuition Assistance Fund.

**Bob Mayer's** online writing class, "The Original Idea: The Heart of Your Story (and Key to Selling Your Book)" will meet in cyberspace from July 1-31, 2007. Tuition is \$50. The class is limited to 50 participants. Registration is underway at [www.fieldsend.org](http://www.fieldsend.org).

**Marian Merkel's** class, "Who Am I: Writing the Personal Essay for College Applicants" meets on two Tuesdays—September 25 and October 2, from 7 to 9 p.m. at a location to be announced.



Bob Mayer



Marian Merkel



Kathleen Alcalá



Priscilla Long

Tuition is \$80. The class is limited to 12 students entering college in 2008 or 2009. Registration opens on August 15.

**Kathleen Alcalá** will teach a six-week course, "Bringing History Alive in Fiction" on six Mondays—October 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12, 19, from 7 - 9:00 p.m. in the library's large meeting room. Tuition is \$240. The class is limited to 15 participants. Registration opens on August 15.

Finally, **Priscilla Long** offers "New Forms in Nonfiction: Writing the Literary Collage" on four

Wednesdays—October 10, 17, 24, and 31, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Kallgren Room, Bainbridge Island Senior Center, 402 Brien Drive, Bainbridge Island (across from Waterfront Park). Tuition is \$200. The class is limited to 12 participants. Registration opens on August 15.

## About the classes

In Bob Mayer's interactive online class, participants discuss ways to find and state their original idea, excite the reader, and stay on course while writing

the book. Participants will get the opportunity to share their "Original Idea" and have it discussed by the Mayer and the group in an interactive e-mail format.

Mayer will post regularly with topics for discussion, assignments, general commentary, feedback and responses to specific queries from participants. Discover what you really meant to write, the level of interest and self-motivation your idea generates, how to hone your original idea, and how to focus your creative energies.

*Continued on Page 14*

# Join local writers at summer Roundtables

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

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

On June 19, best-selling non-fiction author, **Gary Kinder** opens with the question "What is the secret to writing clear and compelling sentences?"

**Jim Whiting**, a children's non-fiction author addresses the topic "More

than kid stuff: What is compelling nonfiction?" on July 17.

On August 21 **Brent Hartinger** leads a discussion on "How far is too far? The limits of teen literature."

The final summer Roundtable on September 18, features **Suzanne Macpherson** who begins the session by asking the question "How do we create snappy dialogue?"

Seattle resident Kinder offers a unique blend of talents, including a penchant for doing exhaustive research while writing his books. He is the author of three books of narrative non-fiction, including *Victim*, *Light Years*, and the critically acclaimed New York Times bestseller, *Ship of Gold in the Deep*

*Blue Sea*. Not only does Gary write evocatively and persuasively, he can also explain how good writing works and why, injecting healthy doses of humor which makes his seminars both memorable and enjoyable.

Whiting, an author who believes that kids want to read much more than a dry recitation of facts is dedicated to writing compelling narratives that are factually accurate. He is a writer, editor, educator, and photographer. Whiting has written several book series including *Masters of Music*, *Latinos in America History*, *Unlocking the Secrets of Science*, and *Monumental Milestones*. He grew up in Tacoma and graduated from Whitman College, and has been a journalist, writer,

editor, and photographer for more than 20 years. He has contributed articles to the Seattle Times, Conde Nast Traveler, Newsday, and Saturday Evening Post, and for 17 years Whiting published Northwest Runner, a regional running magazine.

Hartinger, who lives south of Seattle, has been writing books since college and sold his first one in 2001. Since then he has sold nine novels. The first four books to be published were *Geography Club*, *The Last Chance Texaco*, and *The Order of the Poison Oak* (sequel to Geography Club). He likes to write for all ages, but particularly likes writing for

*Continued on Page 14*

## Field's End Calendar

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

### TUESDAY, JUNE 19

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

### ONGOING JULY 1-31

Field's End online writing class, "The Heart of the Story" with Bob Mayer. Pre-registration essential. Info at [www.fieldsend.org](http://www.fieldsend.org).

### TUESDAY, JULY 17

Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Jim Whiting discusses: "More than kid stuff: What is compelling nonfiction?" 7 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1

Registration opens for Field's End Special Event with Donald Maass, "The Fire in Fiction" to be held at Bainbridge Pavilion Theater Saturday, October 13. Info at [www.fieldsend.org](http://www.fieldsend.org).

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

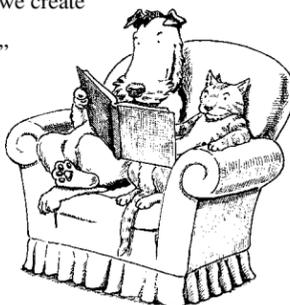
Registration opens for three Field's End Fall Writing Classes. Info at [www.fieldsend.org](http://www.fieldsend.org).

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 21

Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Brent Hartinger discusses: "How far is too far?" The limits of teen literature." 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Suzanne Macpherson discusses: "How do we create snappy dialogue?" 7 p.m.



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Kevin is a proud board member of the Bainbridge Public Library

# Remembering to say 'please' and 'thank you'

By VAL TOLLEFSON  
Library Board President

Remembering to say "please" and "thank you" is as important to us as adults as it was to us as children. The Board of Directors of Bainbridge Public Library find that saying "please" and "thank you" is our primary job.

We say "please" several times a year, through our direct fundraising and through One Call For All, when we ask that you help us maintain our beautiful library. That library, of course, is the result of your generous response when we said "please" in connection with our capital fundraising years ago.

Loyal library supporters were disappointed, as we were, by the voters' rejection of Kitsap Regional Library's request for added tax revenue. It was a harsh reminder of one of childhood's early lessons. Just because you say "please" politely does not guarantee a favorable reply.

Even so, Bainbridge Public Library users are asking the board and staff for an increase in a variety of library services. Budget constraints that KRL will now have to live with will certainly affect all of us, but the board and our community volunteers and supporters now have a new challenge, which is to find ways to meet the needs of Bainbridge library users within the limitations that KRL funding will impose.

We say "thank you" to our donors in various ways. We acknowledge every gift with a personal note from one of the directors. We hope this reminds you that this is your library, that your support is your personal commitment to its continued success, and that each donation is recognized and appreciated.

Our annual winter donor recognition party has been a great success, and gives the board and staff the opportunity to thank you in person. (Improvements in our mailing list system will, we hope, minimize the number of loyal supporters who inadvertently did not receive invitations this year.)

Our donor walls in the library entrance have been our way to permanently recognize major donors to our last capital campaign, as well as major contributors to the ongoing needs of the library. You have probably noticed that one donor wall has disappeared, a victim of structural collapse. Its absence has been a source of frustration for a number of our donors whose generosity we so want to publicly acknowledge. We are hard at work to insure that major donors, past and future, receive the recognition we so want them to have.

It is just another way to say "Thank you."

## 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.



These Japanese librarians, with Bainbridge branch manager Cindy Harrison, were among recent visitors to the Island library. All are from the Shizuoka Prefecture.

# All those magazines!

By PATRICIA MILLER  
President, Friends of the Library Board

"Over the years," says circulation manager Paulette Rhoades, "I watched the magazine donations grow from a handful each day to hundreds each week."

Many of you knew Martha Walters from Town and Country where she worked, or just as likely from the library where she was the first volunteer to take on the magazine chore.

Paulette, who began work at the Bainbridge Library in 1990, describes Martha coming to the library faithfully every day to take the magazines from a basket at the front door of the old library, sort them and put them out for sale. The library staff and the community appreciated Martha's work, but no one realized how much she contributed until she passed away in 2004.

"It took six volunteers," says Paulette, to replace her.

If you buy magazines at the library, you know that they are donated by people like yourself who read their copies of the New Yorker, Newsweek, National

Geographic or Better Homes and Garden, a few examples of an astounding variety, then bring them by the sack-full to the library.

Magazine donations come in upstairs, to the library office area or to the bookroom downstairs where they pile up daily. Seven Friends of the Library: Betty and Bob Clark, GayeLynn Galusha, Lawrence Worcester, Carol Sanderson, Jeri Meyer, Carol Sanderson, Regina Spoor and Joyce Rudolph all work independently to sort the magazines to genre, and to replenish and tidy up the sale shelves.

Once a week, Bill Iulo, former Friends Board member, collects the funds from the upstairs foyer and the downstairs magazine rack and brings them to the Friends board treasurer.

The magazine sales benefit the community twice over: the magazines are recycled, and they provide one more source of income that helps to support the library and its many community centered programs.

Today's volunteers, says Paulette, "carry on the wonderful work Martha loved to do."

# New book sale: First Thursday every month, from 1 to 4 p.m.

This summer, the Friends are conducting sales on the first Thursday afternoon of each month, from 1 to 4. The first of these half-day sales took place on Thursday, June 7, and they will continue throughout the summer. If they are well accepted by the community, we will continue the Thursday afternoon sales into the fall.

Several considerations made the decision for the

new sales: summer was coming on and we wanted to be better able to serve children and their parents. We also wanted to establish a leisurely atmosphere so that customers can browse to their heart's content.

So, come in, shop, and say hello to long time Friends of the Library Marilyn and Don Williams who will be in the book room to help you.

# Literary agent will make special appearance here

Registration opens on August 1 for a special one-day event with Donald Maass, a highly successful New York-based literary agent and published author, to be held on October 13 at the Bainbridge Cinemas at the Pavilion, 403 Madison Ave, Bainbridge Island.

Also a published novelist, Maass is one of the foremost and in-demand speakers in publishing. His workshops on craft, creativity and career planning have resonated with writers at every level, from first-timers to mega-bestselling authors. Maass has a unique perspective on what goes into the practical business of transferring inspiration from the heart to the written page, and techniques to keep a novel feeling "fired, special and powerful" every time.

His books include *The Career Novelist*, *Writing the Breakout Novel*, *Writing the Breakout Novel*

*Workbook*. His forthcoming work on writing craft is *The Fire in Fiction*.

Tuition is \$65 for those who register between August 1 and 31. After August 31, tuition is \$75. Please check [www.fieldsend.org](http://www.fieldsend.org) for details and registration.

## NEWS BRIEFS

**BAINBRIDGE VOTERS** supported the recent request for more Kitsap Regional Library funding with a majority of more than 60 percent. The county-wide ballot measure failed because of heavy negative votes elsewhere in the county.

**THE POPULAR TRAVEL LECTURES** co-sponsored by the library and The Traveler bookstore will resume in the fall.

# Costa Rica inspires awe in visitors

By BARBARA WINTHER  
Photos by Grant Winther

At 11 p.m. we landed in Liberia—not the West African country, but a city in Costa Rica.

The big ceiling fan in the warehouse-like terminal whirled full blast; customs was easy. My husband and I exchanged nervous glances as we charged out into the warm night, not sure what we would encounter.

Our friend, who owns the small hotel where we planned to stay for two weeks, had told us Abel's son would pick us up at the airport.

"For \$100 he will drive you here." And, there he was, holding up a sign: "Grant and Barbara."

It was an act of faith to jump into a strange man's car in a foreign country in the middle of the night. Off we roared down the two-lane highway.

Two hours into the journey, our driver turned onto what looked like a path. For the next hour, every inch of us shook as we curved through the jungle on a narrow, dusty washboard road. We saw no other cars nor any sign of human habitation.

Suddenly a river loomed out of the darkness. Where was the bridge? Without a pause, our driver forded across, sending up side waves as high as the car. I clung to Grant and we bounced together the rest of the way.

**Our destination was near the village of Nosara, located on the Rio Nosara in the tropical dry forest of the Nicoya Peninsula in western Costa Rica.**

The village is a traditional *tico* (native Costa Rican) town that borders a biological reserve, home to 270 different species of birds, howler monkeys, coatis, armadillos, deer, wildcats, iguanas and, in the river, crocodiles.

Although the village is small, it has two of what locals refer to as "supermarkets," a pharmacy, a wonderful vegetable and fruit stand, a tiny post office, a tin-roofed building with a red cross emblazoned on its side, a community cultural center library, donated by expatriates, and, in the middle of town, a landing strip which serves daily flights to and from San José.

There are two gas stations, each housed in a shack and without pumps; the attendant pours gas from a can.

A few miles west of the village, near the seashore, exists one of the oldest expatriate communities in Costa Rica. This is where our American friend lives. Connected to her home is the charming, four-room (kitchen included) hotel called Nosara Beach House. There is a beautiful pool and garden, and, adorning many walls, murals of exotic jungle scenes, executed by a local artist. A short walk through grass and scrub reaches the beach.

One of the great things about this area is that shoreline development is strictly forbidden by the Nosara Civic Association, which works hard to balance development with protection of the natural world. Another great thing is the broad, sandy beach on which you can walk for miles and see only a handful of people. And the water is incredibly warm.

**The community has several medium-size hotels with open-air restaurants (all food is safe to eat), a mini-mart (essentials only), an Internet cafe (reasonable rates), a car rental office (we rented a four-wheel drive), and even a stand that sells homemade ice cream (expensive but delicious).**

Each morning we woke up to the distant sounds of howler monkeys, sort of like lions roaring. After a cup of coffee, we strode off for a sunrise walk along the beach. Then, we fixed breakfast in our kitchen and planned the day.



Howler monkey in wildlife refuge (left); Gas station in Nosara.



Market at Nosara village (left); Costa Rican girl.

Since all roads here are extremely pot-holed and dusty, we didn't take long trips.

With three other people, we took a guided tour into the biological reserve and learned as much as our minds could assimilate about plants and howler monkeys.

With eleven others, we traveled up the river in a small battery-powered boat, the only kind allowed. Along the way we saw more birds than we knew existed, and, to our amazement, a crocodile crossed the water right in front of us, only its eyes and nose showing.

Often we took picnics to the beach, explored the village to shop and talk with locals, and took long walks; in-between, we read books, swam and napped.

One day we drove up the coast to Ostional Wildlife Reserve where hundreds, sometimes thousands, of Olive Ridley sea turtles come to dig their eggs into the black, volcanic sand. The Ostional community guards the nests, patrolling day and night for poachers. Then, to protect the hatchlings from dogs and vultures, women and children accompany the tiny turtles as they frantically scurry to the sea. All of this we could only imagine, since it was daytime, and the turtles nest at night, and not the rainy season, the big time of the turtle *arribadas* (arrivals).

On a night in November, 1995, the largest recorded



Nosara Beach House mural of turtles nesting.

*arribada* in Ostional occurred. A calculated 500,000 females came ashore to lay eggs. Figuring each female deposited an average of 105 of their white, ping-pong-ball-shaped eggs, around 12 1/2 million turtle eggs were left on the beach that night.

The trip to Costa Rica was relaxing, humbling, inspiring. It restored my spirit of hope, a necessary ingredient to hang onto in these fearful times.

## Read more about Costa Rica

*Costa Rica: the Ecotraveller's Wildlife Guide*, by Les Beletsky—an invaluable handbook for natural history, ecology and wildlife habitats.

*100 Butterflies and Moths: Portraits from the Tropical Forests of Costa Rica*, J.C. Miller—if you're into butterflies, you'll love this book.

*A Photographic Guide to Birds of Costa Rica*, Susan Fogden—a useful pocket guide, most helpful in identifying birds seen in various parts of the country

*When Woman Became the Sea: a Costa Rican Creation Myth*, Susan Strauss—a lovely children's book about how the God Sibú creates a woman who bears a tree from which flow the waters of the world.

*Wonders of the Rain Forest*, Jack Hanna—a Time-Life video that shows and tells about many of the creatures of the Costa Rican rain forest.

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*Homegrown on the Island*

# Author Suzanne Selfors publishes first novel

By SUSAN WIGGS

Never has the term “homegrown” been more fitting.

Everything about debut author Suzanne Selfors is *homegrown*, from her Bainbridge Island childhood to her spectacular organic garden, which surrounds the historic house built by her pioneer ancestors.

On a storybook farm, filled with blooming flowers and orchards, heirloom tomatoes, free-ranging chickens, ducks and bunnies, Suzanne might seem as though she inhabits a Disney movie.

However, like many writers, she has her dark-and-twisty side, too. This is evident in her first novel, *To Catch a Mermaid*, a rollicking fantasy adventure with an irresistible balance of humor, the sort that’s broad enough to appeal to kids and sly enough to please their parents.

Suzanne’s books also feature the sort of pathos and danger that brings to mind Roald Dahl at his very best. Maybe it’s that Nordic sensibility—Suzanne’s ancestors came from Norway and settled on Bainbridge in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

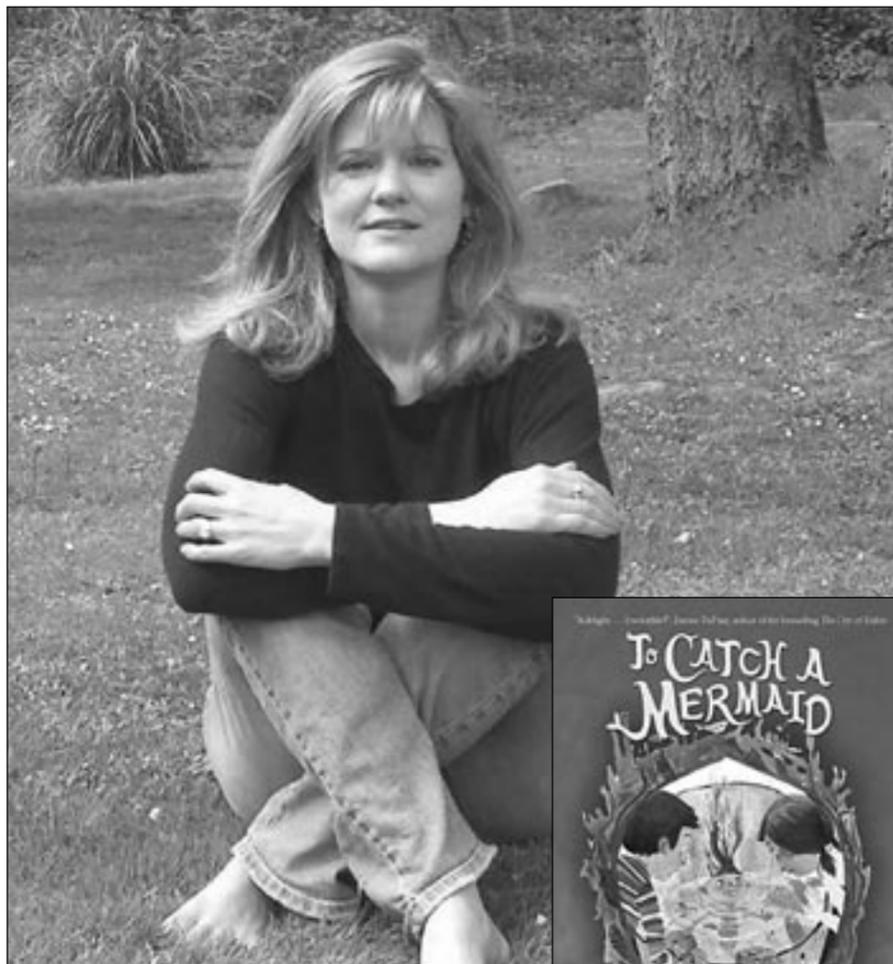
Although she has homegrown roots, Suzanne also has a first class education. She studied at Bennington College in Vermont and graduated from Occidental College in California. She earned a master’s in communications from the University of Washington, married a pilot and moved into a house on the island that has been in her family for generations.

Suzanne’s favorite library memory is of the day she found a stray dog hanging around outside the library door—an adorable cockapoo.

“We ended up adopting her and she was the family dog through most of my childhood. We always joked that she was the very best thing we ever checked out from the library.”

Today, one of her favorite features of the library is the books on tape, which she listens to on long walks.

“Right now I’m listening to *StarGirl* by Jerry Spinelli,” she reports. And of course, the library is the ideal place for this busy mother of two to get some writing done. “I use the back tables all the time. Plug in my laptop and escape from the distractions of my house. I get



Author Suzanne Selfors at home. Her first novel will appear soon.



tons of work done.”

Note that she calls writing *work*. Over the years, I’ve encountered many emerging and aspiring writers. Hundreds, really. But of those hundreds, very few understand the work involved in the process and then make the journey to being published. Like Dorothy’s journey through Oz, there are all kinds of pitfalls along the way.

The first time I met Suzanne, she was an emerging writer just finishing her first full-length novel. Almost immediately, I knew she would one day join the ranks of the published. She had the smarts, creativity, drive and stick-to-it-iveness that it takes to launch and sustain a writing career. And the talent.

Behind every “overnight success” is a

plan that might be years in the making.

Suzanne joined the first-ever novel-writing class offered by Field’s End through the library. Instructor Michael Collins, an acclaimed writer based in Bellingham, was her teacher and mentor in the class.

Suzanne’s writing quickly gained the attention of one of the top literary agents in New York City.

Michael Bourret of the Jane Dystel Agency responded to the unpublished

manuscript with the kind of enthusiasm a writer dreams of: “When I first read *To Catch a Mermaid*, I was blown away,” he says. “It’s rare to find a novel that feels like a classic the first time you read it, but that’s exactly [the way this story] reads. It reminded me so much of books and authors I’d loved from my childhood, like Mary Rodgers’s *Freaky Friday* or the novels of Roald Dahl, and I could imagine children for decades falling in love with this timeless story.”

Michael was not alone in his enthusiasm. The book was sold at auction—something that is exceedingly rare for a first novel—and landed with Little, Brown. Michael has high hopes for *To Catch a Mermaid*, certain of its broad appeal, “which feels both nostalgic and modern.”

In addition to writing an incredibly strong novel, Suzanne followed it up with not one but two encores—a second middle-grade fantasy novel for Little, Brown and a young adult literary comedy for Bloomsbury. The author’s professionalism and creativity were a huge plus for this agent.

“Suzanne, as an author, is a dream,” Michael comments. “She writes from the heart, and has a burning desire to tell stories (and not just for children). She will have a long, successful career writing many kinds of books, and I’m really honored to be a part of her world.”

He has no idea. I wonder how Michael, a native Brooklynite, would fit in with the duck pond and henhouses?

*Note: Susan Wiggs is a library volunteer and Bainbridge Island author. You can read her blog at [www.susanwiggs.wordpress.com](http://www.susanwiggs.wordpress.com). Visit Suzanne Selfors on the Web at [www.suzanneselfors.com](http://www.suzanneselfors.com). You can meet her in person next September 9 at 3:00 p.m. at Eagle Harbor Book Company, and on November 20 at a free Writers’ Roundtable at the library, where she’ll answer the question, “How do you go from Field’s End student to published author?”*

## Library Speakers Forum will begin 10th season

The Bainbridge Public Library Speakers Forum will begin its 10th season in September.

Susan Bray, who first suggested the speakers’ series at a library board retreat in 1997, continues as its director.

Two speakers will launch the 2007-2008 season in September.

On Sunday, September 16, Vikram Prahash, PhD, will speak on “Architecture in the Non-Western World”.

Two weeks later Judge William Fletcher will talk about the impact of international law on U. S. law and foreign policy.

All lectures are at 4 p.m. on Sundays.

During the past decade Islanders attending the forum have heard experts in a variety of fields – sciences, the arts, government, international relations, the media, and more – who are experts in their fields and are recognized as outstanding speakers. This year is no exception.

Again this year Grant and Barbara Winther will sponsor a distinguished artist as one of the speakers. Northwest Coast artist Duane Pasco is world

*Continued on Page 13*

### How to read like a grown-up: Suzanne Selfors’s all-time favorite books

- The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Mr. Dahl
- The *Harry Potter* books by J.K. Rowling
- A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole
- Titus Groan* by Mervyn Peake

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# Good reads for lazy summer days

By JULIE O'NEILL

Here are some new titles that should be good reads for a lazy summer day.

**Whitethorn Woods** by Maeve Binchey. Master storyteller Binchey weaves together a series of short stories about a small village in Ireland. A proposed highway bypass will cut right through a wooded area, site of the shrine of St. Anne's well which attracts many visitors to Rossmore. Each vignette focuses on a different character, each with a different opinion on the shrine and the highway.

**Opening Day: The Story of Jackie Robinson's First Season** by Jonathan Eig. In 1947, Jackie Robinson broke through baseball's tightly enforced color line to become the first black man to play major league baseball. He endured loneliness, prejudice from fans and his own teammates, physical threats, and enormous stress, yet

managed to play so well that the Brooklyn Dodgers earned the pennant that year. This is a meticulously researched look at that pivotal baseball season.

**Body of Lies** by David Ignatius. CIA agent Roger Ferris, newly stationed in Jordan, attempts to flush out a terrorist mastermind known as Suleiman. This timely, plausible thriller is by a journalist who has reported on the Middle East for 25 years. He pairs a suspenseful plot of espionage and betrayal with compelling characters, including Ferris's love interest, an advocate for Palestinian refugees.

**Summer Reading** by Hilma Wolitzer. Three women cross paths during a summer in the Hamptons. Lissy, an insecure second wife, decides to host a book club for other young socialites and asks eccentric English professor, Angela, to lead the group. Angela guides the group through books such as *Madame Bovary* and *Jane Eyre*, whose heroines inspire Angela, Lissy and her au pair, Michelle to examine their own lives and relationships.

**Austenland** by Shannon Hale. Jane Hayes, who thinks no man can measure up to Jane Austen's hero, Fitzwilliam Darcy, visits Pembroke Park, a British resort where guests speak, dress, eat and behave like characters in Austen's novels. This is a lightweight confection for Austen lovers.

**Peony in Love** by Lisa See. In 17<sup>th</sup> century China, Peony, the cloistered daughter of a wealthy family, rebels against an arranged marriage after experiencing the emotions evoked by an opera and glimpsing an elegant young man. See, the author of *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, gives a fascinating look at everyday life, traditions and rituals during the Qing and Ming Dynasties.

**The Wedding Officer** by Anthony Capella. During WWII, a young British officer is posted to Naples where his job is to try to discourage Allied soldiers from hastily marrying Italian girls. Then he hires a young widow as the officers' cook and her sensual cuisine opens the door to his heart.

**Ghostwalk** by Rebecca Stott. In this intelligent and original thriller, a Cambridge University historian who had been researching Isaac Newton is found floating in the river with a prism in her hand. The investigation of her death and those of other 17<sup>th</sup> century alchemists combines the occult with modern physics in an atmospheric mystery that is genuinely eerie.

**Luncheon of the Boating Party** by Susan Vreeland. The best-selling author of *Girl in Hyacinth Blue*, imagines French painter Auguste Renoir as he plans and paints his famous 1880 masterpiece depicting a group of people drinking and flirting on the terrace of a riverside restaurant.

**Body Surfing** by Anita Shreve. A spellbinding novel about a young widow torn between two brothers she meets one New England summer.

**Summer at Willow Lake** by Susan Wiggs. Olivia trades her trendy Manhattan life for a summer at her family's resort in the Catskills, Camp Kioga, which has fallen into disrepair. She undertakes to renovate the resort with the help of a former boyfriend. Bainbridge's own Susan Wiggs nicely evokes the pleasures of a summer at the lake, in this first of her series, Lakeshore Chronicles

**Summer People** by Brian Groh. Nathan, a college dropout, takes a summer job on the Maine coast as caretaker for an elderly aristocratic widow. Throw in a love interest – a nanny – and a few local rich kids and watch the tension between the wealthy and the hired help unfold.

**Bird of Another Heaven** by James Houston. Set in both modern times and in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, this compassionate novel tells the story of a California woman who became the consort and confidante of the last king of Hawaii.

*Continued on Page 14*

## KRL offers new Learning Express Library

By PEGGY BRANAMAN

Overcoming test-taking anxiety, raising test scores, and improving skills is possible with just the click of a mouse at your local library or on your home or office desktop!

Log on to a computer with your KRL library card, and enjoy free, unlimited access to dozens of interactive, full-length skill-building and Test Preparation Courses, hundreds of full cover-to-cover E-books, and a broad range of Practice Tests based on such official exams as the ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, Firefighter, Police Officer, Paramedic, EMT Basic, U.S. Citizenship, Postal Worker, & Cosmetology. This valuable service is available 24/7 from any internet-enabled computer—in your library and even from your home!

All of this is possible with LearningExpressLibrary, the KRL Electronic Resource that offers comprehensive courses in math, reading, and writing, resume writing and workplace skills enrichment; and more than 300 online practice tests for students and adults of all ages.

All practice tests include instant score reports that help you target those skill areas that need the most attention. Complete answer explanations accompany each test question so that you understand why a particular answer is right or wrong. If you are preparing for the SAT or GED, LearningExpressLibrary offers a complete course

series, as well as targeted essay writing practice with multiple writing prompts and instant score reports that immediately let you know how you performed in each skill area.

Content in this new resource is continually expanding. Once inside LearningExpressLibrary, click on "E-books" to access complete PDF versions of books for Academic Test preparation, Math and Reading Skills, Workplace Skills and Career Tools, Resume Writing, titles in Spanish, and more. No need to worry about due dates! And why pay \$300 and more for SAT preparation courses when the full courses are brought to you by your library, free of charge!

This is just one of the many quality, librarian-selected resources you will find at your KRL library online. So visit [www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org), select "Electronic Resources", and then choose LearningExpressLibrary, found by name on the right-hand alphabetical menu of resources.

LearningExpressLibrary has helped everyone from home-schoolers with grade school preparation materials, to new arrivals with English grammar practice to job hunters. The E-books include titles like *A Parents Guide to High Stakes Testing*, *Homeschooling for the Gifted Child*, and *Solutions to Everyday Work Problems*. With the extensive offerings now available, there is sure to be something there for you, too.

Explore your future, at the library today!

## Reading friends

Volunteer Aviva Gaphni shares a book with Julia Keys as part of the Reading Friends program in the young people's library. The pairing of volunteer reading teachers with beginning readers is a popular and rewarding activity in the children's space downstairs.

— Photo by Carmine Rau



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# Children's Corner

Activities of interest to young people and their families

## News from the young people's area

By CARMINE RAU  
Youth Services Librarian



Activities abound this summer at the library. Here are some of the highlights:

### Read In at the Library

Tuesdays, June 19, 26, July 10, 24, Aug. 7, 21, 28 10:30 to 11:30 am

Preschoolers and their families are invited to drop by and hear stories read by our Reading Friends volunteers. This is an opportunity for young children to make a new friend and share books together. Stay for a few minutes or stay for an hour.

### Family Game Nights

Thursdays, June 28, July 26, Aug. 23, 6:30 pm

All ages welcome to come play board games at the library. Bring a game to share or use one of ours.

### Dog Days of Summer

Mondays, July 9, 16, 23, 30 10:30 to 11:30 am

The dogs are back and want to hear more stories from you! We are looking for kids who would like to read to a dog. No pre-registration required, just drop in on the morning you would like to read. Sign-ups start at 10 am.

### Valentine's Performing Pigs

Tuesday, July 3, 10:30 am at St. Cecilia's

Celebrate 2007 - 'Year of the Pig' with these popular performers. Watch with amazement as they skateboard, dunk baskets, spell words and much more.

### Page Pals

Do you like reading and talking about books? Just read the book in advance and come join in a discussion and activities related to the book. For children going into fourth through sixth grades. Space is limited to 15 participants. Please sign up at the Young People's desk beginning June 16.

Thursday, July 12, 3 pm, "*Sisters Grimm: The Fairy Tale Detectives*" by Michael Buckley

Thursday, August 9, 3:00 pm, "*The Wright 3*" by Blue Balliet.

### Captain Arrg!

Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 am at St. Cecilia's

Yo ho ho, it's the pirate's life for you. Learn to walk, talk, and play like a pirate with Captain Arrg!

### Roberto the Magnificent

Tuesday, August 14, 10:30 am at St. Cecilia's

Gravity defying juggling, comedy and crazy stunts abound at this fun-filled and amazing show.

## Volunteer Ruth Gibbons creates unique displays

By CARMINE RAU  
Youth Services Librarian

If you have wandered through the young people's department in the last couple of years, chances are you stopped for a second to glance at the display case.

What might have caught your eye through the Plexiglas box? Perhaps the Lego display, an ode to moose, a collection of toys—or was it an intricately staged scene of dolls hanging out in a gazebo?

If it is the latter, chances are you have seen the work of Ruth Gibbons' hands.

In fact, the entire display case is of her doing. Ruth commissioned the display case for the young people's department in 2005, shortly after she moved to the island, and it has been a popular fixture ever since.

Bainbridge is the most recent library to benefit from Ruth's talents and generosity. She has put together displays and doll houses for libraries and store fronts throughout Long Island, Connecticut and Vermont. Her interest in miniatures began many, many years ago after she saw a dollhouse display at the Smithsonian. The exhibit made such an impression that Ruth began making things for her young daughter's dollhouse.

The multi-talented Ruth works in needlepoint, knitting, crochet, quilting and painting among other crafts. Most recently, she has turned her finely tuned hands to the art of felt. Her work can be seen up on the flannel board at our toddler and preschool storytime programs. She prefers to work in miniature, as the work goes more quickly.

"A big quilt may take a year, I can do a mini in a month," she said. Even as a child she was fascinated by how miniatures could be "carried in your hand."



Ruth Gibbon

Ruth and her husband traveled extensively and found miniatures to be souvenirs that packed easily. She soon amassed items from France, Italy and Germany including an impressive collection of Steiff bears.

Through the years, making miniatures and creating displays has been a hobby that connected Ruth to many wonderful people and local libraries. Whenever she finds her collection out-growing her space, Ruth offers items up for raffles and gifts. Children who participate in this year's Summer Reading Program will have a chance to win one of her scenes, a bear and lamb having a tea party, with much of the work done by Ruth's hands.

Visit during the month of August to see the display.

*If you have a collection you would like to display in the Young People's department, please call Carmine Rau at 842-4162.*

### Summer Storytelling Afternoon

Sunday, July 22, 3:30 pm

Few pleasures compare to the wonder of simply sitting and listening to stories told aloud. Come hear tales from our guest storytellers. Recommended for school age children and up. Adults welcome to come and listen with or without children.

### Alley Oop!

Tuesday, July 31, 10:30 am at St. Cecilia's

Sing, dance and solve riddles with folk musician Alley Oop! Regulars at our storytime know Alley Oop! as the singer of the ever-popular "Freeze Dance" song. Come experience the fun as he performs live.

### Popsicle Party

Friday, August 31, 10:30 to 12:30

Let's celebrate! All ages are invited to drop by the garden at the library and enjoy a cool treat as we mark the end of another fabulous, book-filled summer.

## Crazy Clothes Thursdays

Something fishy is going on downstairs in the Young People's Department. Come by and see your local library staff decked out in strange apparel. Prizes given to children who show up in costume on Crazy Clothes Thursdays, June 21 to August 30.

*This year's dress-up themes:*

June 21 - Detectives and criminals

June 28 - Mad for Plaid

July 5 - Cowgirls and Cowboys

July 12 - Pirates and Sailors

July 19 - Crazy Hat Day

July 26 - Toga Day

August 2 - Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses

August 9 - All in Blue

August 16 - Cats and Dogs

August 23 - Pajama Day

August 30 - Sports Day



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Follow the reader:

# Hale family's favorite mysteries

By JANE HALE

What is the attention span for a 5-year-old boy? Well, not very long, but my son seems to have found something that he likes for more than 10 minutes and that is a mystery.

We visit the library once a week and we always look for books on some topic. For several months now, mysteries and detective stories were a hit.

My daughter, who is 3, has come to enjoy some of the funnier ones, but my son is captivated even by early chapter books.

When asked what he likes best, the following comes right to mind:

The *Nate the Great* books by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat are very popular as each one has the same unusual characters. The mysteries are relatable as this boy solves the mysteries of his friends. Nate's dog, Sludge, is one of the best detectives around, and never fails to help solve the mysteries. Of particular note is *Nate the Great and Me, the Case of the Fleeing Fang*. This book has tips on being a detective and, during the story, Nate makes notes to lead you through the detective process.

The book that started us on mysteries is *The Mystery at the Club Sandwich* by Doug Cushman. Doug Cushman has written and illustrated several books, but this is my son's favorite.

In *The Mystery of King Karfu*, also by Doug Cushman, the illustrations help with the mystery and make it more interesting, as they are journal pages. We have found a few other books in a similar style, where the detective uses a "notebook" of sorts to solve the crime and you get to read along as he makes his notes. *Detective LaRue* by Micheal Teague is another such book.

*Big Max and the Missing Giraffe* by Kin Platt, made my daughter laugh at the silly names, so if you have different aged



Carmine Rau photo

*The Hales like mysteries.*

children it may appeal to them at different levels. This is a bit of a fantasy as well as a mystery.

Everyone at our house is very excited at the prospect of a summer program based around mysteries, and hope to find many more to enjoy.

*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.*

## Staff picks: Mysteries

### Gail's pick: Sammy Keyes Series by Wendelin Van Draanen

Sammy Keyes is a feisty seventh grader wearing high tops and riding her skateboard. Maybe it is her curiosity or just her unusual group of friends. She lives with her grandmother under odd circumstance; all her belongings need to fit inside Gram's bottom dresser drawer.

Officer Borsch doesn't care for her meddling in his investigations. The first few lines in *Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief* say, "It's not like I was trying to get into trouble. And it's not like it was my fault I was stuck inside the apartment. If it is anybody's fault it was Mrs. Graybill's...I was using the binoculars to at least see what was going on outside."

What did Sammy see? What did she do? Select one of the Sammy Keyes mysteries to read this summer.

### Marian's pick: The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick

Packed with more than 200 original drawings, the author takes you behind the walls of a Paris train station where Hugo, orphaned, is living. Follow Hugo as he solves the mysteries regarding the bitter old man who runs a toy booth at the

station, an automaton and the message from his father.

### Susan's pick: The Stink Files series by Holm & Hamel

This clever mystery series will have you on the edge of your seat, as it follows the sophisticated British feline spy, James Edward Bristlefur, a.k.a. Mr. Stink, in the hard-boiled style of mystery writer greats Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler.

The astute clue solving skills of this dashing international figure will take you from New Jersey to France, as shadowy characters from his past threaten the Le Chat Gourmet cat food company, owned by Mr. Stink's humans. Illustrations by Brad Weinman are truly film noiresque.

### Carmine's pick: Case of the Left-Handed Lady: an Enola Holmes mystery by Nancy Springer

Immerse yourself in grimy Victorian England with the intrepid, free-spirited Enola Holmes as your guide. She dodges not only the dangers of the London streets, but must use all her wits and disguises to stay one step ahead of the greatest sleuth of all time, her older brother Sherlock. Also check out the first book in this series, *The Case of the Missing Marquess*.



## Storytime Calender

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 11**  
Storytime for Little Ones, 10:30am

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 18**  
Storytime for Little Ones, 10:30am

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 25**  
Storytime for Little Ones, 10:30am

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1**  
Storytime for Little Ones, 10:30am

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8**  
Storytime for Little Ones, 10:30am

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15**  
Storytime for Little Ones, 10:30am

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22**  
Storytime for Little Ones, 10:30am

## Children's and family programs

**SATURDAY, JUNE 16 ALL DAY**  
Summer Reading Kick Off!  
Drop by, sign up for summer reading and make a detective case book.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 10:30AM**  
Read In at the Library!

**TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 10:30AM**  
Read In at the Library! Thursday, June 28, 6:30pm  
Family Board Game Night

**FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2PM**  
Family Movie Matinee. Showing: Great Muppet Caper

**TUESDAY, JULY 3, 10:30AM**  
Valentine's Performing Pigs (event held at St. Cecilia's)

**MONDAYS, JULY 9, 16, 23, 30 10:30 TO 11:30AM**  
Read to a Dog. Come read to one of our special guest therapy dogs

**TUESDAY, JULY 10, 10:30AM**  
Read In at the Library!

**THURSDAY, JULY 12, 3PM**  
Page Pals book discussion group. Sisters Grimm: Fairy-Tale Detectives

**TUESDAY, JULY 17, 10:30AM**  
Captain Arrg! (event held at St. Cecilia's)

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 3PM**  
Globe Trotters Club: an around the world story/craft program for 7-12 year olds

**THURSDAY, JULY 19 10AM TO 4PM**  
Crazy Hat Day. Stop in and make the hat of your dreams.

**SUNDAY, JULY 22, 3:30PM**  
Summer Tales: guest storytellers perform tales for children and adults age 5 and up

**TUESDAY, JULY 24, 10:30AM**  
Read In at the Library!

**THURSDAY, JULY 26, 6:30PM**  
Family Board Game Night

**FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2PM**  
Family Movie Matinee. Showing: Get a Clue (based on *The Westing Game*)

**TUESDAY, JULY 31, 10:30AM**  
Alley Oop! (event held at St. Cecilia's)

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 10:30AM**  
Read In at the Library!

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 3PM**  
Page Pals book discussion group. Wright 3

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 10:30AM**  
Roberto the Magnificent (event held at St. Cecilia's)

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 3PM**  
Globe Trotters Club: an around the world story/craft program for 7-12 year olds

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 10:30AM**  
Read In at the Library!

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 6:30PM**  
Family Board Game Night

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2PM**  
Family Movie Matinee. Showing: Great Mouse Detective

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 10:30AM**  
Read In at the Library!

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 31 10:30AM TO 12:30PM**  
Popsicle Party



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# Summer all the time

By FIONA STANTON



Doesn't everyone wish it was summer all the time? Especially those lucky people who get to go on vacation to places

you've never even seen on a map.

Whether or not you'll be going on any exciting adventures this summer, a good book should always be close by.

Here are some books that are short enough to fit in your suitcase (or under your bed):

**To Air is Human** by Bjorn Turoque (with Dan Crane). Though the story of me finding this book would be too long to fit on this page, I will say I am very glad I stumbled upon it. Probably my favorite book on this list and (gasp) it's non-fiction. It tells the story of Dan Crane's alias, Bjorn Turoque, and his goal to win the world air guitar championship. This book comes with the bonus of being able to search for Bjorn Turoque on YouTube and watch him in action.

**Tuck Everlasting** by Natalie Babbitt. The shortest and sweetest book on this list, this classic is a great book to read outside in the grass. You can pretend you're Winnie Foster and that you get kidnapped by the Tucks, a family doomed with eternal life. I think everyone should

read this book at least once, even if you do to read it on a plane.

**Be More Chill** by Ned Vizzini. This book probably has the coolest concept ever. The main character hears about a microchip for the brain, one that speaks to you, showing you how to be cool and helping you with homework. While this book is one of the longer ones on the list, I never had the whole I-don't-feel-like-reading-this-right-now feeling that I get from some books. Also you can day dream about what it would be like with Keanu Reeves talking to you in your mind.

**The Pact** by Walter J. Roers. It seems that more and more these days every book seems to be the same. *The Pact* was like a tall glass of lemonade after sitting in the summer sun. While the narrator is a slightly younger age than in most books I've been reading lately, it is written in an intelligible voice. The main character, his brother and his friend deal with family issues that one would think have been over used, but told by a person of a younger age it brings them to new light. It's also cool to be able to look into the life of kids living in the late '40s.

**How I Live Now** by Meg Rosoff. This book kept me up at night, because I had a problem putting it down. The main character deals with living in a world of terror, and the not-so-unreal war that hits her close to home. I had an especially fun time imagining that I was like the main character, on an English farm with only

my cousins as company. Definitely a good hammock read.

**Before Wings** by Beth Goobie. Even if you're not going to camp this summer you can still pretend you're going to work on one. Only the main character in this book recently had a brain aneurysm, is waiting for another aneurysm that will kill her and sees spirits who are giving her strange messages. This book will also make you glad we don't have mayflies around here.

**TTYL** by Lauren Myracle. The first book in the Internet Girls trilogy, it's written completely in instant message format, so you can pretend you're messaging your

friends, even if they are across the country. It's oddly addicting and it's easy to pick one of the three girls to relate to.

**Shelf Life** by Robert Corbet. Ah, summer jobs. It's like the moment we get off of school we start thinking about working, whether or not we want to. Told in a

changing perspective, switching between a few stereotypical work-place characters, it keeps your attention. You may want to rethink that job at the grocery store, though.

*Fiona Stanton is going to be a freshman at Bainbridge High School. Other than reading, she loves to ride her horse, play soccer and lacrosse.*

These good books will fit in your suitcase

## Teen mystery night at the library

By SHARON LEE

The library will close at the usual time on Friday, July 13.

An hour after that, teens are invited to participate in **Death gets a red card: an interactive mystery.**

Each teen will have the opportunity to answer the question, who would want

to harm the star of the high school soccer team? And help solve the mystery.

Teen sleuths will walk through the library to examine the evidence, study the crime scene and do their best to discover the culprit and the motive.

Registration is required as space is limited.

Registration begins Monday, July 2.

## Get a clue

By KAYE SPADE,  
Young People's Department Staff

Get a clue  
Read *Nancy Drew*  
Having a party?  
Invite *Joe Hardy*

Sound too scary?  
Too much fright  
*The Boxcar Kids*  
might be just right

Read just one  
Read them all  
Read thru Summer  
Into Fall

Read some mysteries  
*A to Z*  
At the Library  
Books are free

*Encyclopedia Brown's*  
His name  
Solving mysteries  
Is his game

Take a look  
Read a book  
Get a clue  
We're talking to you!

Find the villain  
Solve the crime  
Borrowing a book  
Doesn't cost a dime

*Sherlock Holmes*  
*The Baskerville Hound*  
There's thousand,  
of mysteries  
To be found



*Sammy Keyes*  
*And the Mummy's Tomb*  
Will have you shivering  
In your room

## Volunteers needed for teen mystery night

Teens age 16 and up as well as adults are encouraged to apply. Contact Sharon Lee at the library.

## YNK at your library

By SHARON LEE

You Never Know is the theme for our teen reads program this summer. It picks up on the Get a Clue theme for the summer reading program for kids and takes it a step further. It's all about mystery, both real and imagined.

Sign up at the reference desk any time the library is open. Read for 10 hours and discover things you've never known.

Turn in your completed punch card and take home a paperback book title of your choice.

## NEWS BRIEFS

**JOIN THE PARADE!** Library boosters will march in the Fourth of July parade on Bainbridge among One Call For All participants.

**VOLUNTEERS** are always welcome at the Bainbridge library. Have a skill you'd like to share? Talk with Sharon Lee, volunteer coordinator.

Join your library friends at the big Bainbridge Island 4th of July parade and the book sale in the library parking lot before the parade.

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## Friday Tidies

It takes many volunteers to keep the library gardens growing throughout the seasons. These Friday Tidies photographed recently by Cindy Harrison are (from left) Amber Dawn Haller, Lona Gartrell, Christy Smith, Ann Lovejoy, Verna Sorensen, Louise Urness, and Bobbie Morgan.



## Library travel series resumes in September

Save Wednesdays for travel beginning in September when the travel programs return to the library.

Bainbridge Library and The Traveler Bookstore have been hosting presentations by world travelers for six years and the 2007-08 season promises to be a rewarding tour of tempting worldwide destinations. Noted Parisienne and travel writer, Thirza Vallois begins the series on September 19 with a native's insights on the best ways to explore the most romantic places in the City of Light. William Boyd announced in his review of her new book, *Romantic Paris*, that "we can safely toss all other Paris guidebooks aside." A review in *Paris Free Voice* notes that "having lived in Paris for over 40 years, she offers us a genuine insider's look at the city's treasured spots and secret corners. Her choice of restaurants, cafes, shops and little known museums is substantiated by excellent tips for seasoned experts as well as anybody dreaming of coming here."

Bainbridge Island will provide the next program's expert advice as Regina and Dale Spoor and Dallas Shaffer share their separate adventures traveling in Mongolia. Anyone who was fortunate to receive some of Kathleen Thorne's postings from her journey will testify that the November program will be a treat. Kathleen and David Thorne will give Islanders a glimpse of their whirlwind cross-country tour of the USA. Their presentation, "Looking for Lattes in all the Wrong Places" reveals how they discovered that there is no place like home. The fall travel series will be on September 19, October 17 and November 14.

## Ginger Garza joins staff as page substitute



Ginger Garza

Ginger Garza joined the library staff here last fall. As a page substitute she's on call, usually working about three days a week. You'll find her shelving books and doing whatever is needed – always with a smile.

She loves the job, and enjoys working with the staff. "Everyone here is so nice," she notes.

Born in Philadelphia, Ginger also lived in San Antonio, New Orleans and Dallas before moving to Seattle in 1999 and Bainbridge Island in 2004.

In Dallas, she worked for 20 years at a Goodies from Goodman gourmet store and catalog company, buying products and designing catalogs and gift baskets. In Seattle, she worked at Williams-Sonoma.

On the Island she's become an

enthusiastic gardener and bird watcher, enjoying not only the birds that visit her garden's birdbaths but also the eagles which fly frequently over the patio.

Indoors, baking is her favorite hobby, especially trying out gluten-free recipes.

"My chocolate brownies are great," she notes, "and the library is a great resource for gluten-free cookbooks."

Off duty she does, like most librarians, enjoy reading – both fiction and non-fiction. Currently she's enjoying *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series as well as books by Peter Mayle and Ruth Reichl.

Ginger is the mother of three grown children: Martin Garza of Dallas, Suzanne Garza of Washington, D. C., and Lisa Garza, with whom she shares a home on Bainbridge.

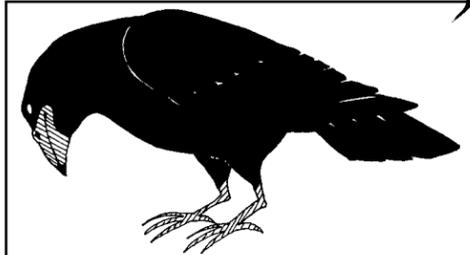
## Library Fair for children set for Fourth of July

Celebrate the Fourth of July at the library when Bainbridge Public Library hosts its first book fair for children. This festive event is designed to foster the enjoyment of children's literature and encourage summer book reading. The theme of the fair will be *Get A Clue @ Your Library*, Kitsap Regional Library's free summer reading program at all library branches.

This Island fun-filled event will be held in the Bainbridge Public Library parking area on July 4 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon just prior to the annual Fourth of July Parade at the top of the parade route on Madison Avenue.

Children and their families are invited to a special Friends of the Library sale of children's books, games, storytime and crafts (including the creation of a huge American flag made from children's hand prints).

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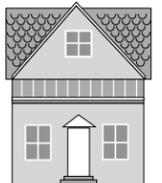
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## Faces in the crowd

*Among the hundreds of library boosters present at the annual spring party for donors to the Bainbridge Public Library were these smiling folks and a few hundred others. Bainbridge Youth Orchestra members provided background music for the occasion. Marlene LeMire chaired the event.*

*— Photos by Blanche Hill and Channie Peters*



### Newsmakers:

# Local businesses support the library

Like the hundreds of individuals who give each year to the Bainbridge Public Library, local business and professional firms help the Island's library in many ways.

Some contribute materials, others supply volunteer labor for building projects. And several dozen civic-minded business owners buy advertising space in the Library News.

The Bainbridge Library Board, staff, and volunteers appreciate the support of these local companies. (They, combined with generous individual donors, have made it possible for the Bainbridge Public Library to exist for 45 years without ever levying property taxes for maintenance and operations.)

This year, as the Island business community continues to grow and change, it seems appropriate to acknowledge some of the Library News advertisers who have been making news recently. (Look for more information on our advertisers in coming issues.)

## Early advertisers

A quick look back indicates that three companies have been consistent Library News advertisers for almost a decade.

Eagle Harbor Books, Blumenthal Construction, and CFA Mortgage have given to the library and the community in many ways.

Steve and Nancy Olsen, former owners of Eagle Harbor Books, bought the first Library News ad and also

volunteered in many ways, turning out for work parties, writing articles, and serving on library committees. Steve was a library board member for a three-year term, including a year as president.

Eagle Harbor Books has continued to advertise regularly in the Library News in the years since the Olsens sold the bookstore to Morley Horder. The store is well known for its hosting of distinguished authors — many of them local — at Thursday night readings.

Rick Blumenthal has been building fine homes here for years. He served on the Bainbridge Library Board during the last expansion of the library building in 1996-97. As vice president of the board, he not only chaired occasional meetings but actively supervised much of the library construction, without accepting a contractor's fee. Today his construction firm is thriving, and he contributes to the community in many ways, sometimes offering classes at the park district.

CFA Mortgage is another long-term advertiser. Owners Carolyn and Charlie Frame participate actively in many Chamber of Commerce and volunteer activities.

Town and Country Market has been a long-term, steady library booster. They joined the roster of Library News advertisers soon after this paper's origin.

The Nakata and Loverich families, owners of the market since its opening, have for generations been steady library patrons, supporting it in too many ways

to mention. Mari Loverich and Wayne Nakata served as library board members during the building campaign a decade ago. The late Don Nakata hosted the dedication of the Japanese-American community's unique Haiku Garden in 1997, and the Town and Country families continue today to support and use the library.

Now the market is celebrating its golden anniversary — 50 years of leadership in the community.

Also involved in the community for many years, Junkoh and Christine Harui and their family have grown Bainbridge Gardens into a must-see destination for visiting gardeners as well as local homeowners. The Haruis help the library in many ways, frequently supplying plants at discounted prices. Junkoh Harui contributed many hours planning and supervising creation of the library's Haiku Garden, which was donated by the Japanese-American community of Bainbridge Island.

Bainbridge Gardens has long been a steady advertiser in the Library News.

## On the move

Several advertisers are making news this year by moving to new locations.

Harris-Zommers Interiors has moved from its space on Madrone Lane in Winslow to a new at-home studio

*Continued on Page 13*

# Sharon Snyder, James Lee exchange vows

Assistant branch manager Sharon Snyder is back at work at the Bainbridge library after time off for a wedding and honeymoon. She and James Lee exchanged marriage vows last month at a Poulsbo church.

With a big smile, the new Mrs. Lee has written her own account of the courtship and wedding, which she calls "Miracle at midlife".

"It (really) did happen," she noted. "A nice-looking and rather shy gentleman slipped into the pew I was in and asked if he could join me for mass. This led to some memorable hikes, conversations and shared meals. On Saturday, May 12, it led to a joyful exchange of vows and nuptial mass in the church where we met.

"I came to this community as a youth services librarian in 2004 and discovered a new community, career and way of life. I bought my first house in Poulsbo about a year later and continue to work hard to create a home out of a neglected hulk. Under my Mom's tutelage I have developed a passion for gardening. A wheelbarrow full of compost is beautiful to me now.

"My new husband, Jim, grew up on a farm in Nebraska. He understands the beauty of dirt and doesn't laugh at my plans for fruit trees, bees, blueberry



Photo by Karyn Carpenter

Mr. and Mrs. James Lee

bushes, herbs and vegetables. He sold his home and now my home is ours.

"Jim works for the railroad, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe, as a safety officer. This means he commutes from Poulsbo to Ballard every day. He loves the ferry ride over Puget Sound and the wonder of the mountains. He

didn't have anything like them growing up in the Midwest.

"Jim brings an adult daughter who lives in Colorado and a caramel-colored Pomeranian named Peanut to our marriage. We are settling in, planting trees and enjoying this new phase of life. To quote C. S. Lewis, we are "surprised by joy".

# Adult winter reading winner

Sally Mathews (with some of the books she read) was the winner of this year's winter reading program for adults. She received a \$100 bookstore gift certificate for her efforts.



## HONORABLE MENTION TO BARBARA BROWNE

Browne also emerged as one of the top readers during the winter reading program. She attributes the volume of her reading to the cold weather and a decision to forgo television. A book by Alastair Fothergill on planet earth as you've never seen it before has been donated to the Bainbridge Public Library in Barbara's honor.

*Continued from Page 6*

## Speakers Forum

renowned, and his works are in many private and public collections.

An announcement of the complete series will be mailed to previous subscribers sometime in mid-summer. (The brochures are now in the pre-press stage, and expected to be mailed in July.)

Cost of subscription to the entire series is modest – it has been around \$50 per year in the past, and is expected to remain low – but with the usual sellout crowd provides a fee for each distinguished speaker plus funds for the library's maintenance and operation. (The Bainbridge Public Library has never imposed property taxes, relying entirely on donations and income from special events for its ongoing maintenance.)

Once the subscribers' brochures are in the mail, additional copies will be available in the library.

(For more information about the series, inquire of Susan Bray at 842-4156.

## Bainbridge & Beyond Reads

# Three Cups of Tea: One man's mission

By KATHLEEN THORNE

**Community Book Reading and Discussion: September 26 ~ 7 p.m., Bainbridge High School Gym. Free**

In 1993, Greg Mortenson was descending from his failed attempt to reach the summit of K2, the world's second highest mountain. Exhausted and disoriented, he wandered away from his group into the most desolate reaches of northern Pakistan. Alone, without food, water, or shelter, he eventually stumbled into an impoverished Pakistani village where he was nursed back to health.

While recovering, he observed the village's 84 children sitting outdoors, scratching their lessons in the dirt with sticks. The village was so poor that it could not afford the \$1-a-day salary to hire a teacher. When he left the village, Mortenson promised that he would return to build them a school.

How that promise led to Greg Mortenson's one-man mission to counteract extremism and terrorism by building schools, especially for girls, throughout the breeding ground of the Taliban is told in spellbinding detail by Mortenson and award-winning journalist David Oliver Relin in *Three Cups of Tea* – the book choice for the inaugural Bainbridge & Beyond Reads.

The goal of Bainbridge & Beyond Reads is to engage the Bainbridge and Kitsap communities in the reading and discussion of a common book to be read by book groups, students and the general public during the summer, with related events taking place during September. The program will culminate with a free presentation and discussion by co-authors Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin on Wednesday, Sept. 26, at 7 p.m. at the Bainbridge High School gym.

Bainbridge & Beyond Reads is co-sponsored by BIAHC, Kitsap Regional Library's Bainbridge Branch, the Bainbridge School District and Eagle Harbor Book Co. Events, reading guides, suggestions for related books and other information may be found on the BIAHC website, [www.artshum.org](http://www.artshum.org) or by calling the BIAHC office at 842-7901 or the Bainbridge Library at 842-4162.



Greg Mortenson and friends

*Continued from Page 12*

## Local businesses

near Island Center. (See their new ad, elsewhere in this issue, and call for driving directions.) Stephanie Harris and Juris Zommers, who like to say they've "had designs on Bainbridge for 33 years", are serious library boosters. She worked actively on the citizens' fund-raising committee in the last capital campaign. Both are serious musicians, she with the Bainbridge Chorale and he with a unique music collection.

Kevin Hawkins of Countrywide Home Loans and his associates are

now settled in their new location at 554 Winslow Way East. Hawkins is an enthusiastic library booster and is busy these days working out details for the children's book fair in the library parking lot the morning of July 4. There'll be lots for the kids to do, and their hours from 10 to 12 will be so busy and so much fun they may forget to ask, "When's the parade going to start?"

Hawkins is a member of the Bainbridge Library Board and an active member of the fund-raising and

communications committee, as well as a regular Library News advertiser.

Another advertiser, Island Church, is also moving its office. They're leaving the Sportsman Club Road location and moving into a rented house at 470 Ericksen Ave., so that construction can begin on a church building on the previous site. Meanwhile, Sunday morning services continue at Woodward School at 9:30.

*Continued on Page 14*



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*Continued from Page 3*

## Field's End summer and fall classes

A *New York Times* bestselling author, Mayer writes thrillers, science fiction and non-fiction under his own name and the pen name Robert Doherty. He co-authored *Don't Look Down* with Jennifer Crusie. Bob and Jenny are working on their next book, tentatively titled *Agnes and the Hitman*, due out in summer 2007.

Merkel offers motivated high school students the opportunity to examine the college essay from the standpoint of writing craft, and then to create their own unique essays. Participants will learn how to find their voice and write about their dreams and goals with emotion, specific imagery and self-awareness. During the first session, they will analyze a number of essays, brainstorm possible voices and themes, and discuss the target reader audience. Specific application questions will be welcome. A week later, each student will bring a draft of a 500-750 word essay for analysis and feedback. Susan Wiggs moderates.

With degrees from Whitman College and Yale, plus years of experience working in local government, Merkel knows both colleges and the importance of crisp, clear, persuasive writing. For more than 12 years, she has guided and advised high school seniors in selecting the right university for them and writing their personal essay for college applications. Her students have been accepted to a range of institutions including Villanova University,

Georgetown University, Lewis and Clark College, Willamette University, Tulane University and the University of Oregon. In fall 2006, Merkel taught this course along with Susan Wiggs.

Wiggs holds a Master's degree in education and has served on the Harvard Schools Committee, interviewing many applicants and writing many letters of reference. For the past four years, Susan has been a mentor to young people applying to college, from helping them find schools that suit their dreams, to helping them with the application process.

Alcalá's six-week class will focus on shaping historical research and source materials into fiction that appeals to the modern audience. Readers of all ages find the timeless appeal of a beautifully imagined historical novel irresistible. In them, the facts and sensory details of history help evoke a vivid sense of time and place, but it is the emotional development of characters that brings fiction to life. Participants will explore the balance of keeping characters true to their historical period while also establishing commonalities with the contemporary reader.

A Bainbridge Island resident, Alcalá is a self-described Chicana storyteller and writer, and the award-winning author of three novels set in 19th century Mexico – trilogy of novels set in 19th century Mexico, *Spirits of the Ordinary*, *The Flower in the Skull*, and *Treasures in*

*Heaven*. She also wrote a collection of short stories, *Mrs. Vargas and the Dead Naturalist*. Her recent collection of poignant essays, *The Desert Remembers My Name: On Family and Writing*, details her motivations for unearthing the roots of her family tree. It was published in April 2007. Her honors include a Western States Book Award, a Governor's Writer's Award, a Washington State Book Award, and an award from the Pacific Northwest Booksellers.

Long's course explores the written colláge and its first cousin, the *abcdarium*, which are marvelous forms of creative non-fiction that suit a wide variety of subject matters. In this class, each participant will scrutinize models of the form and write a collage of their own. In the process they will work on craft skills: language as sound, sophisticated sentencings, etc. Participants will also hone their observational skills to make their writing more keenly observant and develop strategies to deepen the insight of their works.

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

## — NEWS BRIEFS —

**TWO MEETING ROOMS** are now available for public use at the library. (One requires climbing a flight of stairs.) Rates are reasonable. Inquire at the library. Kate McDill is in charge of room reservations.

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 for Writers' Roundtables comes from the City of Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Fund, administered by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council. For other Field's End programs, go to [www.fieldsend.org](http://www.fieldsend.org).

*Continued from Page 3*

## Join local writers at summer Roundtables

and about teenagers because he identifies so strongly with them, and has a knack for teen dialogue. His latest sequel to Geography Club, *Split Screen: Attack of the Soul-Sucking Zombies/Bride of the Soul-Sucking Zombies*, was published in January 2007. It was nominated for a 2007 American Library Association's "Best Book" and "Quick Pick." His first fantasy book, *Dreamquest*, will be published in May 2007.

Macpherson, finds that life is nothing if not humorous. She finds inspiration for stories in jazz music, real life, and has "a lifelong romance with old movies" which contain a goldmine of character exploration. If her books feel like 1939 black-and-white romantic comedies, then she's done her job. Macpherson's

books include *Hysterical Blondenness*, *Switched, Bothered and Bewildered*, *Talk of the Town*, and *Risky Business*. She describes her next book, *The Forever Summer*, set to be released in August 2007, as the perfect book to "stuff in your beach bag and hit the sand." Macpherson resides in Seattle.

## Roundtable format

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

*Continued from Page 13*

## Local businesses

Paulette Peterson, a Seattle attorney and Bainbridge resident, is now offering clients appointments at her home office on Hansen Road as well as in the city. She is available to help with wills and estate planning, probates, guardianships and litigation. Check her ad in this issue for details.

Susan Taylor and Barbara Tolliver, owners of The Traveler bookstore, are moving a few doors down Winslow Way into the space vacated recently by Custom Printing. The Traveler, which carries a full line of travel essentials as well as books, co-sponsors the

popular travelogue series at the library. The programs are suspended for the summer – everybody's traveling!—but will resume in the fall.

Loren and Laurie Brown and their staff at Blue Sky Printing have moved into their bright new shop in downtown Poulsbo. They are strong library boosters, providing the pre-press services for this community newspaper as well as other printing needs.

*(Watch for more information about our advertisers in coming issues of the Bainbridge Library News.—Editor)*

## NEWS BRIEFS

**WHEN SCHOOL** is out it's sign-up time for the young people's summer reading program at the Bainbridge Public Library. It gets under way this month.

**NO TAXES** have ever been levied to pay for the Bainbridge Public Library building and grounds. All building expenses, including annual maintenance and operation, come from donations.

**THE ART COMMITTEE** of the Bainbridge Library Board is being revived under the chairmanship of local writer and board member George Shannon.

**VISION IMPAIRED** persons of all ages are always welcome at the VIP meetings monthly at the library. (See Page One calendar for time.)

*Continued from Page 7*

## Good reads

*Medicus* by Ruth Downie. Gaius Petrius Ruso is a divorced and down-on-his luck army doctor in the Roman Empire who has made the rash decision to seek his fortune in the outpost of Britannia. When he rescues an injured slave girl, she drags trouble in her wake.

*The Dead Fathers Club* by Matt Haig. Eleven-year-old Philip meets his late father as a ghost who introduces him to the Dead Fathers club. When he learns that only murdered people end up as ghosts, he sets out to avenge his dad. There are hilarious and poignant insights into the strange workings of the world as seen through the eyes of a child.

*The Quest* by Wilbur Smith. This fourth book in Smith's bestselling ancient Egypt series blends history, fantasy and mythology. The magus Taita and his ally Meren are asked by the pharaoh to rid the country of a series of plagues and they must contend with fierce beasts, both natural and supernatural.

*Continued from Page 2*

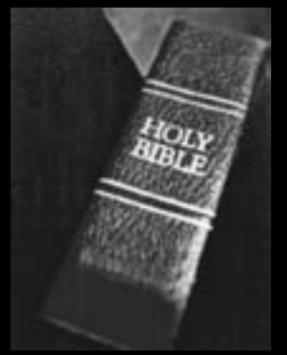
## Book review

same people or believe in the same things, and their temperaments were at odds. They were opposites, he supposed that was it."

But Sydney, a man compelling in his honesty and idealism, has missed the point altogether. In the world portrayed in this novel, those like Junko Poole, who are able to shuck off the past and profit from its wreckage, are the survivors. Friends were little more than chits to be cashed in at the appropriate time, and he muses over Sydney's fate, "—it was a damned shame. Sydney had been caught in a tight spot. But in the last analysis you had to look out for yourself— You had your own life, not anyone else's. And that was the life you were responsible for and had to justify every minute of every day and understand what you were capable of, and that meant escaping the curse of memory."

All the titles mentioned here are available through the library.

## Join the Island's Oldest Book Club.



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

Always the same book. Every Sunday something new. Cool, huh? Join us for a time of worship and learning. Each week we crack open God's word and dig deep into what it means. When we know God's story, we understand our own story better. It's amazing how well they fit together.

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**Baurick's photos of Ometepe are now on exhibit in the library meeting room.**



*Continued from Page 16*

**Tristan Baurick visits Ometepe**

He marveled at how friendly and helpful everyone was. But then, who wouldn't be to this inquisitive redhead who could have stepped out of a Norman Rockwell cover.

"It was a challenging reporting experience," he said. "I'm used to meeting deadlines, moving quickly, getting answers fast. I discovered how to put that aside because life is much slower paced. Just traveling to the next town might take half a day as there are no paved roads, more dirt and rock, roller coaster paths. Buses are seldom on time, and few people have cars. Most people travel on buses, bicycles and horses. Pigs and chickens run everywhere."

The buildup of the education system—schools, teacher training, scholarships, cultural exchanges, and, most recently, a program for the deaf

children—are some of Kim and Ela Esterterg's proudest achievements.

Fortunately for Baurick, an internet system has recently been established to the coffee co-op so he could file his stories and send them by email. Unfortunately, one day it broke down. He was on deadline, and the power went out.

**'Most people travel on buses, bicycles and horses. Pigs and chickens are everywhere.'**  
— Baurick on Ometepe

"I was in a panic because on the front page of the Review there was a gaping

hole waiting for my story and photos."

He told the people at the cooperative and they said, "Don't worry, we'll handle it."

In the foothills there is a water-powered generator along a stream. The generator gets clogged with hornets that build their nests inside.

"They sent someone up there who declogged the generator which gave enough power to power my computer so I could send my story. I think I met deadline," he laughs.

His time in Ometepe changed Baurick's perspective on travel.

"It kind of spoiled it for me because often you see sites you're supposed to see, but there's not much interaction with local people. But when I was working as a journalist, I got to know the place on a very different level. It was such a rich experience that I think when I travel

again, I'll want to take up my pad and pen and start harassing people with questions."

*To find out more about the story behind Baurick's photographs, visitors to the Library exhibit can go to [www.imagesofometepe.blogspot.com](http://www.imagesofometepe.blogspot.com).*

*All proceeds from sales will return to Ometepe. Call (206) 856-7978 or email [tbaurick@bainbridgereview.com](mailto:tbaurick@bainbridgereview.com).*

**— NEWS BRIEFS —**

**FREE SEMINARS** on Wills and Trusts are offered frequently as a public service by the Bainbridge Public Library. Attorney Marite Butners, an Island resident and library board member, arranges the programs, which feature local attorneys with extensive knowledge of estate planning.

**Art history in fact and fiction**

By GAIL GOODRICK,  
Nonfiction Collection Manager

They say that a picture speaks a thousand words but in fact there are many famous paintings of the past whose mysteries have inspired whole books.

Of course Dan Brown's book *The Da Vinci Code* probably helped contribute to the renewed interest in the mysteries of art history. For that or whatever reason, there seems to be a rich trove of titles currently that will appeal to art lovers, history buffs and mystery lovers.

New Spring 2007 is a nonfiction book titled *Dragon's Trail; The Biography of Raphael's Masterpiece* by Joanna Pitman. It examines the painting St. George and the Dragon originally commissioned from Raphael by the Duke of Urbino in 1506. Reading like a detective story, this book looks at the painting's strange history and the many hands it has passed through on its way home to the National Gallery in Washington, D.C.

*Scandals, Vandals and da Vincis* by Harvey Rachlin looks at 30 of the world's most famous paintings and explains how they were originally created and then survived wars, pillage, shipwrecks, ransoms and every conceivable threat to their continued existence.

Turning to fiction with art as a theme, a recent title is *I, Mona Lisa* by Jeanne Kalogridis. Though fiction, this book, perhaps, explains the mysteries surrounding Leonardo's famous portrait. It takes the reader back to the tumultuous times of 15<sup>th</sup> century Florence when the city was wracked by Medici

assassinations and Savonarola's "Bonfire of the Vanities."

*Portrait of an Unknown Woman* by Vanora Bennett takes the reader back to another time and place, equally as dangerous—the time of England's Henry VIII. Thomas More, noted as a statesman and scholar, is at the center of this book as he resists Henry's attempts to divorce his Catholic wife and turn to Protestantism. More's daughters benefited from his enlightened views on education for women and they feature prominently in this book. The painter Hans Holbein is another important player in this story since he became a family friend while painting More and his family.

*The God of Spring* by Arabella Edge is the story of Theodore Gericault's famous 19<sup>th</sup> century painting called "The Raft of the Medusa." This painting caused a scandal when it was shown because it depicted a real tragedy "ripped from the headlines". Traditional history

paintings depicted noble scenes of warfare but this painting showed men clinging to life on a storm-tossed raft. It was just a bit too realistic for many viewers. Adding to the scandal was government incompetence and a cover-up. With this book you get a tragic story of shipwreck combined with a wonderful study of artistic creation and obsession.

If books like these appeal to you, here are some other recommended titles to explore:

Sarah Dunant: *Birth of Venus* is set in 15<sup>th</sup> century Florence

Karen Essex: *Leonardo's Swans* is set in 15<sup>th</sup>-early 16<sup>th</sup> century Italy

Tracy Chevalier: *Girl with a Pearl Earring* is set in Vermeer's Holland

Tracy Chevalier also has a new book called *Burning Bright* which is set in William Blake's London of the late 18<sup>th</sup>-early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

To be published in July this year is *Keeping the World Away* by Margaret

Forster which centers around a painting created by the English artist Gwen John as a solace after losing her lover, the sculptor Rodin.

**— NEWS BRIEFS —**

**LAST YEAR** more than 1,500 youngsters participated in the local library's summer reading program.

**SUPPORT YOUR** local library by giving to the annual Bainbridge One Call For All campaign this fall.

**A DAYTIME** book group now meets at the library the second Thursday of each month. (See calendar.) For more information, check with reference librarian Julie O'Neill.

**DON'T MISS** the Children's Book Fair in the library parking lot before the Fourth of July parade. Scheduled from 10 a.m. until noon, the book fair will give families with young children a lively pre-parade activity.

  
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# Tristan Baurick visits sister island Ometepe

By NAN WOOLDRIDGE

"I'm not a photographer," he says. But when journalist Tristan Baurick took pictures in Ometepe to complement his stories, he said, "I don't know if it's the scenery or the people, but I think I took better photos than I've ever taken."

Using a simple, digital camera with very little memory that necessitated many clicks of the shutter, he added, "Maybe it's because the place is so new to my eyes."

Inspired by his experiences that produced many stories in three straight weeks of work, he wondered what else he could do to help the projects in Ometepe. Ah, maybe he could put more of a human face on the area by showing his photos on the walls of Bainbridge Island and selling them.

There's the one, for instance, on the ferry boat across Lake Nicaragua where, dizzy from diesel fumes and people smashed together, he managed to catch a bull charging one of the handlers when a number of bulls were loaded on the car deck. And another one captures a little boy, Josue Monge, with his head under a faucet, hands cupped together, drinking long and deep from crystal clear bubbling water.

**For the month of June, Baurick's exhibit will be on display at the Library with all of the sales profits returned to BOSIA (Bainbridge-Ometepe Sister Islands Association).**

It started as a joke. He casually suggested to Doug Crist, editor of the Bainbridge Review, that the paper send him down to Ometepe, our sister city in Nicaragua. "Certainly. Go!" was Crist's response. "Amazing!" was the reaction by email from other newspapers. Seldom would a rookie reporter be sent to a foreign country without at least 10 years experience.

The timing was perfect. BOSIA was about to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. That gave him a good angle for his visit, and Kim Esterberg, the founder of BOSIA, was going down to Ometepe at the same time.

Coffee on the shelves of our local Town and Country Market is probably the closest association many of us have to Ometepe. It's only a small part of the sister island connection.

Back in 1986, when Esterberg first visited Nicaragua through involvement in peace groups, he decided that it would be more powerful to affirm a people than simply object to United States government policies. He thought it would be exciting to offer direct human connections between Bainbridge Island people and real people of another island and culture. The island of Ometepe in the middle of Lake Nicaragua emerged, as in a little inland sea. An informal partnership developed.

Over the past 20 years, BOSIA has really transformed nearly every facet of the island's life from health care to clean water systems to farming to the economy.

"I've seen a dream realized," said Esterberg. I only wanted to see a long-term relationship; with many connections between our islands . . . I thought that could be a real model for peace."

What sets BOSIA apart from many other non-profits is that they begin by asking the people themselves what they want to happen. A priest, Father



Ferry passenger in Ometepe

—Tristan Baurick photograph

Juan Quadro, first approached Esterberg about building a preschool in Altagracia.

**This priest taught him a valuable lesson: "It has to be about collaboration . . . It would only be meaningful to people on Ometepe if they put their own sweat and blood into it."**

The prime example of this philosophy was the Clean Water System. Children sometimes died and residents were suffering from many stomach ailments before that was built. The central water system filled the lake with parasites and bacteria and runoff from houses and industry.

Instead of handing the people a lump sum of money to hire someone to build a new system, Esterberg's group said, "We will buy the materials, but you have to use your own volunteer labor to build it."

There was grumbling at first from those who said, "We are farmers. We don't have time to do that." BOSIA spent \$25,000 in exchange for 9,200 days of labor to build the water system.

One great thing about BOSIA'S insistence that the people build their own system is that when it breaks down, they know how to fix it.

"That happened when I was there," Baurick said. "A part broke down, and it was almost like a volunteer fire crew. Teachers and farmers went out there and fixed it."

It's a simple gravity system that pipes water down from a volcanic, pristine lake that feeds through houses and schools and water fountains and the like. Other villages saw the results, and today about a dozen communities and thousands of families benefit from pure water.

With coffee production the major industry and means of financing any project, it was essential that collaboration be established with the coffee cooperative, Finca Magdalena.

Until the trade embargo was lifted in 1992, coffee growers were struggling. Spearheaded by David Mitchell of Bainbridge Island, the cooperative gradually built up a stable market. After BOSIA, with some private financing, purchased every bean from the 1994 harvest, they paid off the cooperative's entire debt. Today, BOSIA pays the growers what is above the market rate for coffee.

**Our role started when visiting Bainbridge Islanders stuffed green beans into their suitcases and brought them back to our island where they were roasted by Pegasus Coffee Roastery. After more than a decade now of selling BOSIA's co-op organic, shade-grown coffee, Town & Country Market still takes only \$1 from each pound it sells.**

Baurick lived most of his three weeks at the coffee co-op. Parts of it had been converted into a bare bones hotel. He slept under a mosquito net in a small cubicle, and

the shower was cold water in a concrete stall. Most of his contacts were with teachers, farmers, health care providers and the Nicaragua staff that worked full time for Ometepe.

*Continued on Page 15*

## Joel Sackett portrays Helpline House

Acclaimed photographer, Joel Sackett, brings insight and understanding of the people and work at Helpline House. The author of the well known book, *In Praise of Island Stewards*, portrays the ins and outs, ups and downs of daily life at Helpline House through his photographs and narratives for the month of August at the Library.

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(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

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