

# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 12, No. 2

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

Winter 2010

## Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated.

### DECEMBER 1-31

- On exhibit in the meeting room: Sue Hylen, "A Photographic Journey"

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: *The Country of the Pointed Firs* by Sarah Orne Jewett 7 p.m. Copies available at the library

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

- Friends of the Library book sale 1-4 p.m.

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

- Job Search Workshop, presented by Jeannie Ream. 10-11:30 a.m.

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

- Art exhibit reception: Sue Hylen, "A Photographic Journey" 2-4 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
- Island Film Group: *Sabrina* (1954) Film & discussion 7 p.m.

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

- Friends of the Library book sale 10 a.m.-3

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

- A Good Yarn knitting and book group 7-9 p.m.

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

- Senior Center book discussion (370 Brien Dr): *Gentleman from Finland: Adventures on the Trans-Siberian Express* by Bob Goldstein 1 p.m. Copies available at the library
- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Greg Atkinson presents "How do you make readers devour your words?" 7 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

- Travelogue: "Croatia today, ties to the past" with Barbara Winther. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society annual show & tell 10 a.m.-12

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

- Island Theatre at the Library: "Greetings" by Tom Dudzick 7:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

- Island Theatre - Repeat performance 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3

### THURSDAY & FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24 & 25

- Bainbridge Library Closed for Christmas Holiday

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

- Bainbridge Library closed at 5 p.m.

### JANUARY 1-31

- On exhibit in the meeting room: Susan Najarian, paintings

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

- Library closed for New Years Day

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: *The Space between us* by Thrity Umrigar 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
- Seattle Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "il Trovatore" by Verdi. 3:30 p.m.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 11

- A Good Yarn knitting & book group 7-9 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
- Island Film Group: Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

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

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Gary Zimmerman, from the Fiske Genealogical Foundation, presents "Land Companies and Bounty Lands" 10 a.m.-12

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

- BPL Speakers Forum: Retirement and Estate Planning. 3 p.m. Free

Continued on page 2

## Hear 3 American operatic greats at Bainbridge Library this winter

Norm Hollingshead has been entertaining Islanders with his symphony previews for years.

His devoted listeners can recall only once that he failed to appear as a prelude to a Seattle Symphony concert.

That was the time he casually ended his talk with a brief announcement he'd have to miss the next preview because he'd be having cancer surgery that week. "But I'll be back for the symphony after that—as a cancer survivor," he said.

True to his word, he was. And the symphony previews have continued, to enthusiastic review by local music lovers.

Now, in 2010, Hollingshead will present a new program series on American operatic greats.

A century ago, most of the great opera singers came from Europe. But in the last 50 years, a dramatic change has



Leontyne Price



Beverly Sills



Marilyn Horne

occurred: many of the finest—and most popular—opera singers in the world are now born and raised in America.

Three of the most renowned American singers reigned supreme from about 1960 to 1990. Leontyne Price (born in 1927), Marilyn Horne (1933), and Beverly Sills (1929-2007) were beloved as well as admired, especially in the land of their birth.

Proof of their popularity is the outpouring of grief at Sills's death in 2007 and the CD bins in music stores

dedicated to each singer, still filled with recordings after their retirements.

None of the three has had an easy path to the top. Their life stories are as inspiring as their prodigious vocal accomplishments.

The three lectures will feature commentary by Hollingshead with musical excerpts from his

own collection of recordings, some of them quite rare.

Dates for the Opera Plus series are Saturday, January 23, at 2 p.m. for soprano Beverly Sills; Saturday, January 30, at 2 for mezzo Marilyn Horne; and Saturday, February 6, at 2:30 for soprano Leontyne Price.

The programs will be held in the Bainbridge Public Library meeting room, and are free to the public. Bainbridge Friends of the Library have funded the Hollingshead programs since the beginning.

## Celebrate Valentine's weekend with Sheila Roberts

It's not too soon to reserve your seat at a Valentine's party with author Sheila Roberts and her friends, at Kiana Lodge on Friday, February 12.

To launch Saint Valentine's weekend, the award-winning Roberts will act as mistress of ceremonies and the room will be filled with romance writers – and their fans – from the Westsound region.

Sheila Roberts's 2007 book *On Strike for Christmas* was a holiday best-seller, has been optioned for film, and will be in bookstores for the third season this Christmas, 2009.

Her book *Bikini Season* has made Bookscan's romance best-seller list, and her *Love in Bloom* received rave reviews and is soon to be a Reader's Digest Condensed Book.

Her most recent book, *Angel Lane*, is getting rave reviews. (For more about that, see Susan Wiggs's article in the Fall 2009 Library News now online at [www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org).)

"Roberts is currently working on her next book and hoping Dancing with the Stars will call," said Peter Raffa, director of the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation.

The Foundation is presenting this Valentine weekend event as part of its Dinner with an Author series for 2009-10. The Roberts "dinner" will be, in

fact, a high tea and decadent chocolate extravaganza in the romantic setting of Kiana Lodge. Door prizes from bestselling authors will be given out, and guests will be seated in small groups that make possible easy conversation between authors and readers. Tickets are now available for purchase (\$50 each) online at [www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org) (under Dinner with an Author).

The Dinner with an Author series was launched October 18 with a morning garden and art tour with Little and Lewis and an evening celebration of poetry and music at Pegasus Coffee House.

Coming up in December are children's events featuring holiday cookies and milk with children's authors George Shannon (at the Poulsbo library) and Ron Hirschi (at the Bainbridge library). Admission is \$10 (parents are free) and Santa photo and refreshments are included.

Planned for January is a dinner with two authors, Greg Bear and Kathleen

Alcala, and in March Rick Steves returns for a luncheon conversation about his *Travel in the World's Hot Spots*. For more information about these and other events with authors, and to purchase tickets for events, visit [www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org) or phone Peter Raffa at (360) 475-9039.



Sheila Roberts

### Also in this issue:

Children and family activities..... Pages 8-9

Bonny's Bear is a treat for the holidays ..... Page 7

A conversation with author Anthony Flacco..... Page 10

# Field's End Writers' Conference is slated for April

Field's End, the writers' group affiliated with the Bainbridge Public Library, has scheduled its annual conference at Kiana Lodge for Saturday, April 17.

Keynote speaker will be Bruce Barcott, author of *The Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw*, named one of the best books of 2008 by Library Journal.

His book also was a finalist for the Washington State Book Award and winner of the inaugural, bi-annual Gene E. & Adele R. Malott Prize for Recording Community Activism.

Barcott's previous book, *The Measure of a Mountain: Beauty and Terror on Mount Rainier*, was a recipient of the Washington State Governor's Award and was recently re-issued in a 10th anniversary edition.

Barcott is an environmental journalist whose articles appear in *Outside* magazine, *National Geographic*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and others.

Dr. Gloria Burgess will be the opening speaker at the conference.

Burgess is an award-winning poet and performance artist who has dedicated her life to service as an author, speaker, coach, and consultant. She engages individuals in the process of finding their creative selves. Founder and principal of Jazz, Inc., she's also the author of *Legacy Living* and *Dare to Wear Your Soul on the Outside*, as well as the poetry collections *Journey of the Rose* and *The Open Door*.

Burgess holds a doctorate in performance studies and a master's degree in organizational behavior and information systems.

She is now at work on a book series for young



Bruce Barcott



Dr. Gloria Burgess

people, and has written an inspirational picture book about her father's life-changing relationship with author William Faulkner.

Field's End programs in the art, craft, and profession of writing are supported by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council and the City of Bainbridge Island, as well as the Bainbridge Public Library.

## Winter classes set by Field's End

The Field's End writing community has scheduled three winter courses for early 2010.

Dickey Nesenger will teach *Want Versus Need: A Character's Double Dilemma* in four Monday-evening sessions – February 8, 15, 22, and March 1. Each two-hour class begins at 7 p.m., in the Bainbridge Library public meeting room. Tuition is \$160.

Nesenger worked for 17 years as a film editor and script supervisor before turning her attention to teaching and scriptwriting. She teaches scriptwriting and dramatic literature at Richard Hugo House, Freehold Theatre, and Antioch University in Seattle.

Waverly Fitzgerald will teach *Writing the Non-Fiction Book Proposal* in four sessions – Thursdays, January 28, and February 4, 11, and 18 – from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuition is \$160.

The maximum class size is 15.

These classes also are in the library meeting room.

Fitzgerald, a Seattle-based writer, writing teacher, and coach, is the author of seven novels. The latest, *Every Step You Take*, is a detective novel set in Seattle. She teaches writing at Richard Hugo House and the Experimental College in Seattle.

Speculative Fiction, the final winter-quarter class, will be taught by Cat Rambo Saturday, March 13, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuition for this day-long event is \$100; it will be held in the library meeting room.

"The field of speculative fiction allows writers to play with talking objects, spaceships, and transformations of the unlikely to the unlikely," Rambo says. "In this workshop, we'll discuss the basics of story writing and how the considerations of speculative fiction do and don't alter those basics.

"We'll also discuss how to build convincing worlds and cultures. In-class writing exercises will focus on sparking creativity, establishing characters, and plotting."

(For more about coming Field's End classes, check the website at [www.fieldsend.org/conference](http://www.fieldsend.org/conference).)

Continued from front page

## Mark your calendar

### MONDAY, JANUARY 18

- Library closed for Martin Luther King Day

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

- Senior Center Book Discussion (370 Brien Dr): Follow the River by James Alexander Thom 1 p.m. Copies available at the library.
- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Barbara Winther presents "Collaboration: Are two heads better than one?" 7 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

- Travelogue: title TBA Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

- Three American Operatic Greats with Norm Hollingshead: Beverly Sills. 2 p.m.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 25

- 8th Annual William Stafford Birthday Celebration: poetry readings, open mic, and discussion 7-9 p.m.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

- Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club): Los días y los años by Luis Gonzalez de Alba (Mexico) 7 p.m. Inland Way Building

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

- Job Search Workshop, presented by Jeannie Ream. 10-11:30 a.m.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

- Three American Operatic Greats with Norm Hollingshead: Marilyn Home 2 p.m.

### FEBRUARY 1-28

- On exhibit in the meeting room: Terry Leness, paintings and graphic drawings

### FEBRUARY 2 – APRIL 14

- AARP Tax Assistance Program : Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Monday evening: 5:30-7:30. Downstairs conference room

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: The Highest Tide by Jim Lynch 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

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

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- Three American Operatic Greats with Norm Hollingshead: Leontyne Price. 2:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- Behind the Score: "Music Lovers" with Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra Music Director David Upham and musical excerpts from the winter program 3:00 p.m.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- A Good Yarn knitting & book group 7-9 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
- Island Film Group: Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
- Seattle Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "Falstaff" by Verdi 2 p.m.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- Library closed for Presidents' Day

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- Senior Center Book Discussion (370 Brien Dr): Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout Thom 1 p.m. Copies available at the Library.

- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Erica Bauermeister presents "Fiction, Non-Fiction, Memoir: How Do You Choose?" 7 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- Travelogue: title TBA Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Workshop led by mentors on land records 10 a.m.-12

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- Island Theatre at the Library: Title TBA 7:30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- BPL Speakers Forum: Facebook. What is it? 3 p.m. Free.
- Island Theatre – Repeat performance 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club): Demasiados heroes by Laura Restrepo (Colombia) 7 p.m. Inland Way Building

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- Job Search Workshop, presented by Jeannie Ream. 10-11:30 a.m.

### MARCH 1-31

- On exhibit in the meeting room: Peg Deam, Suquamish weavings, masks, art

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: The Well and the Mine by Gin Phillips 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 4

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

### MONDAY, MARCH 8

- A Good Yarn knitting and book group 7-9 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
- Island Film Group: Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

## NEWS BRIEFS

ALL KITSAP Regional Library branches will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 24 and 25, for the Christmas holiday. Check out your holiday reading early, and avoid the last-minute rush.

THE VISUALLY Impaired Persons group will continue to meet through 2010. Meetings are usually scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month, from 1 to 3 p.m., in the Bainbridge library meeting room.

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# One Book, One Community

Events during the Steinbeck-inspired October festivities included films, discussions, poetry readings, and the first Bainbridge Edible Book Festival. Here (from left to right) Neil Baker reads Cannery Row-inspired poetry (Rebecca Judd photo); Barbara Donegan and Georgene Scott preview Edible Book entries (Jerry Matthews photo); Piggy from Lord of the Flies (Jerry Matthews photo); "A Grimm walk in the woods" by Heidi Umphenour and Erica Calhoun from Blackbird Bakery (Jerry Matthews photo) won top prize in the Edible Book contest; the Great Pumpkin by Virginia Garza was another prize winner (Jerry Matthews photo) and Gary Knopp (Rebecca Judd photo) was a Festival committee member.



## First Edible Book Festival brings tasty fun to the library

By KATHLEEN THORNE, Festival volunteer, and REBECCA JUDD, Branch manager

Eaten any good books lately?  
Yes, you read that right.

At its first Edible Book Festival on October 24, the Bainbridge Public Library brought together local bibliophiles, book artists, creative chefs, and food lovers in a celebration of food, art, and books.

An "edible book" can look like a book, be a pun on a title, refer to a character, or just have something to do with books – as long as it's edible.

For its first festival, Bainbridge Library organizers invited Island book clubs, arts organizations, restaurants, caterers, and farmers to transform their favorite books into culinary masterpieces.

Nearly two dozen entries were on display in the library meeting room with titles ranging from "Where the Wild Wings Are" (Bainbridge Island BBQ) to simply "Piggy", based on the character in Golding's *Lord of the Flies*

(Real Foods Cafe). Judges Ann Lovejoy, Greg Atkinson, and Dorothy Matthews awarded prizes in several categories, with Bainbridge Bakers taking top prize for both Artistic Achievement and Skill & Detail for their Hansel and Gretel tableau, "A Grimm Walk in the Woods". The People's Choice award went to Jerry and Judie Elfendahl's "Snow Peas Falling on Cider".

At the end of the program, plates and forks were distributed and the entries were gobbled up by hungry festival-goers.

Bainbridge Island joined communities around the world who participate in The International Edible Book Festival – a series of annual events, usually in April, held in honor of the birthday of French gastronome Jean-Anthelme Brillat-Savarin (1755-1826). He was famous for his book *Physiologie du Gout*, a witty meditation on food, and for the saying "Tell me what you eat, and I will tell you what you are."

The Edible Book Festival was one of the Kitsap Regional Library's One Book, One Community events, featuring John

Steinbeck's *Cannery Row*. Attendees were invited to bring a can of food to the festival for a cannery row centerpiece, and

the food was donated to Helpline House. (For more photographs of the entries, visit [www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org](http://www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org).)

## One Book events are crowd pleasers

Over 400 people attended October programs at the Bainbridge Public Library during Kitsap Regional Library's One Community, One Book celebration of John Steinbeck's Cannery Row.

Island Theatre, with singing group Side by Side, kicked off the celebration with a full house for their collaborative John Steinbeck Evening.

Librarian Julie O'Neill led two book discussions on Steinbeck's classic novel, while the historic Lynwood Theatre offered a free film showing of James Dean in *East of Eden*.

Historian Michael K. Hemp came from Monterey and brought Cannery Row to life with his photo history of California's famous street, and local historian Jerry Elfendahl spoke of Bainbridge Island's own cannery history

in a program about the strawberry harvest. Writers, artists, poets, and foodies all had something to enjoy with a reading of Steinbeck-inspired sketches, a program by local and regional book artists, a discussion of Cannery Row poetry connections, and the Island's first Edible Book Festival.

Copies of the book flew off the shelves and into the hands of readers. Hundreds enjoyed reading or re-reading *Cannery Row*, often talking about the novel with their friends and neighbors.

"Whether reading together, talking together, or participating in special events, librarians and readers alike hope that programs like One Book, One Community strengthen the ties that bind us all together," said Rebecca Judd, Bainbridge branch manager.

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## Volunteers are the heart of our library system

By VERDA AVERILL  
Library News Editor

The Bainbridge Public Library and Kitsap Regional Library staffs are known far and wide for their excellence.

We take them for granted, sometimes, as we check out the latest books and DVDs or are greeted warmly at the reference desk when we ask our seemingly unanswerable questions – which inevitably are quickly answered.

Less visible, but equally important, are the hundreds of volunteers who make our library run smoothly and provide those extra touches that are so important, but simply cannot be bought.

Through most of the year, our volunteers serve quietly and anonymously to make our library a more pleasant place. But once a year, usually in the fall, they're honored by the library staff with a brunch that brings them together for good food and fellowship: songs and laughs, words about books, lively conversation, and gifts of new books.

A few weeks ago, a sizable group of the Bainbridge Library's 225 current volunteers gathered in the meeting room for their annual party. You'll see their names and a photo or two on another page in this issue. Here are some additional details:

Rebecca Judd, Bainbridge branch manager, greeted the volunteers with a few words: "Thank you again for being a part of our volunteer program. This time of singing, stories, book recommendations and above all, appreciation, is a highlight of our year."

**Along with the singing and fellowship, there was a dedication of a garden sculpture commissioned by the Friends of the Library in honor of Cindy Harrison, long-time branch manager who retired a couple of years ago. (Molly Greist, noted Island sculptor, carved the bird in rock, which is located near the gazebo off the children's library.)**

"Sometimes I don't think we realize how much we touch the lives of others, beautifying the gardens, running book sales, putting on programs, and going the extra step each day to make everyone welcome at our library. Thank you for all you do. You really are exceptional," Judd told the crowd.

On Bainbridge alone, library volunteers contributed over 10,000 hours of service during 2008. (That record may be broken in 2009, judging from present activities.)

**Bainbridge is not alone. Volunteers are active in each of the nine branches of our Kitsap Regional Library system – from Kingston and Little Boston in the north to Manchester and Port Orchard in the south. A recent count showed that 713 volunteers had donated 15,638.87 hours of labor for the benefit of county library patrons. The estimated value of their help: a whopping \$305,114.35!**

Who are these volunteers? They're young and old, gardeners and book menders, story tellers and board members – they're your neighbors and friends.

One dictionary defines a volunteer as "a person who does something, especially helping other people, willingly and without being forced or paid to do it."

Elizabeth Andrew summed it up well: "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart."



**Bike-a-thon benefit** – On October 25 Alice, Will, Ozma, Jaiya, Soleil, Cuinn, Travis, Luca, Kim, Kevan, Theo, Jackson, and Oliver took to their wheels and collectively spun 615 laps around the Winslow Cohousing turning circle and parking lot in their second annual bike-a-thon. Their efforts raised over \$400 to benefit Helpline House and the Bainbridge Public Library. The cyclists ranged in age from 1 to 69.

—Photo by Kathleen Smith

### Book review

## Philippa Gregory's Tudor series turns history into page turners

By LISA SCHUREMAN

When the movie *The Other Boleyn Girl* came out, I checked out the first book in Philippa Gregory's Tudor series, *The Constant Princess*, expecting only a mildly interesting repackaging of the well-covered Tudor story.

Instead, I found myself a Philippa Gregory addict, eagerly delving into every installment in a well-researched series that manages to make history a page-turner. History buffs and fans of court intrigue will love the loads of historical detail. You can almost hear the swish of silks as the folks that people these novels pass through palace corridors.

*The Constant Princess* brings to life the story of Henry VIII's first wife, Catharine of Aragon, her childhood in Spain and grooming to become Princess of Wales and Queen of England, and her life as first Prince Arthur's wife and later wife to Henry VIII of England.

In *The Other Boleyn Girl*, Catharine's failure to produce a male heir leads to her increasing marital vulnerability, and the scheming Duke of Norfolk pushes first one Boleyn niece, Mary, into Henry's path (and bed) and then another, the ill-fated Anne Boleyn, onto the throne. During the time that the movie was in theatres, *Realm* magazine verified that Mary's children were in fact Henry VIII's. Unfortunately, her sister Anne's failure to provide a legitimate son ultimately ends with her own and her family's downfall.

The *Boleyn Inheritance* chronicles Jane Seymour's brief life as Henry's third wife, Anne of Cleves's subsequent disastrous marriage to Henry, how she escaped the union, and why she decided to remain in England. The tale ends as the Duke of Norfolk pushes

yet another niece, Catherine Howard, to the fore as candidate for queen—with consequences as disastrous for his family as Anne's brief reign brought.

*The Queen's Fool* tells the story of Henry's heirs through the eyes of Hannah, a Jewish girl with second sight, who joins young King Edward's household as his holy fool. At Edward's death, Hannah becomes fool and companion to Mary Tudor (history's Bloody Mary) and witness to Mary's unfortunate marriage to Philip of Spain and turbulent relationship with her half-sister Elizabeth. *The Virgin's Lover* spans the early years of Elizabeth I's reign and her nearly disastrous relationship with the married Robert Dudley. Finally, *The Other Queen* focuses on Mary Queen of Scots's imprisonment by George Talbot, the Earl of Shrewsbury, who falls in love with Mary, in spite of his loyalty to his wife, a devoted spy for Queen Elizabeth.

Gregory's latest novel, *The White Queen*, tells the story of Lancastrian widow (and commoner) Lady Elizabeth Grey's secret marriage to Yorkist King Edward IV – a marriage that shook the foundations of politics in her day, causing months of negotiations for a suitable French-English marital alliance to go down the drain. While Elizabeth is perhaps best known as the mother of the Princes in the Tower, later murdered either by their uncle, Richard III, or by Henry VI, her own life is as fraught with intrigue, court politics, rumor, and scandal as any before or since. *The White Queen* is the first in a projected new series set during England's War of the Roses – and I'll be eagerly awaiting the books to come.

(Editor's note: Philippa Gregory appeared earlier this fall as speaker in the popular West Sounds Reads author series. Her books are all available through the Kitsap Regional Library.)

## BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

1270 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

The Bainbridge Island Library News is a community newspaper produced quarterly for the Bainbridge Public Library by professional writers who volunteer their time, in cooperation with members of the Bainbridge Library staff, Bainbridge Public Library Board, and Friends of the Library. Printing and mailing costs are funded by the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation, local advertisers and individual donors. The publication is mailed to all homes and businesses on Bainbridge Island and available at the library and other Bainbridge locations, and is reproduced in full on the Kitsap Regional Library, Bainbridge Public Library and Friends of the Library websites.

## It's holiday baking time

Did you know the Kitsap Regional Library has over 5,000 different cookbooks available for checkout?

Your holiday baking and meal preparation will be easy and fun thanks to the recipes you'll find there. Titles include *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* (by Julia Child), Peter Reinhart's *Artisan Breads*, *The Grand Central Baking Book* (by Piper Davis and Ellen Jackson), *Real Simple Best*

*Recipes*, *The Moosewood Restaurant Cooking for Health*, *The Steamy Kitchen Cookbook* (by Jaden Hair), *The Pleasures of Cooking for One* (by Judith Jones), and thousands more. Stop by the library, check one or more out, and try a new recipe at home tonight.



A sustainable budget

# 2009 is a hallmark year for the Kitsap Regional Library

By JILL JEAN, DIRECTOR  
Kitsap Regional Library

2009 has been a hallmark year for the Kitsap Regional Library.

Most importantly, through the efforts of many we have been able to build a sustainable budget and are proud to say that we have not been forced to lay off any of our staff or lock our doors for weeks during a budget-induced furlough.

Our budget is balanced. Our jobs are secure. And our buildings will stay open. Next year, our fiscal outlook is tight, but it is manageable. Unfortunately, neighboring library systems are facing dramatic budget shortfalls in 2010. Next year, our revenue will be at an unprecedented low.



Jill Jean

However, our budget is still continuing to grow. A little more slowly. A little more steadily. But we are in the black – and again it is thanks to the combined efforts of ALL of the Kitsap Regional Library staff.

As a result, library service is alive and well and secure in Kitsap County.

There were many highlights during this past year:

- We have expanded our bookmobile stops to include service to the Washington Youth Academy and are in the process of adding stops on the Bangor military base and on the Suquamish Reservation.
- We have added word processing capabilities on computers in each branch.
- We have installed print management systemwide. As a result we are bringing in more revenue than last year and are

using 30 percent less paper.

- We have increased bandwidth at each of our branches, in most cases going from 1.54 Mbps to 12 Mbps and saving \$2,400 a month in connection costs.
  - The percentage of circulation at Express Checkout has risen from 18.58% systemwide at year end 2008 to 35.71% at the end of August this year.
  - We have launched “Dinner with an Author” as a KRL Foundation fundraiser.
  - We have held “listening sessions” at each of our branches in preparation for our strategic plan.
  - Our Summer Reading Program statistics were record breaking!
  - Our on-line newsletter “KRL Connects” is doing just that – allowing us to market library services and programs to our users.
  - We have collaborated with many community agencies to once again promote a successful One Book One Community program featuring John Steinbeck’s *Cannery Row*.
- In 2010 I look forward to:
- A new strategic plan that speaks to:

- Making every child a reader
  - Providing lifelong learning opportunities for adults
  - Developing services that are convenient for all users
  - Maintaining buildings that are safe, welcoming and green centers of our communities
  - Spending our tax dollars wisely and frugally.
- I am also anticipating:
- A Facilities Master Plan for each of our libraries
  - More digital media
  - More volunteer opportunities for teens
  - Fundraising on an even larger scale than this year!
  - A plan for future library financing that we may take out to our voters – possibly as soon as November 2010.
- And finally, a continued emphasis on our customers through the excellent service we provide to our communities every day – service where we aren’t just doing what we say we will but making it a regular course to go far beyond what we say we will.

Reflections of a library courier

# Joe Gonzales totes the sacks to library branches

By JOE GONZALES, COURIER  
Kitsap Regional Library

There’s an old saying from the old country – Texas – that my mom would often quote: “Only the one who totes the sack can tally its weight.”

That philosophical dictum prompts me to add a newer take: “Only the courier who makes the rounds can estimate the proper pounds.” How about a modest four thousand pounds a day per van – with two vans involved in the toil. Four thousand pounds of the most precious cargo in the universe: **BOOKS**. Books that cover every imaginable theme.

Believe me, I know – I scan a few of them on a daily basis, while packing and loading unfailingly prodigious shipments.

Here’s a little shipment math. Each courier shuffles about a hundred boxes a day. With approximately 50 books in every 40-pound box, that totals four thousand pounds! Four thousand pounds multiplied by six work days equals 24,000 pounds a week!

Now let’s consider the average number of miles traveled in a week: 400 on the North Side (Poulsbo, Bainbridge,

Little Boston, Kingston) and 400 on the South Side (Silverdale, downtown Bremerton, Port Orchard, Manchester) – six days a week, rain or shine, workhorses loaded to the hilt.

That load includes 10,000 books and scores of videos being shuttled among the branches. On top of that, pens, paper clips, housekeeping imperatives, copier paper, tables and chairs are variously included in the ride. Let’s not forget props, candies, and toys for the Young People’s Departments.

Our library is indeed an exquisitely well-oiled machine. As I make my rounds, patrons at the various branches remind me of this fact.

The first time I heard “so you’re the one,” I felt two overwhelming sensations: run for the woods or prepare to lie. Since there are no woods around the Poulsbo library and since I couldn’t abandon my library van, I decided (after a brief, but heartfelt, prayer) to stand by and convince this beefy fellow – a total stranger – that I was not the one and he had the wrong party. Before I could utter my rebuttal, he extended his hand to shake mine.

“You’re the one that gets us our holds overnight,” he said, squeezing my

hand in gratitude. “Man, you guys are incredible. Thank you and keep up the good work.”

*(Footnote: It’s the librarians and processors who perform the miracle, but who am I to confute a strongly held opinion?)*

And then last week, a young man wanted me to meet his wife. . . to talk with his wife. He could not convince her that you can drop your returns at any branch without a problem, regardless where you check them out!

A couple of months ago, one lady—a joy and inspiration to me—passionately recited the grand blessings to be found in a library, blessings too abundant to be recorded in this narrative. An avid camper, she swore she’d give up parks and camping before renouncing books and libraries.

“And it’s all free. . . everything in the library is free. . . it’s all free,” were the resounding lyrics of her song.

I’m not sure how this stats report slipped into friendly narrative, but it’s hard to write about a library without citing the wonderful intangibles: the loving people who run it, the grateful visitors who populate it, the indefinable feeling of warmth, wonder, and awe found within those literary walls – right from the threshold. What more could you ask for? And it’s free.



Joe Gonzales

*(Joe Gonzales, a native of Laredo, Texas, and the last of a brood of 13, joined the Navy to see the world, but never left Keyport. In the process, he discovered his “alma mater”, Kitsap Regional Library. It’s been his workplace and fun place for the last 28 years. He likes to read biographies, good literature and humor, practices his Spanish, writes light verse and short stories,*

*and enjoys jogging and dining with his wife. The father of two grown children, he loves Poulsbo, his home for the last 35 years.)*

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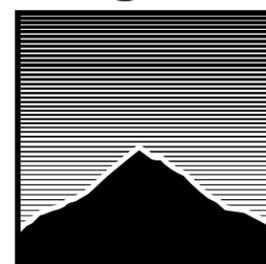
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## Volunteers honored at brunch

Among the many library volunteers present at last month's brunch were Bainbridge Public Library Board president Delight Willing (left) and Georgene Scott. Food, fun and tributes filled the morning, and staff members serenaded their guests with words by Libby Anderson (right) – to the tune of *Battle Hymn of the Republic*.

## A tribute to volunteers

By LIBBY ANDERSON

Our eyes can see the power  
Of a group of volunteers  
They have organized our bookshelves  
Trimmed the bushes with their shears  
They are showing up so faithfully  
It brings us all to tears  
Our Library thrives with you

Glory, Glory hallelujah  
We just couldn't do without yah  
Glory, glory hallelujah  
Volunteers are our best Friends.

We have people helping people  
Do their taxes and their wills.  
The board they have their meetings,  
Fix the problems, pay the bills.

Tutors teach the rank beginners  
Really useful PC skills  
Our Library thrives on you.

*Repeat chorus*

Speaker's Forum, crowded Book Sales, Island Theatre  
They all bring  
Many people to our building  
(and we sometimes make them sing)  
When a program needs assistance  
Volunteers do anything  
Our Library thrives on You!

*(To the tune of Battle Hymn of the Republic)*

# Bainbridge Library volunteers in 2009

Marc Adam  
Peggy Adkins  
Kathleen Alcalá  
Harriet Alexander  
Spencer Alpaugh  
Lynn Anderson  
Paige Appleberry  
Stephanie Appleberry  
Jean Atwater  
Verda Averill  
Carol Baker  
Leila Ball  
Diane Bankart  
Tristan Baurick  
Julia Bedker  
Cathy Bellefeuille  
Linda Beluche  
Dominique Bemis  
Annie Berfield  
James Bernardin  
Betsy Bidingier  
Heidi Maron Blair  
Emma Bonifield  
Peggy Booth  
Ron Booth  
Susan Bottles  
Mary Braden  
Sue Braff  
Faith Brashear  
Janet Brookes  
Denise Brown  
Meg Brown  
Barbara Browne  
Charles Browne  
Mary Buffington  
Brittany Buguey  
Kim Bush  
Delores Bussell  
Marite Butners  
Linna Callahan  
Susan Callan  
Anne Campbell  
Karyn Carpenter  
Kate Carruthers

Liv Cartwright  
Bernice Cavalluzzi  
Stella Chivers  
Dick Christensen  
Betty Clark  
Robert Clark  
Ruth Coates  
Kathy Colcord-Moen  
Karla Cole  
Joan Collins  
Robert Combs  
Cody Crawford  
Barbara Crosslund  
Dennis Crosslund  
Bella Crowley  
Eileen Cudlipp  
Cathie Currie  
Katy Curtis  
Bob Davis  
Yesenia De Luna  
Angela de Oliveira  
Sherri DeBoer  
Eleanor Deines  
Kai Delphinidae  
Cheryl Denton  
Tena Doan  
Michael Donnelly  
James Dorsey  
Helen Dunbar  
Lynn Dunne  
Allison Economy  
Evelyn Economy  
George Edensword-Breck  
Hannah Elzig  
Patricia Engstrom  
Mildred Eremic  
Meg Evans  
Shannon Evans  
Rose Euchner  
Paula Fernandez  
Barbara Ferrin  
Carol Finch  
Margaret Florio  
Nicole Florio

Jing Fong  
Emma Gace  
Gayelynn Galusha  
Aviva Gaphni  
Robin Gaphni  
Joan Gardiner  
Lona Gartrell  
Betty Gates  
Charles Gates  
Clark Gaulding  
Goodwin Gibbins  
Maude Gibbins  
Ruth Gibbons  
Mary Gleysteen  
Lois "Pete" Glosten  
Emma Gray  
Jola Greiner  
Addy Greisser  
Elaine Grippi  
Caryl Grosch  
Kathy Gross  
Ellen Gunderson  
Mary Guterson  
Katy Hamlin  
Paul Hanson  
Don Harrington  
Cindy Harrison  
Kevin Hawkins  
Jiade He  
Karen Helmuth  
Spencer Hepp  
Andrew Hoff  
Isabelle Hoonan  
Brian Hulbert  
Buff Hungerland  
Kathy Huxley  
Ivan Ibarra  
Bill Iulo  
Emma Iulo  
Suzanne Ivey  
Margot Jacobs  
Sara Jacobs  
Francis Jacobson  
Sherry Jancola

Teri Jellad  
Lailey Jenkins  
Tressa Johnson  
Janet Keating  
Emma Keese  
Veronika Keese  
Micki Kent  
Kathryn Keve  
Dorothy Klavins  
Molly Knell  
Lily Kodama  
Joe Kodama  
Sharon Kulfan  
Stacy LaBahn  
Dave Larimore  
Jim Laughlin  
Anna Marie Lavieri  
Jacqueline Lee  
Renee Leiter  
Marlene LeMire  
Sherill Leonardi  
Mary Lewis  
Joanne Little  
Ann Lovejoy  
Olivia Macdonald  
Ginny MacKay  
Stephen Mackey  
Marilyn Mathis  
Pamela McClaran  
Brian McKenna  
Linda Meier  
Alice Meleney  
Melodie Metze  
Jeri Meyer  
Joshua Miller  
Pat Miller  
Marcia Millican  
Louise Mills  
Jesse Mittleman  
Elaine Moline  
Mickey Molnaire  
Bobbie Morgan  
Susan Morgridge  
Kathy Morse

John Murray  
Hannah Myrick  
Judy Nakata  
Wayne Nakata  
Lou Nick  
Eileen Nicol  
Carolyn Nowadnick  
Gertrude Nye  
Laurel Oliver  
Lydia Olsen  
Brenda Olson  
Michiko Olson  
Jessie Page  
Teree Parman  
Lilia Paul  
Nick Paul  
Stefani Paul  
Althea Paulson  
Richard Pearsall  
Mia Peebles  
Suzy Peters  
Taylor Pitts  
Hannah Pratt  
Grace Purdy  
Joanna Pyle  
Christine Quinn  
Helen Quitstorff  
Mary Jane Reaney  
Lois Reitz  
Nancy Rekow  
Rosalind Renouard  
Jennifer Rhodes  
Susan Richards  
Julia Ringo  
Remi Rosencrans  
Charlotte Rovelstad  
Joyce Rudolph  
Fred Saas  
Carol Sanderson  
Dwight Sandlin  
Kerrie Sanson  
Patti Schlosser  
Georgene Scott  
Pat Scott

Weston Scott  
Kim Scott-Olson  
Sara Scribner  
Nikki Scoble  
Anne Seeley  
Janis Segress  
Suzanne Selfors  
Tamara Sellman  
Charlene Selvar  
George Shannon  
Jennifer Shipley  
Martha Shoemaker  
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John Sinclair  
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Matt Smith  
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Jane Stone  
Diane Sugden  
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Shannon Sumner  
Carolyn Swanson  
Deb Sweet  
Doug Tanaka  
Margaret Tchakerian  
Anna Thackray  
Kathleen Thorne  
Ginger Thrash  
Mary Ann Tollefson  
Val Tollefson  
Susan Taylor  
Barbara Tolliver  
Margaret Trent  
Yee Lin Tseng

Cathy Tusler  
Louise Urness  
Dawn Vandermeer  
John Vandenmeerendonk  
Cindy Vandersluis  
Elaine Von Rosenstiel  
Nikki Vick  
Anika Vroom  
Tessa Vroom  
Bonnie Wallace  
Daryce Walton  
Annie Warren  
Tilly Warren  
Elsa Watson  
Dawn Weber  
Max Weber  
Wendy Westerlund  
Eleanor Wheeler  
Carson White  
Jay Wiggs  
Susan Wiggs  
Don Williams  
Marilyn Williams  
Delight Willing  
Trese Williamson  
Andrea Wilson  
Barbara Wilson  
Jack Wilson  
Karen Wilson  
Marcia Wilton  
Barbara Winther  
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# Bonny Becker's *Bear* is an award winner

By SUZANNE SELFORS

With the holidays fast approaching, parents and grandparents are looking for a special gift for the little ones. What's better than a book?

The answer to that question, in case you're scratching your head, is—NOTHING is better than a book.

I'm not just saying that because I'm a writer. I've always felt that way. For children, especially, there is nothing that outshines the gift of a story. So I thought it would be a good time to talk to Bonny Becker, local children's writer, because her latest picture book, *A Visitor for Bear*, is fabulous. And I'm not the only one who thinks so.

*A Visitor for Bear* has earned its author and illustrator the kind of attention that most authors and illustrators only dream about: The E.B. White Read Aloud Award, Amazon's Picture Book of the Year, Oprah's Book Club for Children, a New York Times best-seller, a Washington State Book Award, and the list goes on.

What's the big deal about this bear story? At its core is a subject that all children will struggle with—friendship. More specifically, that everyone, no matter how big or how small or how grumpy, needs a friend.

And that's what Bear discovers. He's a bit of a control freak, keeping his house spotless and posting a sign on the front door that says, No Visitors Allowed. A little mouse appears at the front door and in a peek-a-boo style, surprises Bear over and over until he wins the bear's heart.

As a children's writer, I'm constantly meeting people who say, "Oh, you write for kids? Do you also write real books?"

Seriously. People say that. And a picture book writer is no stranger to this attitude.

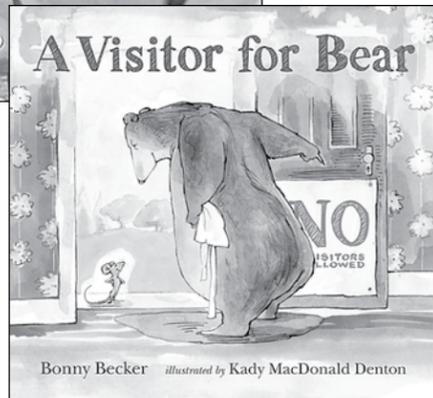
"Mostly I don't worry about it," Bonny said. "What could be more fun or more important, really, than writing for children? Children read our stories when they are the most open to the world. When they are



Bonny Becker

asking the deepest questions about life. When they are, perhaps, the most in love with words and wonder and the sheer magic of storytelling. Who wouldn't want to write for children?"

Picture book writers have a tricky task—to take a story idea and compress it down to its essence, for a complete story must be told in 1,000 words or less. But the success of the picture book lies in the interaction between words and illustrations. Bonny's artist is Kady MacDonald Denton. Because writer and artist usually work separately, Bonny was delighted and surprised when she finally saw Kady's interpretation of Bear, which included a very fat bottom and an apron.



A Washington native, Bonny was raised in Wenatchee. She's been writing for 20 years. Like most writers I've interviewed, stories have always been an important part of her life.

"I was one of those kids who walked out of the library with a towering stack of books and brought them all back the next week for a new stack. As an adult, I'm constantly putting books on hold—love that system!"

Her first published novel came in 1994. She went to Scripps College and earned a degree in psychology and English. She worked for a while in the mental health field, but began writing fiction after her second child was born.

What's next?

There are five more Mouse and Bear books in the works. *A Birthday for Bear*, *The Sniffles for Bear*, and *A Christmas for Bear* are thus far planned. "I'm also working on a novel, probably for 10 to 14-year-olds.

And I can't tell you anything about that because if I tell anything about a story before I write it, I lose interest in writing it!"

When I asked her how the awards and attention had changed her life, she mentioned name recognition and sales. But more importantly, "I felt validated as a writer. I felt I'd written a very good book—and, in truth, that's all I've ever wanted to do."

Please visit Bonny at [www.bonnybecker.com](http://www.bonnybecker.com).

## More Bonny Becker books

Along with *A Visitor for Bear*, you'll find the following books by Bonny Becker at the Kitsap Regional Library, *The Magical Ms. Plum*, *Holbrook: A Lizard's Tale*, and *An Ant's Day off*.

(Suzanne Selfors is a Bainbridge Island writer and library volunteer.)

## You'll fall for these new books

Looking for a special book to read on blustery, late fall days? Here are a few good fall reads, recommended recently by Martha Bayley, fiction collection manager at the Kitsap Regional Library.

If you don't find them on shelves at your local branch library, remember that books may be requested through the inter-library loan system. If a volume you request is currently on a shelf in another Kitsap County library, chances are it will reach you in just a day or two, thanks to the efficient couriers of Kitsap Regional Library. (Meet

one of the KRL couriers on page 5 of this issue.)

Here are recently acquired books for reading this fall: *Apples and Oranges: My Brother and Me, Lost and Found*, by Marie Brenner.

*City of Thieves*, by David Benioff. (This one is set in World War II.)

*The Scent Trail: How One Woman's Quest for the Perfect Perfume Took Her around the World*, by Celia Lyttelton.

*The Black Tower*, by Louis Bayard. A real thriller.

*The Billionaire's Vinegar*, by Benjamin Wallace.

*Velva Jean Learns to Drive: A Novel*, by Jennifer Niven. (This one is science fiction.)

*The House at Sugar Beach: In Search of a Lost African Childhood*, by Helene Cooper. (This one has been ordered for the KRL book group collection.)

## NEWS BRIEFS

**YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY** will be closed January 1, for the New Year's Day holiday.

**THE BIGS** group – the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society – will continue to meet in the library during 2010. Next year's programs had not been received at Library News press time, but look for their announcements in future issues.

**THE POPULAR** series of Dinners with Authors will continue in 2010. To find out who's coming when, check the [krl.org](http://krl.org) web site, under Dinners with Authors. Tickets are also available online at the site. (Dinners with Authors is a benefit for the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation.)

**DID YOU KNOW** that over 100 titles are now included in the Kitsap Regional Library book groups collection? Check with a librarian at the reference desk to request a list of titles, and who to talk with.

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and their families

# Children's Corner

## Follow the Reader:

## by Meryl and Wendy Wallace

### Storytime calendar

**WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 2, 9, & 16 10:30 AM**  
December delights storie and craft program

**MONDAY, JANUARY 4**  
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 5**  
Baby storytime, 12:30 pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6**  
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, JANUARY 11**  
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 12**  
Baby storytime, 12:30pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13**  
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, JANUARY 18**  
\*Library closed,\* no toddler storytime

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 19**  
Baby storytime, 12:30pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20**  
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, JANUARY 25**  
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 26**  
Baby storytime, 12:30pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27**  
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1**  
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2**  
Baby storytime, 12:30pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3**  
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8**  
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9**  
Baby storytime, 12:30pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10**  
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11**  
Baby storytime, 12:30pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**  
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15**  
\*Library closed,\* no toddler storytime

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16**  
Baby storytime, 12:30pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17**  
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22**  
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23**  
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm  
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24**  
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

We read two Scaredy Squirrel books by Melanie Watt recently, and both of us had a good laugh. In case you don't know him, Scaredy Squirrel fears everything outside his nut tree, specifically green martians, ghosts, poison ivy, sharks, killer bees, tarantulas and germs. So he stays in his tree all the time. You may know someone like Scaredy Squirrel in your own life.

Meryl says the funniest part of the book happens when a bee appears and panics the squirrel, and he falls out of the tree and lands in a bush. The squirrel judge gave him a score of 5.7.

I'm told all the 1st graders in Meryl's class laughed out loud at this story, and grown-ups will appreciate the lighthearted message about anxiety taken too far.

In Scaredy Squirrel at Night, Scaredy doesn't want to sleep for fear of his bad dreams. Always being prepared, he packs items to face the bad dreams: cupcakes, spotlight, molasses, fan, safety cone and fire extinguisher. Meryl thought this was hilarious.

Both books have a fun style and dry wit that kids will want to read again and again. Enjoy!

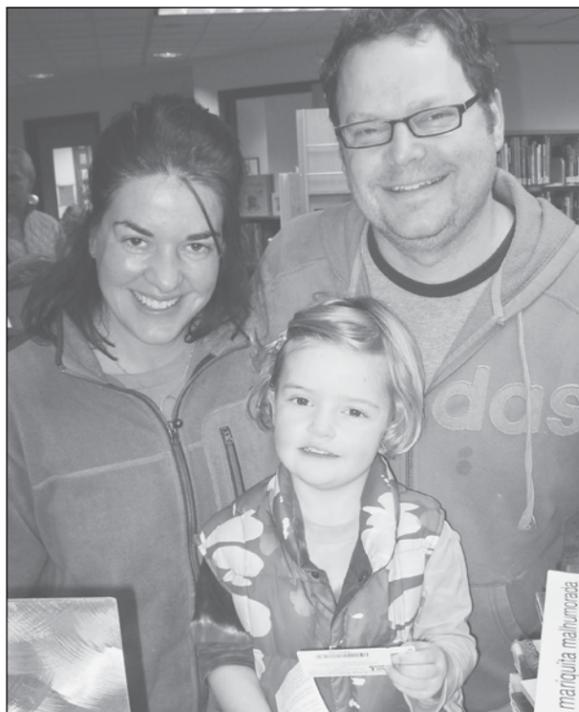


Photo: Carmine Rau

Zoe Bellas showing off her first library card with her parents, Cynthia and Brett Bellas.



Photo: Carmine Rau

Meryl Hubbard coloring Betsy-Tacy paper dolls while wearing her summer crown.

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# Winter reads for the whole family

## *My Father's Dragon, Elmer and the Dragon, and The Dragons of Blueland*

By SUSAN BISNETT,  
Youth Services Associate

Stow away on a sailing ship with nine year old Elmer Elevator to the Port of Cranberry on the Island of Tangerina. Written in the late 1940s by young Vassar graduate Ruth Stiles Gannett, and illustrated by her stepmother, Ruth Chrisman Gannett, an already accomplished illustrator of such prominent literature as the first edition of John Steinbeck's *Tortilla Flat*. This three part series makes a great winter read aloud worth curling up before the hearth with the whole family.

In search of a friendly flying dragon he has learned about from a well-travelled old alley cat, Elmer makes his way to Wild Island where all kinds of dangers must be navigated. He manages to find, befriend, and free the baby dragon, who has been enslaved as an island air-taxi for the lazy, mean-spirited animal populace. In 'Elmer and the Dragon', the grateful dragon offers his liberator

a ride home. The pair weather a storm on a sandbar off the coast of Feather Island, meet a dynasty of escaped canaries with a family secret, and solve a mystery of buried treasure, all while trying to get Elmer home in time for his father's birthday. Safely returned to the Island of Popsicornia, in 'The Dragons of Blueland' Elmer helps the baby dragon find the way back to his family too.

This treasure of a triptych, replete with charming illustrations and

maps, is an experience not to be missed. For young ones who'd like to venture on their own, the series is also a great early chapter book for those who have graduated from readers.

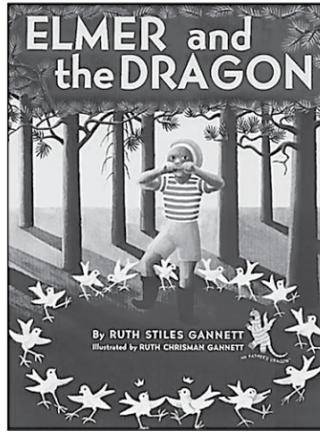


Photo: Rebecca Judd

Volunteers, Anna Thackray and Grace Purdy with a Betsy doll made at the Betsy-Tacy party.



Photo: Susan Bisnett

Mikey Nelson (8) wraps John Colley (8) with help from Ethan Rininger (9) at the Diary of a Wimpy Kid program. In the series, main character Greg Heffley nearly resorts to dressing as a toilet paper mummy for Halloween...again.

## Children's authors join Santa at Bainbridge, Poulsbo libraries

Ron Hirschi and George Shannon will team up with Santa for children's story hours December 5 at 11 a.m. Shannon will be at the Poulsbo Library, Hirschi at Bainbridge. Holiday cookies and milk will be served, plus Santa will be available for photos with youngsters. (Admission for youngsters is \$10, and parents are free. The event is a fund-raiser for the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation.)



David Cook

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# A conversation with author Anthony Flacco

By SUSAN WIGGS

Writer Anthony Flacco has a huge hit on his hands, right out of the gate.

*The Road Out of Hell: Sanford Clark and the True Story of the Wineville Murders* is a true account of a 13-year-old boy, Sanford Clark, sent to live with his uncle on an isolated chicken farm in California in 1926. The boy is subjected to horror beyond imagining, yet he managed to escape the past and live a redemptive life as a husband, father, soldier and model citizen. Anthony Flacco, a recent Bainbridge émigré, took time out to visit with *Library News* about the riveting story of an event that changed a whole community.

**SW: Welcome to Bainbridge! You are writer #12,719 to move to the island. What brings you here?**

**AF:** Oh, I think that's pretty obvious. Because you know and I know, and the 12,717 other writers on Bainbridge Island also know, that this place has been needing to get up to that magic number of 12,719 writers in residence. *Somebody* had to step up, so enter yours truly. However (as I'm sure we all agree), this amount is now the optimum number of writers. No more should be allowed onto the island. *Enough* with these *fakokta* writers! Why, can you imagine if every one of us simultaneously stood up from our writing desks and walked outside to wander aimlessly in the streets? The entire island would look like a zombie movie, from South Beach up to the Sand Spit. In fact, from now on, all writers caught attempting to enter Bainbridge Island by ferry should be sent back on the return boat with 3 x 5 cards reading "Kick me!" taped to their butts. Local police ought to be detaining anyone who is caught typing more than 140 characters at a time. As for any other writers planning to move here in the future? I say, tell it to the realtors on Vashon Island, sweetie. Sorry but this bar is closed. You don't have to go home, but you can't stay here.

**SW: What drew you to the topic of this book? Who were the key players? How will today's readers relate to the drama?**

**BF:** When Jerry Clark contacted me from Canada and asked me to write his father's story, I only knew it from the movie "Changeling," and I was not interested in working on a book about murdered boys. But Jerry persevered and sent me a stack of notes, documents and written testimonies by family and friends, allowing me to see his father Sanford Clark as a man who was understood by people who knew him and worked with him over many years. It was Sanford Clark's recovery that snagged my interest, not his personal



Anthony Flacco

tragedy. Because Sanford wasn't a macho man who could stuff terrible emotions into a ball and ignore them. He was fully cognizant of the tragedies he participated in and he lived with those memories every day. Thus there is no "TV movie ending" to be found in this story. It is a much deeper one of long endurance. The book examines the specific ways that Sanford, his sister Jessie, and June his wife of 55 years, worked to salvage him from bouts of despair and keep him focused on living a life that proved his rehabilitation was genuine. Sanford was an ordinary guy, aside from his awful years on the Wineville murder ranch. He could be the fellow next to you in a coffee shop. He was not a gifted person, except in terms of perseverance.

The challenge is left to every one of us to know we have similar extraordinary reserves of strength within ourselves, so long as we see fit to wake them up and use them. What made Sanford Clark extraordinary was not his level of strength and perseverance, but the fact that he had such a strong motive for using reserves we all possess.

**SW: This book was published the first week of November. How is it going? What are your favorite and least favorite things about promoting a new book?**

**AF:** Okay, let's see—at this moment, the book has been officially out on the market for around 48 hours, and just yesterday morning the Associated Press gave it a wonderful review, which was picked up by a whole host of other news and entertainment outlets, including *The New York Times Book Review*, as of this afternoon. Knock hard on anything made of wood.

As for the job of promoting a book, it is a pleasure and a privilege for any

writer, when you are proud of the book and confident about the quality of the work. But anyone who writes must never forget that you can't write anything that everybody loves without exception, and so you will always have detractors. We who play this game deal in volume, but we build it up one lonesome reader at a time.

**SW: When you're working on a book, what is your typical writing day like?**

**AF:** I write through the night and sleep until early afternoon. Most nights I finish about 6 am or so, but if I'm on a streak I've gone as late as nine or 10 in the morning, beginning at about 11 PM. I use the daylight hours for business work and household things, then after dinner as the evening winds down, I put on a pot of coffee or tea, light a small smudge pot of dried Atlantean jabba root, and fire up the magic typewriter

**SW: Did you use the library when you were a boy? What was your childhood library like?**

**AF:** My parents kept a good home library with the classics and contemporary books alike, as well as two full encyclopedia sets, World Book and Britannica. I used to love to pull out a volume at random and just read whatever article I landed on. I find reading an encyclopedia to be nothing at all like logging onto the Internet. My own

reading gave me a wonderful feeling of secret learning and free-ranging thought associations, fulfilling curiosities without worrying about teachers, assignments, grades. Just learning for the joy of it. Absolutely one of the greatest gifts of my early home life.

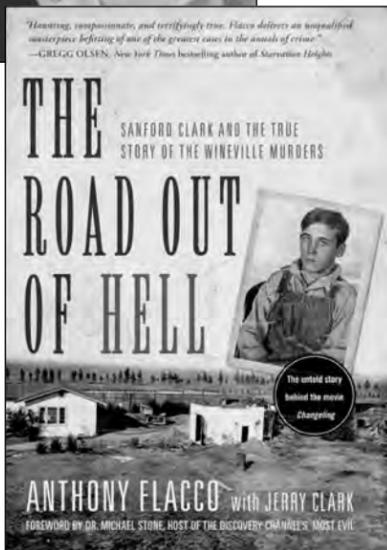
I have always loved libraries and the sense of potential that they represent for everybody who walks into one. The wisdom of the ages is in there. Far more than just information, but the whole human story. The internet is a mile wide and a millimeter deep, but the library can provide answers to questions on countless levels of meaning and interpretation, on any given topic, in a physical setting that is marvelously conducive to head work. Many years ago, I sat alone in a library in Burbank, California on a very cold and rainy winter day, compiling the list of agents to query for representation to try to sell my first book. That library had not only provided the documentation for my book but also the information on where to find an agent to help me sell it.

**SW: What's your favorite feature of the Bainbridge Library?**

**AF:** The staff. The wonderful librarians and assistants who make the place work and keep it up as a living force. You can line the inside of a building with books and call it a library, but that would only be a warehouse. The book stacks are made into a library by the sensibilities and talents of the people who work there. Even though I use the Internet in my work, I am aware that it can never replace the value provided by our library system. Having a physical place to go to gather information from among a massive stockpile of fact and story, having a set of socially agreed-upon rules of conduct for being in that place, having dedicated assistants available who can guide your search among the books, having others around you who are also engaged in head work...The library expands our humanity and the staff facilitates the process.

Readers can learn more about Anthony Flacco at his Web site: <http://anthonyflacco.com/>.

*Susan Wiggs is a Bainbridge author and library volunteer.*



## Meet Sharlene Martin, literary agent

When author Anthony Flacco went looking for literary representation, he didn't need to look past his backyard. The perfect rep for his books turned out to be his wife, nonfiction expert Sharlene Martin.

Sharlene explains, "Anthony and I met over 15 years ago in Los Angeles...you might say I fell in love with him over the written word." He had written a script and Sharlene optioned it, a true Hollywood beginning.

These days, she adds, "Our relationship is truly a partnership in every sense of the word—we live, work and play together. He's helped me raise my two children, Scott and Jill,

who both live in Seattle and are engaged to be married to wonderful Seattleites. He has helped me tremendously in building my business of literary management with his unique skill sets, and of course, pointing out what 'not to do' since he was

previously represented by other agencies—some very well known and highly prestigious that weren't able to provide the personal touch that a boutique agency such as Martin Literary provides. It is a wonderful thing when you both love your work and happen to work in the same industry and can share the ups and downs together fully with total understanding. I think we're both blessed to have found each other and to be able to laugh, love and have a livelihood that makes each day an adventure in life.

Martin explains that she was "going nowhere in a hurry" in LA, so she turned to publishing.

"It's just so civil...and I was ready for a change...I love the written word—especially nonfiction inspirational stories. My first sale was an auction between three major publishers that resulted in a six-figure advance for my client! The rest is lots of hard work, many trips to New York, long hours and a dedication to making miracles happen for my clients."

She quickly became an expert in her field and has published a book for aspiring writers: *Publish Your Nonfiction Book: Strategies for Learning the Industry, Selling Your Book, and Building a Successful Career* (Writer's Digest Books, Nov. 2009), co-written with Anthony Flacco.

"It's a soup to nuts book for the nonfiction writer who wants all the inside 'dirt' on not only how to get published, but what goes on

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Bookish thrillers

# These novels are set in the world of books

By JULIE O'NEILL,  
Reference Librarian

Some of my favorite books lately are what I call "bookish thrillers."

**These novels are set in the world of books - antiquarian bookshops, museums, universities, and, of course, libraries.**

They feature unlikely protagonists - book collectors, scholars, museum archivists, writers, even librarians. And they are always about books—the craft of making them, the obsession of collecting them, the thrill of discovering a rare one.

Umberto Eco started the whole thing more than 25 years ago with *The Name of the Rose*. Set in a medieval monastery, it was a combination of literary history, ingenious conspiracy, and chilling murders in the spooky labyrinth of the monastery library.

Writers now are adding *DaVinci Code*-style excitement to literary thrillers and finding a big audience. We have novels about priceless lost manuscripts, mysterious rare books, secret codices, literary puzzles, gothic libraries with hidden passages, ruthless book collectors and, of course, the erudite scholar who manages to solve the riddle or save the manuscript. It all makes for heart-pumping suspense blended with a bit of scholarship, so we feel like we are pursuing literary research as well as reading a page-turner. Here are a few good bookish thrillers.

***People of the Book*** by Geraldine Brooks. Hanna is a book conservator, hired to repair a priceless Haggadah, or Hebrew prayer book, in war-torn Sarajevo. Hanna discovers artifacts caught in the book's binding (a tiny butterfly wing, a single white hair, a wine stain, a grain of salt) that gradually reveal the intriguing story of the book - how it was created, stolen, hidden and rescued from destruction many times in its 500-year history. (The Sarajevo Haggadah is real, the story is fiction.)

***The Dante Club*** by Matthew Pearl. In 1865 Boston, a killer stages murders that mirror the circles of Hell in Dante's *Inferno*. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes and James Russell Lowell, are members of the Dante Club (an actual group of 19th century Bostonians) who have worked together on a translation of *The Divine Comedy*. They recognize the connection and decide they are the only ones who can match wits with the killer. The resulting chase takes them through the corridors of Harvard, the grimy docks of Boston Harbor and the subterranean labyrinths of the city in this nail-biting and surprising thriller.

***The Thirteenth Tale*** by Diane Setterfield. Margaret, an assistant in her father's rare-book shop, is asked to help a famous English author, Vida Winter, write her biography. Vida has invented tales about herself for years, but now wants to tell the real story of her life. And what a story it is: madness, a missing twin, ghosts in a ruined country estate, strange relatives, and a devastating fire. But is it true? Or is it one last fictional tale for her readers? You will find echoes of DuMaurier's *Rebecca* and Bronte's *Jane Eyre* in this atmospheric, contemporary Gothic novel.

***The Shadow of the Wind*** by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. Young Daniel's father takes him to an unusual library in Barcelona - the Cemetery of Forgotten Books. He is allowed to choose one book to keep and picks a book called *The Shadow of the Wind* by an unknown author, Julian Carax. He tries to find other books by this author, but learns that someone is hunting down and destroying

all of Carax's books. So begins his obsession with Carax, leading him to dusty antiquarian bookstores and an abandoned mansion, all the while followed by a mysterious stranger.

***Interred with Their Bones*** by Jennifer Lee Carrell. Shakespeare scholar Kate Shelton leaves academia to direct plays at London's Globe Theater. A former colleague gives her a Victorian mourning brooch decorated with flowers associated with Ophelia, then the friend is found murdered in a way that mimics the murder of Hamlet's father. In her search for the murderer, Kate finds clues to the existence of a lost Shakespeare play, *The History of Cardenio*. More bodies pile up, each re-creating Shakespeare moments, while Kate uses her academic skills to decode letters and artifacts in this action-packed thriller.

***The Club Dumas*** by Arturo Perez-Reverte. Rare book sleuth Lucas Corso gets more than he bargained for when he is hired to authenticate a manuscript of Alexandre Dumas's *The Three Musketeers*. His hunt leads him on a related search for the original edition of *The Book of the Nine Doors*, an occult book that was banned in the 17th century. Soon the chase is on as Corso is pursued across Europe by several ominous characters who are interested in the same book. Publishers Weekly said this novel by a best-selling Spanish author is "suspense-filled and ingenious...something of a primer on the rare-book business and a witty meditation on the relationship between book lovers and the texts they adore."

***Lethal Legacy*** by Linda Fairstein. In this 11th thriller in the Alexandra Cooper mystery series, New York Assistant District Attorney Cooper investigates the disappearance of a young library conservator who works on rare books and maps. Her investigation leads to the New York Public Library, where she discovers hidden underground passages, rare antiquities and decades-old secrets. It's a breathtaking romp through a legendary institution and a fascinating look at the treasures it contains.

***Ex-libris*** by Ross King. In 1660s London, Isaac Inchbold, owner of Nonsuch Books, is hired to restore a once-magnificent library at Pontifex Hall that has been plundered during the English Civil War. He becomes embroiled in the search for a missing manuscript, and a conspiracy of spies, smugglers and forgery. This

is a complex, multi-level narrative that Booklist says "sparkles with intrigue and adventure, offering a heady mix of literature, history, politics and philosophy."

***The Unburied*** by Charles Palliser. Historian Dr. Edward Courtine is invited to spend Christmas with an old friend in the ancient town of Thurchester, England. He looks forward to doing research in the cathedral library which contains an 11th century manuscript about King Alfred the Great. He finds himself caught up in centuries-old lethal rivalries and present day intrigue. Publishers Weekly called this "a complex chronicle of evil, immorality and greed...a compulsively readable tale."

***Harvard Yard*** by William Martin. Antiquarian bookseller Peter Fallon follows clues he hopes will lead to a lost Shakespeare play "Love's Labors Won" written in the bard's own hand. But shady thugs and unscrupulous academics are on the same trail and willing to go to any lengths to find the manuscript stolen from the Harvard library in the 1600s. Harvard legend says it was retrieved and handed down for safekeeping through generations of a New England first family, which always had at least one son attending Harvard since its founding. The fast-paced action is interwoven with fascinating glimpses of Harvard history through more than 300 years.

Also try *The Pale Blue Eye* by Louis Bayard, *The Poe Shadow* by Matthew Pearl, *The Secret of Lost Things* by Sheridan Hay, *The Book of Air and Shadows* by Michael Gruber.



Linda Fairstein's latest thriller, *Lethal Legacy*, is set in the New York Public Library.

## Steinbeck movies are still available

The One Book One Community celebration of John Steinbeck's books ended, officially, with the month of October.

But with more than two dozen Steinbeck novels in print, and at least five of them made into films, Kitsap Regional Library patrons continue to request his works.

Steinbeck movies were shown at a dozen public events in venues from Manchester to Little Boston during the One Book month, but not everyone had a chance to view the films. Now the following movies are available for checkout by library patrons - just in time for pre-holiday gatherings:

—***East of Eden***, created in 1955, was directed by Elia Kazan and starred James Dean, Burl Ives, Raymond Massey, and Julie Harris.

—***The Grapes of Wrath***, produced in 1940, was

directed by John Ford and starred Henry Fonda and Jane Darwell.

—***Of Mice and Men***, 1992, directed by Gary Sinise, stars Sinise and John Malcovich.

—***The Red Pony***, 1949, was directed by Lewis Milestone and stars Robert Mitchum and Myrna Loy.

—***Cannery Row***, produced in 1982, was directed by David S. Ward and stars Nick Nolte and Deborah Winger. The movie, like the book, is set in a depressed section of Monterey, California—known as Cannery Row for its string of empty canning plants—which becomes the backdrop for an offbeat romantic comedy about a pair of mismatched lovers.

To learn more about the extensive collection of audio-visual offerings now available, visit your local Kitsap Regional Library.

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# Is your next-door neighbor an author?

By CHARLES BROWNE, President  
Bainbridge Friends of the Library

Think for a second and start counting the local authors of whom you have heard or whose works you've read. How many did you come up with? Only a handful? 20, 30, or 40?

Realtors or local acquaintances of potential island newcomers often drop some of these names as evidence of the rich cultural scene along with the great schools and a lovely, almost rural landscape. This Library News is filled with articles on writers' classes, roundtables, and the latest novels or non-fiction often from local origin. There seems an abundance of evidence in favor of a heavy literary concentration, but are there really that many authors with ties to Bainbridge? You'd be surprised!

Finding out who are the "local authors" is harder than one might think. Librarians just seem 'to know' and the Eagle Harbor bookstore has a wonderful section featuring local authors. If you ask, the helpful staff may even find



Margaret Tchakerian

you a list. But we had difficulty coming up with a list that described the work of each author and a listing of their books so that we could be on the lookout to separate them for our three monthly Friends of the Library (FOL) book sales. There seemed to be no easy filter for our local authors online either.

Margaret Tchakerian, a FOL volunteer and board member as well as one of our wonderful library staff, came up with the concept of a "Local Author" section for our FOL website. Her vision was a listing index and a page for each local author with a description of their work and images of their book

jackets. She decided to narrow the focus to only those authors who had lived on Bainbridge Island at some time in their lives. I believe she thought that would make the list small enough to be a manageable project for a couple months research. She was wrong about that because an amazing thing happened.

As Margaret developed the first author pages for the website, suggestions began tumbling in. Everyone seemed to know an author who either wasn't on Margaret's list or that she had not yet had time to research and write up. Some suggestions were from friends, some from FOL volunteers, some from a gamut of individuals who saw the first website listings and emailed their suggestions, and some possibly from an author's next door neighbor.

With the deluge of helpful suggestions adding to Margaret's research, the current list of authors on the FOL website ([www.bifriends.org/LocalAuthors.aspx](http://www.bifriends.org/LocalAuthors.aspx)) is now more than 110 and steadily increasing week by week as Margaret's time permits. From Kathleen Alcalá to Mary Woodward, there are writers of poetry, history, local interest, adult fiction, children's books, non-fiction, fishing and walking guides, garden books, cook books, self-help, romance, mountaineering, and more. If there's a genre, Bainbridge has an author. Currently there is no end in sight to Margaret's list. This section of the FOL website has proved wildly popular as well as being a first-rate reference. Take a look at it – you may find your neighbor there.

## Excellent women in challenging circumstances (Four books to consider for your book discussion group)

By PATRICIA MILLER

Geraldine Brooks traveled extensively in the Middle East to interview a broad representation of men and women for her book *Nine Parts of Desire*. In it she confirms many of the current images of Muslim control: women restricted in their dress, in their choice of mates, in education, in their freedom of movement.

The title is derived from the Shiite interpretation of the Koran: "Almighty God created sexual desire in ten parts; then he gave nine parts to women and one to men." Apparently women must be controlled because they represent a constant siren call that tempts men to sin.

Brooks's observations offer an opportunity to compare fundamentalist Muslim practices with those of fundamental sects among other world religions, and to consider how these practices affect the society.

*Enemy Women*, by Paulette Giles, is a world away from the Muslim community and 18-year-old Adaire Colley, the central character, would never submit to that kind of control.

Like Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain*, *Enemy Women* is an odyssey. The time is the Civil War, the setting Missouri, and the novel is vibrant with colorful Dickensian characters: Adaire's father, widowed Judge Marquis Colley, who has raised his children with an affectionate free reign; Col. Tim Reeves, Union officer and former Methodist minister who razes and burns the Colley farm; renegade Tom Poth, who seizes Adaire and her two younger sisters like war booty and puts her on a path to a Yankee prison in St. Louis; Yankee Major William Neumann, (think New Man), the prison commander; Mr. and Mrs. Greathouse, who unknowingly aide Adaire's escape; and Greasy John, a barefoot country philosopher.

There is an echo of *A Thousand and One Nights* here. Captain Neumann demands that Adaire write a confession in order to avoid execution, so like Scheherazade, each night she spins a new tale thereby

engaging the major's affections and winning his help for her escape.

Back in the Ozarks, Adaire comes upon Greasy John and his crew of rejects, who prepare her for the last leg of her journey down a hidden trace (think Frodo's journey to dispose of the Ring). Giles's book recalls many of its predecessors—*The Red Badge of Courage*, *All Quiet on the Western Front*, and yes, *Cold Mountain*—all of which demonstrate that once freed from the restraints of civilization man will do his worst. Giles, however, maintains hope for civilization through Adaire Colley's grit and Major Neumann's nobility.

In *Excellent Women*, Barbara Pym's pale characters provide stark contrast to Giles's Adaire Colley and Yankee Major Neumann. Mildred Lathbury "mustn't allow" herself "to have feelings, but must only observe the effect of other peoples' ". Her life is committed to the care of "distressed gentlewomen" and to St. Mary's Church, her pastor Julian, and his spinster sister Winifred, to the whims of her irresponsible downstairs neighbors, and to the whining complaints of old school friend Dora and her fussy brother William. Mildred is an artifact trapped in a narrow stratum of English society dating to the Victorians who severely restricted a gentle woman's actions. Mildred and those like her wait and watch on the sidelines while a few adventurous women kick over class barriers already weakened by two world wars. These women—Helena, Mildred's downstairs neighbor, and Allegra, a stylish widow—do not hesitate to manipulate, pose and lie in order to win recognition and an authentic place in the society.

Graham Greene had a love/hate relationship with Catholicism, and his religious angst plays itself out in *The End of the Affair*.

German bombs are falling on London when writer Maurice Bendrix falls in love with Sarah Miles. The affair, begun during a party at the Miles home, rapidly

Continued on Page 15

## Community-Friends partnership supports many library programs

By PATRICIA MILLER, Vice President  
Bainbridge Friends of the Library

All through with that book?

Box it up with your old CDs and DVDs and bring it to the Bainbridge Friends of the Library. The Friends volunteers will sort your donations, price them, and—with three monthly sales—convert them into financial support for programs and activities that inform and entertain children and adults.

These funds also buy books requested by Islanders and subscriptions to 60 of the magazines our patrons enjoy reading.

Islanders' steadfast generosity has also allowed the Friends to establish the Friends of the Library Endowment. With ongoing support and time to grow, the endowment will provide an important source of funding for the Bainbridge Public Library far into the future.

Next time you clean out your bookshelves, please join your friends and neighbors and donate your books to the library. Become a member of a remarkable partnership: the Bainbridge Island community and the Friends of the Library.

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# A visit to Osor, an ancient Croatian town

BY BARBARA WINTHER

In the northern Adriatic Sea, the serpentine-shaped Croatian islands of Cres and Lošinj are divided by a channel less than 35 feet wide and crossed by a hand-operated drawbridge that opens only twice a day.

It is believed that Romans dug this channel so ships would not be forced to sail around the islands. On the northern side of this key navigational shortcut, on the island of Cres, is the town of Osor. A bishopric established there in the sixth century operated throughout the Middle Ages. It controlled both islands with a strong religious, commercial and political presence. In the 15th century a combination of malaria, plague and new sea routes ruined Osor's economy. The town lost not only its influence but most of its people.

Today Osor is attempting a comeback as a museum town, although it is not widely visited except during the July and August Musical Evenings. In September, when my husband, Grant, and I entered the town, only two other visitors were there.

At 8:30 in the morning we started driving north to Osor from the apartment we had rented in the town of Mali Lošinj. Although we obeyed the speed limit, 50-60 kilometers per hour, cars constantly passed us with frightening bursts of speed. The drivers probably wanted to beat the opening of the drawbridge at 9:00.

We were among the last few cars to make it across. Parking nearby, we hurried out to watch the service man energetically crank the bridge open sideways. He signaled for boats to go through the narrow channel first from east to west and then from west to east. When all had passed, he cranked the bridge back into place. The holdup of traffic had been about 45 minutes. The next opening would be at 5 p.m.

Before walking into the town, we investigated three large fishing boats docked near the western end of the channel. It turned out they were purse seiners, bringing in from the Adriatic's Kvarner Gulf huge catches of sardines to be transported to markets. As we watched the process of icing the fish and stacking trays of them into trucks, I asked two fellows also watching if either of them spoke English. One did. "Do you think they'd sell us a plastic bag full of fish?" I asked.

"I'll ask," he replied.

The answer was, "OK," a word known by all nationalities.

Grant ran to the car for a Ziploc. For a small fee, a fisherman filled our bag. Not wanting our sardines to spoil, we drove back across the bridge and to our apartment. We asked the upstairs landlady, Ružica, who spoke a little English, how to cook the little fish.

"I barbecue for you," she said with a smile. "Tonight you come upstairs for dinner."

We gave her the bag and returned across the bridge for our delayed visit to Osor. The town appeared deserted except for the two men we met at the fishing boats, a waitress at the outdoor café, and the curator at the museum, who after a bit locked up and left.

It was a joy to wander through the cobblestone streets among medieval-style buildings, examining traces of much earlier times. Scattered through the town were modern metal sculptures with a musical theme. One of them in the main square, by the famous Croatian artist Meštrovi, was a woman playing a tamburitza, an



Croatians unload sardine catch after fishing in the Adriatic (top photo). A drawbridge swings open on the channel at Osor (below). A street in the ancient town of Osor (left).

—All photos by Grant Winther



old Croatian instrument similar to a mandolin.

That evening we made a salad and ate the delicious grilled sardines with Ružica and her sister, Ankica, visiting a few days from Florida. Ankica and her husband had gone there as refugees during the Serb-Croatian conflict; she was Croatian, her husband, Serbian. We talked far into the night about the horrors of war. The sisters hadn't seen each other for 19 years.

"My mother never forgave me for marrying a Serb," Ankica said. "Yet, once we were all friends."

## Library travelogue:

*LET IT GO, LOUIE*, the story of Croatian immigrants on Puget Sound by Gary Loverich and Barbara Winther, has gone to the printers. Published by the Bainbridge Island Historical Society, the book is available for a limited time at a special pre-publication price of \$22 including tax (a savings of over \$5) at the BIHS Museum on Ericksen Ave. For more about the country and the book, attend the travelogue "Croatia Today, Ties to the Past" by Barbara Winther at 7:30 p.m. December 16. The Traveler bookstore is co-sponsor.

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Recent non-fiction arrivals**Recommended books on climate change**

By GAIL GOODRICK

Talk about climate change is always with us. Perhaps more than ever during the short, wet days of a Northwest winter.

Gail Goodrick, non-fiction collection manager for the Kitsap Regional Library, recommends these recent additions to the many books on the subject now available at your local library.

For your convenience, the titles are arranged alphabetically by author.

Avery, Dennis. *Unstoppable Global Warming*, 2007.

Christianson, Gale E. *Greenhouse: The 200-Year Story of Global Warming*, 1999.

Diamond, Jared. *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or*

*Succeed*, 2005.

Egan, Timothy. *The Worst Hard Time*, 2006.

Ehrlich, Gretel. *The Future of Ice: A Journey into Cold*, 2004.

Flannery, Tim. *The Weather Makers: The History and Future Impact of Climate Change*, 2006.

Gore, Al. *Earth in the Balance*, 1991.

Gore, Al. *An Inconvenient Truth*, 2006.

Horner, Christopher C. *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Global Warming*, 2007.

Kolbert, Elizabeth. *Field Notes from a Catastrophe*, 2006.

Linden, Eugene. *The Wind of Change: Climate, Weather and the Destruction of Civilizations*, 2006.

Matthiessen, Peter. *End of the Earth: Voyages to the White Continent*, 2003.

McKibben, Bill. *The End of Nature*, 1990 with updated 2006 edition.

Pearce, Fred. *With Speed and Violence: Why Scientists Fear Tipping Points in Climate Change*, 2007.

Romm, Joseph. *Hell and High Water: Global Warming—the Solution and the Politics—and What We Should Do*, 2007.

Ruddiman, William F. *Plows, Plagues and Petroleum: How Humans Took Control of Climate*, 2005.

Speth, James G. *Red Sky at Morning: America and the Crisis of the Global Environment*, 2006.

Steinman, David. *Safe Trip to Eden: 10 Steps to Save Planet Earth from the Global Warming Meltdown*, 2007.

Shutz, Bruce. *Chasing Spring: An American Journey Through a Changing Season*, 2006.



Gail Goodrick

Weart, Spencer. *The Discovery of Global Warming*, 2003.

Worldchanging: A User's Guide for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, 2006.

**Tressa Johnson wins Cynthia Harrison Scholarship**

Tressa Johnson, a Bainbridge Library volunteer, is the first recipient of the Cynthia Lord Harrison Scholarship.

The award was established in honor of Cynthia "Cindy" Harrison, manager of the Bainbridge branch of the Kitsap Regional Library from 1991 to 2007.

The fund was established to provide support for those seeking to further their professional careers in librarianship. Applicants are expected to have a bachelor's degree and to be accepted or enrolled in an accredited, graduate-level library and information science program.

The grant will be awarded annually, if there is a qualified candidate. Payments will be sent directly to the winner's educational institution, to be applied as tuition. The 2009-2010 award is \$1,000.

Johnson remarked, after learning of her award:

"I'm honored to be this year's recipient of the Cindy Lord Harrison Scholarship! The support and encouragement of the Bainbridge Library means a



Photograph by Gail Christensen

Tressa Johnson

tremendous amount to me.

"I've been a life-long reader and library patron. While pursuing my undergraduate degree at Oberlin College I worked at the Allen Memorial Art Library and was a recipient of the Keyes D. Metcalf Student Assistant Award.

"For the last 10 years I've worked as a sign language interpreter in Eugene, Oregon."

Since moving to Bainbridge Island in 2008, Tressa has worked as a volunteer, doing many things at the library.

She maintains the reader board, changing the information on forthcoming events as needed. She also posts notices of these events in the Bainbridge Review and on the Chamber of Commerce website, and she processes donations.

Tressa will use the Harrison Scholarship funds to further her education at the University of Washington Information School. She hopes to be a full-time librarian after completing her master's degree in Library and Information Science.

**Classic films scheduled for 2010**

The series of classic films at the Bainbridge Public Library will continue through 2010.

The Island Film Group, led by John Fossett and Patrick Gulke, has chosen the movies to be shown and the time remains the same: the second Wednesday of every month, beginning at 7 p.m.

The January offering will be the drama *A Face in the Crowd*, directed by Elia Kazan and starring Andy Griffith and Lee Remick. At just over two hours, it's the longest film on the schedule. Most run between an hour and a half and two hours.

Another Kazan film, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, is the February selection. Moviegoers will immediately recognize this as the 1951 drama starring Marlon Brando and Vivien Leigh.

In March the featured film will be *Adam's Rib*, the 1949 comedy starring Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy.

Following the comedy, the film group will present a sci-fi/horror movie, *The Bride of Frankenstein*, in April.

May will bring the Marx Brothers comedy *Horse Feathers*, and the June offering will be *The Lady Eve*, another classic comedy, this one with Henry Fonda and Barbara Stanwyck.

The year will be rounded out with films starring Burt Lancaster (*Local Hero*), Robert Mitchum and Shelly Winters (*The Night of the Hunter*), the romance *Philadelphia Story* starring Katharine Hepburn and Cary Grant, the action film *Point Blank*, the comedy *The Thin Man*, and the classic mystery *Vertigo* starring James Stewart and Kim Novak.

Audiences often come a few minutes early, to enjoy rounds of classic cartoons.

Meanwhile, across the Agate Pass Bridge, the Poulsbo Fjord Film Group will continue its series of classic movies on the first Tuesday of every month. They're currently choosing films for the year, and will be announcing January, February, and March offerings soon.

For more information on the Poulsbo films, check with the Poulsbo branch library or read the new North Kitsap Library News, which will be available early in December at the Bainbridge Library.

There is no admission charge to the classic films. They're another free service of your Kitsap Regional Library.

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**THE BAINBRIDGE** Public Library participates in the One Call For All on Bainbridge Island. Donations through the One Call drive support the maintenance of the local library building and grounds. It's easy to give to the library; just check Bainbridge Public Library on your ballot and return the envelope you received in the mail.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** book sales are a great place to find holiday gifts. Books for children and adults as well as CDs and DVDs can be found there at bargain prices. Friends book sales are now held three times a month. For the dates and times, check the announcements on library bulletin boards, and on the sidewalk boards a day or two before each sale.

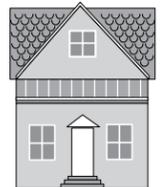
**THE BAINBRIDGE LIBRARY NEWS** is available online as well as in your mailbox quarterly. Visit [www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org) and [www.bifriends.org](http://www.bifriends.org).

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## How many of these people do you recognize?

*They're members of your library staff who turned out for All Staff Day at the waterfront Bremerton convention center on Columbus Day. It was a day of team building and preparing for the future. Part of the day was devoted to Prepare training now being used in public libraries throughout the United States and Canada. (The program has proven valuable in training staffs to safely manage difficult behaviors in a constant and effective way.)*

*Staff photo by Kitsap Regional Library*

## Summer reading program draws nearly 8,000 youngsters to our libraries

The Kitsap Regional Library's summer reading program was a resounding success throughout the county, and especially at Bainbridge and North Kitsap libraries.

This was the fifth year that the library participated in a 48-state collaborative summer reading program. The theme, "Be Creative @ Your Library", and for teens "Express Yourself @ Your Library", "really captured programming imaginations and attracted children for participation," said Carol Schuyler, director of support services for KRL.

Each child received a paperback book after completing 10 hours of reading, and also received a free ticket to the

Kitsap County Fair. They were eligible too for drawings for \$25 gift cards at the independent book stores, thanks to donations through the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation.

A Super Reader party was held on September 12, and the top reader who attended the party had read 170 hours. Each branch library was represented, as well as the bookmobile.

Poulsbo branch set the record for participation, with 1655 youngsters signed up. Over 50 percent of the young readers – 835 of them – completed the program. In Port Orchard, 1611 children participated, with about 65 percent (1045 students) completing

the program. On Bainbridge Island, 1447 young people turned out and 735 (or about 51 percent) completed the program.

The summer reading programs have grown steadily for the past three years, and the county-wide total of 7747 participants was the second highest on record, almost reaching the all-time high of 7800 in 2006.

Summer programs with paid performances were well attended; county-wide 2336 children and 1020 adults turned out for them. In the north end, Poulsbo drew 400 children and 167 adults to the paid performances while Bainbridge attracted 266 children and 111 adults.

## — NEWS BRIEFS —

**NEXT ISSUE** of the Bainbridge Library News will be published in early March. Deadline for news copy and advertising is February 1, but earlier copy is appreciated. Work on the spring issue is already under way.

**AUTHOR GARY PRISK** has won the Best New Fiction award for his book *Digger, Dogface, Brownjob, Grunt* in the recently announced National Best Books for 2009, USA Book News reports. The book is the result of "22 years of sorting memories of Vietnam's war and 12 years of writing *Digger's* story", Prisk says.

**THE ISLAND SCHOOL**, a long-time supporter of the Bainbridge Library, invites interested parents to join faculty, alumni, and current parents at an open house at the school (8553 NE Day Road) January 27 at 7 p.m. to learn more about the school's educational program. (Financial aid is available.)

*Continued from page 10*

### Sharlene Martin

behind the closed doors of their agents, editors and publishers' offices. We share the process (from the perspectives of an agent and author), from concept to publication and beyond, so that the writer has a realistic grasp on how to beat the odds and stack the deck in their favor. We really cover all the cutting edge techniques for the 21st Century in how to break out and make it happen. It's a must have for anyone serious about getting published in these trying times." To learn more about Sharlene's agency and her new book, please visit [www.MartinLiteraryManagement.com](http://www.MartinLiteraryManagement.com).

*Continued from page 12*

### Excellent women

intensifies, especially for Bendrix. Lonely and introverted, he pressures Sarah to leave her husband, a dreary sort of fellow, civil servant personified. But Sarah is less torn between Bendrix and her husband than she is between Bendrix and God. As a child, she had been secretly baptized Catholic, and she has begun to think of this baptism as a kind of vaccination that predestined her to be Catholic. Moreover,

her new adherence to the Church's rigid morality prevents her from leaving her husband.

Bendrix rails against the priest who represents the Church in Greene's book; his nose "ran down his face like a buttress" – he was "the very man who slammed the door of hope on Sarah". The characters ring with authenticity due, no doubt, to the fact that Greene based the

story on his affair with Lady Catherine Walston, one of his many extra-marital adventures.

**All four of these books are available for the use of your group from the Kitsap Regional Library book discussion group collection.**

*(Patricia Miller has led library book discussion groups for several years.)*



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# New art exhibits scheduled for library

New art exhibits are now being planned for the library meeting room throughout 2010, curator Linda Meier said recently.

**Sue Hysten's photographs and verse** will be shown through the year end. They include glimpses of Paris, Cambridge, Venice and other European sites taken on her journeys overseas in 2006 and 2008.

A longtime Island resident, Hysten moved here from New Hampshire. She works for the Bainbridge Island Metro Park District, and often finds inspiration for her poems and photographs while riding her bicycle to and from Strawberry Hill Park, as well as elsewhere in the Northwest.

She says that her overseas trips have "three vital stages: anticipation, participation, and reflection." She considers the show at the library an opportunity to share her reflections on recent trips with her community.

**Following Hysten's work in January will be the art of Susan Najarian.** She has not yet announced a title for the show, but it will run through the month and Najarian is considering having a reception for the public early in the new year. (Keep watching the library bulletin boards.) For more about her art, Susan suggests readers turn to her Web sites: [susannajarian.etsy.com](http://susannajarian.etsy.com) and <http://blackbirdsandbumblebees.blogspot.com>.

**The February featured artist will be Terry Leness of Bainbridge Island,** who captures the "quiet beauty and remoteness of West Marin County in her jewel-like watercolor landscape and still-life paintings, and detailed graphite drawings."

To view her work check out her website at [www.terryleness.com](http://www.terryleness.com) or Smith & Vallee Gallery ([www.smithandvallee.com](http://www.smithandvallee.com)).

**In March Peg Deam will present Weaving Together,** an exhibit that will include cedar masks, woven cattail masks, paintings, and drawings. She plans to demonstrate traditional loom weaving, with public participation.

As a Suquamish Tribal member Deam uses her cultural background to create contemporary art. Cedar bark, cattail, and the use of dentalium shells with trade beads re-create traditional style necklaces as part of her mask presentations. Salish wool weaving continues to be a high art form and she will demonstrate this weaving technique and invite the public to help weave on the loom.

The library meeting room serves as a gallery for exhibits by local artists; when the room is not in use, the doors are usually closed, but art lovers who would like to see the current exhibit may ask a staff member to open the room for viewing.

## The 26th Anniversary

# The Studio Tour with heart

By DINAH SATTERWHITE

Picture this. It's 1983, and a couple of artists from Bainbridge Island meet at the little corner coffee shop to figure out a way to share more of their art with their friends, neighbors, and community.

It started innocently enough, and could have gone a number of directions. But as it turned out, the idea focused on the access to the artists' studios. The artists wanted to show their work in their own studios, to share more of the process, more of the heart of their artwork.

Not every artist had an actual "studio" in the beginning.

**Diane Bonciolini and Gregg Mesmer are the only remaining active artists who were founders of the Studio Tour. They are well known for their unique glass art.**

Their humble beginnings were in their home, which was often full of art, artists, and guests. In 1983 they coordinated their efforts with another artist on the same weekend and started something that soon became what we now know as the Bainbridge Island Studio Tour.

In 1996 they built a new studio behind their home, complete with several kilns, large work tables, storage areas for a wide variety of glass, and display areas to showcase their "glass du jour". 1998 marked their first "tour" in the new studio.

Twenty-six years later, known better as Mesolini Glass Studio, they are still living in the same home and enjoying their very active working glass studio, where continuous projects and workshops are on the menu.

**Through the years they have been active in the community, and truly echo the Island's spirit. They donate their work on a regular basis, and have been chosen for large public art projects on Bainbridge Island and beyond. (Check**

**out the children's bathroom in the Bainbridge Public Library and the "Beach Glass Quilt" in the sidewalk on the corner of Winslow Way and Madison Avenue downtown.)**

How does it all come together?

Let's take a quick look at one process behind the scenes: the jurying.

New artists who want to participate in the Studio Tour have to jury their work, which involves a panel of three unidentified art jurors who are members of the local art community. The jurors evaluate three to five samples of the new artist's work, and rate them based on several factors: originality of design, quality of craftsmanship, and presentation. Artists who have participated in the past still have to re-jury every three years to insure that these factors have not been compromised over the years.

The jurors go back and forth over hundreds of pieces of artwork. They look closely at the fine details and inspect the ceramics and jewelry for sharp edges. There are usually a few items that are in a gray zone – the originality may be there but the quality and finishing techniques are lacking.

It's not an easy process. A recent jury turned down several artists, but two artists were gently rejected with the hope that they continue improving their work and re-apply. The Tour tries to encourage artists of varied backgrounds and mediums, while maintaining a consistent level of quality.

The jury process is central to the Studio

Tour, because the public has come to expect a high level of quality at the two annual events – a summer tour in August, a winter tour in December.

**The Tour keeps close tabs on the number of studios that can participate, so that the public can easily visit them during the course of a weekend. The whole ambiance of the Tour is one of a small, local, juried art show.**

The steering committee enjoys helping artists of all levels – emerging artists as well as experienced and established ones. The Studio Tour is a great resource for local artists to sell their work, meet the public, and get first-hand feedback and exposure. Plus it's a fun, family-style atmosphere.

On the Studio Tour, everyone has a personal invitation into the artists' inner sanctums and birthplaces of art: the studios. Raw material, equipment, half-completed projects, inspiring quotes – they're all there. So is a welcoming atmosphere, just as it was 25 years ago.

Meet the artists. Talk to them about their work, and what inspires them.

This is art with heart. And perhaps a little sawdust.



Artists gather at a recent Studio Tour.

—Photo by Dinah Satterwhite

## Hysten exhibit celebration set for Dec. 6

**The public is invited to a celebration of Sue Hysten's exhibit "Glimpses of Paris, Cambridge, Venice and Beyond: A Photographic Journey" on Sunday, December 6, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the library meeting room. Light refreshments will be served, along with a few stories and poems.**

"In May 2006 my camera and I flew to Rome to join nine people from other countries and a guide from Australia who loved Italy. This 15-day tour took me on my lifelong dream to visit Rome, Florence, Lucca, Venice, the Cinque Terra, and more. We traveled by public transportation, ate at locally owned restaurants, and stayed in locally owned hotels in each city or town. . . I fell in love with Italy," Hysten said.

"In May 2008 my camera and I visited my family in Cambridge and Paris, the surrounding areas of Ely, Saffron Waldron, and Hayley Wood near Cambridge, and Giverney, Espernay and Versailles near Paris. . . This exhibit is an opportunity to share my reflections with 17 images in frames built by Stephen Hysten, my husband."

## Behind the Score with Bainbridge Island Symphony

Music lovers will have a chance to preview the February concert of the Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra when David Upham, BSO music director, presents "Behind the Score with Music Lovers" Sunday, February 7, at 3 p.m. in the library meeting room.

The preview is designed to help listeners gain a better understanding and appreciation of the February 20 and 21 performances scheduled for the Bainbridge Performing Arts auditorium. Music selections will feature the greatest lovers and love stories in classical music.

The free preview is sponsored by Bainbridge Performing Arts and the Kitsap Regional Library.

## LIBRARY HOURS

Mon / Tues / Wed 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Thurs 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Fri 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sat / Sun 1 to 5 p.m.  
(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

**KRL WEBSITE ADDRESS**  
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**Bainbridge Island Studio Tour**  
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[www.bistudiotour.com](http://www.bistudiotour.com)