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Vol. 12, No. 1

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

Fall 2009

Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

- Career Week at KRL: Library open from 9-10 a.m. for job seekers & career changers.
- Senior Center Book Discussion (370 Brien Dr): *The Highest Tide* by Tim Lynch 1 p.m. Copies available at the Library
- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Jennifer Culkin presents "How does the journal feed the memoir?" 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- Career Week at KRL: Library open from 9-10 a.m. for job seekers & career changers.
- Travelogue: Running the Iditarod with Laura Daugeau. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- Career Week at KRL: Library open from 12-1 p.m. for job seekers & career changers.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- Career Week at KRL: Library open from 9-10 a.m. for job seekers & career changers.
- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Betty Kay Anderson presents "American Biographical Genealogical Index (ABGI)" 10 a.m.-12

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- BPL Speakers Forum: "The U.S. Health Care System - Is There a Cure in Sight?" Panel discussion. 3-5 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
- CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 201. 2-3:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- KRL strategic plan public meeting 6:30-7:30 p.m. BI Library

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). *Soldados de Salamina* by Javier Cercas (Spain) 7 p.m. Inland Way Building

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- West Sound Reads presents: Philippa Gregory 4 p.m. Bremerton High School Auditorium

OCTOBER 1-31

- On exhibit in the meeting room: Cynthia Dice, whimsical animal paintings
- On exhibit in the glass display case: Book Arts & Book Artists of Bainbridge Island

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

- Island Theatre at the Library (special event): A John Steinbeck Evening, works by the author of *Cannery Row* 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

- *East of Eden* (1955) Free film showing. The Historic Lynwood Theatre 5 p.m.
- *Cannery Row* Sketch Workshop, Eagle Harbor Books 3p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: *Cannery Row* by John Steinbeck 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
- Seattle Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "La Traviata" by Verdi. 2:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

- The Island's *Cannery Row*: a history of strawberry canning on Bainbridge Island with Jerry Elfendahl. 3 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

- Library Closed for Columbus Day

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

- CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 101. 2-3:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
- Island Film Group: *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1978) Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

- Cannery Row Poetry Connections: poetry evocative of the life of John Steinbeck. 7 p.m.

Continued on page 3

Library Speakers Forum tackles health care issues in 3 sessions

Health care reform is the hot topic for discussion today: on TV talk shows, in newspapers, and in public forums throughout the country.

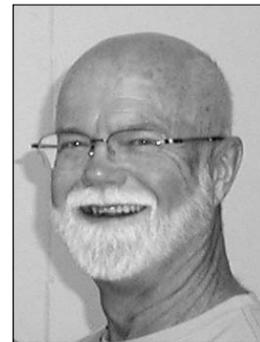
The Bainbridge Public Library Speakers Forum brings the debate to the Island with a three-part series beginning Sunday, September 20. Other sessions will follow on October 18 and November 15. All programs will run from 3 to 5 p.m. in the library's large meeting room. There is no admission charge, but donations are appreciated.

The opening discussion September 20 presents a panel of medical authorities, with Bob Fortner, retired physician living on Bainbridge, as moderator. The question under discussion: "The U. S. Health Care System: Is There a Cure in Sight?"

Panelists will include Dr. Michael Soman, Group Health; Aaron Katz, University of Washington School of Public Health; Dr. Scott Lindquist, Kitsap County Health District; and Ross



Ross Baker



Dr. Bob Fortner



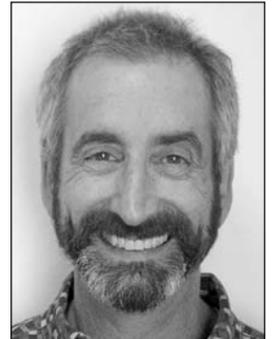
Dr. Scott Lindquist

Baker, Regence Blue Shield.

On October 18 the topic will be: "Global Pandemics: What Can We Expect Next?" The speaker will be Dr. Ira M. Longini, of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, UW Center for Statistics and Quantitative Infectious Diseases.



Dr. Michael Soman



Aaron Katz

continued on Page 3

One book, one community

Cannery Row is book of the month

By JULIE O'NEILL,
Reference Librarian

What would happen if all Kitsap County read the same book?

Kitsap Regional Library has chosen John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row* as the 2009 "One Book, One Community" selection. The "One Book" program aims to bring people together to read and discuss a timeless novel, to learn and have some fun.

During October, "The Month of the Book," all branches of Kitsap Regional Library will have many copies of *Cannery Row* available for checkout. There will be discussion groups and a Steinbeck film festival, featuring *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Cannery Row*, *East of Eden* and *Of Mice and Men*. Performers from Island Theatre group will give dramatic readings from Steinbeck's works. Students are invited to enter an essay contest on the responsibilities of friendship, a theme that Steinbeck developed in *Cannery Row* with great insight and humor. You can attend a talk by Susan Shillinglaw, who is a scholar-in-residence at the Steinbeck Center in Salinas, CA or learn about the history of the original Cannery Row from Michael K Hemp, who will be visiting from Monterey, CA. Just for fun, you can

write your own sketch of Island life in the style of Steinbeck's *Cannery Row*.

Steinbeck was born and grew up in Salinas about 30 miles from Monterey. He had a deep attachment to this central



John Steinbeck

California area where he set many of his novels. As an adult, he lived in Pacific Grove a few miles from Cannery Row, and got to know fish-packing workers, roughnecks, and other colorful waterfront characters. There he met the

man who became his close friend and philosophical inspiration: Ed Ricketts, a biologist who ran a marine science lab on the Monterey waterfront.

Cannery Row is the story of the comic (and occasionally tragic) adventures of a group of eccentric, good-natured bums who inhabit the rough-and-tumble cannery area. Mack and "the boys" live by bartering, borrowing, stealing, and conning Lee Chong, the Chinese grocer. Central to the story is Doc, a marine biologist who runs a lab on the waterfront and makes his living collecting marine specimens. Doc was clearly based on Steinbeck's friend, Ed Ricketts. Doc is a generous and good friend to Mack and the boys. They decide to throw a birthday party for him, inviting Dora and the girls from the nearby bordello. The party quickly gets out of control with a hilarious fight. The book is a series of episodes rather than a tightly plotted novel, and Steinbeck incorporated "interchapters" of philosophical musings about the people, the community, even the sea life near Cannery Row.

To Steinbeck, *Cannery Row* was an ecosystem just like the great Monterey tide pool where Doc collected his

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Also in this issue:

People: The life of a serial writer Page 8

History: Stories of Puget Sound Croatians Page 10

Children & families: Books and more Pages 6-7

West Sound Reads notes 10th Anniversary

By MARY GLEYSTEN

West Sounds Reads—a collaboration among area independent booksellers, Kitsap Regional Library and the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation, celebrates its 10th anniversary this fall with upcoming readings by Philippa Gregory and Barbara Kingsolver.

This partnership began in 1998 with a reading in Port Orchard by Ivan Doig, sponsored by two independent bookstores and the Port Orchard library. Initially

called Kitsap Reads, the group has celebrated books and reading through free events staged throughout the county with authors including Ursula LeGuinn, Jean Auel, Nuala O'Faolin, Rick Bragg, Andre DuBus III, Sherman Alexie, Lemony Snickett, Patricia Polacco, Jane Smiley, Lisa See, and Princess Martha Louise of Norway. These very successful programs have become a model for similar collaborations around the country.

Participating book stores include Bethel Avenue Books in Port Orchard; The Dauntless of Port Gamble; Eagle

Harbor Books, Bainbridge Island; Liberty Bay Books, Poulsbo; Mostly Books, Gig Harbor; Olympic College Bookstore, Bremerton; Sage Books, Shelton; and The Traveler, Bainbridge Island. **The programs are free, with a portion of the proceeds of books sold at each event donated to area literacy groups.**

West Sound Reads kicked off its 10th anniversary series with a reading by best-selling Island author Rebecca Wells from her latest novel *The Crowning Glory of Calla Lily Ponder*. Bainbridge Performing Arts provided the venue for this event, with

donations to Helpline House.

Upcoming WestSound Reads Events: (All events are free. Reserved seating available with advance book purchase from participating bookstores.)

- **Philippa Gregory - *The White Queen* Bremerton High School - Saturday, September 26, 4pm**
- **Barbara Kingsolver - *The Lacuna* Bainbridge High School - Friday, November 20, 7:30pm**

For more information contact a participating bookstore or visit Kitsap Regional Library's website: www.krl.org.

Field's End offers fall Roundtables

By MARGARET TRENT

The final Roundtables in 2009 should provide plenty of inspiration and information to keep your writing muse happy through the winter.

In October Anjali Banerjee will help answer that daunting question: "When is Your Novel Ready for an Agent?" Anjali has written four novels for young adults and two novels for adults. The Seattle Times praised her novel *Imaginary Men*,

describing it as "a romantic comedy equal to *Bend it Like Beckham*."

Back by popular demand is Jennifer Louden with "Can You Write Naked With Your Clothes On?" People packed the room for this presentation at the 2008 Field's End conference, so if you missed it or want to hear it again, now is your opportunity. Jennifer is the bestselling author of *The Woman's Comfort Book* and five other titles. Her most recent book is *The Life Organizer: A Woman's Guide to a Mindful Year*.

The multi-talented Greg Atkinson will join us in December to present "How Do You Make Readers Devour Your Words?" Greg is a leading voice in Pacific Northwest Culinary trends. The author of several cookbooks and a lively food commentator, he can be heard weekly on KUOW's "The Beat." He is also the winner of a James Beard Foundation's M.F.K. Fisher Distinguished Writing Award, and two American Food Journalism Awards.

What is a Roundtable?

The monthly Field's End Roundtable, free and open to writers of all levels and interests, takes place the third Tuesday of each month. The guest author introduces the topic, then participants join in a Q & A period followed by a large group discussion. The evening closes with coffee and cookies, providing an opportunity to network with other writers.

If you have an idea for a Writers' Roundtable topic or guest author, send an e-mail to info@fieldsend.org (please include Writers' Roundtable in the subject line), or write to Field's End at the library, 1270 Madison Ave. North, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110.

Field's End, is affiliated with the nonprofit Bainbridge Public Library. Additional support comes from the City of Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Fund, administered by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council. For other Field's End programs go to www.fieldsend.org.

Jurgen Wolff seminar is Oct. 17

Writers of all genres won't be the only ones who will want to attend this fall's presentation by internationally acclaimed writer and creativity coach Jurgen Wolff.

Field's End will sponsor Wolff's one-day seminar, "Fueling the Creative Mind," on Saturday, October 17, at the Bainbridge Island Pavilion, when Wolff will present four innovative, right-brained techniques that all creative "types" (painters, entrepreneurs, poets, dancers, bloggers, etc.) can apply to prepare their minds for the creative process.

Wolff, a prolific writer in multiple forms and genres, is author of the upcoming *Creativity Now: Get Inspired, Create Ideas and Make Them Happen—Now!* as well as the best-selling book, *Your Writing Coach: From Concept to Character, From Pitch to Publication*.

Sign up early for best rates and to guarantee your seat in what is expected to be a very popular event. See the Field's End Special Events page at <http://fieldsend.org/Event.html> for details.

Seattle Opera previews continue in 2009-2010

Opera fans are looking forward to another season of Norm Hollingshead's popular Seattle Opera previews beginning next month.

The series opens with Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata* Saturday, October 10.

On January 9, Verdi's *Il Trovatore* will be presented, and on February 13, Verdi's *Falstaff* will be featured.

The season is not all Verdi, however. On May 1, the audience will hear Daron Aric Hagen's *Amelia* during its world premiere.

The opera previews, designed to increase the enjoyment and appreciation of Seattle Opera performances, begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday afternoons.

Hollingshead's talks are filled with anecdotes and highlighted by recorded musical excerpts.

The series, which is free, is funded by the Bainbridge Island Friends of the Library.

Field's End classes set

The writer's life is one of continual learning and beginning again. Field's End/Bainbridge Public Library will soon begin registration for its fall 2009 classes.

Margaret Nevinski will teach *Point of View*. Students will explore the pros and cons of each possibility. All four sessions will include writing exercises. Priscilla Long is back with *Brass Tacks: The Right Sentence & the Telling Detail*, a four-session class.

And, for anyone who travels or uses setting in their fiction (and who doesn't?) Nick O'Connell will be teaching a two-session class entitled *Travel Writing*. For more information check: www.fieldsend.org.

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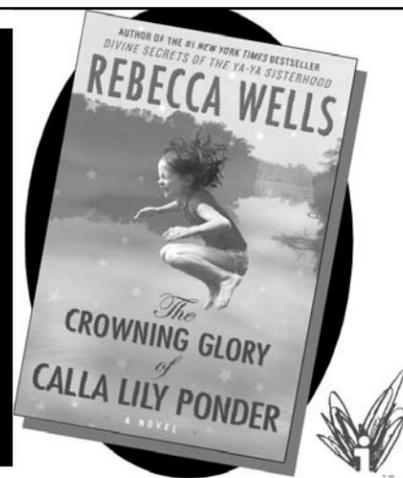
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MONDAY - SATURDAY 10 - 6, THURSDAYS 'TIL 8, SUNDAY 12 - 5

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Bainbridge Island's locally owned community bookstore congratulates *Rebecca Wells* on the release of her newest book

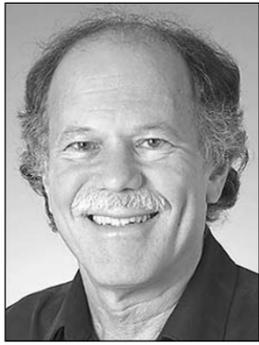


Continued from front page

Forum tackles health care issues



Dr. Nino Ramirez



Dr. Ira Longini

The series ends with a November 15 presentation on "Brain Dynamics: The Impact of Research on Autism, Epilepsy, and Other Neurological Disorders" by Jan Marino "Nino" Ramirez, PhD, of the Center for Neuroscience, Seattle Children's Hospital and Research.

Forum planners note that the issues are not only timely, but are currently being tackled by many scientists working in the Seattle area.

As the U. S. prepares for a possible fall epidemic of swine flu, virologists nervously wonder if the composition of the virus will have changed by the time the planned 120 million doses of new vaccine are ready.

At the same time, researchers at Seattle Children's Hospital are hot on the trail of treatments and the understanding of autism, epilepsy, Rett syndrome, SIDS, and other childhood neurological disorders.

Meanwhile, the more Americans learn about how Congress proposes to cure America's health care systems, the more confused or skeptical many become.

The audience is invited to join the discussion of these important health care issues. For best seating, early arrival at each event is suggested.

They'll speak here in October

Two distinguished visitors from California will talk to Kitsap County readers during the One Community, One Book month of October.

Dr. Susan Shillinglaw, from the National Steinbeck Center in Salinas, will speak about John Steinbeck and Cannery Row at 2 p.m. Sunday, October 4, in the Poulsbo Library (700 NE Lincoln Road).

Shillinglaw is a professor of English at San Jose State University and scholar in residence at the National Steinbeck Center in Salinas. She has published widely on Steinbeck and serves as a consultant for the popular media as well as many scholarly projects.

Michael K. Hemp from the Cannery Row Foundation in Monterey will present *Cannery Row: The History of John Steinbeck's Old Ocean View Avenue* at 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 28.

Hemp is a founder and research



Michael K. Hemp

Dr. Susan Shillinglaw

historian of the Cannery Row Foundation. He is an editorial board member of *The Steinbeck Review* and serves as lecturer and heritage guide to Monterey's historic Cannery Row.

Many other events are scheduled for the month of October. For a complete listing, visit www.krl.org, the Kitsap Regional Library's website.

Copies of the book *Cannery Row* may be borrowed at each of the nine branches of the library system throughout the county.

Continued from front page

Mark your calendar

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society Workshop focusing on the ABGI. 10 a.m.-12

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

- Island Theatre at the Library: "The Foreigner" by Larry Shue. 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

- BPL Speakers Forum: "Global Pandemics - What Can We Expect Next?" 3-5 p.m.
- Island Theatre - Repeat performance 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

- Senior Center Book Discussion (370 Brien Dr): *Cannery Row* by John Steinbeck 1 p.m. Copies available at the Library.
- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Anjali Banerjee presents "When is your novel ready for an agent?" 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

- Bainbridge & Beyond presents "Travel as a political act" with Rick Steves. Time and location TBA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

- 1st Annual Edible Book Festival. 1-3 p.m. Location TBA.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
- CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 201. 10-11:30 a.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162
- Book Arts Beyond the Display: artists discuss their work. 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

- "Cannery Row, the history of John Steinbeck's old ocean view avenue" presented by Michael K Hemp 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

- Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). *Purgatorio* by Tomas Eloy Martinez (Argentina) 7 p.m. Inland Way Building

NOVEMBER 1-30

- On exhibit in the meeting room: Ted Hoppin, watercolors, and Jennifer Waldron, acrylics

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- San Carlos reading of Bainbridge Island sketches 1-4 p.m. Location: 279 Madison Ave N

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: *The Gentleman from Finland: Adventures on the Trans-Siberian Express* by Bob Goldstein 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra Preview. 3 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 101. 10-11:30 a.m. Pre-register at the Library
- Island Film Group: *Hannah and her Sisters* (1986) Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- Library Closed for Veterans' Day
- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- BPL Speakers Forum: "Brain Dynamics - The Impact of Research on Autism, Epilepsy, and Other Neurological Disorders" 3-5 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- Senior Center Book Discussion (370 Brien Dr): *My Jim* by Nancy Rawles 1 p.m. Copies available at the Library
- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Jennifer Louden presents "Can you write naked with your clothes on?" 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- Travelogue: "Morocco, Home of the Berbers" presented by Emily Wilson. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). *Primavera con una esquina rota* by Mario Benedetti (Uruguay) 7 p.m. Location: Inland Way Bldg.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society panel discussion by BIGS mentors presenting "Brick Walls" 10 a.m.-12
- West Sound Reads presents: Barbara Kingsolver 7:30 p.m. Bainbridge Island High School Commons

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
- CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 201. 2-3:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- Bainbridge Library closes at 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- Library Closed for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 1-31

- On exhibit in the meeting room: Sue Hysten, photographs

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: *The Children's Blizzard* by David Laskin 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 1-4 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 gathering 10 a.m.-12

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

- Island Theatre at the Library: TBA 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, DECEMBER 24

- Library Closed for Christmas Holiday

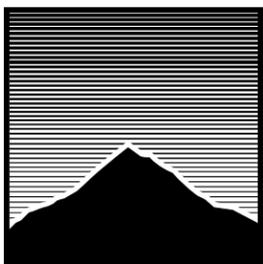
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

- Library Closed for Christmas Holiday

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

- Library closed at 5 p.m.

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Bainbridge Library keeps growing, thanks to many dedicated volunteers

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

With this issue, the Bainbridge Library News enters its 12th consecutive year of publication.

This unique periodical – not a newsletter for a few but a true community newspaper for all – exists only because of a lot of work by many dedicated volunteers.

Over 200 people donate services to our library. They staff book sales, maintain the gardens, pick up after meetings – and much more. In the Library News you read articles by best-selling authors who receive no pay—other than the satisfaction of giving to their library. (We couldn't begin to pay what their time is worth.)

Our volunteers are guided by the exceptional library staff here at Bainbridge and the other eight branches of the Kitsap Regional Library.

Visitors to Bainbridge often comment on the excellent service provided by our librarians and assistants. This year, more than ever, they deserve warm thanks; their willingness to hold the line on salaries and benefits makes it possible to keep our library running without severe cuts. (As I write this, the much larger Seattle Public Library has closed all branches for a week. Here we're still open daily except holidays.)

Eleven years ago, in the first issue of the Library News, board president Tom Olson referred to a "three-legged stool" on which the 20th century Bainbridge Public Library was based: Bainbridge Public Library, Kitsap Regional Library, and the City of Bainbridge Island.

The past decade has brought changes.

As this island's population has increased, so have the library's backers. The three-legged stool has become a sturdy, four-legged chair.

Four organizations now work together to provide library services to you, in a public-private partnership.

If you're confused about who does what, you are not alone. Here, in a very brief summary, are the organizations behind our library today:

Bainbridge Public Library is a non-profit organization which maintains the library building and grounds. That building and its grounds are owned by the people of Bainbridge Island.

Kitsap Regional Library is a public organization funded by property taxes. It pays staff salaries, and provides collections—books, periodicals, music, movies, and more. It also provides computers, databases, programs and special services.

Bainbridge Island Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization that supports the Bainbridge Public Library and some programs at the Bainbridge branch. They raise money primarily through the sale of books donated by patrons and discarded from Kitsap Regional Library.

The Kitsap Regional Library Foundation is a non-profit organization which raises money to enhance the library's book collections, technology, programs (such as Summer Reading) and special services (like the outreach program for citizens unable to come to library buildings).

(For more on these organizations refer to their Web sites: www.bainbridglibrary.org, www.krl.org and www.bifriends.org.)



Volunteers for One Call for All have unveiled their new logo for use during this fall's October campaign. The all-Island effort on behalf of non-profits dates back to the 1960s, when Cath Bourns (wife of Wiinslow Clinic's co-founder Dr. Tom Bourns) sat down with a group of friends and planned a way to cut down on seemingly endless rounds of phone calls and doorbelling. The Bainbridge Public Library participates in One Call for All.

Our community library is our island's responsibility

By DELIGHT WILLING, President
Bainbridge Public Library Board

The Bainbridge Public Library is at the heart of our cultural community and home to many exciting opportunities to learn and to grow.

Young children come for Story Time, kids of all ages participate in the Summer Reading challenge, and adults attend a multitude of public events in the library meeting room. It won't be surprising to know that all of this activity is the result of a cooperative community effort.

With the help of your tax dollars, Kitsap Regional Library provides the staff, the materials (books, music, DVDs) and the computers. *But the library building itself is the property of the citizens of Bainbridge Island.* No tax dollars go to the support of your library building and grounds. Your donations are necessary to keep the building in good shape, to pay for the heat, lights and custodial

services and to maintain the gardens that surround it.

To keep the building functioning for the community, the Bainbridge Public Library Board must raise donations. Another important community institution, One Call For All, is one key source of the funding that keeps the Library in business.

One Call allows a yearly solicitation to be sent to all members of the Bainbridge Community, and it allows you to select those specific groups you wish to support from the wide range of Island non-profit organizations.

When your red envelope comes from One Call for All this fall, please remember the Bainbridge Public Library and its many services to the community and choose the Bainbridge Public Library as one of the recipients of your contribution to One Call.

As always, thank you for your support for the Bainbridge Public Library.

Bainbridge Friends of the Library

Taking care of business, planning for the future

By PAT MILLER,
Friends of the Library

Early this summer, staff member Jeannie Ream passed along a library patron's question: "Do the Friends sell gift certificates?"

The Friends were quick to recognize a new opportunity to serve customers and to generate more support for the library. The result: Gift certificates for \$10, \$25, and \$50 are now available at the cashier's table during the Bainbridge Friends book sales and on the Friends' website at bifriends.org.

In 1979, the Friends made a much more fundamental decision when they discontinued rummage sales to focus

on book sales. That turned out to be exactly the right thing to do, and the monthly Saturday sales proved to be a resounding success.

Over the past three years, the Friends have initiated two additional monthly sales and established a profitable online presence. By 2007, rapidly increasing income allowed the Friends to establish The Friends of the Library Endowment. Thanks to our loyal customers, book sale income allows continued support of the Endowment today.

The Bainbridge Friends welcome your book donations and your patronage. If you would like to join us in support of the Friends of the Library Endowment, we welcome your donation, whether cash or bequest. You can contact us at the library or online at bifriends.org.

NEWS BRIEFS

THE BAINBRIDGE staff will honor library volunteers at their traditional, annual brunch September 25. Over 200 Islanders volunteered during the past year.

VOLUNTEERS throughout the Kitsap Regional Library system are being honored by the addition of several special volumes to the KRL book collection. In recognition of the work done by Library News volunteers, the book *In This Garden: explorations in mixed-media narrative*, has been donated to the collection.

A NEW SOUND SYSTEM will soon be available for use in the Bainbridge library's large-group meeting room, thanks to an anonymous donor from the Bainbridge Community Foundation and to Bainbridge Island TV, which is donating materials and installation.

DID YOU KNOW that there is unlimited free wireless internet access at every branch of the Kitsap Regional Library system?

VISUALLY IMPAIRED persons from Bainbridge and North Kitsap meet every month in the Bainbridge library large-group room just inside the main entrance. For more information, inquire at the library reference desk or phone (206) 842-3551.

A HARVARD CLASSICS book group at the library is looking for a facilitator. If you have a background in literature and a love for classic books, you may be the person to lead the new group through the Harvard Classics shelf. Anyone interested is asked to call Joan Ewing at (206) 780-0699 for more information.

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.

Take KRL's online survey and help plan for the next five years of library challenges

Kitsap Regional Library is seeking public participation to make its planning for the coming five years a successful process.

Every five years, the library creates a strategic plan to guide decision making and budget priorities. A good library strategic plan assesses community and patron needs, library resources, services and programs, and asks what challenges lie ahead. The existing strategic plan, Vision 2010, expires next year, and the process to create a new plan for the next five years is underway.

Jeff Brody, a long-time editor for the Kitsap Sun, has been hired as a part-time KRL staff member to facilitate the planning process and write the new plan. According to Brody, the process has now entered a key phase that involves gathering public opinion and ideas about existing library programs and services and what you would like to see KRL provide in the future.

One important way the library is

gathering public opinion is through a survey accessible through the KRL.org web site. The survey, which takes about 15 minutes to complete, asks about how you use the library, what programs and services you like the most and think are most important, and gives you an opportunity to offer your ideas in response to some open-ended questions.

"There are only three questions we require you to answer if you're taking the survey," Brody said. "You can take as much time or as little time as you wish. But we will be looking carefully at all the responses, so we hope you'll take the opportunity to have your say."

Brody is building the plan around five vision statements that have emerged from discussions KRL leaders have had with Kitsap elected officials and school leaders, from library staff discussions and from an examination of Kitsap demographic trends and library trends nationwide. They address the following major issues:

1. Making each library branch an energy efficient, safe and welcoming gathering place for the community
2. Supporting the development of Kitsap children
3. Supporting Kitsap adults as a resource for career development and life enrichment
4. Finding ways to expand library services beyond the existing hours of branch operation
5. Being effective, frugal and productive with library tax dollars

If you have ideas about how the library can pursue these goals, be sure to take the online survey, or contact Brody directly at jbrody@krl.org.

To take the public survey on KRL services, go to www.krl.org. Look at the home page for a section that says, "Tell us what you think". There you will find a link to the survey itself.

Bainbridge and North Kitsap residents will have a great opportunity

to help build the library system's future by sharing your ideas at public meetings scheduled for each branch.

The meeting for Bainbridge residents will be 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Sept. 23 at Bainbridge Public Library.

A series of public meetings is also scheduled for other North Kitsap branch libraries. Those meetings will be 6:30 p.m. Thursday Sept. 17 at Kingston branch; 6:30 p.m. Thursday Sept. 24 at Little Boston branch; and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Sept. 30 at Poulsbo branch.

At each meeting, leaders of the Kitsap Regional Library will be on hand to hear what you want the library to be like in five years and any specific ideas you may have to make that vision a reality. While the library has been gathering public opinion and ideas through an online survey, the library staff values the opportunity to hear your ideas in person. Anyone with an interest in the library is encouraged to attend one of these meetings.

Library Friends can be traced to the 1930s

By CHARLES BROWNE, President Bainbridge Friends of the Library

Long before this island was crisscrossed with asphalted roads, before Agate Pass Bridge joined us to the mainland, there were groups of people on Bainbridge who believed in the educational, horizon-broadening benefits that came with public libraries.

In our library archives, there is a bound journal which records the activities of the Rolling Bay Library Association beginning December 18, 1929.

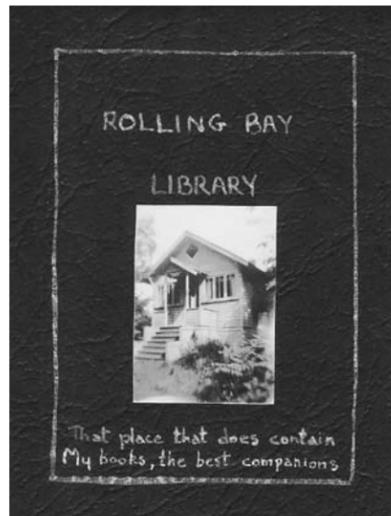
While the Rolling Bay Library itself had been in existence since 1914, the archives' first mention of the Library Association states that it was initiated by a committee of Mrs. Weld, Mrs. Johannsen, and Mrs. Dick in November, 1930, and formally established in December with the passing of the deed to the library from the Rolling Bay P.T.A. to the new organization. (Trustees were Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Waldron, Mrs. Weld, Mrs. Arnold, and Mrs. Dick.)

There are striking parallels between our current goals of Friends of the Library and those of this past Rolling Bay Library Association. Only our fund-raising methods have changed with the times.

As one reads the minutes of the Rolling Bay Library Association from

1929 through 1954, it becomes apparent that their primary fund-raising event was a monthly "Silver Tea". These regular meetings, usually held at someone's home or at the library, ranged widely from book discussions to presentations on conditions and trends in foreign countries where islanders or visitors had recently visited or worked. A perennial favorite program was given by an annual summer visitor, Professor Green of Whitman College. On June 27, 1938, Professor Green gave a talk on "Prison conditions in Austria and Czechoslovakia" to 45 interested library patrons. In July 1952, he spoke on Iran. At each Silver Tea, donations were collected and, together with membership fees, these formed the bulk of the association's income.

The Rolling Bay Library Association bought books, kept the lights and heat on, paint on the walls, paid the librarian,



and stretched its limited budget as far as it could. (The minutes of Jan. 7, 1930 list a payment to Elizabeth Weld, librarian, of \$1.50 for December.) The island actually had two small libraries, the one at Rolling Bay being more popular than the one in Winslow because it had more books.

On June 23, 1953, a children's Summer Reading Program was begun. This program continues as an island favorite for children and teens, and we the Friends of the Library continue to support it.

In May of 1963, the Rolling Bay Public Library building was sold and funds "given to the new Bainbridge Island

Continued on Page 11

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Books and activities
for young people
and their families

Children's Corner

Harry vs. Charlie: Which one do you like better?

By JULIA BATSON

I have been reading a lot of adventure books lately. I like adventure books because they are full of exciting stories. Two of the series I read recently are the Harry Potter and Charlie Bone series. Here is a comparison between the two:

Harry Potter and Charlie Bone are different in some ways. Charlie Bone has one magical talent only that he was born with and Harry Potter goes to Hogwarts to learn many magic tricks because he was not born knowing any magic. Harry Potter goes to a school where the headmaster is nice and Charlie Bone goes to a school where the headmaster is very mean. Charlie Bone goes to a school where he gets to go home on the weekends and

Harry Potter goes to a school where you stay the whole school year except during Christmas break it is optional to go home. Charlie Bone cannot improve his magical talent at all and Harry Potter can improve the magic that he learns at Hogwarts. In Harry Potter every wizard or witch has to learn magic and in Charlie Bone only a few people are born having a magical power and the people who are not born with a magical talent are not able to learn one.

Now here are some ways that Harry Potter and Charlie Bone are the same. Harry Potter and Charlie Bone both have a friend that is a boy and a friend that is a



Julie Batson

girl that they hang out with all the time. Harry Potter and Charlie Bone each have a teacher that picks on just them. Everyone in both Harry Potter's and Charlie Bone's school dine together. In the Harry Potter books and in the Charlie Bone books there are both boys dormitories and girls dormitories. Both authors,

J.K. Rowling and Jenny Nimmo, are very descriptive about the way the characters feel. These writers make me feel like I am doing what Harry and Charlie are doing.

I have enjoyed both of the Harry Potter and the Charlie Bone series and I hope that you enjoy them as much as I do.



Photo credit: Susan Bisnett

Joelle Pazoff; Ed Emberley art day.

Follow the reader:

Carson White reviews 'The Little Secret'

By KATE SAUNDERS

The Little Secret is a wonderful book. It's pages contain mystery, adventure and lots of plot! It seems to be for 3rd graders at first, but, when you get deeper and deeper into this wonderful tale you find it's a tiny bit advanced and complicated like for 4th graders. It's a very entertaining story but a little sad because of some deaths and happy at the pleasant ending. In this book awful and surprising events happen. There's a spider race, a grand ball, an awful and despicable queen who murders her husband and the old princess who is a human but is married to a man who is a prince but not a human, and the Staffa who are children of the

wicked queen! But the whole story began with the wonderful box... but there is not time for that tale now. What I really am trying to say is this is the most wonderful, super, good, best awesome book- the Little Secret.



Carson White

Thank you, all

The Bainbridge Island Public Library would like to thank those community members who generously gave their time and talents leading programs for children and teens during our summer reading program:

- Bernice Cavalluzzi**
- Kristin Tollefson**
- James Bernardin**
- Jennifer Rhodes**
- Ann Lovejoy**
- Susan Callan**

Storytime calendar

NO STORYTIMES IN SEPTEMBER

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6
Baby storytime, 12:30 pm
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12
Library closed, no toddler storytime

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13
Baby storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20
Baby storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27
Baby storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Baby storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10
Baby storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Library closed, no preschool storytime

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Baby storytime, 12:30pm

Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Toddler storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

December delights storytime and craft program

Wednesday, December 2, 10:30 am
Wednesday, December 9, 10:30 am
Wednesday, December 16, 10:30 am

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Student essay contest is slated for young readers this fall

As part of the county-wide One Community, One Book initiative in October, young readers are invited to enter a student essay competition.

The main characters in John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row* share a unique kind of friendship. In 500 words or less, students are asked to write about the obligations and responsibilities of friendship – and its rewards.

The essays will be separated into two categories: one for students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 and the other for Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12.

Three prizes will be awarded in each category: \$75, \$50, and \$25 in the form

of book vouchers from local independent booksellers. The Kitsap Regional Foundation is sponsoring the contest.

Deadline for submission of essays to the Kitsap Regional Library is October 9. Students may turn in essays at any branch of the KRL library system or mail them to Kate Skinner, Kitsap Regional Library, 1300 Sylvan Way, Bremerton, 98310.

For more information about the competition and the required submission forms, plus details on other One Book, One Community events taking place throughout October, go to the library system website: www.krl.org or phone Kate Skinner at (360) 405-9021.



Photo by Susan Bisnett

Gracie Smith; Ed Emberley art day.

Children and family programs

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2 PM
Betsy-Tacy program. Come celebrate this classic series about two friends in early 20th century Minnesota.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1 – 4 PM
Howl-O-Ween at IslandWood. Join us for scary and not so scary Halloween tales, pumpkin decorating, hikes.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2 PM
Puppet Show: Where the Wild Things Are and other monsters. Dress in your most monstrous—prizes for best costume.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2 PM
Winter Storytelling Afternoon (TENTATIVE, TBD!!) Come see tales performed by special guest storytellers.



Photo by Leigh Ann Winterrowd

Captured! Kristina Scott (left) and Claire Sumner were caught on camera during Teen Mystery Night this summer.



Photo by Susan Bisnett

Henry Brown was the first to finish reading the required number of books during the 2009 Summer Reading Program.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who made this year's summer reading program a success:

Karyn Carpenter
Mary Ann Tollefson
Daryce Walton
Mary Lou Zimmerman
Emma Bonifield
Meg Brown
Bella Crowley
Hannah Elzig
Hannah Myrick
Aviva Gaphni
Addy Greisser
Emma Gace
Andrew Hoff
Nick Paul
Lilia Paul
Stephani Paul

Mia Peeples
Hannah Pratt
Grace Purdy
Remi Rosencrans
Weston Scott
Anna Thackray
Anika Vroom
Tessa Vroom
Max Weber
Carson White
Katilin Chester
Kerrie Sanson
Claire Sumner
Yesenia de Luna
Alison Economy
Katy Hamlin



Edward Martens

TOP SUMMER READER of 2009, fifth-grader Edward Martens had read 350 hours by August 12 with two weeks of Summer Reading left. Here are his top 10 recommended books and series:
Artemis Fowl series by Eoin Colfer
The 7th Tower series by Garth Nix
Chronicles of Ancient Darkness series by Michelle Paver
Ordinary Boy series by William Boniface
Septimus Heap series by Angie Sage
Dragon Keeper series by Carole Wilkinson
Peter and the Starcatchers series by Dave Barry
Percy Jackson and the Olympians series by Rick Riordan
Inkspell series by Cornelia Funke
The Swordquest books by Nancy Yi Fan



David Cook

Let our family help your loved ones

The death of a loved one is difficult under any circumstances. When possible, we recommend pre-planning for funerals and cremations, to ease anxiety later. We, your friends and neighbors, are here to help. We can be reached quickly, 24 hours a day. You will be pleased with our service and very affordable prices. (You'll save hundreds over large corporations' charges.) **You'll find there IS a difference.**

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Meet Susan Wiggs

The life of a serial writer

By SUZANNE SELFORS

You've heard her name. You've seen her books. Maybe you live in her neighborhood or you've taken one of her workshops. Maybe you tend to run into her when she's walking her Doberman.

Last year she was named one of Bainbridge's favorite authors. She's a familiar celebrity around these parts but it's been 10 years since Library News last visited with her so we thought we'd see what she's been up to.

As I sit writing this at my mother's house on Pleasant Beach, I look across the water. A blue wall peeks out from behind some shrubs. It's Susan Wiggs's house and I know exactly what she's doing. She's working.

On this sunny day she might be on her patio or in a little hammock she likes, but most assuredly, her laptop is perched and her fingers are flying.

Writing, writing, writing. It's what she does every day.

It's how she manages to fill up four pages on Amazon.com. It's what's she's been doing for over 20 years. Perhaps her life is a bit more glamorous these days, with congratulatory bottles of champagne arriving from her publisher and in-person visits from her agent, but still, every day, she writes.

Here's a little fact: the average print run for a work of fiction is 10-20,000 copies. Susan's current print run for her novels is 800,000 to one million. That places her in an elite club that every writer dreams of joining: its ranks include James Patterson, Stephen King, and Nora Roberts.

What's fueling this golden era in Susan's writing career?

It's a series of novels called *The Lakeshore Chronicles*. Each story takes place in the fictional town of Avalon. While the stories are loosely connected, they don't have to be read in order. And with readership growing, Susan will happily

tell you that there's no end to the series in sight.

On September 29, book #6 in the *Lakeshore Chronicles* will hit shelves. *Lakeshore Christmas*, the only hardback thus far in the mass-market series, is a skillfully crafted, funny and satisfying love story, but it's also an ode to the public library system.

Maureen Davenport is Avalon's librarian and she happily accepts the director's role in the town's annual Christmas pageant. She's looking forward to the job because Christmas is one of her favorite holidays. But along comes Eddie Haven, a former child star who's

under court order to do some community service. He's a bit of a jerk and he's assigned to co-direct the pageant. Oh, and he hates Christmas.

So much for Maureen's plans. While the tension between these two is the main story, a subplot focuses on a problem many communities are facing right now—lack of funding.

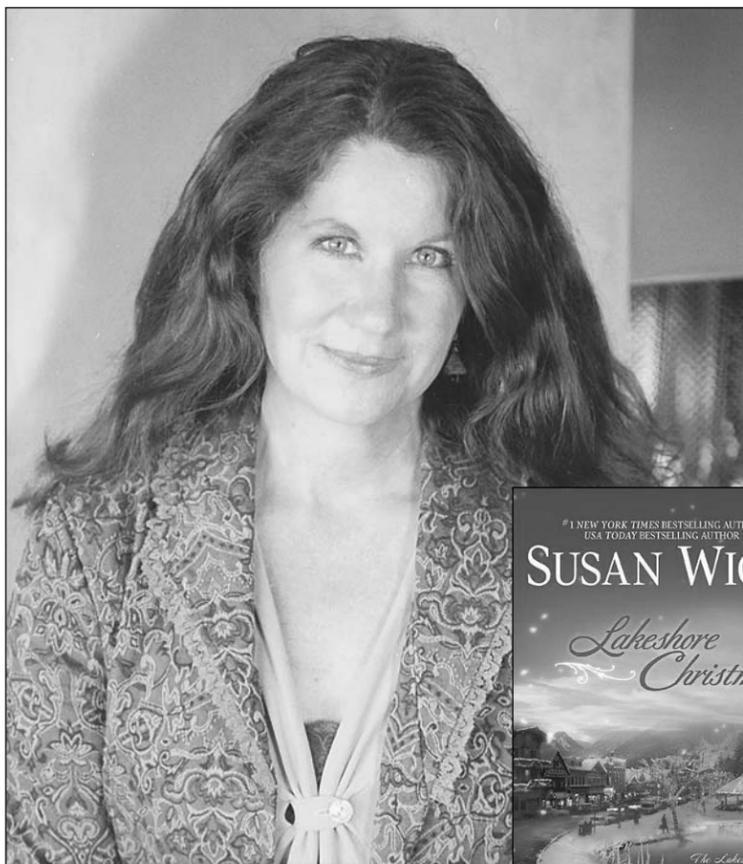
"This novel is more than a love story featuring food, friends, and family," Susan writes. "It's also a passionate drama involving something near and dear to my heart—the public library. In this novel, a cookie exchange is held to benefit Avalon's own public library, keeping it open for generations to come."

In keeping with the cookie theme, Susan includes cookie recipes throughout the book. She tested dozens of them, given to her by family and friends.

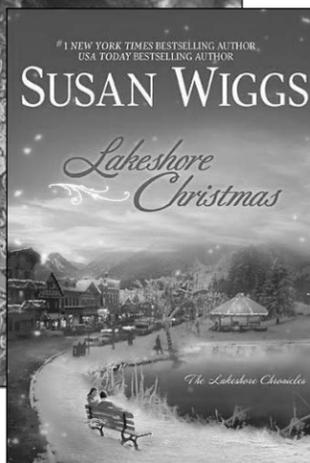
"I made a lot of key discoveries while writing *Lakeshore Christmas*. One is that everybody associates the holidays with a particular flavor, be it cinnamon, anise seed, ginger, marzipan...you name it," she said.

Whatever flavor you favor, you'll probably find it at the cookie exchange that Susan will be hosting on Nov. 19 at Eagle Harbor Books. There, she'll celebrate her new book, along with local author Sheila Roberts. Please check www.eagleharborbooks.com for more information.

In the meantime, she's busy at work on book #7, *The Summer Hideaway*. You can bet she's at her own summer hideaway, right now, sitting on that little hammock, with fingers a'flyin'.



Susan Wiggs *Lakeshore Christmas* will be published September 20.



The Lakeshore Chronicles:

- Book #1 *Summer at Willow Lake*
- Book #2 *The Winter Lodge*
- Book #3 *Dockside*
- Book #4 *Snowfall at Willow Lake*
- Book #5 *Fireside*
- Book #6 *Lakeshore Christmas*

Visit Susan at www.susanwiggs.com

Local author takes flight with *Angel Lane*

By SUSAN WIGGS

"O Solitude, the soul's best friend. How calm and quiet a delight, it is alone; To read, and meditate, and write; By none offended nor offending none; To walk, ride, sit, or sleep at one's own ease; And pleasing a man's self, none other to displease."

—Charles Cotton

It's the writer's eternal challenge—to find the solitude to practice our craft, yet to have a life.

Local author Sheila Roberts, a writing teacher, mentor and bestselling novelist, strikes a fine balance between solitude and society.

The former Bainbridge resident has decamped to the wilds of Lake Symington in the Kitsap Peninsula, with her husband, Robert Rabe, a professor of German Language at Olympic College. On the shores of the picture-perfect lake, she serves as mentor to emerging

writers and pens her own brand of fiction.

Her latest is *Angel Lane* (St. Martin's Press, 2009), a classic Christmas story with a modern twist. It's a generous, open-hearted tale of the friendships we make, the chances we take, and the lives we touch every day.

Sheila, Suzanne Selfors (*Coffeehouse Angel*) and I (*Lakeshore Christmas*) are teaming up to celebrate the season in style, with books, conversation...and cookies! Lots of cookies.

We have appearances scheduled for October 3 at Barnes & Noble in Silverdale—a chat about how to get happily published, accompanied by a chocolate tea. Then there's a chance for the ultimate pre-season weekend getaway—an author brunch at Leavenworth's favorite restaurant, followed by a signing at A Book For All Seasons. And on Bainbridge, there will be an old-fashioned cookie exchange on November 19. Bring a plate of your best cookies and you could win a fabulous prize. For more on these events visit www.sheilasplace.com.

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Today's RUSSIA

By BARBARA WINTHER

Grant, my husband, and I took a Russian cruise in May from St. Petersburg to Moscow.

We traveled via four rivers, two lakes and a canal, stopping at villages along the way.

Based on this relatively small swath through the largest country in Europe, here are glimpses of a nation that until 1991 languished under the Communist thumb.

Most people in the countryside still live a simple life, women usually in *babushkas* (head scarves). On the other hand, in cities, students and white-collar workers bustle about, enjoying a way of life influenced by the West. Especially visible in Moscow are tall, slender, young women fashionably dressed, cell phones pressed to their ears, and t-shirted, sneakered young men, baseball caps worn backwards, heads wired to iPods.

Families in villages have small but individual homes, many with a TV, electricity and central heating. For food they depend heavily on their vegetable gardens. People in cities live in high-rise apartments and have no private gardens.

Hundreds of apartment buildings exist, from ugly, square boxes built during Khrushchev's time to Stalin's architecturally eye-catching, "wedding cakes." Whereas under Communism three families lived together, today it is one family per apartment and ownership is possible.

Affluent city dwellers purchase country homes (*dachas*), varying from estates to one-room huts, and escape the city on weekends to garden and relax.

Along waterways where tour boats might dock, villagers have become entrepreneurs, selling souvenirs, while in cities commercial enterprises are far larger, often involving foreign businesses.

On one side of Moscow's Red Square, GUM, the former government department store, is laid out like a mall. It has three floors, up-only escalators, a central fountain surrounded by imitation cherry trees and stores such as Gap, Reeboks, De Beers and Cartier.

Elsewhere in the city, modern shops blossom between ancient buildings and onion-domed cathedrals. On Arbat, the oldest street in Moscow, you can go online at Starbucks, enjoy a burger in the world's second-largest McDonalds and dine with music at the Hard Rock Café. There are stores that sell everything from fancy underwear to jeans. Although today the economy is down, as in most of the world, life in Russia is a capitalistic adventure.

Books about Russia

Lonely Planet: Russia, Simon Richmond—an informative guide about Russia's heritage and places to visit.

Moscow Rules, Daniel Silva—although a fictional thriller, a realistically cautionary tale.

Putin's Labyrinth: Spies, Murders, and the Dark Heart of the New Russia, Steve Le Vine—a non-fiction book that reads like a spy thriller.

Russia—Lost in Translation; the Yeltsin and Putin Legacies, Lilia Shevtsova—Russia's new assertiveness—where is it going?

A growing problem of city living is traffic. In St. Petersburg, even with its extensive Metro, at three in the afternoon our taxi took two hours to drive 15 miles from downtown to our ship. And, everywhere, one facet of modern life seems stuck in pre-*glasnost* times: a third of Russian homes, mostly in rural areas, still rely on outhouses.

In the Village of Svirstroy

We had the opportunity to visit a couple, Vera and Yuri, in their home in Svirstroy, located about 150 miles east of St. Petersburg. This village, at the mouth of the Svir River, was founded in 1927 when Stalin created a hydro power plant and locks to join Lake Lagoda with Lake Onega, the largest lakes in Europe.

During WWII the Finnish Army, collaborating with the Germans, marched in and occupied the area. They demolished the locks, wiped out Svirstroy and sent its citizens to concentration camps, where many perished from cold and starvation. The young men of the village, off fighting for Russia, fared no better. A high percentage died in the battle of Leningrad.

After the war, only a few villagers returned to Svirstroy, among them some who had evacuated before the Finns took over. A small number came from other areas, seeking government work, rebuilding and operating the locks and power plant. Also, returning from a concentration camp was Vera, who brought back her greatest treasure—a photo in which she stands with her mother, father and siblings just before her father left to fight and die in the war.

In Svirstroy, Vera married Yuri, a power plant worker. They built their first home, a one-roomer, underground, then, above ground a kitchen with an attached mudroom, essential for removing boots and coats and keeping cold from the kitchen. In this part of the country, temperatures plunge well below zero in the winter. Later, he added a bedroom and recently an enclosed summer porch. For many years their house, although close to the power plant, had no electricity.

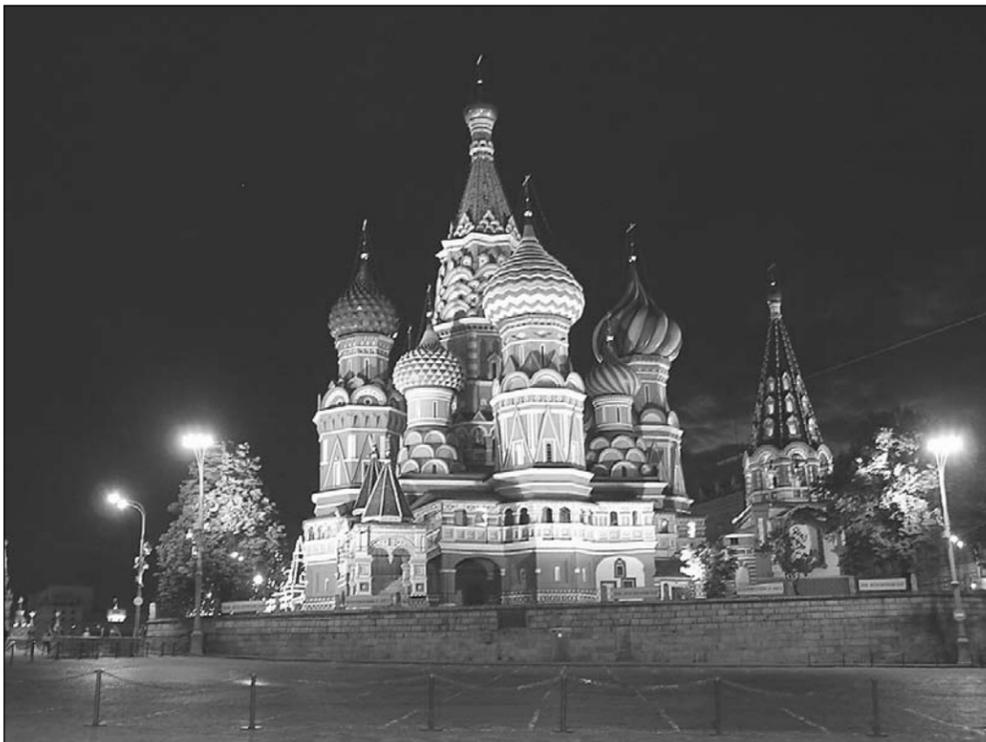
Today about 1,000 people live in Svirstroy. As soon as the children grow up, usually they move away to find work. Although the houses are small, their gardens are large. Most homes now have electricity and central

heating. Yuri and Vera, however, heat their house only with a wood stove, and their original outhouse is still in service. It is the oldest home in the village.

In Svirstroy wooden kiosks sell tourist items such as birch bark containers, embroidered napkins, shawls, *matrioshkas* (nesting dolls) and homemade preserves. Recently, a tour group has instigated another income-raising occupation for the village: six families invite a small number of tourists with an interpreter into their homes for tea and *piroshkies* (meat filled pastries). This is how we visited Yuri and Vera.

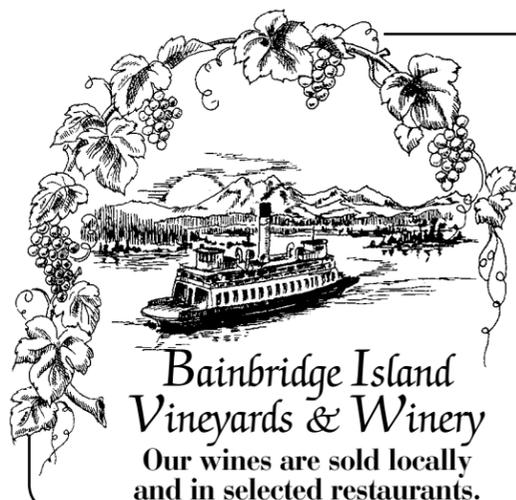
Yuri proudly showed us a shed full of stacked wood already chopped for winter, and Vera displayed her medals and commendations from the government for surviving the concentration camp and her years as a heavy-crane operator. She appeared most proud of the congratulatory letter received on her last birthday—from Prime Minister Putin. Through the interpreter, the couple told us life was hard but better than it used to be. Vera smiled when she showed us her electrically-wired *samovar*.

"Now it is easy to make tea."



St. Basil's Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow, lights up the black Russian night (above). Turi and Vera (below) welcome visitors to their home.

— Photos by Grant Winther



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Let It Go, Louie

A story of Croatian immigrants on Puget Sound

By MARGARET TRENT

Let It Go, Louie, co-authored by Gary Loverich and Barbara Winther, is a portrait of a way of life now almost gone.

It tells of the migration of Croatian families to Puget Sound and the fishing and shipbuilding that sustained them.

There are stories of love and tragedy, of the familiar events and strange happenings that fill human lives, and of memorable characters that would be at home in a novel.

I sat down with Gary and Barbara to talk about their book.

For Loverich, *Let It Go, Louie* was an exploration of his roots. More than a century ago – in 1903 – his grandparents were among the earliest Croatian immigrants to settle on Bainbridge Island. As a child, Gary had heard stories of how his grandfather had “jumped ship” to America, and he realized he knew little about that generation. Conversations with his uncle Tony, who during World War I had worked alongside Gary’s grandfather as a caulker in Puget Sound shipyards, filled in gaps in the family’s history.

Gary had also heard stories about Losinj, one of a ragged line of islands off the coast of Croatia, where his grandparents grew up. A few years ago he visited, and saw for himself, the narrow alleys and foot-worn stairways in the town where his grandmother played as a child.

A volunteer with the Bainbridge Island Historical Society, Gary believed there was a place for a book about the Croatian community, a group often overlooked in Washington history. Barbara, another volunteer in the Society and a published author for more than 30 years, was captivated by the idea. She believed it was a story that needed to be told, as a way of preserving the history of Puget Sound’s Croatian-Americans and a



Co-authors of *Let It Go, Louie*, Gary Loverich and Barbara Winther

— Photo by: Margaret Trent

way of life now largely forgotten.

Together, the two embarked on a project that involved years of research – sifting through records from Ellis Island and transcribing oral histories by many families. Gradually they pieced together the stories and historical details essential for the book.

For today’s Croatian community on Puget Sound, *Let It Go, Louie* is a treasured memoir of their ancestors’ lives in a new country. At one time there were as many as 30 Croatian families who called Eagle Harbor home and worked on fishing boats. Today, commercial fishermen still use equipment originally designed by Puget Sound Croatians.

Working on the book strengthened Gary’s connection with the past and raised his awareness of the influence his heritage has had on his life. Once a

commercial fisherman, today he is a net designer and owns a successful marine aquaculture company.

Barbara became so immersed in the Croatians’ personal stories and genealogies that she has become good friends with many of those interviewed. She too has visited Croatia, including islands from which Bainbridge families came. She will return later this year for a second visit.

The story behind the title is Barbara’s personal favorite among the book’s many anecdotes.

When I left Gary and Barbara they were poring over a map of Croatia, still immersed in the research and writing that has been an important part of their lives

for the past five years.

The book will be published by the Bainbridge Island Historical Society later this year. All profits will go to the Society.

CROATIA TODAY: TIES TO THE PAST

On December 16 at 7:30 p.m. Barbara Winther will speak on “Croatia Today and Its Ties to the Past”, in the library’s large-group meeting room. The talk is one in a series of travel programs co-sponsored by The Traveler bookstore.

It is open to the public, and there is no admission charge.

Copies of *Let It Go, Louie: A Story of Croatian Immigrants on Puget Sound* will be available for sale.



Repairing the net after hauling aboard a catch of dogfish are (left to right) John Belling, Marion Galosich, Rom Svornich (skipper) and John Tarabochia

— Photo courtesy of Svornich Family

John Steinbeck, Nobel prize winner, wrote 25 books in all

By JULIE O’NEILL,
Reference Librarian

John Steinbeck wrote 25 books in all, including novels, nonfiction, short stories and play scripts. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962. These are some of his best known works.

The Grapes of Wrath (1939) Steinbeck won the Pulitzer Prize for this novel about the Joads who leave their failing Oklahoma farm during the Dust Bowl/Depression era, only to become exploited farm workers in California.

East of Eden (1952) Set in Steinbeck’s native Salinas Valley, this novel of three generations of the Trask and Hamilton

families is an epic tale of good and evil, with parallels to the Biblical Cain and Abel story. Steinbeck based the Hamiltons on his own family and considered this his best work.

Of Mice and Men (1937) The tragic (and often banned) story of George and his simple-minded friend, Lennie, two migrant ranch workers during the Great Depression in California.

Cannery Row (1945) The comic story of Doc, a marine biologist (based on Steinbeck’s friend, Ed Ricketts) and his friends: the bums and other colorful locals who inhabit the area of sardine canneries on Monterey’s seedy waterfront.

Sweet Thursday (1954) The sequel to

Cannery Row in which Doc finds romance, thanks to the active interference of his friends.

Tortilla Flat (1935) The shabby Monterey district of Tortilla Flat is home to a band of *paisanos*, poor but gutsy people of Mexican, Irish and Italian descent, whose riotous exploits have parallels to the adventures of King Arthur’s knights.

The Pearl (1948) Kino, a poor pearl diver of La Paz, Mexico, finds a large, beautiful pearl which he believes will make him wealthy and save the life of his infant son. But because of the greed of those around him, the pearl brings only tragedy.

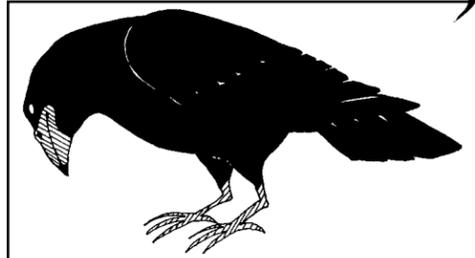
Travels with Charley (1960) Steinbeck took a road trip around the U.S. with his

French poodle, Charley, finding much to like about America and Americans, but even more that disappointed him: waste, racism, and “a bland mentality.”

The Log from the Sea of Cortez (1951) Steinbeck and his friend, Ed Ricketts (the model for Doc in *Cannery Row*) cruised around the Gulf of California to collect and study marine life, also learning about the villagers in the small Mexican towns along the coast.

The Red Pony (1933) On a ranch in the mountains east of the Salinas Valley, a young boy comes of age, finding both joy and sorrow in the responsibilities of caring for his horse.

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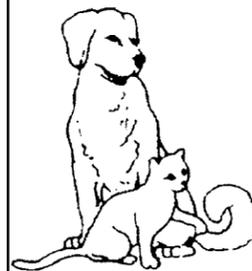
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Local businesses, professionals help the library and community

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

In the last issue of the Library News, we wrote about the historic relationship of local businesses and professionals and the Bainbridge Island Library.

Many of you commented about the story, and had your own memories of yesterday.

BRIEFLY

IT'S CAREER WEEK at Kitsap Regional Library. During the week September 14-18 all branches of the Kitsap Regional Library are open to job seekers one hour early every day. During this extra hour librarians will offer hands-on instruction in the use of the library's research databases. Visitors may browse career books and ask questions about careers. For more information phone 842-4162 or visit www.krl.org.

THE FIRST EDIBLE BOOK Festival on Bainbridge is planned for late October (Saturday, October 24) as part of Kitsap Regional Library's Month of the Book. Watch for more information on the website: www.krl.org.

AARON ELKINS, former Bainbridge resident and creator of the Gideon Oliver mysteries, returns to the Island Thursday, October 8, to talk about his recently published *Skull Duggery* at Eagle Harbor Books at 7:30 p.m.

RICK STEVES, the Edmonds-based travel writer, television host, and tour guide, will appear on Bainbridge Thursday, October 22, at a site to be determined, to talk about his most recent book, *Travel As a Political Act*. For more information, call Eagle Harbor Books and watch notices in the library.

Other Month of the Book events

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Bainbridge Library book group reads *Cannery Row* 7 p.m. All are welcome. Bainbridge Library

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

Student essay submissions are due. Bring your completed essays to any branch of Kitsap Regional Library or mail them to Kate Skinner, Kitsap Regional Library, 1301 Sylvan Way, East Bremerton, 98310

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

The Island's *Cannery Row*: a history of strawberry canning on Bainbridge Island, with Jerry Elfendahl. 3 p.m. Bainbridge Library

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

"Cannery Row Poetry Connections: poetry evocative of the life of John Steinbeck" Four Bainbridge Poets, Jennifer Hager, David Stallings, Roger Midgett and Marit Saltrones will provide readings. Moderated by Neil Baker. 7 p.m. Bainbridge Library.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Senior Center book group reads *Cannery Row* 1 p.m. Bainbridge Island Senior Center (370 Brien Dr SE)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

San Carlos reading of Bainbridge Island sketches. Share your Bainbridge Island sketch of life on the island, written in the style of John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row*. Our month of the book finale! 1-4 p.m. San Carlos Restaurant (279 Madison Ave. N)

BIGS schedules autumn meetings

The Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society has made some changes in its fall schedule, Paula Schmidt says.

On September 18, Betty Kay Anderson, professional genealogist, will present "American Biographical Genealogical Index (ABGI)".

On October 16, the group will have a workshop focusing on the American Biographical Genealogical Index. Mentors will be available to help beginners.

On November 20, there will be a panel discussion by BIGS mentors on "Brick Walls".

December 18 is the date for the annual gathering for members to share family trees, artifacts, and photos.

"This is a good time for non-members to visit and ask questions about genealogy and how BIGS can help you with your research," Schmidt said. For more information about the group, phone her at 842-6059.

This month, as summer draws to a close, schools open, and fall activities are resumed, we're going to pause long enough to wish some of our long-time library supporters in the business community a sincere Happy Anniversary.

We'll have more details about our business community's role in the library's growth in our next Library News, which will be in your mailbox the first week in December.

For the moment, though, let's pause to congratulate two of our long-term Library News advertisers who are celebrating anniversaries this fall: Harris-Zommers Interiors and Bainbridge Island Vineyards and Winery.

Stephanie Harris and Juris Zommers are celebrating 35 years of designs on Bainbridge. You've seen their banner in a local supermarket, perhaps looked at the news on their website, and you're seeing their updated ad in this issue. Juris and Stephanie have been regular library boosters for years. Not only were they among the earliest advertisers in our Library News, but they were very involved in the fund-raising for the expanded library building in 1995-97. (Stephanie, if I recall correctly, was co-chair of the community fund-raising committee for the Winslow business area.) In their years on the Island they've moved from Madrone Lane to a small studio at their home near Island Center. The location is more convenient for them, and they spend much of their time in clients' homes, anyway.

Gerard and JoAnn Bentryn are currently celebrating their 33rd anniversary in business here, and they too have been enthusiastic library supporters all along. Their distinctive ad in the Library News has been running for

years (with annual updating) and they've cheerfully poured wine at many library parties. They, too, have moved – at least the tasting room – from their former location near the ferry terminal to the local agricultural district on Day Road. They continue to welcome visitors warmly, though suggest you call first for the hours, which are seasonal. (Just dial 842-WINE.) We'll write more about the Bentryns and their winemaking history in a future issue of the Library News.

Other businesses among our advertisers have celebrated anniversaries recently; you know that the Town and Country Market, long the center of Winslow Way shopping, observed its 50th anniversary a few years ago, and during those 50-plus years there have always been members of the market's Nakata and Loverich families participating in the library's activities. (More about them in a coming issue.)

A chat with Kevin Dwyer, executive director of the Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce, reminded me that the Chamber itself existed long before I moved here back in the 1960s. It does, in fact, date back to 1927. There are plenty of references to those early days in some of our local history books and, of course, at the Historical Museum on Ericksen Ave.

Our thanks for their support in this Library News to the following members of the business and professional community:

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- Winslow Paint Company

Continued from Page 5

1930s Friends

Public Library, thus furthering the work so long and steadfastly carried out by a number of dedicated men and women over a period of almost half a century," according to minutes of the Rolling Bay Public Library Board.

The Rolling Bay Library Association was one of the forerunners of two current non-profit community organizations, the Bainbridge Public Library (which owns, runs, and maintains library facilities) and the Bainbridge Island Friends of the Library (which provides funding for library events, magazine subscriptions, special interest books, Summer Reading, and needed materials).

For more history on the Rolling Bay Public Library read Barbara Winther's *They Like Noble Causes* and visit the Bainbridge Historical Society on Ericksen Ave. For more about the Friends, visit our website at www.bifriends.org.

In July, Janet Young (1922-2009), a former president of the Friends of the Library Board of Directors and a dedicated participant and supporter of our organization for decades, passed away. This glimpse into the past is in memory of her contributions.



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Artists announced for fall shows in library meeting room

Linda Meier, curator of the Bainbridge Library art exhibits, recently announced the fall schedule for local artists' shows.

Cynthia Dice, the October artist, has been painting on canvas for three years. Her earlier painting was on hand-thrown ceramics, but she says she has grown to "love the diversity that canvas offers." Her collection of original paintings and greeting cards depict everyday subjects: family, friends, and pets. They are nostalgic in feeling, reminiscent of 1940s illustrators.

November will bring a joint exhibit by Ted Hoppin and Jennifer Waldron. Hoppin has been painting for 30 years, starting with oils and switching to watercolors eight years ago. He also works as a copper metal artist, making garden gates and, most recently, copper weathervanes and fountains.

Waldron, who will share the meeting room space with Hoppin, says she is "compelled to express through art. It's part of the magic and juiciness in living." She began her career in the arts with pottery, 30 years ago. Ten years ago she returned to pottery as sculpture, and for the past eight years she has studied drawing and oil painting with Amy Williams.

In December, Sue Hylen will exhibit glimpses of Paris, Cambridge, Venice and beyond in a one-woman show. The show will include photographs and verse from her journeys overseas in 2006 and 2008.

"For me a trip has three vital stages: anticipation, participation and reflection," she says. "This exhibit is an opportunity to share my reflection with you, my community."

Hylen is a poet and photographer who moved from New Hampshire to the Northwest in 1975. She finds her poems and images not only in Europe but also along her daily bicycle routes to Strawberry Hill Park, where she has worked for the Bainbridge Island Metro Park District for 21 years.

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Continued from cover

Cannery Row

specimens. Like the tide pool, Cannery Row was an interdependent group of living beings where "the smells of life and richness, of death and digestion, of decay and birth, burden the air." Using the simple, vivid language and folksy vocabulary that characterized his best writing, he wrote about those living on the fringe of society, but didn't judge them. He adopted some of the scientific attitudes of Ed Ricketts: he observed his characters trying to survive in their habitat, let them speak and act, showed their mistakes and triumphs, but injected no moral judgment on their way of life.

Cannery Row was published in 1945 and was a popular success. But the critics' reviews were lukewarm. Steinbeck complained that reviewers never understood the real themes of the book, as happened with many of his novels. Although he was one of the best-known American writers, his books were often rejected by critics. One exception was *Grapes of Wrath* for which he won the 1940 Pulitzer Prize. *Grapes of Wrath* pictured the lives of migrant "Okie" farmers in California during the Great Depression/Dust Bowl and became the quintessential novel of a crucial time in American history.

Steinbeck tried many formats from short stories

and articles to epic novels and play scripts, from tragedy to comedy to scientific non-fiction. He experimented with language, imagery and characterization. His writing was uneven; he wrote some superb books and some that weren't. He wrote his best works early on, then disappointed his readers by not producing another *Grapes of Wrath*, *Of Mice and Men*, or *Cannery Row* during the last half of his life. Often, the critics felt he didn't merit serious critical attention. But many of his books are still widely read and appreciated. They are truly American novels, and many of the themes he incorporated are still relevant to readers: ideas about good and evil, injustice, loneliness, the strength of ordinary working people, the importance of community and friendship.

His most famous books had a social-historical context; they were controversial and sometimes banned. He was at various times accused of being a communist, a fascist, a puritan, or immoral. A student once asked him about his philosophy. Steinbeck replied that no deep philosophical idea formed the basis of his work.

"I don't like people to be hurt or hungry or unnecessarily sad," he wrote. "It's just about as simple as that."

You are invited to dine with an author

Have you always wanted to sit down and chat with a favorite author while enjoying a special meal or coffee and dessert?

Or perhaps you'd like to get together for milk and cookies with a few youngsters and a popular children's book author.

This fall, and in early 2010, you'll have a chance to do just that.

Several dozen of Bainbridge Island and West Sound's most popular authors have volunteered to meet and dine with small groups of readers in friendly, informal settings where they can talk about books and exchange ideas. These gatherings will be in local homes, where seating may be limited to as few as a dozen, and in special venues like Kiana Lodge, which can host somewhat larger groups. But all events will offer opportunities for individuals to talk one on one with the guest authors. Seats for the dinners (or desserts) are available on a first come, first reserved basis – and reservations are expected to go fast.

The author dinners will benefit the non-profit Kitsap Regional Library Foundation, which provides library essentials not covered by local property taxes (for example, Summer Reading Program books for children and outreach services to individuals unable to visit their

local library). These smaller events replace the large annual galas previously held by the Foundation.

"This is a rare opportunity for readers to chat across the table in intimate settings with best-selling authors often seen primarily at large public lectures or book signings," said Peter Raffa, executive director of the KRL Foundation. "Readers should sign up early to dine with their favorite authors."

Reservations are now being taken for authors whose dinners are scheduled for the fall and early 2010: Little and Lewis, Kelli Russell Agodon, Ronda Broatch, Janet Knox, Lana Ayers, Holly Hughes, Jessica Star Rockers, and Debbie Macomber in October; Ron Hirschi and George Shannon in December; Kathleen Alcala and Greg Bear, in January; Greg Olsen in February.

Dates in 2010 are pending for gatherings with Greg Atkinson, Mary Guterson, and others. More than 30 popular local authors have already agreed to participate in the Dinners with Authors series.

To sign up early for an author's dinner, call Raffa at (360) 475-9039. More information on the events will appear soon on the KRL website (www.krl.org.) and online registration will be available. Keep watching the site for updated information.

NEWS BRIEFS

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