Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated.

APRIL 1-30
• Art at the Bainbridge Public Library. On exhibit in April. Fiber and mixed media by Nikki Wheeler.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5
• Friends of the Library Book Sale 1-4 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6
• 1st Friday art walk reception with Nikki Wheeler. Fiber and mixed media. 5-7 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 9
• A Good Yarn knitting and book group 7-9 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10
• CLICK! Learn to download Library eBooks and eAudio. Preregister at the library (842-4162). 10 a.m.-noon.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11
• Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
• Island Film Group: Sweet Smell of Success (1957): Film & Discussion. 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14
• Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
• CLICK! Learn to download Library eBooks and eAudio. Preregister at the library (842-4162). 1-3 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17
• Senior Center Book Discussion (370 Brien Dr): Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury. 1 p.m. Copies available at the Library.
• CLICK! Internet 201. Preregister at the library (842-4162). 3-4:30 p.m.
• Field’s End Writers’ Roundtable: Frances McClue presents “Reading and Writing Poems That Startle Us.” 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18
• Travelogue: 7:30 p.m. Co-sponsored by The Traveler.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20
• Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Brev Brixx presents “Private Records – the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.” 10 a.m.-12

SATURDAY, APRIL 21
• Island Theatre at the Library: The 5th of July by Lanford Wilson. 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22
• Island Theatre – Repeat performance 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24
• Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25
• 50th Anniversary BFL fundraiser at Eagle Harbor Book Company. 5-7 p.m.
• Bainbridge Library Book Group: Animal, Vegetable, Miracle by Barbara Kingsolver. 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26
• Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club): Martín Fierro, by José Hernandez (Argentina). 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28
• Seattle Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead.

MAY 1-31
• Art at the Bainbridge Public Library. On exhibit in May. Betty-Ann Beaulieu and Cindy Heine, watercolors.

THURSDAY, MAY 3
• Friends of the Library Book Sale 1-4 p.m.
Field’s End Writers’ Conference
set for Saturday, April 28
at IslandWood

By MARGARET NEVINSKI

Top 10 Reasons to Attend This Conference, This Year at This Place

1. Our Keynote Speaker. Barry Eisler—with life experiences ranging from CIA covert operations, the law, technology start-up companies, and a black belt in judo— he’s a bestselling author, too! Barry Eisler is the creator of the John Rain series of bestselling thrillers that have been translated into nearly 20 languages. He has lots to tell us about shaking up the publishing world from the inside, choosing to release his latest novel, *The Detachment*, exclusively in digital format prior to the release of paper versions.

2. Location! Location! Location! It doesn’t get any better than IslandWood—an environmental school in the woods on Bainbridge Island, with 255 acres of natural beauty to nourish a writer’s spirit. You can even stay overnight in a cozy rustic-style inn and sit around the fire talking shop with fellow writers.

3. Craft Workshops. Whether you’re experienced or new to saying “I’m a writer,” you’ll learn from interactive workshops focused on the art of writing. From poetry and personal essays to critique, editing, and productivity skills—you choose the sessions that will push your writing.


5. Professional Development. You love to write, but keeping up with publishing trends and marketing requirements can be time-consuming and intimidating. Help is on the way—we’ve got great instructors and workshops designed to keep your strategies honed and your vocabulary up-to-date.

6. A Writers’ Community. We read and write alone, but the physical presence of other writers allows a connection different from an online community. Sharing war stories and rejections, applauding each other’s accomplishments—all ways to confirm our calling as writers and chase away doubts.

7. Inspiration. The passion writers feel for their work is contagious. Start the day with food for the body, delicious writing prompts, and a roomful of writers doing what they love most—writing.

8. Pursue Agents and Editors. Not! We are all for commercial success, but this conference is for craft, knowledge, and networking. You will have a chance, however, to pitch your project to an industry pro and get feedback at one of the workshops—before you run into that agent or editor in an elevator someday.

9. Industry Buzz. What better way to hear about trends than Susan Wingate’s closing session on the changing landscape of publishing and how to conquer it in the future? We’ll end our day with a wine and cheese reception and book signing for conference speakers.

10. Celebration. Field’s End is celebrating its 10th Anniversary! Our founders, David Guterson and Nikki Vick, will talk about the original vision for “A Writers’ Community” that became Field’s End. Come be a part of the vibrant community that’s grown up around Field’s End classes, conferences, roundtables, and events. This is your celebration and it won’t be the same without you. If you’re new to writing or Field’s End, join us for the start of an exciting new decade.

www.fieldsend.org

Field’s End: The next decade

At Field’s End we’ve been thinking about the next 10 years. Here are some ideas we’re exploring:

- An online class
- A longer, master class
- Classes for young writers
- Graphic novels and cartooning

We’d love to hear from you if any of these ideas pique your interest. Send us an email to info@fieldsend.org. Thanks!

NEWS BRIEF

New Board Member

Dan Gottlieb is the new Bainbridge Island representative to the Kitsap Regional Library board of directors. He replaces Althea Paulson, who served two terms – nearly 10 years – as the Bainbridge Island representative.

(Read more about the KRL board in a future issue of the Bainbridge Library News.)
Meet a few Field’s End conference presenters

Jeopardy style

At the 2012 Writers’ Conference, you’ll choose from among 12 workshops led by outstanding writers. Can you guess who they are? For the full list, visit: www.fieldsend.org.

She once owned a singing telegram company and played in a band. She’ll offer “How to Write a High Concept Novel.”

**Who is Sheila Roberts?**

She’s a former violinist with the Metropolitan Opera. She’ll discuss “Journaling: The ‘Write Way’ for Writers.”

**Who is Erica Miner?**

His 2012 magazine assignments include Brazilian Gauchos, grassland birds, marathon runners, microbes, Detroit, and nuclear waste. He’ll give us “Self-Edit Skills.”

**Who is Bruce Barcott?**

She worked as an electoral supervisor in Bosnia Herzegovina. She’ll teach “The Poet in the World: Bosnia Herzegovina. She’ll electoral supervisor in Bosnia Herzegovina.”

**Who is Bruce Barcott?**

**Who is Susan Rich?**

As an editor at a major New York City publisher, she read the “slush” pile. She’ll lead “The ‘Today’ Show Is Calling” and comment on your 45-second pitch.

**Who is Alice Acheson?**

His novel Warm Bodies features a slacker zombie with an existential crisis. He’ll relate “Journey of a First Novel.”

**Who is Isaac Marion?**

It’s the place to find facts and registration info for the Field’s End Writers’ Conference.

**What is www.fieldsend.org?**

It's national poetry month

Writers’ Roundtables explore poetry, fiction, and nonfiction

Field’s End continues its 10th Anniversary programs with spring Roundtables for writers.

For the full schedule, visit www.fieldsend.org.

By MARGARET NEVINSKI

On April 17, Frances McCue celebrates National Poetry Month with “Reading and Writing Poems That Startle Us.”

Why do great poems surprise us? Not only do they defy predictable accounts of being alive, they say the unsayable. This interactive talk showcases surprising, inspiring poems and offers techniques to create verse that tangles with unexpected turns.

Frances McCue, winner of the 2011 Washington State Book Award for Poetry, has written three books including *The Bled*, a poetry collection, and *The Car That Brought You Here Still Runs*, essays about Northwest towns and Richard Hugo. She is Writer in Residence at UW and is a freelance Arts Instigator, a catalyst for people and organizations to generate creative, innovative projects.

On May 15, Michael Overa digs into “Saying the Unsaid: Subtext in Fiction.”

It’s not always what is said and how it is said in our fiction, but often what isn’t said. Overa looks at how writers convey information by writing “between the lines.” Using examples from modern fiction, we’ll explore the advantages and disadvantages of leaving some things unsaid (at least in our fiction).

Michael Overa is a Seattle native and a graduate of the Hollins University MFA program. He has worked with 826 Seattle, Richard Hugo House, and the Writers In The Schools program. Overa’s work has appeared in the Portland Review and Line Zero among other places.

On June 19, Langdon Cook presents “Food, Foraging, and Finding an Angle.” Narrative isn’t just for novelists. Cook, who writes about food and foraging, talks about creative nonfiction, writing what you know, and how he transformed a hobby into his subject matter—and the publishing adventure that ensued.

Langdon Cook is the author of *Fat of the Land: Adventures of a 21st Century Forager*. He writes a popular, award-winning blog of the same title.

Cook worked at Amazon as a Senior Books Editor before moving to a cabin off the grid with his family. He is now a columnist for Seattle Magazine and a frequent speaker about wild foods and the outdoors. Cook’s writing has appeared in Sunset, Outside, and other journals.

The monthly Roundtables, free and open to writers of all levels and interests, take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Bainbridge Public Library. The guest author presents the topic, then participants join in a Q&A period. The evening closes with an opportunity to network with other writers. Visit for more information, www.fieldsend.org
THE BIG 50

Let’s celebrate our library’s anniversary

IF YOU’RE READING this column after our library open house on March 17, you may have missed the kickoff — but there’s plenty of action remaining.

Throughout 2012 Bainbridge Public Library patrons and friends will celebrate the first 50 years — a half century — of the library built by and for the people of Bainbridge Island in 1962.

We are not alone.

The year 1962 was a great one for civic projects. While many Bainbridge residents were busy building the first centrally located library on our island in the Sound, a lot was also happening just a ferry ride away.


Space Needle Secrets! The Bubbleator! Belgian Waffles! Cool Souvenirs and the Birth of the Seattle Center.

Those who were around in 1962 have vivid memories of the Seattle world’s fair. But the most remarkable thing about it, for many of us, is what happened afterward. Unlike so many 20th century world fairs – in San Francisco and Portland, for example – Seattle’s did not just fade away.

Today, thanks to a lot of civic activity and determination, Seattle Center is still drawing crowds. To the Space Needle, which still dominates the city’s skyline. To the Science Center. To a remodeled opera house. And much more.

There are other golden anniversaries to celebrate. One worth mentioning is the 50th anniversary of Tacoma’s public television station, Channel 3 on our TV dials.

Overshadowed perhaps by Seattle’s KCTS (Channel 9), station KBTS offers a wealth of programs that contribute to lifelong learning. Whether your interests are in antiques, sewing, nature, health and fitness, travel (Rick Steves), or current events (Charlie Rose interviews) — you’ll find plenty to choose from on this channel.

WELL WORTH celebrating also are the outstanding books published in 1962.

Many are listed inside, thanks to our diligent librarians. All are worth reading. Some of the authors — Rachel Carson, for example — made impacts that will last far beyond a half century.

Also in this issue you’ll find a special anniversary pullout section filled with photos and stories from the 1950s and ’60s. We hope you’ll enjoy them and will let us know of other stories and photographs available.

Our own Barbara Winther, whose books are favorites among Pacific Northwest readers (and beyond) has compiled a list of books about Bainbridge Island’s past at the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum. (Sorry, they’re not available for checkout, but many are also in the library’s collection.)

Finally, library volunteer Charles Browne deserves our sincere thanks for his time copying old photographs for our library collection and your pleasure. We think you’ll enjoy them.

— Verda Averill, Library News Editor

Planning the celebration: Among the many people planning events for the Bainbridge Public Library’s 50th anniversary celebrations are the librarians, staff members, and volunteers gathered here. They’ve been meeting every month since last summer. — Joel Sackett photo.

Ferry commuters, smartphones, and eAudiobooks

According to the Pew Research Center, more than 35% of American adults own a smartphone. Given the demographics of the daily ferry commuters between Bainbridge and Seattle, almost certainly their ownership percentage is higher. Gartner Inc. estimates that in 2012 over 100 million smartphones will be sold in the USA. Most of these smartphone users surf the internet for news, blogs, videos, and other information or entertainment. What many of them may not realize is that in their hands is also a handy device for listening to eAudiobooks from the library.

The eAudiobooks differ from audiobooks on CDs or cassettes in that they are digital files that can be downloaded from the library website directly onto many devices. One class of devices which are usually compatible with this library service is the smartphone. So if you’re a ferry commuter, for example, and own an iPhone, Droid, Blackberry, Samsung or many of the other smartphones, you can download eAudiobooks to your phone and listen to the book as it is read. To see if your smartphone is compatible, go to the KRL website under “Compatible Devices”. Of course the ferry isn’t the only opportunity to sit back and listen to a good read on your smartphone. Think of the hours sometimes spent in airport terminals, on enroute to your destination. Those hours in the gym spent exercising muscles could simultaneously be spent brightening your brain cells. If you don’t have a smartphone or prefer something smaller and lighter when kayaking, hiking, or out digging and planting in the garden, there are many small portable devices which work with the library’s downloadable eAudiobooks. On the high end there are the many iPod devices, all of which play audiobooks as well as music. And if you’d like something a little more affordable, the Sansa Clip (around $40) and other MP3 players work great. If you’re going to buy a player, just be sure to check if it’s compatible with both eAudiobook formats (MP3 and WMA). That way, you’ll have a much wider selection of eAudiobooks to choose from.

If you’d like to learn more about the eAudiobook library service, each month the Bainbridge Public Library usually has two workshops for downloadable media (eBooks and eAudiobooks). Drop by the library reference desk to sign up!

— Charles Browne, February, 2012
In the beginning

A 300-pound side of beef

By PAT MILLER, President
Bainbridge Public Library Board

Where might you go if you were in the market for a stuffed seal, two live sheep, 500 gallons of furnace oil, a greenhouse or a 300-pound side of beef? Currently, nowhere I can think of. But, if you had been among the 3000 people gathered in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard on August 13, 1960, you would have found all of them, along with an astounding number and variety of other items on the block. This was the first of what was to become the yearly Rotary Rummage Sale and Auction, and when the event was over, Rotary President Ray Williamson presented the profits, a check for $5,664.15, to a community campaign that would build a library in Winslow.

We need to go back one year prior to the auction when a discussion about the growth of the Island population turned to building a new library that would accommodate newcomers and old-timers alike. The first public meeting to address that challenge took place in the Winslow Town Hall in January, 1960. Thirty attendees voted to establish Bainbridge Public Library Inc, and shortly thereafter they elected a board. As you might expect, location became the first item of interest. All agreed that a lot on the corner of Madison and High School Road would be the best place for the new library, and following a fortunate chain of events, the property was secured.

What to build on that lot?

For those of us who grew up in small towns across the country, the word “library” was synonymous with Andrew Carnegie and a sturdy sandstone building that was also a monument to his generosity. In contrast, the plans for the new Winslow Library were described by Walt Woodward as “a free-swinging thing of light and air and bricks and lots of glass”. While not monumental in traditional form, the new Bainbridge Public Library became a monument to the enthusiasm, cooperation and generosity of the Bainbridge Community.

The Rotary donation and other large contributions were very important in getting the project on its feet, but without smaller contributions pouring in from every corner of the Island, it would not have been possible to build a library. Fifty years later, that extraordinary sense of community is still alive and well. On two occasions, in 1982-83 and 1995-97, Islanders dug deep in their pockets to expand the library. Today, they continue to support the library they built. People from every corner of the island are still donating money to pay the bills and volunteer their services and time to keep the library and grounds in great shape.

To learn more about the Bainbridge Public Library, read Barbara Winther’s book, They Like Noble Causes.

Found at the book sale

An autobiography of H. L. Mencken

By JOE GONZALEZ

Not long ago I discovered an autobiography by a consummate wordmonger and ultimate irritant, H. L. Mencken, 1880-1956 – thanks to the Friends of the Library.

And the book, A Choice of Days, only cost me a buck. (May God preserve the Friends of the Library.)

Mencken was a writer, editor, womanizer, cynic, agitator, critic, beer drinker, and a bon vivant who never left town (Baltimore).

But no earthly attraction could replace his passion for words.

Mencken himself was to remark later in life that “to the man with an ear for verbal delicacies—the man who searches for the perfect word, and puts the way of saying a thing above the thing said—there is in writing the constant joy of sudden discovery, of happy accident.”

Where did it all start for Henry Louis Mencken?

Where else! At the library. . . around the age of 8.

While his middle-class parents, Anna and August Mencken, had their private library, and advocated learning early in his life, it was some blocks away, at the Hollis Street Public Library, where the turning point took place for the young Mencken.

Here he discovered Huckleberry Finn. (After that, Mencken would read “Huck Finn” at least once a year, up to his late 40s, and believed beyond all doubt that this book was truly the first American novel.)

Here he discovered the profound enchantment of words.

Here he discovered his calling: to read and to write. And that he did, passionately.

But his journey would be circuitous. He graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic (his father’s choice) . . . and hated every minute of it.

“I can’t imagine a more useless education,” he wrote.

Intense reading, sports writing, and journaling rescued him from the “Slough of Despond.”

His troubles weren’t over, though. Upon graduation, as expected of him, he went to work in his father’s cigar factory, and failed dismally.

He decided, at the ripe old age of 18, to strike out on his own, with or without—mostly without—his family’s consent.

He visited Max Ways, editor of the Baltimore Morning Herald, and offered his services for free, but there were no openings.

He hung around the editor’s desk day and night, for weeks on end, in spite of rain, wind, snow, and transit strikes.

Finally his dogged perseverance paid off. Editor Ways sent him to an adjacent community, Kingsville, to “see if anything is happening there.”

This was Mencken’s moment of truth. He got back from Kingsville around midnight, found an available desk, and “for twenty minutes, wrote and tore up, wrote and tore up” until the following story emerged:

A horse, a buggy and several sets of harness, valued in all at about $250, were stolen last night, from the stable of Howard Quinlan, near Kingsville. The county police are at work on the case, but so far no trace of either thieves or booty has been found.

He was hired on the spot, the youngest reporter in the employ of the Herald. The rest is history.

“The Sage of Baltimore” became both an icon and an iconoclast.

Not surprisingly, he made enemies: politicians, pamphleteers/patrioteers, preachers. The antagonism between him and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt lasted to the bitter end.

It has been said about H. L. Mencken that some loved him, others loathed him, but everybody read him. Sounds like the mark of a good writer to me.

(Writer Joe Gonzalez is a regular at Friends of the Library book sales, and a voracious reader in his spare time. He works days as a courier for the Kitsap Regional Library system.)

Commuting with books

Ferry Tales, a monthly book group on the ferry, is now meeting the second Thursday of each month.

On the 3:50 ferry, just come ready to talk about something you’ve read and loved – no assigned reading required. 4:40 riders, we’ll read and discuss one shared title each month.

Each month’s selection will be available on the ferry during the meeting and at the Bainbridge Public Library all month. For updates, visit krlferrytales.wordpress.com or contact Audrey at abarbakoff@krlr.org.

Audrey Barbakoff
Reference Librarian,
Bainbridge Public Library
LUCKY DOG: A tale of love and adventure

By Margaret Trent

When a Lake Tahoe forest ranger gave a 7-year-old girl a dog, the two became inseparable for one glorious summer.

Although she did not know it all those years ago, this event would give Laurie Ezpeleta two gifts: a life-long love of dogs, and the basis for her first middle-grade novel.

I met Laurie at the Blackbird Bakery, a community hub on Bainbridge Island. We began by talking about our island community and in particular the library, now celebrating its 50th year.

Laurie’s connection to Bainbridge began when her mother moved here 19 years ago. Having never been to the island before, Laurie’s mother drove off the ferry and was instantly charmed. She chose to make the island her home. Laurie, along with her children, came to visit every summer, until she retired here with her husband in 2005.

Laurie has watched the library go through many changes over the years. She remembers visiting with her mother to see the gardens when they were first laid out, and the newly installed foyer door designed by Amy Chamberlain. She also attended her mother’s writing group when fellow member and local author Barbara Winther was writing They Liked Noble Causes, a lovely pictorial history of the library.

After reminiscing about the library we turned our attention to her new novel, and I asked Laurie to tell me more about the story that began so long ago.

Emily Locke, the heroine of Laurie’s novel, is a character that will appeal to most children. After her father’s death, Emily and her mother move to Emerald Lake, where Emily has to contend with a new town and—worse than that—a new school. Emily also finds herself struggling to help her mother, who is devastated by the loss of her husband. Time and again, Emily finds herself in trouble at school with Principal Sweat, or as Emily likes to call her, Sweaty-pants!

Emily’s inability to fit in at school is not because she isn’t smart. She’s a fountain of knowledge with respect to odd facts she learned from her father, especially crazy anecdotes about European royalty, such as Queen Mary was a kleptomaniac, and the Empress Elizabeth of Russia couldn’t spell. Emily knows all sorts of things, except what to do about her new life—a life without her dad.

That’s when Lucky enters the picture. A local park ranger finds Lucky, and when fate intervenes he also finds a home for the dog with Emily. Together for the summer the two pals have many adventures, including one almost fatal escapade!

I asked Laurie how much of Lucky Dog is autobiographical.

She told me that, as a child, she roamed the woods around her parents’ holiday camp at Lake Tahoe. Her parents were extremely busy and Laurie thrived in a “glorious haze of benign neglect.” One summer the local ranger gave her a stray dog and made her return it to the ranger. But the next morning Whistles was back on the doorstep, and this time he stayed.

At the end of the summer the family moved temporarily into an apartment, and Whistles went to stay with Laurie’s grandfather. Unfortunately, he also fell in love with the dog, but after a lot of tears Laurie decided it was all right for Whistles to stay with Grandpa.

In the interest of not spoiling a good story I won’t say here what happens to Emily and Lucky, but Laurie’s tale captures the ups and downs of life with a careful and wise touch.

Kirkus described the novel as “a fast-paced adventure with a protagonist that youngsters will feel lucky to have found . . . [Emily is] smart, passionate, quirky and caring—a kid’s ideal best friend . . . . Ezpeleta paces . . . the narrative well, effectively building tension and drawing her characters together.”

The book is packed with charming illustrations created by Melissa Glenn.

Although Laurie gave up her summer friend, she has had many dogs since and dedicates the book to “the dogs who have brightened my days, and lightened my heart with their unconditional love.” Her black lab Buddy—pictured here—is one of those great dogs.

Lucky Dog is available online or from Eagle Harbor Books on Bainbridge Island.

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Wordless book wins Caldecott

By Susan Bisnett

Every year the American Library Association awards the Caldecott Medal of Honor to the illustrator of the most distinguished picture book for children published in the United States in the previous year, as determined by a select committee of librarians. The wordless children’s book A Ball for Daisy was this year’s favorite.

This is not the first time children’s author/illustrator Chris Raschka has received this prestigious award coveted by illustrators. In 2005 Raschka was awarded the Caldecott for the acclaimed Hello, Goodbye Window, written by Norton Juster (yes, the author of The Phantom Tollbooth). And Raschka’s own Yo! Yes? was a 1994 Caldecott Honor Book.

My personal favorite is the Dylan Thomas classic A Child’s Christmas in Wales, brought to life for a new generation of readers by Raschka’s illustrations in 2004.

What makes this year’s choice of Raschka’s wordless book so right on, is that his simple watercolor and ink illustrations tend to speak for themselves. His style seems to work inversely. The less accurate the lines, the blurrier the images, the more expressive and poignant the message conveyed.

A Ball for Daisy, in which a spunky little dog’s most prized possession is accidentally destroyed, is an emotional treasure for both children and adults. Local young people’s author and small dog owner Ruth Bjorklund literally teared up as she read it, and I’m sure she is not the only one.

2012 Caldecott Medal Winner:
A Ball for Daisy, written and illustrated by Chris Raschka

2012 Caldecott Honor Books:
Me…Jane, written and illustrated by Patrick McDonnell
Grandpa Green, written and illustrated by Lane Smith
Blackout, written and illustrated by John Rocco

NEWS BRIEFS

Reading Buddy Volunteers welcome at orientation

Do you like to read aloud?
Do you like working with little kids?
Are you looking for a way to volunteer in your community?
Are you free Tuesday mornings this summer?

If you said “Yes!” then you might be interested in applying to volunteer at the library. The staff is looking for readers age 8 to 18 to join the library’s corps of Reading Buddies. A 30-minute orientation will be held on Wednesday, May 23, at 4 p.m. for people interested in volunteering this summer.

This will give parents and kids age 8 and up the chance to decide if this volunteer opportunity will work for you. Attendance is strongly encouraged.

Returning Reading Friend volunteers do not need to attend an orientation session. Please call Youth Services Librarian Carmine at 842-4162 for more information.

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50th Anniversary student bookmark contest winners

Bainbridge Public Library staff and volunteers have announced the winners of the bookmark contest to honor the library’s 50th anniversary.

Esme Vessenes and Lyle Terry were winners of the drawing side of the bookmarks, Eleanor King and Julie Batson were the winners with their haiku.

Esme is a first grader at Blakely School and Lyle is a seventh grader at Woodward Middle School. Eleanor is a fourth grader at Blakely and Julia is a sixth grader at Sakai.

Honorable mention winners were Connor Durrance, fourth grade at Blakely and Maxwell Brown, seventh grade at Woodward, for their drawings. The honorable mention winners for haiku are Andrew Kenny, fourth grade at Blakely and Makaela Donnelly, sixth grade at Sakai.

Students from both public and private schools in two grade divisions (K-4 and 5-8), entered drawings and haiku poems to celebrate reading and books, and hundreds of entries were reviewed.

Victoria Josslin, David Sessions and Pam Galvani judged the art entries and John Willson, Ann Combs, and Nancy Rekow judged the haiku.

“We would like to thank the school librarians, art specialists, and the many classroom teachers who participated in the contest,” said Teri Weldy. “This contest is one of the first of many celebrations for Bainbridge Public Library’s 50th year.”

Jay Lollman, age 9, and sister Kate, age 6, watch the screen while using self-checkout in the Young People’s department.

Children and family programs Spring 2012

- Photograph by Teri Weldy

MONDAY, APRIL 2
Toddler Dance Party, 10:30 am

TUESDAY, APRIL 3
Lego Build Challenge, 10:30 am, for grades K-4
Survival! 3:30 pm, for grades 5 up

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4
Elephant and Piggie Day, 10:30 am

THURSDAY, APRIL 5
Scratch programming, 1:30 pm, grades 4 up

FRIDAY, APRIL 6
Shrek-along interactive show, 1 pm, all ages

SUNDAY, APRIL 15
Little Buds Storywalk “at IslandWood”, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 27
Family Movie Matinee: The Muppets, 3:30 pm

THURSDAY, MAY 3
Kamishibai story program, 3:30 pm

FRIDAY, MAY 18
Family Movie Matinee: Pass in Boots, 3:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23
Reading Buddies new volunteer orientation, 4:00 pm, for ages 8 to 17 and a parent.
John Corey Whaley wins two awards:

**ALA names top young adult books of 2012**

The American Library Association recently announced the 2012 winners among young adult books. Here are highlights of the prestigious awards:

**Michael L. Printz Award.** The Printz Award is given to a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature.

The winner: **Where Things Come Back** by John Corey Whaley. Witty, sardonic Cullen Witter agonizes over the disappearance of his beloved brother, Gabriel, while everyone else in his dull Arkansas town thrills to the mysterious death of a schoolmate, Charlie confronts the aftermath of the accidental drowning of a friend, as his loving, insecure, and regretful letter explaining how the memento contributed to their breakup.

**The Returning** by Christine Hinwood. A large cast of characters from two fictional kingdoms recover from a drawn-out, brutal war in a portrait both sweeping and specific as it explores the ramifications of the conflict on Cam, the only one who lives to return to his village.

**Jasper Jones** by Craig Silvey. Spurred by the mysterious death of a schoolmate, Charlie confronts racism and his fears as he learns about family, friendship and love in the oppressive heat of small-town 1960s Australia.

**The Scorpio Races** by Maggie Stiefvater. Returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races, both trying to keep hold of their dangerous water horses long enough to make it to the finish line.

Morris Award. The Morris Award honors a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens and celebrating impressive new voices in young adult literature.

The winner: **Where Things Come Back** by John Corey Whaley (also the winner of the Printz Award)

Honors: **The Girl of Fire and Thorns** by Rae Carson. A fearful 16-year-old princess discovers her heroic destiny after being married off to the king of a neighboring country in turmoil and pursued by enemies seething with dark magic.

**Paper Covers Rock** by Jenny Hubbard. In 1982 Buncombe County, North Carolina, Alex writes of the aftermath of the accidental drowning of a friend, as his English teacher reaches out to him while he and a fellow boarding school student try to cover things up.

**Under the Mesquite** by Guadalupe Garcia McCall. Throughout her high school years, as her mother battles cancer, Lupita takes on more responsibility for her house and seven younger siblings, while finding refuge in acting and writing poetry.

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**Between Shades of Gray** by Ruta Sepetys. Based on true events, in 1941 Lina and her family are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to a work camp in Siberia.

**YALSA Nonfiction Award.** This award honors the best nonfiction book published for young adults.

The winner: **The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism, & Treachery** by Steve Sheinkin. Treating history as mystery, Sheinkin takes readers through means, motive, and opportunity as he outlines Arnold’s path towards treason.

Honors: **Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom and Science** by Marc Aronson. Blending facts with a fascinating personal narrative, this true tale of the sugar trail provides readers with an intimate and troubling portrait of the white grains that sweeten everything from coffee to bubblegum.

**Bootleg: Murder, Moonshine, and the Lawless Years of Prohibition** by Karen Blumenthal. This impeccably researched account of the history of the Temperance movement provides an interesting look at the societal issues and historical figures behind the passage of the 18th Amendment.

**Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom (With a Few Flat Tires Along the Way)** by Sue Macy. With the invention of the bicycle, women began by riding sidesaddle but quickly switched to riding astride sleek two-wheelers as they left their restraining corsets and petticoats in the dust. Adventurer or activist, young or old, African American or white, many women quickly adopted this new mode of transportation.

**Music Was IT: Young Leonard Bernstein** by Susan Goldman Rubin. A lively account of the challenging and passionate life of young Leonard Bernstein, beginning with his childhood in Boston and concluding with his brilliant conducting debut, at the age of 25, at Carnegie Hall with the New York Philharmonic.

—By Stefanie Graen, Teen Services Librarian
Teens Read and Review

The Maze Runner by James Dashner
When Thomas is lifted into the maze his life is changed forever. There are about 100 other boys in the maze with him and all he can remember is his name. This page-turner is a must read for people who like adventure and some dry humor mixed in.

— Review by Mira Rosenkotz, grade 8

Blood Red Road by Moira Young
When Saba’s twin brother, Lugh, is kidnapped by mysterious horsemen, she teams up with a band of fierce warrior women, and a handsome annoyance named Jack to find Lugh by the summer solstice. Filled with amusing dialogue and suspenseful situations, Blood Red Road is a great adventure that leaves you wanting more. Perfect for fans of The Hunger Games!

— Review by Mattie Branson-Meyer, grade 8

After the Snow by Sophie Crockett
Willo lives peacefully with his family in the hills, away from the city. One day he comes home and finds that he is alone in a world filled with cold snow. His family has been taken by the government and he embarks on a dangerous journey to rescue them. This is a really great read for people who like books about survival, like Island of the Blue Dolphins.

— Review by Anika Vroom, grade 9

Possess by Gretchen McNeil
Brigit has a talent; she can sense and banish demons. After her father gets murdered, things go from bad to worse. Brigt has to dig up the past to piece together what is really going on. This is a great read for people who like books with mystery and otherworldly creatures, like Vampire Diaries.

— Review by Anika Vroom, grade 9

Watch for our Read and Review section every quarter

Spring break break at the Library for children and teens

Wondering what to do over Spring Break? Join us at the library for free programs! Funded by the Bainbridge Friends of the Library.

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 10:30 TO 11:15
Toddler Dance Party. Toddlers, preschoolers and families—come shake your sillies out and dance with your friends. There will be parachute play and bubbles galore.

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 3:00-5:00 PM
Teen Gaming. Grades 7-12. Come and play the Wii and PS3! You can bring your own games, as long as they are rated Teen and under.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 10:30 AM TO 12 PM
Lego Builders Challenge. Grades K-4. Show off your Lego building skills, compete in speed building challenges and show off your creativity.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 3:30-4:30 PM
Survival! Grades 5 and up. Did you love The Hunger Games and want to learn more about survival? Learn tips and hear stories from survival expert Teresa Barnet, a long-time member of Kitsap Search and Rescue. Teresa is a retired Navy Hospital Corpsman and has worked with several Marine Units. A K9 Search and Rescue dog will also be joining Teresa.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 10:30 AM
Elephant and Piggie Day! Grades K-3. Calling all who love Mo Willem's Elephant and Piggie books to come watch live performances, make crafts and celebrate our appreciation of these two beloved friends.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1:00 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1:30-3:30 PM
Scratch Programming. Grades 4-12. Scratch is a program created by MIT that makes it easy to create your own online stories, animations, games, music and art. Basic introduction followed by an open lab. Space is limited; sign-up at the reference desk or email crau@krl.org.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1:00 PM
Shrek-along. All ages. Share your love of Shrek by singing along and talking back to the Shrek characters in this audience participation show. Costumes encouraged! We’ll pop the popcorn.

— Photograph by Stefanie Graen

Teen Advisory Board
members Jacob Scott, Rebecca Herman-Kerwin, Hannah Myrick, and Maddie Kroah-Hartman pose with Jell-O Before the March 17 Jell-O art contest. Look for winners’ names in the next Library News

NEWS BRIEF

Teens looking for a good book to read or a way to connect with others may want to check out the new “Teen Connection” page produced by the Kitsap Regional Library. Just go to www.krl.org/teens.

— Stefanie Graen

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www.TheIslandSchool.org

Teen Advisory Board
members Jacob Scott, Rebecca Herman-Kerwin, Hannah Myrick, and Maddie Kroah-Hartman pose with Jell-O Before the March 17 Jell-O art contest.

— Photograph by Stefanie Graen

Teen Connection

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— Stefanie Graen

Teen Advisory Board
members Jacob Scott, Rebecca Herman-Kerwin, Hannah Myrick, and Maddie Kroah-Hartman pose with Jell-O Before the March 17 Jell-O art contest.
Mary Gleysteen retires from Eagle Harbor Book Co.

The Eagle Harbor Book Co., Bainbridge Island’s favorite gathering place for many Islanders for more than 40 years, isn’t quite the same this year.

Mary Gleysteen, a bookseller renowned far beyond Bainbridge, retired on December 28, just after the winter Library News went to press.

After 20 years finding books for customers, scheduling talks and appearances for local authors, and greeting visiting authors at appearances throughout Kitsap County, Gleysteen is going to take some time for her many interests beyond the bookstore. She’ll be devoting more hours to gardening, peace activism, home remodeling, traveling, sewing, and playing music.

She may even have time to read some of the books she’s been handling.

Judge Ted Spearman

Another holiday loss was that of Judge Theodore Spearman, who died January 3 at Harborview Medical Center of complications from a brain aneurysm.

Ted Spearman was appointed to the Kitsap County Superior Court by Gov. Gary Locke in 2004 and was twice re-elected unopposed.

As an attorney, he was a champion of many causes, including the rights of the liveaboards in Eagle Harbor. Voracious readers, he and his wife Marie were Bainbridge Library boosters. He was one of the earliest advertisers in the Bainbridge Library News and she has been active as a volunteer with the Friends of the Library.

You can read more about Ted Spearman in several issues of the Bainbridge Review from January 2012.

Lucille A. Galbraith

Lucille Galbraith passed away peacefully January 8, at the age of 94, in Seattle, but lived most of her life on Bainbridge Island.

She was a great reader, especially of history and literature of all periods. She collected antiques, was fond of cats, and had them as companions for most of her life.

During her years on the Island she worked at Shorey’s Book Store, a local law office, with the Bainbridge Historical Society, the Seattle Museum of History and Industry, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community, and the Island Senior Center.

Daniel Garcia

On January 14 Dan Garcia passed away at Wyatt House, where he had lived for two years. As a dentist and research scientist he lived in Boston, Puerto Rico, and Spain before settling on Bainbridge Island with his daughter Denise, son-in-law Eric Schmidt, and granddaughter Lisa Schmidt.

He loved his years on Bainbridge, and spent many hours at the library, where he was an avid reader and student of history. (In lieu of history, his family has requested that any donations in his name be made to the Bainbridge branch of the Kitsap Regional Library.)

Lawrence Marler Jr.

Lawrence Emmett Marler, Jr., better known as Larry, died January 13. He served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War, recovered in Bremerton from injuries received in Korea, met his wife Diane, and the family settled on a farm near Bangor. The Marlars had three children (two sons, including Bill of Bainbridge Island, and a daughter, Maura Kay Marler Pilet, deceased, in whose name a nursing scholarship was established for students graduating from Central Kitsap High School).

Larry loved to fish, and just before he passed away at Hospice, his sons were reading him Hemingway’s The Big Two-Hearted River.

(For more about these and other neighbors who are no longer with us, turn to recent issues of the Bainbridge Review and, in many cases, the website of the Island’s Cook Family Funeral Home.)

By LIBRARY NEWS STAFF

Winter can be an especially sad time for families who lose loved ones. This winter, with its cold gray days and lingering recession, has seemed more difficult than most.

So it seems appropriate to pause for a moment and remember the lives of some of our neighbors who are no longer with us. Let’s start with Jake.

Wayne (Jake) Jacobi

Jake Jacobi died of pneumonia, surrounded by his three children, on December 27. His obituary in the Bainbridge Review January 27 describes him as a seafarer, journalist, and former press secretary to Gov. Dan Evans. He was all of those, and more.

He was an active advocate for the first central Bainbridge Public Library built in 1962 – and now celebrating its golden anniversary.

In this publication’s memorial insert, Barbara Winther quotes from some letters written by Jake, in which he describes his career as a journalist and some of the people who were active in Bainbridge life in the 1950s and 1960s.

For more about Jake Jacobi and the other people mentioned on this page, we refer you to the library files of the Bainbridge Library Review.

Mary Gleysteen grew up in Bremerton and now lives in Kingston. Before beginning her long career in bookselling, she worked at teaching, the law, and library work. A book by Toni Morrison lured her away from a gloomy law office to a “vibrant” little bookstore in Edmonds, and she worked part-time at Eagle Harbor Book Co. until she was hired full-time in 1991.

Many of her colleagues and customers have called her the “soul” of the bookstore. Owner Morley Horder says that’s an apt description.

During her final weeks at Eagle Harbor, Gleysteen encouraged the store to enter the publishing world. The book the store chose to print: Katy Warner’s long out-of-print A History of Bainbridge Island. It’s now one of the store’s best-selling books.

Mary Gleysteen retires from Eagle Harbor Book Co.
Bainbridge photographer Joel Sackett is photographing Bainbridge Islanders and their friends at the Bainbridge Public Library throughout the year 2012, the 50th anniversary of the library. Here are a few March 2012 photos for the history books 50 years from now:

At the top, a baby storytime at the library. Below, seventh and eighth-grade students from St. Cecilia’s School. Right, John Van Den Meerendonk in the library’s fern garden.

—All Photos by: Joel Sackett
Fifty years ago

These 1962 books were popular reads

By Audrey Barbakoff
Reference Librarian, Bainbridge Public Library

The most controversial book of 1962 still causes controversy

The most controversial and influential book of 1962 was Rachel Carson’s book *Silent Spring*.

It was first serialized in the New York Times starting in June 1962 and then published in book form in the fall. It was widely read after being chosen for the Book of the Month Club and appearing on the NY Times bestseller list.

Rachel Carson was known for her natural history writing but this book was a step into social criticism. Carson accused the chemical industry of spreading disinformation and government officials for accepting this disinformation as truth. She presented evidence showing detrimental effects of insecticides on the environment, especially on bird life.

Aerial spraying of insecticides was accepted as an effective control for mosquitoes. However, wherever aerial spraying occurred, there was also evidence of a decrease in bird life. Although the killing of bird life was the motivation behind the title “Silent Spring”, Carson contended that widespread use of chemical insecticides was harming other animals and humans as well. Carson maintained that she wasn’t advocating complete abolishment of pesticides but instead wanted to see a more studied approach.

The uproar caused by the publication prompted President Kennedy to call for an examination of pesticide usage which led to stricter regulation of insecticides, as well as the outright banning of DDT in 1973.

The controversy rages on to this day with the chemical industry and libertarians opposing such regulations. Indeed, the World Health Organization has recently come out in favor of using DDT in certain cases because it is a powerful tool against mosquito-spread malaria.

So what was the result of *Silent Spring*? For one thing, it brought forward the idea that not every invention should be adopted without consideration of a possible downside. It brought to the forefront the whole idea of considering the impact on the environment which such chemical “improvements” might produce.

For these reasons, it is still a powerful book 50 years after its publication.

—Gail Goodrick
Adult Nonfiction Selector

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Don’t miss the spring book sales

3 times per month

Watch for the signs!

Brought to you by the Bainbridge Friends of the Library
Library partners make a difference in community

By CINDY VANDERSLUIS, VERDA AVERILL, and Library News Staff

Every year dozens of local businesses, professionals, and non-profit organizations support the Bainbridge Public Library and the Bainbridge Island Library News in many ways.

Their efforts make this community more livable for us all.

With summer visitors soon due to arrive, this seems a good time to introduce members of the Bainbridge Island Lodging Association to our readers.

Association members provide overnight accommodations in many forms and locations — inns, boutique hotels, guesthouses, cottages, and B & Bs on Bainbridge.

Vacation Rentals
“From the waterfront to the woods, from townhouses to equestrian farm-stays, a wonderful variety of properties is available for vacation rentals — for meetings, a relaxing getaway, family gatherings, and other special events,” says Cindy VanderSluis, Association director.

(Visit www.bainbridgelodging.com for more information on the properties listed below and www.wholaslodging/ availability for eight-day availability.)

Members include:
- Abode on the Sea, a beach suite with stunning views of Mt. Rainier, the Olympics, and Eagle Harbor.
- Artist’s Studio, a place to relax, unwind, and be inspired. Artist’s workshops are available throughout the year.
- Aunt Margie’s Beach, a two-bedroom house on Little Manzanita Bay, one of the best swimming beaches on the island.
- Bainbridge Island Beach
- Cottages, a classic beach cottage with sunny, no-bank southwestern exposure, covered porch, great biking and hiking right out the front door.
- Cabin Fever, a cottage in the forest with hot tub and wood-burning stove.
- Fletcher Bay Landing, a one-bedroom guest cottage on waterfront property with dock, private garden and fire pit, as well as a newly available Bayside Studio.
- Guesthouse at Wacky Nut Farm Equestrian Center, spacious accommodations on an equestrian property with serene country setting and walking trails.
- Harbor View Guesthouse, stylish, quiet, two-story apartment across Eagle Harbor from Winslow with water views from most rooms.
- Holly Lane Gardens, lodge-type house on over eight acres of gardens with Olympic Mountains view, abundant wildlife, gourmet breakfasts.
- Inn at Vineyard Lane, a cozy boutique hotel within a short walk or bike ride of the ferry.
- Kellerman Creek Guest House, a quiet, private studio on an acre of lush gardens, with mountain views from the deck; within an easy walk to several beaches.
- Madison Townhouses, beautifully furnished townhouses in the heart of Winslow, a short walk to the ferry, Eagle Harbor, quaint galleries, shops, and restaurants.
- Rising Moon Beach House, a luxury waterfront beach house with 180-degree view of Mt. Rainier and Seattle skyline from all living areas; soaking tubs and heated slate floor.
- Saxon Cottage Guest House, private English guesthouse in the countryside with enclosed garden for a sociable pet and trails in fenced woodlands for walks.
- Seabold Cottage, romantic getaway tucked among towering cedars.
- Skiff Point Guest Retreat, two fully-equipped, spacious 600-square-foot suites overlooking the Puget Sound and mountains, beach accessible, retreat meeting room.
- The Eagle Harbor Inn, Winner “2009 Best of Western Washington, Most Romantic Hotel!”. Relax in a tasteful hotel room or an elegant townhouse in the Marina district.
- Yeomalt Beach House. You can’t get closer to the beach than in this home with its fusion of Victorian and arts and crafts architecture and abundant marine life nearby.

Eagle Harbor Books
The popular Used Book Annex downstairs from Eagle Harbor Books will again be accepting used books from April 1 through April 15.

The store buys used books in very good condition in many subject areas.

“They should not have any underlining, highlighting, or personal inscriptions,” explained staff members, “and if the book is hardcover, we usually require it to have a dust jacket, unless it was issued without one.”

The bookstore buys books on an as needed basis for each section. Although interested in stock books for most of the subject areas, there are some books they do not buy (for example, old, rare, and valuable titles, which they are not yet equipped to price accurately). They also do not stock dated books, most reference books, and books with inscriptions, personal signatures, etc.

If you’re interested in donating books to the store, stop by and browse a bit in the annex. The staff member on duty will be pleased to answer questions. Incidentally, books which are not accepted for credit are donated to the Kitsap Regional Library.

A final request from the staff: “In the interest of space and processing time, please limit the number of bags of books you bring in to two per week. Thank you.”

Dinner with Authors continue this spring

The popular series of dinners with local authors continues this spring.

Presented by the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation, these dinners offer the opportunity for readers to meet and chat in small groups with best-selling authors.

On April 28, a special dinner for a Couple of Authors will be held at a private residence on Bainbridge Island.

The couple, married authors Claire Dederer and Bruce Barcott, will talk about their books, creative processes, and their life together. Claire will discuss how yoga changed her life in unexpected ways and her book Poser: My Life in 23 Yoga Poses. Bruce will talk about his book The Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw and Measure of a Mountain.

Tickets for the Saturday night event, from 6 to 9 p.m., are just $75 per person. For more information and to reserve a seat, please visit www.krl.org.

On Saturday, May 26, also at a private Bainbridge Island residence, a fund-raising event to benefit the Kitsap Regional Library will bring television star Elizabeth Mitchell to dinner.

Mitchell, who starred in the television series Lost and V, will entertain guests and answer questions about her life and career. In addition to her television roles, Mitchell is also featured in an upcoming film, Answers to Nothing. She has appeared previously as Linda McCartney in The Linda McCartney Story and as Mrs. Claus in the Santa Claus movies with Tim Allen.

Tickets for this event are $100 per person. Visit www.krl.org for information or reservations.

It’s not too soon to reserve seats for the always popular Rebecca Wells of Ya-Ya Sisterhood fame. She’s coming to dinner at Kiana Lodge on Agate Passage (Sandy Hook) Friday, October 19.

Wells, an actress, playwright, and author of two New York Times bestsellers — Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood and Little Altars Everywhere — will present a dramatic reading from Ya-Ya Sisterhood. Tickets at $75 per person are expected to go quickly, and seating is limited.

Finally, the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation will offer the movie premiere of Breaking Dawn: Part 2 at Bainbridge Cinemas, sometime in November, the date to be announced.
This year, 2012, Bainbridge Islanders celebrate the 50th anniversary of the library they built on the corner of Madison and High School Road. The project from beginning to end was accomplished with donated funding and labor. The bronze plaque, installed to the south facade of the library, testifies to the community's support: Bainbridge Island Public Library built by and for the people of Bainbridge Island 1962

I hope you will pause for a moment to look through the names you see below. These are the folks who continue this fine tradition of support by donating funds or services in 2011. In turn, their generosity insures that the Bainbridge public library will embark on the next fifty years with what has always been our goal: to provide exemplary service to all our constituents.

Thank you all, Pat Miller, BPL Board President.
Shannon and Van Slyke are Island Treasures

Two long-time Bainbridge Library volunteers were honored recently as the 2011 Island Treasures.

George Shannon and Michele Van Slyke were selected for their community service to all of Bainbridge Island, but library patrons are especially pleased at their selection.

George Shannon has been volunteering at the Bainbridge Public Library for a decade or more, in many roles.

He serves on the Bainbridge Library Board and the Field’s End board, and has worked on the art committee, communications committee, and at many special events. (Yes, you saw him at the anniversary open house March 17.)

He’s charmed youngsters at story hours on the Fourth of July and other times. He loves books, both reading and writing them. This year he’s serving as librarian at The Island School.

In his 40 years of writing children’s books he’s attracted fans not only in Washington State, but all over the United States, and in Kuwait, Japan, Indonesia, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Thailand.

Michele Van Slyke not only creates major works of art that grace libraries and other buildings on Bainbridge Island, in Poulsbo, and elsewhere around the world, but she also worked closely with the search and selection committee which chose the work of local artists now permanently on display as part of the library expanded in 1997. (You see these local artists’ work in the entrance door, hanging from the ceiling over bookshelves, in the children’s library downstairs, and throughout the entire building.)

Like Shannon, she enjoys traveling and has worked on projects in France (where she was born), China, Japan, and up and down the West Coast of the United States.

The Island Treasure awards are given annually by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council.

Executive director Barbara Sacerdote has this to say about Shannon and Van Slyke: “Their talents and achievements in the visual and literary arts have made an indelible impact on the culture of Bainbridge Island, and the vibrancy of their work is matched only by a consistent generosity in sharing it, and themselves, with the community.”

The Island Treasure selection process is modeled after the MacArthur Genius Awards program. Ten community members representing a broad range of local arts and humanities organizations are each asked to anonymously nominate one or two candidates. Candidates’ names and accomplishments are then submitted to a five-member jury of Bainbridge Island citizens and the names of the two recipients are then approved by the Arts and Humanities Council Board. Anonymity of nominators, jurists, and recipients is maintained throughout the process. Each Island Treasure receives a $4,000 cash award and an Island Treasure trophy designed by artist Kent Van Slyke.

Previous Island Treasures include many individuals well known at the library: Joel Sackett, Barbara Helen Berger, David Korten, David Guterson, Ann Lovejoy, and Jerry Elfendahl.

THE BAINBRIDGE PUBLIC Library continues to participate in the First Friday Art Walks every month. Stop by the library between 5 and 7 p.m. to enjoy the new exhibit and visit with the artist. Curator and library board member Linda Meier has put together the following shows for spring: April, Nikki Wheeler, fiber and mixed media; May, an art and garden party retrospective celebrating the library’s 50th anniversary; June, Anne Vekklyn, photographs.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS now for June 30, the day of this year’s Rotary Auction and Rummage Sale. Watch for more details in the June Library News. Proceeds from the first Rotary Auction raised the down payment on the first central Bainbridge Public Library in 1962, and Rotarians have been generous library partners for 50 years.

EARLY DEADLINES are in effect for the summer Library News. Articles, advertising, and photographs are due April 30, and production begins in early May. The summer issue is scheduled for delivery to homes and businesses in early June.