Mark your calendar

These spring events will appeal to library users of all ages. Unless otherwise indicated, they are held in the library.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 1**

Humanities Inquiry Event, 4 p.m.

See page 2 for details.

American Painting, for tickets: Bainbridge Arts & Crafts 842-3132

$20 for series / $6 for single

APRIL 1 through APRIL 7

National Library Week

**THURSDAY, APRIL 5**

Japanese puppetry (free), 1:30 p.m.

(See children’s section)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11**

Visually Impaired Persons support group meeting, 1 to 3 p.m.

Puget Sound Environmental Learning Center program, 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 14**

Friends of the Library book sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 15**

Holiday. Library closed.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 21**

Island Theatre play reading at the library, 7:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 22**

Poetry reading by local poets, 1 p.m.

Humanities Inquiry Event, 4 p.m.

American Painting

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25**

Inquiring Minds: Joiks, Panpipes and Talking Drums. Brian Peril, 7:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 28**

Composting workshop, 9 to 11 a.m.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 29**

Humanities Inquiry Event, 4 p.m.

American Painting

**SUNDAY, MAY 6**

Slide lecture: Lloyd Herman, 2 p.m.

See page 2 for details.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 9**

Visually Impaired Persons support group meeting, 1 to 3 p.m.

Puget Sound Environmental Learning Center program, 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, MAY 12**

Friends of the Library book sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**MONDAY, MAY 28**

Holiday. Library closed.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 7**

Friends of the Library annual meeting, 1:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 9**

Friends of the Library book sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13**

Visually Impaired Persons support group meeting, 1 to 3 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 16**

Island Theatre play reading at the library, 7:30 p.m.

**ONGOING EVENTS**

Library book discussion group

First Wednesday each month, 7 p.m.

**Friday Tidies**

Every Friday 9 a.m.

**Senior computer hour**

Every Tuesday 9 to 10 a.m.

Librarian Cindy Harrison and 1991 Library (right). Above, library entrance today.

**Roundabout to appear this summer**

By VERDA AVERILL

and SUSAN BOTTLES

Bainbridge library users will soon see major traffic changes in their neighborhood.

The Bainbridge City Council at its March 14 meeting authorized the city’s engineering department to go ahead with plans for a roundabout, rather than a stoplight, at the High School Road and Madison Ave. intersection.

The work will be done this summer, as part of a long-planned revision of High School Road from Madison Ave. to Sportsmen’s Club Road.

Original plans had called for a stoplight at the intersection. Late last fall, the engineers suggested a roundabout as an alternative, and the council, at its January 24 meeting, authorized a preliminary roundabout design and study.

Many library users, staff, and volunteers, as well as members of St. Cecilia’s Catholic Church and the Bainbridge School Board, opposed the roundabout design, primarily because of concerns for safety of pedestrians (including the visually impaired and persons in wheelchairs) and loss of spaces in the library’s north parking lot.

The council decided, in a 6-to-1 vote, to proceed with the roundabout. Council chair Lois Curtis voted for a stoplight, explaining that she was responding to many citizens’ letters objecting to the roundabout.

For anxious library users who had hoped for a stoplight, there is some good news.

The original roundabout design has been scaled down about 20 percent, city administrator Lynn Nordic said last week.

“That means traffic will be slowed down even more,” he explained, and about those volunteers:

“We had a Dirty Book Club (that mended and cleaned books) and the garden club took care of the plants,” Harrison recalls. “Now we have many people who donate their time and services.”

“The Friends of the Library have grown tremendously. They now raise nearly $2,000 at each of their book sales.”

The library did not have an organized volunteer program when she arrived, Cindy recalls. That program really got started in the mid-1990s, when Dianne Knodell set it up. The computer instruction program is one of the most popular volunteer efforts. There are

Continued on page 12

**Also in this issue:**

Children’s section: Puppets, penny banks, and more.................................Pages 6-7

New spring art exhibit opens in April...............................................................Page 12

Special new book collections........................................................................Page 4
By VERDA AVERILL

THE FLOWERING plum trees and varieties of spring-flowering plants surround our library with color at this time of year. It’s always a special place, but especially in the spring, when new life appears everywhere in the garden.

Soon it will be warm enough to sit out in the Haiku Garden, to reflect on the quiet beauty of this special place, a tribute to the ancestors of our Bainbridge Japanese American community. The Hardy Fern Foundation garden, on the other side of the library, will also soon be putting out new growth, well on its way to becoming a showplace demonstration garden that will attract visitors from afar.

This is a time for strolling through the gardens, taking a few moments to appreciate not only the plantings, carefully tended by many volunteers, but also the beautiful garden art. Two of my favorites: the touching Molly Greist sculpture in the fern garden, just outside the entrance to the young people’s library, and the wonderful Tony Angell otters (for which we thank Marj and Loyal Moore) near the entrance to the Haiku Garden.

Many of us enjoy bringing our visitors from out of town to stroll through the library gardens at this time of year. A new docent program, begun just about a year ago, makes local volunteers available to help you get acquainted with the library art, both inside and outside the building. (Just ask at the information desk. And for large-group tours, please inquire several days in advance.)

SPRING HAS ALWAYS BEEN a time of new life at the library.

March was the birth month of the first Bainbridge Public Library building, which was designed by local architect John Rudolph and funded by Bainbridge Islanders’ contributions. That first small building was opened to the public in March 1962. It was March again (in 1982) when the next phase of building growth was completed. So for years, St. Patrick’s Day and the coming of spring have been times for celebration around here. We begin thinking green.

Of course, those of us who serve on your library board of directors (all volunteers) are thinking of the green all year long, at every monthly meeting and every library special event. It takes a lot of green — the paper, folding kind — to keep this building operating. More than $100,000 per year now. (Why so much?) Well for one thing, over $30,000 goes for electricity, to pay for the sophisticated climate control system that preserves our books, operates our many computers, and allows library users to work in comfort regardless of the season.

UNLIKE MOST LIBRARIES, this one is not funded by the city or any other taxing entity. The books and other materials, as well as salaries of our outstanding staff, are provided by the tax-supported Kitsap Regional Library system. But the library building itself is owned by the community of Bainbridge Island, and operated for all of us by a board composed of local residents. Every dime for the building — the first one in 1962, the second phase in 1982, and the present large structure opened in 1997 — has been, and continues to be, provided by donations from individuals, organizations, and various partnerships.

That’s why we’re always thinking green. And will continue to do so.

For ways in which you can share some green with your library, keep reading these pages. And thank you.

Verda Averill

Library News editor

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND
LIBRARY NEWS

1270 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

The Bainbridge Island Library News is published every quarter by the Bainbridge Library Board, a non-profit organization, and distributed to all Island residents and local library users. Verda Averill is editor; contributing writers are all regular library volunteers. Board members are: Hans Rothert, president; Verda Averill, Susan Bottles, Susan Bray, David Guterson, Don Harrington, Richard Hassell, Wyman Johnson, Steve Larson, Marlene LeMire, Bruce Martin, David Thompson, Cindy Harrison, and Janet Brookes.

THE LIBRARY BOARD’S retiring president, Steve Olsen, received a thank-you gift from fellow board members: a pair of bookends replicating Patience and Fortitude, the lions that guard the New York Public Library entrance (and stand for the ancestors of our Bainbridge Japanese American community. The Hardy Fern Foundation garden, on the other side of the library, will also soon be putting out new growth, well on its way to becoming a showplace demonstration garden that will attract visitors from afar.

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April is Poetry Month and an April 22 poetry reading will include classic American poems read by poets, poetry teachers, and actors, plus new poems about America by local poets and student writers. The free program begins at 1 p.m.

The Bainbridge Public Library and Bainbridge Arts and Crafts are co-sponsors. For more information, phone 842-7901.

On May 6, Lloyd Herman, founding director of the Smithsonian Institution’s Renwick Gallery, will present a slide lecture on “Recycled Materials in American Art and Design”. Sponsored by Bainbridge Arts and Crafts, the event begins at 2 p.m.

Admission is $5 for BAC members and $10 for non-members, at the door.

At the annual meeting

Five new members joined the Bainbridge Library Board at its annual meeting in January. They are (above) Wyman Johnson, Susan Bottles, David Guterson, Susan Bray, and David Thompson.

Three members retired after years of board service: Steve Olsen, Judy Karr, and Jane Brand. Also at the meeting, Cameron Bahnsen Stouder accepted a gift from the board, a painting of the new library which commemorates the work done by her late husband, Roger Stouder, as treasurer during the recent library building campaign.

Humanities Inquiry events at the library

A series of special events sponsored by Bainbridge Arts and Crafts will be presented this spring in the library’s public meeting room.

Beginning March 25 and continuing on April 1, 22, and 29, Ann Barwick, president of the Seattle Art Museum’s Council of American Arts, is presenting a four-part slide lecture series on American Painting: From a New Nation to a Modern World. Co-sponsors are Bainbridge Arts and Crafts and Bainbridge Music and Arts. The lectures begin at 4 p.m. For ticket information phone 842-3132.

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VIP group provides new work station for visually impaired

The Visually Impaired Persons support group has provided a table in the library to hold a print enlarger.

The new work station was the dream of long-time VIP member Art Geuss, and was purchased by the VIPs in his memory.

The enlarger was donated by Carol Reese in memory of her father, Bill Yahn. The print enlarger is a ClearView Video Magnifier (CCTV). This machine will let the user enlarge print, photos, maps, etc. and comes equipped with a color monitor. The focus is adjustable, and the print can be changed from positive to negative (or reverse, white on black, type).

The new equipment can be used to view periodicals, books, handwritten material, graphs, etc. It is conveniently located in the upper floor reference area, and staff members are available to assist anyone who would like to try out its features.
Local businesses help library in many ways

The Bainbridge Public Library is operated by a non-profit corporation representing the people of Bainbridge Island. Donations by local residents keep the library open (now seven days a week). And many of those donations come from members of the Island’s business community.

Beginning with this issue, the Library News will feature news of local firms which have contributed to the library and list advertisers and sponsors in this regular column.

Bainbridge Gardens changes

This month there’s big news at one of Bainbridge Island’s best-known businesses. Bainbridge Gardens Nursery owners Junkoh and Christine Harui announce a new partnership with Ann Lovejoy, the noted author of many books on gardening.

“As our associate, Ann Lovejoy will help us take Bainbridge Gardens to the next level of development,” says Junkoh. A local landmark and community center, the historic nursery has been featured on HGTV, National Public Radio, and National Public Television. She has written more than 18 gardening books, including Ann Lovejoy’s Organic Design School, The Sage Garden, Gardening From Scratch, and her bestselling regional classic, The Year in Bloom. She is a regular garden and organic food columnist for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer and contributes to many regional and national publications.

At Bainbridge Gardens, Ann will introduce new directions in marketing strategy.

“For a consummate plant shopper, I know exactly what I want to see in a nursery,” Lovejoy says. “At Bainbridge Gardens, all the key elements are already in place. Few nurseries in the region can match their depth of inventory or the overall excellence of their staff.”

Recognized throughout the Northwest for innovative garden classes, Lovejoy will also direct a new educational program for the nursery. Look for classes introducing gardeners to beneficial bugs, corn gluten, and aerobiocly brewed compost teas.

“Sustainability is not a new idea in agriculture, but not many ornamental gardeners are familiar with natural garden care yet,” Lovejoy notes.

Many advertisers contribute

Bainbridge Gardens, of course, is just one of many advertisers who support the library by helping to defray some of the costs for this publication. (Since all news writers volunteer their services, some of those advertising dollars also help with building maintenance and operation.)

In this issue you’ll notice ads from: Charlie Michael’s salon (voted the best of the Island’s styling salons in a year-end poll by the Bainbridge Review); Chamberlin’s; Harris-Zommers Interiors; Family Dentistry (Drs. MacFarlane, Bell, and Thompson); Drury Construction; and The Traveler.

Also represented are Highpoint Resources, Windows Hardware and Merchandise, Eagle Harbor Books, Modern Collision Rebuild, Blumenthal Construction, Joel Sackett Photographer, Glass Onion, Ace Hardware, Bainbridge Island Vineyards & Winery, Town & Country Market, The Berry Patch, Bainbridge Photo Lab, Island Electronics Radio Shack, and RAFN Company (General Contracting Services).

These businesses make a significant contribution to the Bainbridge library.

GIFTS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

Hodges and Woodward shared a love of the library

By VERDA AVERILL

Don Harrington was surprised. A check for several thousand dollars had arrived in the library treasurer’s mailbox — courtesy of the late James Hodges, who died several years ago.

“Didn’t we receive one from him last year?” Harrington asked.

Checking with the foundation which administers the Hodges trust, he found that indeed, Hodges’s gifts to the library continue on an annual basis, thanks to his foresight. And, like other unsolicited gifts, they help the library meet its annual maintenance and operation budget, which now exceeds $100,000. (The largest single expense is Puget Sound Energy’s bill for electricity, which was over $38,000 last year — and promises to be more in 2001.)

Many library users know about James F. Hodges and his wife, Frances. They’re vaguely aware of the Hodges name, and realize it has something to do with the young people’s library. (Portraits of the couple are soon to be mounted on a wall near the elevator.)

A look through old library scrapbooks, from the 1960s through the early ‘90s, tells a lot about the longtime Port Madison resident who became the first president of the Bainbridge Library Board in the early 1960s, when plans were made for Bainbridge Island’s first library building.

He backed the first library, which was opened in 1962, with hard work and energy and long hours of community effort. He was also there to contribute funds as needed (often substantial funds, sometimes given anonymously). Jim and Frances Hodges were there too for the library during its first expansion, in the early 1980s. They were there again in the early ‘90s, tells a lot about the longtime library building.

He served as president of the Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce and was on the Bainbridge School Board when Commodore Bainbridge Middle School was built. At 90, he still worked in Seattle three days a week, as financial vice president of the Olympic Diocese of the Episcopal Church. He has been credited with almost single-handedly raising the money to build the Bainbridge Island Public Library.

Hodges was honored as 1990 Person of the Year by the Bainbridge Kiwanis Club. (During that year he had donated the funds to be held in trust for future library expansion.)

His generosity was not limited to the library. He helped build St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Helpline House, and gave to many other causes.

In a 1990 interview in the Bainbridge Review he said, “My philosophy is, if you live in a community, you ought to take part in it and do some useful things. There are a lot of things that require community effort. One person can’t do it alone.”

Of the library he said, “More people use the library on Bainbridge Island than in other areas of the county, which is one of the reasons I say Bainbridge is a very special place.”

Walt Woodward was strong library backer

Jim Hodges and Walt Woodward were good friends and worked closely together during the first campaign to build a library.

Woodward, who died in March at the age of 91, is of course best known for his stand on behalf of Bainbridge Island’s Japanese Americans during World War II. He was one of the few newspaper editors of that era to protest the relocation of these citizens, and he and his wife Milly were honored many times for their efforts. (The book and movie Snow Falling On Cedars, by Bainbridge Island’s David Guterson, though fictionalized, was based on Woodward’s life.)

But by the late 1950s and early ‘60s, members of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community had returned home and resumed their lives here. Woodward turned his attention to other causes — including the building of the Island’s first library.

Dozens of review articles and editorials and photos kept readers aware of the progress on the building — from the initial fund-raising through early Rotary Auctions through the groundbreaking and the eventual occupancy of the library in March 1962. It seems appropriate at this time to recall his strong interest in the library.

The library’s display case near the front entrance became a memorial to Woodward last week, with displays of newspaper articles and memorabilia relating to his life and newspaper career.
Recent additions celebrate cultural diversity

By SUSAN WIGGS

Bainbridge Island author David Guterson’s runaway bestseller, Snow Falling on Cedars, is simply a gift that keeps on giving. Island residents were treated to a special premiere of the hit movie adapted from the book, and some of the proceeds from the event enabled the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community to make a generous donation of new books to the library. The collection celebrates cultural and ethnic diversity, and includes both fiction and nonfiction titles such as:

• Venus on Wheels by Gelya Frank–A memoir of two decades of dialogue on disability, biography and being female in America.
• The Electrical Field by Kerri Sakamoto–A first novel about the healing and redemption of a woman scarred by war and injustice.
• Paper Son: One Man’s Story by Ting Pak Chan–An autobiography from the series “Asian American History and Culture.”
• The African American Century by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Cornel West–A tribute to the contributions of African descent in the United States.
• Double Victory by Ronald Takaki–A multicultural history of America in World War II by one of the preeminent scholars of ethnic diversity.
• Miriam’s Song by Miriam Mathabane–A powerful memoir of a young black woman coming of age in South Africa amid the violence of apartheid.
• Paper Shadows by Wayson Choy–The reunion of an adopted Chinese girl to her birth mother.
• Forever Alien: A Korean Memoir, 1930-1951 by Sunny Che–The story of a woman’s childhood in Japan as the daughter of Korean immigrants.
• The Missionary and the Libertine by Ian Buruma–A collection of humorous and enlightening essays.
• Asian American Dreams by Helen Zia–A book about the transformation of Asian Americans into a self-identified and influential racial group.
• The Race Trap by Dr. Robert L. Johnson and Dr. Steven Sinzing–Strategies for effective racial communication in business and in life.
• Japanese Culture by Paul Varley–The updated and expanded fourth edition of a seminal textbook.

The Bainbridge Public Library book collection will grow substantially this year, thanks to a $6,500 donation by the 1997 Senior Cruise Committee of Bainbridge High School parents. The gift from the Class of 1997 honors the Dwight Herren family, who lost their lives in a slide that demolished their home on Rolling Bay Walk on January 19, 1997. Herren was a respected and beloved teacher at Bainbridge High.

“We were most fortunate to raise more funds than were needed for the senior cruise party,” Karla Waterman wrote. “These funds were put into a money market account and have increased over the years. The accumulation of these additional funds puts us into a position to give back to the community.”

The committee decided to donate $6,500 to the Bainbridge Public Library for the purchase of new books “in honor of the Dwight Herren family from the Class of 1997.”

Bainbridge High teacher Dwight Herren was a special bookplate designed for the children, Cooper, age 3 months, and Mason, age 7 months.

Romance Writers of America is the world’s largest non-profit genre writers’ association. It provides networking and support to its 8,200 aspiring and published writer-members. RWA members write the romance novels that generated $1 billion in sales in 1998 and comprised 53 percent of all mass market popular fiction published last year.

A list of past and current Favorite Book of the Year honorees can be found on the web at http://www.rwanational.com/favoritebookscomprehensive.stm

Class of 1997 donates books in honor of Herren family

Award-winning CDs are available

By CYNTHIA HARRISON

Islanders may want to read their Sunday paper accompanied by the lovely strings of the kora or unwind from a long work day with a recording of shakuhachi. The West African kora and Japanese shakuhachi flute music are only two of the new CDs available at the library, thanks to a recent gift from Bainbridge Island’s Andreassen Enterprises.

The recordings, ranging from traditional Afro-Hispanic music from Cuba to South Indian classical and Celtic lullabies to Spanish flamenco, significantly expand the library’s collection of world music.

The updated and expanded fourth edition of a seminal textbook.

The updated and expanded fourth edition of a seminal textbook.

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The updated and expanded fourth edition of a seminal textbook.
GARDEN NEWS

Garden compost area is public demonstration site

By KATHY MORSE

Next time you’re visiting the library, stop for a moment and notice the growing compost area on the southeast corner of the property, near the south parking lot. There, tucked away behind the flowering shrubs and spring bulbs, is a Kitsap County Demonstration Site. When it is fully developed it will display a number of composting methods for public education.

During the weekly Friday Tidies work parties, Master Composters guide volunteer gardeners in the proper handling of garden waste. In addition to garden waste, one additional element that is being used for composting is coffee grounds from several island establishments. Talk about recycling! On Saturday, April 28, at 9 a.m. a composting class will be held at the library, with an information session by a Master Composter. The class will start inside in the conference room and then move out into the demonstration site for some field exposure. The educational material will include composting basics, mulch moving, and worm bins. Come learn how to handle your yard waste now that the burn ban is enacted. Call 1-800-245-4940 to reserve a spot.

Persons interested in becoming Master Composters may take the full course starting on April 17. The evening class is free, but graduates are expected to repay their community by volunteering for Master Composter projects, and we could use some more help at the library. Call the Kitsap County Extension Office for more information and registration: 1-360-337-7157. Compost bins are offered for sale by Kitsap County; a 3 x 3 foot bin is only $38. Call the Extension Office at the above number for more information.

Heronwood-library partnership blooms

By GAIL GOODRICK

Non-fiction collection manager

Heronwood Nursery established a fruitful partnership with the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation in 1998. The Heronwood holds Garden Opens six days a year. In 2001 the dates are Friday and Saturday, June 1 and 2; Friday, July 20 and 21; and Friday and Saturday, September 7 and 8. Hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily.

At these Garden Opens, Library Foundation volunteers collect $1 admission donations, and funds are donated to thee library to purchase horticultural education books for use by library patrons throughout the county. Many gardening books for adults and children, as well as educational videos, have been purchased with these funds. Other gardening groups in the county have also been generous with donations. As a result, Kitsap Regional Library can claim a large and varied collection of gardening titles.

Some folks call them the Tidy Fridays. Others say the Friday Tidies. Whatever you call them, they’re enthusiastic about their self-appointed chores: keeping the Bainbridge Public Library gardens neat and attractive in all seasons. They meet at the library every Friday morning at 9, and work until about noon (or until the work is done). They plant, transplant, divide plants, rake and dispose of garden waste in the ever-growing demonstration compost center on the library grounds. They get down on hands and knees and do plenty of weeding. And when a plant seems unhappy in a certain location, they find a new spot for it where it will thrive.

The Friday bunch has been turning out every week without fail since the new library gardens were established. That’s more than three years without a break. (There is a rumor that they took one Friday off to celebrate a Christmas holiday, but since the library was closed that day and nobody was around to notice, the absence has never been documented.)

The garden volunteers are mostly women (a few strong men would be welcome) and all are enthusiastic about their gardening hobby. They come dressed warmly, bring their own tools, and coordinate their work under the supervision of gardening guru Ann Lovejoy. Readers who love gardening and the library are invited to come any Friday and join the fun in the sun, rain, sleet, or snow. There’s always something to be done.

Daffodils in bloom

SPRING DAFFODILS are popping up all over Bainbridge Island. Thousands of the roadside flower clumps were planted during the ’90s by Dick and the late Noel Krutch working with neighborhood homeowners to beautify Island roads. The bulbs have now begun to multiply, and are at their peak this month.

The library grounds daffodils are a special reminder of Noel Krutch, who was a dedicated library board member. Heronswood Library partnership blooms (top) while Friday Tidies work on grounds.

Whatever the name, call them great gardeners

COME JOIN THE BAINBRIDGE LIBRARY BOOK GROUP!

The Bainbridge Library Book Group has chosen what it will be reading and discussing for the next few months. Meetings are held in the Bainbridge Public Library meeting room on either the first Monday or Wednesday of the month. New members are always welcome!

March 5, Monday – Plainsong, by Kent Haruf
April 4, Wednesday – High Tide in Tucson, by Barbara Kingsolver
May 2, Wednesday – The Birthday Boys, by Beryl Bainbridge
June 6, Wednesday – Endurance: An Epic of Polar Adventure, by F. A. Worsley
July 2, Monday – The Life and Times of Michael K, by J.M. Coetzee
August 1, Wednesday – Boyhood, by J.M. Coetzee

Come join us for some great discussions! If you have any questions, please call either Cindy Harrison at 842-4162 or Martha Knappe at 780-2102.

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THE BERRY PATCH

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NOURISHING THE QUALITY OF LIFE
Summer reading program is set

By MARY CURTIS
Young people’s editor

“Read around the Sound” will be the theme for this summer’s reading program. Beginning June 15, children of all ages are invited to participate just by signing up at the library. Children who can’t yet read themselves can qualify by having someone read to them — parents, grandparents, friends, even older siblings.

The program will work as it has in years past. Our young readers will receive a reading roster when they register at the Young People’s desk, and their goal is to log 10 hours of reading time. When children complete the 10 hours, their names will be displayed on the library walls and they may choose a free paperback. Children are also given a ticket for each 10 hours of reading, and these tickets are collected for a drawing at the end of the summer for a special book prize.

Children are encouraged to read as much as they can over the summer. The paperback awards are generously supplied with funds from the Friends of the Library and the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation. Young people’s librarian Peggy Hughes is expecting a good turnout again this year. Last year over 1,000 children participated and they logged well over 12,000 hours of reading.

In addition to the summer reading program, Wednesday mornings in July will feature special presentations and activities. Craft programs and puppet shows are planned as well as a visit from the folks at the Poulsbo Marine Science Center who are planning to bring a touch tank.

Spring 2001 story times program

TERRIFIC TWOS

Our story time program for 2 year olds will continue in the young people’s library on Monday mornings for 30 minutes starting at 10:30. The dates are April 16, 23, 30 and May 7, 14, 21. It’s a busy half hour of stories, song, and finger plays for two-year-olds and their grown ups.

Sign up at the Young People’s check-out desk or by calling 842-4162.

PRESCHOOLERS

Our story time program for children ages 3-5 will also continue in the young people’s library on Wednesday mornings for 30 minutes starting at 10:30. The dates are April 18, 25, and May 2, 9, 16, 23. Stories, music, finger plays, and fun are on the program for these preschoolers.

Young people’s librarian Peggy Hughes caught these four Sakai students studying in the young people’s library recently. From left to right, they are Inga Christopherson, Kelsey Darkenwald, Leslie Jones, and Heather Schuler.

Hear and Say Reading video builds a child’s vocabulary

By MARY CURTIS

Experts agree that the best way to encourage a life-long love of reading in children is to read to them — the earlier the better. A new video now available in the Young People’s Library was created specifically for toddlers and anyone who reads to them.

It teaches parents and other caregivers a way of reading story books with young children that encourages early language development. Using conversation about the story and pictures, Hear and Say Reading helps build a child’s vocabulary and sentence skills.

The video started as a conversation about a year and a half ago between Bill Frankenberg and Colleen Heubner. Heubner, who is a professor at the University of Washington, had been using the Hear and Say Reading technique in her work with early language development and school readiness. But the video she had been using was outdated and not readily available to schools, libraries, and day care centers.

Frankenberg, a retired pediatrician and active member of the Rotary Club here on Bainbridge Island, thought creating a new video was a good project that fit well with Rotary’s mission of service to others. Together they enlisted the aid of Marit Saltromes, another Rotarian, who has extensive experience writing and directing videos, and Peggy Hughes, the young people’s librarian. Together the four wrote, and received, a Children’s Opportunity Grant from Rotary International to create a video program for Hear and Say Reading.

Then came the actual work of creating the video. Heubner and Saltromes wrote the script. Frankenberg and Hughes recruited local parents and children to be filmed learning and using the method. John Rauch, an associate of Saltromes, did the camera work, both filming and editing, with Saltromes and Heubner advising. The result is a 20-minute video that easily explains the method and teaches anyone how to use it.

Research has shown that the years from birth to 3 are critical developmental years, and that too many children still lack everyday experiences and interactions that promote language and brain development. Informal and inexpensive activities such as talking and playing can support growth and development, especially in language. Heubner has documented that using the Hear and Say Reading method with 2- and 3-year-olds is a good way to improve language development, communication and parent/child relationships.

In an effort to get the video into as many hands as possible, Walter Braswell of the Bainbridge Island Rotary Club has assumed the job of marketing and selling the video, using Rotary International and the web as his base. Unlike the warning that appears in the beginning of most commercial videos, the Hear and Say Reading video begins with an invitation to everyone to copy and distribute the video themselves.

So feel free to make a copy of the video from the one in the library. Individual copies can also be purchased directly from Rotary’s web site at www.bainbridgeslandrotary.org at a cost of $14.95 including shipping and handling.
Young people’s gifts make a difference

Donations to the Bainbridge Public Library come from friends of all ages. And this year, at the annual meeting of the library’s board of directors in January, young people’s librarian Peggy Hughes had a special surprise: a bagful of coins presented by a young library user. The money was donated by Taylor Raffa, a third grader at Blakely Elementary School.

Taylor consistently saved a part of her allowance throughout 2000, and at the end of the year, she had over $20, enough for the purchase of a special book.

“I put my allowance into three jars — one for spending, one for saving, and one for charity,” she said. “When the charity jar had enough money in it, I brought it to the library.”

This is the second time Taylor’s earnings have been used to purchase books for the library, noted Mary Curtis, Library News young people’s editor. Peggy Hughes has selected *The Serpent Slayer* as Taylor’s gift, and expects her to be the first to check it out. Reading, of course, is a favorite leisure-time activity of Taylor. When she’s not reading, she likes to play soccer and basketball, paint and draw.

While Taylor was the only young person to make such a generous gift this year, she is by no means the only one to contribute to the library in recent years.

Hughes recalled that during the fund-raising campaign for the expanded library building in the late 1990s, many young people saved their coins for the library.

“Children constructed their own paper savings banks as part of a library craft project, and deposited their money in them,” she recalls. And classes at local schools banded together to raise money for special named shelves. The students’ combined efforts added hundreds of dollars to the fund-raising campaign.

The shelf project, incidentally, is an ongoing source of funds. Grandparents, parents and other relatives and friends may honor a student graduating from high school or college by giving to the library in the student’s name. A special permanent plaque will be placed on a shelf, in either the young people’s or main-floor library, to signify the student’s accomplishment.

Information about donor plaques is available at upstairs and downstairs information desks in the library, and elsewhere in this paper.

By MARY CURTIS

Looking for a special something to do over spring break? Come to the library!

As part of National Library Week, the Nanja Monja Puppet Company will present a puppet show at the Bainbridge Library on Thursday, April 5, at 1:30. The group, which comes from Japan, will perform two folk tales: “The Three Little Pigs” and a Japanese tale entitled “Kappa.”

The Nanja Monja, or Bear Group, Puppet Company is composed of seven women who have been performing together, largely for children’s audiences, for 16 years. The company members are from Osaka and its surrounding suburbs, and they have won several prizes in local puppetry competitions. The puppets they use are mainly rod puppets and hand puppets, set up on a stage with side wings. The group previously toured Seattle’s schools and libraries in 1992 and has also performed at the Northwest Regional Puppetry Festival. Their performance at our library is one of only 10 they will be doing on this year’s trip to the Seattle area.

The Bainbridge performance is made possible with funds donated by the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community. These funds are part of the multicultural grant awarded to the library based on moneys generated from the Snow Falling on Cedars premiere. The Seattle Puppetory Theater, which has hosted and arranged performance tours for other Japanese groups as well as companies from Spain and Mexico, is sponsoring the Nanja Monja Tour.

The performance will take place in the meeting room. While the program is recommended for children from kindergarten through grade six, everyone will appreciate the artistry. Come a little early as seating is on a first come, first served basis.
Nancy Leach enjoys ‘the perfect job’

By SUE BOTTLES

Although there are times library page Nancy Leach considers her job to be one of “inspired monotony,” she always believes her duties unloading and loading the daily courier shipment from the other Kitsap libraries to be the “perfect job at this time of my life.”

Working four morning hours, five days a week, allows her to be home with her children, Julia, 15, and Ann, 17, when they return from school. The girls are a freshman and a senior at Bainbridge High School.

Leach and her family, which includes husband Larry, moved to the island from Spokane four and a half years ago. She wanted to find a way to become part of her new community. (There were some ties already: Her great-grandparents were Emily and George Logg, for whom Logg Road is named. They built their summer home here around 1907, later moving to the island full time. They were early members of Rolling Bay Presbyterian Church. Milly Woodward, who published the Review with her husband Walt, was her mother’s cousin.)

At times, Leach can seem almost dwarfed by the 18 gray crates that ferry books between the nine Kitsap Regional Library branches. Some books are fulfilling requests patrons have placed for them. Others are brand new additions to the shelves. First thing in the morning she heads to the stacks to pull the Bainbridge books requested by users elsewhere in the county system.

“It’s great seeing all the brand new books. The covers are so beautiful. I’m placing holds on them right and left,” she said.

Not that Leach is a novice around libraries. Her favorite course while earning a degree in French and education at Western Washington University was library science for elementary schools. There, and later at Williamette University, she worked as a library assistant.

Her current job is quite physical, hefting books and crates about, and she normally works in jeans. But it is the people she loves.

“I can’t say enough about the nice people I work with. Sometimes I fill in out at the checkout desk, and the library users are great, too. About 90 percent of Bainbridge residents have library cards,” she said.

When not at the library, Leach devotes a portion of her time to gardening. The family had a home built on two and a half sunny acres, land that once was a strawberry farm belonging to Japanese Americans.

“Sometimes I find old tiles from the farm,” she said.

Sewing and knitting round out Leach’s activities. Plus, of course, trying to work her way through the stacks of books she brings home.

A NEW WHEELED WALKER, a Cruiser Deluxe by Nova, is available for use within the library by anyone who needs help getting around. Friends of the Library donated the Cruiser.

THE LIBRARY MEETING room is available for rent at very low rates, and funds from the rental help pay for library operation. Call 842-4162 for details.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY recycle your previously read books at their monthly book sales. Donations are welcome. But please, only books in good condition. Drop off your donations at the library any time.

COMMUTERS who can’t get to the library during working hours should note that it is open Monday and Wednesday evenings (until 8:30) and Sunday afternoons.

THE REVOLVING art shows in the public meeting room feature local artists. Each show continues for about three months, and most of the art is for sale. Artists usually return a portion of the sale price to the library, so buyers are helping maintain the building as well as acquiring outstanding artworks.

YOU CAN RESERVE books online. For details, check with any library staff member at the information desk, or phone 842-4162.

BAINBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY is a part of the Kitsap Regional Library system, and KRL provides staff salaries and books and other circulating materials. But the Bainbridge library building is owned by the people of Bainbridge Island and managed by a non-profit organization run by local volunteers.

ADVERTISING in the Library News helps pay for printing costs and, since all staff members volunteer their services, also contributes to maintenance and operation of the building.

Just one cent per household will carry your Library News advertising message all over Bainbridge Island. Curious? Give us a call at 842-2865 or 842-4162.

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Madson makes the final call on donated books

By SUE BOTTLES

For at least four hours every week, volunteer Pat Madson makes the final judgment on books Bainbridge residents so generously donate. She looks over each book and officially adds the copy to the collection or sends it “downstairs” to be sold by the Friends of the Library at their monthly sale.

Either way the library gains. Madson is especially qualified to make the final determination. In 1993, she earned her Master of Library Science degree at the University of Washington, capping off a mid-life return to college that started with earning a Bachelor of Arts in English. Shortly after moving to the island with her partner Bernard Lehv in 1997, she volunteered her services at the library.

But her volunteer-on-the-job training has also been invaluable. “At first, I would check the circulation statistics of so many books. Is this an author Bainbridge reads? But after almost four years of doing this, it’s almost automatic,” she said, adding, “I’ve never turned down a Harry Potter book.”

Madson is only the final person in the line that handles the gift books, which arrive by the dozens every day the library is open. On a typical Saturday morning a cart may be stacked with several large boxes of donations, with a full shopping bag or two balanced atop.

In 1999, over 4,000 of these gift books were added to the Bainbridge collection. Some were bestsellers, with high demand, some were just-published books not yet on library shelves, and others were replacement copies for tattered and worn or just plain missing copies. Some were duplicates of reference books, which meant the library now had a circulating copy. All were stamped with the word “gift” inside the front cover, and a few also had gift bookplates.

After years of experience, library staff and volunteers can quickly divide possible additions to the collection from books obviously destined for the sale. Even the Friends do not accept all donations because some things simply do not sell. Books in poor condition, textbooks, encyclopedias and Readers Digest Condensed books just create storage and handling headaches for the Friends.

But if a book is a possible “keeper” for the collection, volunteer Arnold Peterson looks it up in the Dynix computer system. He fills out a form with information about the number of copies that the Kitsap Regional Library has.

Then Madson goes to work. Some wonderful books are “so esoteric, so specialized,” she said, “they are not good” selections for this general interest library. But if it meets other standards and there are no copies anywhere in the regional system, or if it is newly published, Madson sends it on to Central.

There it is catalogued, given a bar code, added to the Dynix system and assigned to Bainbridge. If other copies are already in the system but Bainbridge does not have its own, then the book is also added to the collection. Or if Bainbridge already has a copy of the book, then Madson pulls it from the shelf and evaluates which copy is in better condition. The better book wins.

Madson, who said, “I am by nature a voracious reader,” said, “I love books.” To Bainbridge, she said, “I am by nature an English major,” went back to college, at first in Illinois, when the youngest two of her four children were in high school.

She moved to Seattle with Lehv in 1988 and finished up her undergraduate work here, followed by the graduate degree. “It gave me a sense of closure,” she said.

She and Lehv spent two years in Europe and travel back often. They typically set out to explore an area for some months, sometimes by car, often by rail and on foot. Besides travel, she likes gardening – and reading, of course.

These interests parallel those of the average Bainbridge library patron. “We get many donations of travel, cooking and gardening books, and they will circulate very well,” she said. “We are always adding current guidebooks.”

Madson’s other volunteer hours are spent with the Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers. “We just try to meet people’s needs, helping with transportation to medical appointments, for instance,” she said.

Madson said she continues to “read fairly widely,” but her book keeping habits have changed. She has weeded through her own collection and, although she might buy a bestseller, she then turns around and donates it to the library.

“Why should I dust it every Friday?” she asked.

Pat Madson: She decides where books go.

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Earthquake shakes up library patrons
But damage was limited to old building

By PAULETTE RHODES and SUSAN THORSTEINSON of the library staff

It wasn’t The Big One. But it was big enough.

The 40-second earthquake that shook Puget Sound communities February 28 rattled a few shelves and left library users feeling a bit queasy. But nobody was injured, and damage to the building was limited to broken windows in the older section of the building (the young people’s library downstairs).

The library’s well-prepared emergency plan was put into effect immediately, as soon as the quake hit at 10:55 a.m.

Library staffers told patrons to take cover, and “we continued to remind patrons to stay under cover,” said Sue Thorsteinson. “We waited a minute or two after the shaking stopped before giving the OK to get up. We then asked if anyone was injured, and everyone was OK.

“Bunny came up from downstairs and said everyone downstairs was out of the building. She informed us that the windows on the north side of the building were broken. We evacuated the upstairs floor and then walked around to evaluate the damage.”

The damage included five broken windows and some drywall cracks. Susan and Paulette Rhoades used yellow tape to tape off the area in the north parking lot where the glass had fallen from broken windows.

John Rudolph, the architect who designed the north end (original library building), came in and evaluated the damage. A local police officer also surveyed the damage, as did library board president Hans Rothert, an independent contractor.

“The staff responded in a very professional way, helping patrons, answering phones, shelving books and audio-visual aids, and staying calm,” said Cindy Harrison, library branch manager.

Immediately after the quake, the library was closed for the day. Most staff members were sent home, while Thorsteinson and Peggy Hughes remained to man the phones.

Drury Construction, contractors for the building, cleaned up and boarded up the windows. Hans Rothert checked out the elevator and said the building was safe to reopen the next day.

Custodians were alerted to the location of broken glass. Alarms were reset on emergency doors, and the library doors locked up by 2:45 p.m. Next day, things were back to normal.

“It all went smoothly, and shows the value of a good emergency preparedness plan,” said Harrison.

And Hughes was delighted with the calm and orderly behavior in the children’s area.

“Thery responded better than some of the adults, when it came to taking cover,” she laughed.

Estimates of the glass replacement cost is about $4,700—a sum that will put a crimp in this year’s maintenance budget if the library has to pay it all. Phone calls to FEMA brought quick response in the person of inspectors. But, as this newspaper goes to press, there was no word as to possible financial aid from the federal agency.

NEWS BRIEFS

LIBRARY DOCENTS are now available to lead tours of the building’s artworks and to take such a strong, unpopular stand during the War?”

He thought for a while and then said firmly it was his fourth-grade teacher who had inspired him. She made the Constitution and Bill of Rights come alive for him, and when it was time for the teachers to speak up, he said, “We just knew it was the right thing to do.”

By VERDA AVERILL

Walt Woodward, who died at 91 just a few days before our Library News deadline for this issue, was a courageous and dedicated newspaperman who lived with deadlines almost all his adult life. He met the final deadline as he did many others: just in time. When he died quietly on a Tuesday afternoon, his daughter Mary remarked, “Well, Dad made deadline.” There was still time for the Bainbridge Review to publish his obituary in the next day’s paper.

The story of his activities on behalf of Japanese-Americans during World War II is well known by now; he and his wife, Milly, were honored often not only on the Island but throughout this country and Japan. And David Guterson’s book, Snow Falling on Cedars, spread the story of the Woodwards’ courageous journalism to many other countries.

I was a child in Portland during World War II and knew nothing of the Bainbridge Island journalist until, years later, my husband Dave and I moved to Kitsap County to publish the Kitsap County Herald in Poulsbo. Community journalism is a small world, and we got to know Walt and Milly, the publishers across the bridge, in the 1960s. We competed vigorously to scoop each other on local news and battled over the limited advertising dollars available. When the Woodwards decided to retire, Dave and I bought the paper from them and persuaded Walt to stay on as editor for a few years.

After the change of ownership, the local Japanese-American community honored Walt and Milly and their daughters at a dinner party, complete with speeches and toasts and gold watches. The location for the party? A Chinese restaurant, Ruby Chow’s, in Seattle. Walt was delighted and amused at the choice; it was my first experience with Bainbridge multi-cultural events, and I can still hear him laughing, “A Chinese restaurant?”

During the years we worked together and in the years to come, I learned that Walt was a champion not only of Japanese-Americans, but of all underprivileged and underappreciated human beings.

He was almost unique, in his generation, for giving full and equal credit to his spouse and business partner. Whenever somebody applauded his stand on behalf of Japanese-Americans, he was quick to say, “Milly and I did it together.”

Walt and Milly loved books and championed the local library as strongly as they did their neighbors of Japanese ancestry. He wrote long, sometimes flowery editorials, and she proofread them to perfection. (After retiring from the Review, she returned to teaching at Bainbridge High School, and my children learned a lot about writing from her.)

A few years ago I interviewed Walt for the non-fiction book I have yet to write, and asked him the inevitable question: “What or who was it that inspired you to take such a strong, unpopular stand during the War?”

Memories of a courageous editor

By PAULETTE RHODES and SUSAN THORSTEINSON of the library staff

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He thought for a while and then said firmly it was his fourth-grade teacher who had inspired him. She made the Constitution and Bill of Rights come alive for him, and when it was time for the teachers to speak up, he said, “We just knew it was the right thing to do.”
In 1983, she ran four marathons. Since then, she has run 20, finishing all but one (after she had surgery). Not only has Cole competed in running contests, but she has done the Ironman (2.4 miles swimming, 112 miles biking, and 26.2 miles running) and even crewed in whale boat races. Although she always finishes in the top 10 percent, top 5 percent for women, she never thinks of time, or that she has to win. “I run for the joy of running,” she insisted. “To me, it’s fun.” She added, “I’m not a very good observer of sports. I’d rather get out and do them.” In 1984 she remarried. Kathy and husband Greg spent their honeymoon running a marathon in Stockholm.

Ten years later, wanting to leave city life, they moved to Bainbridge Island, where one of the first things Cole did was get a library card. She is an avid reader of fiction and books on health and fitness. Also, she checks out books-on-tape and listens while she works out on Stairmaster. During the years of the new library construction, the Coles were off the island. “When we left,” she said, “the library operated in a cramped annex over at the Commodore. When we came back, there was this beautiful expanded library.” Cole is impressed with the Baanbridge Library. “We couldn’t believe it. I go there once a week.” Kathy Cole runs all over the island, 12 miles at a time. She doesn’t run. Cole laughed. “Abbie is really smart. She knows what it means when I get my running shoes out, and she jumps around in her excitement. When I grab my swim bag, she sadly retreats to her bed. And when I read a book, well, she curls up at my feet quiet as a mouse. I think she knows that running and reading are my passions.”

Kathy Cole runs for the joy of running

By BARBARA WINTHER

Kathy Cole has been running most of her life. She can’t remember when she didn’t run. While she was growing up, the only sport program for girls in her particular school was gym. So, from an early age she made up her own sport program; she ran around town. She, meaning, really ran, dreaming of marathons. “I never thought I’d be able to do one,” she said, “yet I never stopped thinking about it. After my daughter was born in Pennsylvania, I used to run for an hour at night, 9 p.m., close enough by my house so that with the windows wide open I could hear the baby. The shoes I wore then were pretty poor by today’s standards.”

When she moved to Houston she still ran—two or three miles an evening. One day the computer company she worked for sponsored a 5 K (3.1 miles) race, and she won the women’s trophy.

Her face lit up as she remembered. “I thought, ‘Wow, maybe I’m good at this.’” Following her divorce, she moved to the Bay Area in California. At her new job she met a man who was a marathon runner. He helped her train, showing her how to exercise and lift weights, making sure she ate healthy and necessary foods, got enough sleep, and ran daily.

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Ten years later, wanting to leave city life, they moved to Bainbridge Island, where one of the first things Cole did was get a library card. She is an avid reader of fiction and books on health and fitness. Also, she checks out books-on-tape and listens while she works out on Stairmaster. During the years of the new library construction, the Coles were off the island.

“When we left,” she said, “the library operated in a cramped annex over at the Commodore. When we came back, there was this beautiful expanded library.” Cole is impressed with the Baanbridge Library. “We couldn’t believe it. I go there once a week.” Kathy Cole runs all over the island, 12 miles at a time. Her dog, Abbie, goes along, as well as a friend, who also has a dog.

Cole laughed. “Abbie is really smart. She knows what it means when I get my running shoes out, and she jumps around in her excitement. When I grab my swim bag, she sadly retreats to her bed. And when I read a book, well, she curls up at my feet quiet as a mouse. I think she knows that running and reading are my passions.”

SPEAKERS FORUM

Next year’s Speakers Forum will grow to seven lectures

The popular Baanbridge Library Speakers Forum continues to grow. Next year’s series will include seven distinguished speakers, says director Susan Bray, thanks to a new alliance with Bainbridge Arts and Crafts.

The library will sponsor five speakers and two more will be funded by the Bainbridge Arts and Crafts outreach program.

Dates and prices for the series have not yet been firmed up, says Bray, but are convenient dates can be arranged, are 4 p.m. on Sunday afternoons.

In the early summer. Current Speakers Forum subscribers will be notified by mail when tickets are available. A few weeks later, tickets will be available for the general public.

Are you looking for a special way to honor someone at an upcoming graduation, anniversary, or birthday? Would you like to thank, in a public way, a special person or organization in your life? Or, as a dedicated library user yourself, perhaps you would simply like to help support an ongoing operation— and encourage others by your example. Consider symbolically buying a shelf at the library. For $250 you may choose the wording on a plaque (up to 28 letters and spaces) which is permanently affixed to a library shelf as recognition of your generosity (and is a potential tax deduction, too).

You may specify where you’d like it placed: main floor or young people’s library, in whatever department you prefer.

These special recognition plaques produce vitally important operating funds that keep the building’s doors open, the wastebaskets emptied, and the lights and heat on. Every penny of ongoing expenses must be raised month after month, year after year from private donations.

Complete the form below and mail to:
Bainbridge Public Library • 1270 Madison Avenue • Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Questions? Call 842-4162

Name ___________________________________________ Date ____________________
Address ____________________________________________ Phone ___________________

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public lectures, meetings of local groups, now the young people’s library. Today, meeting room downstairs (in what is addition of a public meeting room on the track,” says Harrison.

You can do so much more today!”

The technique

The Theo Moorman technique is an inlay method that produces fragile, lightweight compositions of gradating colors and geometrical patterns in fine silk and cotton threads.

“The inlay areas are bound to the ground weave by a barely visible tie-down warp thread. This allows a density and richness of color which could not be produced by ordinary inlay techniques,” explains Carolyn.

Soft spoken, with a quiet light in her eyes, Carolyn invited me into her living room. In a corner stand two beautiful

FROM PAGE 1

10 years later

now four people who provide computer education to library users, by appointment or at special senior citizen hours Tuesday mornings before the library opens.

The extensive computer system itself has evolved in just the last few years. Planning for the wiring and the terminals was an important part of the library building expansion.

“We had microfiche in 1986 when I moved here,” Cindy recalls. “What a huge difference from the catalog (the computers make). You can do so much more today!”

Kitsap Regional Library’s computer wizard Michael Schuyler (an Island resident), supervised the installation of the computers and “really helped us stay on track,” says Harrison.

Another major change has been the addition of a public meeting room on the library’s main floor. Before the building expansion of 1996, there was a small meeting room downstairs (in what is now the young people’s library). Today, the meeting room has a capacity of more than 100 and is a popular space for public lectures, meetings of local groups, authors’ receptions, and other events.

Non-library groups pay a modest fee for use of the room, and the rentals contribute substantially to the library’s $100,000-plus maintenance and operation budget.

The branch manager isn’t the only staff member to celebrate 10 years of service recently.

Young people’s librarian Peggy Hughes came a couple of years before Harrison and has built a popular program of pre-schoolers’ story hours and summer reading activities for school children, as well as other features like the popular parenting center.

“Peggy spent many hours planning the new young people’s library during the building phase,” Cindy notes. “For more about the young people’s library, please turn to Pages 6 and 7.”

Paulette Rhoades, library associate and PC technician, has also just celebrated her first 10 years on the job. She started at the circulation desk and has been involved in almost all the library’s services.

“I was hired to work one day a week,” she laughs. “I’ve never worked just one day.”

She’s not complaining. She wouldn’t have it any other way.

FROM PAGE 1

Roundabout

Carolyn Nowadnick displays weavings

By NANNY WOOLDRIDGE

A little room stood in the corner of her grandmother’s living room. She remembers the beautiful rainbows she wove as a child from leftover knitting yarn. Her grandmother, Olive Green, lived just walking distance away from her in Madison Park.

“I never thought much about how her name relates,” Carolyn said, “but she used to paint with me and taught me how to make patterns and to weave.”

Thus began Carolyn Nowadnick’s lifelong love of color and pattern, shape and texture.

When she moved with her brother and parents from Seattle to New Zealand in teenage years, she gained a whole new perspective on the natural world. She went to Canterbury University in Christ Church, then returned to the University of Washington to pursue studies in printmaking and graphic arts.

Once out of school, she realized that printmaking takes a lot of big equipment and investment, and she started working with textiles in which the imagery can be similar.

“It’s so easy to become seduced by materials,” she says. “The richness of fabrics, the silken thickness, the sparkle of metallics.”

Strands from childhood memories tugged at Carolyn as she picked up weaving in earnest. She took classes in rug weaving and garment weaving, but the class that captivated her was that from Theo Moorman, a British weaver who lived in Bellingham.

The technique

The Theo Moorman technique is an inlay method that produces fragile, lightweight compositions of gradating colors and geometrical patterns in fine silk and cotton threads.

“The inlay areas are bound to the ground weave by a barely visible tie-down warp thread. This allows a density and richness of color which could not be produced by ordinary inlay techniques,” explains Carolyn.

Soft spoken, with a quiet light in her eyes, Carolyn invited me into her living room. In a corner stand two beautiful

The artist at work

harps, a folk harp and a pedal harp, which her husband, Jim, and her 16-year-old daughter, Beth, both play.

Over her sofa hangs a pale blue, grey and cream quilted piece with circles and half moons of Carolyn’s design which she calls an “unweaving” (often identified as trampunto). Behind the harps hangs a recent weaving, rectangular with red stripes and squares of graduated colors, white to grey to black.

With a head full of ideas, Carolyn begins a piece with rough sketches, then draws to scale with colored pencils. She lays these drawings on the floor and walks by them to decide which design works for her. A developer who works with the Navajos once told her that her design time should take as much time as her weaving time.

Once she’s made the design, or “cartoon,” to size with threads and color changes carefully noted, she places it under her threaded loom with the warp already in place, and begins weaving.

A slow process

That’s the part she likes best. She savors the meditative process, the slow pace that takes her into another world, the precision of handling delicate threads, and the gradual emergence of the design—always a surprise because you can’t really see the pattern until it’s been cut off from the loom.

It was a long time before these walls held her artwork. Her process has parallels to the construction of their house—almost 16 years in the doing. Carolyn and Jim looked for a year and a half in the early 1980s before they found their lot in the woods. Unforeseen delays happened at first. Jim and his dad were about to lay the foundation and construct the frame when his father got hit by a truck (his own!). Jim finally got the framing, and his dad helped to recover for him with the roof.

They moved in when the basics were complete—plywood floors, sheet rock walls, and a sink and counter for the bathroom and the kitchen areas.

Meanwhile, baby Beth arrived. Another four or five years rolled by, along with Peter’s arrival, before the kitchen was finished. Gradually, the painting and finish work were completed. Three years ago, the front porch and entryway were added, and Carolyn got her treasured workroom where the carport had been.

“I didn’t have to worry about my children messing things up those years since we were always in transition,” Carolyn said, “and every time we got something new, it was very exciting.” She especially remembers the shower.

Her weaving endeavors took on a snail’s pace during that time. Carolyn found it frustrating when frisbees and soccer balls squashed threads of her loom parked in the upstairs hallway.

It was easier to do faster-paced things like sketching and drawing.

Since she’s returned to weaving in her very own space, Carolyn has simplified both her palette and shapes.

Formerly, she created triangles and circles using many colors. Now she is working more with the grid of the loom, making more rectangular shapes and limiting her colors. She likes focusing on a series, letting one design grow from another.

Inspiration

Her inspiration comes from nature. No matter wind or rain, she is outside everyday.

Walking on Manitou Beach the other day, she exulted in watching the seagulls wheeling round and round in the wind. She tries to reflect in her woven pieces the “light, movement, and transitions” of the everyday world.

Carolyn’s artwork can be seen in the new Poulsbo Library art in private collections. It will be on exhibit at the Bainbridge Library from April 2 through June. One art piece will be by the machine tuck, and the others in the meeting room. Ask for a key to the meeting room at the main desk.

Artwork for sale

Most of Carolyn Nowadnick’s weavings will be for sale. They range from $400 to $700. Call the artist at 842-4596 for purchase information. Remember, 25 percent of the sale price is returned to the Library.

saying it should reduce the possibility of accidents for pedestrians and motorists alike.

Also, the north parking lot, which had been threatened with the loss of up to six parking spaces, will now lose only three, Nordby said. That’s an important point for library users, who frequently find both lots full and must sometimes park on the street for popular events.

Entrances to the library parking lots will not be changed, Nordby said, and the Haiku Garden will not be affected in any way. “It may be even more peaceful, since traffic will be moving slowly but continuously, and there won’t be the big backups of cars that we now see several times a day,” he added.

Date for the actual construction depends on weather and other factors, Nordby said, but is expected to be early this summer, possibly as soon as June.

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 12 noon to 5:00 p.m.
(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS for Linknet Users

http://www.kcl.org

LIBRARY PHONE NUMBERS

Bainbridge Island Branch ............. 842-4182
Toll Free to Kitsap Regional Library........... 842-0197
For Computer Support and Other Departments ......... 780-2102 or 1-360-405-9313