

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 4, No. 2

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

Fall 2001

Mark your calendar

These autumn events take place in the library unless otherwise noted.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Library Book Group "The Grass Dancer" by Susan Power 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

Perry Lorenzo, "Roman Operas", 4 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

Holiday. Library closed.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Visually Impaired Persons Support Group, 1 to 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Puget Sound Environmental Learning Center "Virtual tour" program, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Friends of the Library book sale, 10 to 2
Opera Preview, "Rusalka", 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

Speakers Forum, Dr. Joel Migdal, "Does Peace Have a Future in the Middle East?" 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

Composting class, 10 to 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Library Stewards celebration at City Hall 6:00 to 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Northwest Chamber Winds, 1:30 to 2:30
Family storytime, 3 to 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Maggie Ball, "Creative Quilting With Kids", 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Library Book Group, 7 p.m.
"Personal History" by Katharine Graham

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Friends of the Library book sale, 10 to 2

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Holiday. Library closed.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Visually Impaired Persons Support Group, 1 to 3
Puget Sound Environmental Learning Center program: "Lichens" 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Tellabration! Stories for teens & adults, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Speakers Forum: U. S. Rep. Jay Insee and Dr. Gary Marx, "Windows into the Soul: Surveillance and Society", 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Library closes at 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Holiday. Library closed.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Library closed.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Library Book Group, 7 p.m.
"Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Gilman "The Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

Friends of the Library book sale, 10 to 2

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

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



She loves books!

Maeve Boon, 2, admires the picture books in the Bainbridge children's library. For children's activities turn to pages 6 and 7.

Library needs BF donations

By VERDA AVERILL

Sometime within the next day or two, perhaps in the mail with this publication, you'll receive a bright red packet from Bainbridge Foundation.

This is the traditional One Call for All through which Islanders have been giving to Bainbridge non-profit organizations for four decades.

In the early 1960s, when the concept was new, there were only a dozen or so agencies here and it was easy to select those to which one wished to contribute. People simply wrote out their checks, marked two or three or more agencies on the ballot, and could be assured that they would not be bothered by solicitors ringing the doorbell or telephone

Today, when more than 70 organizations are appealing for funds, the decision making is not so simple. It takes time to read about all the organizations and allocate one's funds accordingly. That may be one reason why the number of donations to Bainbridge Foundation has decreased in recent years, though the total amount donated has increased slightly.

The Bainbridge Public Library has been a Bainbridge Foundation agency since the beginning, and relies heavily on BF donations for its operating and maintenance funds. For many years BF was the single largest source of library funding.

In recent years, earmarked gifts to the library through Bainbridge Foundation have been in the vicinity of \$25-\$30,000,

or about 25 percent of annual expenses. The other 75 percent has been raised through special events like galas and laps around the high school track, and this year, a summer appeal. But Bainbridge Foundation remains a major source of funds, and library board and staff members hope that this year more people will remember to check the library on their BF pledge cards.

One reason for the lack of response may be a simple misunderstanding.

Many newcomers to Bainbridge, and even a few old-timers, do not realize that our beautiful library building was built and is maintained entirely by donations. Not a penny of tax money goes into its coffers.

Continued on next page

Summer appeal's over

Celebration set for Nov. 3

By VERDA AVERILL

Bainbridge Public Library board members, staff, and Friends of the Library will celebrate the end of the library's summer appeal on Saturday, November 3, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The festive evening, to be held at City Hall, will include music by the Bean Blossom Bluegrass Band, wine tasting (sponsored by Town and Country Thriftway) with knowledgeable vintners and light snacks, and — the highlight of the evening — a silent auction of fine books.

The auction, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, will feature top-quality volumes — art books, coffee table books, exquisite volumes not seen at the usual monthly book sales in

the library. All are new or in excellent condition.

This fall's party is planned as a thank-you for the many library supporters who became Stewards of the Library by contributing generously to the summer appeal. Thanks to them, the library received over \$75,000 in operating funds, which will go a long way toward paying the annual expenses estimated at \$130,000.

Why the new location this year?

First, the capacity of City Hall is slightly larger than that of the library. And second, many Bainbridge Island residents have not seen the interior of the Bainbridge Island City Hall and the art work incorporated into the structure. This evening will give library patrons a

chance to mingle with friends they've met through the library and, at the same time, to become better acquainted with a local landmark.

The evening will open with an acknowledgment of all the Library Stewards by Cindy Harrison, branch manager of the Bainbridge library. Library board members and Friends of the Library will be on hand to welcome guests.

During the evening, copies of "*They Like Noble Causes*", the history of the Bainbridge library building and the people who built it, will be awarded to major donors (those who gave \$500 or more to the summer appeal). Author Barbara Winther will be on hand to sign

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Also in this issue:

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- Two artists' work to be exhibited this fall Pages 10 & 11
- Fraga's animals will frolic in library Page 12

Our changing world

By VERDA AVERILL

ON SEPTEMBER 10, I was compiling notes for an editorial on behalf of Bainbridge Foundation. On September 11, plans for that column — like so many other things in our world — were turned upside down.

Bainbridge Foundation is still important, of course, and your library needs your donations through that agency. Throughout its existence, BF has been a major source, generally the largest source, of funding for the Bainbridge Public Library.

That hasn't changed.

True, a special appeal this summer raised about \$75,000 from generous library boosters. But annual expenses now run around \$130,000. Clearly, if the summer appeal were the only source of funds, your volunteer library board would be faced with a shortfall of about \$55,000. That could mean shorter hours and other cutbacks.

Several friends have asked whether the library observes the rule to which Bainbridge Foundation agencies subscribe, limiting all-Island appeals for funds to this one general mailing per year. The answer is yes, indeed. This summer's special appeal was addressed only to those people who have supported the library in the past, or were recommended by other library boosters. It went to less than 30 percent of Bainbridge addresses (households and businesses).

The Bainbridge Foundation packet which arrives in your mail around October 1 is the only request for library funds that will reach everybody; 70 percent of you will see no other mailing.

We hope you'll think of the many services your library provides and give generously.

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND residents are caring people, and many have friends or relatives in New York and Washington, D. C. We want to help the victims of the devastating twin towers and Pentagon terrorist attacks. Our reference librarians have received many questions about how and where one can give.

Kitsap Regional Library has compiled information about the agencies involved on its Web site: www.krl.org.

The Red Cross has provided two toll-free phone numbers: **1-800-HELP NOW** (for donations of money) and **1-800-GIVE LIFE** (for blood donations). The first few days after the attacks, these numbers were sometimes busy for long stretches. By the time you read this, the phone banks will probably be operating smoothly.

Perhaps the easiest way for us to give is at our own banks. Most Bainbridge financial institutions are collecting for the Red Cross, and you can write a check while you're doing your household or business banking. We've heard from American Marine Bank, Washington Mutual, and Key Bank that this giving is easy. I suspect that's equally true at other banks.

WHILE THE overwhelming reaction of most Americans to the tragic loss of life in the terrorists' attack on America is one of shock and grief and a desire to help the victims and their families, there have been, unfortunately, a few instances of racial strife and hatred, backlashes against innocent persons of Arab or Middle Eastern background.

We hope and pray that we do not see anything even remotely resembling the World War II evacuation of Japanese-American citizens from their homes to internment camps

But faced with the prospect of a long war on terrorism, Americans must work harder than ever at fostering respect for those whose religious beliefs and cultures are different from our own.

Our churches and synagogues and mosques can help here. So can families, when talking to the children about the tragic and incomprehensible events. And our library, always a source of help, can be especially useful.

Thanks to our Bainbridge Island Japanese-American Community and other generous people, the Bainbridge library now has a collection of books with a multi-cultural emphasis for both adults and children.

There is no better time than the present to remind ourselves, and especially our children, that despite the actions by a few fanatics, most Muslims are kind and law-abiding citizens and Islam is a religion of peace.

Our peaceful library, with its helpful and thoughtful staff, is an excellent place to escape for a few moments the terrible sights on our TV screens and begin building a better world.



Verda Averill
Library News editor

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

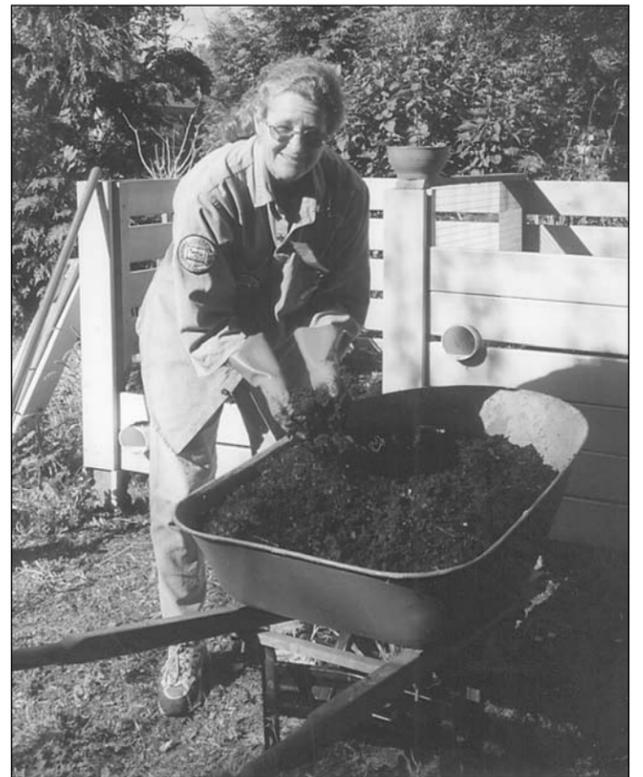
1270 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

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, Marite Butners, Cindy Harrison, and Janet Brookes.

Compost class

Kathy Morse works on the compost at the library's demonstration site. A special composting class is scheduled for October 24 from 10 to 2 for those who cannot come to classes on weekends.



Library board buys adjacent property

The Bainbridge Public Library board of directors has acquired property for future expansion.

Negotiations were conducted during the spring and summer, and final payment on the Sing property immediately south of the library grounds was made September 18.

The building lot of nearly 11,000 square feet will provide land for future expansion, as the Island's population grows.

"With the purchase of this land, we've increased the life expectancy of the library by 30 years or more," said Hans Rothert, president of the board.

The \$265,000 purchase price was available, in a separate investment account which grew at market rates during the years 1997-2000, because of the generous response of Bainbridge Islanders to the capital campaign of 1995-96. That drive, to raise \$1.75 million for expansion of the library building, raised over \$2 million, and the balance was invested for future capital expenditures.

When the Sing property became available, the library board arranged a low-interest loan with a local bank. But as the financial markets sagged in recent months, the board decided to pay off the loan immediately.

"It was the responsible thing to do, and leaves future library boards free of long-term financial obligations," Rothert said.

Along with the Sing property, the library has acquired a strip of property 20 x 230 feet which had belonged to the City of Bainbridge Island. This strip, reserved by the city as a right of way, had separated the Sing property from the library gardens and south parking lot. But when the city needed Madison Ave. property easements to build the roundabout at Madison Ave. and High School Road, the library granted the city quiet title to those easements in exchange for the strip of land to the south. As a result, the library now owns clear title to a sizable piece of property immediately adjacent to the present building site.

"It's a property trade with long-term advantages to both the city and the library," Rothert said last week. "It's clearly a win/win situation."

The enlarged site is totally unencumbered by utility easements, he added, and thus "it frees us up now to do whatever we have to do to meet the future needs of the library."

Rothert stressed the fact that the property purchase, with funds designated for capital improvements, was possible because of "the wonderful response of citizens during our expansion." These earmarked funds have not been touched for maintenance and operation costs, which are paid by donations through Bainbridge Foundation and special efforts like this year's summer appeal.

BF funds needed

Continued from the front page

(Yes, Bainbridge residents do pay a few mills in taxes to the Kitsap Regional Library, and that money covers staff salaries and books and other circulating materials. But the library building itself was built by the people of Bainbridge Island and is managed by a non-profit corporation composed of local volunteers.)

Branch manager Cindy Harrison reports that 80 to 90 percent of Bainbridge Island's 21,000 residents have library cards and use them regularly. (More than 400,000 entrances to the library were

tallied last year.) Yet fewer than 500 individuals remembered to check the library on their BF cards.

This year, our library users hope for better results. There are many worthy agencies on the BF list, of course. But it seems safe to say that no other Bainbridge agency serves so many people, people from pre-school age to nonagenarians, in so many ways.

If you agree, remember to check the library on your BF pledge card.

Celebration

Continued from the front page

the gift copies. (Additional copies, which make welcome holiday gifts, will be available for sale.)

Invitations to the celebration are being mailed to all Stewards of the Library. Marlene LeMire, planning committee chair, asks that Stewards reply promptly so the committee knows how much food and wine to provide.

And what if you missed the summer appeal? Perhaps you were away in July and August and

didn't get to participate. Latecomers are welcome. Just pick up a donor card at the library reference desk, turn it in with your contribution, and you too are welcome to attend the fall celebration.



Three book photos found by accident

By BARBARA WINTHER

Although I gained most of the information for my book *They Like Noble Causes* through interviews and research, I located three historical photos by accident. These pictures provided important links in the story of Bainbridge Island's early libraries.

1. Photo of Winslow Public Library

One morning I received a telephone call from Ray Stephens, who then lived in a condo in Winslow Green.

"I understand you're writing a book about the library," he said.

"That's right."

"Well, I can tell you a little about the Winslow Public Library."

"Great! Can I come over at 2:00 this afternoon?"

"Sure. Bang hard on the door, 'cause I don't hear too well."

I called Linda Quartman Younker, who agreed to photograph him for the book. We arrived at the appointed time.

It turned out that Ray Stephens had worked for Keys Garage, on the corner of Winslow Way and what was later called Madison Avenue, when Winslow Public Library was housed next door.

During the interview he asked if I would like to see some old postcards. He dug them out of a pile of papers. One card had a small picture of downtown Winslow in 1929.

"That's where I worked," said Stephens, pointing to the garage.

"Then, is that the library?" I asked, pointing to the building next door.

"Oh, yeah, sure. That's it. It was in Temperance Hall. And that's the old St. Cecilia Church next to it."

I borrowed the postcard and Custom Printing scanned it on a computer disk. Except for an old photo with the back of Temperance Hall in the distance, the postcard was the only picture I ever found of the building in which Winslow Library was located.

This photo is on page 9 of the book. Ray Stephens is on page 13.

2. Photo of Ella Mae Pratt

I knew that Carl Pratt's mother, Ella Mae, was one of the founders of the Winslow Public Library, but I couldn't locate a picture of her.

I made an appointment with Carl, who was 99 years old and living at the Madison Avenue Retirement Center. Once again, Linda Quartman Younker accompanied me to take a photo for the book.

We found Carl in his apartment, sitting in a big, overstuffed chair by a window. While interviewing him about his recollections of the Winslow Public Library, I happened to notice a framed photo on the wall.

"Is that you in your younger days?" I asked.

"That's me, all right."

"Is that pretty girl your sister?"

"No, that's my mother."

"She looks so little and young."

"She was little. Only 4'10". I was a teenager at the time."

"Do you know in what year the photo was taken?"

"About 1915, I think."

"May I borrow the picture for a while?"

He frowned. "You'll lose it."

"No I won't. All I want to do is have Custom Printing scan it on a disk and—"

"I don't want my photo to go into a machine," he interrupted.

"It doesn't really go into it. The process won't hurt your photo at all."

Again he frowned. Then, he looked out the window as if the matter was closed.

Desperate for a solution, I blurted out, "I'll leave my purse with you. Inside are



These photos were discovered by accident as Winther conducted research for library book

my credit cards, money, address book—everything I need to get along in this world. If I don't bring the photo back, I can't retrieve my purse."

He stared at me through narrowed eyes. "All right. Give it to me."

I took the photo down to Custom Printing. They were in the middle of a computer job, but when they heard of my frantic need, they immediately made the scan. With the disk in one hand and the framed photo in the other, I rushed back to the MARC. Carl still sat in his chair, my purse clutched in his arms. I showed him the undamaged photo and replaced it on the wall. It was the only time I heard him laugh. Well, it was more of a sly chuckle.

This photo is on page 12 of the book. Carl Pratt, sitting in his chair, is on page 11; he passed away the year after the interview.

3. Photo of Rolling Bay Library in the woods

For 34 years, school teacher Ida Thatcher demonstrated her love for the public libraries on Bainbridge Island by keeping scrapbooks of information about them. One day, while thumbing through one of her scrapbooks, I came across

a copy of a photo of the early Rolling Bay Library, showing it in a wooded section. The note with it said the original photo was pasted on a postcard sent from Rolling Bay on June 25, 1915 by "Virginia, Myra, B.B. and Bill" with the message, "Isn't this interesting, a Public Library in the woods! This was built this last winter."

Desperate for a solution, I blurted out, "I'll leave my purse with you."

I talked to a number of old timers on the Island, who remembered this early Rolling Bay Library, before the one built on Valley Road. I went to the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum to see if they had a photo of it, but there was no record of one.

A few weeks later, I received a call from Tom Lauer, a volunteer at the BIHM.

"I found this freezer bag," he said. "It was sort of hidden away on a top shelf. In it are some documents relating to a library."

Library and parking lots are open during construction

The Bainbridge Public Library and its parking lots will remain open, with regular hours, during the construction of a roundabout at High School Road and Madison Ave.

Access to the library will be a little more difficult, however.

The intersection will be closed, and drivers may have to use alternate routes to reach the parking lot entrances on High School Road and Madison Ave.

The city has prepared some suggested alternate routes; for more information on these, check with the public works staff in City Hall.

Traffic on Wyatt, New Brooklyn, Highway 305, Ericksen, and Grow Ave. is expected to increase during the construction. Drivers heading for the library will want to allow extra time to reach their destination.

In addition to the work at the intersection, city crews will be making major changes on High School Road west from Madison Ave. to Sportsman Club Road. Drivers living west of Madison may want to take New Brooklyn instead.

The roundabout construction, scheduled to begin in late September, will take an estimated three weeks.

Library book wins graphics award

They Like Noble Causes, the story of the Bainbridge Public Library and the people who built it, has received the Emerald City Craftsmanship Award from Valco Graphics and The Seattle Club of Printing House Craftsmen.

Sharon Abrams of The Winslow Group, who coordinated production of the book, received the silver award in the category of hard-cover books in four or more colors.

Graphic artist Kern Devin of Bainbridge was the art director, and Barbara Winslow the author.

Four award-winning photographers — Art Grice, Linda Younker, Mary Randlett, and Joel Sackett — contributed photographs to the book. Verda Averill was editor.

The book is available at local bookstores or by calling The Winslow Group at (206) 842-5105.

Fall into a good mystery: It's the right time

By MARTHA KNAPPE

Have you ever noticed your reading tastes changing with the seasons?

When I think of fall, I find myself contemplating sitting by the fire with a cup of tea and an absorbing mystery to read.

The publishing industry has obliged my seasonal preferences by recently releasing a number of mysteries that are getting great reviews. They range from dark psychological tales to humorous parodies of the classic “who done it”. There’s even an exciting new author to take note of.

Death In Holy Orders, by P.D. James. Commander Adam Dalgliesh is back! Asked by a wealthy industrialist to investigate the accidental death of a young man who was a student at St. Anselm’s, a small theological college in East Anglia, Dalgliesh willingly returns to the seminary where he spent many happy summers as a teenager. This casual investigation turns into official

police business when an archdeacon is also found murdered in St. Anselm’s Chapel. Judith Crist of the *New York Times* considers P.D. James “a first class novelist...with literary flair and an eye as perceptive as her heart”.

Death of a Dustman, by M.C. Beaton. When a Scottish garbage collector (a “dustman”) who is given a new uniform, truck and promotion, starts issuing harsh fines and enforcing petty rules, the predictable happens—he is found murdered and stuffed into a recycling bin. M.C. Beaton, in this, his 17th Hamish Macbeth mystery, manages to “combine James Herriot’s feel for landscape with Simon Brett’s comic audacity” (Booklist).

Death of an Irish Sinner: A Peter McGarr Mystery, by Bartholomew Gill. Chief Superintendent Peter McGarr is called in when a best-selling writer is found strangled to death on the grounds of her Irish estate. The murder weapon, a barbed metal necklace used in medieval times for self-flagellation, links the victim to Opus Dei, an obscure but

powerful Roman Catholic sect. Author Bartholomew Gill not only takes on a controversial subject in this, his 15th police procedural, but also manages to present a richly atmospheric warts-and-all view of his beloved Ireland.

Legacy of the Dead: An Inspector Ian Rutledge Mystery, by Charles Todd. In 1919 Scotland Yard Inspector Ian Rutledge not only must solve the murder of a young woman whose remains have been found on a windswept Scottish mountain side, he must come to terms with the memories of the young Scottish soldiers Rutledge led to death during World War I. Author Charles Todd, a favorite of Nancy Pearl at the Seattle Public Library, won a *New York Times* Notable Book Award for his first Ian Rutledge mystery, ***A Test of Wills***.

Maggody and the Moonbeams: An Arly Hanks Mystery, by Joan Hess. In Maggody, Arkansas, Chief of Police Arly Hanks finds herself pressed into service as chaperone for ten hormonally challenged teenagers who are spending a week at Camp Pearly Gates.

Accompanied by the formidable wife of the mayor, the high school shop teacher and preacher Brother Verber, Arly knows that things can only go downhill after one of the young campers discovers the body of a local commune member in the woods. Sharyn McCrumb calls author Joan Hess “the patron saint of comic mystery”.

Open Season, by C.J. Box. In Twelve Sheep County, Wyoming, rookie game warden Joe Pickett faces a major crisis when three elk hunters are killed under suspicious circumstances and his colleagues seem to want to sweep the case under the rug. Joe’s dogged pursuit of the truth puts his career and family in jeopardy when he unearths a scam involving an oil pipeline and an endangered species. First time author C.J. Box has received rave reviews from a host of mystery authors, including Tony Hillerman. Definitely for fans of Nevada Barr!

Staff recommendations for fall reading

The man in the window by Jan Cohen. This darkly comic tale is about Louis Malone who has not left his parents’ house since he was severely scarred by a fire when he was 16. Cohen’s novel of wonderful characters follows Louis’s adventures after he falls from a window into the real world at the age of 35.

Evening Train by Denise Levertov. Levertov was one of America’s finest modern poets. These poems resonate with her experience of the Northwest. “Grey is the price/of neighboring with eagles, of knowing/ a mountain’s vast presence, seen or unseen.” Her poems were featured in a recent public radio selection about Seattleites and Mount Rainier.

Endurance: Shackleton’s Incredible Voyage by Alfred Lansing. This story of extraordinary courage was based on the diaries of Antarctic explorers and reads like a suspense novel. A triumph of teamwork, outstanding leadership

and sheer tenacity, this is a real survivor story.

About a Boy by Nick Hornby. Will Freeman discovers that single mothers are mature and fun dates. He invents a son to crash a single parents’ group with comical and poignant results.

At Play in the Fields of the Lord by Peter Matthiesen. Novelist and naturalist Matthiesen wrote this harrowing novel about culture conflict and exploitation set in the Amazon. It explores similar themes but is even more compelling than Barbara Kingsolver’s ***Poisonwood Bible***.

The Bear Went Over the Mountain by William Kotzwinkle. Kotzwinkle satirizes the whole business of publishing and celebrity in this hilarious tale about a bear – yes, a real bear – who stumbles upon a manuscript in the woods. He steals a suit and is off to New York. Suspend your disbelief and have a rollicking read!

Autobiography of Red by Anne Carson. Both whimsical and haunting, this is truly an unconventional work

by poet Anne Carson. It is both a re-creation of an ancient Greek myth and a sensitive coming of age story about Geryon, a young boy who is also a winged red monster. The *New York Times Book Review* described it as “a profound love story...sensuous and funny, poignant, musical and tender.”

Testing the Current by William McPherson. Tommy McAllister is nine years old in 1939 and he is already a perceptive observer of the complex and mysterious relationships among his family and their friends and neighbors.

Pilgrim by Timothy Findley. ***Pilgrim*** is an uncommon novel about a 20th century man who may or may not have achieved immortal existence. ***Pilgrim***’s story of the intricacies of human consciousness unfolds in the clinic of Carl Jung and takes the reader back to the days of Leonardo. Findley’s imaginative novel provides the reader new rewards at every turn.

Black, White and Jewish by Rebecca

Walker. Rebecca Walker was born in 1962, the daughter of writer Alice Walker and her activist lawyer husband. She remembers her early years warmly as a child wrapped in the idealism of the Civil Rights Movement. The rise of Black Power took its toll on the marriage, however, and Rebecca became a confused adolescent shuttled between her mother’s intellectual bohemianism in San Francisco and her father’s New York upper class suburb. This is an eloquent portrayal of a uniquely American childhood.

The Wishbones by Tom Perrotta. A New York Times Notable Book of the Year, ***The Wishbones*** is a funny and charming book about love and rock and roll. At 31, Dave Raymond feels pretty comfortable with his life playing guitar with a New Jersey wedding band. Then a new twist in his love life dumps him out of his reverie.

Islanders give generously to summer appeal

Nearly 400 library boosters responded generously to the Bainbridge Public Library’s summer appeal for operating funds. Donations ranged from \$5 to over \$1,000, and every gift will be used where most needed.

“We are so grateful to the generous people of Bainbridge Island for their ongoing support of our library,” said Dick Hassell, chairman of the library board fund-raising committee.

Names of contributors whose gifts were received by the end of August are listed below. Later donors will be listed in the next Library News.

Frances N. Hamack, Susan & Kim Bottles, David Myers, Michael & Cheryl Boyce, David & Virginia Davison, Laura Burnett Gowen, Arlene Hobbs, Mac & Helen Gardiner, Wayne & Judy Nakata, Dana & Bart Berg, Robbie & Robin Baker, Dr. & Mrs. Fred Grimm, Allan & Barbara Ferrin, Cynthia Sears & Frank Buxton, Peter & Janice Harris, Dorothy & Paul Amis, Don & Shirley Poggi, Karl Petersen & Joan Pearson, John Kutina, Oscar Y. Lewis, Don & Ginny Mannino, Frederick & Marjorie Geisert, Charles & Betty Gates, Barbara Trafton & Bruce Beall, Clarence & Linda Younker, Anne & Bill Bowden, Sallie & Andrew Maron, Tom & Teita Reveley, Bertha & Edward Doremus, Wyman & Karoline Johnson, David Thompson & Jan Breyer, Frank & Trese Williamson, Larry & Barbara Mills, Robert & Jeannine Leeper, Susan Guffey & Gene Priestman, Lawrence & Lois Glosten, David & Cindy Harrison, Richard A. Hassell, David & Sue Lindsey, Richard & Maureen Meslang, Pamela Harrison & William Nakao, Jerry & Barbara

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Bainbridge author pens new novel

Warmhearted humor, a Bainbridge setting add to book's appeal

By ELIZABETH WIGGS

"Sometimes you have to kiss a lot of frogs before you find your prince," says bestselling author Sheila Rabe.

This sentiment is front-and-center on the cover art of her new novel, which features an irresistible frog prince holding a bouquet of wildflowers. Her latest book, *A Prince of a Guy*, hopped onto bookstore shelves in August. It's a fun read about the adventures of Doctor Kate Stonewall, a know-it-all radio psychologist, who learns how little she knows about life, love and...the stock market.

Rabe was inspired to write this particular story because it depicts one of her favorite issues.

"I really wanted to deal with preconceived notions and the way we often make judgments about other people without ever really taking the time to get to know them. And, when it comes to the opposite sex, we often look past a person who seems quite ordinary without realizing that person's extraordinary qualities."

It's an unusual premise for a love story, but the longtime Bainbridge Island resident is noted for her offbeat, smart-alecky yet squeaky-clean novels of love and laughter.

A Prince of a Guy will appeal to readers who enjoy warmhearted humor.

Fans of Jan Karon's "Mitford" series and the novels of Susan Elizabeth Phillips

will want to give Rabe's books a try. "If you're looking for something serious and depressing," the author warns with a laugh, "I'm afraid you'll have to look elsewhere. Someone whose advertising slogan is Read Sheila for a Good Time is, obviously, not writing *War and Peace*."

This story is set on Bainbridge, so many of the activities and restaurant names will be familiar to readers.

"And I owe a special debt of gratitude to Lee at San Carlos for letting me trash his restaurant (in the book, that is)," Rabe says. "The man is just too cool."

Sheila Rabe's Bainbridge roots run deep.

Her family bought a large parcel of waterfront property on the Island before the forever-young author was born. Her oldest brother settled his corner of the family compound years ago and raised some fine BHS basketball stars. The author wonders if the name Moyle rings a bell with any old-timers.

Rabe, her husband and their two children became permanent residents in 1989, followed by the author's mother, and then her middle brother.

"When I moved here, my first book had just been published. I have since written 18. During that time I've grown and changed as a writer, while all around me the Island has grown and changed as well. I often lament the loss of the quaint small town I remember from my childhood, but change is the nature of life. And, thank God, we have many good

people trying to keep that close knit, small town feeling alive. Team Winslow sponsors some great activities."

A small-town girl with big dreams, Sheila Rabe comes from a musical background, and she originally wanted to become a success as a songwriter. So far, song-writing success is still a dream, although writing both novels and humorous, Christian-centered lifestyle books continues to grow into an increasingly addictive passion.

"There's nothing I love more than holing up in my office and spinning tales," the author says.

"Well, actually, there is something I do like better, and that is reading what I wrote the day before. I tweak and polish it, then sit back in my chair and smile and say, 'Now, that's good stuff.'"

Later, of course, her editor at Berkley/Jove in New York might want to discuss some of that stuff.

The busy author has no typical work day. She does work at her computer just about every day, but her work time revolves around whatever else is going on in her active life: church activities, water aerobics, volleyball, time with friends, visiting her married daughter and spoiling her grandchild.

"I read somewhere that it is important for writers to feed their souls," Rabe comments, "and I believe that. My soul has a big appetite."

Sheila Rabe is a library patron from way back.

"For me, one of the most amazing aspects of the library is the research desk," she says. "I have lost count of how many times the wonderful people who work it have found odd and obscure bits of information for me. I'm surprised that they don't duck and hide when they see me coming. The whole library staff is incredibly kind and friendly. They feel like family."

Sheila Rabe's web address is www.sheilasplace.com. There, you'll find pictures of some familiar faces and places, as well as a constantly updated listing of author events, including some very unusual book signing parties.

"And, thanks to all those computers at the library," the author points out, "nobody can use the excuse that she doesn't have access to the Internet. Right? Ah, libraries are, indeed, a good thing."

About the author: Susan Wiggs is a Bainbridge author, reader and library patron. You can reach her at susanwiggs@pobox.com.



Oscar vs. Pulitzer:

How films stack up against the books

By ELIZABETH WIGGS



OK, let's be honest. You've been assigned to read Huckleberry Finn, and you put it off until you ran out of time. There's a test tomorrow... maybe you can

get away with watching the movie.

But if you skip the book and see the movie, are you getting the whole story? Well, almost never, but Hollywood keeps trying.

Here are some favorite classic and commercial hits and how they translated from print to screen:

Last of the Mohicans by James Fenimore Cooper. No living person on record has actually read this novel. Mark Twain says "Cooper has scored 114 offenses against literary art out of a possible 115. It breaks the record." However, the film turned out to be a good date movie because it has rippling sweaty biceps and long lingering gazes for the

girls, and hatchet-throwing mayhem for the guys.

Emma by Jane Austen. This Regency-era novel about a young lady who loves meddling and matchmaking inspired the movie "Clueless," which is set in an upscale Southern California high school. Never fear feeling dumb while reading the book, as you might while watching the movie; Emma is like "Clueless" with a higher I.Q.

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen. Another winner from Austen, this comedy about "finding Mr. Right" is the basis for the hilarious "Bridget Jones's Diary." (I highly recommend both the book and the movie.)

The Scarlet Pimpernel by Baroness Emmuska Orczy. I know I listed this book in the last column, but I'm pretty sure none of you have read it yet. Both the movie and the book are fantastic and I promise even though it looks like some boring historical novel that your history teacher wants you to read, you won't be able to put it down.

The Man in the Iron Mask by Alexandre Dumas. Talk about your case of mistaken identity. The King of France

takes sibling rivalry to a new level when he stuffs his identical twin in a dungeon and locks his head in a mask. The recent movie features Leonardo di Caprio with a mullet. I recommend the book.

The Taming of the Shrew by William Shakespeare. While this play doesn't include some Australian hunk (i.e. the cute Heath Ledger), it has the same storyline as the teenybopper flick, "Ten Things I Hate About You," which incidentally was filmed in Tacoma.

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare. I know reading Shakespeare is nothing like seeing the plays acted out, but you'll get extra Brownie points from teachers if you have some knowledge of these works. Both the 1972 and 1997 film versions use Shakespeare's text, but if you think you escaped reading the play, wait until you get to Freshman English!

The Color Purple by Alice Walker. The book is a collection of letters by Celie, a barely-literate young black woman in the South. As the story progresses, so does her education and the reader can see her growth both emotionally and intellectually. The novel won a Pulitzer Prize and the movie won

an Oscar. As always, read the book first.

Nightjohn by Gary Paulsen. An incredible story, faithfully filmed. During the early nineteenth century, escaped slave John returns to the South and teaches a young slave girl, Sarny, to read—despite the fact that literacy among slaves is illegal on plantations. Stock up on Kleenex.

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Critic Anthony Lane wrote that director Roland Jaffe's "The Scarlet Letter" was "freely adapted from Hawthorne's book in the same way that methane is freely adapted from cows." I think that means they both stunk. Sorry.

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh. The novel is one of the finest children's books ever written. EVER. So what's up with this sorry excuse for a movie? Do yourself a favor and avoid the film at all costs. Read the book. You'll thank me.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling. I know, I know, the movie's not out yet, but is anyone NOT planning to watch it? See you there!

Elizabeth Wiggs is a senior at Bainbridge High School. Besides reading, she plays the piano, water polo and swims.

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Library joins Arts Walk festivities in November

By MARY CURTIS

The Arts and Humanities Council is sponsoring an Arts Walk on Sunday November 4, from noon to 5.

The theme for this event is "Holiday Island Magic," and shops and restaurants throughout downtown Winslow will display works representative of many local and regional artists.

There's a special kind of magic to be found on this seasonal Arts Walk, however, as many of the events and entertainment will be geared for children as well as their parents.

The "Holiday Island Magic" walking tour will have many opportunities for families to explore a variety of visual arts, to enjoy outdoor performing arts, and to meet some of the artists who have work displayed on the tour.

The library will join in by hosting a story hour as part of the festivities. Peggy Hughes will have a program of stories, music and activities for children and adults

running from 3 to 4 in the afternoon.

City Hall will be another stop on the walk to listen to stories. From 1 to 2:30, the mayor and his staff will host readings of short stories, classics, and holiday favorites for children and adults.

The story hours will be only part of this holiday arts celebration. Several other events and performances have been planned especially with children in mind.

Magician Kirk Charles will appear at the Winslow Mall in the early afternoon, and then re-appear later along Winslow Way.

A children's art contest is being organized now so that winning works can be exhibited at the Pavilion.

Dinah Satterwhite, Arts Walk manager, is working with Pam Keyes, public relations coordinator for the public schools, to make the preliminary preparations. Together they are hoping to encourage art teachers to work with students to submit artwork.

Younger artists may submit drawings

and paintings in categories based on grade level; teens will be able to submit work in three mediums: flat work (water color, charcoal or oil, for example), three-dimensional (pottery, jewelry), and photography. The contest will also have open categories to make sure all children have a chance to participate.

This project is still in the early stages of organization, and Dinah and Pam are looking for a volunteer to coordinate the contest—anyone interested should contact Dinah at 842-0504 or email her at ArtsWalk@earthlink.net.

On the tour, caricaturist Cheri Ziebard will showcase her drawings of islanders, some of them local celebrities and some of them just familiar island faces. Adults and children will be able to see how many people they can identify, and Cheri, schedule permitting, will be on hand to draw caricatures for children who come to check out her work.

Music will also be part of this magical celebration of the arts. Two acappella

groups, Renaissance Jazz and Side-by-Side, will perform in the Winslow Mall and then stroll Winslow Way for the remainder of the afternoon.

Church Mouse Yarns & Teas will host a hammered dulcimer performance by Simon Chrisman, who puts his own twist on Irish American folk songs.

The Island Music Teacher's Guild will present a student ensemble concert at the Island Music Teacher's Hall on Madison.

Of course the Arts Walk is free, and it's shaping up to be a lot of fun. Brochures listing artist details and event times are at participating merchants or visit the Arts and Humanities website at www.artshum.org.



Young reader describes her favorite books

By MOLLY WALSH

Over my seventh grade year I accumulated quite a list of good books, and now that I'm moving on to eighth grade I thought that it was time to pass the list on.

Today I share some of my favorite books with you, and I hope you enjoy them as much as I have. Most of the books that I have in my article are related to time-travel and historical fiction, though a couple are not. All of the authors in my list have won awards for their writing and they are some of my personal favorites. I would recommend the books and authors on this list any day. Have fun and Read On!

Briar Rose, by Jane Yolen.

Becca Berlin has always loved her grandmother very much and from the time she was little she could remember her grandmother telling the story of Sleeping Beauty or Briar Rose. Now it is Becca's turn to tell the story of Briar Rose and discover if the tale was really true or just some story that her grandmother made up. When her grandmother dies, her family finds a box of old pictures and papers and a man's ring.

Could this be what her grandmother was talking about when she asked Becca to find the castle, the prince, and reclaim her heritage? Becca starts out on a journey that leads her to a small town in Poland and a concentration camp from World War II. Becca finds a man who can answer her questions and tell her the painful and heart-wrenching story of her grandmother's survival and trip to America in the midst of World War II.

Mr. Was, by Pete Hautman.

Growing up, Jack never knew his grandfather, and when his mother receives a note that her father is dying, they travel to Minnesota to see him. When they see the old man he suddenly recognizes Jack and tries to kill him. When his grandfather dies, they move into his house to hide from Jack's abusive father. Jack discovers a metal door in the house that strange things happen around: white lights, noises, and traveling to the past. His father comes one night looking for Jack and his mother and things get ugly. Jack's father kills his mother and so Jack decides to walk through the metal door into the past and save his mother from being killed. Little does Jack know that his past is also his future, "in

a world where every door leads to the future and every future leads inevitably to the past."

The Road Home, by Ellen White.

The Road Home is a story of adventure, courage, and the pain that touches all of those in war. Rebecca Phillips went to Vietnam to find the answers to her questions about family, but when she gets to Vietnam all she finds are more questions. When Rebecca returns home, she feels that the war is not really over for her, that she still needs to look for answers. Depressed and out of time, she falls to drinking, causing her to lose all hope that she will ever find a place where she belongs. Rebecca starts calling out in her sleep, sitting around all the time, and disturbing her parents so much that she has to hide her true self and problems from them. When she discovers that what she needs might not be at home at all, she sets out for a trip across the country, hopeful that she will find what she is looking for—answers, hopes, dreams, and a way home.

The Secrets of Sarah Revere, Ann Rinaldi.

We all know the story of Paul Revere and how he rode through the streets and warned

the people that the British were coming, but what about his family and what they went through when he was riding for the people and getting in trouble with the British? Well this is the story of his daughter Sarah and how she dealt with her father working for the Continental Army in secret and always being in danger. To Sarah, it seemed that she always was the first to know everything about her family: when her brother wanted to go off to war, when she thought her stepmother was having an affair with a family friend and that same friend was helping her father work for the army. But what Sarah did not know was that other people have secrets also, secrets that might be best left untold. When Sarah starts accusing family friends of affairs and secrets, she creates a rift in the family. Through her story of hardship and learning in a time when people were at war with their families and friends, you will see why Sarah had to take secrets to the grave with her—even those that were not her own.

(The reviewer is a 13-year-old student at Woodward Middle School and a regular library user.)

Have CD-ROMs, will travel

By GAIL CHRISTENSEN

You have a computer. Bainbridge Library has CD-ROMs. You need a program that will help you study for SAT's classes explore a career. The Bainbridge Library has various CD-ROMs available to assist you.

Pre-Algebra: an interactive study guide to the key principles...sets and variable, whole numbers, fractions, decimals, etc.

Algebra I & II: self-help tutorial in 52 key subject areas...fractions and rational numbers, real numbers, relations and functions, etc.

Geometry Blaster: has two parts: The Geometry Handbook which has tutorial

lessons or you can select just the area where you need practice and Having Fun With Geometry which is a collection of interactive games and activities.

Trigonometry: an interactive study guide to the fundamentals...trigonometric functions, solutions of triangles, frequency of functions, etc.

Pre-Calculus: an interactive study guide to the key principles...sets, logic, relations and functions, linear functions, etc.

Calculus I & II: over 500 problems with step-by-step solutions...sets, logic, limits, etc. An invaluable supplement to time spent in class.

Chemistry: covers periodic table of

elements, mass and mole, chemical bonds, chemical equations, stoichiometry, gases, and solutions.

Physics: covers mechanics, vibrations, thermodynamics, electrodynamics, optics, and modern physics.

Spanish Scholar!: a two way translator and thesaurus.

Great American Classics: a collection of American writers includes works and information on several authors such as Stephen Crane, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Mark Twain.

Our American Heritage: a collection of American historical and literary writings such as: Articles of Capitulation at Yorktown, Monroe Doctrine, Thomas Paine: Age of

Reason, etc.

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Who puts the books on library shelves?

By MARY CURTIS

Ever wonder just how a book makes its way from the publishers to the shelves in our children's library?

Three familiar faces at the Bainbridge library work together to do a large part of the task.

Peggy Hughes is responsible for the development of the children's collection, deciding what new books to add and what books need to be weeded out.

Gail Christensen and Eleanor Wheeler maintain the condition of books already in the collection and process the acquisition of new books, as well as advising Hughes on popular requests from the patrons. All three are well in tune with our young readers ideas on what's new and what's well loved.

But another part of the book's journey from publisher to shelf involves work done by a cast of librarians not so familiar to us. Books housed at the Bainbridge Island Branch are only one part of the larger Kitsap Regional Library (KRL), which includes book collections at each of the nine branches.

Once a month, children's librarians from each branch meet to select new items to be purchased, books as well as CD-ROMs, videos, audiocassettes, and music CDs. Each representative contributes suggestions based on individual branch readership, and then five librarians are responsible for ordering items in specific areas.

Port Orchard librarian Kathleen Wilson handles books for young adults, and our own Peggy Hughes handles juvenile fiction. These two are joined by three librarians from the Children's Services Section of the Central Branch: Lynn Stone covers picture books, Carol Gill Schuyler does buying for non-print, and Kirstin Iller handles juvenile nonfiction.

This system, according to Hughes, provides readers with "the best of both worlds. Individual branch librarians can make sure their particular reader interests are met, while any KRL reader has access to the entire nine branch collection."

To prepare for these meetings, Hughes and her fellow librarians read book reviews in professional journals, such as the *School Library Journal*, *Kirkus*, *Horn Book*, *Five Owls Press*, and *VOYA*, as well as book reviews and bibliographies in general publications such as the *Seattle Times* and news magazines. There is quite a bit of material to look over: the *School Library Journal* alone publishes over 5000 reviews per year.

Once books and other materials have been chosen, orders are sent to the Technical Services Department at Central, which oversees the nuts and bolts of the book acquisition process.

Gaye Fossum places purchase requests, and here books are received and invoices are paid. When the Technical Services Department receives books,

employees there place plastic covers on the books to protect them, label and bar code them, and finally enter the books in the KRL library catalogue.

And then, voila! Crates full of materials are delivered to the Bainbridge Island branch each Monday through Saturday. Hughes, Christensen and Wheeler are the first to open the crates and examine the crisp, new volumes, but the books are soon on the shelves thanks to one of several pages: Chris, Virginia, Sue, Sherry, Emily, Kirsten, or Stephanie.

As of August 2001, librarians have added over 9000 books to the KRL children's collection—and that's not including magazines and non-print materials.

Not all of these are new book additions, however. In the category of juvenile fiction, for example, over 2400 books were added: 807 new titles and 1611 "added copies," which are new books to replace worn or damaged copies or simply additional copies of favorite books.

Picture books have a similar story. A total of 3033 books were purchased during this same time frame: 659 new ones and 2374 added copies.

All in all, many hands and hearts work together to build, and sustain, our children's library, keeping those shelves well stocked with a wide diversity of materials for our young readers.

Story tellers host library workshops for young adults

By MARY CURTIS

This summer Ed Sheridan, together with Alyson Neils, hosted the library's first storytelling workshop for young adults.

This workshop, held on four consecutive Monday evenings, was small, intimate, and highly successful for participants and instructors alike.

Young people came with many different interests and backgrounds: a university student in environmental education, summer visitors, new island residents.

According to Sheridan, all the participants were lively, very well read, and quite at ease in telling a story. One young woman even created her own story based on a mythological figure, building a story around a powerful visual image.

Ed Sheridan has a wealth of knowledge on the history of storytelling. The stories he's told to his own children he is now retelling to his grandchildren. He also works with first through sixth graders at Odyssey School. He enjoys teaching stories to young people, as he admires their emerging personalities, strength, humor

and creativity, their expressive voices.

As Sheridan sees it, storytelling is a universal part of human growth and development, no matter how old the story teller is. One goal of telling stories, and by extension one goal for the library's workshop, is to expand mental perspectives, "to open up the student's imagination and mine." Sheridan is fascinated by the spiritual, inner world of stories. Stories often teach values, but in subtle and complex ways; they have an illustrative power to "express the inexpressible."

There is a long tradition of mutual admiration and support between librarians and storytellers. Many librarians are also storytellers, and storytelling is often part of the library graduate school curriculum.

Margaret Reed MacDonald is a good example of this mix. She is a librarian for the King County Library, but she is also a prolific artist who has written books and reference materials for other storytellers to use.

For those interested in storytelling, here are two events to watch for:

On October 12, 13 and 14, the Seventh Annual Forest Storytelling Festival will be held at the Senior

Center in Port Angeles. This annual event is produced by the Story People of Clallam County, and this year's festival has a great diversity of local and national storytellers. Concerts are given on Friday and Saturday evenings and all day Sunday; Saturday is filled with both workshops and concerts. One can obtain program information and tickets by calling Josephine Pederson 360-457-3169.

On November 17 from 7 to 8:30 in the evening, the Bainbridge Library will host a storytelling session. This event will be held in honor of Tellebration, which is a world-wide celebration of storytellers and their art. During this day, storytellers of all nations will come together to speak, to listen, to pass on their traditions.

Sheridan and Neils are members of the Frog Rock Story Circle. Call him at 842-4562 if you'd like to become part of the group. And keep an eye on the Library News—plans are in the works to repeat the storytelling workshop.



Children's programs calendar

TERRIFIC TWOS

Ages 2-3 with adult

MONDAYS 10:30 to 11 a.m.

October 1, 15, 22, 29, November 5

Stories, songs, fingerplays and fun. Children's program room, downstairs. Registration required. Sign up at young people's check-out desk or by calling 842-4162, Ext. 9816.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Ages 3-5, adults welcome.

WEDNESDAYS 10:30-11 a.m.

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, November 7.

Children's program room, downstairs. Stories, music, fingerplays, activities designed for this age group. No registration necessary.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK Nov. 12 to 18

FAMILY STORYTIME

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November 4

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Helping others:

Lily Grainger gives back to the library

By SUE BOTTLES

Lily Grainger happily remembers her formative early visits to the Bainbridge Public Library when she would check out "huge stacks" of chapter books, and for the past three years she has "given back" to the library by volunteering a few hours every week.

"I'm not paid and the time I give frees a staff person to do something else," she said. She might spend her time mending books or spine labels, or searching on the computer to see whether donated books are already in the system.

"I hope somehow what I do will help someone else discover the great love of reading I have," she said.

Not that Lily has much free time for pleasure reading on her own. Now a high school senior and honor student, Lily must squeeze her library volunteer hours

into a very busy schedule.

During the summer she was a camp counselor at the Parks and Recreation District's Summer Scampers program (she read all the Harry Potter novels in preparation). "I just loved that job," she said.

An honor student, she also had a reading list for Advance Placement English (*The Alchemist* and *Ahab's Wife*). However, she did manage to fit in a couple of non-assigned books, including *Memoirs of a Geisha* and John LeCarre's *Little Drummer Girl*.

Throughout the year, you will find Lily often on a ferry. She and her parents Alan and Kathy attend church in Seattle and she has been active there, including going on two mission trips. One was to Ceres, Calif., as part of the international "heifer project," and one to inner-city

Chicago.

Once a week she takes tympani lessons in Seattle, and must also travel across the water for practice with Seattle Youth Symphony, where she is a percussionist. Closer to home, Lily plays varsity tennis for Bainbridge High School.

She is also looking ahead to college. Her interests range from law to medicine to social work to many other things. She's made no choices about where she will attend either, but she is definite it will not be either in Washington or Oregon. Fortunately, given the numerous demands on her time, Lily views her library volunteer hours as a perfect antidote to stress.

"Everyone here is so nice. It's quiet, relaxing. It just feels good," she said



Lily Grainger

Great reads for young adults

By YOUNG PEOPLE'S STAFF

You need a break from schoolwork... one of these new young adult novels would be a reward for your hard work.

When Kambia Elaine Flew in From Neptune by Lori Williams. This is a first novel that is told gracefully and lyrically. The setting is the neighborhood known as the Bottom in Houston. You are transported to this place; you become involved with Shayla (the narrator) and her strange new neighbor, Kambia Elaine. The novel begins slowly but gathers steam as it reaches its climax so that it is difficult to put down.

No Condition Is Permanent by Cristina Kessler. This is a story of Jodie, 14, who goes with her mother to live in a village in Sierra Leone. The novel teems with authentic details of African culture and life. It also gracefully tackles one of the most important, most controversial issues for women of our time.

When the King Comes Home by Caroline Stevermer. "When the King

comes home, all wishes will be granted. When the king comes home, all dreams will be made real." This is a great fantasy story. The setting is a mythical place in a real world. Hail, a delightful artist's apprentice meets by the river a man who is bearded and kingly in appearance; his clothes look antique. He looks exactly like long-dead King Julian IV of Aravis. From there, the adventure begins with spells, prison, and battles.

Angus, Thongs, and Full Frontal Snogging: Confessions of Georgia Nicolson by Louise Rennison. This is the humorous journal of a year in the life of a 14-year-old British girl who tries to reduce the size of her nose, stop her mad cat from terrorizing the neighborhood animals, and win the love of handsome hunk Robbie.

Stuck in Neutral by Terry Trueman. Fourteen-year-old Shawn, who suffers from severe cerebral palsy and cannot function, relates his perceptions of his life, family and condition, especially, as he believes his father is planning to kill

him.

The Body of Christopher Creed by Carol Plum-Ucci. Torey Adams, a high school junior with a seemingly perfect life, struggles with doubts and questions surrounding the mysterious disappearance of the class outcast.

Check out the new Young Adult section that is growing at Bainbridge Library...even some adults might try it. This is where the Brian Jacques (Redwall series) is now located.

NEWS BRIEFS

THE PUPPET SHOW featuring the Nonja Monja Puppet Company of Japan was sponsored by the Bainbridge Island Japanese-American Community. The performers appeared in the library during National Library Week last spring.

A PATRON WALKER provided by Friends of the Library is in almost constant use by library patrons needing assistance while browsing, library staff members report. Ask any staff member about it.

THE LIBRARY SPEAKERS Forum is sold out, but tickets to individual events are sometimes available after 3:45 p.m. on the day of the talk. October and November topics are timely (see calendar on front page). For more information, call Susan Bray at 842-4156.

TAKE A VIRTUAL Tour of Puget Sound with Clancy Wolf at 7 p.m., October 10, in the first of two Puget Sound Environmental Programs at the library this fall.



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Chris Hoffman traces family tree through library

By SUE BOTTLES

Library page Chris Hoffman regularly uses Kitsap Regional Library's inter-library loan department to help her find missing branches of her family tree.

"They can get you things you never dreamed were out there," she said

She also recommends the Mormon Church Family History Library in Poulsbo.

"They're very knowledgeable and welcome everyone. I'm not Mormon, but I find it's lots of fun and I always learn something," she said.

Chris's fascination with tracing her family's roots dates back eight or nine years, well before she became a page at Bainbridge Public Library, but her love of reading and libraries stretch back much longer, to her earliest childhood.

"I was raised in Kihei on Maui, and we didn't have a school library. We did have a bookmobile, and it would stop in front of the principal's office every week. I was always the first in line," she recalled.

Reading remains her favorite avocation aside from genealogy. Now that she works 20 hours a week shelving books, she said, "It's more dangerous. I see all the books and there are never enough days to read everything I take home." Fiction and history are her areas of choice.

Chris attended the University of Hawaii, majoring in accounting, and worked eight years in the field. Her husband Doug is a Bainbridge native and 21 years ago they moved to the Island to raise their family. Chris stayed at home with the children until two years ago.

Their daughter Karin will graduate from the University of Washington in December in forest resources, while son Mark will be a junior at Western Washington majoring in environmental studies.

So far, the young people do not share their mother's interest in family history. She believes they are still too young.

"I didn't start until after my grandparents and parents had died.

Fortunately, my dad had made a tape describing everything he knew about his side of the family. I was listening to it one day, and a light just came on," she said.

The Internet has made searching much easier. It also was responsible for one of her biggest surprises. "I entered my great-great grandfather's name and up came a web page from a distant cousin."

They shared that same ancestor, and the cousin had made contact with an even more distant relative in Germany who had traced the family back into the late 1400s.

Currently, Chris is stymied at about 1740 for most of her family tree. Unfortunately, the man she is trying to trace has the very common name William Hill.

Meanwhile, however, Chris is developing booklets about each branch of her family. They will include copies of the relevant legal documents, and whatever else she has been able to find out about occupations and other details.

"I have two laid out on the floor right now, and I expect to finish 12 or so in the next couple of years," she said.

These very personal books are unlikely to find their way to a public library shelf, but they fulfil Chris's prime advice to families everywhere: "Write down everything you know."



Chris Hoffman

NEWS BRIEFS

A LIVELY LOOK at Lichens will be presented by Denise Dumouchel in the second Puget Sound Environmental Center program, November 14 at 7 p.m.

ONE ON ONE Computer Instruction with volunteer Info Tracker teachers may be scheduled any weekday or Saturday morning. Sign up at the library information desk for instruction using the library catalog, e-mail and/or Internet searching.

A SPECIAL VIP room on the lower floor contains computer equipment for use by visually impaired library patrons. Call 842-4162 or ask at the information desk about the volunteer instructors.

NEWS BRIEFS

TUESDAY MORNING Senior Computing: Every Tuesday morning, senior citizens are welcome from 9 to 10 (before regular library hours) to practice computer searching skills on library computers. Volunteers are available to assist.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES: The Bainbridge library will be closed December 24 and 25 and December 31 and January 1 in observance of the holidays.

COMMUTERS who can't get to the library before 5:30 should note that Monday and Wednesday evenings it is open until 8:30.



Sakai students Heather Schuler, Inga Christopherson, Kelsey Darkenwald and Leslie Jones study in the young people's library.

Research roundup for young students

This fall the library initiates a new program on information literacy to support students and their families.

University of Washington Information School graduate student John Fossett will work with students from third to sixth grade. He will

counsel students on development of their projects from initial idea and research through to project completion.

This program is projected to continue through the school year on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. Call the library, 842-4162, for details.

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Tracy Porter's art on exhibit at library

By NAN WOOLDRIDGE

"I have lugged these books around since college. They have my notes in them and I reread them all the time," said Tracy Porter of her beloved classics which include authors Henry James, W.B. Yeats, James Joyce, Thomas Hardy, T.S. Eliot, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Lord Byron and Charles Darwin.

Words were always her province. She wanted to make them visual, and began thinking of illustrating her favorite books about 10 years ago.

Abstract shapes, dreamlike figures issue forth and fade into rhythmic mists in her oil paintings that are on exhibit in the library from October 1 through December 31.

But there's more. You are drawn to these illustrations by the verbal passages incorporated into the image, sometimes subtly as they blend in the ribbon of evolution through Darwin's *Origin of the Species*, and sometimes boldly as those words that cushion the fragile, glasslike figure in T.S. Eliot's *Preludes*.

"I am moved by fancies that are curled around these images and cling: the notion of some infinitely gentle, infinitely suffering thing."

The words are just as important as the paintings to this artist. She says, "These characters and their truths have been rattling around in my head for years."

At her first group show in June for Seattle's First Thursday Art Walk, Porter was delighted that people, many of them artists, actually read the passages and

thumbed through the books she'd put on the table.

She hoped an obscure memory might be ignited from having read Henry James back in English 101, and now here, in *The Beast in the Jungle*, the viewer might have a new Aha! experience from seeing the author's thoughts.

Porter has worked for newspapers for 15 years. She was an editor for five years in Honolulu and Connecticut before she "took a huge leap" and joined the art department in Denver at the *Rocky Mountain News*. She works now as a designer/illustrator for the *Seattle Times*.

"Writers can write their hearts out," she said, "but people respond to a visual cue immediately. Words are far more powerful with a good visual person helping you convey your ideas."

She thinks visual communication needs to be more integrated, needs to have more word people. "Artists and writers don't mingle as much as you might think. They each travel their own worlds. That's where my worlds collide."

Lacking any art background when she joined the art department in Denver, she has held her own.

"At first, I felt like a fish out of water. They all had fine arts degrees, can paint and sculpt and do fabulous other things, and I had an English degree."

She shrugs in a winning way. But subsequent jobs at the

Bremerton Sun, back east on the *Virginia Pilot* and west again to the *Seattle Times* have built her confidence.

"I see it as an enhancement for me," she said about straddling both worlds, "and I think I am much more effective." She's on the board of directors for the Society of Newspaper Design, a worldwide organization about the marriage of words and visual communication.

So what inspired Tracy to begin painting? As an art director, she would tell the artist what she wanted and then say, "No, no, no, I want this to be a little looser. Or, I want you to do this and this. At a certain point I felt I should give it a shot myself."

Just as she had learned by osmosis when she switched from the editorial section to the art section on the newspaper so did she learn how to paint. She chose oils for her medium because "their complexity and history seemed to fit right with these old books that I love. Then I'd go to work and say to these real artists, 'So how do I make it dry? It's been four weeks, and it's still wet.'"

"Oh, you little fool," they'd laugh, 'you have to get some Liquin and mix it in,' and they'd help me along."

Applying the words to the canvas has been the hardest part. She couldn't look at other paintings for guidance as so few

artists write in their paintings. "I want it to be fluid and not just look

like graffiti," she said. "It's excruciating to paint words. I have to try over and over again." But she's learned her lesson and waits until the painting is dry, then uses chalk to place the words before she picks up her brush.

Porter is tempted by the thought of illustrating book covers. Her 14-year-old son loves to read and her 8-year-old daughter loves to paint. When she organized a book club for her son and friends, they read and devoured Thomas Hardy's *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, initially because the cover was "so cool" she said, "this wild animal face staring out."

She laments that her son wouldn't pick up most classics because the covers are too nondescript or forbidding.

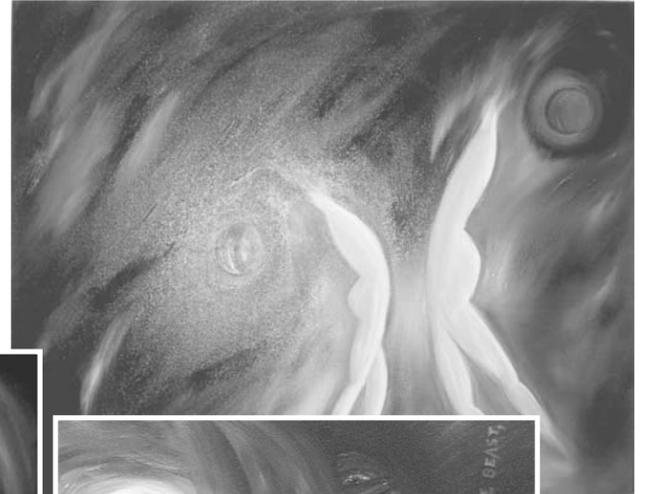
On the other hand, she doesn't have to please a generic audience as she would with book jacket illustrations. Referring to her illustration for *The Scarlet Letter*. "That's how I had always pictured Hester and Pearl — in the forest," she said. "This way, I just do it for me and it's very satisfying."

"I love books, and I love art," she sums up, "so this has been a great way for me to tiptoe into art, using books as my reason."

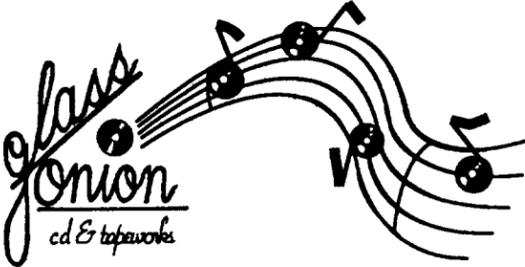
Paintings from the exhibit may be purchased, with 25 percent donated by the artist back to the library. A copy of the book illustrated will be a gift to the purchaser from Tracy Porter. Call her at (206) 780-8331.



Artist Tracy Porter with some of her work



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Fraga's animals make it fun to give

By NAN WOOLDRIDGE

The library always needs money. Rising operating costs that top \$120,000 per year have caused some serious head scratching.

A number of creative solutions to open more pockets have been proposed and are addressing the problem. Here's one that's more fun than going to the circus. Fair warning: You won't be able to keep your hand away from your wallet when you visit the library later this fall, especially if you have kids in tow.

When you walk into the entry, you have to smile at the large papier and cloth mache dog in a chair waiting for you with a funky, large purse to hold your donation.

If you have children, be sure to take them downstairs to put their coins in the ear of the seated giraffe reading a book. They can watch their money go down its long acrylic neck into its nice puffy tummy.

"A kind of pay back for giving your money," the artist said.

These whimsical creatures are the brain-children of Kathe Fraga who delights in making art interactive. "It's like inviting people up on stage when you have a show," she said.

From the moment you hear her "Hi!" in a voice of childish glee on her answering machine, you know this woman has an unique clock ticking inside.

A resident of Bainbridge Island for only three years, she's already left a trail. You may have tripped over one of her lovable, shaggy animals on the floor of Bainbridge Arts and Crafts, or chuckled at one of her Royal Dog portraits when dining at Winslow Way Café, or, further afield, rubbed your hand over her "Swineway," one of the 12 pigs selected

from 150 to grace the Pike Place Market Pig Calendar.

Kathe lives in a 96-year-old stone house (the Gazzam place, subject of Andrew Ward's *Out Here*) with her husband, three children (Sean, Kaleena and Paatela march straight from the pages of Harry Potter), one dog, five cats, an African grey parrot, two cockatiels, four gerbils and two rats. The fish died, but they will soon set up another fish tank.

The word "fun" peppers her speech and animates all her activities. You know life is a party the minute you step on the porch where three of her paper mache dogs sit in party hats around a table with a three-layered paper mache birthday cake in the middle and an American flag waving behind. She's already thinking about the "century" birthday party four years from now to which she'll invite all the former owners.

Furnished in nostalgia, her house is a treasure trove of fantasy with memorabilia and art materials everywhere, not to mention real and constructed creatures.

Once upon a time Kathe worked as a writer in advertising in Hawaii, Los Angeles and Seattle. After children were born, she no longer had the quiet time she needed "to hear those voices in my head" in order to write. Growing up she'd loved doing art, especially papier mache which she'd discovered in high school. This was an area in which she found she could interact with her kids, and a "great opportunity to participate and contribute to their school."

When Sean was in preschool in Bellevue 10 years ago, she and a girl friend made centerpieces for sale at his school auction. Called "The Wild Kingdom," they made tigers, leopards, panthers, parrots, a different papier

mache animal for each table. They all sold and she soon was making nothing but lions for people. That was when she introduced fabric for the manes.

One day, a frequent buyer of her work asked if she would make their family dog, a wheaten terrier. Kathe was excited by the challenge but wondered how she would make this terrier with his scruffy-looking hair.

"If I could mold paper, why couldn't I do the same with fabric and just push it and bend it and manipulate it the way I wanted to simulate hair or fur?"

She could, and sometimes she shreds the fabric, big buckets of it, and layers it on starting at the foot. Thus her style evolved.

She thinks that dogs more than other animals are inherently humorous and convey feelings so well on their faces.

"You can't beat a dog who has his head cocked and his tongue sticking out,"

she said. "A human humorous element adds even more whimsy."

For example, she showed me a photo of an Easter Bunny commissioned by a gallery owner who said, "I want a bunny to look like he went down his hole in Palm Springs, took a wrong turn, and came up in Alaska."

Her bunny has his paw up to his mouth and is looking around quizzically thinking "What did I do?"

Her animals, many of them obtainable through Bainbridge Arts and Crafts, run the gamut from full size pets to pet portraits to pet head ornaments to pet pins. Ideas spew out of Kathe's head like the water in the faucet on her front porch that is constantly running into a bucket.

So what next? She's working on a jeweled dog all a-glitter with pearls and trinkets and all kinds of found objects like a crayon, a girdle snap, dominoes, and buttons.



Fraga and some of her animals

Behind the art exhibit

Newnham's work combines two favorite things

By SUSAN BOTTLES

Arranging for the changing displays in the library's meeting room allows Joanna Newnham to bring two of her favorite things together: art and the library.

"I believe the Bainbridge Library is the very heart of this community. It reflects the very best the community can do for itself," she said. "Scheduling the displays every three months is the most pleasant volunteer work I've ever done."

Joanna recalled that the very day in 1981 she and her family moved to the Island, she had searched out the library. Not long afterwards she began volunteering at Bainbridge Arts and Crafts, later becoming one of the founders of the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council in the mid-1980s and serving as its president.

"I always loved the arts, and I wanted to learn more about them and the artists," she said of her original impulse to volunteer. The thirst for knowledge and curiosity to discover the story behind the created object intrigued her.

Not an artist herself, she said the end result of the many craft classes she has taken has been an increased appreciation for talented people. Today she counts many of them as close friends.

"I know how hard they work and how hard it is for them to market their work,"

she said. "Art is so often a solitary thing and marketing is not often part of the creative talent."

So the chance to offer local artists another venue for display is a particularly rewarding part of her work at the library. Although the art is for sale, and artists agree to donate 25 percent of any proceeds to the library, actual sales have been few.

But a wide diversity of the public is exposed to the showings in the ever-busy meeting room. They look, and the looking, Joanna said, causes some reaction. The artist gains through the exposure; the viewer gains through the experience.

The changing displays and Joanna's involvement have their roots in the original selection of art for the library expansion completed in 1997.

Although Joanna and her husband Blaine, a *Seattle Times* associate editor and sports columnist, had by then moved to Indianola, she had kept her Bainbridge ties. She agreed to serve with Michele Van Slyke on the committee jurying art for the new building.

Once the library opened, all selected artists were given a chance to mount a three-month displays of their other work. Most have now done so, although the offer is still out to a few. In consultation with the

library's art committee, Joanna selects additional artists, taking care to offer a variety of mediums and styles.

(Variety appeals to her. She admits to having a home full of an "eclectic" selection of art, which she enjoys because each time she views a piece she can "think beyond the thing," to who made it and what she sees afresh in it.)

Meanwhile Joanna's own creative side is expressed through gardening and her work. Trained in education of the deaf at the University of Washington and California State University at San Francisco, she currently works in a Children's Hospital outreach program

for hearing impaired children age 3 and under and their parents.

"I love it," she said of her work. "Parents are the best teachers. It is such a joy to see the changes for them and their children as they go from being traumatized to successfully learning how to communicate."

The rest of her life is rounded out by travel with her husband and keeping up with their three children. Daughter Nicole creates documentary films in San Francisco, Lisa is a veterinarian in Kingston and son Daniel lives near Stockholm with his Swedish wife.



Joanna Newnham

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