Bainbridge Library turns 40

BY VERDA AVERILL

Bainbridge old-timers may find it hard to believe, but the Bainbridge Public Library will be 40 years old in March. And library staffers, board members, volunteers and patrons are planning a series of commemorative events throughout the year.

If you’re not quite ready to acknowledge the building’s 40th anniversary, you might like to celebrate its 20th. March was a big month for library users both in 1962, when the first small library was built at the corner of Madison Ave. and High School Road, and in 1982, when the building was enlarged for the first time. For years, library users have been quietly celebrating every March, around St. Patrick’s Day.

This year the celebration will be more than a one-day party.

The anniversary year festivities will begin Saturday, March 23, with an open house at the library. More events will follow in the spring and summer. Plans are now being made for a local business expo, and several Stewards of the Library, a recently formed group of library supporters, are enthusiastically pursuing the idea of an authors’ night featuring Bainbridge writers reading from their recent works.

Also in the planning stage is a special fall tour of New York City designed just for Bainbridge Library patrons. Highlights of the trip will include a behind-the-scenes tour of the New York Public Library, visits to sites of literary interest, a pair of Broadway productions, and much more. Bainbridge travel consultant Louise Mills is working out details with a colleague in the Big Apple.

Susan Bray, director of the Bainbridge library Speakers Forum, will be the group leader.

The New York trip, originally scheduled for the fall of 2001, was postponed for a year because of the September 11 destruction of the World Trade Center. It has been rescheduled for October 2002. Persons interested in joining the tour should inquire at the library; space is limited.

A unique concept

The first library building for all of Bainbridge Island was dedicated in 1962 after a two-year community fund-raising campaign. Island architect John Rudolph designed the building, Stanley Egaas and

Mrs. Lyman Black, Jr. were co-chairs of the fund-raising committee. Jack Gordon was executive secretary, and Russell R. Johnson was campaign director.

The list of committee members reads like a Who’s Who of Bainbridge Island in the 1960s.

In a campaign letter mailed to Bainbridge residents, Johnson wrote that “one of the unfortunate voids in the Bainbridge Way of Life is an all-island library facility. We are attempting to fill that void and think you will want to help.” And help they did.

Proceeds from several Rotary Auctions, countless bake sales, and scores of other happenings raised the necessary funds, which slightly exceeded the $35,000 first estimated.

“A community without a library is like a home without a window,” the committee charged. And Bainbridge Islanders agreed.

Barbara Winther’s book They Like Noble Causes, lavishly illustrated with the work of local photographers, tells the story of the building of the Bainbridge Public Library, and the community itself, through much of the 20th century.

Also in this issue:

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Readable science books for non-scientists ............................................................... Page 4

Dinah Satterwhite’s images brighten library walls ....................................................... Page 12
Opinion

A free public library for all

BY VERDA AVERILL

When the good citizens of Bainbridge Island decided more than 40 years ago to build “a free public library...for all Bainbridge Islanders” they were on to a good thing. They chose a site that was “centrally located for the convenient enjoyment of all Islanders!”

And they insisted that it be “adequate for present needs...and expandable for future growth.” They were building for the future — not just for the 1960s and ’70s, but for the 21st century as well.

They made a decision: that the money would come entirely from voluntary contributions by residents and friends of Bainbridge Island. No taxes would be levied to pay for the building. And that’s the way things stand today, four decades later.

The citizens of Bainbridge Island joined in the incorporation of a non-profit organization managed by a non-salaried board of directors. Today, that same non-profit organization remains in existence, and our community library building is still managed by a non-salaried board.

The original library planners arranged for the Kitsap Regional Library to provide the books and staff for the building, and that partnership is alive and well today.

Publicity for the first library fund-raising effort in 1960 and ’61 stresses some of the advantages of a new central library for the island: a greater selection of books, permanent reference volumes, an opportunity to browse, needed services for students, regular hours for better service for commuters, and musical records and paintings.

As the community and library have grown during these past 40 years, the list of advantages has grown impressively. Today, circulating materials include not only books but also video tapes. A wall full of magazines covers a wide range of topics. Reference materials are available not only in bound volumes, but via the Internet, almost instantaneously.

Services are provided by both Kitsap Regional Library and the Bainbridge Public Library Board. Special equipment is here to help the visually impaired. Computer help is available for those who wish it. Special educational events are offered all year long, in both the public meeting room upstairs and the children’s section on the lower floor. You can listen to opera previews, hear play readings — and much more, all in your comfortable local library.

Visitors from out of town come to see the remarkable art work on display inside and the unique Haiku Garden and Hardy Fern Foundation Garden, as well as the perennial gardens tended by the Friday Tidies under the direction of Ann Lovejoy.

The library planners who worked so hard 40 years ago could not have imagined the Bainbridge Public Library of today. But, it’s safe to say, they would like what it’s become.

Stewards celebrate

Bainbridge Library Stewards, staff, volunteers and Friends of the Library gathered November 3 at City Hall to celebrate the completion of a successful annual appeal for funds.

Library patrons of all ages turned out to buy holiday gifts from a display of rare books and enjoy wine tasting; the book sale and wine tasting raised additional funds for library maintenance and operation.

Plan now (and pay less later)

BY MARITE BUTNERS

Do you have an up-to-date will? If not, there is no better time than right now to give it some consideration. (In fact, to get you started, the library has a free brochure on wills.)

Why is a will important? With a valid will you determine what property will go to whom and when. If you pass away without a valid will, the state in which you die a resident has a “will” drawn for you (contained in the state intestacy statutes) and it may not be to your liking.

By creating your own will, you choose who will settle your estate (your personal representative) and who will serve as guardian for any minor children. You may also establish any appropriate trusts to provide for survivors, meet your charitable objectives, or provide for estate tax savings.

The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Act of 2001 provided for some major estate tax savings over the next 10 years. For instance, the amount that each individual may leave free of federal estate tax is increasing from $675,000 in 2001 to $1 million in 2002. There are other increases in exempt amounts in following years. The planning implications are exciting. A couple with a combined estate of $1,350,000 in 2001 could pass the entire amount tax free to their children by including simple “credit shelter” trusts in their wills. (The estate of $1,350,000 in 2001 could pass the entire estate tax free of federal estate taxes. Your charitable gift may be designated to establish an endowment to honor your or a loved one’s memory, to fund ongoing or specific library needs, or to be used for the greatest current need at the time it is received.

For a free brochure on Leave a Legacy, stop by the library. For additional reading on wills and legacies, inquire at the reference desk.

(Marite Butners is an attorney and member of the Washington State Planned Giving Council.)
MEMORIES OF 1995—Signs in the Burma Shave mode dotted Bainbridge Island as the community raised funds for an enlarged library building. Holding several signs are (from left) Blair Rynearson, Brett Schwager, Jane Powell, Deborah Cheadle, and Ralph Eells. (Photo courtesy of Barbara Winther)

Wild Fire Productions, R.J. Engraving, Performance Sign Products and Court Engravers. Lumbermen’s Building Centers gave the stakes and screws. Blair Rynearson and Brett Schwager, high school honor students, installed 20 sets of signs. Each sign ended with the words “Library Building Campaign” to let the community know the drive had started. The signs went up in April 1996.

Here are a few of the jingles:

- Cut it out.
- No horseplay.
- Bale your bucks.
- Fork over your hay.

(Installed near Hay Bay and Feed)

Multiply, subtract or do division.

The Bainbridge Library needs a new addition.

(Installed near Ordway School)

If Frog Rock had a bank account, he’d make a pledge for a big amount.

(Installed near Frog Rock)

The signs stayed up for several weeks. The islanders loved them.

Then there were the yellow book banks. Betsy Lawrence, a library board member, saw something similar back East and decided the idea could be adapted to appeal to children on Bainbridge.

Linda Costello designed a cut-out form of a bank. Pam Buttenveld drew the cover picture. Instructions above the cutout suggested coloring the figures on the bank and explained how to cut the form out, fold it and glue it. The form was printed on yellow cardboard. The idea was for children to make their own banks and save their money to help build the library.

On April 15, 1996, the library held a party for the children to empty their banks, count the money and celebrate. Kitsap Bank loaned a wooden counting machine. Children had the fun of watching their money clank down through paths in the machine and the satisfaction of knowing they were helping build their library.

To learn more about the unique ways the Bainbridge Island used to raise enough money to build our present library facility, read Act IV, Scene 2, starting on page 68, in They Like Noble Causes—How a Community Built a Library.

After you’ve read the pages, think about buying copies of the book for friends and relatives. The next to last paragraph in the book sums up the community spirit on Bainbridge:

“Look to the story of the Bainbridge Island Library. Wonders can be accomplished when private citizens join with public-funded institutions and make plans, when groups form and work for the welfare of the community, when, instead of finding fault, people find out what they can do.”

Library plaques honor local donors

The reasons Bainbridge Islanders chose to donate a shelf at the library are many and varied, ranging from simply wishing to support the institution to marking a special event to remembering a loved one.

The only safe generalization may be that all donors recognize the central place the library holds in the heart of this community and the people they recognize.

Over the past year several families and friends have chosen to remember their loved ones through the gift of a shelf. A plaque in memory of Juanita V. Peck was installed below the shelf holding books about the rules of bridge and other card games, another in memory of Juanita and Frank Searing was placed in the biography section. A plaque in the psychology section remembered Susan A. Brock; Dorothy Gould is remembered on one of the CD racks. Don Nakata’s memory is honored on a shelf holding books about Japanese history

Frank Seeley was for many years a “writer, teacher, mentor and friend” to the Tuesday Writers Group and he is so remembered on a shelf holding poetry books.

Kay Jensen has been and continues to be a great supporter of the library. She was also the founder and leader of the Island Striders fitness walk/run group. Last spring members of the group decided to thank her through the gift of a shelf and plaque. Kay herself compounded the gift; as she went into retirement, she donated her extensive collection of health and fitness books to the library, where some now are shelved above her plaque.

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 its on-going operation — and encourage others by your example. Consider symbolically “buying” a shelf at the library for $250.

You get to choose the wording on the plaque (up to 28 letters and spaces), which is permanently affixed to the shelf as recognition of your generosity (and is a potential tax deduction). You may specify where on the main floor shelves you’d like it affixed.

From the gifts of plaques, the library gets vitally important operating funds to keep the building’s doors open, the wastebaskets emptied, and the lights and heat on. Every penny for these operating costs must be raised month after month, year after year from private donations.

NEWS BRIEFS

MOTHER/DAUGHTER BOOK GROUP—Annette Sebastian and her 13-year-old daughter, Rebekah, would like to form a mother/daughter book discussion group. The library will provide space for the meetings. Other interested persons should leave name and phone number with the Bainbridge Library young people’s staff. They’ll contact you to schedule an organizational meeting.

NEW, NEW, NEW—With new shelving, the library is taking a new approach with new children’s books. As you enter the Children’s Library, look for the display located near the Visually Impaired Persons Room. There you’ll find a convenient collection to browse for the latest picture book and juvenile acquisitions.

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Library history book wins major award

The book They Like Noble Causes: How a Community Built a Library has received another major award: the gold award of The International Association of Printing House Craftsmen.

The honor, for design and printing excellence, was awarded to The Winslow Group of Bainbridge Island and Valco Graphics of Seattle, producers of the book. Publisher Sharon Abrams of The Winslow Group accepted the award.

Island historian Barbara Winther was the writer and Bainbridge resident O. Kern Devlin was the art director and designer. The hardcover volume, appropriate for coffee table display as well as serious reading, contains hundreds of historical photographs (some never displayed before) as well as recent photos by local professional photographers Art Grice, Joel Sackett, and Linda Quatman Younder.

Internationally recognized photographer Mary Randlett, formerly of Bainbridge and now an Olympia resident, also has photographs in the book. (Randlett will be a featured speaker on the library’s Speakers Forum this spring; see the calendar on Page 1 for details.)

Verda Averill, former editor and publisher of the Bainbridge Review, edited the book.

Competition for the gold award from the International Gallery of Superb Printing was intense. Entries were received from Australia, Britain, China, Germany, Hong Kong, Korea, and Singapore as well as the United States — 3,075 entries in all from more than 1,200 firms.

The book, They Like Noble Causes, is the history of the Bainbridge Public Library and the people and events that made it happen. It is available locally at Eagle Harbor Books, Fornter Books, and by calling the publisher directly at 842-5105. Net proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the library to help with general operating expenses.

BY JULIE O’NEILL, Reference Librarian

How’s your science IQ? Don’t know a quark from a quasar? Superstrings from strands of DNA?

Things have changed pretty rapidly in most science fields in the last few years. If the last science book you read was your high school biology text, you probably have some catching up to do. There are some excellent science writers who write for the non-scientist, and have the ability to make even the most complex astrophysics theories exciting and at least reasonably understandable.

Here are some suggested titles, some easy reading, some more challenging, all well written and enjoyable. All titles are available at Kitsap Regional Library.

1. Cracking the genome: inside the race to unlock human DNA. Davies, Kevin. 2001.


5. The barmaid’s brain: and other strange tales from science. Ingram, Jay. 2000.


11. The Professor and the Madman. Quammen, David (Editor).

For 30 years he has written learned, witty and thought-provoking essays on the oddities of nature for Natural History magazine. He will soon retire, so this is his penultimate collection of such essays. Try some of his earlier volumes too: The Panda’s Thumb, The Flamingo’s Smile, Bully for Bronsonaurus, and Hen’s Teeth and Horse’s Toes.

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BY GAIL GOODRICK

Karen Armstrong is a respected scholar of religions—Western and non-Western. The Battle for God tells the story of the rise of fundamentalism in many of the world’s religions today. Islam: A Short History provides a historical context for understanding Muslim cultures. Her new book Holy War: The Crusades and Their Impact on Today’s World is due to be published in November 2003. Bernard Lewis, a distinguished professor of Near Eastern Studies, has written numerous books including one of the best introductions to Islam and the West—the Middle East: A Brief History of the Last 2,000 Years. Jihad in the West: Muslim Conquests from the 7th to the 21st Centuries by Paul Fregousi is a controversial book that catalogs the wars prosecuted against non-Muslims by Muslim armies. Probably the best book to explain the rise of the Taliban is titled Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil and Fundamentalism by Ahmed Rashid, a Pakistani journalist. Another important book explains the sad state of Afghanistan after over 20 years of war, Afghanistan’s Endless War: State Failure, Regional Politics and the Rise of the Taliban by Larry P. Goodroon. Yet another title is War at the Top of the World by Eric Margolis which looks at the ongoing conflicts in Tibet and Kashmir and elsewhere along the borders between Russia, China, Pakistan and India. There are many books covering the history of the Arab-Israeli Conflict. One of the most recent is called The New Intifada: Resisting Israel’s Apartheid edited by Roane Carey. This book obviously has a point of view and that is a major problem sorting out books on this subject. Another important book which can provide background for the current situation is A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East by David Fromkin. For a look at the more recent Middle East read Thomas Frisam’s From Beirut to Jerusalem which won the National Book Award and is regarded as fair and unbiased. A more personal view of Islam and its believers can be found in S. V. Naipaul’s travel books, especially Among the Believers: An Islamic Journey (written 20 years ago) and Beyond Belief: Islamic Excursions Among the Converted Peoples (a more recent companion title). Naipaul concentrates on individuals he encounters, revealing how Islam affects the family, culture, and politics in non-Arabic countries from Iran to Indonesia. Two titles which reveal the often harsh world of women under fundamentalist Islam are: Price of Honor: Muslim Women Lift the Veil of Silence on the Islamic World by Jan Goodwin and Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women by Geraldine Brooks.

Fiction: Arabic history and more


NEWS BRIEFS

THE VISUALLY Impaired Group of Bainbridge has contributed a work station in memory of Art Genos. It includes a print enlarger (a ClearView Magnifier) donated by Carol Reese in memory of her father, Bill Yahn. The magnifier is conveniently located in the upper floor reference area, and staff members will help anyone who wants to use it.

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 patrons. Call 842-4162 or ask at the information desk about the volunteer instructors.

Irish writer to lead off writers’ series

Irish author Nuala O’Faolain will appear on Bainbridge Monday, February 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bainbridge High School auditorium (large group instruction room). In a conversation with Nancy Pearl of the Center for the Book at the Seattle Public Library, O’Faolain will discuss her novel, My Dream of You, and her best-selling memoir, Are You Somebody? The Accidental Memoir of a Dublin Woman.

Their appearance will signal the beginning of the popular Kitsap Reads series of appearances by distinguished authors. In its inaugural year Kitsap Reads was a smash hit, drawing standing room only crowds to most events. The series is sponsored by the Kitsap Regional Library and rotates to locations throughout the county for the convenience of most Kitsap County residents. Nuala O’Faolain’s memoir, Are You Somebody?, was an immediate best seller. Now her first novel is making the best seller lists and drawing rave reviews from critics in The New York Times, Washington Post, Elle, and Publishers Weekly.

My Dream of You is “full of brilliant writing and heartbreaking insight. Unlike all but the best writers, O’Faolain isn’t afraid to write about a character as smart and complicated as she is,” wrote a Newsweek reviewer.

A USA Today columnist called the book “a grand achievement in storytelling . . . a lovely hearthbreaker of a novel that asks the hard questions.” “She is sometimes hailed as the female McCourt,” said Cindy Harrison, Bainbridge Library branch manager. “This is a rare opportunity for Bainbridge Islanders to hear an exceptional, internationally acclaimed author.” “Nuala O’Faolain’s memoir became a surprise best seller. Now there’s a new novel from the woman whose blunt talk about sex, religion and the hypocrisies of her homeland made her a star,” wrote Drephne Merkin in the New York Times Magazine.

O’Faolain’s appearance is scheduled for the high school LGL room to accommodate an expected large crowd. Early arrivals will get the choicest seats.

Understanding today’s Arab world

Non-fiction: Discovering Arabic fiction

Karen Armstrong is a respected scholar of religions—Western and non-Western. The Battle for God tells the story of the rise of fundamentalism in many of the world’s religions today. Islam: A Short History provides a historical context for understanding Muslim cultures. Her new book Holy War: The Crusades and Their Impact on Today’s World is due to be published in November 2003. Bernard Lewis, a distinguished professor of Near Eastern Studies, has written numerous books including one of the best introductions to Islam and the West—the Middle East: A Brief History of the Last 2,000 Years. Jihad in the West: Muslim Conquests from the 7th to the 21st Centuries by Paul Fregousi is a controversial book that catalogs the wars prosecuted against non-Muslims by Muslim armies. Probably the best book to explain the rise of the Taliban is titled Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil and Fundamentalism by Ahmed Rashid, a Pakistani journalist. Another important book explains the sad state of Afghanistan after over 20 years of war, Afghanistan’s Endless War: State Failure, Regional Politics and the Rise of the Taliban by Larry P. Goodroon. Yet another title is War at the Top of the World by Eric Margolis which looks at the ongoing conflicts in Tibet and Kashmir and elsewhere along the borders between Russia, China, Pakistan and India. There are many books covering the history of the Arab-Israeli Conflict. One of the most recent is called The New Intifada: Resisting Israel’s Apartheid edited by Roane Carey. This book obviously has a point of view and that is a major problem sorting out books on this subject. Another important book which can provide background for the current situation is A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East by David Fromkin. For a look at the more recent Middle East read Thomas Frisam’s From Beirut to Jerusalem which won the National Book Award and is regarded as fair and unbiased. A more personal view of Islam and its believers can be found in S. V. Naipaul’s travel books, especially Among the Believers: An Islamic Journey (written 20 years ago) and Beyond Belief: Islamic Excursions Among the Converted Peoples (a more recent companion title). Naipaul concentrates on individuals he encounters, revealing how Islam affects the family, culture, and politics in non-Arabic countries from Iran to Indonesia. Two titles which reveal the often harsh world of women under fundamentalist Islam are: Price of Honor: Muslim Women Lift the Veil of Silence on the Islamic World by Jan Goodwin and Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women by Geraldine Brooks.
Fairy stories for all youngsters

BY MARY CURTIS

Faries, brownies, elves, and leprechauns are small mythical creatures that have either charmed or infuriated their way into countless folk tales and children’s stories. The Bainbridge library collection has a good number of fairy stories for all ages and all levels of readers, from picture books like Fritz and the Messy Fairy by Rosemary Wells to classic tales like Peter Pan. Many of the children’s books have sweet stories of gentle, magical woodland folk, but my favorites are the stories in which the fairies are a bit mischievous, not entirely helpful, or have a tendency to get into trouble.

The first one that comes to mind is Five Children and It by Edith Nesbit. Written at the turn of the last century, Nesbit tells the tale of five siblings on holiday in England who find a Sand Fairy in an abandoned gravel pit. The Sand Fairy is cranky and cross and doesn’t like to be disturbed, but it does grant wishes. A classic tale of making sure you really want what you wish for because you just might get it, the children make their wishes and then suffer the consequences throughout the day until the sun sets and the wish vanishes. Of course they are lucky to find one in a used bookstore. The original hardback editions are collectible and expensive, but they were reprinted as paperbacks in the 1960’s and you might be lucky to find one in a used bookstore.

The second one is the Fairy Rebel, by Lynne Reid Banks of The Indian in the Cupboard fame. Here a fairy, and not the human, gets into trouble. Jan, a grown woman who longs for a child of her own, finds a fairy in her garden. Tiki wears blue jeans and brownies make their wishes and then suffer the consequences throughout the day until the sun sets and the wish vanishes. Of course they are back in the pit the next day to try their luck at wishing, just one more time.

An inverse tale is The Fairy Rebel, by Lynne Reid Banks of The Indian in the Cupboard fame. Here a fairy, and not the human, gets into trouble. Jan, a grown woman who longs for a child of her own, finds a fairy named Tiki in her garden. Tiki wears blue jeans and brownies make their wishes and then suffer the consequences throughout the day until the sun sets and the wish vanishes. Of course they are back in the pit the next day to try their luck at wishing, just one more time.

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Books about island living

BY ELEANOR WHEELER

If Once You Have Slept on an Island. This charming book, written by Rachel Field and illustrated by Iris van Rynbach, is just one of the delightful picture books about islands that are in the Young People’s library. If you see blue water and whirling gulls wherever you go, and if you would like to enjoy more picture books about islands, here are some you may wish to sample:

Isla, by Arthur Dorros and illustrated by Elisa Kleven, tells the story of a young girl and her grandmother as they take an imaginary trip to the Caribbean island where her mother grew up.

The magical illustrations in Comet’s Comet's Ghost Vision, written by Jeanie Kortum, paints a vivid picture of life among Greenland’s Inuitice cap, 12-year old Panipaq discovers that a time-travel adventure in which a 16-year old girl tumbles overboard from a fast-moving sloop and finds herself on an unknown island. There, she meets 16-year old Amelia Earhart who has been snatched from the past as part of a fantastic experiment. The magical adventures of Abiel Hassan and Chicco Flint are presented in Abel’s Island, by William Steig. Abel is a proper mouse living on inherited wealth, but has the grit to meet the challenge when faced with the necessity of survival. This Newbery Honor Book is charmingly illustrated.

The magical adventures of Abelard and the Newbery award winner Misty of Chincoteague, written and illustrated by Marguerite Henry, tells the story of Misty, one of the wild ponies descended from survivors of a Spanish shipwreck. Misty was captured in the Pony Roundup when wild horses from the barrier island of Assateague were swum across to Chincoteague Island. The wild ponies still remain, but Chincoteague is now a National Wildlife Refuge and Assateague is protected as a national seashore.

Walter Farley’s The Black Stallion is an exciting adventure of a 17-year-old boy who was shipwrecked on a desert island with a wild stallion. This classic book was later made into a successful film. The Island Stallion, by the same author, is a haunting adventure of the friendship between a boy and his horse. Panic on Gull Island is a classic Hardy Boys adventure. Young people today enjoy this series by Franklin Dixon just as much as their parents did!

In the children's library

Young shoppers find bargains at library book sales.

NEWS BRIEFS

CHRISTMAS YEAR ROUND

In past years, children’s Christmas books were stored at the Kitsap Regional Library Central Branch, shipped out to other Kitsap Regional Library branches for October-December, and returned to Central in January. Beginning in 2002, children’s Christmas books will reside in branches year round. To find Christmas books when browsing the shelves, look for a red star or a candy cane on the spine. You can find them listed in the library catalog by searching the subject: Christmas—Juvenile.
Library book sales

Fill those shelves at bargain prices and help the library while you do it

BY SUSAN BOTTLES

Dedicated Bainbridge used book browsers and buyers know well that they dare not sleep in on the second Saturday of the month. Two or three dozen fellow enthusiasts will be lined up well before the 10 a.m. start time for the Friends of the Library sale downstairs at the library.

Alan Miller and Carolyn Mitchell were near the front of the line Nov. 10. They knew from experience that if they waited too long parking might become scarce, and of course the selection would be less.

“I do the cookbooks,” said Carolyn. “I have about 500 now, and we just built some new bookcases.”

Alan is a retired college professor, and although he is interested in many topics, he was particularly on the lookout for anything to do with Asian religions.

At a recent sale the conversation in the line was light, lively and expectant. Deborah Reiner spent her time “swapping authors” with the people around her.

She, too, is a regular. “There is just such a wonderful supply of really good, cheap books,” she said.

Prices are indeed low. Islanders contribute literally hundreds of books and magazines to the library each month. Although some are retained for the library shelves, most are recycled to new readers through the book sales.

Profits – and it is nearly all profit since all labor is volunteer – pay for a wide variety of special library projects such as the children’s aquarium, the garden gazebo and dozens of periodical subscriptions.

This year the Friends (and indirectly the book donors and buyers) also paid for 100 percent of the costs of repairs following February’s earthquake. Friends also gave money to the library board of directors to spend for general operating costs, and additional funds for eventual replacement of carpeting, furniture or other refurbishment.

A small number of very dedicated Friends of the Library do the literally backbreaking labor of sorting the books, setting up the displays and manning the sales tables.

The November sale extended into the upstairs meeting room, where volunteers Dave Hill and Dominique Bemis were selling virtually pristine special books at higher prices of $5, $10, even $15. The Friends had saved these special books for the holidays, and some undoubtedly eventually were wrapped up and placed under the tree.

“We did the cookbooks,” said Dominique. “We have about 500 now, and we just built some new bookcases.”

Alan Sellers, 9, had a $5 bill clutched in his fist. He said he, too, is a regular, and he always likes to look for Calvin and Hobbes or Garfield cartoon books, or the stories written by Lemony Snicket.

“I couldn’t really buy anything at a bookstore for $5,” Thomas said. “But at $2 or $3 I can buy a couple of books here.”

Paula Clayborn goes to the sale whenever she notices the reader board at Town and Country announcing it. Debbee Concordance comes for the cookbooks and the gardening books.

Marilyn Turkovich and Lynn Devree explained their interest simply as, “We read a lot.”

Marilyn said she particularly liked the fact she could buy a business book at the sale inexpensively when she is only interested in a chapter or two. Paying full price simply would not be worth it.

Lynn, who comes from Holland, said they are always on the lookout for foreign authors, “We get excited by any Dutch book,” she said – and they have found a few at the sales. They exchange book information with friends in Europe.

Carl Erickson, another regular, couldn’t find anything for himself at the November sale. His wife Amy likes dolls so he had picked up a book on the subject for her. “If she doesn’t want it, I’ll just donate it back,” he said cheerfully. “It’s all for a good cause.”

Once the sale was well under way, the conviviality of the waiting line largely disappeared as a library-like quiet descended. Occasionally, near the mysteries or popular fiction, someone recommended a particular book or author to a friend, but most buyers were concentrating on the titles. By 10:20 nearly 100 people were making their way around the displays and tables. Mike McCloud said, “These are just wonderful books. Every month I manage to stagger out with $40 or $50 worth. I find all sorts of treasures.” Very few of his purchases get recycled back to the sale because he specializes in finding reference works, particularly on birds and birding.

Books that fail to sell at the Saturday book sale often are placed on the two book and magazine sale racks, one upstairs in the main lobby and the other downstairs in the children’s library.

Friends President Jax Donnelly and other volunteers come in almost daily to keep those shelves well stocked. Jax believes an entirely different group of library patrons takes advantage of the on-going sales shelves. Titles that don’t sell at the regular monthly sale often do on the racks.

“The monthly sale reaches only a tiny fraction of the Islanders who might be interested.” Jax worries. “Lots of people have to get their kids to games on Saturday mornings, or maybe they just don’t like to get up early.”

She and her fellow Friends have talked about other possible times for book sales, including weekday evenings. This proved to be a popular idea among the Stewards of the Library (the new group formed for library donors) who filled out a survey at the library celebration early in November.

Whatever their decisions about the future, the used book sales are a true island institution supported by the dedicated reading public of the Bainbridge Island.
A librarian’s eye view

As every library patron knows, Bainbridge Island librarians are multi-talented. Young People’s Librarian Peggy Hughes, for example, can often be seen at the upstairs reference desk as well as in the children’s library. And when not at one desk or another, she can frequently be found behind the lens of a camera, recording library activities. The photos on this page were captured by Hughes during several fall events (and quiet times).

From top left, clockwise: Quinn Balas reads for pleasure, schoolchildren from St. Cecilia’s Mustard Seed class tour the library, John Murphy and Goodwin Sibbins peruse some book finds, and an unidentified pair of students do some after-school research. Below, attendees at a recent Native American storytelling program included, from left, Gina Corpuz, Alice Saliba, and Alyson Neils.

Photos by Peggy Hughes
Meet the staff

Sue Pasquale is a train enthusiast

BY SUSAN BOTTLES

Like many other library staff members, Sue Pasquale applied for her job as part-time library page and public service assistant for the usual reasons: time available now that her children were growing up and a life-long love of books.

Working at the library is typically viewed as a great job with a great group of co-workers, correctly so according to current employees. The first hurdle is a competitive examination, followed by an interview. But while many of the successful applicants’ life stories may share a superficial similarity, each person’s path to the library’s door is unique.

For instance, Sue is a train buff, even though she has allowed her subscription to Trains Magazine to lapse. She traces her interest back to her childhood when she went with her father to his box manufacturing plant near the railroad tracks. Trips to Pennsylvania and elsewhere on the Illinois Central, during which she could read without problems with motion sickness as in a car, confirmed her enthusiasm.

Now her family, which includes husband Fred, high school sophomore Eddie, 16, and Colorado College student Marie, 20, occasionally indulge her by including railroad riding on family vacations.

Actually, travel and transportation in many forms are a recurrent theme in her life, although raising a family has kept her close to home in recent years. As a teenager, she spent six weeks in France perfecting her language skills. The next summer, despite having “very limited German,” she flew alone on Icelandic Air to Luxembourg and from there traveled to a German Red Cross resort on the North Sea where she worked for the summer.

Back home, she earned an associate of arts degree at Vincent University in Indiana, but was off again, this time to Los Angeles. The year was 1969, and Sue and her roommates made sure to go to the rock and roll concerts that were so much a part of that time for young people. Jefferson Airplane, the Rolling Stones and The Band were among those they heard during her three years there.

Next she moved to San Francisco. Although she lived in the Haight Ashbury district, 1967’s Summer of Love was several years past, and the district was not quite the hippie hangout it had been.

But two years later the Midwest and its “grounded” atmosphere called her back. She moved to Chicago, which she described as the “friendliest town,” and found work in transportation. It turned out to be an extremely fortuitous move and job choice. Four or five times a day she had to coordinate shipping schedules with a man on the West Coast. The man was Fred, and those conversations must have strayed well beyond strict business bounds. They exchanged photographs, and agreed to meet centrally in Denver on Valentine’s Day. Later they spent a week in the San Juan Islands, and soon Sue was making plans for another move, this time to Seattle and for a wedding.

Fifteen years ago the young family moved to Bainbridge Island, where they make their home on Olympic Terrace. “We’ve put down roots,” she said, and those mobile days appear past.

Besides her library job, Sue volunteers as a bookskeeper at Grace Episcopal Church and sometimes substitutes at Carden Country School, which her son attended.

Her own reading tends to concentrate in literary fiction, but the books do pile up. “I think every husband of a woman who works here has said the same thing, that we must have half the books at the library at home,” she said.

Friends thank patron

Friends of the Library offer their thanks to the many library patrons who have supported the library book sales through the years. Hundreds of shoppers turn out each month for the Saturday book sale. In addition, Bainbridge Library Stewards, at their celebration in November, purchased many special and rare books for holiday giving. Jax Donnelly, president of the Bainbridge Friends of the Library, writes:

“We would like to thank you for the continual support you have shown us over the years, through your generous book donations and your patronage at our monthly book sales. Each year thousands of books are donated to the library. Many go into the collection, but most sell at the monthly book sales. Thanks to you, we had a hugely successful book sale at the November Stewards celebration. We were able to offer a variety of books, including rare, unusual, signed and first edition volumes. We also had a silent auction of some very fine books, generating considerable enthusiasm amongst the discerning shoppers and bibliophiles present.

It was good to see people enjoying the many out of print and fascinating books that had been so generously donated to this noble cause.

We look forward to seeing you at our book sales, on the second Saturday of every month, and some Monday evenings too. We will also offer special book sales throughout the year at upcoming library celebrations.

We couldn’t do it without you, our patrons, who enable us to provide this service to the community. Each book you donate, or buy, helps maintain the Bainbridge Public Library. Thank you.

BY JAX DONNELLY

President Friends of the Library

Library stewards express choices of special events

Book readings by local authors topped the list of special events donors to the Bainbridge Public Library say they want.

Stewards of the Library who attended the November Library Celebration were handed a survey form asking their preferences for special events. A total of 63 responses came back. At 71 percent, the readings by local authors took top spot, followed by cultural lectures like the Speakers Forum (65 percent), and evening book sales of special books with the Friends of the Library.

Twenty-eight (44 percent) were interested in receptions with authors whose work is being displayed in the meeting room.

NEWS BRIEFS

THE BAINBRIDGE Waldorf Foundation will sponsor a lecture, “Is Waldorf Education For Your Child?”

Saturday January 12, at 10 a.m. in the library public meeting room, Waldorf educator Betsy Weil, a Waldorf teacher for 17 years, will speak. All interested persons are welcome. (No admission charge.)

THE HANSOMES new bench installed recently in the library garden, just outside the back door, honors Kathy Miles, a garden volunteer (Tidy Friday member) who died last year.

WHERE ARE THE TIN TIN BOOKS? There is now a Juvenile Oversize Fiction collection at the beginning of the Juvenile Fiction shelving. You’ll find any Juvenile Fiction, over 10 inches high on the two shelves adjusted for the larger illustrated books. It’s a convenient place to browse and besides finding the Tin Tin books you’ll see oversize editions of old favorites such as Wind in the Willows and The Wizard of Oz.

A PATTON WALKER provided by Friends of the Library is in almost every bookshop in Europe, but the Bainbridge Public Library offers a unique spot, followed by cultural lectures like the Speakers Forum (65 percent), and evening book sales of special books with the Friends of the Library.

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BY JAX DONNELLY

President Friends of the Library

Videos available at Dance Center

The Bainbridge Dance Center, now 20 years old, has established a video library that highlights dance companies, choreographers and dancers of ballet, modern, jazz and tap traditions. Over 30 videos were purchased to establish the collection, which is available to all Bainbridge Island residents.

“We had a small number of videos already, but felt that with a collection that spanned at least two centuries we could enhance our programs,” said ballet director Vera Bulken. Dance Center owner Susan Thompson encouraged the project, which was supported by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Fund.

An annotated bibliography is available at both the Bainbridge Public Library and at BDC, and persons over 18 may check out videos. For more information, call BDC at 842-1497.

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BY SUSAN BOTTLES

Considering how deeply library volunteer Mary Lewis’s roots have sunk into Bainbridge Island’s social soil, its difficult to believe that fewer than three years ago the island was just a path to and from the ferry for her.

“I had crossed the island twice, on my way to Port Townsend and Port Ludlow, before I stopped to look around,” Mary said of her exploratory visit in search of a place to move in retirement. True to her scholarly background, she had done in-depth research leading her to target Western Washington as a possible home.

But once she did take time to investigate the island, she moved fast. She talked to a real estate agent who showed her the floor plans for the soon-to-be-built Winslow Mews. Days later, back home in New Jersey, she called to purchase the house.

Since then, her visiting East Coast colleagues have only confirmed what she saw then, “My gosh, this is paradise,” she said.

On her very first day as a Bainbridge Island resident, this former professor of archaeology, ancient history and general classics at Keen University searched out the library to apply for a card and ask about volunteer opportunities.

It was a pattern of civic involvement she repeated several times in the next few months. Now she is not only the new president of the Visually Impaired Persons (VIP) group, headquartered at the library, but is also a board member of Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council and the Kitsap Habitat for Humanity program.

Mary herself suffers from macular degeneration, as did her mother before her. Generally, the disease attacks central vision, while leaving some degree of peripheral vision intact. She was 52 when she found out she had the condition, but she spent ten more years recording for the blind and dyslexic while her sight was still good enough to read easily.

“I saw it as work paying back for all the wonderful hours mother enjoyed thanks to the Library for the Blind,” she said. “Later I was piling up credits for myself.”

Today Mary is using those credits. Although she can read using magnifier glasses, she finds it slow going. She prefers recorded material she can take along in the car (she is legally allowed to drive locally) or out walking. She also uses a variety of other techniques, such as computer generated voices that read aloud the New York Times and other materials.

“I find my comprehension is actually better listening than when I read,” she said. “I seem to be less likely to be distracted.”

She spends about two hours a day doing computer-based research or work on a variety of interests, and she now uses her expertise to train others on computers as well.

The downstairs VIP room in the library has “state of the art assistance technology,” according to Mary.

The computer has a screen reader, e-mail, and access to the worldwide web, magnification software and a scanner. While she and younger members of the VIP group generally have similar technology in their homes, the more numerous elderly persons in the VIP group typically do not.

So far, Mary has trained seven or eight people to use the equipment, and particularly to familiarize themselves with the Internet. She can and does train normally sighted persons as well. Volunteer Lee Cross is also trained to teach use of the VIP equipment.

The Bainbridge Island VIP group, supported primarily through the Bainbridge Foundation, includes visually handicapped persons from the North Kitsap peninsula. It meets regularly each month for social and educational programs. A dedicated cadre of sighted volunteers makes sure no one misses a meeting because of transportation difficulties.

“Our speakers are usually shocked to find 50 to 60 persons at the meetings. It’s always an eye-opener for them to find this lively bunch,” she said.

Membership is open to anyone 18 and older but tickets to individual events are sometimes available but at a price.

“Join our group to see some of the visually impaired in the area,” Mary says.

She has received A’s in FamilyPC’s (August 2001) analysis of eight parenting websites.

Both www.family.com and www.familyeducation.com have excellent family travel coverage and outstanding ideas for crafts and activities. Much of the site’s content was originally published in FamilyFun magazine. Searching is easy with Craft Finder, Cake Finder and Party Planner. Familyeducation.com was rated highest for education advice. You can search by grade level for skill builders by subject, developmental milestones, recommended products and school safety. Useful tools include homework help, Columbia Encyclopedia, an atlas, almanac, and dictionary.

ONLINE PARENTING

If you’re looking for reliable websites for parenting information, try www.family.com or www.familyeducation.com. Both received A’s in FamilyPC’s (August 2001) analysis of eight parenting websites.

Family.com has excellent family travel coverage and outstanding ideas for crafts and activities. Much of the site’s content was originally published in FamilyFun magazine. Searching is easy with Craft Finder, Cake Finder and Party Planner. Familyeducation.com was rated highest for education advice. You can search by grade level for skill builders by subject, developmental milestones, recommended products and school safety. Useful tools include homework help, Columbia Encyclopedia, an atlas, almanac, and dictionary.

We’ve had designs on Bainbridge for 27 years.

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Satterwhite art on display

between the white of the buildings and the beautiful colors of the flowers, water, trees and surroundings.

This past summer she finished a major gardening project of three years that involved replacing the crossove logs and tires around her yellow clapboard home on Eagle Harbor. She designed and planted a terraced garden that included six tons of flagstone, a huge rock wall, rose garden, stream and waterfalls. Left brain, right brain. She indulges them both.

(All of the photographs in the library show will be available for sale with 25 percent of proceeds returned to the library. Framed, they will run from $160 to $175. Her greeting cards are available at Thriftway and Bainbridge Gardens. Also, she teaches hand coloring photography and image emulsion transfers for the Bainbridge Park District, Bainbridge Arts & Crafts, and Daniel Smith Artist Supply stores. Contact the artist, Dinah Satterwhite, at (206) 855-9002 or email at DinahSatterwhite.com)
View the wilderness from a photographer’s eye

BY NAN WOOLDRIDGE

A travelogue this is not. Rather, it is an artistic multi-media presentation of the transforming beauty of the wilderness in all its spirit and passion.

Leon Werdinger, a professional photographer and wilderness guide from Joseph, Oregon, will inscribe mind and soul with his vivid photography and sense of place. Werdinger’s “Wild Lands — Free Spirits” program will be open to the public at 4 p.m. on Sunday, January 27, in the Library meeting room, with a $5 donation.

Werdinger will talk about his love of the wilderness, and he will take questions, and discuss afterwards the fragility and changing nature of our landscape and environment.

Images by Dinah Satterwhite (above, left) will be on display at library through March.

Upstairs, she points out examples around her studio that illustrate her techniques for capturing photographic images: using infrared film, hand coloring, making emulsions, and rendering image transfers.

From downstairs, we hear a tune, one of her 15 piano students warming up for her lesson at three o’clock.

On a recent weekend, Dinah Satterwhite was a finalist in the tennis tournament at Bainbridge Island Racquet Club.

There’s more on her agenda. A woman of countless talents and boundless energy, Satterwhite accommodates the muse of the moment.

At this moment, it’s her exhibit for the Bainbridge Public Library winter months, January through March. One wall will display a series of black and white infrared photographs of the library’s Haiku Garden and adjacent courtyard. In the meeting room will be her hand-colored images as well as some using a special Polaroid film.

More than 50 percent of her pictures are of Bainbridge and the Northwest. What Satterwhite likes best about photography is “capturing a different perspective, something that my eye is seeing that others might not see given the same circumstances.”

To achieve infrared quality, a very sensitive film is required, one in which “light is reflected in a way that’s beyond human perception,” Satterwhite says. “Our eyes don’t see into the infrared spectrum . . . but I have to be conscious of light reflected from it and adjust my camera and perception to capture the infrared light and make it look a little different. The net result is a slightly surreal reflection of clouds and sun glow on objects.”

With a Nikon N90 camera she uses a red filter to achieve that glow and enhance the difference between infrared and black and white film.

“I’m looking at everything in screaming red with color behind it,” she says.

She acknowledges there are challenges to get that special effect, a primary one, keeping the camera in total darkness to load and unload which is especially difficult without a darkroom on site. She uses a black bag. “But I think it’s breathtaking when you get it right,” she adds.

To hand color, she applies transparent photo oil paint with cotton balls and Q-tips to her infrared photographs, sometimes tinting a single central image as in her photograph of the Grand Forest.

She shoots her infrared exclusively with natural lighting “so I need to have either a misty, almost mystical look to a sunset, or I need very bright sun to make the image very crisp.”

Image transfers produce a kind of antique version of the original with rough edges because you interrupt the photo development to transfer the negative of the Polaroid onto an alternative medium: watercolor paper, silk or decorative papers.

Since the Polaroid doesn’t have a negative, you peel it apart early in the process, keeping the gooey part of the Polaroid and throwing away the “positive.” This must typically be accomplished in seven to ten seconds. Satterwhite laughs about teaching this. “It’s always very fun because people count up to the seven second mark and then rip apart their Polaroids and play with their film very quickly, so it’s quite dynamic.”

Emulsion transfers are different. For them, you remove the top layer of film, the emulsion, from a special Polaroid print. All the colors are captured in that layer. The emulsion is gently arranged while wet onto special papers and manipulated “with wrinkles, tears, or stretched to make it abstract or realistic like the original image.” (In December and January, her emulsions on marble and on multiple layers of glass will be on exhibit at Blackbird Bakery.)

Before her photography business came together, Satterwhite painted on silk, and designed scarves and wearables for women and ties for men. At that time, she was teaching art part-time at a community college in Denver and happened to take a class on image and emulsion transfer. She had put her notes aside, but eight years later after she’d moved to Bainbridge and was developing her hand coloring skills with photography, she saw someone else’s work in transfers. This triggered her creativity. A new addition to her business could be to manipulate images in unique ways.

Photography was only a remote cloud on the horizon in earlier years. At the age of 14, Satterwhite reached a crossroad in her life. She was told she had the talent to become a concert pianist.

Of course, there were strings. That meant she would not have much time to make art, always a favorite pastime, as was experimenting with her father’s old single reflex camera. Nor would there be those hours to play tennis in which she had ranking status.

“I couldn’t fathom at that age giving up many of the things I loved so much,” she said.

That was okay with her parents. But when she attended college, they strongly urged her to major in business. She knew they’d sacrificed to send her to the small college, Principia, in St. Louis, Missouri, and heeded their advice, knowing that business acumen would serve her well should she ever choose to run a business as an artist.

She hasn’t regretted it. After college, her career took off at several large companies with big budgets, where her skills in marketing, advertising, and graphic design were reinforced. Then in 1997 at a college reunion, she fell in love, and was married in 1998.

When she and husband Rob, who works for Microsoft, moved to Bainbridge Island four years ago, she abandoned the high tech world, and settled in to teach piano, tennis, and photography along with a few other pursuits.

She first sold some of her photographs at Verksted Gallery in Poulsbo. Thinking there wasn’t enough opportunity for artists “in this cute little town,” she obtained independent funding and founded the quarterly Poulsbo Art Walk, highly successful and now managed by another group.

After becoming acquainted at Bainbridge Arts & Crafts and the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council, Satterwhite became involved in the quarterly Bainbridge Arts Walk.

This past November she introduced the student art contest to this venue. More than 150 students “brought in art that just phenomenal.” Judged in seven divisions with three place winners in each division and a Best of Show, it covered the entire lobby of the Pavilion Cinema Complex, and is destined to become an annual event.

So, what else does she do in her spare time? Now that her student’s piano recital and the studio tour are over, she hopes to get back to working in pastels on a series of Grecian architectural features — “Grecian windows and doors and buildings with stark contrast...” continued on page 11.

Library Phone Numbers

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Toll Free to Kitsap Regional Library Dial-In Computer Catalog .................. 842-0197
For Computer Support and Other Departments .............................. 780-2102
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LIBRARY HOURS
Monday/Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday/Thursday/Friday/Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS
for Linknet Users
http://www.krl.org

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday/Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday/Thursday/Friday/Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)