**Mark your calendar**

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

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

Kitsap Reads: "A Conversation with Rick Bragg," author of *All Over But the Shoutin*’. 5 p.m., Bainbridge High LGI room.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2**

Library Book Group: *Ava's Man* by Rick Bragg. 7 p.m.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6**

Bienvenido to a bilingual story time for the whole family, with Rebecca Newth, author of *Mi Abuelita* (My Little Grandmother) and Poulsbo writer Joe Gonzalez. 2 p.m.

Speakers Forum: Nicole Newnham, "Documentary Film in America, an Insider’s Perspective." 4 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9**

Visually Impaired Persons Support Group meeting, 1-3 p.m.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12**

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

Opera Preview: Tchaikovsky’s Eugene Onegin. 2 p.m.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 14**

Library closed.

KRL staff training day.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16**

"Cultural and wildlife safari to Kenya and Tanzania" with Sandra Brown, director of Adventure Associates. 7:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20**

"A Sunday Afternoon of Estate Planning," with Marite Bunners and Dorothy Foster. 2-4 p.m.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26**

Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. 7:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27**

Speakers Forum: Daniel Waugh, "The Silent Road: the Interaction of Civilization in Eurasia Across the Centuries." 4 p.m.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

Kitsap Mineral and Gem Society display and presentation. 4 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6**

Library Book Group: *Stones from the River* by Ursula Hegi. 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

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

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

Library closed. Veterans Day.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

Visually Impaired Persons support group. 1-3 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

"Hill Towns of Tuscany and Umbria" with Matthew Brumley. 7:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24**


**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27**

Library closes at 5:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28**

Library closed. Thanksgiving Day.

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**Coming to Bainbridge**

Authors Rebecca Newth and Rick Bragg will be among the renowned speakers appearing at the Bainbridge Public Library this fall. Newth will read from her latest book, *Mi Abuelita*, at a special family event. Pulitzer prize-winner Bragg will wrap up the year of Kitsap Reads programs with a talk about his new book, *Ava's Man*.

(For time and more information, see calendar and articles inside.)

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**Kitsap Reads presents Rick Bragg**

Kitsap Reads wraps up a six-author series with Rick Bragg, a great southern storyteller, Sunday, September 29, at 5 p.m. in the Bainbridge High School auditorium (large group instruction room).

Bragg has authored two critically acclaimed bestsellers, *All Over but the Shoutin’* and his latest release, *Ava's Man*.

Bragg is a national correspondent for the New York Times, and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for feature writing in 1996.

"It is hard to think of a writer who reminds us more forcefully and wonderfully of what people and families are all about," wrote a reviewer in The New York Times Book Review.

Bragg’s first book, *Shoutin’*, recounted the life of his mother, who absorbed the cruelties of an alcoholic husband haunted by his service in the Korean War, and showed how she struggled, in endless cotton fields, to make a living for her three sons.

In *Ava's Man*, Bragg continues his personal history of the Deep South, telling the story of his grandfather, Charlie Bundrum, who died one year before Rick was born.

Bragg has received many awards, but he says that more important than any of them is the fact that the books speak to the working class and poor people of the modern-day South.

Books by the author will be available for sale, and an autograph session is expected after Sunday’s talk.

Kitsap Reads is presented by Kitsap Regional Library and sponsored by the Independent Booksellers of West Sound, the KRL Foundation, and The Sun.

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**Why Bainbridge Foundation matters**

*BY VERDA A VERILL*

Shorter days, cooler nights and falling leaves are sure signs of fall. And along with them comes the Bainbridge Foundation drive, with its bright red auditorium (large group instruction room).

Bragg's talks are more necessary than ever.

Today, Bainbridge Foundation Funds continue to climb each year.

This year, Bainbridge Foundation will launch its 19th annual Benefit Auction with a goal of $40,000.

The Bainbridge Foundation is a major source of funds for our library, which is owned and operated by the people of Bainbridge Island. Funds for the building, which was first opened in 1962 and enlarged in both 1982 and 1997, have been provided entirely by gifts from generous Bainbridge citizens — both individuals and groups like the Rotary Club.

Today, Bainbridge Foundation Funds are more necessary than ever.

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**Also in this issue:**

New art exhibit is thought provoking ............................................................... page 12
Young people’s pages: The past comes alive .................................................. page 6, 7
Writers’ institute signs winter instructors ....................................................... pages 11
History: The Black family’s involvement in library........................................ page 3
Islanders support our library in many ways

BY VERDA AVERILL

Every fall your Bainbridge Library Board, like the other volunteers who work for local non-profit agencies, appeals for your donations to the Bainbridge Foundation.

We remind you that our beautiful Bainbridge Public Library and its surrounding gardens, which attract visitors from afar as well as frequent visits from about 90 percent of our residents, were built entirely by donations — without so much as a dime of tax money.

And every year, you respond generously. We hope we will do so again.

We are well aware that this is not the best of times for most of us financially. Many of us have had to postpone some travels, cut back on those extra lattes, and generally watch our budget more closely.

We’ve done that at the library, too, turning down the thermostats and turning off the computers when they are not in use. Little things, but they’ve made a difference. Still, the fact remains. We need to raise about $120,000 to operate our library building through the end of the year. Thanks to generous donations from over 400 library users, we raised more than half that amount (about $64,000) in our spring Annual Appeal.

The only other appeal we will make this year is through our Bainbridge Foundation. And we hope those of you who have not yet given to the library will do so by checking the library on your BF card and returning your pledge promptly. (Even if you did give during the spring Annual Appeal, perhaps you may want to give a bit more now.)

While board members, staff, volunteers and library users all appreciate the generosity of our many donors, we sometimes are perplexed by the fact that the number is quite small. Of the 21,000 residents on Bainbridge Island, we usually receive gifts from only about 400 or 500. That’s a very small percentage, and we wonder why others do not give.

You really do not have to be wealthy to share a few dollars with the library. Every gift, no matter how small, is much appreciated and helps keep the budget balanced. Just from each of the 400 Islanders would put us over the top for this year’s budget. Can you spare $6? Or perhaps $60? Think about it.

Of course, while the simplest way to help the library (and other organizations) may be through the Bainbridge Foundation’s One Call for All, there are plenty of other ways you can help us keep the doors open. Consider these possibilities:

— The Library Speakers Forum. Tickets are still available for the 2002-2003 series of outstanding speakers, and are only $35 for the remaining programs.

— Rent the meeting room. It holds about 100 and is perfect for annual meetings, seminars, and other special events. Rates are modest, beginning usually at about $25 per hour.

— Advertise in the Library News. Space costs little and helps both you and the library, spreading your message while increasing the library bank balance.

— Stick your neck out and feed the giraffe. Kathy Fraga’s friendly creature in the main lobby thrives on a good message while increasing the library bank balance.

— Friends of the Library of Book sales. Buy books inexpensively and meet your friends on the second Saturday of the month. These are just a few of the ways you can help. Think about them. Please do what you can. And thank you.
In the late 1950s, local Rotary Club members started talking to other civic-minded Bainbridge Islanders about what could make the Island an even better place to live. Over the course of a year and a half, a new library was born.

"A number of us kept meeting and talking about a new library," Elizabeth stated recently from her cottage on the island. "There was Review reporter Jake Jacobs, St. Barnabas priest Vincent Gowen, go-getter Charlie Ellicker (the later became a state senator) and Charlie Black. They told all of those stories kind of project. But what would happen if we got started and didn’t succeed? We worried about that. We wanted more input. So, we decided to bounce it off the community."

On a cold Monday night in January 1960, 27 citizens trudged into the Winslow Town Hall to listen to a plan for a library. The assemblage agreed to champion the idea and immediately formed Bainbridge Public Library, Inc. After adopting a set of bylaws, the group elected a seven member board of directors: Elizabeth Black, Dorothy Black, Marion Coleman, Paul Sakai, Stan Egas, How Ryan, and a man who became the financial lifeline for the library—Dr. James F. Hodges. Eventually 63 people signed the articles of incorporation.

It was Elizabeth Black who encouraged Dorothy Black to be a board member. "Dorothy lived on the south part of the island," stated Elizabeth, "just outside the Country Club. She had contacts with influential people, and she was a persuasive lady. I figured if we were going to build a library, we needed her help.

Elizabeth chuckled, "I ended up as president of the board because Jim Hodges didn’t want to be. He told me I should take the reins, made me think it was absolutely necessary."

Elizabeth and Dorothy Black worked tirelessly, raising funds and helping guide the way for the creation of Bainbridge Island’s Public Library. The doors to the finished building opened to the public on March 17, 1962.

The Black Family’s Historical Connection

The Black connection to the Island goes back to the late 1800s. Charles Black and his brother Frank arrived in Seattle shortly after the city’s disastrous 1889 fire. A few years later Charles built a home on Bainbridge at Wing Point. A strong member of the First Baptist Church in Seattle, Charles helped the Japanese Baptist Mission (Church) in Yama, the Japanese community on the hill southwest of Port Blakely Harbor. The church, built of lumber provided by the nearby mill, was dedicated in 1904 with Charles Black as a founding member.

Charles and his wife, Nettie, had a daughter and three sons. The family spent summers on Wing Point. After the sons grew up, each owned a summer house on the family property, the eldest retaining the old family home. One of those sons was Lyman Black, father to Lyman Black, Jr., who became Elizabeth’s husband.

Charles’s brother Frank never was a Bainbridge Islander, but one of his three sons—Leo —Dorothy’s husband. They built a Swedish-style house—shed roof and all—near the Country Club. Following World War II, Elizabeth’s family decided Bainbridge Island should be more than a place to go in the summer. They moved there full time, and while Lyman worked in Seattle, Elizabeth volunteered for local projects. Although Dorothy’s family continued as summer residents, she, too, became an ardent supporter.

A number of years ago, Dorothy and Leo passed away. Today, one of their sons, Alan, owns the Swedish house. Elizabeth and Lyman sold their Wing Point home in 1983, but retain a close relationship to Bainbridge, occupying a cottage on the water nearly every weekend, rain or shine. Their daughter Lynn and her husband John (Cooper), Island residents, are active members of the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum Society. Lynn, a museum board member, follows in the footsteps of her mother with service to the community.

For more information, 115 years members of the Black family have worked for civic and cultural improvements to the Island. A thank you to them all, Alvin and Dorothy Black, the founder’s grandchildren.

For more information on the beginnings of the Bainbridge Public Library, see “They Like Noble Causes—Bainbridge Community Built a Library,” pages 26-39.
New fiction includes potential bestsellers

BY MARTHA BAYLEY

One look at this fall’s book reviews, and it’s clear that publishers have pulled out all the stops to offer a vast array of great new titles. It seems that every genre or category of fiction has a potential best seller just waiting to be discovered.

Mystery fans should be on the lookout for Eliot Pattison’s Bone Mountain, featuring former Beijing investigator Shan (The Skull Mantra, etc.) as he is entrusted with returning the stone eye of a deity in Tibet—a journey both physical and spiritual that involves rebels, renegade diplomats, ancient medicine lama’s and a ruthless Chinese army officer.

Another “must read” mystery is British newcomer Carolyn Carter’s award winning debut, Blood Junction. The story follows journalist India Kane into a nightmarish adventure of close calls and hair-raising ordeals when she is caught up in a murder while visiting an aboriginal settlement in the Australian outback.

For literary fans, two major events are in store. John Updike will be releasing his 20th novel, Seek My Face - the story of Hope Chaitte, an artist whose life more or less represents the entire history of post-World War II American art. Library Journal states, “the novel achieves a remarkable depth of characterization and a glowing beauty in its articulation of the artistic sensibility.”

The other eagerly awaited event is the publication of Thomas Steinbeck’s short story collection, Down to a Soundless Sea. Steinbeck (son of John) draws on folklore, historical research and tales that he heard growing up to recreate the world of Monterey County, CA in the early years of the 20th century. Critics are calling this... “a noble addition to the Steinbeck legacy.”

Two science fiction and fantasy titles are getting a lot of attention. Burning the Ice, by Laura J. Mixon, is a gripping and ingenious novel that takes place some two centuries from now on a planet being terraformed. Publisher’s Weekly states, “the novel’s real strength lies in the author’s depiction of the future society, with its complex system of degrees of kinship, social obligations and controls, sexual mores and even appropriate pronouns.”

Fantasy fans of all ages have Michael Chabon’s Summerland to look forward to. Summerland involves all the right elements for a potential bestseller—a Harry Potter-like protagonist, meticulously created alternative worlds, and a baseball game to save the universe. Readers of multiracial and historical literature will enjoy Sandra Cisneros’s Caramelo, a poignant story of a young Latina from Chicago who returns to Mexico City to get to know her remaining family.

Melvin Bragg’s The Soldier’s Return paints a painful yet moving portrait of the English people’s struggle after World War II to return to the security of a past forever changed. This award winning title has been a best seller in Britain.

For thriller fans there are two new releases that are getting great reviews. Martin Cruz Smith, who has recreated the worlds of Moscow and Cuba in his books, now tackles Tokyo, Japan on the eve of Pearl Harbor in December 6. Critics are calling this... “a superb thriller and a remarkable evocation of place.”

Former Bainbridge Island resident Alan Furst’s latest thriller, Blood of Victory, also has a World War II setting, with its aging hero moving between Paris and the Balkans as he attempts to sabotage the flow of Romanian oil to the Nazis.

Last but not least, don’t miss Christopher Buckley’s comic tour de force, No Way to Treat a First Lady. The plot involves a philandering president who is caught by his long-suffering wife in a compromising situation. When the president ends up murdered the next morning, she is charged with the crime. To her rescue comes “Shameless” Baylor, America’s top trial lawyer (and the first lady’s former college suitor). Kirkus calls this, “Unpredictably and endlessly funny. Unless you’re a former president” Enjoy.

Want to travel to another time or place?

BY GAIL GOODRICK,
Nonfiction Collection Manager

Most people have mused about what life might have been like in another era or in another locale. Sometimes a place and time are so fascinating that you wish you could have been there or experienced it yourself! Here are some books that fill me with a yearning to have been there in the midst of things.

William Wiser writes lovingly about Paris in his two books—The Crazy Years: Paris in the Twenties and The Twilight Years: Paris in the 1930’s. Wiser tells about the Paris of the artists, the writers and the most colorful of the crooks. Sylvia Beach and her Shakespeare and Company Bookstore feature prominently in both books, which center on the English-speaking communities of Paris. These books are loads of fun and make you want to learn more about the personalities involved.

Greenwich Village in its heyday was a kind of Bohemian Paris in the midst of New York. Two new books describe the Village—The Greenwich Village Reader: Fiction, Poetry and Reminiscences 1872-2002 by Jane Sawyer’s and Republic of Dreams: Greenwich Village, the American Bohemia, 1910-1960 by Ross Wetzsteon. What attracted all these rebellious and creative youth over the years? Greenwich Village seems synonymous with freedom, tolerance and experimentation. And in fact, much of value originated in that small area.

Then there’s the Paris of the West Coast—the San Francisco of the Beats. There are a couple of new books that illuminate this culture. One of them focuses on the role of the Northwest in the creation of Beat Culture—Poets on the Peaks: Gary Snyder, Philip Whalen and Jack Kerouac in the Cascades by John Sutier. Starting with Gary Snyder, all of these writers spent time in remote North Cascade fire lookouts. The author uses interviews with the still-living authors, quotes from letters and journals and beautiful photographs to show how this wilderness experience helped to shape the spiritual, literary and environmental views of these authors and their followers. If you want to sample the best of the Beats, try this book—Beat Down to Your Soul: What Was the Beat Generation? By Ann Charters. She assembles writings by and about the Beats providing a wonderful picture of the Beat Generation writers of the 1950s.

Lectures/discussions will focus on the Middle East conflict

A four-part series of lectures and discussions by speakers from academic and human rights organizations begins Thursday, October 3, and continues each Thursday through October 24.

Topics are: Historical Roots of the Conflict, October 3; Political Geography of Israel-Palestine, October 10; The History of the Peace Processes, October 17; and The Current Situation, October 24.

The series is sponsored by the Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council. Series tickets are $30 for adults and $20 for students and seniors. Individual program admission is $10 at the door. If space is available.

The series complements the library’s fall art exhibit, “Opening of the Heart,” by Beverly Duperly Boos. (See story on Page 12.)

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Author serves up back to back releases

BY SUSAN WIGGS

Stella Cameron is one of the Northwest’s busiest and most popular authors. While the rest of us are putting up the green tomato pickles, she’s cultivating readers with back-to-back releases this fall.

In August, the paperback edition of her bestseller, Tell Me Why, hit the shelves. An engrossing story of lust and obsession, the novel examines a mother’s most basic terror—losing custody of her child.

The prolific author dreamed up the topic for the novel after hearing a law firm’s radio commercial offering to represent men who want to gain custody of their children. The main character, Carolee Burns, is a gifted jazz pianist in a Kirkland club and a single mom yearning to reclaim her daughter from her controlling, manipulative ex-husband. Enter Max Wolfe, a star football player sidelined by an injury, and the stage is set for Cameron’s trademark blend of suspense and romance. Tell Me Why takes place in Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland and Juanita—pretty local for most of us.

“Setting is a major character in my stories,” explains the author, “and it was a pleasure to deal with a background I know so well.”

Cold Day in July is a September hardcover release from Stella Cameron. The milieu for this one veers to the mysterious atmosphere in New Orleans and the sea and climbing trees. ‘She’s a wild thing,’ my mother used to say—“and do my reading. I satisfy my news appetite by access to periodicals and having Internet access to the library, also. She has an active web site at www.stellacameron.com, and encourages irreverence from readers, writers and browsers. The site lists many of her author appearances, including the Welcome Speech for this year’s Emerald City Writers Conference (October 4-6), a presentation at the Washington Association of Library Employees in Vancouver (September 26) and Bookfest at Sand Point. Stella Cameron will be at the Seattle Mystery Book Shop booth on October 19, in the afternoon.

“Setting is always a character in my novels,” says Cameron. “I grew up running barefoot by the sea and climbing trees. ‘She’s a wild thing,’ my mother used to say—‘and do my reading. I satisfy my news appetite by access to periodicals and having Internet access to the library, also. She has an active web site at www.stellacameron.com, and encourages irreverence from readers, writers and browsers. The site lists many of her author appearances, including the Welcome Speech for this year’s Emerald City Writers Conference (October 4-6), a presentation at the Washington Association of Library Employees in Vancouver (September 26) and Bookfest at Sand Point. Stella Cameron will be at the Seattle Mystery Book Shop booth on October 19, in the afternoon.

Looking for another story for him.”

Cameron’s books are likely to appeal to readers who enjoy intensity, suspense, love, sexuality and a generous sprinkling of fun, and she has the sales figures to show for it. A regular on national bestseller lists, she is the author of over 60 contemporary and historical novels and novellas.

Far from her native Weymouth, England, Cameron describes a picturesque childhood. “I grew up running barefoot by the sea and climbing trees. ‘She’s a wild thing,’ my mother used to say—“and do my reading. I satisfy my news appetite by access to periodicals and having Internet access to the library, also. She has an active web site at www.stellacameron.com, and encourages irreverence from readers, writers and browsers. The site lists many of her author appearances, including the Welcome Speech for this year’s Emerald City Writers Conference (October 4-6), a presentation at the Washington Association of Library Employees in Vancouver (September 26) and Bookfest at Sand Point. Stella Cameron will be at the Seattle Mystery Book Shop booth on October 19, in the afternoon.

The author is well aware of the allure of Western Washington. “Writing and the Northwest go together. If you don’t believe me, turn a rock over and see how many writers crawl out…The weather is perfect for those of us who like to be cool, to watch torrential rain—or even stand back and admit how good the lakes, mountains and forests look in the sunshine. I’m a rain lover.”

From her home office, the author has a view of maples and ivy. “It never looks attractive than bathtub mold–follows the caulking fails.”

Cameron—who is decidedly more niż his character—had a point. “I’d been in Louisiana, which I’m crazy about, and do my reading. I satisfy my news appetite by access to periodicals and having Internet access to the library, also. She has an active web site at www.stellacameron.com, and encourages irreverence from readers, writers and browsers. The site lists many of her author appearances, including the Welcome Speech for this year’s Emerald City Writers Conference (October 4-6), a presentation at the Washington Association of Library Employees in Vancouver (September 26) and Bookfest at Sand Point. Stella Cameron will be at the Seattle Mystery Book Shop booth on October 19, in the afternoon.

Unrelenting suspense brings them to the brink of the greatest betrayal of all. The storyline began life as a true “what if” tale, Cameron explains. “I’d been in Louisiana, which I’m crazy about, and do my reading. I satisfy my news appetite by access to periodicals and having Internet access to the library, also. She has an active web site at www.stellacameron.com, and encourages irreverence from readers, writers and browsers. The site lists many of her author appearances, including the Welcome Speech for this year’s Emerald City Writers Conference (October 4-6), a presentation at the Washington Association of Library Employees in Vancouver (September 26) and Bookfest at Sand Point. Stella Cameron will be at the Seattle Mystery Book Shop booth on October 19, in the afternoon.

We lived in Bayonne, New Jersey with a fabulous view of the New York skyline but fell in love with the Northwest when we came to visit family. We found a way to move here and wouldn’t live anywhere else. Fate truly smiled on me, both when I met Jerry and in allowing me to call this country home.

The author is well aware of the allure of Western Washington. “Writing and the Northwest go together. If you don’t believe me, turn a rock over and see how many writers crawl out…The weather is perfect for those of us who like to be cool, to watch torrential rain—or even stand back and admit how good the lakes, mountains and forests look in the sunshine. I’m a rain lover.”

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Interesting times make interesting stories. Real or imagined, when woven into historical fiction they capture and hold our attention. Whether you enjoy a book’s setting, characters or plot, historical fiction offers books that are satisfying and enjoyable. And the best stories remain with us, enriching our understanding of history, and of ourselves.

Almost 2,000 years ago, Masada was the site of what has been called the most dramatic and symbolic act in Jewish history, where the Jewish Zealots chose mass suicide rather than submit to Roman capture. Masada: the last fortress, by Gloria Miklowski, tells how Simon and his family and friends prepare, along with the rest of the Jewish Zealots, to fight and never surrender.

The Roman Empire also extended into Great Britain. The eagle of the Ninth, by Rosemary Sutcliff tells of a young Roman centurion who ventures among the hostile tribes beyond the Roman Wall to recover the eagle standard of the Ninth, a legion which mysteriously disappeared under his father’s command.

Elizabeth I, red rose of the House of Tudor, by Kathryn Lasky, is the fictionalized story of a real person, Princess Elizabeth I, daughter of Henry VIII. She celebrates holidays and birthdays, relives her mother’s execution reveals in her studies, and agonizes over her father’s health. The book is part of the series, “The Royal Diaries”, written by a number of different authors. To find this series in our catalog, just type Royal Diaries into a title search.

While sitting on the riverbank in the ancient French city of Orleans, seventeen-year-old Eloise hears a voice which relates the adventures and struggles of the medieval heroine, Joan of Arc, as she fights to free France by driving out the English. Written by Michael Morpurgo and illustrated by Michael Foreman, Joan of Arc (Domremy) is filed in the Juvenile Oversized Fiction section, at the beginning of the juvenile fiction (before the A’s.)

In Newbery award winner Johnny Tremain, by Esther Forbes, the fourteen-year-old apprentice to a watchmaker, becomes the cause of freedom as a message carrier for the Sons of Liberty in pre-Revolution Boston. This is a fast-paced adventure story that takes the reader into the exciting events that lead up to the Revolutionary War.

In Civil War on Sunday, from “The Magic Tree House” series by Mary Pope Osborne, eight-year-old Jack and his seven-year-old sister Annie meet Clara Barton. In these fantasy stories, the children discover a magic tree house. They explore the books in the treehouse library, and are magically transported to different times and places. These books are favorites with our younger readers, and are also used by some parents as read-alouds. We hear that they make for great family discussions.

One of the all-time favorites of juvenile fiction is the “Little House on the Prairie” series, by Laura Ingalls Wilder. She introduced many young people to life in pioneer America by telling the story of her own life. Born in 1867, she wrote a series of autobiographical novels starting with Little House in the Big Woods, written in 1932. Her tales of pioneer life have been enjoyed by generations of young people and are treasured by many families as read-alouds. Other authors have expanded the series by telling the stories of different generations of the Wilder family. Recently, Cynthia Rylant added Old Town in the Green Groves: the lost little house years, based on Wilder’s unpublished memories.

In 1995, Metallica’s drummer Lars Ulrich, wrote the story of his childhood. To be published as...
Escaping into a Land of Magic and Mystery

One of the best ways to escape the dreary life of school and homework, chores and nagging parents, is to sink into a magical land of knights, sorcerers, kings and mythical creatures. Tamora Pierce allows you to do just that, with her ingenious land of Tortall. As of now, Ms. Pierce has written three series involving this kingdom. We recommend all of them, and will describe a tale of a knight and her hardships.

Loyalty, courage, friendship and determination are the key factors in the life of Keladry of Mindelan, the main character of her own series, “Protector of the Small.” Lives change and people grow in more ways than one, and the good and just triumph over evil in these captivating books.

First Test, by Tamora Pierce, tells the story of a young girl whose goal is to become a knight in a male dominated world. Keladry is the first female to attempt to become a knight, and she faces many trials which she goes through with the determination that is truly heroic. The king only recently had decreed that females could become knights, and Keladry’s family was not sure of her chances. Her fears also include the impending test which will determine Keladry’s knighthood for good. Keladry begins to make a name for herself in Squire as a talented jouster, and gifted commander. Her life is about to get more complicated, with the added factors of romance and her increasing sense of duty as squire.

Lady Knight is the newest and final book in the series, having only been released Tuesday, August 27th, 2002. It is a climactic ending to the story of Keladry’s attempt at the impossible. She is given her first post as commander of a refugee camp near the border of Tortall and Scorna, which is currently under dispute. Events occur which finally command the respect of her refugees and fellow soldiers. She is haunted by a vision of evil, which she must conquer to fulfill her destiny as Protector of the Small.

Once you have successfully avoided your unfortunate obligations to school and home, sit back and think about the magical world of Tortall you have just left, and pray someone else has finished your chores.

Summer reading program draws nearly 1,000

The Bainbridge library’s Camp Wanna-Read program, sponsored by Kitsap Regional Library, drew nearly 1,000 children, and almost one-third of them read the 10 hours required to receive a free paperback book. Friends of the Library donated the free books, and gave away over 350.

Each child who completed 10 reading hours was also entered in a special gift drawing. Winners were Grace Kenyon, Patrick Dight, Kate Sloat and Kendyl Daniels; each received a $25 gift certificate redeemable at an independent bookstore.

Other summer workshops included a wire jewelry workshop taught by Kristin Tollefson. And July brought three special programs: Bob Bailey III, Judy Nakata and her dog Brandy, and Charles the Clown kept the children spellbound.

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BY SUSAN BOTTLES

As a library assistant Stephanie Steele "pretty much does everything to facilitate the physical running of the library, moving items in and out, interacting with the people," she said recently. She loves it. "If the communication process, the excitement of sharing people's enthusiasm when you help them find the information they need," she explained.

Stephanie, a former flight attendant, had lived on Bainbridge for 11 years before she "found the library" and "they didn't laugh at me." Her only regret is she works just 30 scheduled hours a month, plus filling in as often as she is needed. While her official job description may be clerical, her attitude is clearly cheerfuling.

"I had always loved the library," she explained. "The library really personifies everything that makes Bainbridge stand out. People use it tremendously for so much more than just a source of books. There are the speakers programs, the support for artists, the gardens, the classes. And we have so many ways to disseminate information, from videos to high speed computer connections. It's just the embodiment of everything positive."

Stephanie brings her own positive energy to her volunteer work at Bainbridge Arts and Crafts as well. She is currently helping organize next year's Appraisal Day, a popular fundraiser started this year. To keep in shape she bicycles and plays tennis, as well as "slugging slugs and picking weeds" at the Rolling Bay home she shares with her husband Cliff and cat Charlie.

The couple moved to Bainbridge after Hurricane Iniki nearly blew them off Kauai, where they had built their "dream home" in 1988.

But four years in that island paradise had led to a nagging feeling of too much isolation, and they would likely consider Bainbridge for their next move. This time, they chose the right island.

BY THEODORE SPEARMAN

Trial Lawyers for Public Justice (TLPJ) has just launched a newly-designed Web site, featuring unique interactive resources for all public-interest-oriented lawyers and activists. The site, www.tlpj.org, was unveiled on May 1, 2002, as part of TLPJ’s 20th anniversary activities.

It is easier to navigate, more visually appealing, and loaded with unique, practical information for public interest groups. It has the nation’s only free, searchable online database of public interest organizations, lawyers’ associations, law schools, and legal research tools, sorted by dozens of focus areas.”

TLPJ’s database for public interest advocates lists users search for and obtain lists of public interest groups in the entire United States – or the states that they choose – in up to 24 substantive categories, such as Children & Youth, Civil Liberties, Civil Rights, Consumer Protection, Crime Prevention and Safety, Elder Law & Seniors’ Rights, Environmental Protection, Health Care, Housing & Homelessness, and Workers’ Rights & Whistleblower Protection. It has searchable data on 11 categories of lawyers’ associations (including trial lawyers’ associations and minority and women’s bar associations), law schools, and other resources, such as contacts for public interest law employment opportunities. It is currently the only web site with contact information for all 395 Legal Aid, Legal Services and Poverty Law offices in the nation, along with 180 accredited U.S. law schools, their career centers, public interest centers, and law libraries.

Theodore “Ted” Spearman is the Washington State Coordinator for The TLPJ Foundation, the non-profit membership organization that supports TLPJ’s public interest litigation. If you have any questions regarding TLPJ contact Ted, at 206-842-0560 or tspearm@ mindspring.com.
The Amakurat Primary School in upcountry Uganda lacks doors and windows, but thanks to Bainbridge Island Rotary Club and generous Island donors, it no longer lacks books.

In April of this year Croghan, a retired reading teacher, in the children’s native language, Kusam, whisked away his older brother, a retired reading teacher, in the children’s native language, Kusam, whisked away the students to fill the gaps in the school’s lack of textbooks. There is nothing else.”

In 1987, Rotary sent its members Howard Hanners and Joanne Croghan to help distribute the Kuman booklets and many boxes of books from the 2000 auction. However, they realized that with no windows or doors, the school had no way to secure the books. They were then given to a nearby village school.

But Croghan had noticed that Ugandans often make ingenious use of shipping containers as prefabricated buildings by cutting out windows and doors. Rotarians, including their new member Emau, decided they would purchase a container before the 2001 auction and load it with books and bookshelves to send to Uganda.

In April of this year Croghan, accompanied by Walker, returned as the bookshelves to send to Uganda. Rotarians also brought 5,000 pens and very popular colored chalk.

Finally the club purchased large, laminated world maps for each of the six schools. The previous year, Croghan and Hanners had had to use a small map to explain where they came from. The area is so remote few foreigners visit. Such basic study aids are not available.

“The class sizes are huge,” recalled Walker “There might be more than 100 children in a class, five or six at a desk, but the students are very well behaved. It’s authoritarian, and children respect their teachers and parents.”

Ugandan schools run on the British system. To pass beyond seventh grade, students must take an examination in English. For many years, no one had passed from Amakurat. But when students last took their exams, four of the top six students from a 50-school area came from Amakurat. The government rewarded the school with two new classroom blocks and additional latrines, and the school has been able to attract better faculty—as well as more students—as parents send them to what they perceive to be a successful school.

Emau and Croghan both believe the interest shown in the school by outsiders has brought a lot of hope.

“The six schools are working together now. They are even holding fundraisers. People are willing to put in their own money and labor,” Emau said.

The books and the library are just part of Rotary’s on-going commitment to Uganda. Currently the Bainbridge club is working with other local area clubs on a project to drill wells in villages that lack them so people don’t have to carry water from lakes in large plastic jerry containers.

“These are problems that are not solved overnight,” said Croghan, “but visiting these people serves as sort of a catalyst and gives them hope.”

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The photo for this story shows Jane with William “Zkee” Zielinski, a library patron whom she taught to use computers, e-mail and the Internet.

The Bainbridge Public Library is a Bainbridge Foundation agency. Please remember the library when the BF drive begins October 1.

The ROTATING art exhibits in the library change every two or three months, and most of the art shown is for sale, with a portion of the sale proceeds going to the library. Prospective buyers should inquire of branch manager Cindy Harrison or Joanna Newnham, art exhibit manager.

NEW HOURS: The library is now open Tuesday evenings, as well as Monday and Wednesday, until 8:30 Thursday, Friday, and Saturday hours are 10 to 5:30; Sunday, 1 to 5.

The Walker provided friends of the library to assist patrons needing help strolling in the library is always available. Anyone needing assistance while browsing in the library should ask a staff member about it.
Four award-winning authors sign up to teach at Field’s End winter quarter

The first adult writing classes at Field’s End, the new writers’ community affiliated with the library, won’t debut until October 8, but already a quartet of Seattle-based writing instructors have agreed to teach on the Island winter quarter.

“Priscilla Long is teaching here this fall, but for the first time Islanders won’t have to buy ferry tickets in order to take classes from popular writing teachers Michael Byers, Carole Glickfeld and Nick O’Connell,” said Fields End manager Nikki Vick.

Adult writers of all experience levels may choose classes this winter in crafting creative non-fiction (O’Connell), revising a fiction manuscript (Glickfeld), exploring the structure and momentum of the short story (Byers) or creating short non-fiction or fiction pieces (Long).

All four teachers are award-winning authors themselves. The classes will be university quality.

“We are committed to attracting instructors with excellent teaching reputations,” said local author David Guterson, a library board member and Field’s End organizer in charge of recruiting faculty.

“We also want to offer students a variety of topics and class times to fit different schedules. Carole Glickfeld and Nick O’Connell will be teaching on Saturdays, while Michael Byers and Priscilla Long will be here on weekday nights.”

The website www.fieldsend.org offers a full description of Field’s End and its winter schedule, plus a registration form ready to be printed.

Winter registration officially opens November 25, but you can sign up now at info@fieldsend.org to receive regular e-mail updates and reminders from Field’s End. Printed information is also available at the library.

Field’s End exists to inspire writers and nurture the written word. It offers lectures, workshops and instruction in the art and craft of creative writing. Nikki Vick proposed the initial idea of a library-based writers’ resource center for the Island to the library board this spring. The board enthusiastically endorsed the concept and later allocated start-up funding.

“The library board is committed to making the library a center for life-long learning,” said Susan Bottles, vice president and secretary of the board as well as a member of Field’s End’s core team. “The Island has long supported visual and performing arts and artists. We wanted to offer support for the literary arts and writers.”

When fall registration opened August 28, the Field’s End all-volunteer development team knew they had a hit, with classes filled and waiting list established. Registrar Kathy Grainger said, “Besides the many applications from Bainbridge, we’ve had several from elsewhere in Kitsap County, Seattle, and even one from Burien. Our long-range plan has always been to become a regional center, so it’s very gratifying to find such early enthusiasm.”

Although the cost of classes reflects the quality of the instruction, with most of the tuition used to pay instructors, from the beginning Field’s End volunteers have been committed to offering tuition assistance. Their goal is to make sure all serious writing students are able to take classes regardless of financial means.

Before his death this summer local author Jack Olsen had agreed to serve on Field’s End’s advisory board. At Guterson’s suggestion and the permission of Olsen’s family, the tuition fund has been expanded and named the Jack Olsen Writers’ Assistance Fund.

The many donations in memory of the author assure tuition assistance will be available to those who need it. Besides Vick, Guterson, Grainger and Bottles, the all-volunteer core team includes Marcia Rudoff and Delight Willing. Carol Shade Moore also helped guide the fledgling project in its earliest days. Elizabeth Freeman designed the website with Ray Styles and Kay Yockey is managing its Field’s End’s e-mail.

The winter schedule

Michael Byers’ winter class is titled “What Happens Next? Structure and Momentum in the Short Story.”

Slightly more than half of the six-week course will closely examine published work, with the rest spent on related exercises and the creation of new work.

The class will meet six Mondays, January 13 and 27, February 3, 10, 24 and March 3 at 7:15-9:15 p.m. Byers is the author of Coast of Good Intentions, which received a prize for first fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His stories have appeared in Best American Short Stories and The O. Henry Awards.


The format of the class is primarily workshop, intended for writers with some experience, and participants will need to bring copies of a complete short story or novel first chapter to the first class. Check the website or call the library in November to find out if you must submit a manuscript for consideration at registration.

Each class session will focus on one topical, all-important opening, dialogue, setting and specific needs of students.

Glickfeld is the author of the novel, Swimming toward the Ocean, and a collection of short stories, Useful Gifts, which won the Flannery O’Connor Award for Fiction. She has received an NEA Literary Fellowship and the Governor’s Arts Award for Washington. She has done creative writing at the University of Washington.

Nick O’Connell’s “Writing Creative Nonfiction” provides a brief introduction to techniques of creative nonfiction, which brings together the best of the authenticity of journalism and the creative reach of fiction to tell some of the most compelling contemporary stories.

The seminar will run six hours on each of two Saturdays, February 22 and March 1 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a lunch break.

O’Connell has taught similar courses at the University of Washington Writing Extension Writers’ Program for 10 years. He is the author of the forthcoming On Sacred Ground: The Spirit of Place in Northwest Literature; Contemporary Ecofiction; Beyond Risk: Conversations with Climbers and At the Field’s End: Islands 22 Writers, Northwest Writers. He also has published narrative nonfiction in an array of periodicals.

Priscilla Long will teach “Creating a Novel of Short Fiction or Creative Nonfiction.”

Participating writers will need to come to the first of the three class sessions with an idea for a work of fiction or nonfiction. Step by step they will work in class from generating a rough draft through producing to a more polished piece with writing and craft exercises in structure, setting, portrait, dialogue, diction and deepening insight. Students will work on their daily assignments between sessions.

Long’s sessions will be Tuesday evenings from 7:15 to 9:15 on February 25, March 4 and 11.

Long is a writer of poetry, literary and scholarly essays, fiction and history. She is author of Where the Sun Never Shines: A History of America’s Bloody Coal Industry, and her fiction and poetry have appeared widely. She is senior editor of www.HistoryLink.org, an on-line encyclopedia of Seattle and King County History. Most recently she received the 2002 Seattle Arts Commission award for creative nonfiction. She teaches writing at the University of Washington Extension and in private classes.

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Mideast photography study called “Excursions in Jamaica” that, in 1844, was one of the earliest daguerreotype exhibits in Paris. Generations of family photographers followed, many well known under her mother’s name of Duperly.

Her life turned around again when she was invited by Monsignor Richard Albert to photograph the Pope when he visited Jamaica. The session with the Pope went well. Afterwards, in conversation with Father Albert, a New York priest who has spent 30 years of his life helping develop downtown area in Jamaica, she offered to photograph his work.

He was involved then in a project called Riverton City, a community of people who built their homes on the Kingston dump, a huge dumpsite in the capital city of Jamaica. She made a wall-size exhibition from this and created tools to empower the public to get involved if they chose. Boos was off and running. Berkeley, California came next with an inner city food study program she was asked to do. Across the Bay in San Francisco she photographed the work of St. Anthony Foundation, a group that feeds 2,000 people a day and provides a store for the needy and a farm where convicts and recovering alcoholics work.

transforming projects is her pathway now, together with creating educational tools and a platform for sharing.

On a recent visit to Seattle, Madeleine Albright, in “Conversations with Madeleine,” featured an excerpt from “Opening of the Heart” that focused on the women left behind.

Starting from Bainbridge Island, this exhibit will be set up on a 24-month schedule going from city to city in Jewish community centers, galleries, libraries and museums from California to Washington D.C. Boos has even had requests from musicians in Israel who would like to take it across Europe. A fine art entry piece for the exhibit, “A Sea of Faces,” 88 close-up photos combined in a beautiful design by Christine Castigliano, has been created and donated by Bainbridge Island architect and fine art printer, Richard Wilson. He will also print by hand a limited edition poster, the sale of which will help fund the project.

“We are committed to making the library a center for life-long learning,” said Sue Bottles, the library director. The website can be viewed at www.mideast Diplomacy.org.
Two little girls live across from one another on the West Bank. They don’t play together, but they can both see the sparks and hear the firing that goes back and forth through the dark nights.

10 year-old Marwa Alsherif is a Palestinian living in Douira Village. When photographer Boos met her, a bullet, a three-inch copper-plated rifle round, was lodged in her head. (Mercifully, sponsors arranged for her to come to Connecticut to have the bullet removed.) Facing her, and less than a mile away, lives 7-year-old Na’ama Didovsky in the Israeli settlement where the bullet came from. Na’ama’s mother, a schoolteacher, was on her way to her teaching job in another settlement when she was killed in a roadside shooting by Palestinian gunmen.

These are the people, this is the world that Beverly Duperly Boos has captured with her camera for the current library exhibit of 18 photographs called “Opening of the Heart.” Each photograph, taken on location in Israel and Palestine, is accompanied by a direct quotation that shares the truth of that person’s story.

Meant to enhance the four-part program, “The Middle East Conflict: Historical and Human Rights Perspectives” to be held four Thursday nights in October at the library, these photographs are intended to serve as a bridge from the mind to the heart.

“If people are in a heated dialog, they have opposing viewpoints, and the photograph is there to support the aspect of inclining basic humanity,” said Boos.

The photographs are a small part of a traveling exhibit developed as an educational platform of The Compassionate Listening Project which, in turn, is an arm of the Mideast Citizen Diplomacy, a non-profit organization headquartered in Indiana that has led delegations to Israel and Palestine for more than 11 years.

To talk to someone with no preconceived notions, with no judgments of actions, just with an open heart. That is the art of Compassionate Listening. The delegates of Compassionate Listening are completely trusted on both sides of the conflict because they hold all parties accountable and serve only as a vessel for the speaker.

Imagine listening to the tale of a Palestinian boy who has been tortured, to a Jewish-American girl when she was killed in a roadside shooting by Palestinian gunmen.

“Sometimes the wind is at our back,” she laughs. “But there is a part where most of the fighting took place, Quang Tri Province in what was northern South Vietnam, where, even now, 30 years later, ‘you can’t even take your big toe off the pathway the land is so scattered with unexploded materials, and nearly every week a child is either maimed or killed.”

Many of these children participate in an event at the Danaan Perry Land Mine Center, called Children’s International Day, that led into a third transformative experience for Boos to record with her camera.

About 200 children, handicapped and land mine victims, were brought together with Vietnamese artists under the direction of a Seattle based artist, Alyson MacGregor, who uses techniques for accessing deeper grief through art. Boos tells of watching a little boy with three fingers on one hand and none on the other set through scrappily little lines on paper. Her eyes grew wide and glistened as she described how the artist worked with him until his finished piece, which won a first prize, was like “an eruption of beautiful connected lines that came from a central place.”

The fourth transformative project that she will shoot in October is called Naka-Ima (inside-now) and means “in the moment.” This is an experiential learning project in which, as in Allison’s artwork and in Compassionate Listening, the child or person changes through the experience. This program of total acceptance of others, which allows people to be honest in their communication with one another, brings about discovery of authenticity in oneself. Workshops in this practice are held at the Lost Valley Education Center near Dexter, Oregon, www.lostvalley.org.

Boos did not become a photographer intentionally. “It was like the wind at my back,” she laugh.

“We have that good camera?” She did, and then a hotel asked if we allow ourselves to go through, our lives change.”

She had a business in Jamaica at one time and thought she’d like to start a darkroom. Someone convinced her she should start with a good camera. “So I got one,” she said. Then the friend asked, “How about photographing my stained glass for a catalog since you have that good camera?” She did, and then a hotel asked her to photograph for a brochure. Soon she was launched on a commercial photography career exclusively.

She had a sterling heritage in photography, however, that dates back to the early 1800s. Her great great great grandfather, a lithographer in France, brought a daguerreotype camera to Jamaica and photographed a...