Cindy’s team celebrates

Cindy Harrison, branch manager of the Bainbridge Public Library, was queen for a day December 5 as the entire library staff celebrated her selection as a New York Times Librarian of the Year. Harrison, front row center, donned a royal cape and tiara, accepted a floral bouquet, and smiled regally as buckets of bubbles fell on her shoulders. (Island historian Jerry Ellendahl served as bubble master.)

Librarian honored by New York Times

Cynthia Harrison, better known to her many friends as Cindy, was named this month as one of 25 winners of the 2006 New York Times Librarian Awards. In now its sixth year, the program honors librarians from around the country who have provided outstanding public service and had a strong and positive impact on their communities.

Harrison and the other winners were honored at a ceremony and reception in New York December 13. Each received $2,500 and a commemorative plaque from the Times. A separate plaque will be sent to each winner’s library. Winners from the Times. A separate plaque will be sent to each winner’s library.

“This nomination should really be viewed as being made by the entire Bainbridge Island community,” he wrote in his nomination letter.

Cindy Harrison has been with the Kitsap Regional Library system since 1990 and has been branch manager at Bainbridge since 1991. She and her husband, David, have two sons who grew up on the Island. At the local “queen for a day” party following their December meeting, staff members were full of praise for their leader and each proudly sported a new name tag reading “Cindy’s Team.” They were joined in the celebration by representatives of the Kitsap Regional Library, including new director Jill Jean of Bainbridge, and many of those who wrote nominating letters.

Harrison spoke briefly of the “life-affirming” nature of the award and thanked her associates and nominators, noting that “We have an outstanding public, wonderful volunteers, and a community that’s committed to libraries and literacy.” They also enjoy a good laugh. As the celebration brunch broke up and the staff prepared to return to their duties, everyone trooped out to the Japanese Haiku Garden for a group photo, complete with bubbles produced by historian Jerry Ellendahl.

It seemed like a good way to remember an historic occasion.

Field’s End sets winter classes

By KERRY SMITH

Even if you are not an experienced writer, you can learn from some of the area’s accomplished writers. Field’s End is offering classes this winter that will help you explore storytelling, the novel, play, or work-in-progress that you have, and help you get organized and motivated.

Registration is under way. Forms may be found in the lobby of the Bainbridge Public Library or downloaded from www.fieldsend.org. Tuition assistance is available for all Field’s End classes through the Jack Olsen Memorial Writer’s Assistance Fund. Field’s End, 260 Front St. www.fieldsend.org for details.

Enrollment is based on instructor evaluation of a writing sample. Please submit, along with the Class Registration Form, a one-paragraph letter giving the status of your novel (e.g. which draft, or any concerns; do not provide a synopsis), plus the first three pages, double-spaced, single-sided, and in legible font (e.g. 12 pt, New Century). Closing date for submissions is January 16, 2007. See www.fieldsend.org for details.

Finally, Elizabeth Heffron will lead, “The Play’s the Thing,” which will meet six Saturdays—January 27, February 3, 10, 24, and March 3 and 10, 2007.

Field’s End Winter Classes

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Field’s End Writers’ Roundtable

Field’s End Writers’ Roundtable: Jim Field’s End Writer’s Roundtable: Jim Hanauer’s book, “Field’s End: the life and times of a with Betty Kay Anderson. 10-12 a.m.

“Preparing for a Genealogy Research Trip” with Dr. Pepper Schwartz. 7:30 p.m.

The Search for Sunlight with Matthew Brumley. Co-sponsored by the Bainbridge Library and Friends of William Stafford. 7-8 p.m.

Migration. Co-sponsored by the Bainbridge Public Library.

opera: Mozart’s “Don Giovanni.” 7:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library Book Sale 10-2 p.m.

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Field’s End

Join local writers at winter Roundtables

Field’s End writers’ community invites all island writers, aspiring or experienced, to attend winter’s Roundtables. The Roundtables take place the third Tuesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Bainbridge Public Library’s large meeting room. The library is located at 1270 Madison Ave. North. Newcomers are always welcome; the evenings are structured to include everyone. There is no charge.

On January 16 children’s non-fiction author Jim Whiting addresses the topic “More than just stuff: What is compelling nonfiction?” Jennifer Louden opens with the question “How do you romance your muse and nurture your creative brilliance?” on February 20.

The final winter Roundtable, on March 20, features Charley Pavlosky, who begins the session by asking the question “How can you get out of your own way?”

Whiting, an author who believes that kids want to read much more than a dry recitation of facts is dedicated to writing compelling narratives that are factually accurate. He is a writer, editor, and photographer. Whiting has written several book series including Masters of Music, Latinos in America History, Unlocking the Secrets of Science, and Monumental Milestones. He grew up in Tacoma and graduated from Whitman College, and for 17 years he published Northwest Runner, a regional running magazine.

Best-selling author Louden says that the reason she is passionate about writing is because it is her essential way of learning and relating to the world. Her books include The Woman’s Comfort Book, The Couple’s Comfort Book, The Woman’s Retreat Book, and Comfort Secrets for Busy Women. Louden is a regular columnist for Body & Soul magazine, as well as other publications such as Woman’s Day, Health, Yoga Journal, Good Housekeeping, Shape, and Ladies Home Journal. She is writing a new self-help guide and finishing up a novel.

Director, writer, and producer Pavlosky located his film production company on Bainbridge Island. He recently completed production on his first feature film, “Dead Letters” which he produced, wrote, directed, edited, and for which he composed some of the music. During a break from his academic studies at the School for Performing Arts in London, Pavlosky went to Hollywood, where he enjoyed his first motion picture experience at 19, working on the film “Slapshot” starring Paul Newman. From there he went on to produce for a record label before moving into film. His next independent feature is titled, “The Tunnel.”

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Field’s End classes

from 10:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the large meeting room at the Bainbridge Public Library, 1270 Madison Ave. North, Bainbridge Island. Limited to 12 participants, the class costs $300.

About the classes

During Shannon’s course, participants will explore the literary and storytelling skills required to bring their best writing to the picture book for children. Through lectures, discussions, writing exercises, readings, and in-class critiques participants will explore topics including “Writing as the Child’s Equal.” “Sound and Rhythm as Content,” “When Animals Talk,” and “Story Not Message.” While Shannon works with children around the world, his focus is on the writing of books for children. He is a children’s librarian and professional writer. Shannon is a principal playwright at Seattle Repertory Theatre, and has received a Playwriting Fellowship from Artist Trust/WSAC, a Governor’s Arts Award, and for which he composed some of the music. During a break from his academic studies at the School for Performing Arts in London, Pavlosky went to Hollywood, where he enjoyed his first motion picture experience. More about him is available at his website: Asking for a Writer. She has received a Playwriting Fellowship from Artist Trust/WSAC, a Governor’s Arts Award, and for which she composed some of the music. During a break from his academic studies at the School for Performing Arts in London, Pavlosky went to Hollywood, where he enjoyed his first motion picture experience at 19, working on the film “Slapshot” starring Paul Newman. From there he went on to produce for a record label before moving into film. His next independent feature is titled, “The Tunnel.”

Elizabeth Heffron

world on their own creative writing and has published essays on various aspects of children’s literature. By popular demand, master teacher and novelist Glickfeld returns with an intensive, hands-on class for advanced writers. Recognizing that the early chapters of a work of fiction set the tone for the entire novel, participants will focus on the first 50 pages of a work-in-progress. Through class discussions, critiques with Glickfeld and fellow students, in-class exercises and assignments, participants will work to create compelling and dynamic opening chapters for their novels. Glickfeld was raised in the Inwood section of Manhattan, not far from the Cloisters, which later influenced her novel, Swimming Toward the Ocean. Glickfeld began her literary career at age 10 and later studied Latin, French, and English literature at the City College of New York. Her first book,

Useful Gifts, won the Flannery O’Connor Award for Short Fiction. Now a Seattle resident, Glickfeld taught creative writing classes at the University of Washington for 10 years, and she is the recipient of a literary fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. She was also a fellow at Bread Loaf and MacDowell Colony, and has won the Washington State Governor’s Arts Award.

Heffron’s dynamic craft course is one in which students will be encouraged to write an original one-act play. Class sessions will consist of writing and theatrical exercises which will illustrate the basic principles of dramatic structure. Students will not only generate material, but have a chance to launch their work. With input and guidance from Heffron and fellow participants, students will work on revising their own material. All finished plays from this class will be

Carole Glickfeld

eligible for Bainbridge Performing Arts STAGE OFF, in which two plays will be selected for staged readings under the direction of Anita Montgomery. Final readings will take place at BPA on Friday, April 27, 2007. All participants from the class are invited to observe, and perhaps audition for, the rehearsals and workshops of the selected plays.

Heffron’s plays have been produced in the U.S. and Canada, including Seattle, New York, and Vancouver B.C. Her work includes “New Patagonia,” produced by the Seattle Repertory Theater, “Moses Lake,” “Approaching P.,” and “Mizti’s Abortion,” which just received a world-premiere production at ACT Theatre in Seattle. She has received a Playwriting Fellowship from Artist Trust/WSAC, a principal playwright at Seattle Dramatists, and teaches playwriting for ACT’s Young Playwrights Program.

Calendar of events

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Great Decisions at the Library. Co-sponsored with the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council. 9-11 a.m. Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library 7 p.m.

MONTDAY, FEBRUARY 19
Library closed: President’s Day

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Field’s End Writers’ Roundtable. Jennifer Louden presents “How do you romance your muse and nurture your creative brilliance?” 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21
Travelogue: Central Asia and Northwest China with Denise Dupree. Co-sponsored with The Travel Bookstore. 7:30–8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22
Great Decisions at the Library. Co-sponsored with the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council. 9-11 a.m. Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10
Friends of the Library Book Sale. 10-2 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11
Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library. 7 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 12
Library closed: President’s Day

TUESDAY, MARCH 13
Field’s End Writers’ Roundtable. Jennifer Louden presents “How do you romance your muse and nurture your creative brilliance?” 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14
Travelogue co-sponsored by The Travel Bookstore. 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15
“Supporting Your Young Reader” Part Two with Erinnena Schwartzman. 7-9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18
Library donor party

THURSDAY, MARCH 20
Field’s End Writers’ Roundtable. Charley Pavlosky presents “How can you get out of your own way?” 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21
Travelogue co-sponsored by The Travel Bookstore. 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22
“Supporting Young Reader” Part Two with Erinnena Schwartzman. 7-9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24
Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society. Margaret Robe Summitt presents “Breaking through Bricks.” 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29
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Great Decisions at the Library. Co-sponsored with the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council. 9-11 a.m.
Great Decisions at the Library

The Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council and Bainbridge Public Library are co-sponsoring a second series of eight free, drop-in Great Decisions Discussions every other Saturday morning (approximately) from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., beginning January 20, 2007, in the library’s large meeting room. (NOTE: Due to a scheduling conflict, the January 20 meeting will take place from 1 to 2 p.m. rather than in the morning.)

The January 20 topic is Worldwide Migration. The other 2007 discussion topics are the Middle East, Climate Change, Mexico, South Africa, War Crimes, Central Asia, and Children.

Great Decisions is a nation-wide, non-partisan program of the Foreign Policy Association to broaden public involvement with the most important foreign policy issues facing the United States. While enjoying coffee and pastries, participants first view a 30-minute Foreign Policy Association DVD on the topic to be discussed. To assist with advance preparation, the relevant pages of the Great Decisions briefing book are posted on the BIAHC website (www.artshum.org), along with links to other useful articles. A copy of the briefing book is also available at the library for photocopying or can be purchased from BLUInc. for $5.50.

At the end of each session, participants vote on the next discussion topic. Anyone with an interest or expertise in a particular topic is welcome to take on the role of moderator or to recommend guest moderators and experts. Please contact BIAHC at admin@artshum.org to be added to the Great Decisions emails list to receive topic background information.

Discussion dates are January 20, February 17, March 17 & 31, April 14 & 28, and May 12 &26. For more information, visit the BIAHC website or contact BIAHC at (206)842-7901.

HARRIS / ZOMMERS INTERIORS
Bainbridge Island, WA

After 33 years in the same downtown Winslow location, Harris / Zommers Interiors is moving to our new studio in January. Please call us at (206) 842-2525.
Looking back, looking forward
By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

For nearly two years now, Ann Lovejoy has been writing a president’s column for this space. She had some thoughts in mind for this issue, too, but family health matters intervened, so she’s taking a break to spend more time with loved ones during the holidays. I wanted to thank all of you who have supported our library so generously during her time as Bainbridge Library Board president. We’ve seen steady growth in library use and new programs in these two years, and Ann has been cheering enthusiastically for all the good things happening here: more children’s and teens’ programs, bigger and more frequent Friends of the Library book sales, continued travelogues, more Play Readings at the Library, and ongoing work at the Friends Speakers Forum, among other causes. The ongoing care of our beautiful gardens by the Friday Tidies, who never fail to turn out, rain or shine. Somehow she has found the time and energy to combine her work as board president with her career as gardening and food columnist and author of best-selling books. All of us who have worked with her wish her well and thank her for a job well done as she hands over the gavel to incoming president Val Tollefson.

For those of us who use our library constantly, the year 2006 has been successful by any measure. As for statistics, in this community of about 22,000 residents 1,500 youngsters spent much of their summer READING BOOKS. Hanging out at the library. That’s got to be good for our future. And the adults? Well, they read too. And they write. Where else would you find a community this size with a nurturing writers’ community like Field’s End, which attracts gifted and best-selling writers from far and near to its classes, Roundtables, and now annual conferences? Predictions are that 2007 will continue to bring more good things to our library. I can hardly wait to see what they’ll be.

Meanwhile, may your holidays be bright and the new year one of peace.

A reminder
If you’re reading this column before celebrating the new year, and you still have your One Call for All card and envelope at home, now is the time to return them — and take a tax deduction for 2006. The Bainbridge Public Library is a One Call for All non-profit organization, and depends on your gifts for maintenance and operation of the building and grounds. Your gifts matter.

Stuffed geoducks notwithstanding, library book sales are thriving
By PATRICIA MILLER
Friends of the Library President

“We learn what needs to be done, then find a way to do it. You can say we plug in the holes—everything from paper clips to equipment.”

This is how Susan Richards defined the purpose of the Friends of the Library in her 1994 interview with Barbara Winther.

The Friends’ book sales are part of a long tradition of Island volunteerism, and they originated with The Annual Library Book and Rummage Sale begun in 1961 by the Bainbridge Island Library Board.

In her book, They Like Noble Causes, Barbara Winther describes these events as a peripheral community garage sale, moving year to year from the library basement to the Masonic Temple, to the Lutheran Church. There was a snack bar, and sale items were sorted out to sections: clothing, livestock (laying hens and rabbits), china, toys, one year to include stuffed geoduck dolls with “their own theme song”, and, of course, books. The Friends’ efforts to “plug in the holes” began in earnest in 1973, when they assumed responsibility for the rummage sales from the board, and by 1979, livestock, clothing and stuffed geoducks (sadly) had fallen by the wayside and the sales became exclusive to books. The book sales grew in popularity, and Bill Iulo, former board treasurer, remembers when the Friends’ income reached $500 a month, allowing them to accumulate sufficient cash to fund the Readers’ Corner in the present library.

Today, once yearly rummage sales have evolved into twice monthly book sales, and these efforts have further expanded with the addition of books and magazines sold daily in the foyer, then, since 2005, with sales online. The tradition of volunteerism, hard work and innovation that began with The Annual Library Book and Rummage Sale continues to inspire today’s volunteers, and The Friends’ book sale income has grown accordingly, earning $4000 to $5000 a month.

This means, of course, that The Friends are ready and able to say yes when children’s Reading Program needs a quick injection of funds to reward young participants or an opportunity arises to expand the popular Opera Preview series and cartoonist, she also enjoyed writing haiku verse. But she will be remembered most by many friends for her ongoing work in the library gardens. Friday mornings will not be the same without her.

Long-time volunteer
Susan Wallace dies

Susan Wallace, a founding member of the Library’s Friday Tidies garden volunteers, died peacefully of cancer in her own home on November 20. She will be missed not only by her husband Cebe and daughter Tegan, also library volunteers, but by many friends whose lives she enhanced.

Susan loved gardening, baking, writing, poetry, gothic cathedrals, coffee and the English language. She was a certified teacher of English as a Second Language; she taught at Olympic College and briefly in Lin Hui, Zhejiang province, China.

Born in Oakland, California on June 23, 1943, she graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, where she met her husband. They married in 1966, lived in Montana and Seattle before moving to Bainbridge Island in 1971. In 1976 they built their Eagleside home and welcomed Tegan into the world.

A talented writer and cartoonist, she also enjoyed writing haiku verse. But she will be remembered most by many friends for her ongoing work in the library gardens. Friday mornings will not be the same without her.

Christmas came a little early
By MARITE BUTNERS
Library Board Member

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA2006) provided for a number of tax law changes, including a very helpful provision for those desiring to help their favorite charities, concerning distributions from IRAs.

“As most taxpayers know, distributions from IRAs (for taxpayers over 59½ years of age) are subject to income tax at the taxpayer’s marginal tax bracket. Before that age a 10 percent early withdrawal penalty applies as well.”

For those individuals who would like to help their favorite charity by making a gift with funds held in their IRA, the distribution from the IRA would be a taxable event and would subject the amount withdrawn to income taxation at the donor’s marginal tax bracket. Although the donor would receive a corresponding income tax deduction for the charitable contribution, in many cases the additional income could increase the donor’s tax bracket. In many other cases, donors who do not itemize deductions would need to recognize the distribution in their annual income, but would not be able to take the benefit of a charitable deduction for the generosity.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 provided that donors who had already reached the age when distributions from IRAs needed to begin (Age 70½ ), could direct distributions to be made from their IRAs directly to qualified charities, and that these distributions would NOT be included in their taxable income. The donor, correspondingly, would also NOT receive an income tax deduction. This new provision applies to distributions of up to $100,000 made before the end of 2006 and 2007. The charity would need to acknowledge that the distribution was received and also indicate that the taxpayer did not receive any benefit in return.

For example: Rhonda Reader (age 70½ ) has taxable income of $55,000. Her 2006 IRA contains $125,000. She wishes to give $25,000 to her charity of choice. Under the old rules, Rhonda would have had to receive $10,000 from her IRA to the Bainbridge Public Library (BPL). Rhonda does not itemize but takes the standard deduction when completing her income tax return. Previously, Rhonda had to both receive cash from her IRA to the Bainbridge Public Library, it would have been included in her taxable income for the year. Now, if Rhonda instead transfers her broker to transfer $125,000 cash from her IRA to the Bainbridge Public Library directly, and receives an appropriate acknowledgement, the gift of support will NOT be included. (Again, the upper limit is $100,000 for this year, and $100,000 for next year: a small but important window of opportunity!)
Meet Debbie Macomber: She’s a Christmas kind of person

By DEBBIE MACOMBER

Anyone who knows me soon realizes I’m a Christmas kind of person. I love sharing the story of baby Jesus’s birth with my grandchildren. Christmas is being with my family, being with my children and the grandkids, making special memories, and remembering those we shared in Christmases past. I start decorating my home in early November—it takes a long time to put up five trees! I need five trees, because I have four grown children with families of their own, and each one of them has a special, designated Christmas tree. It makes perfect sense when you remember that the grandchildren immediately know which tree is theirs. The minute they arrive at Grandma’s house, it’s off to check out their tree.

I absolutely adore Christmas and everything it stands for. In fact, I collect Nativity sets. You can’t even visit the guest bathroom without the Baby Jesus staring back at you. If it doesn’t stop there, either. The house has blinking lights, the yard has flashing reindeer, and the front door sports a huge wreath. The first Friday of December my daughters and I have our annual slumber party. We get together with all the grandkids, make hot drinks and drink packets. Last year we dipped plastic spoons in melted chocolate and decorated those. At the end of the session all the goodies are equally divided among us to hand out to family and friends. There’s music and laughter and wonderful fun, but best of all it’s the memories we’re creating. Even if someone has never met me, they’ll soon figure out how much of a Christmas person I am just by reading my books.

Starting back in 1993, each year I’ve written a Christmas book. My first was one called A Season of Angels, about three mischievous prayer ambassadors named Shirley, Goodness and Mercy. The angel Gabriel gives each ambassador a prayer request to answer before Christmas Eve. My angels do their very best to remember the reason they were sent to earth; however, they are easily sidetracked. Life on earth is simply so much fun, and there are all these wonderful gadgets that intrigue them.

The angel series was followed by a series of romantic comedies, including The Christmas Basket, where once-friends/now-enemies are paired to fill a charity basket, with hilarious results. Perhaps one of my favorites is in this story based on an incident that actually happened to my parents. Several years ago my parents were trapped in North Bend when Snoqualmie Pass was closed due to avalanche danger. Because Puget Sound had also received record snowfall, my husband and I were unable to rescue my mother and father. My father was in failing health with a heart condition, and the thought of my elderly parents trapped with literally hundreds of people had me worried sick.

Because of the snowfall we were without electricity. It was a miserable time as I frettet and worried and wondered how my mother and father were dealing with the harsh condition. Then the lights came back on, and I turned on the television. There, on our local news, were my parents. They were shown as part of a group stranded in North Bend. Mom was a choir director, leading a group of ladies in Christmas carols. The scene was with my father showing them at a card table, dealing pinchoke. They met people they stayed in contact with the rest of their lives; strangers who came together over Christmas and shared the true spirit of the holiday season. Their experiences that year inspired There’s Something About Christmas.

My 2006 Christmas book, Christmas Letters, is a romantic comedy about a woman who writes Christmas letters to people too busy to compose their own. It takes the mundane events of everyday life and turns them into fascinating tidbits that intrigue and entertain.

As usual, there’s a fun cast of secondary characters, including LaVonne, who’s recently uncovered her psychic abilities. While changing the kitty litter she saw K.O.’s future love life. Then there’s Dr. Wyin Jefferies, child psychologist, whom my heroine considers a lunatic. To prove his theories to K.O. he volunteers to baby sit her identical twin nieces . . . Well, I don’t want to give too much of the plot away. I do know you’ll laugh.

The holidays are a time to visit your local library. My love for books came from a librarian where I grew up, Yakima. She was the children’s librarian, and it was her first job, and I loved her. Later in life she went on to write books of her own. Perhaps you or your children have read her stories, too. Her name is Beverly Cleary.

December is the perfect month for me to introduce myself to Bainbridge Island patrons. As I said, I’m a Christmas kind of girl. I have a great book basket for all the kids to read. It’s filled with holiday stories like Snow Falling on Cedars. The book is also a romantic comedy about a woman who writes Christmas letters to people too busy to compose their own. It takes the mundane events of everyday life and turns them into fascinating tidbits that intrigue and entertain.

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News from young people’s area

By CARMINE RAU Youth Services Librarian

On November 13 - 19 we celebrated Children’s Book Week. We polled library patrons for their favorite children’s picture books and here are just a few of their recommendations!

The Gruffalo, Julia Donaldson. Recommended by: Micah “because the mouse makes funny jokes and they turn out to be true”

The Magic Hat, Mem Fox. Recommended by Aimée and Chloe, “It’s funny and keeps you guessing – it has a fun ending.”

Lizzy’s Do’s and Don’ts, Jessica Harper. Recommended by Lauren.

The Seven Silly Eaters, Mary Ann Hoberman. Recommended by Jessica. “My son loves this book because he is a picky eater. He can relate to the characters and loves the pictures.”

Little Rabbit Goes to School, Harry Horse. Recommended by Lissy. “So adorable and wonderful, warm drawings.”

The Owl who became the Moon, Johnathan London. Recommended by Nelsen. “Of all Ted Rand’s illustrations for books these are my favorites. He captures woodland creatures as seen by a young boy riding a train at night. The changing points of view and play of light on snow, train and creatures are enchanting.”

Blueberries for Sal, Robert McClosky. Recommended by Alice. “I just love it.” “Alice’s baby brother, 5 months old, said “blueberries” while grandma was reading this book to Oliver and Alice. Honest, grandma and dad both heard it.”

Old Hat, New Hat, Stan and Jan Berenstain. Recommended by Gracie. “It was the first book I read.”

Lost in the Woods, Carl Sams. Recommended by Emma. Because this book “teaches about baby deer.”

Coco the Carrot, Steven Solerno. Recommended by Lisa. “Who wouldn’t love a book about a carrot who leaves the veg bin, travels on a ship to Paris and designs hats from a desert island? Great illustrations too! So fun!”

Shrek!, William Steig. Recommended by Anne. “All the characters and culture, is beautifully portrayed in the tale, The Scarecrow’s Secret by Nick Waid (2006). The story is told by Kheperi, the scarab beetle, and is accompanied by colorful and fascinating illustrations.

Masterpieces Up Close, by Claire d’Harcourt (2005), in its large format, is perfect for sharing with your child as you are challenged to pore over the details of paintings and discover highlighted items. Information is provided which explains the artist’s intentions and questions are raised which prompt further discussions. Flaps that lift up with the artists’ biographical information complete the appeal of these books. Some images may be disturbing for the younger set.

Another book in the same vein is Gillian Wolfe’s Look! Body Languages in Art, (2004) Seventeen paintings from around the world are used to clearly demonstrate the power of facial expressions and gestures. Simple explanations and poignant questions allow even the least savvy parent to effectively explore art with a child.”

Suggested further activities on each page complete this outstanding book, suitable for elementary students. But Like Me (1997) is unique in that it features contemporary artists. This brightly colored book was edited by the founder of Children’s Book Press, Harriet Rohmer, offers insight into the multicultural backgrounds of 14 men and women who have made sharing their art with children a priority.

Finally, The Year With Grandma Moses, by W. Nikola-Lisa (2000) successfully fosters appreciation for a variety of age groups. Simple read-aloud text paired with each painting is offered along with excerpts from Grandma Moses’s actual memoirs. Her detailed depictions of country living and community have a gentle appeal and the fact that her career as an artist did not take off until she was in her late 70s is a source of hope and inspiration for all of us!

NEWS BRIEFS

THE LIBRARY NEWS will be available on the Kitsap Regional Library Website beginning in early 2007. Additional news about activities of the Field’s End writers’ community is available on its Website.
Manga: TV on a page

By FIONA STANTON

It seems that this time of the year everybody has a favorite TV show. Whether it be a drama or a comedy, the day the show airs is the day everyone finishes their homework right when they get home, just so they know they’ll be able to watch the show. I’ve always thought of manga (for those who don’t know, manga is basically a Japanese comic book) as a TV show, whether it’s a soap opera or reality show. Here are some of my favorites:

Fruits Basket by Natsumi Takaya
When my friend handed me the first book in this series, I was skeptical. I had never read a graphic novel before and thought the storyline was a little odd. It’s about an orphan girl who is found living in a tent by a cursed family. It sounds cliché, but I promise it gets better as the series goes on. Like your favorite drama, these books have a great cast of characters with real-life personalities and will leave you wanting more.

Aozama Daisou by Kiyohiko Azuma
These books are like that sitcom that you seem to be your real friends. This is one of my guilty pleasures, much like that soap opera you watch but don’t tell anybody about. It’s a slightly cheesy, yet quite enjoyable romance manga; the cover even reads ‘His and her circumstances’. But don’t judge it as just a mindless book. The characters are far from perfect and—gasp—have the problems quite a few teens experience.

Marmalade Boy by Wataru Yoshizumi
Another one of my very guilty pleasures, complete with a love triangle and a secret romance. The book starts out with a teen girls parents and a teen boys parents swapping spouses, and the craziness continues throughout this series. I love reading these books while wearing my pajamas and wrapped in a warm blanket.

Pet Shop of Horrors by Matsuri Akino
Just reading the first chapter of this manga, I was engrossed. It has a very interesting plot—a teen boy is suddenly responsible for his young cousin after her mom disappears. Even the first pages are filled with emotion, pulling you into the book.

Sprited Away by Hayao Miyazaki
Many people have seen the movie but unfortunately I have yet to see it, so I thought that the book should be just as good. I wasn’t disappointed. The illustrations are right out of the movie and in full color so it seems as if you’re actually watching the film. The book is easy-to-read comic strip format, this is a good series for those days when you just don’t want to get out of bed.

Kare Kano by Masami Tsuda
This is one of my guilty pleasures, much like that soap opera you watch but

Teens, welcome to your new site

By SHARON SNYDER

You’ll find it when you click on Teens on the KRL Home Page.

Teen Isle is the place to find homework help, links to fun and interesting sites, teen book reviews, and so much more. Check out the art gallery with works of art by local teens.

A group of dedicated and creative teens from the Port Orchard Branch of Kitsap Regional Library designed this site and could use more teen help. Write a book review, submit a scanned image of something you’ve drawn or created. This site gets to be what we make it.

More teen reads

By SHARON SNYDER

Take a look at the shelf beside the door to the Teen Scene. You’ll find a book called, 500 Great Books for Teens, by Anita Silvey. It came out in 2006 and offers titles, brief descriptions, age level appropriate for and more in:

- Fantasy
- Graphic Novels
- Historical Fiction
- Horror
- Gothic
- Humor
- Information (Books about real people and real events)
- Many Cultures
- Modern Realities
- Mystery and Thriller
- Plays, Poetry and Poetic Novels

One teen had the following to say about a book described in this book, “The only bad part was when it ended.” Happy reading.

Teen pen pal program

A number of teens are discovering just how much fun it is to open a letter from a new friend. Handwritten conversations on shared interests, hobbies, books and music are proving an attractive alternative to email. Libraries across the country are participating in this surprisingly popular program. Is it “write” for you?

Applications are available in the Teen Scene. Program is limited to teens in grades 7 to 12 or ages 11 to 18.

Teen reads: Explore NovelList

By SHARON SNYDER
Assistant Branch Manager

Are you ready for that next great read but don’t know where to find it? Are you hungry to read more books that remind you of your favorite book of all time? Where should you go? What should you do?

Go to NovelList and explore.

NovelList is an online database available through our web site at www.krl.org. Your library card is the ticket you need to access it from home or school. Once you are on the NovelList Home Page, click on the Search Our Database tab. Click on Find a Favorite Title. Let’s say you love Elderly, by Christopher Paolini. Type it in. When it comes up, click on Find Similar Books. You can then select from a number of subject, theme or genre options to be included in your customized list of must reads. The list for Elderly includes: boys and dragons, empires, fantasy fiction, journeys, rulers and more.

Once you make those selections and choose the age level preferred, a list will appear.

When you select a title from the list, you can determine if it is worth your while by reading the first chapter and reading reviews. If you are interested, you can link to the author’s web sites and check on other books by the same author.

Then when you decide you are interested in a particular title, click on Search the Library Catalog to see if Kitsap Regional Library has it in its collection. If we do, place it on hold. All that is left for you to do is to come in to pick it up and read.

Features many real Lolita fashions, which is something that has always interested me. The second thing that attracted me was the fact that it’s based on a very popular novel of the same name. As much as I first thought it was, this manga is not overrated and is the perfect manga for those rainy days we so often seem to have. (Fiona Stanton is in eighth grade at Woodward Middle School. Besides reading, she loves horseback riding, playing soccer and licorice.)
The Big Bang, as described by Dava Sobel, was an unimaginable explosion, “a burst of energy and hot light that erupted and separated itself instantly into matter and energy.”

It has required an equally unimaginable 13 billion years for the universe to assume its present form, so it isn’t too surprising that humanity has struggled for several thousand years to set aside the concept of a static universe and accept a universe that continues to expand in “an endless outward flight of stars and planets.”

Simon Sing’s Big Bang is an account of this transition, and he begins with the Greek philosophers who sought “to describe the universe in terms of natural rather than supernatural phenomena.” Aristarchus (310 BC–230 BC) posited a sun-centered solar system, much as the Catholic Church was still doing centuries later.

Today the Big Bang is in general acceptance, and, says Singh, the theory leads to four possible futures: 1) a forever expanding universe at an ever decreasing speed, 2) the slowing and eventual halt of expansion, 3) the halt of expansion followed by contraction, known as “the Big Crunch”, or 4) that the expansion of the universe is speeding up, “apparently blowing itself apart.”

The tax assistance service will begin February 2. See details in the library.
You saw the movie, now read the book

By JULIE O’NEILL, Reference Librarian

If you have seen a based-on-a-book movie lately, chances are the book is better! Here are some recent movie releases and the books they were based on. Many of the movies are worth seeing, but our recommendation for most of them is “read the book.”

Alex Rider: Operation Stormbreaker based on Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz. After the death of his guardian uncle 14-year-old Alex Rider is forced to continue his uncle’s dangerous work for the British intelligence agency MI6. The best-selling Alex Rider series is hugely popular with young teen and pre-teen boys and a great way to get them reading.

When All the King’s Men by Robert Penn Warren. As relevant today as when it was first published 50 years ago, this is a powerful novel about American politics. Set in the 1930s, the Pulitzer Prize winner traces the rise and fall of demagogue Willie Stark, a fictional character based on the real-life Huey Long of Louisiana.

The Devil Wears Prada by Lauren Weisberger. Andrea gets her dream job at a high-fashion magazine but chances is the book is better! finds herself catering to the outrageous whims of her prima donna boss, Miranda. The novel is witty but standard “stick it!” The movie stars Meryl Streep as the imperious boss, and she probably makes the movie better than the book.

Little Children by David Bradley. What does it mean to be a hero? The author is only 15 when he started this first novel in his Inheritance trilogy.

Teenager Eragon finds a mysterious blue gemstone which hatches into a majestic sapphire blue dragon. Eragon raises the dragon and becomes part of the legendary Dragon Riders who oppose the empire’s cruel and oppressive king.

Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser. Schlosser’s incisive history and expose of American fast food indicts the industry for systematically destroying the American landscape, undermining our values and economy, and fueling an epidemic of obesity. In hair-raising detail he exposes the industry’s disregard of food safety regulations, much as Upton Sinclair did 100 years ago in The Jungle.

Flags of Our Fathers by James Bradley. This book, the first novel in his Inheritance trilogy. by one of the six WWII soldiers pictured in the famous 1945 flag-raising photo. He traces the lives and wartime experiences of his father and the men of Easy Company, and takes a penetrating look at the complexity and furious of war, as well as its aftermath.

Little Children by Tom Perrotta. This is a funny, acute and sympathetic portrait of three thirty-something couples whose marriages are less than ideal. They are raising their kids in the kind of quiet neighborhood where nothing ever happens, until one eventful summer when a convicted child molester moves to town.

Marie Antoinette by Antonia Fraser. Fraser presents an engaging, sympathetic portrait of one of the most recognizable and reviled women in European history. The queen was naïve and unprepared for the political intrigues into which she was thrust at age 14. She was a graceful and dignified woman, neither heroine nor villain, simply making the best of a scapogue of the French Revolution.

The Painted Veil by Somerset Maugham. First published in 1925, this is the story of a beautiful but superficial young Englishwoman who, after an adulterous affair in Hong Kong, accompanies her bacteriologist husband to an area of China experiencing a cholera epidemic. She is forced to examine her shallow and selfish existence, and undergoes a spiritual awakening.

The Prestige by Christopher Priest. In crisp prose, Priest tells of two rival magicians in turn-of-the-century London. Each has a winning trick the other craves, each of which is incredibly difficult to perform. The book, which won the World Fantasy Award in 1999, is a dizzying magic show itself, full of séances, a family curse, a haunted house, doppelgangers, mad-scientist machinery, ghoulish horrors and impossible disappearances.

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**Library volunteers help in many ways**

By VERDA AVERILL

The Bainbridge Public Library is a community-owned, non-profit organization which depends on donations to keep its doors open. (Salaries for the excellent staff come from Kitsap Regional Library, a tax-supported countywide system.)

So it’s not surprising that the library, and its gardens, depend upon volunteers for many services. The Bainbridge Public Library has no payroll, and hiring independent contractors for many small services would be prohibitively expensive.

The three volunteers featured on this page are among hundreds of individuals whose gifts of services have kept the library open and in good condition.

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**Reading, Writing and Attention**

A free two-part series for parents of school-aged children on January 3 and 10 will offer parents insights into the challenges of the learning process. The presenters are Judy Rutberg, Self, Ph.D., a licensed psychologist specializing in psycho-educational assessment and counseling and Nancy Mumm, M.S., CCC-SLP, a licensed speech/language pathologist specializing in language and language-based learning problems.

The series will combine presentation and discussion addressing questions such as:

- Why does my bright child struggle in these areas?
- Why should I care if my child is not a good speller?
- What does attention have to do with learning?
- How do I know when to be concerned about my child’s progress in these areas?
- What can I do to help my child be successful at school?

For more information, call the library at 842-4162 or email island-ed.psy@earthlink.net.

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**Supporting your young reader**

Master teacher Ernestina Schwartzman is offering a free three-part series for parents of children in Kindergarten, first and second grade. The classes will explore the reading process including productive strategies to help children explore the reading process including appropriate materials for the successful reading experience. This class is limited to 10 parents and consistent attendance is highly recommended. Pre-register with the library at (206) 842-4162.

Ernestina Schwartzman is a reading intervention specialist who has many years of experience in developing and training educators. She is a lifelong reader who has taught children from kindergarten through 6th grade as well as adults for 32 years.

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For more information, call the library at 842-4162 or email island-ed.psy@earthlink.net.
Matilpi and Livingston: their roots rise from Kwaguilth culture

By BARBARA WINTHER

On November 19, Maxine Matilpi and John Livingston traveled from Vancouver Island to the Bainbridge Island Speakers’ Forum, bringing with them beautiful examples of Northwest Coast Indian art and demonstrating the techniques they employed in creating them.

Although the kinds of materials used by the two artists are not the same—Matilpi works with fabric and Livingston, wood—and Matilpi is of native origin and Livingston is not, and the designs of each tend to blossom in different directions, the roots of the two artists spring from the Kwaguilth culture. Also, the artists are long-term partners.

MAXINE MATILPI

Maxine was born in Alert Bay because no hospital existed on Turnour Island, where her family lived. After her birth, Maxine was brought back to her family’s home, where she grew up speaking the native language of Kwakwala and learning traditional aspects of her culture. Her strongest influence was from her grandmother, Henry Speck, a renowned Tlowitsis chief and artist. It was Speck who created some of the first native Northwest Coast prints ever sold.

From a young age Maxine assisted elders and her mother in making ceremonial blankets. Her earliest job was to sort buttons according to size; she graduated to cutting appliqué designs and border trim. Since those beginning days, she has created well over 100 ceremonial items in fabric, many for use by family members in potlatches. When creating a ceremonial robe, Maxine’s first choice for its base is melton cloth, denser and lighter than the navy or green wool of the Hudson’s Bay blankets used by her mother’s generation. For appliqué material she uses strips, an almost unique choice among contemporary aboriginal fabric artists.

John Livingston, Maxine’s partner, designs the main crest figures for her blankets. She creates the border designs, which are solid triangles that symbolize mountains, sinuous arrangements of vines, leaves and flowers, and, one of her favorite and recurring images, butterflies, all defined with buttons.

The butterfly, an important family crest, appears not only on her borders but also as a primary figure on many of her blankets and aprons. According to family legend, at the time of the great flood, when the world was young, Numas, the family’s ancestor figure, was stranded on a mountaintop, water all around him. When a supernatural butterfly came to him, he realized the flood was over, and, indeed, the waters started to recede. Since then, the butterfly has symbolized the ancient lineage of the family.

Another significant crest depicted on her costumes is Kolus, a mythical bird, the younger brother of Thunderbird. Also portrayed are Raven, Wolf and Whale. All of these creatures figure prominently in Maxine’s family history. Their use as images is a guarded family privilege only to be displayed in a ceremonial context.

JOHN LIVINGSTON

Born in Vancouver, BC, John moved to Victoria at an early age. During his later school years, he developed a close association with members of the Hunt family. At that time, Henry Hunt and his son Tony, Kwaguilths, were head carvers for the Thunderbird Park carving program of the Provincial Museum. John apprenticed under the Hunts, learning the basics of Northwest Coast Indian design in the traditional Kwaguilth style as well as tool techniques and hand skills—the mechanics of carving. He began producing small pieces, his skill improving rapidly. Soon he was allowed to work with his teachers on larger carving projects, such as totem sculptures. Upon graduation from high school, John made his decision to pursue Northwest Coast Indian art as a career.

In 1969, John and Tony Hunt founded Arts of the Raven Gallery, which became a major force in the revival of high-quality traditional craftsmanship and artworks. They started a separate workshop, Raven Arts Studio, in the late 1970s, giving space for carvers to work and learn traditional art forms.

Over a period of 15 years, John and Tony taught over 40 Northwest Coast Native carvers and completed many large totem sculpture commissions at the workshop. During this time the Hunt family formally adopted John in potlatch ceremonies, giving him names and dance privileges and teaching him their significance.

After John and Tony formed “The Hunt Family, Fort Rupert Dancers,” John helped organize and participate in performances all over North America and Europe, including a seven-city tour of Germany. As John developed his own carving style, he also studied the Northwest Coast Indian collections in every major museum in North America. He gained expertise in recognizing and the ability to work in many other Northwest Coast Indian styles besides Kwaguilth, such as Haida, Tsimshian, Tingit and Bella Coola. Not only did he learn how to carve in these styles but also how to establish value in relation to age and quality of old artworks. Eventually, this led to his being sought out to repair and restore artworks and to appraise items in private and museum collections.

Over the years John has been involved in the creation of more than 25 large totem poles. He has carved hundreds of masks and other sculptures, many in museums and private collections over the world. Today, he is regarded as an authority on Northwest Coast Indian art.

PARTNERS CREATE APART

Since 1984, Maxine and John have been partners. They work in separate areas of their home in Victoria, which also acts as a base for John’s appraisals, sales and promotion.

In his workshop, John has helped trained several Northwest Coast native artists and given them a professional start.

In her studio, Maxine continues to make art and to teach. She has given workshops for schools and other organizations around the world, including in Japan and Germany. Her artwork is displayed in museums and private collections worldwide.

Continued on Page 12
Remembering Joan True (Brown) the artist

By NAN WOODBRIDGE

Joan said, “I left as a young woman and I didn’t know I was a Bainbridge Islander. I want to return as an artist.”

Many of you will remember her, zipping around the Island in her red 1976 Pacer, her dog, Annie, at her side. Organizing the Fourth of July parade from the sidelines, crutches under her arms. Or answering the phone for a lawyer or a contractor in her modulated, professional voice. “Joan the Phone” or the “Joanic” we remember, who embraced us all with her radiant smile, was an active member of the Chamber of Commerce, owned a thriving answering service, and even ran for mayor.

But when she retired in 1996 and moved to Everett, where her daughter Melissa and three grandchildren live, a whole new world opened for her. She not only changed her last name from Brown to True in memory of her grandmother, but she opened a thriving cottage industry for 20 years.

It was her job to answer the telephone for a lawyer or a contractor. Joan trained me and others to answer the phone properly. People never knew they were talking to an answering service. It was a flourishing cottage industry for 20 years.

At a party at Fort Ward she sat down to paint. Sometimes she simply painted, but veered off into abstract/fantasy. Sometimes, she used photographs or a combination of photographs from which she used it twice a week from which she created new work, but veered off into abstract/fantasy.

The library to me is a piece of the community,” Joan summed it up. “It is an enjoyable outlet for her.

In acknowledging Joan’s last wish, “Send my art out into the world,” daughter Melissa and friend Perry Ann have assembled a retrospective of her images, giclee (fine art) reproductions, that will be exhibited at the Library for three months. In March, the collection will go to The Pub, and in June, to Pegasus where Joan had coffee every morning.

In 1948, at the age of eight, Joan contracted polio. She recovered from the 11 long months in the hospital, she delighted in her coloring books and during the 11 long months in the hospital, she delighted in her coloring books and a giant box of Crayolas. She drew for many quiet hours, and graduated to making her own pictures from National Geographic and other magazines.

Continued from Page 10

Volunteers

John summed it up: “The library to me is a piece of the fabric of the community. . . . It needs the involvement of the community.”

(Editors note: Others who would like to volunteer at the library may call volunteer coordinator Mayslauze O’ra — or any staff member—at 842-4162, or inquire at the library, for information about present volunteer opportunities. Those wishing to help with financial support of the donor-funded, non-profit Bainbridge Public Library may deduct gifts postmarked by December 31 on their tax returns for 2006. The library mailing address is 1270 Madison Ave. No., Bainbridge Island 98110.)

Continued from Page 11

Matilpi and Livingston

ceremonial blankets, aprons and tunics for family potlatch use. Also, she styles and produces fabric art for private collectors and institutions. She is now working on a complete set of dance regalia for the Stanford University Art Museum.

Joan’s life remains focused on native art forms of the Northwest Coast; Maxine dedicates her talents to her Kwakwala-speaking people to ensure that their traditional culture will remain vibrant and strong.


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You must slow down when you look at them,” her daughter says, “as there is more often than meets the eye.”

Joan was always striving to learn more, build more skills with her colored pencils. When she became a respected member of CPSA, the Colored Pencil Society of America, she took up drawing miniatures, another means of honing her talent. Her paintings traveled and won awards in many juried competitions.

Still, it was impossible for Joan to give up on community work. As an advocate for Disability Rights and Causes, she visited businesses and complained if they didn’t have handicapped parking close to the door. She dedicated a ramp down to the boats at the Everett docks that allowed the handicapped to have easy access to the water. The Arts Council of Snohomish County was another enjoyable outlet for her.

In acknowledging Joan’s last wish, “Send my art out into the world,” daughter Melissa and friend Perry Ann have assembled a retrospective of her images, giclee (fine art) reproductions, that will be exhibited at the Library for three months. In March, the collection will go to The Pub, and in June, to Pegasus where Joan had coffee every morning.

View her entire body of work on her website, www.joaintue.com. Purchases can be made through her website or by calling Melissa Gunn at (425) 308 6509.

For each purchase, 25 percent is returned to the Library.