

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 11, No. 2

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

Spring 2009

Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated.

THROUGH APRIL 15

• AARP Tax Assistance. Downstairs conference room. M, W, F 10:30-1 p.m. M 5:30-7:30 p.m.

MARCH 1 – MARCH 31

• Art Exhibit, Bainbridge Library Meeting Room: Bill Johnson, paintings

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

• Bainbridge Library Book Group. *The Knitting Circle* by Ann Hood 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

• Friends of the Library Book Sale 1-4 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

• Movie Matinee: *Harry and the Hendersons* 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

• Great Decisions. Co-Sponsored by Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9:30-11 a.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 9

• A Good Yarn knitting and book group 7-9 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

• CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 101. 10-11:30 a.m. Pre-register at the Bainbridge Library, 842-4162

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

• Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
• Island Film Group: *Bad Day at Black Rock* (1955) Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

• Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

• CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 201. 2-3:30 a.m. Pre-register at the Bainbridge Library, 842-4162
• Senior Center Book Discussion. *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson 1:00 p.m. Location: Bainbridge Island Senior Center

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

• Travelogue: *“South Africa Safari”* presented by Matthew Brumley. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

• Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Gary Zimmerman, President of Fiske Genealogical Foundation in Seattle, presents “Accessing European Databases on the Web” 10 a.m.-12

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

• Great Decisions. Co-Sponsored by Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9:30-11 a.m.
• “Highlights from the Northwest History Collection” with KRL librarian Carolyn Neal 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

• Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
• CLICK! Computer Class. Open Lab. 10-11:30 a.m. Pre-register at the Bainbridge Library, 842-4162

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

• Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). *Las Venas Abiertas de América Latina* by Eduardo H. Galeano (Ihland Way Bldg) 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

• Great Decisions. Co-Sponsored by Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9:30-11 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

• BPL Speakers Forum: Karen Haas presents “Narcissa Whitman: Lady at the Crossroads” \$10 at the door. Students free. 4 p.m.

APRIL 1 – APRIL 30

• Art Exhibit, Bainbridge Library Meeting Room: Nancy Rekow, student poetry

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

• Bainbridge Library Book Group: Please call information desk for title. 7 p.m.

Continued on page 3

Writers will gather

Writing in the Garden of the Gods

The fourth Annual Field’s End Writers’ Conference will be held once again at the legendary Kiana Lodge, on the shores of Agate Passage near Poulsbo, on Saturday, April 18.

Bainbridge Island authors will be well represented at this year’s conference, covering topics from children’s books to creative nonfiction.

George Shannon, who acts as master of ceremonies at the conference, is the author of more than 30 books for children, and recently



George Shannon

received a Washington State Book Award for the picture book *Rabbit’s Gift*, illustrated by Laura Dronzek.

Kathleen Alcalá’s latest book, *The Desert Remembers My Name; On Family and Writing*, has been called “...an important contribution to discussions of ethnicity, identity, and the literature of place” by the Bloomsbury Review.

Author Carol Cassella is a practicing anesthesiologist and freelance medical writer. Her novel, *Oxygen*, a taut medical

drama, has been voted one of the year’s best novels by Library Journal.com.

Jonathan Evison is making a splash with his debut book, *All About Lulu*. Powell’s says, “...it reads like Salinger for the Freaks and Geeks-meets-Wes Anderson crowd. . . an auspicious debut for a writer with equal parts heart and reckless verve.”

Mary Guterson, author of *We Are All Fine Here*, will talk about “Beginnings, Middles and Ends” in fiction. Amy Tan says this about Guterson’s novel, a witty take on a middle-aged mother’s attempts to escape her dull existence; “A real winner. What a voice; laugh-aloud hilarious, full of naked truth.”

Living Books

Meet the neighbors you may not know

Last October, Islanders by the hundreds – most likely thousands – could be found with paperback copies of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

They were not alone. Throughout Kitsap County friends and neighbors joined the Kitsap Regional Library System’s One Book, One Community celebration of Harper Lee’s classic novel.

On Bainbridge, special events included panel discussions, book group conversations, a film showing at the Lynwood Theatre and – near the end of the month – a Bainbridge Island Living Library.

“You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view,” says Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

In the spirit of Lee’s book, the Bainbridge library offered a unique opportunity for Islanders to explore common stereotypes and different viewpoints in a structured environment: the first-ever Bainbridge Island Living Library.

At a Living Library, community members “check out” a conversation with a person who may seem very different from themselves.

Founded in 2000 by Danish anti-violence campaigner Ronni Abergel, who was present for the October 25 event, the Living Library has appeared in more than a dozen countries. It made its North American debut last fall, and Bainbridge was one of two libraries in the U.S. to launch the program (the other library was Santa Monica).

Dozens of Islanders turned out on the Saturday morning to meet with people who had volunteered to be Living Books. The human books included a variety of individuals who had felt at some time to be the object of stereotyping or misunderstanding, or who held a little known point of view. They included an African American father, an anti-violence activist, and atheist, a Baha’i faith practitioner, a voluntary simplicity advocate, and a female cop.

Also present were representatives from the Islamic Center of Tacoma, a vegan/raw foods enthusiast, a libertarian, a Bainbridge houseboat liveaboard, a Japanese internment survivor, a former Marine and FBI agent, a parent of a lesbian daughter, a south African citizen, a gay man, a quadriplegic, and a survivor of a World War II Japanese concentration camp. Both the “living books” and the “readers” (those who interviewed them) said they found the experience worthwhile.

“I enjoyed the experience very much. Many of my readers told me about their own experiences of prejudice or discrimination, so my sessions were very much about sharing experiences,” said one of the books. “Future books need to approach the experience with a sense of humor, and readers should not be afraid to ask all the questions they have always wanted to ask.”

The second Bainbridge Living Library, now scheduled for 1 p.m. April 19 at the Bainbridge High School Library, will give readers that chance.

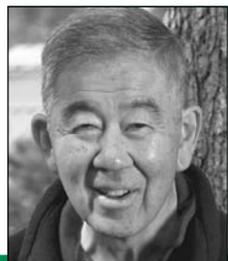
There is still time for potential living books to be a part of the April event. Typically, “books” represent groups or individuals who feel they are the target of stereotyping or misunderstanding or who hold a little-known viewpoint. To apply, email bainbridgelivinglibrary@gmail.com or phone 842-4162 extension 9802.

Many Island organizations will serve as program partners for the April 19 Living Library: JustKnow Coalition, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community, Interfaith Council, Bainbridge Island Historical Society, and the City of Bainbridge Island. The Living Library project is co-sponsored by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council, the Friends of the Bainbridge Library, and Kitsap Regional Library.



Ifikhar A. Chowdhry from the Islamic Center of Tacoma served as a Living Book.

Rachel Lau, photographer



Also in this issue:

Spring brings memories of Junkoh..... Page 4

Young People’s Library activities Pages 6 & 11

Authors: What they’re doing now..... Page 9

Writers' Roundtables:

Are you ready to change the world?

Need to refuel that New Year's resolution to be the best writer you can be? Then come along to a spring Roundtable.

Local author Michael Lisagor will present "How to Share the Words You Live By" at the March 17 Roundtable. Have you ever thought about doing an MFA? On April 21 Angela Fountas will speak on this subject in a session entitled, "What are the Pros and Cons of an MFA?" And on May 19, Dr. David Korten will address the question: "How Can a Writer Change the World?"

Planning the future is challenging—especially these days. But Michael Lisagor believes in the power of the written word, how it helps us learn from the past and chart our future. Michael is the author of *Romancing the Buddha*, which he has also performed as a one-man play. A frequent speaker at corporate and association events, his latest book is *The Enlightened Manager*.

Angela Fountas is a writer-in-residence at Richard Hugo House and runs WriteHabit.org, a website in support of new and emerging writers. Her work has appeared in *Quick Fiction*, *Sentence*, and *Redivider*, in addition to other literary publications. Angela earned her MFA in creative writing from the University of Alabama and has recently completed her first book, a collection of short stories.

Known around the world through his writing and lectures as a critic of corporate globalization, Dr. David Korten holds degrees from Stanford Business School, has served as a Harvard Business School professor and has 30 years experience as a development professional in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The author of *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*, his previous books include the international best-seller *When Corporations Rule the World* and *The Post-Corporate World: Life after Capitalism*. Korten is co-founder and board

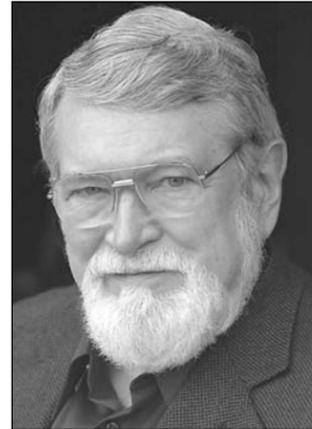
chair of the Positive Futures Network, which publishes *YES! Magazine*.

What is a Roundtable?

The monthly Field's End Roundtable, free and open to writers of all levels and interests, takes place the third Tuesday of each month at the Bainbridge Library.

The guest author introduces the topic, and then participants join in a Q & A period followed by a large group discussion. The evening closes with coffee and cookies, providing an opportunity to network with other writers.

If you have an idea for a Writers' Roundtable topic or guest author, send an e-mail to info@fieldsend.org (please include Writers' Roundtable in the



David Korten

subject line), or write to Field's End at the library, 1270 Madison Ave. North, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110.

Field's End, the writing community affiliated with the nonprofit Bainbridge Public Library, conducts the monthly Roundtables. Additional support comes from the City of Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Fund, administered by the

Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council. For other Field's End programs go to www.fieldsend.org.

—NEWS BRIEFS—

THE BIGS group, Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society, will meet March 20 (when Fiske Library director Gary Zimmerman will speak) and April 17, a workshop day with election of officers. Workshops are given by members, who focus on the previous month's program, and always include a beginners' group. For more information call Priscilla Greenlees at 842-0210 or e-mail her at pcgreenlees@worldnet.att.net.

FOR AUDIO BOOK, ebook and music downloads from the library, go to krl.lib.overdrive.com.

SEATTLE OPERA Previews continue through April 25, when Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* will be heard. Starting time is 2 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW the Bainbridge Review and *The Islander* are both on tape for the convenience of visually impaired persons? Call 780-2835 to sign up.

New travel essay books of note

By GAIL GOODRICK
Non-fiction collections manager

Ghosts of Spain: Travels Through Spain and Its Secret Past by Giles Tremlett is a book written by a British journalist who has resided in Spain for 20 years. Tremlett goes below the surface of the typical tourist's Spain of art, bullfights, and beaches. He examines why Spain has avoided facing the disasters brought by the victory of Franco and how the country was able to embrace democracy so quickly. For anyone who has visited Spain or is intending to visit, this is a must read.

Down the Nile: Alone in a Fisherman's Skiff by Rosemary Mahoney should win readers solely for the author's courage in rowing down this river in a country facing civil unrest and a very different traditional view of women. Learn about Egyptian history and culture, the poverty of rural life, and how to survive crocodiles while alone in a small boat.

Living in a Foreign Language: A Memoir of Food, Wine and Love in Italy by Michael Tucker and Jill Eikenberry. Most of us will remember these two actors from L. A. Law and other productions. This tells how they rather impulsively purchased a 350-year-old stone cottage in Umbria and fell in love with Italian life and food. It's a breezy memoir full of warmth and good will that will make the reader yearn to sample these dishes.

Travels with Herodotus by Ryszard Kapuscinski revisits the great classical travel writer and historian for inspiration. Kapuscinski refers to Herodotus as the "original foreign correspondent" and claims that his books were his traveling companions on almost all his journeys. Working for the Polish news agency, he could never jet in and out of exotic lands and file his stories breathlessly while en route to the next crisis. Instead, he used his sensitivity to people to write stories behind the big news events of his time.

Shadow of the Silk Road by Colin Thubron, who must be considered one of the best travel writers currently at work. In this book, he traces the ancient network of trade routes that crossed from China to the Mediterranean, examining the many, varied lives of past traders who traveled this route as well as looking at what is happening in these lands today. It is a real dream trip for most of us who would not be willing or able to negotiate crowded railroads, rattle-trap buses and cars, and uncertain food and lodging.

Field's End Calendar

These events take place in the library, unless otherwise stated.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Michael Lisagor discusses: "How Can You Share the Words You Live By?" 7 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 6

Registration closes for the Field's End Writers' Conference (held at Kiana Lodge on Saturday, April 18, 2009) Info at www.fieldsend.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

The fourth-annual Field's End Writers' Conference, "Writing in the Garden of the Gods," at Kiana Lodge. Info at www.fieldsend.org.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

Field's End Writers' Roundtable. Angela Fountas discusses: "What Are the Pros and Cons of an MFA?" 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 19

Field's End Writers' Roundtable. David Korten discusses: "How Can A Writer Change the World?" 7 p.m.

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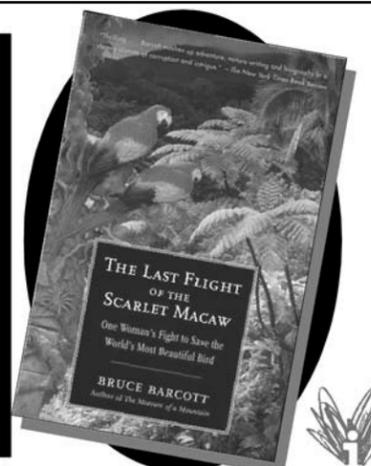
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www.EagleHarborBooks.com

Bainbridge Island's locally owned community bookstore congratulates **Bruce Barcott** on the paperback release of . . .



Welcome to new Library Board members and warm thanks to those who have served

By REBECCA JUDD
Bainbridge branch manager

Many hands make the Bainbridge Library a vibrant community center for Island residents.

The Kitsap Regional Library, through your tax dollars, provides staffing (those friendly faces you see every time you come to the library), books, programs, and technology.

Our outstanding Friends of the Library raise money to support library programs and services, now and for the future.

Our volunteers, over 200 strong, keep the library beautiful, active, and organized.

But who owns the building? Our library building

and award-winning grounds are proudly owned and maintained by you, the people of Bainbridge Island, funded entirely by private donations (see Page 10 for a special thank you to our 2008 donors) and managed by a volunteer board of directors of a non-profit 501c3 organization called Bainbridge Public Library.

This dedicated body of 18 board members held their annual meeting in December. It was a time to say goodbye to all those who had so ably and generously served the library and to welcome new members to the group.

Outgoing board members included **Marc Adam, Joan Gardiner, Caryl Grosch, Jim Laughlin, Jenifer Shipley, John Sinclair, Janet Brookes**, and president **Val Tollefson**. We thank you for all you have done on behalf of the Bainbridge Library.

Incoming members are **Heidi Maron Blair, Clark Gauding, Linda Meier, Lois Reitz, Ann Sievertson**, and **Jan Stanton**. We know you will continue the tradition of building and nurturing the best possible library for Bainbridge Island.

And we wish to extend a special thank you to those board members who will be serving as officers in 2009: **Delight Willing**, president; **Pat Miller**, vice president; **Lois Reitz**, treasurer, and **Jan Stanton**, secretary.

Where will you see our six new board members? You will find them at Bainbridge Gardens, Town & Country, the bank, the post office, and of course, at the Bainbridge Library. They are your friends and neighbors.

Please take a moment to thank them for helping to make the library, and the community, a better place for all.

Continued from front page

Mark your calendar

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

• Friends of the Library Book Sale 1-4 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

• Great Decisions. Co-Sponsored by Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9:30-11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

• Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
• Island Film Group: *The Apartment* (1960) Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

• Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
• "Landscaping with vegetables" with WSU Extension Master Gardeners 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Library closed: Easter

MONDAY, APRIL 13

A Good Yarn knitting and book group 7-9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

Travelogue: *"In the Sahara with the Tuareg Nomads"* presented by Grant Winther. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Workshop focusing on European databases available on the Internet. Mentors will be available to help beginners 10 a.m.-12

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

• Great Decisions. Co-Sponsored by Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9:30-11 a.m.
• Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library: "First Class" by David Wagoner, directed by Kimberly King. Funded, in part, through the BI Arts and Humanities Fund as part of National Poetry Month. 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

• Living Library. Location: Bainbridge Island High School Library. 1 p.m.
• Island Theatre - Repeat performance 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

• Senior Center Book Discussion. *Lost German Slave Girl* by John Bailey 1:00 p.m. Location: Bainbridge Island Senior Center
• Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Angela Fountas presents "What are the pros and cons of an MFA?" 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

• Great Decisions. Co-Sponsored by Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9:30-11 a.m.
• Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "The Marriage of Figaro" by Mozart 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

• Poetry Reading, Students & Teachers. 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

• Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
• Neil Baker Poetry event 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

• Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). *La Colmena* by Camilo Jose Cela (Ihland Way Bldg) 7 p.m.

MAY 1 - MAY 31

• Art Exhibit, Bainbridge Library Meeting Room: Tove Pisarelle, paintings

SATURDAY, MAY 2

• Great Decisions. Co-Sponsored by Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9:30-11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

• Bainbridge Library Book Group: Please call information desk for title. 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

• Great Decisions. Co-Sponsored by Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council 9:30-11 a.m.
• Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3

MONDAY, MAY 11

• A Good Yarn knitting and book group 7-9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

• Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
• Island Film Group: *Palm Beach Story* (1942) Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 14

• Friends of the Library Book Sale 1-4 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

• Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Karl Kumm, Director of Fiske Genealogical Foundation in Seattle, presents "Revolutionary War Research" 10 a.m.-12.

TUESDAY, MAY 19

• Senior Center Book Discussion. *Madonnas of Leningrad* by Debra Dean 1:00 p.m. Location: Bainbridge Island Senior Center
• Field's End Writers' Roundtable: David Korten presents "How can a writer change the world?" 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

• Travelogue at the Library. Co-sponsored by The Traveler Bookstore 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 25

• Library Closed for Memorial Day

TUESDAY, MAY 26

• Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3

THURSDAY, MAY 28

• Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). *La casa de la Laguna* by Rosario Ferre. (Ihland Way Bldg) 7 p.m.

NEWS BRIEFS

BAINBRIDGE ARTS AND CRAFTS

conducted its fifth annual book drive to benefit the library during February. Donated art books are either added to the library's collection or sold to raise money for new books on art, architecture, and design.

APRIL will mark National Poetry Month and special events will be held in the Bainbridge Library all month long. Student poetry will be displayed, poetry readings held, and First Class, a special Island Theatre play reading by poet David Wagoner, will be presented.

A book group challenge

For several years one Island book group, Friends of Mrs. Bomblatt, has made an annual gift to a nonprofit group or community cause. This year the group is inviting other Bainbridge book groups to join them in support of the Bainbridge Public Library.

"It's close to home, a building owned and administered by a nonprofit group representing our community, open to all, and a bastion of the book," a club spokesman said.

To donate and name a library shelf for your group, simply submit a check for \$250 made out to Bainbridge Public Library with a note mentioning the Book Group Shelf Project.

Forms and additional information are available at the library, from Bainbridge branch manager Rebecca Judd.

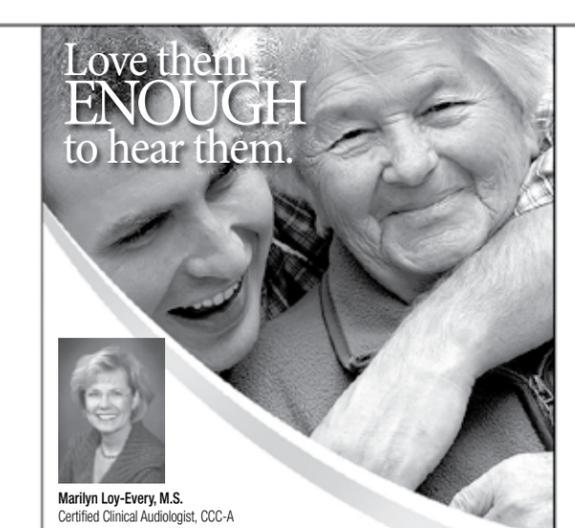
(It's not necessary to belong to a club to name a shelf. Since the Bainbridge Public Library opened its enlarged quarters in 1997 many Islanders have named shelves for beloved friends and associates, as well as family members.)



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Memories of Junkoh brighten our spring

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

On another page in this issue is a story by Barbara Winther about a young hero – a teacher in Zimbabwe. It reminded me that we also have some quiet heroes here on Bainbridge.

We lost one of the best and brightest just a few months ago. And somehow, the very cold, gray winter seemed more bleak without Junkoh Harui's welcoming smile at Bainbridge Gardens.

With spring bulbs now timidly pushing through the frost, we think often of Junkoh and the beauty he brought into our lives. His family-owned nursery became a day's destination for garden lovers, and the bulbs and plants they took home have multiplied into millions of bright harbingers of spring throughout the Northwest.

Perhaps nowhere, though, is Junkoh's presence felt more than in the exquisite Haiku Garden at our library.

The Bainbridge Island Japanese-American Community created that unique place to honor their ancestors and provide a peaceful spot for the public to pause and appreciate nature.

It would be impossible in this small space to mention every BIJAC member who contributed to the garden. But Junkoh was especially committed to the project. I still see his smile as he pored over sketches and described the process by which the haiku verses would be permanently etched onto stones, for the pleasure of generations to come.

JUNKOH DIDN'T plan to be a florist when he graduated from the University of Washington with a major in business. Lou Goller had offered him a job at Bainbridge Island's first home-owned bank (now American Marine).

But Uncle Sam intervened, and by the time Junkoh completed his military service that job was no longer available.

So he and his wife Chris opened a florist shop.

The first small Town and Country Florist (at the market) soon grew into larger quarters on Winslow Way, later becoming Town & Country Nursery on High School Road. There was room for expansion there, until Safeway moved into The Village in the early 1990s. And that's when Junkoh and Chris decided it was time to restore the old Bainbridge Gardens site left behind by his parents during the evacuation of the Island's Japanese-Americans in World War II.

The ruined building was removed, land cleared, and years of hard work by the Haruis and a dedicated staff resulted in the showplace we know today. We gather there to enjoy plants, to create holiday wreaths, take the children on pumpkin walks, lunch with friends on warm days – and much more.

BAINBRIDGE GARDENS continues, to our great pleasure, as a family business now into its third generation. Daughter Donna has joined Chris in managing the company, and it's not unusual to see her children at the nursery.

So as spring planting season begins, Junkoh's spirit is still very much with us. At the nursery, in our home gardens, and always in the Haiku Garden at the library, to which he gave so much.



The Haiku Garden in late winter

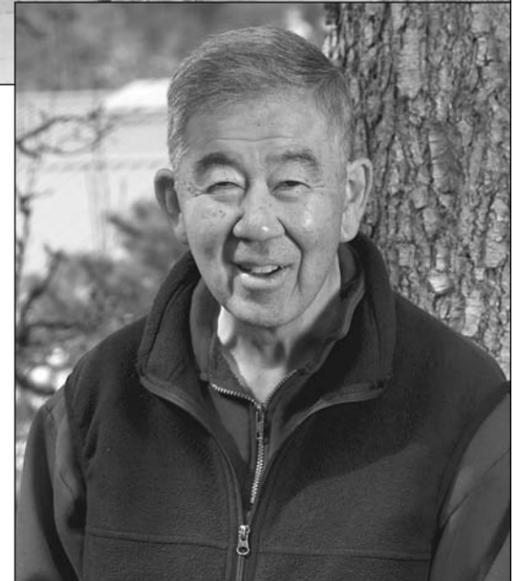
— Library News file photo

Junkoh Harui

— Courtesy of the Harui Family

*A single leaf falls,
then suddenly another,
stolen by the breeze*

Ransetsu



You gave us a book and we got a boomerang

By CHARLES BROWNE
President, Bainbridge Island
Friends of the Library

In the library, a familiar sight is a patron dropping off an armful of books they've donated to the Friends of the Library (FOL).

What's odd is that I've seen many of those books transformed into boomerangs.

You may ask, "What is the connection between a book and a boomerang?"

The answer lies in one of the interesting aspects of living in the Bainbridge community.

For decades the Friends of the Library (FOL) have supported additional programs and materials at the Bainbridge Library. The Children's Library aquarium, story time, marionette shows, opera and symphony previews, upgrades to the library staff area, the flag atop the flagpole, subscriptions for many of the magazines available to library visitors, and a library endowment are some of the examples of the wide variety of support provided.

At the thrice monthly FOL book sales, you'll find wonderful books, music CDs, and DVDs, all of which have been donated by the community residents.

Twice weekly, the Friends gather in the downstairs bookroom to sort and classify by genre, subject, and often by author all these donations. There's good conversation and the feeling that something worthwhile is being done. And often, when a bag or a box is opened, we find books still carrying our price stickers and occasionally a note urging us to "sell them again!"

(Actually some of the items inadvertently left in the pages of the donated books are fascinating bits of history, but that's a tale for another occasion.)

And here, dear reader, is the boomerang connection. A wonderful book that a patron has given us was placed on our shelves, sold, and then some months later, found

its way back to us much like a well-made and well-thrown boomerang.

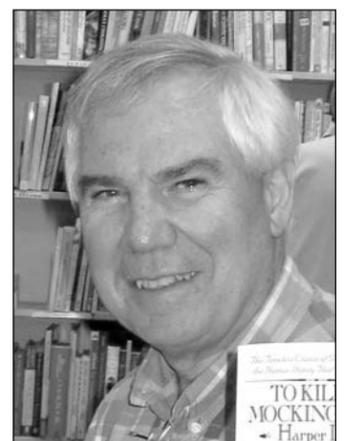
Some books we see multiple times, evidently very high-quality boomerangs.

So a book donated has given delight and enlightenment and generated financial support multiple times for needed library programs. Someone referred to this as the

"ideal recycle". It seems fitting for Bainbridge Island.

To find out more about becoming an FOL volunteer, book sale dates, donating books, contributing to the library endowment, coming library events, reading recommendations, and information about what we do with your generous donations, please visit our website www.bifriends.org.

Turn your books into library support boomerangs!



Charles Browne

Briefly

THE LIBRARY has over 100 titles in its book group collection. Your book discussion group can place holds on titles up to a year in advance on collections of 30 copies of books that are the most popular.

OVER 200 HOMEBOUND library users are served by Kitsap Regional Library. Staff select titles to take to those who can not visit the library and visit them once a month. For the visually impaired, talking books and large-print books are available.

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

1270 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

The Bainbridge Island Library News is published every quarter by the Bainbridge Library Board, a non-profit organization, and distributed to all Island residents and local library users. Delight Willing is Library Board president. Verda Averill is Library News editor.

Contributing writers are all regular library volunteers.

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An enduring partnership

Bainbridge Public Library and Kitsap Regional Library

By JILL JEAN
Director, Kitsap Regional Library

Bainbridge Public Library has been known and loved by Islanders for years. The building was designed by John Rudolph and first opened in 1962.

The original small, centrally located building has been enlarged twice (in 1982 and 1997), built entirely by donations from the community.

In 1945, Bainbridge Public Library became part of the Kitsap Regional Library system. A unique partnership was launched; Kitsap Regional



Jill Jean

Library furnished books and personnel, and the Bainbridge Public Library paid all expenses of the library building—maintenance, repairs, utilities, and grounds upkeep.

This partnership continues today with a nine-branch Kitsap Regional Library system, of which Bainbridge

Public Library is a part, offering a growing variety of services to a diverse population throughout Kitsap County.

No matter your age, you'll find something at the library to help in your quest for lifelong learning:

Staff: Our capable, helpful, and knowledgeable staff is happy to assist you.

Books, CDs, DVDs, and other materials: Our collection is the heart of our library system, and even in times of budget reductions, we are always adding to it. With KRL's inter-library loans, the public has access to millions of books – virtually anything that circulates, far more than any one library could stock.

Computers: Every Kitsap Regional Library branch has public computers. Users have access to free e-mail and access to the internet, also free of charge.

Variety of formats: Large-print books and a special enlarged-type computer are available for the visually impaired, in addition to audio books which are also available for the general public. A newer service is KRL's downloadable audio service, where you can download books and music directly to your computer or mp3 player.

Summer reading is a system-wide program that engages young people in reading. Every year it draws thousands of young readers to all our branches.

Programming: Special events are happening in

every library branch with something for everyone. Last year programs ranged in interest from the History of Tattoos to opera Previews. Every library has story times for the smallest children through early elementary age. Many libraries have active teen programs that engage one of the most difficult audiences to reach.

Special events: We are continually thinking of new ways to connect Kitsap Regional Library to the public. Last year, we launched our first "One Book One Community" program that had thousands in the county reading *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Most Islanders agree that the library is worth the very small portion of real estate taxes that support Kitsap Regional Library. On Bainbridge, a homeowner with property valued at \$500,000 paid about \$143 in library taxes last year. That seems a small price to pay for such a wealth of services.

For more about Kitsap Regional Library services and upcoming events, check out the website www.krl.org and look for the summer Library News in late May.

(Bainbridge resident Jill Jean is director of the Kitsap Regional Library. Althea Paulson is the Island's representative on the Kitsap Regional Library Board of Trustees. Rebecca Judd is the Bainbridge branch manager.)

Islander is named KRL Foundation director

Peter Raffa, a Bainbridge resident and experienced fundraiser, was named last month to the new position of executive director of the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation.

Raffa, his wife Christie and daughter Taylor have lived on Bainbridge Island for the past 15 years, and are all enthusiastic patrons of the Bainbridge Public Library. Taylor, now a teenager, was in fact featured in the Bainbridge Library News 10 years ago, as a young philanthropist who had donated her allowance to the Children's Library at the KRL Bainbridge branch.

A professional fundraiser for 25 years, Raffa served previously as director of the Seattle Public Library Foundation, the Northwest Kidney Centers Foundation, and the Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind. He is currently on the board of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and Peace Trees Vietnam. He has also served on the boards of Bainbridge Island Childcare Center, Northwest Development Officers Association, and the John Moffitt Foundation.

Jill Jean, director of the Kitsap Regional Library system, welcomed Raffa with a strong endorsement. "We

are indeed fortunate to have someone with his experience to lead our Kitsap Regional Library Foundation's fundraising efforts. . . Before joining us he was executive director of the Seattle Public Library Foundation, the nation's second largest library foundation. . ."

Raffa, with the help of the KRL Foundation Board, will work to raise significant resources for the county's nine-branch library system, which includes branches at Bainbridge Island, Bremerton, Kingston, Little Boston, Manchester, Port Orchard, Poulsbo, Silverdale, and Sylvan Way, as well as a bookmobile.

"The economic downturn has caused even more people to use the library for books, media, computers and various programs. We must raise more money to increase the quality of our collections, services, and programs for the public," Raffa said.

"We're planning on raising money in traditional ways, to increase the visibility of our many needs," Peter noted. "We're also planning a special Romance Writers event in May and a Library Gala in October to raise funds for special programs such as summer reading, third graders to the library, adult literacy, and to build our collections."

Ultimate Book Club

"We are also starting the inaugural "Author Circle", which will be the Ultimate Book Club. Donors who contribute a minimum of \$2,500 annually to the KRL Foundation will be invited to very special gourmet dinners in a private Island home on the water with a nationally bestselling author. Donors will receive a book a month prior to the event and have the ability to discuss the book with the author over an evening of fine dining and conversation. Jill Jean, KRL director, will also be on hand to lead the discussion and answer any questions people may have about the future of the library Author Circle members will also have the chance of getting their book signed by the author. (For more information, about the Author Circle, call Peter at (360) 475-9039.)

Peter is grateful to his fellow Islanders who support the Bainbridge Island Public Library.

"Libraries are more than a place for information; they are a place of transformation," it has been said. Peter agrees.

(To learn more, visit the web at www.krl.org.)



Peter Raffa

Library seeks Living Books

The Bainbridge Library seeks volunteer "Living Books" for the second Living Library event Sunday, April 19.

At a Living Library, community members are invited to "check out" in conversation persons who may seem very different from themselves.

Typically, the live "books" represent groups or individuals who feel they are the target of stereotyping or misunderstanding or who hold a little-known viewpoint.

To apply, email bainbridgelivinglibrary@gmail.com or phone 842-4162, extension 9802.

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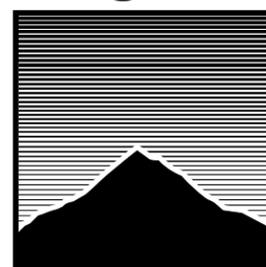


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A fond farewell

BY CARMINE RAU
Youth Services Librarian

If you have been to the library on a Friday these last six months, you have probably had a chance to talk with Christina, the lovely library assistant who was on loan to us from our Silverdale branch. Her smile, knowledge of children's materials, knack for bulletin boards and ability as a DJ for a room full of toddlers will be missed around here. Thank you, Christina, for everything.

Check out our rug

A big thank you Dana's Showplace for donating the bright and cheery rug that now resides in the children's new book area.

Teddy bear picnic

Bring your bear or special stuffed friend to a picnic at the library. We will enjoy stories, snacks and crafts and the Bear Hospital will be open for minor repairs to your friend.

Poisson d'Avril!

Celebrate April Fool's Day French style. Come decorate a paper fish to attach to someone's back without them noticing. Fishing making supplies will be on hand all day, Wednesday, April 1.

Perform a poem

Get seriously silly with skits of poetry by Jack Prelutsky and Shel Silverstein. Just bring yourself, all props and poems will be provided.

Volunteers needed

Do you like to read aloud? Do you like working with little kids? Are you looking for a way to volunteer in your community? Are you free Tuesday mornings this summer? If you said "Yes!" then you might be interested in applying to volunteer at the library. We are looking for readers age 8 to 18 to join our corps of Reading Friends. We will offer a 30 minute orientation on Wednesday, May 27 at 5 pm for people interested in volunteering during this summer. This will give parents and kids age 8 and up the chance to decide if this volunteer opportunity will work for you. Attendance is strongly encouraged. Returning Reading Friend volunteers do not need to attend an orientation session. Please call Youth Services Librarian Carmine at 842-4162 for more information.



Calder, Jenny, John and Nat Lange.

Courtesy of Tricia Kurtzman Photography.

Follow the reader

Books are life-long friends

By JENNY LANGE

Every once in a while in the Library, if I'm lucky, I see a book I remember from my childhood. If it was a favorite, I might even gasp! It's like bumping into an old, good friend. That's the way I feel when I see books like *The Snowy Day*, by Ezra Jack Keats, or *Will I Have a Friend?*, by Miriam Cohen, or *Amos and Boris*, by William Steig. They transport me back to my pre-reading days, when so much of the mystery of a story is captured in the illustrations.

And I wonder sometimes, as I read to my two boys. Which books will become their old, dear friends? Their favorites seem to change all the time. So when we go to the library, we bring a big bag.

Calder is a 3 year-old with a dear heart. Right now he loves *Knuffle Bunny*, by Mo Willems, because it reminds him of his favorite stuffed animal, who is Peter Rabbit. (Calder also knows where the books by Beatrix Potter are shelved, and once grabbed an armload.) He enjoys adventurous but tender stories, like *The 3 Bears and Goldilocks*, by Margaret Wiley, with beautiful illustrations of what a bear's home might actually look like. And *In the Night Kitchen*, by Maurice Sendak, which shows a sleepy boy romping through a warm kitchen while the bakers make fresh coffee cake. And recently he all but memorized one of my old favorites, *The Monster at the End of this Book*, by Jon Stone, where Grover from

Sesame Street begs us not to turn the page!

At almost 7, Calder's brother Nat is looking for treachery, daring, and heroics in his reading. In the series readers, he loves the *Frannie K. Stein* books, by Jim Benton. Franny is a normal girl who just happens to be a mad scientist. Another favorite series is *Secrets of Droon*, by Tony Abbott (on the shelf below Magic Tree House.) Three kids find a secret entrance to another world, and join up with powerful wizards to do battle against the evil Lord Sparr. Nat and I enjoy reading anything by master storyteller Roald Dahl, especially *James and the Giant Peach*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *The B.F.G.* (which stands for "The Big Friendly Giant"). For something really clever, try *Half Magic*, by Edward Eager. A family of bored children finds an ancient coin that grants wishes – well, half of what you wish for, anyway.

It's reassuring to know that no matter how big the kids get, or how old we get, we can always revisit a time in our lives by pulling a special book off the shelf. It's part of the magic of reading. And like introducing old friends to new, I hope you enjoy some of our family's favorites.

If you would like to share your family's recent favorite children's and young adult books for our Follow the Reader column, please contact Carmine Rau at 842-4162.

Storytime calendar

MONDAY, MARCH 2
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MARCH 3
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
Preschool storytime, 10:30am
Guest: Bainbridge Island Fire Dept.

MONDAY, MARCH 9
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MARCH 10
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MARCH 16
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MARCH 17
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MARCH 23
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MARCH 24
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, APRIL 6
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, APRIL 7
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, APRIL 13
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, APRIL 14
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, APRIL 20
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, APRIL 21
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, APRIL 27
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, APRIL 28
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm
Wednesday, April 29
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MAY 4
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MAY 5
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MAY 11
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MAY 12
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, MAY 18
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, MAY 19
Baby Storytime, 12:30pm
Pajama storytime for little ones, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

No storytimes in June.

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A visit with Moyo, a Zimbabwe hero

BY BARBARA WINTHER

My husband, Grant, and I traveled to Zimbabwe as tourists in November of 2007. Our intention was to go only to Victoria Falls and Hwange National Park. We did this, but also ended up learning firsthand about the economic conditions and hardships under which the country's citizens are trying to survive. And, we visited a primary school where we met a teacher who made a lasting impression on us.

Conditions are frightful in Zimbabwe. Cholera is endemic. A great number of educated people have fled, moving to South Africa or Botswana where they can find productive jobs and feed their families.

In Zimbabwe, grocery store shelves sit bare, the poor are close to starvation, all gasoline stations have closed, fewer and fewer doctors, nurses and teachers are available, and about the only way to do business is on the black market.

When we were there, a \$200,000 Zimbabwe bill was worth a mere 20 cents; now it is worthless. This means if you want to conduct a business transaction using Zimbabwe currency, you must carry bags full of money to do it—thus the necessity for dealing on the black market.

During our stay in Hwange National Park, our guide asked us if we wanted to visit a primary school in nearby Ngamo village. Being a retired school teacher, I was eager to go. What would it be like teaching under the awful conditions in this country?

At the school, the headmaster and fourth grade teacher was Moyo Mthenjwa. On the day we visited his class, we were met by an energetic group of children, singing as they ran out of the compound gate to greet us. Inside, they performed a vigorous dance, accompanied by two boys playing drums.

Then, I told a story, asking for and getting help from the children with motions to illustrate the actions. The story was about an impala that strayed too far from the herd and nearly became a meal for a lion.

After that, we looked at the workbooks, talked to the students and examined lessons on the blackboards. I gave the teacher a copy of a book I wrote while I lived in Kenya, *Plays from African Tales*, to share with the students.

It was a joyous and educational time, although we noticed some barefoot children, a number without uniforms, and for lunch many had only a piece of fruit. But Moyo obviously had done much to instill the desire to learn. Before we left, I asked him why he had decided to stay in the country, when so many teachers had left.

"Too much to tell," he answered. I said, "Please. I want to know." Reluctantly, he told me his story.

A teacher's story

When Moyo was young, his father worked in the city of Bulawayo, 220 km. away from the family's home in Ngamo. At that time Zimbabwe was called Rhodesia and was under colonial rule.

Moyo's father worked for a white man, Mr. Jake Williams. He mowed his lawns, waited on him, and took good care of his home.

Moyo started primary school in Ngamo

in 1972. However, by 1975, during the country's struggle for independence, many rural schools were closed, including the one in Ngamo. When Mr. Williams learned that the black man who so ably worked for him had a young son who had been without a school for four years, he sent for Moyo, saying the boy should be educated.

"In 1978," said Moyo, "Mr. Williams personally took me to the all-white, segregated school in Bulawayo. He demanded I be allowed to attend. At first the principal would not have it. He said that admitting a black child into a white school would result in a great protest and that it could not and should not be done. But Mr. Williams persevered. Finally I was enrolled there in fourth grade. Although the parents of the students were unhappy, there was no great protest."

Moyo was older and much taller than the white students. For a year he struggled, not only with the academics but with discrimination. There were times when he wanted to give up, but his father and Mr. Williams insisted he was doing better, told him he would succeed, and drilled into him how important education was.

Year by year he improved, until academically he stood at the head of his class.

Also, he excelled in sports, and everyone wanted him on their team.

In 1982, two years after independence was finally achieved in the country, Moyo graduated from primary school. That year Mr. Williams sold his home to another white man and left for the United Kingdom. Before leaving, he gave Moyo's father enough money for Moyo to attend a boarding school and finish his secondary education.

Moyo began teaching at Ngamo Primary School in 1998. Education became a beacon in his life. While teaching, he went on to college, achieving his first degree in 2003 by distance-learning through Zimbabwe Open University.

"I felt it was important to learn more. I got my Masters in 2005," he said. "All achieved from my village of Ngamo. I read under a candle light because during those days the school had no electricity."

He smiled. "You see, I was given a chance to be educated. I was encouraged to stay in school. Because of this, I feel committed to help educate the children in my village. There are not enough teachers here. Our school has lost one, and we must combine two grades. We try our best. We do what we can."

He sighed and looked away. "Unfortunately, after the students finish our seventh grade curriculum, it is unlikely they will go further in their schooling. They would have to travel a great distance for a secondary school. Few can do that, for they are poor. Many have dreams they can never realize."

He looked at the ground for a moment, then straightened his shoulders and walked back into his classroom.

Most likely, there are many heroes in Zimbabwe, people who stay because they love their country and want to help others; we feel honored to have met one. Although it was obvious that poverty encompassed his life and the lives of those around him, Moyo Mthenjwa did not once speak ill of the government that created this present situation.

Most likely it would have been dangerous for him to do so.



Moyo Mthenjwa.

— Photos by Grant Winther



Two students.

Books on Zimbabwe

Love in the Driest Season, Neely Tucker—an American couple in Zimbabwe fights to save the life of an abandoned infant girl.

House of Stone, Christina Lamb—the true story of a family divided in war-torn Zimbabwe.

Our Vote, Our Guns: Robert Mugabe and the Tragedy of Zimbabwe, Martin Meredith—the decline of national idealism as Mugabe becomes increasingly autocratic and corrupt.

Zenzele, a Letter for my Daughter, J. Nozipo Maraire—extraordinary novel about love, war, separation and being a woman written as a letter from a Zimbabwean mother to her daughter at Harvard.



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Your favorite authors

What are they doing now?

By SUSAN WIGGS
& SUZANNE SELFORS

For over five years, we've been interviewing local authors for Bainbridge Library News. With a new year under way, we thought we'd take this opportunity to touch base with our authors and find out what they've been up to. Here's a partial update.

Anjali Banerjee's novel, *Looking for Bapu*, was nominated for the 2009 Sasquatch Reading Award and is on three Global Reading Challenge lists this fall. She is busy writing her third children's novel. www.anjalibanerjee.com



Author Warren Read

Robyn Carr's popular Virgin River series continues with three more titles in 2009. She continues to host the visiting author program, Carr Chat, for Henderson Public Libraries, NV. www.robyncarr.com

Carol Cassella has completed her whirlwind book tour. *Oxygen* was selected as an Indie Next Book and as one of the best debut novels of 2008 by Library Journal. She is working on her second novel. www.carolcassella.com

Jonathan Evison's debut novel, *All About Lulu*, was optioned for film by Crossroads Films. He has finished his next novel, *West of Here*, which will be on shelves in February 2010 and he's busy working on the next one. www.jonathanevison.com

Michael Hauge continues to lecture and consult with writers. He is working for Overbrook, a production company owned by Will Smith and Jada Pinkett.

Woodleigh Marx Hubbard, picture book writer and illustrator, is busy writing her first adult novel. Best of luck! www.woodlieghubbard.com

Stephani Kallos's *Sing Them Home* received a starred review from Publisher's Weekly and her work-in-progress is titled *Katie and Mags*. www.stephaniekallow.com

Debbie Macomber's most recent book, *A Cedar Grove Christmas* was a national bestseller. Her next hardcover is *Summer on Blossom Street*, coming in May 2009. Her work-in-progress is *A Cedar Cove Cookbook*

and she's excited about the Cedar Cove Festival in Port Orchard. www.cedarcoveassociation.com

Jodi Picoult's next book is *Handle with Care*, coming in March 2009. The movie version of *My Sister's Keeper*, starring Cameron Diaz, will be out in 2009. www.jodipicoult.com

Sheila Rabe, AKA Sheila Roberts' novel *Bikini Season* was chosen by Target as a Breakout Book Selection. She has two books coming out this year, *Love in Bloom* (February) and a Christmas Book with a working title, *Angel Lane*. She intends to keep her writing group very busy. www.sheilasplace.com



Sheila (Rabe) Roberts

Katherine Ramsland's latest is *True Stories of C.S.I.* Her upcoming books is *The Devil's Dozen: How Cutting-Edge Forensics Took Down 12 Notorious Serial*

Killers. www.katherineramsland.com

George Shannon just won the Washington State Book Award and the Burr/Worzalla Award for outstanding picture book. And the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pacific NW Writers Association. He just signed with a new agent and is busy working on his next project. Pop into Eagle Harbor Books and you might see him. www.georghannon.com

Garth Stein has had a meteoric rise since the interview. *The Art of Racing in the Rain* sold in a heated auction and became a blockbuster international bestseller as well as a Starbucks pick. Wow!

Bonnie Wallace is currently working on a book intended to create community and revolutionize theatre in America. She is also attending the Bainbridge Graduate Institute.

Warren Read has been busy speaking to writing, genealogical and academic audiences about his debut, *The Lyncher in Me*. He just finished a historical novel and is shopping it around. Best of luck!

And what have we been up to? Well, if you'd like to check in with us, you can visit at www.susanwiggs.com and www.suzanneselfors.com. Thanks for reading and we hope to introduce you to more authors in the coming issues.

Home improvement books available at the library

By JULIE O'NEILL
Reference Librarian

How would you like to have Ty Pennington and the Extreme Makeover team completely renovate your house?

Sorry, we can't make that happen, but we do have plenty of books and DVDs to help you plan your own remodel. If you are planning to make a major addition to your home, want to renovate your kitchen or bathroom, or just need some fresh ideas for paint colors, the library can help you find books and instructional DVDs to inspire you.

Here are some recent arrivals at the library:

- *Creating Your Dream Kitchen: How to Plan and Style the Perfect Space*
- *Finishing a Basement (DVD)*
- *Stairscaping: A Guide to Buying, Remodeling, and Decorating Interior and Exterior Staircases*
- *Master Bathroom Rehab (DVD)*
- *House Plus: Imaginative Ideas for Extending Your Home*
- *Porches and Sunrooms: Planning and Remodeling Ideas, Creative Homeowner Press*
- *The Renovated Home: Redesigning, Reorganizing, Redecoration*
- *Curb Appeal: Exciting Ways to Enhance the Appearance of Your Home*
- *Concrete at Home: Innovative Forms and Finishes: Floors, Walls, Fireplaces, Countertops*
- *Complete Built-ins, Shelves and Bookcases*
- *Fireplace Design and Decorating Ideas*
- *House Transformed: Getting the Home You Want With the House You Have*
- *Design Ideas for Bathrooms*
- *Garage Conversion (DVD)*
- *Moneysmart Makeovers: Living Spaces*
- *Kitchens for the Rest of Us: From the Kitchen You Have to the Kitchen You Love*

NEWS BRIEFS

THE LIBRARY NEWS is also available on the Kitsap Regional Library website (krl.org), a convenience for visually impaired as well as off-Island readers.

Book review

The banality of evil

In My Brother's Shadow: A Life and Death in the SS by Uwe Timm

REVIEWED BY PAT MILLER

In 1961, Hannah Arendt, reporting for the New Yorker, witnessed the trial of Otto Eichman for his crimes against the Jewish people, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

She observed that "the man (Eichman) in the glass booth was not even sinister."

While "his deeds were monstrous, the doer was quite ordinary, commonplace, and neither demonic nor monstrous". She summed up her impression in four words: "the banality of evil".

Arendt's conclusion finds current expression in Uwe Timm's book, *In My Brother's Shadow*.

Timm is haunted by the ghost of his older brother, Karl-Heinze, the apple of his father's eye. He was a toddler when 18-year-old Karl-Heinze proudly volunteered for the Nazi SS Death's Head Division.

Deployed to the Russian front, he slogged dutifully through the horrors of war, was wounded, lost both legs and

continued on page 12

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We wish to thank all those who generously gave to the Bainbridge Public Library this past year. Because of your support, the library was once again able to maintain its beautiful building and award-winning gardens.

On Sunday, March 15, the board of directors for the Bainbridge Public Library will host a donor party to thank the hundreds of Island residents and friends who donated funds and services to the library. Music at the party will be provided, as usual, by the Bainbridge Island Youth Orchestra.

Next time you stop by the library, consider saying a quiet thank you to your neighbors listed below. And if you'd like to join them, please consider picking up a pledge card at the library information desk.

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More Young People's news

Meet Jack Prelutsky, kid crowd pleaser!

By SUSAN BISNETT

Elusive yet omnipresent, local poet Jack Prelutsky has been here for the kids of Kitsap County in a big way this year.

This is a man who comes through for kids all over the world in not just a big way, but a BIG WACKY FUN ADVENTURE way with each and every poem!

The nation's first ever Children's Poet Laureate, as named by the Poetry Foundation in 2006, Prelutsky was a crowd pleaser at Ordway Elementary, Central Kitsap and Bremerton High Schools. At Ordway, mentioning more bodily functions than most adults are comfortable with, he had the younger set howling for more with a selection of poems that spanned the years, replete with guitar accompaniment.

Prelutsky has been prolific, with more than 50 published poetry collections and musical/poetry/sound effect audio compilations. Over the years his spunky, unpredictable, rhythmic poems have been adorned by a plethora of the best children's illustrators, including James Stevenson, Chris Raschka, Peter Sis and Garth Williams, to name just a few. Petra Mather beautifully illustrates a 2007 collection, *In Aunt Giraffe's Green*

Continued from page 8

Best books of 2008

Tom Vanderbilt. What does driving say about us and our culture? Quite a lot, it seems. Vanderbilt takes an everyday activity that we give little thought to and presents it in a humorous, original way.

Mrs. Woolf and the Servants: An Intimate History of Domestic Life in Bloomsbury by Alison Light. Virginia Woolf was a feminist icon and her husband was a committed socialist and supporter of workers' rights. Yet they perpetuated the class system by employing servants, to whom they paid a pittance. The author draws on diaries, correspondence and interviews to discover Woolf's views on "the servant question."

Children's and family programs

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2PM

Pie Day

MONDAY, MARCH 30

Puppet Show, 10:30 am

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Teddy Bear Picnic, 10:30 am

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1 PM

Perform a Poem

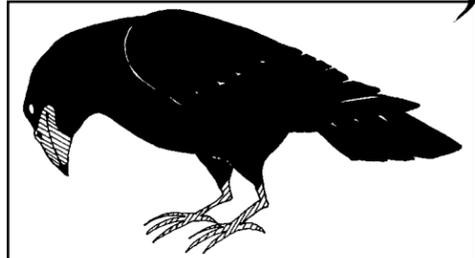
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1 PM

Anne of Green Gables Party

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2 PM

Board Game Afternoon

blackbird bakery



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Garden, filled with the absurdity and silly joy that comes with close proximity to nature.

The recent *Pizza, Pigs and Poetry: How to Write a Poem* is an inspirational guide aimed at his favorite public, kids! *The New Kid on the Block*, a 1984 publication, now also an audio-cd, has Jack himself on guitar, banjo and autoharp, joined by others on the bass and fiddle, and is a tickle with character strengthening poems like 'Jellyfish Stew' and 'I'd Rather Take Baths with a Man-eating Shark'. For pure blasphemy of proper behavior try *Awful Ogre Running Wild*, just out in 2008, where you'll find that an Ogre's gotta do what he's gotta do, and that's just the way it is.

Of all the collections over the years, *Ride a Purple Pelican*, of 1986 vintage, is still my favorite, with catchy cadences that will perk up even the most lethargic of souls, rising to the march of 'Bullfrogs, Bullfrogs on Parade', or 'Justin Austin Skipped to Boston'. These poems will take you on a frolicksome romp in the best possible sense. My kids couldn't get enough of it. Consequently, I know all 28 poems by heart!

Thank you, Jack!

(Check out Jack Prelutsky's poetry at your local library. Visit jackprelutsky.com for classroom and home activities.)

NEWS BRIEFS

VISUALLY Impaired Persons' support group (The VIPs) meets the second Wednesday of every month from 1 to 3 p.m. in the library meeting room. For information or transportation, call 842-3551.

ACT AS IF what you do makes a difference. It does.
—William James



It was cold outside

and this otter wore a cap of snow in the library's Haiku Garden. Snow forced the library to remain closed on several recent wintry days, but Gail Christensen, camera in hand, braved the weather to capture this and other photos.

Early lending library on Bainbridge Island

Bainbridge Island residents love libraries, and the present centrally located library has existed – enlarged twice – since 1962.

It was, however, by no means the first library on the Island. A local historian, browsing in Bainbridge Review files, found the following story dated Nov. 7, 1929:

Manitou Beach and Eagledale Stores Install Book Lending Library.

You now can read a number of books at the price

of one, the Manitou Beach and Eagledale stores having installed a Book Lending Library.

You can rent books at a small fee and read eight or ten books at the price of one. These books are the very latest.

The Lending Library system is the newest and most advanced type of circulating libraries.

Make inquiry at either store relative to these books and note ad elsewhere in this paper.

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Hodges painting graces wall above Children's Library

In 1960, a collaborative effort by a group of hardworking civic leaders and Rotarians established the all-volunteer, non-profit organization that created the first library on the current Bainbridge Library site. They elected Dr. Jim Hodges – inventor, businessman, and community supporter – as the building committee chairman. He assembled a planning and fundraising team and negotiated with Island attorney Edmund Stafford, the former owner of the current library property.

Jim and his wife Frances became life-long supporters of the library and their foundation continues their legacy to this day.

When the Children's Library was created, Jim and Frances Hodges took special interest in developing that area; their only daughter, Betsy, died tragically at the age of 13. After Jim's death in 1994, Frances carried on their dedication to the library by supporting the expansion and remodel of 1997.

Paige Stockley Lerner, a descendant of Frances Hodges, donated the painting of Betsy Hodges to the library as a tribute to the family and their history of



Paige Stockley Lerner with Hodges painting.

devotion to the Bainbridge Library.

The painting was recently moved to a new location, closer to the Children's Library so beloved by the Hodges family.

New services are added to Kitsap libraries

The Kitsap Regional Library is continually adding new services for patrons' convenience.

The following are some of those added during the past year. Have you discovered them yet?

Live Homework Help is a free online tutor service for students in grades 4 through community college. It is available from 3 to 10 every day of the week and available in Spanish on the weekend. Tutors support subjects in social studies, science, math and English through chat, downloads, and whiteboards.

"We have had students going from Cs and Ds to As and Bs," said Carol Schuyler, director of support services.

Learn Express Library is one of the research databases available. It is a library of tests ranging from SAT, ACT, and Advanced Placements to GED, real estate, nursing, and military entrance. You can take the tests online, find where you have strengths and weaknesses, save the test, study to strengthen your scores, and then retake the test to see your improvement. Test scores are only between you and the database.

Overdrive is the newest offering on the KRL website (krl.org). Overdrive allows you to download books for children, young adults, and adults to your computer or MP3 player. You can place holds on the titles and check them out for three weeks just like the library's regular collection. All of the titles are also in the online catalog.

NEWS BRIEFS

NEWSPAPERS ON TAPE: The Bainbridge Review and the Islander are available on tape in the library. This free service for the visually impaired is available by phoning 780-2835 to sign up.

Continued from page 9

The banality of evil

died. In his trek across Russia, Uwe's big brother symbolizes the many German citizens who fell into step behind Hitler, and he becomes the embodiment of Arendt's characterization, "the banality of evil".

It was this easy acceptance of duty that allowed the murders at Babi Yar where Jews were led to a ditch outside of a Russian village, made to strip and step up line after line to be shot, their bodies tumbling, some still alive, into the yar (ditch).

Afterwards, German soldiers went through the piles of clothing to loot and to seek out and kill infants hidden by their doomed mothers. Meanwhile, in Uwe's town, neighbors looked away as their Jewish neighbors were led away, and they "maintained that silence after the war".

Karl-Heinze's death haunted the family, but most of all Uwe, whose only memory of his brother was a game of hide and seek just before he left for the Russian front.

Years later Uwe concedes at last that he must write about his brother. As he does so, the book evolves into a picture of three generations; his stiff-backed father's, the generation that venerated duty and Germanic superiority; his brother's, the generation that paid the terrible price of blood and suffering that his father's pride exacted; and Uwe's, the generation

obliged to probe the wounds and bear the terrible sense of guilt that followed the war.

Though it was forbidden by the SS, Karl-Heinze kept a diary and it made its way home along with the pitifully few belongings sent to his mother. The diary records the astoundingly mundane day to day march of the German troops and renders the deaths of millions of Russians all in a day's work. "Bridgehead on the Donez," writes Karl-Heinze, "75 m away Ivan smoking cigarettes, fodder for my mg." His off-hand observation bodes ill for Uwe's search for evidence to "express justification of killing in my brother's diary." Indeed, he finds "nothing resembling the ideological instruction given the SS. It is just a normal view of daily life in war."

Did Karl-Heinze reach some dim realization of the horror inflicted upon the Russians and the Jews? Perhaps. He closes his diary with this statement: "I close my diary here, because I don't see any point in recording the cruel things that sometimes happen." But the author resigns himself to the fact that "there can be no attempt at explanation. Nothing written with a view to tracing the causes of those events, classifying, or understanding is any help; it can only act as self-defense against what was found."

The book, non-fiction, is available through the library.

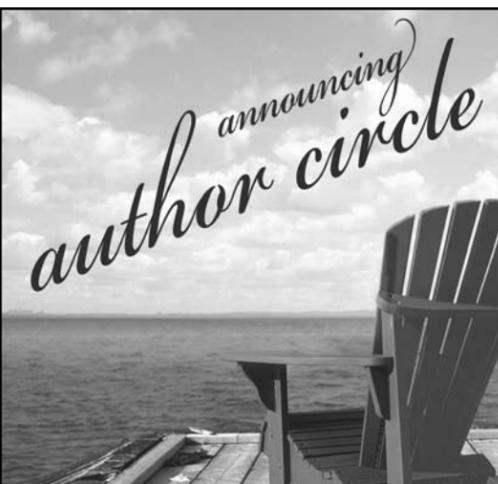
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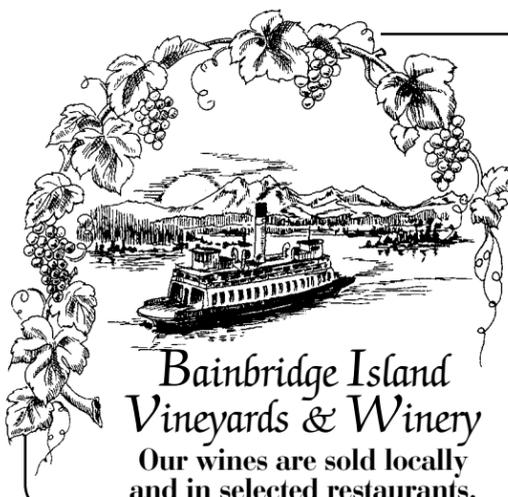
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(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

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