

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 11, No. 3

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

Summer 2009

Mark your calendar

These events take place in the library unless otherwise stated. Art at the Bainbridge Public Library. On exhibit in June: Nikki Vick, paintings

JUNE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
- Island Film Group: Fail-Safe (1964) Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

- CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 201. 10-11:30 a.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

- Senior Center Book Discussion: The Lottery by Patricia Wood 1 p.m. Location: Bainbridge Island Senior Center.
- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Ann Lovejoy presents "Can you write nonfiction for all readers?" 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Workshop focusing on Revolutionary War research. 10 a.m.-12

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

- Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library: Sylvia by A.R. Gurney 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

- Island Theatre - Repeat performance 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3.
- CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 201. 2-3:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

- Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). Los de abajo by Mariano Azuela (Mexico) 7 p.m. Location: BPL Inland Way Bldg.

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

- CLICK! Computer Class. Email Open Lab. 10-11:30 a.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162
- Art at the Bainbridge Public Library. On exhibit in July: Victoria Harrison, paintings.

JULY

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: My Jim by Nancy Rawles 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

THURSDAY, JULY 2

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

SATURDAY, JULY 4

- Library Closed for Independence Day
- CHILDREN'S LIBRARY FAIR: Library Parking Lot 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. before the parade



TUESDAY, JULY 7

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
- Island Film Group: Three Days of the Condor (1975) Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 11

- Friends of the Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-3
- Seattle Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "Ring Cycle" by Wagner (Lecture focus: Das Rheingold) 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 12

- "Love in European Art" a lecture in words and pictures by Paul Brians 2 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 13

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

TUESDAY, JULY 14

- CLICK! Computer Class. Internet 201. 2-3:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162

Continued on page 3

Frugal film fans view favorite classics – free – at the library

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

When the economy turns down and spirits need lifting up, many Americans begin looking for free entertainment.

There's plenty of that on Bainbridge, much of it at the library.

Take, for example, the new Island Film Group's showing of great movie classics every second Wednesday evening at 7, in the Bainbridge Public Library meeting room.

Come a few minutes early and you'll see a continuous reel of classic cartoons on screen. Fun, but they're just the warm-up, while the audience settles down.

The main feature follows. It's somewhere between 88 and 125 minutes long, isn't shown often today, and chances are it once played to both audience and critical acclaim.

Earlier this year the selections included **The Color Purple**, **Rebecca**, **Bad Day at Black Rock**, **The Apartment**, and **Palm Beach Story**. Did you miss them? Would you like to see more of the genre?

Then mark your calendar for the following scheduled shows:

—**Three Days of the Condor**, in July. Directed by Sydney Pollack, with Robert Redford and Walter Matthau.

—**In a Lonely Place** (August). This

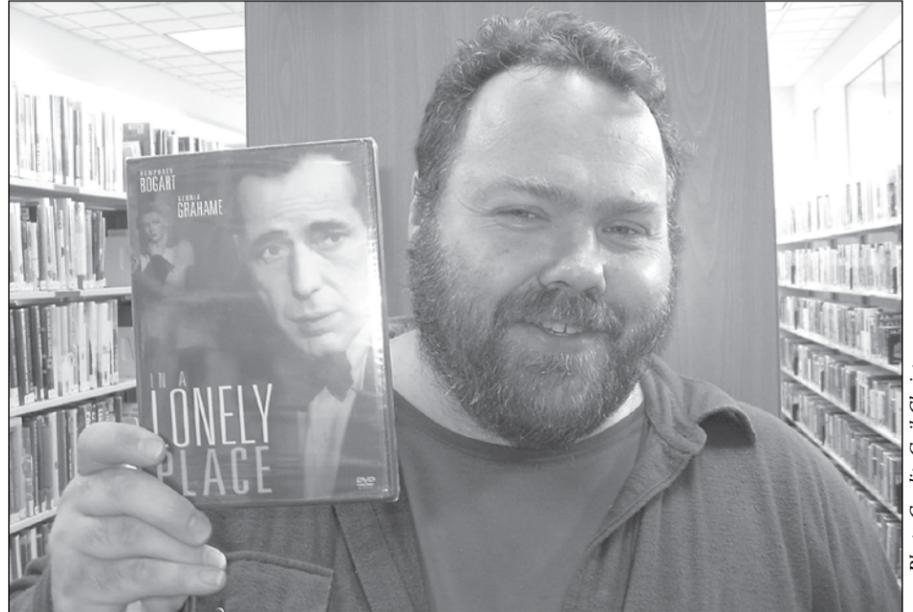


Photo Credit: Gail Christensen

Patrick Gulke displays a DVD of an upcoming Island Film Group offering.

one, directed by Nicholas Ray, stars Humphrey Bogart, Martha Stewart, and Gloria Grahame.

—**The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill and Came Down a Mountain** (September). Directed by Christopher Monger, with Hugh Grant, Tara Fitzgerald, and Ian McNiece.

Coming in the fall are **Invasion of the Body Snatchers** (October), **Hannah and Her Sisters** (November), and **Sabrina** (December).

The selections were chosen by two Bainbridge men, John Fossett and Patrick Gulke.

Both are long-time film buffs, and both work for the Kitsap Regional Library. Fossett, KRL's genial music man, is collection manager for the library audio offerings and is currently also interim branch manager at the Silverdale Library. (He's also contributed articles to

Continued on Page 3

Bainbridge Library patrons share their ideas:

118 ways to ride out the recession



Hannah Greer

Early this year Time magazine ran a feature on the The New Frugality, complete with cover photograph of a glass jar full of coins. Inside, a special report on Thrift Nation noted that "The Great Recession is transforming how we spend, whom we trust, where we save, and what we really value." Time reporters interviewed Americans from Seattle to Philadelphia about their newly frugal lives. Not to be outdone, Bainbridge Public Library patrons were discovering their own ways of coping with the recession – and recording their Thrift Island thoughts in colorful marking pens on large sheets of newsprint at the library.

Day by day through the month of March the suggestions flowed into an

increasingly bulky book full of ideas, memories, and challenges.

While the nation's job seekers turned frequently to Craig's List and other internet sources, Islanders began to talk about the growing book in the library, which many came to call Hannah's List.

Library assistant Hannah Greer, who first suggested that Islanders might like to share their ideas with others on paper, would be the first to say that the list is not hers, but a collective effort by library patrons – 118 of them.

The book grew steadily through March, and on April 2 was removed from its traffic-stopping spot in front of the checkout counter and its contents were transcribed onto a library computer. Printouts of the list bear the note that the comments were collected by library patrons in March 2009 and "compiled and reported with minimal editing." Scanning the list, a reader is struck by the variety of people's reactions to the current recession. Some are angry, many are sad, others are determined to be optimistic.

Much of their advice is practical, some relentlessly cheerful. Several messages seem to scold those who may be depressed.

For those who have not yet read the list, here are a few samples of what your neighbors are saying – and doing – about getting through the recession.

Birds top the menu

The first item on the list is simple: Feed and watch birds.

The second, in response, reads: Feed and eat birds.

Number 3 sounds a bit like Suze Orman: Take your monthly income and reduce it by 25 percent. Take that amount and use it to reduce your debts. (Did anyone see Suze stopping off here between TV tapings?)

Then there was the scolding. Number 6 said: Stop whining. Number 7: Get on with your lives. Number 8: Don't do stupid things.

Number 9, apparently in approval, wrote to Repeat 6-8.

Continued on Page 2

Also in this issue:

It's children's summer reading time again..... Pages 8 & 9

Coming up: More art in meeting room/gallery..... Page 16

Celebrating Robert Burns, ploughman poet..... Page 6

Nearly 175 attend Field's End conference

The fourth annual Field's End writers' conference April 18 drew nearly 175 writers and associates to Kiana Lodge for a day of speeches, break-out sessions, and buffet lunch designed to inspire creativity and promote camaraderie.

Award-winning children's author George Shannon served as emcee, and the conference included several new features: a post-conference reading, an open mic session with Lana Hechtman Ayers, collage workshop with Grace Jackson, a freewrite session, and a panel discussion on the business of writing.

More programs geared toward poets and children's writers were scheduled this year, and they were well attended. Among them were a workshop on "story first" led by children's author Royce Buckingham and a session on reading poems aloud, given by Elizabeth Austen.

Seattle-area writer Jim Lynch, author of *The Highest Tide*, drew high praise for his inspirational opening address on the topic "How to keep the roulette of publishing in perspective." Lynch shared the personal perspective of a writer making the transition from award-winning short story writer and journalist to that of



Mignon Fogarty

an author publishing his first novel. At the day's end he also gave a moving reading from his second novel, *Border Songs*, to be released by Knopf this June.

Keynote speaker Mignon Fogarty, creator of the podcast Grammar Girl and founder and managing director of Quick and Dirty Tips, took the audience on a laugh-filled journey through the evolution of the rules of grammar and shared anecdotes and experiences from

her popular podcast and as author of *Grammar Girl's Quick and Dirty Tips for Better Writing*.

Bainbridge Island authors were well represented at the conference, among them Jonathan Evison, *All About Lulu*, and Carol Cassella, *Oxygen*. Local novelist Mary Guterson, author of *We Are All Fine Here* and the upcoming novel *Gone to the Dogs*, talked about beginnings, middles and ends in fiction. Other workshop topics included "Testimonios: Bearing Witness", led by Kathleen Alcalá; "Whose voice is it?", presented by Waverly Fitzgerald; and "Metaphor", a discussion led by Priscilla Long. Haiku poet Michael Dylan Welch discussed the characteristics of haiku and how to apply them to improve all forms of writing.

Paul Hanson of Eagle Harbor Books participated in popular sessions addressing publishing issues such as how writers can forge stronger relationships with local booksellers and small presses.

The day ended with a wine and cheese reception and panel reading by Lynch, Fogarty and Welch.

—Reported by Cindy Vandersluis and Library News staff

Field's End calendar

JUNE 16
Roundtable featuring Ann Lovejoy. "Can You Write Nonfiction for All Readers?" 7 p.m.

JULY 21
Roundtable with Shannon Evans. "How Can You Turn Your Passion into Print?" 7 p.m.

AUGUST 1-31
Early registration for Field's End fall event, "The Writing Breakthrough Session", featuring writing coach Jurgen Wolff.
October 17, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Bainbridge Pavilion Cinemas
\$65 per participant (early bird), \$75 after August 31
More information:
info@fieldsend.org

AUGUST 18
Roundtable with Katherine Grace Bond. "The Actor's Art: Do Writers Care?"

Writing coach Jurgen Wolff comes to Island this fall

Registration opens August 1 for a one-day presentation Saturday, October 17, by famed writing coach Jurgen Wolff.

Wolff will lead writers through a series of connected seminars exploring four innovative ways "to prepare their

creative minds for the acts of writing and revising." The topics: Alter Ego Strategies, Right Brain Visualization, The Q Method of Analyzing Text, and The Transformation of the Inner Critic.

Wolff's goal is "to help creative writers to discover fresh, personally

meaningful insights into their own creative lives as a way to unlock and engage their strengths." His own work includes a large body of feature films, plays, short films, television movies and miniseries, animated films, and journalism.

The seminars are scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Bainbridge Pavilion Cinemas, 403 N. Madison. Cost is \$75 per participant, \$65 during early registration August 1-31.

For more information, visit www.fieldsend.org.

Continued from front page

118 ways

Moving right along, a reader stops at Number 11, Exchange labor for cash, and Number 12, Barter for commodities.

Number 18 would cheer up any local business person: Shop LOCALLY. You'd be surprised at the good selection and reasonable prices. Just say NO to mail order/internet shopping.

Optimists have their say, as do escapists. Number 32 is a Biblical-sounding Count your blessings! while Number 33 suggests: Don't watch the news.

Beat-the-blues suggestions are plentiful, some directed at groups, others at individuals. For example, Number 40 reads: Organize potlucks at home with your friends, bring out the guitars and have fun.

On the other hand, Number 41 suggests: Meditate. Everything passes, the good and the difficult.

Many found suggestions for coping at the library and other favorite places. Number 42 suggests: Cook at home, using wonderful recipes from cookbooks found at the library and whole bulk foods from T & C.

Number 44 reads simply: Breathe! (Perhaps written by a Susan Wiggs fan?)

As the list grows, several suggestions are repeated: Meditate. Take walks. Pray. Watch the sunrise. Be still. Walk on the beach.

Suggestions for job hunters are plentiful, as are ways to save on housing, and gardening ideas crop up frequently.

The list ends with three ideas that are free, easy for most of us to do, and may even be helpful (to ourselves or others): Keep a diary for the next generation to read. Volunteer. And enjoy breathing!

To read the entire list, request a print copy at the library.

(Hannah Greer, the first to suggest that library patrons record their ideas for riding out the recession, has lived on Bainbridge for about six years and worked at the library for two of them. After her University of Washington student days as a theater major, she worked in theater, radio broadcasting, and as a volunteer elementary school librarian before joining the Bainbridge library staff.)

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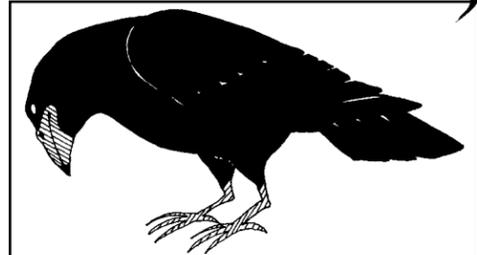


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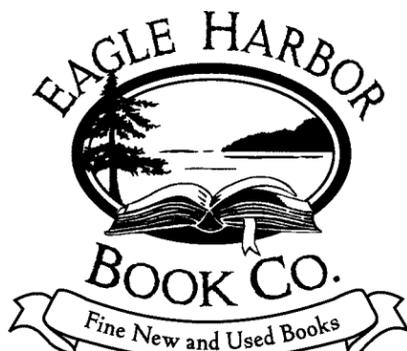
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Rebecca Wells
on the release of
her newest book
& her reading



Continued from front page

Free classic films now playing on Bainbridge

the Library News.)

Gulke is most often seen behind the checkout counter in the Bainbridge Library, where he's been a library assistant for about three years.

When the men first began planning the Bainbridge series, they devised a novel way of choosing films for the year. Each reviewed his favorite classics and whittled the list down to a dozen. Then they exchanged lists, and each selected six favorites from the other's dozen. The result: a mix of comedy, drama, mystery, and suspense – literally something for everyone.

There are films you've seen often, and some that are rarely shown today. They were created by some of Hollywood's great directors – Billy Wilder, Woody Allen, Sidney Lumet, Sydney Pollack, and others – and starred Hollywood immortals like Henry Fonda, Jack Lemmon, Claudette Colbert, Bogart, Audrey Hepburn, and William Holden.

The Island Film Group audiences include people of all ages, with a variety of interests. There's no soda fountain, but nobody complains. There may be popcorn to munch on, and a post-film discussion is part of the fun.

Other film groups

The Bainbridge Library is not the only KRL branch offering a free film series. It's one of three, and Fossett is quick to credit the Port Orchard Library as the first. The Spyglass Film Appreciation Society there has been going strong since 2005, when it was started by reference librarian Wally Clark and friends.

Meanwhile, just across the Agate Pass Bridge, the Poulsbo Fjord Film Group is well under way with a series of films that complements but does not duplicate the Bainbridge shows.

Working together to make free classic films available to a wider audience, the three library staffs have staggered their show dates.

Port Orchard films run the first Tuesday of every month, Bainbridge the second Wednesday, and Poulsbo the fourth Wednesday.

Ultimately, Fossett hopes a fourth venue will be available, possibly in Bremerton.

More free fun

Summer offers great opportunities for family fun at the library, and a long calendar of events for young people appears on Pages 8-9 of this issue.

Most book groups continue to meet during the summer, and you'll read about them on Page 13.

For those who enjoy tracing family histories, the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society continues meeting throughout the year.

The popular free travelogues co-sponsored by The Traveler bookstore continue through May, usually take a summer break, and resume in the fall. (Check the Library News calendar for specific dates, or inquire at the shop on Winslow Way.)

Then there are art exhibits. Formerly changed on a quarterly basis, local artists' shows in the meeting room/gallery are now rotated on a monthly

basis. Some artists welcome visitors at open houses. (Read more about upcoming shows on Page 16.)

For early fall events, look for the calendar in the September Library News, in your mailbox soon after Labor Day. This year's fall and winter schedule of events is still far from complete, but if it's anything like previous years there will be an abundance of free attractions like the always popular opera previews, symphony previews, play readings, and wills and trusts seminars.

Free fun, and lifelong education, is yours for the taking at your local library. All you need is a library card, and that too is free to any resident.



John Fossett, KRL's music collection manager, co-chairs the Island Film Group's series with Patrick Gulke.

Rebecca Wells returns to Bainbridge for July 14 reading

Rebecca Wells, former Bainbridge resident whose *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* hit the top of the best-seller charts, returns to the Island to read from her new novel, *The Crowning Glory of Calla Lily Ponder*, on Tuesday, July 14, at Bainbridge Performing Arts. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m.

The program is one in a series of West Sound Reads events sponsored by West Sound Independent Booksellers, Kitsap Regional Library, Kitsap Regional Library Foundation, and Bainbridge Performing Arts.

For more information, call Eagle Harbor Books at (206) 842-5332.

Children's fair on 4th is for all the family

The third annual Children's Library Fair will be held again this year on July 4, before the parade (between 10:30 and 12:30).

It's a family event for youngsters of all ages as well as parents, grandparents, and friends.

Activities include games and crafts, as well as storytelling by George Shannon, popular Bainbridge children's book author; and the Friends of the Library will hold a children's book sale.

All this takes place in the library's south parking lot and fern garden gazebo. Onsite parking will not be allowed, since nearby streets will be closed off while parade units gather in their places. Parade starting time is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Continued from front page

Mark your calendar

FRIDAY, JULY 17

- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Aaron J. Hill presents "DNA & Genetic Genealogy" 9 a.m.-12.

SATURDAY, JULY 18

- Seattle Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "Ring Cycle" by Wagner (Lecture focus: Die Walkure) 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 19

- For Teens & Adults: Make a book with artist Susan Callan. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162

TUESDAY, JULY 21

- Senior Center Book Discussion: Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See 1 p.m. Copies available at the Library.
- CLICK! Computer Class. Email Open Lab. 2-3:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162.
- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Shannon Evans presents "How can you turn your passion into print?" 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

- For Teens & Adults: Make a book with artist Susan Callan. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162.

SATURDAY, JULY 25

- Seattle Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "Ring Cycle" by Wagner (Lecture focus: Siegfried) 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 26

- For Teens & Adults: Make a book with artist Susan Callan. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Pre-register at the Library, 842-4162

TUESDAY, JULY 28

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

THURSDAY, JULY 30

- Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). Huasipungo by Jorge Icaza (Ecuador) 7 p.m. Location: BPL Inland Way Bldg.

AUGUST

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

- Seattle Opera Preview with Norm Hollingshead: "Ring Cycle" by Wagner (Lecture focus: Gotterdammerung) 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

- Bainbridge Library Book Group: Blood and Thunder by Hampton Sides 7 p.m. Copies available at the library.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

- Low Vision Support Group 1-3 p.m.
- Island Film Group: In a Lonely Place (1950) Film & Discussion 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

- Island Theatre Play Reading at the Library: One Acts by Christopher Durang 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

- Island Theatre-Repeat performance 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

- Senior Center Book Discussion: The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down by Anne Fadiman 1 p.m. Location: Bainbridge Island Senior Center.
- Field's End Writers' Roundtable: Katherine Bond presents "The actor's art: Do writers care?" 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

- Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society: Workshop focusing on "brick walls" in your research 10 a.m.-12

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

- Club Cervantino de Lectores (Spanish Book Club). El coronel no tiene quien le escriba by Gabriel Garcia Marquez (Colombia) 7 p.m. Location: BPL Inland Way Bldg.

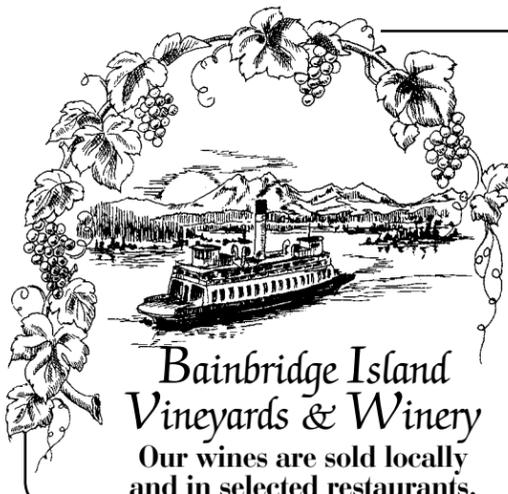
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Let's celebrate our sustainable library system

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

WHATEVER happened to Kermit the Frog?

There was a time, not so many years ago, when any toddler, teenager, or grandparent could be heard humming "It's not easy being green" – or, better yet, listening to Kermit's version on the radio or iPod.

Today we're finding it's still not easy being green, but we keep trying. We recycle. We tend our gardens. We work to minimize pollution of the air, water, and land here on Planet Earth.

But more and more, it seems, we talk less about being green – and more about striving for the sustainable.

WALK INTO the Bainbridge Public Library, or any place where thoughtful people congregate, and you'll hear a lot about sustainability.

Often, the conversation has to do with our land. Ask Ann Lovejoy and the Friday Tidies to describe the perennial garden surrounding the parking areas and you'll hear that it's a "sustainable" garden.

Visit the Farmers Market on a busy Saturday and you'll find a sizable crowd gathered around the Sustainable Bainbridge booth.

Read the message on Page 5 from Jill Jean, director of our Kitsap Regional Library system, and there's that word "sustainable" yet again:

"... Our goal was to produce a budget for Kitsap Regional Library that would be sustainable over the long term, and assuming no unexpected surprises, would take us into our financial future on a slow but steady growth pace."

With the backing of the Kitsap Regional Library board and the collaboration of an involved and dedicated library staff, that was achieved.

Other libraries are laying off staff, or keeping their doors closed several days a week.

Seattle has announced plans to close all city libraries for a full week this summer. But here on Bainbridge we still have a library open seven days a week and a dedicated and knowledgeable staff second to none.

The hours are a little shorter on Thursdays and Saturdays than they were a few years ago, but the doors still open daily, except on holidays.

And one of the most significant outcomes of the KRL budgeting process is this: There was not a single involuntary layoff of a library staff person. With our state unemployment at more than eight percent, that's something to celebrate.

WE ARE FORTUNATE that we have people in our library system who care enough about their neighbors to provide the services we need, in these challenging times.

Jill Jean and her management team, our KRL board representative Althea Paulson, branch managers like Rebecca Judd, and the more than 200 staff members in our communities from Little Boston to South Kitsap deserve our thanks and appreciation for their efforts.

They are indeed dedicated to providing the highest level of library service to all our patrons, many of whom now need library resources more than ever before.

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

1270 Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

The Bainbridge Island Library News is a community newspaper produced quarterly for the Bainbridge Public Library by professional writers who volunteer their time, in cooperation with members of the Bainbridge Library staff, Bainbridge Public Library Board, and Friends of the Library. Printing and mailing costs are funded by the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation local advertisers and individual donors. The publication is mailed to all homes and businesses on Bainbridge Island and available at the library and other Bainbridge locations, and is reproduced in full on the Kitsap Regional Library, Bainbridge Public Library and Friends of the Library websites.



Veronica, Elizabeth, and Elena say "cheese" with Geronimo Stilton at a recent celebration of Italy's most popular children's series. The event was sponsored by the Bainbridge Friends of the Library.

The president's message

BPL Board happenings

By DELIGHT WILLING
Bainbridge Public Library Board President



Our wonderful new Donors Wall was unveiled at the March 17 annual Donor Thank You Party. This piece of art, based on a beach theme, was created by island artist Kristin Tollefson. The wall is designed so that each year the text will be redone to show the major donors to the library—the legacy donors—as well as all those who donated one thousand dollars or more in the previous year to the Bainbridge Public Library.

The BPL Board website was also presented at the annual donor party. This website uses an exciting interactive design. Users learn that individual words are actually hot links that lead them further in to resources on the site. The News Room takes one to local, national, and international newspapers. The Reading Room takes one to short readings by local Island notables. Try this new BPL resource at www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org.

Board member and facilities chair Clark Gaulding

has worked with local appraiser Chirs Ugles to evaluate the condition of the library's roof. They determined that with moderate repairs, the roof probably has a four to five year life. The Board needs to project this major upcoming expense into its planning.

The Planning Committee has begun the process of strategic planning for the next years of the library's future. Several library experts from around the region will speak at upcoming meetings about trends in library planning and service.

Field's End, a committee of the Library Board, held its fourth annual writers conference at Kiana Lodge on April 18. Two keynote speakers and sixteen breakout sessions filled the day for the 175 participants. Jim Lynch, author of *The Highest Tide* and one of the keynote speakers, commented at the end of the day that "This is the best writers conference I have ever attended."

Finally, the BPL Board is moving toward more online communication about upcoming activities. Along with our new website, the Board plans to send out email announcements and an e-newsletter in the future. Please add your name to our e-list by requesting the addition of your name and email address to the list at info@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org.

Thanks once again for your support.

Thanks to all who visited our April Living Library

By REBECCA JUDD, Branch Manager
Bainbridge Public Library

On April 19, the Bainbridge Public Library hosted a second Living Library event.

This innovative program, started in Europe, builds understanding and community by bringing together people of many backgrounds for conversation.

At a Living Library, instead of checking out a printed book, each participant checks out a 30-minute conversation with a LIVING book, a person with a different point of view, lifestyle, or background.

Living Books at the April event included an ex-gang member, a person living with cancer, a libertarian, a Muslim family, a Palestinian, a person living with deafness, and two members of the Bainbridge police force. All told, over 20 Living Books participated and shared their stories.

We extend our deepest thanks to these volunteers for spending a sunny Sunday afternoon at the Living Library.

Hosting a Living Library is truly a community effort. Funding partners who sponsored this event included The Bainbridge Island Friends of the Library, Kitsap Regional Library, and Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council.

We thank the Bainbridge High School Library staff for their hospitality and the Bainbridge High School Honors Society for serving as volunteers. The following program sponsors provided much appreciated ongoing support: Bainbridge Island Historical Society, Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community, Bainbridge Youth Services, City of Bainbridge Island, BI/NK Interfaith Council, Just Know Coalition, BISD Multicultural Advisory Committee, Sustainable Bainbridge, Friends of the Harbor, and Yes! Magazine.

Last but not least, this program would not have been possible without the dedication of our Living Library organizers: Cathie Currie, Katy Curtis, Jing Fong, Joan Gardiner, Cindy Harrison, Isabelle Hoonan, Suzanne Ivey, Lailey Jenkins, Kathryn Keve, Michiko Olson, Charlotte Rovelstad, and Kathleen Thorne. We thank you all.

At KRL team effort balances the budget

By JILL JEAN, Director
Kitsap Regional Library

This month, as youngsters flock to our library for their popular summer reading program, we realize with a start that the year 2009 is almost half over.



This is my third year as KRL director, and what a year it has been! I look forward – with high hopes and expectations – to the next six months.

For me, and for many of our staff, 2009 will forever be known as The Year of the

Budget – a time when we faced a formidable economic challenge and turned it into a wonderful opportunity.

Of course, achieving a truly balanced budget is never an easy endeavor – especially in challenging economic times. However, through an inclusive staff and public process, we accomplished just that.

I am especially proud of the fact that we were able to balance this budget without a single involuntary layoff – something few other governmental agencies and businesses can claim.

In going into our budget process, our goal was to produce a budget for Kitsap Regional Library that would be sustainable over the long term and, assuming no unexpected surprises, would take us into our financial future on a slow but steady growth pace.

We also wanted to have enough cash flow within this budget to allow us to operate at our current capacity without having to borrow money.

Both goals have been realized.
So how did we do it?

After the loss of our levy election in 2007, Kitsap Regional Library immediately instituted a series of cost-cutting measures that included a modified hiring freeze and the implementation of a number of labor-saving self services options for library users.

In 2008, library hours and the materials budget were also reduced, bringing our spending down to long-term sustainable levels.

But it is our library staff that has truly stepped up during these economic challenges, working with a one-year salary and cost of living freeze, in addition to a benefits adjustment that increased their insurance co-pay. This has definitely been a team effort!

Our task in 2009 will be to continue to manage the resources we do have wisely and in a prudent manner, while still providing the highest level of library service to our patrons, many of whom will need library services and resources more than ever before.

Do you use a Benjamin as a bookmark?

By CHARLES BROWNE, President
Bainbridge Friends of the Library

On sorting days inside the library's downstairs Friends of the Library book room, you sometimes get the feeling of a treasure hunt.

Occasionally there's a muted "Look at this. . ." or "I don't believe someone forgot and left this. . ." More rarely there's an exuberant "Look what I found!" and everyone rushes over to see the latest treasure discovered in the boxes and bags of books, magazines, DVDs, audio books, and music CDs donated by our generous community.

Before the donations can be sold in our thrice-monthly sales in the library, FOL volunteers must unpack, examine, sort, classify, and shelve all these items. We do this twice a week. And it is exactly in the stage of examining the items that we find the most unusual and unexpected "treasures".

Some time ago Linda Meier opened a nondescript book and tucked between the pages was an obviously old, fragile, handwritten document. Closer examination revealed it to be an original last will and testament, dated October 7, 1861, of George Everetts, a farmer in St. Lawrence County, New York. How did it get to Bainbridge? Had it been placed and forgotten in that book for almost 150 years?

Similarly Pat Engstrom, when sorting through a box of books and opening them one by one, discovered a \$100 bill hidden in the pages! Did the previous reader use it as a bookmark? Did someone use the book as a "rainy day fund" depository and forget about it? It's impossible to know.

Recently Barbara Browne had the latest "Eureka!" moment when she found several 1943 and 1944 War Bonds lodged between the pages of one of the books she was sorting. The bonds had been bought in Florida and identified the married couple who purchased them. A quick check determined that the bonds, tinged with age, were still valid though the owners had passed away 30 years ago. We were able to track down and return the bonds through a cousin living in Texas who knew the descendants of the original owners.

Notification of a scholarship award (1949) by the British Ministry of Education (London); a card announcing a "Quadrille Party, evening March 16th, 1882" in Fort Jackson; and a postcard dated March 15,

1933 from Jerusalem to a Mr. Haak of Chicago are among the other treasures we've found.

Volunteers often discover family photos, credit card receipts, bills, letters, and personal notes slipped inside books. If we can identify the owner, we try to return these items. Sometimes we're successful – as in the case of the War Bonds and Everetts's will – but most often we're not.

Friends welcome donations of books

More than ever in these difficult economic times, the Bainbridge Friends of the Library need your donations of books, magazines, audio-visual materials, and computer software. And of course, we greatly appreciate any donation of cash. All the money we make goes to support the Bainbridge Library.

To learn more about becoming a Friend of the Library, dates of our sales, the endowment established last year and other interesting information, visit our Website at www.bifriends.org.

And if you're one of the few who use a "C-note", "Benjamin", or "Benjie" as a bookmark, consider trading that \$100 bill for one of our FOL bookmarks, available for free at the library.



War bonds bought in Florida arrived at FOL workroom.

Book sales continue, three a month, for the year

Friends of the Library book sales at the Bainbridge Public Library are scheduled through the end of 2009, three times a month.

Even on Saturday mornings, when the library itself is closed for checkout and other uses, visitors have access to the Friends' room downstairs for book sales. Enter at the lower level, through the children's library door just off the fern garden.

Book sales coming up in the summer and early fall are:
JUNE - Saturday, June 13, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday, June 23, 10 to 3

JULY - Thursday, July 2, 1 to 4 p.m.
Saturday, July 11, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday, July 28, 10-3.

AUGUST - Saturday, August 8, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Thursday, August 13, 1 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday, August 25, 10 to 3.

SEPTEMBER - Thursday, September 3, 1 to 4 p.m.
Saturday, September 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday, September 22, 10 to 3.

(Looking for children's books? Check out the Children's Library Fair in the main library parking lot, before the Fourth of July parade.)



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The Ploughman Poet: *Celebrating Robert Burns*

By MARGARET TRENT

A poetry debut rarely transforms an unknown writer into a household name. Yet in the late 18th century, without the help of television or the internet, *Poems, Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect* transformed Robert Burns into a celebrity.

Scotland was in need of an inspirational figure. After centuries of bloody battles and uprisings, the Scottish Parliament had been dissolved by the 1707 Act of Union, joining Scotland with England and Wales to create Great Britain. Feeling betrayed and fearful of losing their identity, Scotland's people were moved by the power of Burns's passion and wit, and his use of the old Scottish dialect, which since the union had been actively discouraged.

Scots found what they were looking for in a well-educated farmer who became known as the "ploughman poet," or simply "Rabbie."

Burns was born into the rural community of Alloway, in southwest Scotland, on January 25, 1759. At the age of 15 his first verses were inspired by Nellie Kirkpatrick, who worked beside him in the fields at harvest time. *Handsome Nell* was the first of many songs and poems inspired by lovers. At worst a philanderer and at best a romantic, Burns penned bawdy ballads and heart-felt love songs: *Ae Fond Kiss* mourns lost love, while *Comin' Thro' the Rye* and *Corn Riggs* tell of more casual romantic encounters.

At age 26 Burns intended to marry Jean Armour, who was pregnant with his child, but Armour's father renounced Robert. Beset by romantic and financial troubles, he planned to emigrate to Jamaica with Mary Campbell. However, later that year his poems were published, Jean gave birth to twins, and Mary Campbell died of a fever. Now famous, Robert remained in Scotland, and two years later Jean's father allowed him to marry his daughter.

Being a celebrity did not bring Burns wealth. Poor farming decisions consumed his royalties and he supplemented his income working as a tax collector. He died in poverty at the age of 37 from endocarditis, his heart weakened by rheumatic fever and the drink he refused to give up despite his doctor's advice. Thousands of people turned out to line the route of his funeral procession.

The Burns Suppers

Five years after his death the first Burns Supper took place in his home town. From there the tradition spread, and now every January 25 his life is celebrated in countries around the world. Whether the celebration is casual or formal, certain ingredients are essential: poetry, song, toasts and haggis.

Burns was so fond of haggis he wrote a poem commending the food's hearty nature over a "French ragout" or "fricassee."

Haggis is finely chopped sheep innards combined with lots of oatmeal, onion and spices, and cooked like sausage in a natural casing.

At a Burns Supper the haggis arrives accompanied

by the skirl of bagpipes. After the piping in, *Address To a Haggis* is recited. On the words, "An' cut you up wi' ready slight [skill]," the haggis is dramatically split open with a dirk before being served with bashed neeps and chappit tatties [mashed yellow turnip and potatoes].

The most important toast of the evening is The Immortal Memory, a tribute to the poet's life and work. This is followed by a Toast to the Lassies, usually a



spirited and humorous affair. Later the ladies respond in the same lively fashion.

A selection of Burns's most popular poems and songs are always on tap. *To a Mouse* and *To a Mountain Daisy* are favorites. Burns wrote whenever inspired, once scratching a verse on a window pane at the Cross-Keys Inn in Falkirk. *To a Mouse* was written when Burns broke open the "wee beastie's" nest while ploughing, and contains the famous line: "the best-laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft agley [often go wrong]."

Burns Night is not complete without *Tam o' Shanter*, the story of a farmer who ignores his wife's advice and gets tipsy on market day. Making his way home he disturbs witches and warlocks dancing in a ruined church. A desperate chase ensues. Knowing the "hellish legion" will not cross running water, Tam puts his faith in his trusty mare, Meg. They reach the river and escape across the Brig o' Doon, but not before one witch grabs poor Meg's tail and rips it off. It is a long poem, taking almost 15 minutes to deliver, but its rhythms and language are Burns at his very best.

Auld Lang Syne

The celebration ends with the singing of his most famous song, *Auld Lang Syne*. While credited to Burns, the song originated as a traditional ballad. He edited and added stanzas,

saving the piece for posterity.

Many old Scots songs endure today because of Burns's diligence and no one grudges him the credit. Literally translated, *Auld Lang Syne* means "old long since," or more generally "for old times' sake."

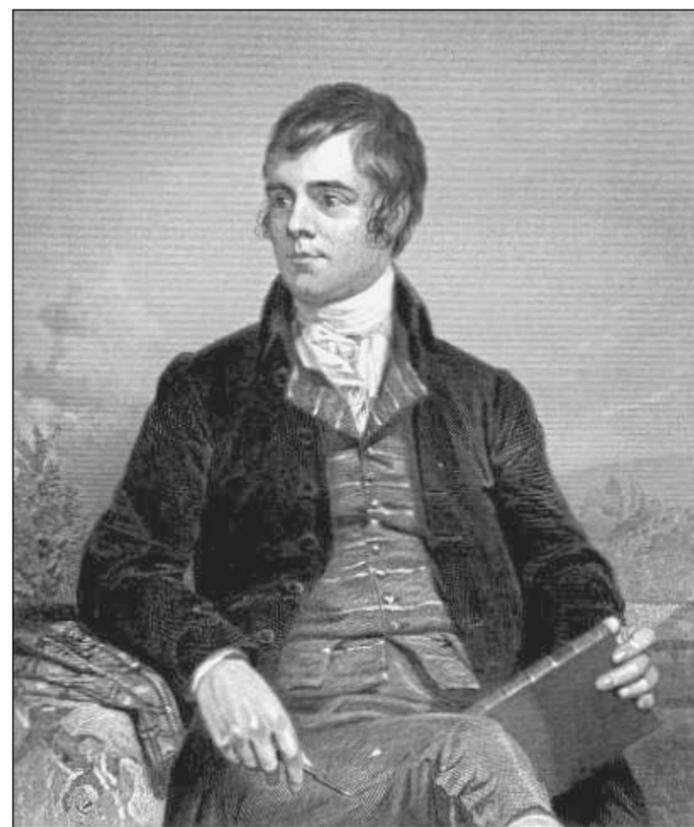
Traditionally sung at New Year, it is a poignant song of remembrance, of not forgetting old friends or past times. One of the world's most recognized songs, it has been included in movie soundtracks from *It's a Wonderful Life* to *Sex and the City*.

The year 2009 marks the 250th anniversary of Burns' birth and to honor the occasion Scotland has declared this the "Year of Homecoming," in recognition of the country's culture and heritage. What would Burns think if he knew his verses were still around today? At the very least, he would raise a "wee dram" of whisky in celebration, and no doubt give us a song or two.

(Margaret Trent is a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, a former Human Resources professional and volunteer crisis counselor. Her recently completed novel was a PNWA literary contest prizewinner. Margaret is currently the Registrar for Field's End, the writers' community associated with the library.)

Books of interest

The Bard: Robert Burns, A Biography — Robert Crawford
Robert Burns: A biography with Selected Poems — by Sasha Behar
Burns: Poems — Robert Burns
 The Complete Poems and Songs of Robert Burns
 Robert Burns: Selected Poems



The Ploughman Poet



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The wonders of TIKAL

By BARBARA WINTHER

In the year 2001, after Grant and I traveled to Yucatán and were awed by the Mayan ruins of Uxmal, Chichén Itzá and Palenque, we decided to fly the following year to see Tikal, located deep in the jungles of Guatemala.

Shortly after that, however, we read about a jungle crash in which 16 University of Washington alumni died along with three crew members. They were on the way back from visiting Mayan ruins. That shook us up a bit—jungles, little planes, bad vibes.

Instead, that year we went to Hokkaido.

But we never lost interest in Tikal. Someday, we were sure the right time would come to go there.

Why did we want to see this particular Mayan site?

It is reputed to have been the largest and most heavily populated city in the ancient Mayan world which extended north from today's Honduras, Guatemala and Belize up into Mexico.

These pre-Columbian people were astounding achievers. From AD 600 to 900, considered their golden age, they built the most impressive architecture, had a fully developed form of writing, understood the mathematical concept of zero and positional numeration, made accurate astronomical calculations, and practiced a high form of art as seen in their vase and wall paintings and monumental sculptures.

In Tikal are found the oldest dates on Mayan stelae (stone pillars frequently bearing hieroglyphs to commemorate events). We wanted to see what many archaeologists have called the best and perhaps earliest surviving examples of this advanced civilization.

Last November we took a Holland America cruise from Seattle to Chile. We were well into the trip when we learned that on the day we docked in Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala, a twelve-seater flight to Tikal would be available. Eight people had signed up. What with the pilot and the ship representative taking up two seats, there were two places left.

"Let's go," said Grant. I rushed down to the front desk and signed us up.

On Sunday, November 30, 2008, at seven a.m., wearing slickers and carrying umbrellas, we boarded a van for the airport. The plane looked even smaller than I had anticipated. Before I could think much about it, we were airborne.

We wound between numerous tall volcanoes and over Guatemala City and

Antigua. After crossing a mountain range during which the plane seemed barely to clear the peaks, below us stretched an impenetrable-looking jungle. The 2001 crash of the UW alumni flashed across my mind. I closed my eyes and held onto Grant's hand.

We landed on a narrow strip near Lake Petén Itzá, and a van met us with a local guide. For about an hour we drove on a narrow, paved road through the jungle, noting occasional small, tin-roofed houses along the way.

As we climbed out of the vehicle at the gate to Tikal National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site, our guide said, "You are lucky. It won't rain till late today."

Relieved, we left our slickers and umbrellas in the van and tramped over to stare at the kiosk map. I was amazed at the number of ruins, clusters joined by little roads marked *calzadas*.

After nearly an hour of walking and seeing only one temple, I wondered how we could possibly visit even a quarter of the sites indicated on the map, what with our time limited to four hours and the apparently long distances between pyramids.

Aware of the problem, our guide commandeered a Land Rover driven by a park employee. Our group clambered aboard the bench seats in back, and we were zipped from one site to the next—the only tourists in the park with transportation. A few monkeys peered down at us, and brilliantly colored parrots and toucans flitted noisily through the trees. It was hot but not unbearable.

The temples, palaces and complexes, built of limestone and earth, were created for use by the upper classes to carry out important activities relating to religion, which played a role in everything the Mayan people did.

Five plazas that cover about a square mile have so far been reconstructed. The most spectacular is the Grand Plaza. Across a courtyard studded with stelae, the Temple of the Grand Jaguar faces the Temple of the Mask. On either side of the courtyard are palaces built on varying levels of limestone shelves. Nearby is a ball court for a game played with a small rubber ball that was tossed through a hoop.

In another area is the Serpent of Two Heads Temple. At over 209 feet, it is the tallest pre-Columbian structure in America, rising well above the jungle canopy. To reach the top, a wooden stairway has been constructed beside it. The view from the summit is magnificent.

For some six square miles beyond the main plazas are numerous outlying



Several Tikal structures have been reconstructed.

—Photos by Grant Winther

structures, mostly unexcavated. The thatched houses of commoners were located outside of the ceremonial center. At the peak of the Mayan civilization, around 700 AD, it is believed that a core of 10,000 people lived in Tikal, and the center drew an outlying population of about 50,000.

It is not known why Tikal was abandoned. One reason may have been drought. Even during heavy rains the porous Oligocene limestone will not hold permanent surface water, the exception

being the nearby lake. Today, use of Tikal's ancient reservoirs is forbidden due to contamination, and water for the area is brought from the lake by cistern trucks.

Religion still plays an important role in the lives of the Mayan Indians, but since the Spanish invasion in the 16th century, it is mixed with Catholicism.

Our trip back to the ship was scary. It had started raining, and much of the time we flew blindly through clouds. But seeing Tikal, even for four hours, was well worth those two white-knuckled flights.

Books on Maya people

Maya Script: a Civilization and Its Writing, Maria Longhena—handbook of the Mayan symbolic written characters and their meaning, gives insights into the people's lives.

Painting the Maya Universe: Royal Ceramics of the Classic Period, Dorie Reents-Budet—has about 400 color illustrations, compliments exhibition from Duke Univ. Museum.

Tikal: the Center of the Maya World, Elizabeth Mann—gives a history of the Maya and Tikal.



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Children's Corner

Activities of interest to young people and their families



It's summer reading time!

Join friends at the library. Have fun. Be creative.

By CARMINE RAU
Young People's Librarian

This year's theme is "Be Creative at Your Library!"

We'll be making art and getting creative all summer long. Summer Reading fun kicks off at BI Public library on Saturday, June 13th. That's when you can start reading your way to a free book and a ticket to the Kitsap County Fair. Children need not be independent readers to participate- even the youngest child can sign up- read aloud time with mom or dad or a caregiver counts toward their summer reading hours. Hope to see you around the library this summer.

Here are just a few Summer Reading activities in store for you:

Reading Friends

Tuesdays, June 23, 30, July 14, 28

August 4, 11, 18, 25, 10:30 to 11:30 am

Preschoolers and their families are invited to drop by and hear stories read by our Reading Friends volunteers. This is an opportunity for young children to make a new friend and share books together. Stay for a few minutes or stay for an hour.

Something from Nothing Sculpture Workshop

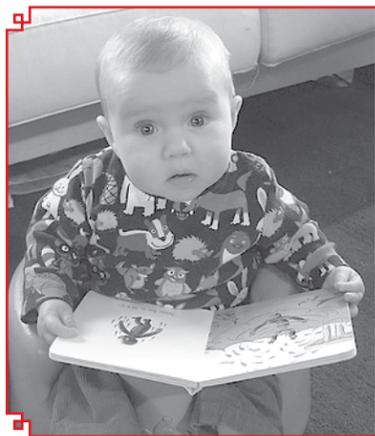
Wednesday, June 24, 1pm

We've raided the recycling bin to transform cast-off household materials into Calder-esque sculpture masterpieces with artist Kristin Tollefson. For children age 8+. Pre-registration is required due to limited space. Sign up at the downstairs desk beginning June 13.

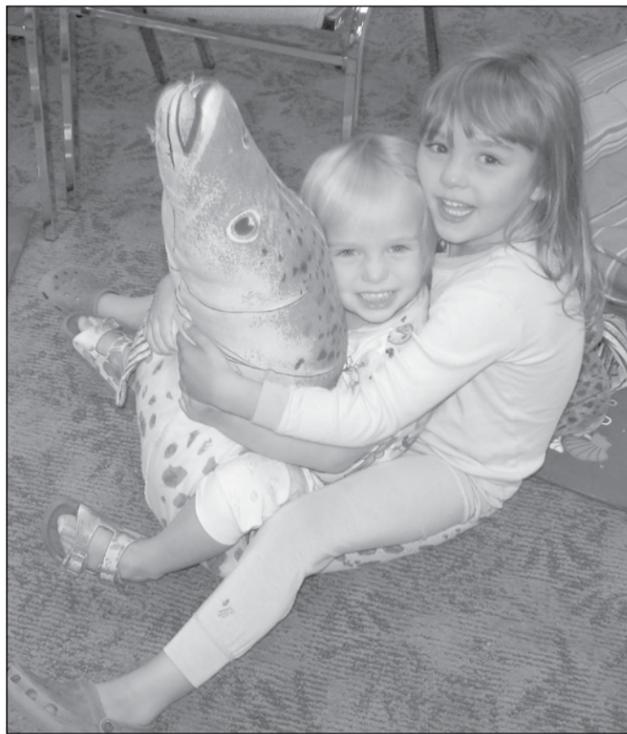
Movie Matinees

Friday, June 19, July 3, 17, 31 & Aug. 14, 28, 3:00pm

We'll pop the popcorn. Come in from the heat for family films all summer long. See Children and Family programs sidebar for schedule.



You're never too young to enjoy a good book



Oliver and Alice after PJ Storytime.

—Photo by Bainbridge library staff

Celebrate Ed Emberley

Wednesday, July 1, 2pm

Come hear a couple of Emberley's books and try your hand at art projects in the style of Caldecott winning children's book illustrator Ed Emberley. Recommended for 5 to 7 year olds.

Toddler Dance Party

Monday, July 6, 10:30 am

Bring your baby or toddler to a special dance party just for them. Get down with bubbles, scarves and great tunes.

Last Leaf Theater

Tuesday, July 7, 10:30 am

Last Leaf lights up the stage with their lively antics in a production of "The Emperor's New Clothes" adapted from Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale of a pompous and foolish emperor. Engaging and interactive show lasts apx. 45 minutes, best suited for those ages 3 to 12, but all are welcome.

Meet the Artist: James Bernardin

Thursday, July 9, 2 pm

Chances are, you've already seen the art of Bainbridge's James Bernardin on the library shelves and not even known it. His illustrations have graced the covers

of the Encyclopedia Brown and Time Spies series, "Say What?" By Margaret Haddix and "Lumbercamp Library" by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock among others. Come hear what it is like to be a professional illustrator and learn a couple drawing tips. All ages welcome.

4th of July Children's Fair!

Looking for something fun to do before the 4th of July parade? Come over to the Bainbridge Public Library for a special Children's Fair between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. All ages are welcome to join us for games, crafts, and storytelling by Island children's author George Shannon. For those looking to purchase something great to read, the Friends of the Library will also be hosting a children's book sale. This event takes place in the Bainbridge Public Library parking area. Onsite parking will not be available, as street closures will occur during this event for the parade, which begins at 1pm.

Sock Creature Workshop

Wednesday, July 15, 1 pm

Jen Rhodes of Esther's Fabrics shows you how to transform ordinary socks into fierce beasts or cute and cuddly creatures. Socks and notions are provided or, if you'd like, bring a special *clean* pair of socks you'd like to transform. Age 10 and up. Pre-registration required due to limited space. Sign up at the downstairs desk starting June 13.

Cowboy Buck and Elizabeth

Tuesday, July 21, 10:30 am

Live in concert Buck and Elizabeth bring a high-energy show musical comedy show with dancing and sing-along fun. Up-beat and entertaining for all ages.

Fairy House Workshop

Wednesday, July 29, 2pm

Children 8+ are invited to come hear about some favorite fairy books then create natural and inviting homes for fairies around the library grounds with gardener/author Ann Lovejoy. Space is limited and pre-registration required. Sign up at the YP desk beginning June 13.

Art in the Afternoon

Thursdays, July 30, August 6, 13, 2 pm

Learn about a different artist and try a new art project each session. For kids 8 and up

Popsicle Party

Friday, August 28, 10:30 to 12:30

Time to celebrate the end of another wonderful, book-filled summer! All ages are invited to drop by the garden at the library and enjoy a cool treat.

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Teen programs

Express Yourself!

June 13 – August 28
Express Yourself @ the Library is this year's theme for the teen summer reading club. Whether you want to start a journal, change your room, learn to play an instrument, or try something completely new, the library has books for you. Spend 10 hours reading this summer and earn a new paperback book of your choice and chances to win gift certificates at Eagle Harbor Books!

Make a Book

July 19 & 26, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
July 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Back by popular demand, artist Susan Callan will be hosting a series of three book art programs this summer. Sign up for one, or come to all three! Pre-registration required at the Library information desk. For ages 12+



Teen Mystery Night

July 11, 7 p.m.
Do you love to read mysteries? Have you ever thought, *I could solve that?* Now's your chance to be a detective, gather clues, and solve the crime of *The Murderous Melodrama*. Join Leigh Ann Winterowd at the Bainbridge Public Library for an evening of first-rate sleuthing.

Write On: Teen Short Story Contest

Like to write? KRL is hosting a writing contest. Create an original short story based on a photograph to be posted on the KRL website on June 13. Details about the contest will be posted to the teen space at www.krl.org. All entries must be received by Friday, August 14th. Participants will be invited to a pizza party with other teen writers from across Kitsap County and have the chance to win fabulous prizes. For information, contact Youth Services Librarian Shannon Peterson at speterson@krl.org.



Teen volunteer Maude Gibbins puts together a display in the children's department.



Storytime calendar

NO STORYTIMES IN JUNE

TUESDAY, JULY 7
Baby Storytime, 1:30 pm *new time*

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, JULY 13
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, JULY 14
Baby Storytime, 1:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, JULY 20
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, JULY 21
Baby Storytime, 1:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, JULY 27
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, JULY 28
Baby Storytime, 1:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, AUGUST 3
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4
Baby Storytime, 1:30pm

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, AUGUST 10
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11
Baby Storytime, 1:30pm

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, AUGUST 17
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18
Baby Storytime, 1:30pm

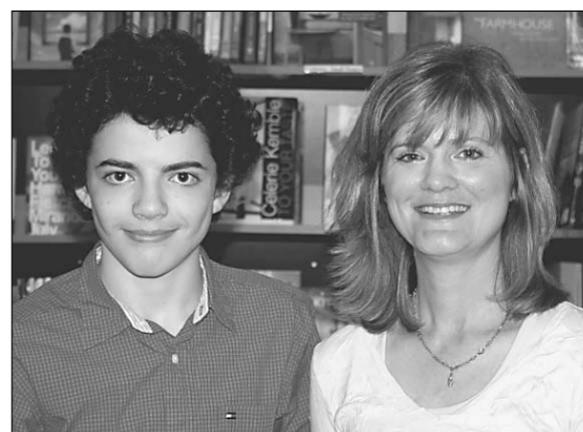
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

MONDAY, AUGUST 24
Toddler Storytime, 10:30am

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25
Baby Storytime, 1:30pm

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26
Preschool storytime, 10:30am

No storytimes in September



Writing contest winner

Elon Safford, a Bainbridge sixth grader, is photographed with local author Suzanne Selfors at the launch party for her book *Fortune's Magic Farm* at Eagle Harbor Books in March. Elon was one of six student writing contest winners introduced by Selfors. Others were Elinor Krafsky, Megan Gleason, Liliana Miller, Kamryn Coryell, and Gracie Smith. Each won a \$50 Booksense gift certificate. (For more photos of winners see the author's website: www.suzanneselfors.com.)

Children and family programs

FRIDAY, JUNE 19 3PM
Movie Matinee - WALL-E

MONDAY, JUNE 22 10:30 AM
Read to a Dog

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 10:30 AM
Reading Friends

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1 PM
Sculpture workshop with artist Kristin Tollefson. Pre-registration required. Ages 8 +

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2 PM
Author Wendy Wahman "Don't Lick the Dog".

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 10:30 AM
Read to a Dog

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 10:30 AM
Reading Friends

WEDNESDAY JULY 1, 2 PM
Ed Emberley Party

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 3 PM
Movie Matinee - Kiki's Delivery Service

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 10:30 TO 12:30
Children's Fair

MONDAY, JULY 6, 10:30 AM
Toddler Dance Party

TUESDAY, JULY 7 10:30 AM
Last Leaf Theater at Commodore

THURSDAY JULY 9, 2 PM
Meet the artist: James Bernardin

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 10:30 AM
Reading Friends

WEDNESDAY JULY 15, 1 PM
Sock creatures with Jen Rhodes. Pre-registration required. Ages 10 +

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 3 PM
Movie Matinee - Spiderwick Chronicles

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 10:30 AM
Cowboy Buck at Commodore

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 10:30 AM
Reading Friends

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2 PM
Fairy House workshop with Ann Lovejoy. Pre-registration required. Ages 8+

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2 PM
Art in the afternoon. Ages 8+

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 3 PM
Movie Matinee - The Secret Garden

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 10:30
Reading Friends

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2 PM
Art in the afternoon. Ages 8+

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 10:30 AM
Reading Friends

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2 PM
Art in the afternoon. Ages 8+

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 3 PM
Movie Matinee - Meet the Robinsons

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 10:30 AM
Reading Friends

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 10:30 AM
Reading Friends

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 10:30 AM
End of summer reading popsicle party

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 3 PM
Movie Matinee - Freaky Friday

Please stop by the children's department June 13th and after for a complete calendar of summer reading activities.

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The doctor is in:

A new memoir by Christine Gleason, M.D.

By SUSAN WIGGS

Dr. Christine Gleason redefines the word “busy.” She is the W. Alan Hodson Endowed Chair in Pediatrics, Professor of Pediatrics, and Head of the Neonatology Division at the UW. She’s saved the lives of thousands of patients.

She’s the mother of three girls and the wife of bestselling author Erik Larson.

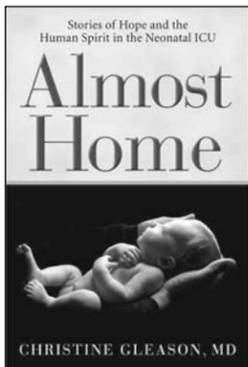
Oh, and in her spare time, she managed to write a gorgeous and touching memoir called *Almost Home: Stories of Hope and the Human Spirit in the Neonatal ICU* (Kaplan Publishing, 2009). The book is as warm, funny and touching as Christine herself.

“These are stories of my most memorable patients,” she says, “mostly from the early years of my career, when I was in training to be a neonatologist. I wrote them down so that they would never be forgotten. I also wanted to open the door to the neonatal ICU and let readers walk the walk and experience the place the way I have. The path I’ve traveled to become an experienced neonatologist was very important for me to share, including the personal experiences.”

Christine believes doctors don’t just happen; they evolve. “I love telling stories but I tend to go on...and on... and on, so the process of writing allowed me to edit my stories and to really think about them so I could tell them without boring people (like Erik!) to death.”

Okay, here’s where I wanted to smack her: “The writing process was relatively effortless...”

Writing is effortless? Really?



Then why does eking out every word feel like passing a kidney stone?

But she qualifies it: “...compared to things I must write professionally (like research papers and grants!). I wrote the first story on a TYPEWRITER in 1982, three years after it happened. During a six-month sabbatical in 2004 I put that and the second story onto my computer Word program and then began writing the rest of the stories on my laptop. The stories almost wrote themselves and I was always a little sad when each one was finished. I wrote on planes, on my way to conferences, and in hotel rooms.”

Christine’s library of choice is the medical school library.

“So much of what I need is on line these days that I don’t go to the library regularly, like I used to.”

Still, she reminisces, “I love the way it smells and how quiet it is. And I love going through the stacks, looking for something specific, but winding up looking at all sorts of interesting books or journals nearby. Like a treasure hunt...Some of my best college memories are from those times spent in the stacks studying with friends. And one of my daughters, now at U Chicago, spends entire nights with friends at the library!”

Chris’s life is a constant balancing act. She has wise words for busy women everywhere. “Taking some deliberate time out for myself and for our marriage has been absolutely essential. Over the years, I’ve also set aside one-on-one time with each of my daughters (we’ve called those ‘special days’) where we do whatever they want to do (lately that’s been shopping and staying overnight in a hotel, getting room

service and watching a new release movie!). Writing has been very therapeutic for me, allowing me to express my thoughts in a way that I just can’t really do verbally.”

Erik—author of the runaway bestsellers *Devil in the White City*, *Thunderstruck* and *Isaac’s Storm*—has been supportive of his wife’s writing over the years.

“We always do New Year’s resolutions together, and he has made sure that writing this book was one of my resolutions and constantly badgered me to just do it. He also encouraged me to enter writing contests, which was why I entered the book in a PNWA writers’ contest a couple of years ago and it won second place in the creative non-fiction/memoir category. That was a real turning point for me—realizing that other people could be moved by my stories as much as I’ve been.”

Now readers everywhere—can experience life on the inside of a neonatology unit—harrowing moments, triumphs, tragedies, sorrow and joy.

Bainbridge author and library volunteer Susan Wiggs’s latest book is the novel, Just Breathe.

The Doctor Prescribes...

Five of Her Favorite Books:

- Moo*, by Jane Smiley
- I Don’t Know How She Does It* by Allison Pearson
- All Things Wise and Wonderful* by James Herriott
- Caroline’s Daughters* by Alice Adams
- London* by Edward Rutherford

Bainbridge book groups, then and now

How many are there? How do they work? How can you join one?

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

Just five years ago – in the spring of 2004 – we ran a story in the Library News about book groups on Bainbridge.

We asked some questions – 1) How many are there? 2) How do they work? 3) How can you join one? – and then set out to find out.

We talked with librarians, book store staffs, shoppers on the streets of Winslow, and book group members.

The answers were pretty consistent. We learned a lot about book clubs, but got few definite answers.

1) Five years ago, according to the most confident estimators, there were somewhere between 40 and 50 book groups on the Island.

“But maybe a lot more,” one person answered. Today, most observers say there are probably well over 50 – but nobody seems to know the exact number.

2) How do they work? Any way you want them to.

Some books have a leader or “facilitator”, others just work together to keep the discussion moving along. Most read the same book at one time, but at least one – the Random Readers group, one of the first on the Island – read whatever they choose and then share

their opinions of the book they chose. With each member usually choosing a different book, they are exposed to many topics and titles – and they like it that way.

3) How can you join one? Julie O’Neill has one answer: Two regular library book groups welcome new members. One meets in the daytime, the other in the evening. (See story elsewhere in this issue and, for more information, check with reference librarian O’Neill at the library.)



Facilitator Pat Miller

20th century. (Maybe some of our family history researchers – perhaps somebody in the BIGS group – will discover the answer.)

One thing seems certain, however. Bainbridge book groups have been around a long time, and there are more now than ever before.

They are as varied as the people who join them.

Some are for women only. Some include both men and women. Five years ago, we found none that are men only. Perhaps some groups for men only have emerged recently?

Many book groups spring up among people with similar interests.

Martha Bayley, manager of the fiction collection for Kitsap Regional Library, recalled helping organize her first book group – one for mothers of pre-schoolers. Years later the children were grown but the book group was still going strong.

When was the first book formed?

When was the first Bainbridge Island book group formed?

Nobody seems to know. Some old-timers have claimed that they are sure the first group was one to which Walt Woodward belonged while he was owner of the Bainbridge Review, in the 1950s.

That’s possible, but it seems likely that there were book groups, probably small ones, here earlier in the

Continued on Page 11

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Guterson's *Gone to the Dogs* hits shelves in July

By SUZANNE SELFORS

Mary Guterson has attitude. Big time. Which is why I love her writing. Sometimes her attitude is self-deprecating. Sometimes it's sassy. Sometimes it's painfully hilarious. But always, always, it's smart.

Her first novel, *We Are All Fine Here*, made its debut in 2005. I read it while lounging in a comfy hotel bed, sipping a room service latte. I'd never met Mary but clearly she had written the book just for me because I couldn't tear myself away. She knows how to tell a story, keep it moving, streamline it to its essential parts. You'll find no rambling passages or lengthy descriptions that make your eyes glaze over. She knows how to make you laugh, and she knows how to give her main character attitude.

Big time. Recently I met up with her at Café Trios. She hurried in. "My husband's ready to kill me," she said after ordering an Americano. "The house is full of workmen. I'm remodeling, AGAIN. Don't get me started." We soon

discovered that we both live in ancient houses built during the heyday of the Port Madison Lumber Years. We could have talked about sweating single pane windows, endless layers of mysterious wallpaper, the constant plumbing and electrical battles. And how we each suspect that our husbands are having affairs with Home Depot salesgirls because they practically live there. But we fought the urge and turned to the issue at hand, her new book.

Gone to the Dogs will hit shelves on July 7. A new book and a new publisher (St. Martin's Griffin), but the same funny writing. *Gone to the Dogs* is the story of Rena, whose seven-year relationship with Brian suddenly ends when Brian moves in with a gorgeous



Author Mary Guterson.

new girlfriend. Devastated and trying to figure out what she did wrong, Rena takes a little drive to get a peek at Brian's new life. Then, in a desperate urge for revenge, she steals the girlfriend's yellow lab.

Not only is Rena trying to heal her heart and find meaning in her life, but now she's got to hide the dog from her apartment's super. And deal with a family that includes an Orthodox sister who's having an identity crisis, a mother who's fallen in love with a weirdo, and

the constant attempts by her family to set her up with a nice Jewish boy.

"In the immortal words of Daniel Pearl, My father's Jewish, my mother's Jewish, I'm Jewish," Mary said when I asked her about those elements of her story. Since two of her siblings are Orthodox, she called upon them for advice. "I wanted to make sure I was being respectful. Funny, too, of course. They liked what I wrote."

Raised in Seattle, Mary earned her master's degree at the University of Washington, then moved to New York, where she worked as a speech therapist in the public schools. She later worked as a journalist and assistant editor for Venture Magazine. Her husband fell in love with Bainbridge during a family visit and he convinced her to move back to the Pacific Northwest. In 1992 she began to teach herself how to write fiction by reading short stories. She went on to write over 100 short stories and got one published in 2000.

"It was the high point of my life," she said, "except for my kids, of course."

The day after the publication announcement she began writing her first novel.

Mary calls her work, Smart Romantic Comedy, "But you can call it whatever you want, doesn't really matter as long as you read it."

She volunteers on the library board and has a long relationship with the Bainbridge library since she wrote most of her first novel sitting in the corner she fondly calls, "her office."

She's working on her next novel but doesn't want to talk about it.

"I'll just say it's a coming-of-age story."

The launch party for *Gone to the Dogs* will be July 7 at Eagle Harbor Books. Check their website for time, www.eagleharborbooks.com. Her author website should be ready by the time of this publication, www.maryguterson.com and you can find her on Facebook.

(For more about Suzanne Selfors, please turn to page 9.)



Continued from page 10

Bainbridge book groups

The groups' friends

Bayley and her colleagues are good friends of the book groups, and interest in the book groups seems to grow along with the population of the county. Today, Michelle Will manages the book group selections and works closely with the groups.

Martha Bayley and Cindy Harrison, branch manager at Bainbridge for many years, worked together to establish the first Bainbridge Library Book Group in 2001, shortly before the Kitsap Regional Library system began to acquire a collection designed especially for book group use.

The original collection contained 12 titles and 15 copies of each. (Bayley explained that 15 is about the maximum size for a lively discussion group. With more members, not everyone gets a chance to speak.) Today there are many more titles, and some books are so popular that they are reserved months in advance.

Books organize in many ways, but most meet once a month and read the same books. (The Random Readers and a few others are exceptions.)

The first library group

The first Bainbridge Library Book Group – now there are two – was organized because Bayley and Harrison felt newcomers needed a group where they would feel welcome.

At first, they had an unusual idea for selecting books to discuss. They paired books by subject matter for each two-month period, including fiction one month and non-fiction the next (or vice versa) on the same topic.

The paired book plan was abandoned after about a year, and books have since been selected for merit and interest, regardless of topic.

Bayley and Harrison were co-hosts for the first group meetings, but soon Patricia Miller, a retired English professor (and frequent book reviewer for this paper) began serving as facilitator for the discussions. Early this year Miller resigned from that position to have more time for other interests. (She is vice president of the Bainbridge Library Board and continues active in the Friends of the Library, which she served as president.)

The book group continues, with some long-time

members and some newer ones, and new members are very welcome in the group. (See Julie O'Neill's article in this issue for upcoming book selections.)

Other book groups

Some Library Book Group members also belong to other book clubs, but the library groups are distinguished, Pat Miller recalled, by their focus on the book itself.

Miller recalled that it was easy for friends and neighbors who have formed a book group to stray from the book itself and indulge in socializing.

"With the library group it's 100 percent about books. . . With other groups, it might be 50 percent about books," she once said.

Funding the books

Bainbridge book groups are organized in many forms, and acquire their reading material in various ways.

Some like to buy their own books from bookstores, while others prefer to check out their books from the library.

Continued on Page 13

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Light reads for depressing days

These books will leave you laughing out loud

By JULIE O'NEILL
Reference Librarian

If the current economy and news headlines have you feeling down in the dumps, why not cheer yourself up with a funny book.

My number one choice for a laugh-out-loud read is Bill Bryson's *A Walk in the Woods*. Bryson attempted to hike the entire length of the Appalachian Trail with his old college buddy who was out of shape and thought Little Debbie cupcakes were the ideal trail food. Along with the hilarious story of their hike, Bryson slips in a bit of Appalachian Trail history and geology. The Washington Post calls Bill Bryson "choke-on-your coffee funny", and many of his other books are just as entertaining. Try *In a Sunburned Country*, *I'm a Stranger Myself Here*, and *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid*.

Straight Man by Richard Russo. Russo gets an A-plus for his comic send-up of academia. Hank Devereux is the interim head of the English department at a small rural college. His colleagues have elected him, figuring he will do absolutely nothing, thus preserving the status quo. They figure wrong. Hank manages to upset his colleagues, his students and the administration. When his department budget is cut, he threatens to kill the resident campus flock of geese, one per day. Then a goose is found dead. . .

That Old Ace in the Hole by Annie Proulx. Best known for *The Shipping News*, Proulx skewers the meat industry. Bob Dollar is sent to Texas to scout out land for his employers to set up gigantic pig farms.

But Bob is charmed by the residents of Woodybucket, Texas and cooks up a scheme to foil his bosses' plans.

Skinny Dip by Carl Hiaasen. A crooked marine biologist pushes his wife overboard while on a Florida cruise. She survives by clinging to a bale of marijuana, is

rescued by an ex-Miami cop, and exacts revenge on her husband with a creative blackmail scheme. This has all the signature elements of Hiaasen's style: a hilarious, fast-moving plot, wacky characters and over-the-top villains, with an undercurrent of outrage about what developers have done to the Florida wilderness. Also try *Nature Girl*, *Basket Case*, *Stormy Weather*, and *Tourist Season*.

The Pursuit of Alice Thrift by Elinor Lipman. Alice, a brilliant but socially inept surgeon, is romanced by Ray Russo, a sleazy fudge salesman, much to the horror of her family and friends. Alice's transformation from wallflower is humorous and the secondary characters are quirky and charming. Also try *The Dearly Departed* by Lipman.

Round Ireland with a Fridge by Tony Hawks. Sometimes people do the craziest things when they've had a few too many beers. British writer Hawks made a drunken bet that he could hike around Ireland with a fridge – yes, a refrigerator – in one month. Fortunately he decided to honor his bet even after he sobered up, and the result is a very funny travelogue. Hawks shares his encounters with the good-natured Irish in perceptive and humorous style.

Carry On, Jeeves by P. G. Wodehouse. Even after 80 years, Wodehouse is still a great antidote to depression. This volume, originally published in 1925, contains some of the first stories about Bertie Wooster, the

affable, but not-too-bright English gentleman who gets himself into rather silly scrapes and has to be rescued by his capable valet/butler, Jeeves. Many chuckles are provided by Wodehouse's droll British prose. If you become

addicted to Jeeves and Wooster, there are lots more volumes of sheer hilarity: *Stiff Upper Lip*, *Jeeves; How Right You Are*, *Jeeves; Very Good*, *Jeeves, etc.*

Funny in Farsi by Firoozeh Dumas. The author came to America from Iran as a young girl in 1972. She recounts

laughable anecdotes about her family's adjustment to this country. We watch her family grapple with American English (hot dogs and hush puppies – a mystery), American traditions (Thanksgiving turkey, an even greater mystery), and American culture (her parents laugh uproariously at Bob Hope on television even though the jokes don't translate into Farsi). It's a warm, witty look at a lovable family and their cross-cultural misunderstandings.

The Miracles of Santo Fico by D. L. Smith. In this gentle comedy, Leo Pizzola returns from Chicago to the Italian village of his youth. He is dismayed to find the town in sad shape. The village square fountain no longer runs with water. His childhood sweetheart, Marta, has given up on life and love, and refuses to speak to him. The local priest has lost his faith. Leo engineers a few "miracles" to revive the town and brings a truly miraculous happy ending.

Big Trouble by Dave Barry. Barry makes the transition from humor columnist to novelist in this zany caper that features a homeless drifter who sleeps in a tree, two arms-dealing Russian hoods, an ex-journalist (now a failing ad man), a teen with a water pistol, a dumb dog, some klutzy New Jersey hit men, and a slew of other kooky characters. The plot has lots of complex twists, all narrated in Barry's wicked, one-liner humor.

The Bear Went Over the Mountain by William Kotzwinkle. In this satirical look at publishing, a bear named Hal Jam finds a book manuscript lost in the woods and manages to sell it to a New York publisher. It becomes a best-seller and he is soon courted by the rich and famous, who never notice that he is a bear. His adoring fans find his long silences and grunts reminiscent of Hemingway!

Snobs by Julian Fellowes. This is a delightfully acerbic view of contemporary British society. Blonde, beautiful, social-climbing Edith snags an aristocratic husband, then finds her life a bit dull. She sets out to liven things up. Fellowes, who won an Oscar for the screenplay of Gosford Park, offers up a cast of great characters and witty observations about England's class system.

Even after 80 years,
Wodehouse is a great
antidote to depression

Kitsap Regional Library is an essential resource for health information

Are you searching for health information in all the right places? Visit www.krl.org.

Finding reliable health and medical information on your own can be tricky. There are helpful internet websites, but who sponsors them? And is the information up to date and authoritative?

What about all those health and diet authors who appear on Oprah? Are their books any good?

What's a confused health consumer supposed to do? Your library can help.

Kitsap Regional Library has books for you to check out. Each year the library system buys many reviewed and recommended books on medical conditions and health concerns.

These books cover:

- Specific medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and cancer
- Symptoms and diagnosis
- Family concerns and living with disease
- Treatment, including alternative therapy
- Nutrition, exercise, wellness, and more.

Reference books

Kitsap Regional Library has new editions of standard medical reference books such as:

- Physician's Desk Reference (PDR), with complete drug information
- Consumer Guide to Non-prescription Drugs and Supplements
- AMA Family Medical Guide
- Johns Hopkins Guide to Medical Tests
- Encyclopedia of Complementary & Alternative Medicine
- Best Doctors
- Merck Manual
- Conn's Current Therapy.

Research database

Kitsap Regional Library subscribes to a highly regarded online database, Consumer Health Complete. This service provides articles from major journals and newspapers on health issues, medical conditions, consumer drug and herb information, and treatment options. You can access this database from home or at the library; go to the library's

homepage at www.krl.com, click on "Research Databases" and choose Consumer Health Complete.

Recommended websites

MEDLINEplus (www.medlineplus.gov) is provided by the National Library of Medicine and is one of the most reliable, up-to-date websites for consumer health information, reference librarians say.

It is recommended as the best place to start your research into medical issues. Health topics include more than 300 specific diseases, conditions, and wellness suggestions.

The information is provided by the world's largest medical library (NLM) with links to authoritative material from medical societies, organizations, and professional journal articles.

Also included are links to clinical trials (tests of new drugs and treatments).

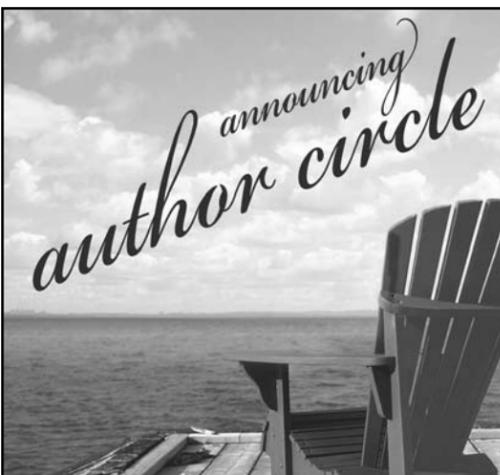
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Library offers complete kits for book groups

By MICHELLE WILL
Kitsap Regional Library
Book Group Coordinator

The Kitsap Regional Library offers assistance to local book groups with its large collection of book group kits.



Michelle Will

Each kit includes 12-15 copies of the book, as well as a discussion guide with author information, reviews, and questions to spark conversation. The KRL system has 75 titles available in kits, and serves almost 30 groups on Bainbridge Island and over 60 other groups in Kitsap County.

To get started with a book group, you can find information on the KRL website: www.krl.org/index_php/Book-Club/Book-Club.html, or on the KRL book group blog Books Read Around (<http://booksreadaround.blogspot.com>).

Groups interested in more information may call the KRL book group number at 360-405-9134.

Here are some of the titles recently added to the collection of book group kits:

All About Lulu by Jonathan Evison. This Bainbridge Island author offers a stunning debut novel about love and loss, growing up, throwing up, and moving on – a coming-of-age tale.

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak. Set in 1939 Germany, *The Book Thief* tells the story of 9-year-old Liesel – along with a cast of vivid characters who stand up to the Nazis in small but telling ways -- and Liesel's love of books that sustains her through dark times.

The Gentleman from Finland: Adventures on the Trans-Siberian Express by Bob Goldstein. A sometimes hilarious, sometimes poignant story of the misadventures of a traveler who discovers that a journey on the world's longest rail line is much more than a long train ride.

The Life of the Skies: Birding at the End of Nature by Jonathan Rosen. Using his personal fascination with bird watching Rosen provides an eloquent and thoughtful backdrop for musings on history, philosophy, and the joy of discovering nature in unexpected places.

The Lottery by Patricia Wood. The story of stubborn, simple Perry Crandall,

who wins the Washington State Lottery and finds his life changed. Wood's charming novel offers a refreshing glimpse of the world through the eyes of a man with limited cognitive abilities and boundless generosity of spirit.

Olive Kitteridge, by Elizabeth Strout. In a small coastal town in Maine, Olive Kitteridge is the complex and often unpredictable town crier, a person who sees into the hearts of others, discerning their triumphs and tragedies, while not always seeing herself. It is through her profound insight into the human condition that these penetrating tales are told.

The Yellow Wallpaper and Other Writings by Charlotte Perkins Gilman. Eleven short works by early feminist Gilman combine humor, anger, and visionary insight to explore women's roles in the early 20th century, including the haunting title story of madness and control.

One Book, One Community:

Steinbeck's Cannery Row is the choice for fall

John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row* has been chosen for the One Book, One Community county initiative this October.

"Kitsap Regional Library will provide numerous copies of the book, movie, and audio book for checkout at libraries throughout Kitsap County, with the hope that many people will enjoy it and share discussions about this humorous novel," said Martha Bayley, Kitsap Regional Library's fiction collection manager.

Activities planned for the One Book, One Community month include play readings, films, lectures, and essay contests for middle school and high school students. An online poll will also be provided on the library system's web page (krl.org) for those who would like to vote for their favorite Steinbeck novel, Bayley said.

Last year's book selection for the fall event, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, drew large audiences at several Bainbridge events.

Continued from page 11

Bainbridge book groups

The Kitsap Regional Library provided seed money for books when the groups were getting under way. A number of the titles available at the library were gifts from book groups.

The result is an eclectic collection, with something for just about everyone.

Martha Bayley, who has worked closely with the renowned Seattle librarian Nancy Pearl, reported that when the book group collection for the Kitsap libraries was assembled, she asked Pearl for advice on titles to acquire.

"Oh, you must have Wallace Stegner's *Angle of Repose*," Pearl replied. That was one of the first titles acquired.

Other early purchases included works by John Steinbeck, Truman Capote, Graham Greene, Tom Brokaw, Charles Dickens, Ivan Doig, Isabel Allende,

Dorothy Sayers, and Jonathan Raban. There's lots of variety.

What's in a name?

Some groups give a lot of thought to their name. Others never do select a name.

Some of the first groups to organize around the library were: Manchester Bookworms, Spit Sisters, Ship of Fools (a Bainbridge group), Literati, Steel Magnolias (Bainbridge), Point White (Bainbridge), and the Hansville Hens.

Does your group have an unusual name? A different approach? Some unusual experiences? We'd like to hear from you.

For more about book clubs, especially at the library, keep reading the Library News.

Book discussion groups are open to everyone

By JULIE O'NEILL
Reference Librarian

Would you like to read and discuss good books with a welcoming, lively group?

There are two book discussion groups sponsored by the library that are open to everyone.

The Bainbridge Library Book Discussion Group meets the first Wednesday of every month at the library at 7 p.m.

This active group likes to discuss good-quality fiction and non-fiction. *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte was the June 3 selection. Upcoming choices are *My Jim* by Nancy Rawles on July 1, and *Blood and Thunder* by Hampton Sides on August 5.

The Bainbridge Senior Center Book Discussion Group meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Senior

Center on Brien Drive at 1 p.m. These well-read folks delve into both fiction and non-fiction for thought-provoking discussions. Titles to be discussed soon include *The Lottery* by Patricia Wood on June 16, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See on July 21, and *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman on August 18.

Both groups will be discussing John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row* in October as part of the One Book, One Community program, when all of Kitsap County will be encouraged to read and discuss this favorite classic.

Copies of all titles are provided by Kitsap Regional Library.

(For more information, call reference librarian Julie O'Neill at the Bainbridge branch, 206-842-4162.)

NEWS BRIEFS

VISUALLY IMPAIRED people from North Kitsap and Island meet from 1 to 3 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month at the Bainbridge Public Library. Guest speakers share information at almost every meeting. For information or transportation call (206) 842-3551.

INTERNET CONNECTIONS: Kitsap Regional Library provides access to the internet at all branches, and library staff can help you begin your search for information. Just ask any reference librarian for more information.

DID YOU KNOW there is unlimited free wireless access at every branch of the Kitsap Library System?

THE VIPs (Visually Impaired Persons) from Bainbridge-North Kitsap will visit the Bloedel Reserve as a group at 1:30 June 18. Call (206) 842-3551 for information.

DID YOU KNOW the Bainbridge Review and the Islander are available on tape for the visually impaired? To sign up for this free service phone (206) 780-2835.

Volunteers lose three active members

Fox, Stewart, and Spier

Bainbridge Library volunteers and patrons are mourning the passing of three dedicated volunteers this spring.

Ken Fox, a retired naval officer, was a member of the Friends book sale team and, when not working with the Friends, could often be found with hammer in hand, fixing broken pipes, furniture legs,

and flagpoles at the library.

Marvel Stewart, a Friday Tidy for many years, was a gardener and artist. Her floral arrangements, created from blooms in the library gardens, often brightened the days of library visitors.

Kit Spier, a former award-winning network television producer, donated

his time and skills to the Bainbridge Public Library, filming local events while reminiscing about his experiences in national TV.

All three were devoted community stewards, and they will be missed by library staff, patrons, and fellow volunteers.

Reserve your space now
for the fall issue of
Bainbridge Library News
(206) 842-2865
or pick up a packet
at the library.

Neighbors helping neighbors:

Local businesses, professionals help library grow

By VERDA AVERILL
Library News Editor

The first central library for Bainbridge Islanders opened in 1962 at the intersection of Madison Ave. and High School Road.

Less than half the size of today's enlarged building at the same site, the new library was from the first day not only a place to borrow books, but a community meeting place.

Throughout the 1960s, the public room at the north end, now a quiet spot for children's library activities, was home to – among other groups – the Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce.

Led for several years by the late Pauline Deschamps, the local group met there regularly, its members enthusiastic about the role the library would play in the island's growth. Business owners and professionals saw the benefits of a central library, and welcomed the new building, supporting the Rotary Club in its fund-raising efforts and helping the young architect, John Rudolph, to create a structure that would become not just a lending library but also a center for lifelong learning and community service.

As a city-bred young reporter who knew little about islands in the Sound and green spaces, I listened and learned a lot from those 20th century Chamber of Commerce members.

Early Chamber meetings

There were usually about a dozen thoughtful citizens at Chamber meetings around the library table. They included more than a few wise and forward-looking people determined to see Bainbridge Island grow and prosper while maintaining a special quality of life.

Lou Goller, founder (with Carl Berg) of the American Marine Bank, was usually there. So was Jack Gordon, Prentice Bloedel's right-hand man, who seemed to be everywhere at once when Rotary or the Chamber was involved. Ebullient Charlie Elicker, nursing home owner who would become a state senator, spoke up often. Eddie Rollins, superintendent of mails, ran the post office with a hard-working local staff, seldom missed a Chamber meeting, and would personally deliver important-looking letters to the addressees if he thought they needed immediate attention.

The Chamber worked to support local schools (headed by superintendent Neal "Mike" Nunamaker) and honored the Winslow Clinic's Drs. Tom Bourns and Sinclair Wilt for their outstanding care of patients.

Meanwhile, they were leaving their own legacies for future residents.

I recall two actions that made a difference in the 1960s and are still much appreciated, nearly a half century later.

One was easily achieved: the designation of the Chamber as an agency to sell auto licenses for the state, saving Bainbridge residents the bother of going off-Island to get new license plates or tabs. This convenience brought with it a small but steady income to the Chamber itself (helping with the rent of early office space) and the appreciation of auto owners, then and today.

Other goals were harder to achieve, but had major effects on transportation and the environment.

Pauline Deschamps became a regular commuter to Olympia when the Legislature was in session, and fought hard for larger ferries to serve the increasing number of Seattle commuters. (Chamber members and friends celebrated on an inaugural cruise when the first superferry was delivered.)

But Pauline's major concern for years was preservation of the green spaces between Winslow and Poulsbo as Highway 305 was developed. Though she was often busy as a full-time real estate professional – she sold Sen. Warren Magnuson his home at the tip of Wing Point – she kept a wary eye on what state transportation people were doing and fought hard, again and again, against those who wanted to erect billboards along the roadway. She, and the Bainbridge Chamber, prevailed.

Somehow, it seems appropriate that the organization she joined more than half a century ago is today still encouraging Bainbridge Islanders to preserve the greenery around us for future generations, as those early members did.

In the new library

Let's fast forward now to 1997, and more recent history.

The Bainbridge Public Library built in 1962 has been expanded twice, once in 1982 and again during 1995-97, when floor space was more than doubled.

As in the 1962 and 1982 building drives, the entire island became involved in raising funds for the third construction effort – and leading the way were many members of the business and professional community, along with retired teachers, librarians, and many of the Island's talented artists. (See related story on Page 16.)

Once the doors opened in 1997 library patrons poured in, in record numbers. After six months in temporary quarters at a school across the street, library staff and patrons alike were delighted with the

space and design of the new building.

Soon the large meeting room (in the new wing next to the Haiku Garden) became a favorite spot for group meetings and performances: company annual meetings, business seminars, non-profit group gatherings, travelogues, and more. The Chamber of Commerce held several after-hours events there, including displays of local products.

The long partnership between library and business community was strengthened as individual business owners and professionals contributed volunteer services to the library and the library staff acquired databases, books, and other materials of interest to business people.

When the Bainbridge Island Library News was established in 1998, members of the business community responded again by buying advertising in the new publication, thus helping the library stretch its funds (for more special services like summer reading programs) as well as keeping Bainbridge residents informed about what's happening at their library.

Meet the advertisers

The first year's advertisers included businesses which are still going strong today, as well as some that are just pleasant memories.

In the second Library News issue (the first with advertising support) 15 local firms were represented. Just four are still in business today: Blumenthal Construction, Drury Construction, Eagle Harbor Books, and Hill Moving Services. A fifth, the historic Winslow Hardware & Mercantile on Winslow Way was later closed, but owners Mary Hall and Ken Schuricht are still very much a part of the business community. They now operate the Winslow Paint Company on Hildebrand Lane, and continue their support of the library.

Among other early advertisers in the Library News was Harris-Zommers Interiors; their first ad read "We've had designs on Bainbridge for 25 years". (They've now had designs on Bainbridge for almost 35 years, since July 1974.)

More than advertising

Members of the Bainbridge business community often do more than advertise. Some partner with the library in producing entertaining and informative programs.

Susan Taylor and Barbara Tolliver of The Traveler bookstore, for example, have for several years sponsored popular free travelogues at the library. Ace Hardware's Steve and Becky Mikami support the Children's Book Fair on the Fourth of July and other worthy projects. And Eagle Harbor Books has joined with the library in welcoming nationally renowned authors here for special appearances.

The bookstore was not only an early Library News advertiser, but a key force in the 1995-96 library fund-raising.

Eagle Harbor Book Co. was then owned by Steve and Nancy Olsen, who remained loyal library boosters after selling the bookshop to Morley Horder in the late 1990s. Steve Olsen served as president of the Bainbridge Library Board and later joined the library staff. Both Nancy and Steve contributed articles to the Library News for several years.

Today, with Horder as owner and a knowledgeable staff including Mary Gleysteen, Paul Hanson, and other

writers and bibliophiles, Eagle Harbor Books is widely recognized as one of the outstanding independent bookstores in the country. Authors' appearances there on Thursdays and Sundays are often standing room only, and the store's Library News ads announce recent publications by local, best-selling writers.



Pauline Deschamps

The annual honor roll

Individual donors to the Bainbridge Public Library are honored each year by the library board, and their names – except for those who ask to remain anonymous – are printed in this publication.

So it seems appropriate to mention at this time those business and professional firms which have contributed to the Bainbridge Library News during the past year. Their funding helps our staff of volunteers continue publication of this unique quarterly paper focused on the library.

Advertisers during the past year included:

- Todd Adams, DDS
- Bainbridge Eye Physicians and Eyeland Optical
- Bainbridge Gardens
- Bainbridge Vineyards and Winery
- Drs. Elizabeth Bell and Nicholas Thompson, Family Dentistry
- Eileen Black of John L. Scott
- Blackbird Bakery
- Blumenthal Construction
- Churchmouse Yarns & Teas
- Coldwell Banker/McKenzie Associates
- Flowering Around
- Harris-Zommers Interiors
- Kevin Hawkins, Home Loans
- Island Electronics/Radio Shack
- The Island School
- Stephanie of Course, Catering
- Islandwood
- Julie's Frame Gallery
- McKinnon Handcrafted Furniture
- Modern Collision Rebuild
- The Traveler
- Town & Country Market
- Winslow Animal Clinic
- Winslow Paint Company



**THINK GLOBALLY.
SHOP LOCALLY.**

*The Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce.
Serving Bainbridge Island since 1927.*

NEWS BRIEFS

HAVE YOU TRIED the new express checkout now at the Bainbridge branch and coming soon to all Kitsap Regional Library branches?

DID YOU KNOW that you can download ebooks, audiobooks, and music using your library card with our library's new Overdrive service?

Meet the men who keep your library running smoothly

They work quietly and unobtrusively, most often when the library is closed.

You seldom see them stop and chat, but if you do see them at work you'll be greeted with big smiles.

Rory Bradley, Terry Lee, Mike Tollefson, and Rex Casal are the maintenance and custodial professionals who help make the library a pleasant place for patrons and staff alike.

Rory and Terry are both family men who've been keeping the county's libraries in first-rate condition for over three years now. They have often worked as a team, and you may have seen them recently at the Bainbridge library on Fridays.

Mike Tollefson and Rex Casal are more recent additions to the staff. Their schedules may vary, although currently Tollefson is working on Bainbridge on week days, while Casal does Saturday duty.

These men are all professionals, knowledgeable about cleaning and making small repairs on the building and furnishings. They're among the main reasons the Bainbridge Public Library, a dozen years after its expansion and remodeling, is still a showplace for visitors to the Island and a relaxing place for locals to read, write, and study.



Library volunteers feted at Poulsbo

Volunteers at Kitsap Regional Library's nine branches were honored April 9 at Friends of the Library Appreciation Day in the Poulsbo Library community room.

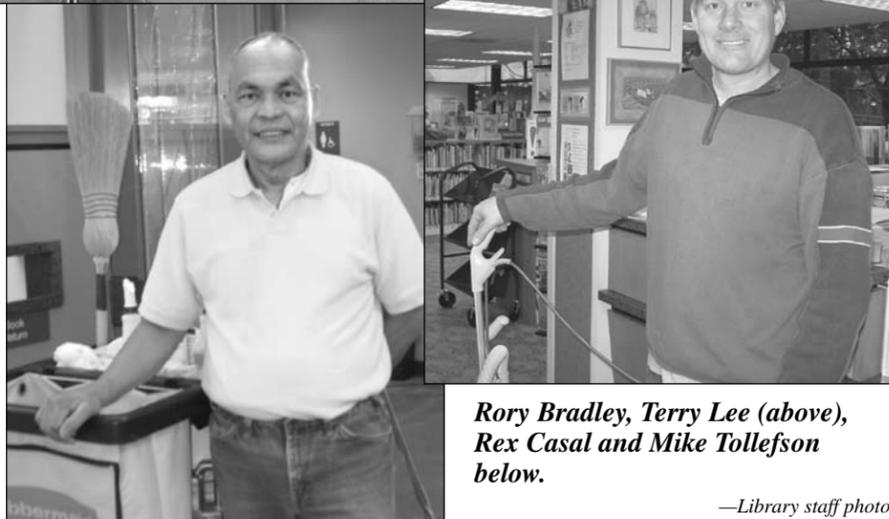
It was a day to greet friends, share success stories, enjoy lunch, and exchange favorite recipes.

The group received updates on KRL activities from Jill Jean, director, and Peter Raffa, executive director of the KRL Foundation. Representatives from each of the Friends groups briefed the packed room on activities at their branch libraries.

After a mid-morning break, Wally Clark, Port Orchard reference librarian, gave a cooking demonstration and cookbook review, which was followed by a report of volunteer activities from Khara Whitney-Marsh, KRL volunteer coordinator.

The morning event wound up with a talk on bylaws and compliance by attorney Judith L. Andrews and a catered luncheon with valuable door prizes (including several cookbooks with colorfully illustrated recipes).

The event was sponsored by the Kitsap Regional Library Foundation.



Rory Bradley, Terry Lee (above), Rex Casal and Mike Tollefson below.

—Library staff photos

BIGS group announces schedule changes

Two changes in the 2009 speaker schedule for the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society (BIGS) were announced recently. If you have an earlier schedule, note the new topics on July 17 and November 20.

On June 19, the group will hold a workshop on Revolutionary War Research. Mentors will be available to help beginners.

On July 17, Aaron J. Hill will lead a special three-hour meeting from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The topic: "DNA & Genetic Genealogy".

Coming up on August 21 will be a workshop on DNA & Genetic Genealogy, with mentors available to help beginners.

The September 18 meeting will feature Betty Kay Anderson, professional genealogist, American Biographical Genealogical Index (ABGI).

The October 16 meeting will be a workshop on the American Biographical

Genealogical Index, with mentors available.

The November 20 schedule has been changed; the meeting will include a panel discussion by BIGS mentors presenting "Brick Walls".

The last meeting of the year, December 18, will be an annual gathering of BIGS members showing artifacts, photos, and family trees, reports Paula Schmidt, BIGS publicity chair. For questions: paula@sounddsl.com or (206) 842-6059.

BIGS members meet in the Bainbridge Public Library community room just off the main entrance, and newcomers with an interest in genealogy are always welcome.

NEWS BRIEFS

DID YOU KNOW that Kitsap Regional Library was established in 1955 as the Kitsap Rural Library District and now is made up of nine branch libraries plus a bookmobile, outreach services, and the website at www.krl.org.

DID YOU KNOW that Kitsap Regional Library's branch libraries are located in Bainbridge Island, downtown Bremerton, Kingston, Little Boston, Manchester, Port Orchard, Poulsbo, Silverdale, and in east Bremerton on Sylvan Way? Each branch is a community library, reflecting the flavor and interests of its area.

DID YOU KNOW that a Kitsap Regional Library card can be used at all nine branches and the bookmobile, and that materials checked out at one branch library may be returned to any branch?

VISION 2010: In 2005, Kitsap Regional Library initiated a community-based strategic planning process called Vision 2010. With the contributions of over 1,000 individuals, KRL identified strategic initiatives, each focusing on the public's expectations for library service. The complete Vision 2010 plan is available online at www.KRL.org.

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Art in the library

More local artists now show their work as exhibits change every month

Bainbridge has long been a haven for artists. But until the late 20th century there were few public places to display their work.

Then in 1995-97, when the community banded together to create an enlarged building for its library, the new space seemed ideal for showing the work of local artists.

Not only that, but many citizens wanted to see fine art incorporated into the structure of the building.

In her book *They Like Noble Causes: How a Community Built a Library*, historian Barbara Winther describes how art became an integral part of the library design.

Deborah Cheadle and artist Michele Van Slyke served together on the Bainbridge Arts and Crafts Toni Hall Cultural Fund Committee. Deborah was also co-chair of the library's community committee for fundraising. One day after a meeting, in November 1995, Michele mentioned to Deborah how much better a public structure looked when art was part of its design.

Several weeks later the women approached the library board, Michele to explain the role of an art consultant in the design of a building and Deborah to present an offer from the Cultural Fund to pay for Michele's service as art consultant for the library project.

In her book, Barbara Winther quotes Michele: "My thinking when I approached Deborah was that with so many artists on Bainbridge, it was a shame no public building reflected this. Many structures tend to look the same; the library could be unique. . ."

Others agreed.

Library board members Don Yockey and Betsy Lawrence co-chaired the art committee. Michele reported to them and worked closely with Ross Jamison and Amy Pearson of Lewis Architects and Pam Lund, interior designer, to establish areas where art could be included.

Look around next time you enter the building. You'll be surrounded by work of local artists, incorporated into the structure in many areas: the entry door, atrium, lighting fixtures, wall inset tiles, glass partitions, railings, cornerstone, floor bronze medallions, and children's library paintings and furniture. (Small brass plaques near the works identify the artists.)

The Haiku Garden next to the building, donated by the Japanese-American community of Bainbridge Island, is a home for additional works of art.

A meeting room gallery

When the expanded library was opened to the public in 1997, the spacious room just off the lobby became a favorite meeting place for community groups, and soon the library board art committee decided to invite local artists to exhibit their work on its walls.

Artists welcomed the opportunity and, when sales resulted from their shows, donated a portion of the funds to the library.

Joanna Newnham and Nan Wooldridge served as volunteer coordinators of the library exhibits, which changed every three months. Newnham acted as curator and Wooldridge interviewed the artists about their work for the quarterly *Library News*.

After they retired from their long library service, a new library art committee was formed with author



Bainbridge artist Michele Van Slyke (above, left) served as art consultant during construction of an enlarged Bainbridge Island Library from 1995 to 1997. Tony Angell's sculpture of Bay Otters is just one of many works by Northwest artists in the library and its gardens.



(Library News file photos, circa 1998)

George Shannon (who writes, but does not illustrate those award-winning children's books) as its chair.

Exhibits change monthly

Shannon persuaded Linda Meier, a former Seattle gallery owner, to act as curator, and she has responded with an ambitious schedule of monthly exhibits, giving still more local artists an opportunity to show their work.

Tove Pisarelle exhibited oil and acrylic paintings in May, and greeted visitors at an open house.

Nikki Vick, whose paintings were displayed in the library a few years ago, is back this month with a new collection.

In July, Victoria Harrison's paintings will be shown, followed in August by Darryl Schmidt's photographs.

Coming in the fall will be oils by Ray Styles in September and whimsical animal paintings by Cynthia Dice in October.

In November Ted Hoppin's watercolors and Jennifer Waldron's acrylics will share the gallery/meeting room space. Sue Hylen's photographs will be the final show of the year.

About the curator

Linda Meier has been a Bainbridge resident since 2001.

A graduate of the University of Washington, she received a bachelor's degree in Spanish and French education and a master's in secondary curriculum and instruction. She taught in Seattle public schools and Seattle Community College, then joined the Seattle/Capitol Hill business community as owner of Frame it on Broadway/Linda Meier Gallery.

With her husband, Harborview cardiologist Stephen Hubbard, she now lives on "a small farm we call Chateau Poulet.

"We raise chickens, ducks, peacocks, and three spoiled indoor cats. I grow most of our own vegetables and my husband grows most of our fruits and berries," she says.

Meier volunteers as a Friends of the Library board member, Squeaky Wheels board member, and PAWS cat adoption counselor, along with her work as curator.

(Verda Averill, Linda Meier, and Barbara Winther contributed to this story.)

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon / Tues / Wed 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thurs 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Fri 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat / Sun 1 to 5 p.m.
(See calendar on page 1 for closures.)

KRL WEBSITE ADDRESS
www.krl.org

LIBRARY PHONE NUMBERS
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For Computer Support 1-360-405-9131
Other Departments 1-877-883-9900



Bainbridge Island Studio Tour

August 7, 8 & 9



www.bistudiotour.com