



The Gristle, P.06 * Paddle Power, P.14 * Coal Train Show, P.18

c . a . s . c . a . d . i . a WEEKLY

REPORTING FROM
THE HEART OF CASCADIA
WHATCOM★SKAGIT★ISLAND★LOWER B.C.

{05.29.13}{#22}{V.08}{FREE}



BRIGHT
IDEAS:

Joining the solar
power revolution, P.8

Lawnstock:
Take a sonic study
break, P.20

CHICKS IN SPACE:

Dancing with the stars, P.16

A glance at what's happening this week

Get transported to the moors of Scotland via music, dance and athletic feats at the annual **Bellingham Scottish Highland Games**, which take place May 31-June 2 at Hovander Homestead Park



Lisa Gilley will be one of the many artists focusing on the subject matter of movement, transition and traveling when the group show **“From Here to There”** opens June 1 at Edison’s Smith & Vallee Gallery



More than 80 dancers will bring *Cinderella* to life when the Northwest Ballet Theatre presents the classic tale at June 1-2 performances at the Mount Baker Theatre

WEDNESDAY [05.29.13]

MUSIC

Spring Choral Concert: 7-9pm, Bellingham High School

VISUAL ARTS

Launchpad Reception: 6-8pm, Western Gallery, WWU

THURSDAY [05.30.13]

ONSTAGE

A Rotten Demise: 7:30pm, 1st Street Cabaret, Mount Vernon
Good, Bad, Ugly: 8pm, Upfront Theatre
The Project: 10pm, Upfront Theatre

MUSIC

Andy Koch: 5:30-7:30pm, Jansen Art Center, Lynden
Bob Milne: 7pm, Whatcom Museum’s Old City Hall

GET OUT

Plant Walk: 6pm, Maritime Heritage Park

VISUAL ARTS

Con-Structures Reception: 5-9pm, Lucia Douglas Gallery
Coal Train Show Reception: 6-8pm, Studio UFO

After Hours Art: 6:30pm, Whatcom Museum’s Lightcatcher Building

FRIDAY [05.31.13]

ONSTAGE

Group Showcases: 8pm, Upfront Theatre
The Woman in Black: 8pm, Anacortes Community Theatre
Abilene: 8pm and 10pm, iDiOM Theater
Hodgepodge: 10pm, Upfront Theatre

DANCE

Capstone Concert: 7:30pm, Performing Arts Center, WWU
Chicks in Space: 9pm, Spark Museum of Electrical Invention

MUSIC

Early Music Festival: 7:30pm, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
Skagit Symphony: 7:30pm, McIntyre Hall, Mount Vernon

WORDS

Justin Bog: 7pm, Village Books

COMMUNITY

Blast from the Past: 9am-6pm, throughout Sedro-Woolley

Scottish Highland Games: 6-9pm, Hovander Homestead Park, Ferndale

GET OUT

Wild Things: 9:30-11am, Cornwall Park
Cemetery Tour: 12:30pm, Bayview Cemetery

SATURDAY [06.01.13]

ONSTAGE

The Producers Auditions: 1-4pm, Mount Baker Theatre
Improv for Education: 6:30pm, Broadway Hall
What About Those Promises?: 7pm, Bellingham High School
Group Showcases: 8pm, Upfront Theatre
The Woman in Black: 8pm, Anacortes Community Theatre
Abilene: 8pm and 10pm, iDiOM Theater
Hodgepodge: 10pm, Upfront Theatre

DANCE

Cinderella: 7pm, Mount Baker Theatre
Capstone Concert: 7:30pm, Performing Arts Center, WWU
Folk Dance Party: 7:30-10:30pm, Fairhaven Library
Chicks in Space: 9pm, Spark Museum of Electrical Invention

MUSIC

Ukulele Group Jam: 3-5pm, St. James Presbyterian Church
Fame Benefit Concert: 7:30pm, Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship
Bayshore Symphony: 7:30pm, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Mount Vernon

COMMUNITY

Scottish Highland Games: 7am-6pm, Hovander Homestead Park, Ferndale
Blast from the Past: 9am-4pm, throughout Sedro-Woolley
Big Bird Fly-In: 9am-5pm, Red River Rd., Ferndale
Bridge of Aloha Festival: 10am-7pm, Ferndale Events Center
Farmer’s Day Parade: 10:30am, downtown Lynden

GET OUT

The Human Race: 10am, Zuanich Point Park
Doxie Walk: 10am, Amtrak Station
Waterfront Festival: 10am-6pm, throughout Anacortes
Watershed-Friendly Project Expo: 1-3pm, Bloedel Donovan Park

FOOD

Farmer’s Day Breakfast: 8-10:30am, Lynden Community Center
Mount Vernon Farmers Market: 9am-1pm, Skagit State Bank
Anacortes Farmers Market: 9am-2pm, Depot Arts Center

Blaine Gardeners Market: 10am-2pm, H Street Plaza
Bellingham Farmers Market: 10am-3pm, Depot Market Square
Ferndale Farmers Market: 10am-3pm, Centennial Riverwalk Park

VISUAL ARTS

Artists' Studio Tour: 10am-5pm, throughout San Juan Island
From Here to There Reception: 5-8pm, Smith & Vallee Gallery, Edison
The Middle Path Reception: 6-9pm, Lucia Douglas Gallery

SUNDAY [06.02.13]

ONSTAGE

A Rotten Demise: 6:30pm, 1st Street Cabaret, Mount Vernon
Dynamo: 8pm, Upfront Theatre

DANCE

Afro-Brasilian Festival: 10am-7pm, Viking Union, WWU
Cinderella: 2pm, Mount Baker Theatre

MUSIC

Whatcom Chorale: 3pm, First Congregational Church of Bellingham
Bayshore Symphony: 3pm, Central Lutheran Church
Lawnstock: 7pm, Communications Facility lawn, WWU

COMMUNITY

Scottish Highland Games: 7am-2pm, Hovander Homestead Park, Ferndale
Blast from the Past: 9am-2:30pm, throughout Sedro-Woolley
Big Bird Fly-In: 9am-5pm, Red River Rd., Ferndale

GET OUT

Waterfront Festival: 10am-5pm, throughout Anacortes
Summer Ride: 1pm, Black Market Boutique

FOOD

Community Breakfast: 8am-1pm, Rome Grange

VISUAL ARTS

Artists' Studio Tour: 10am-5pm, throughout San Juan Island
Circus Art Sketch: 2-5pm, Cirque Lab

MONDAY [06.03.13]

ONSTAGE

Guffawingham: 8pm, Green Frog

MUSIC

Mount Vernon High School Choirs: 4pm and 7pm, McIntyre Hall

WORDS

Poetrynight: 8pm, Black Drop Coffeehouse

VISUAL ARTS

Passages Reception: 5-9pm, Lucia Douglas Gallery

TUESDAY [06.04.13]

MUSIC

Spring Choir Concert: 7:30pm, Heiner Center Theatre, WCC
Mike and Nakos Marker: 7:30pm, Roeder Home

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THISWEEK



Well-wishers across China—and the world—are monitoring the progress of Baby 59, a newborn who was rescued over the weekend from a sewage pipe in a residential building in Jinhua, located in China’s eastern province of Zhejiang. As of Tuesday afternoon, the infant was in stable condition. Be strong, Baby 59!

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TOTALITARIAN TEAHADISTS

If you are anti-tax, voted for every one of Tim Eyman’s anti-tax initiatives, support the Tea Party’s anti-tax platform, and/or applaud the Koch brothers’ demanding that Republican members of Congress sign an oath against taxes, then you too share in their guilt for the failure of the Skagit I-5 bridge Thursday evening.

You are part of their conspiracy to allow the infrastructure of this country to decay to a point where to rebuild will bankrupt the nation into total poverty. As Khrushhev prophesied several decades ago, the destruction of the United States will occur from within, and you anti-tax folk are part of that process.

Is it any wonder that Republicanism has taken on the Red banner? Many of that party’s chief thinkers (what?) take most of their policy development from the “Communist” party of the former USSR. Unless we stop them, the United States will slowly slide into the water.

—James E. Weaver, Bellingham

DEDICATED LAKE WHATCOM FUND

Lake Whatcom, the primary source of drinking water for Bellingham residents, was placed on a list of impaired water bodies under the federal Clean Water Act more than 15 years ago. This triggered an obligation to restore the lake’s water quality. However, since then, the lake’s water quality has continued to decline.

Clearly, we need to do more to reverse this trend. In addition to investing more in Lake-Whatcom water quality programs, we need to

account for these funds in an open and transparent manner.

I advocate the creation of a dedicated Lake Whatcom fund for the Whatcom County annual budget. This would serve several purposes.

Currently, lake programs are funded from a number of different county funds, making it difficult for the public to track. Creating a dedicated fund would allow the public to review the totality of funding being spent on the lake, as well as the different programs that comprise the county’s response to Lake Whatcom’s water quality degradation.

Second, a dedicated fund would help ensure that the totality of lake funding is commensurate with community expectations and the county’s legal obligation.

As time has passed, and the lake’s water quality has continued to decline, adequate funding has become a more pressing issue. The Department of Ecology is working on a water quality improvement plan that will require the county to estimate and provide funding needed to restore the lake over a 50-year period. This underscores the need for a dedicated fund.

Finally, a dedicated fund would assist the county in making policy decisions. Recently, the County Council considered a \$50 annual fee for Lake Whatcom boat inspections. A number of boaters wanted the fee reduced, which, if approved, would have required a greater public subsidy of the program. A dedicated fund would have made it readily apparent whether this was financially feasible.

I urge County Council to amend its annual budget to create a dedicated fund for Lake Whatcom.

—Wendy Harris, Bellingham

NOXIOUS EMISSIONS

I realize most Americans didn't know that British Columbia held an election on May 14 and likely feel they need not give a damn. However, the party that got reelected—and with a strong majority just to make sure the natural-resource-extraction machine runs full-steam ahead—is the most friendly with the federal Conservative government on the topic of placing a growing economy and jobs at the very top of their agenda, with the environment and precious ecosystems at the very bottom. In other words, a whole lot of shortsightedness is around the corner in regard to a healthy ecosystem and thus a formidably potential threat to a work-capable, healthy populace.

And I strongly believe that United States soil and eco-interests are also potentially negatively affected in the same ethically ugly process.

In Big Industry's universe or dimension, life-sustaining ecosystems are but once again supposed to take a back seat to extensively increasing, extremely massive crude oil and coal extractions and shipping (imminently so up here, fairly close to Point Roberts) by creating transport corridor nightmares, just for one thing—all for the sake of the almighty dollar first.

All of which is why, when I see people all excited and partying it up following the reelection of an ultra-pro-Big-Industry governing party, I think of Midnight Oil's 1988 hit song, "Beds Are Burning": "How can we dance when the earth is burning?/How can we sleep when our beds are burning?"

—Frank G. Sterle, Jr., White Rock, B.C.

GITMO WRONG FROM GET-GO

Within hours of kicking off his "At Last" dancing shoes, Barack Obama hit the ground running with an executive order mandating the closure for Guantanamo Bay detention center. Yet it continues, with detainees restrained in a Cuban limbo, under American jurisdiction, with no trial or formal charge, other than that broad category of suspected terrorist.

The hunger strike by prisoners, some detained for more than a decade, is being thwarted with force feeding by way of a long greased straw, shoved up the nose and down into the stomach. Obama has said that Guantanamo is "contrary to who we are." Is this current scenario "contrary," or simply a chilling picture of how far America has descended in its war on terror?

—Carol Hunter, Bellingham

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THE GRISTLE

SLAUGHTERHOUSE RULES: Whatcom County Council last week wisely delayed bringing a proposal out of their planning committee that would rezone all 80,000 acres of county agricultural land to permit slaughterhouses, planning an additional public hearing on the matter June 4.

The proposal would allow slaughterhouses of up to 10,000 square feet everywhere throughout the county's Ag zone as an accessory use, in other words requiring no special permit. An alternative would involve county staff earlier in the permitting process, where planners can streamline permits but are still restricted in their review to meager and limited qualifiers such as water access and waste handling. Both options would permit slaughtering facilities larger than 10,000 square feet as a conditional use.

One additional point: The county already permits slaughtering facilities in specialized industrial zones; and no argument has been made—other than land prices in developed versus undeveloped areas—that what is currently permitted does not meet both need and demand.

For a column that attempts to make sense of public policy matters, the slaughterhouse issue has frankly eluded and mystified the Gristle. The controversy makes no objective sense. Between an admission that one or two small livestock processing facilities strategically sited on otherwise unproductive ag land could prove useful to county farmers and local food initiatives to throwing open the entire county to unlimited bloodsport is a vast unexplored continent of public policy compromise. The chasm is analogous to asking for a small glass of water and being instead knocked down by a battalion of firehoses; and the fact that significant numbers on council evidently cannot perceive the scale and scope of the chasm suggests something deeply troubling about Whatcom County Council.

Municipal governments by definition are confined to a small range of actions. They can budget. They can nudge the needle on taxes by the tiniest fraction. They can operate in limited ways as utilities. They can exercise a slim range of police powers to enact policies that promote the common good and protect the general welfare of a community, the most important of which is *zoning*.

Zoning we might define as the art and science of placing things a community needs in places neighborhoods don't want, balancing the unpleasant against utility. Zoning provides predictability in land use (when developers rage about the need for *predictability*, they are almost always seeking a *change to existing zoning*) and serves to protect certain land uses from the encroachment and conversion by competitive, incompatible uses.

Frankly, few things are more unpleasant than a slaughterhouse, animal butchering on an industrial scale, in terms of odors, noises and biohazard wastes produced. And few things require protection from encroachment and conversion more than Whatcom's dwindling supply of ag land.

It's instructive to understand how the county got here:

Someone drafted a business plan that would not pencil against land prices in areas zoned for that business. He speed-dialed a council member—in this case Barbara Brenner—to get her to run in-



views

OPINIONS » THE GRISTLE

BY JEFF MARGOLIS

Safeguard the Southfork

DIVERTING INDUSTRY TO FARMLANDS IS NO SOLUTION

A recent op-ed in the *Bellingham Herald* tosses off the notion that coal trains serving the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal at Cherry Point, should they arrive, would spoil the fun at Boulevard Park. It ever so briefly mentioned there could be "inland" impacts outside Bellingham, on the South Fork Valley.

As a business person from that seldom-seen orphan child of Whatcom County's political life, the rural Foothills community, let me suggest, "Plan way ahead, build above the tracks, create real estate and keep the train if you must, in Bellingham."

If rooftop turf is good enough for New York and Denver, then surprise us with a coalition of Bellingham developers and futurists rejecting a curse upon the county's farm land. Politics can make for strange bedfellows, but in this case, it makes sense.

Those of us who live "inland," having helped bring comprehension to the legislature's infamous "Commerce Corridor" initiative a decade ago, immediately recognized the coal port's transportation impacts. Our mantra is Safeguard the Southfork. The state's consultant drew the conclusion that putting endangered species at risk and simultaneously engendering insurmountable debt made the Commerce Corridor infeasible.

This potential corridor has come to be known as the Farmland Route, because it cuts through some of the most productive farm valleys and agricultural communities of Whatcom County. A rail expansion project might conceivably connect the existing eastern route to Cherry Point



While BNSF says it's not planning to use the Farmland Route, nothing exists to prevent the route from being used or developed as a coal transportation corridor if it is not adequately included as part of the Environment Impact Study.

through an east/west rail proposal from Lynden to Custer. While BNSF says it's not planning to use the Farmland Route, nothing exists to prevent the route from being used or developed as a coal transportation corridor if it is not adequately included as part of the Environment Impact Study.

By now everyone realizes how in-

terruptive a unit coal train is.

Traffic safety managers recognize nine strategic rail and highway intersections that would have to be spanned. Highway reconstruction would decimate Acme, Van Zandt, Deming, and Nooksack. At least four lanes, nine overpasses and numerous connecting intersections inevitably point to a transformative era for all of us.

Back this scenario up through Sedro-Woolley and Burlington, where a route to avoid Boulevard Park begins.

The irony, of course, is that the surrender of a myriad of precious sites from Wyoming to Cherry Point are in the offing. Bellingham needs to look beyond its own bailiwick.

In the end, the real issue beyond the "Coal Train" is the "Coal Port."

China's recently pronounced intent to cut carbon emissions by 20 percent by 2015 does not bode well for GPT. However, if public and private motivation remains narrow-minded rather than worldly, be assured that railroad resources to the east and north will still be engaged.

Imagine your new Whatcom at Canada's border—a progression of sprouting rail spurs, warehouses, greasy spoons, broken glass in the gutter. It won't be but a few generations and our region's bucolic brand will be nothing but a chimera.

So remember, when you Safeguard the Southfork you preserve and protect all of Whatcom County. ☺

Jeff Margolis is co-owner of Everybody's Store in Van Zandt and co-chair of the Safeguard the Southfork effort.

THE GRISTLE

terference for a zoning change. Staff planners drafted a couple of scenarios where a business of this kind might reasonably be placed in greenfields, where land prices are lower. Their recommendations were passed to the Whatcom County Planning Commission, which is where everything went off the rails.

County planning commissioners—who despise (or deeply resent) planning and rub in the term “central planning” to impart the vague stink of Evil Communism over the effort—performed a cursory interview of farmers on the issue of slaughterhouses. They learned that if farmers (who were not particularly electrified on the topic) had their druthers, they—*surprise!*—druther have the option for a land use than not have the option for a land use. Commissioners understood this to mean—*er, uh—property rights!* Pandemonium ensued, where commissioners scotched the recommendations of planning professionals and swapped in their own steaming, stinking platter of calf scours.

Council gagged at the reek, and sent the mess back to the planning commission kitchen.

Commissioners—in particular, Ben Elenbaas—then had the Madison Avenue brainwave that if an unlimited horizon of industrial slaughterhouses was an unpleasant concept, perhaps the unpleasantness could be papered over by swapping in sunnier terms. Industrial became *agricultural* (who doesn't like agriculture?); slaughterhouses became *packing houses* (packing *what*, exactly? Popsicles?).

These amateur chefs sent the same platter of liquid dairy waste back to County Council, now festooned with Orwellian sugar sprinkles. *Voila!*

Council held a subdued discussion last week as their original excitement of doing something simple on behalf of farmers disappeared into the yawning chasm of a countywide upzone that could place these polluting, unpleasant facilities subtractively right up against an organic farm or rural residential neighborhood with limited, extremely limited, environmental review or environmental safeguards. And for several of these Magoos, they can't see that chasm.

The Gristle's advice to County Council is simply this: Since this mess was created by the planning commission, and two planning commissioners (Elenbaas and commission chair Michelle Luke) are running for election to County Council, why not put off this decision until November? The election itself should serve as a unique public referendum on what is being proposed. ☺

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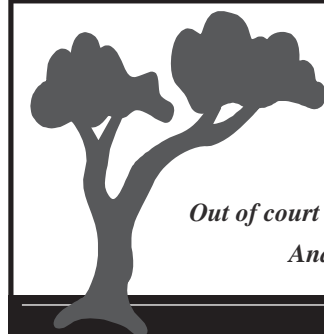
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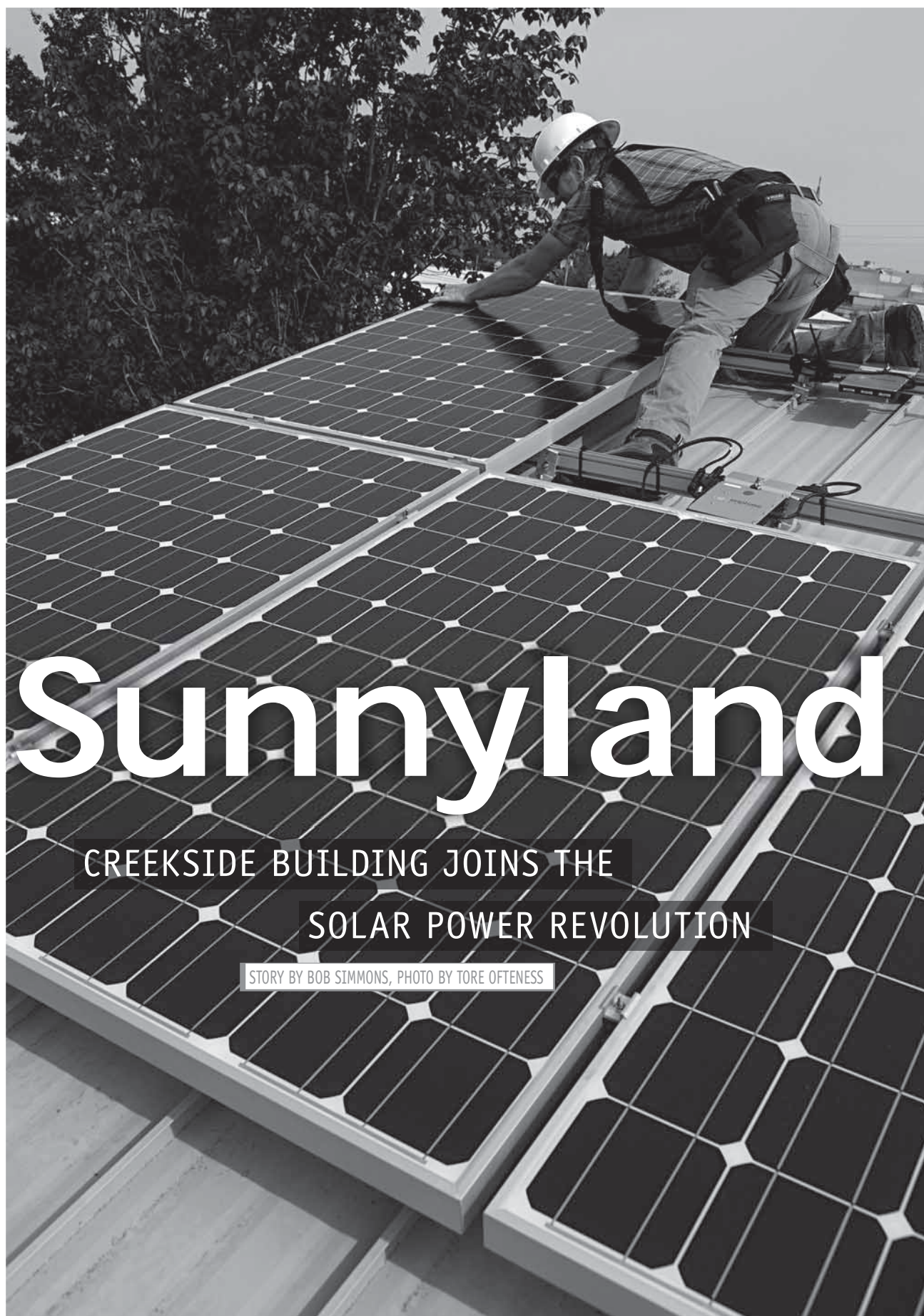
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Sunnyland

CREEKSIDO BUILDING JOINS THE
SOLAR POWER REVOLUTION

STORY BY BOB SIMMONS, PHOTO BY TORE OFTENESS

Up on the roof of his old, renovated building in Sunnyland, John Blethen yanked at some weeds pushing through a thick carpet of sedum, and talked about ways to use, responsibly, what nature provides.

A red, yellow and green meadow of succulents covers half the roof, helping to cool the building in summer, keep it cozy in winter, and hold back storm water that cascaded from the roof for decades, on its way to nearby Whatcom Falls Creek.

Known historically as the Creekside Building, this was the maintenance barn for what used to be known as Puget Sound Power and Light. Noted Bellingham architect F. Scott Piper designed it in 1929. Blethen bought it 60 years later. He adapted it to house an experimental high school, a number of artists, and the staff of Sustainable Connections, a uniquely Bellingham forum for businesses seeking environmentally upright ways to prosper.

Next door, Blethen is changing the terms of what it means to be committed to solar energy. The developer/cabinetmaker/community activist has built six adjacent mixed-use condominium buildings designed from dirt to roof for sun-borne electricity.

The building materials, including the windows, are the construction equivalent of thermal underwear. The steel roofs are tilted for a direct hit by the sun. Blethen sold four of the buildings, and their owners have installed rooftop solar arrays identical to his. Taken together, they'll produce over 35,210 watts—the largest solar installation in Whatcom County.

On a sun splashed May morning, Ecotech Energy installer John Wilkins hoists a 43-pound, three-by-five foot solar panel over his head and carries it into place on the last of the condominium roofs to be outfitted. Most of the weight is in the metal frame. The business part of the panel's a thin wafer that might be sailed onto the roof like a \$600 Frisbee. No one has tried that, so far as we know.

Wilkins follows the steel ribs that separate the panels, but assures us that stepping on the panels themselves is not a big deal. They're topped with tempered glass strong enough to endure a hail ball fired at terminal velocity.

Between the glass and a back sheet of Teflon-esque acetate, rectangles of photovoltaic cells pick up the sun's energy and transform it into electricity.

How, exactly?

"It's magic," Dana Brandt says with a smile. He owns Ecotech, the DuPont Street firm that designed and installed this state-of-the-sunshine-arts system (and fifty-some smaller ones during the past 12 months).

Silicon molecules shed electrons when agitated by the sun's rays. The electrons separate in patterns that create electric current. Each panel is mated with its own inverter, to change the DC solar current to AC and send it off to work. There are no batteries, and you can put this system on your house without rewiring.

Electricity is twin-metered at the Blethen complex. One meter reveals how much electricity the occupants are consuming. The other records how much the solar panels are sending into Puget Sound Energy's grid. PSE keeps track of how much the owners owe, or how much the utility owes them, in solar credits to be applied to their power bill during the long nights of winter.

Blethen isn't finished with the project. He plans to add solar panels to portions of the remaining roof space of the old Creekside building, to produce about 11,000 watts. He sounds happy as a kid with a new kilowatt.

"There are a number of motivations for doing all this," he says. "Number one is my responsibility to reduce my impact on the environment. On top of that, we're able to use solar panels made right here in Bellingham (by Itek, on Hammer Road, near Irongate) and the system is designed and installed by a Bellingham company (Ecotech) so we're able to help support more than 30 local jobs at those two companies."

"And when you include the incentives, the solar system pays for itself in five or six years, with about 20 years left on the warranty."

The incentives are both state and federal, and are about to diminish somewhat. Washington allows solar panels to be sold without any sales tax—an 8 percent saving in Whatcom County—but that break ends July 1.

More significant ones remain, however:

- Washington State will continue to pay solar production incentives of 15 to 54 cents per kilowatt-hour; the size of the payment depending on whether the panels are manufactured and installed by Washington companies.
- The federal government allows you

to deduct 30 percent of the installed cost of your solar array from the bottom line of your income tax.

- Net metering—generating electricity on your roof instead of buying it from the power company—comes to about 10 cents per kilowatt-hour for the life of the system, according to Ecotech.

About the same time the final panel went into place at John Blethen's project, City Council member Jack Weiss was smiling at the brand new solar array on his garage. Weiss figures the setup will give him nearly free miles, in his plug-in Prius.

The roof angle is not ideal, he says; it slants west instead of south. "But I'll still get solar power starting about 10 a.m. in summer. It's especially productive right now, as the angle of the sun moves north toward the summer solstice."

It takes about three hours for Weiss to recharge the car at night. During the daylight hours his electric meter is running backward as the solar panels feed kilowatts into Puget Sound Energy's grid; at night his car's batteries are taking some of it back.

"The first 11 or 12 miles of every trip (in the Prius) are all electric, before the engine switches to gasoline. That represents most of the trips I make in a year. Overall, it works out to about 100 miles per gallon."

As an ecology major at the University of California in Santa Cruz, Weiss joined classmates in lobbying the California Legislature for a 55-percent solar tax credit. It passed in the late 1970s and Governor Jerry Brown (yep, the same) signed it into law. It kicked off a renewable energy surge in California that's finally gaining support across much of the country, including Whatcom County, some 40 years later.

For most of the winter and spring, Whatcom County may not feel like the place for a nascent solar boom, but it pro-

duces more solar energy per capita than any other county in Washington.

Whatcom County solar has increased 1400 percent in the past six years, according to data collected by Alex Ramel, the Energy and Policy manager for Sustainable Connections.

You don't need hot weather for solar success, according to Karl Unterscheutz of Itek Energy, Bellingham's homegrown solar panel maker.

"Excess heat actually decreases the efficiency of the solar cells," Unterscheutz explains. "Seattle can produce as much solar

where Ian Woofenden lives. He's editor of a national magazine called Home Power and a non-stop solar energy enthusiast. No surprise, the island glistens with solar panels.

Unterscheutz says there are economic and cultural factors, linked to geography. "For example, in Eastern Washington there's historically cheap, subsidized power from the huge federal dams. People grow up on centralized hydro power and don't see a need to change anything."

Then there's the matter of the carbon conscience. Our upper left-hand corner

"Seattle can produce as much solar power as Miami, because of Miami's extreme summer heat."

—KARL UNTERSCHUTZ, ITEK ENERGY

power as Miami, because of Miami's extreme summer heat. Cool, breezy sunshine is ideal. That's what we've got a lot of, with our long spring and summer days."

Itek's list of back orders is months long; the company's adding workers and Unterscheutz says there's a plan to spend up to \$500,000 for new equipment to beef up production.

Those in the business talk of intangible reasons why a community goes for solar or it doesn't. Ecotech's Dana Brandt sees it developing in clusters around advocates such as his own company, and with visible models such as Blethen's and one of nearly the same size at the Cordata Food Coop on Westerly Road near Bakerview.

The fastest growing clusters of solar acceptance, Brandt says, are in Whatcom County and in Port Townsend—home to Power Trip, a company in the same business as Ecotech; and on Guemes Island,

seems to take seriously the threat of climate change. Carbon-borne global warming gets attention here. Solar power, with its leaping technical advances, could be a practical part of the solution.

Blethen feels gratified. "My neighbors and I have been able to make a statement: there are alternatives to burning up our natural resources while carbon levels are shooting upward. That's very rewarding."

As in all such movements, there's the question of critical mass.

"You have one or two solar systems in the neighborhood, people may be curious but not truly interested," Unterscheutz observes. "But you get three or four in the same cluster, and suddenly there's ten or fifteen." No one can be certain how many models like Blethen's and Weiss's it will take, to create the tipping point that leads to a rush. Itek and Ecotech will bet that Whatcom County's getting close. ☺

Whale Watching Adventure



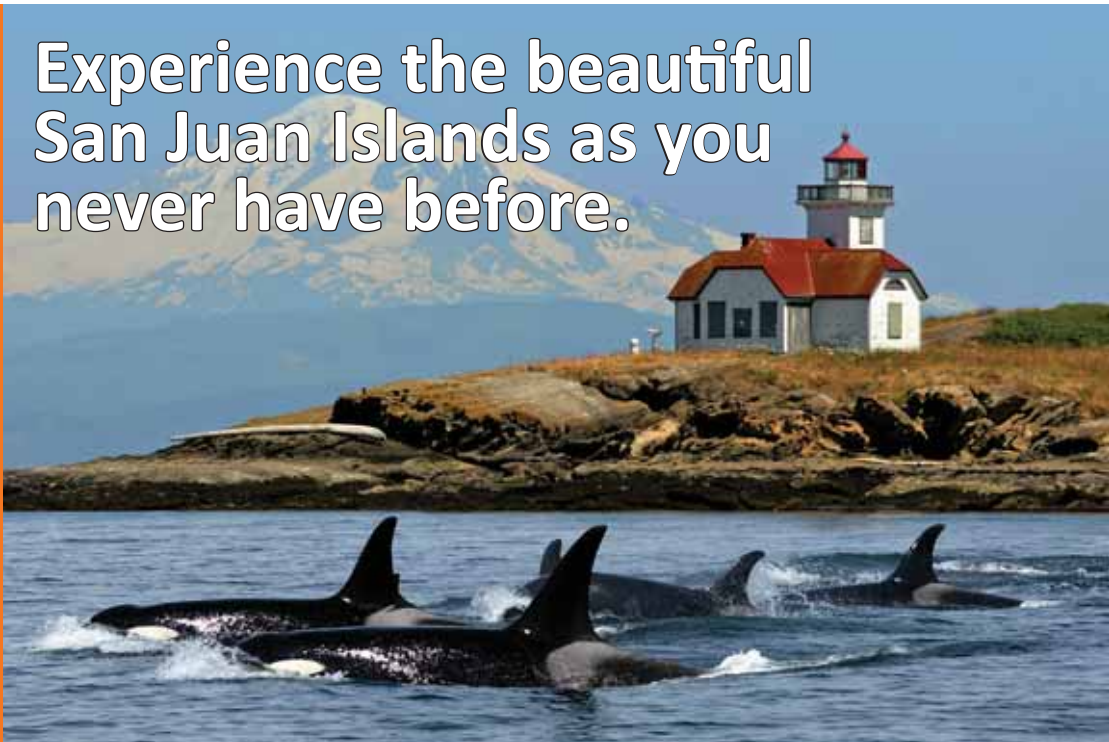
Gather up your friends and family and spend the day with us as we search the San Juans for whales and local wildlife. Includes a delicious Northwest salmon & chicken lunch, and a 2-hour visit in Friday Harbor.

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The Week that Was

LAST WEEK'S NEWS

MAY 22-28
BY TIM JOHNSON

05.22.13 WEDNESDAY

A coalition of environmental and community health organizations asks the federal government to conduct **a single wide-area study on three different coal terminal proposals** in the Pacific Northwest. The group files a petition with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, asking the Corps to evaluate the cumulative and related impacts of proposed coal export terminals at Cherry Point, Longview, and Boardman, Ore. If each is built, they would together ship more than 100 million metric tons of climate-changing coal out of the Northwest each year.

A judge clears the way for **Nooksack tribal officials to strip 306 people of their membership** in the tribe, refusing to grant an injunction that would have blocked such a move. An attorney representing some tribal members has filed a lawsuit challenging a 2013 tribal resolution to disenroll them, declaring the action violated their civil rights and discriminated against them because they are of partial Filipino descent. The resolution does provide disenrolled members the right to reapply and have a hearing before a tribal judge, and Nooksack Tribal Chief Judge Raquel Montoya-Lewis admitted the possibility that disenrolled members might prevail on additional legal matters still pending.

05.26.13 SUNDAY

Rain and sun alike fall on revelers and racers in the 2013 Ski to Sea race. As usual, **Barron Heating won the competition**, with the



PHOTO COURTESY OF WSDOT

Three people are injured and Interstate-5 is closed near the Skagit River after a section of the bridge over the river collapsed Thursday evening. The section plunged into the water when a truck with an oversized load struck a support truss on the aging structure. Gov. Jay Inslee, surveying the damage, vows a thorough investigation into the cause of the collapse but says his top priority is getting a temporary bridge built to restore commerce on the I-5 corridor.

company's kayaker finishing the final leg of the relay race well ahead of other competitors.

05.28.13 TUESDAY

As Memorial Weekend ends, motorists navigate the extensive detours required due to the loss of the I-5 bridge over the Skagit River. Gov. Jay Inslee promises the resources of the Dept. of Transportation to assist with the commute and says **the department has already begun plans to build a temporary bridge**. The governor says if all goes well,

the temporary structure could be ready for traffic by the middle of June. A permanent span could be in place as early as this fall.

The state Attorney General's Office files **an appeal of a federal ruling ordering the state to fix culverts** that block salmon passages. Responding to a petition by the tribes, the federal ruling requires the state to fix hundreds of culverts around the state in an effort to improve fishing stocks. State officials have said the ruling could cost billions of dollars—money the state doesn't have. ☹

NORTHWEST PASSAGES



Whatcom County Executive **Jack Louws** reported the county is on sound financial footing. Sketching the "State of the County" in his address to the seated council Tuesday evening, Louws admitted, "The one overarching financial and operational concern that I have about Whatcom County government is that we lose sight of the big picture of maintaining a healthy tension between provision of present day services and that of investing for the future."

Two senior Western Washington University administrators are leaving.



Catherine Riordan is resigning as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at WWU, concluding her service in that position in July. Riordan led through a challenging period at the university—a reorganizing of deans and departments, unionizing efforts by faculty, and a change of leadership in presidents.

Wendy Bohlke, legal counsel for Western for 30 years, will also retire from the Office of the Washington State Attorney General, effective July 1. Bohlke has worked with four Western presidents (and two interim Western presidents), nine WWU provosts, three community college presidents and many trustees, administrators, faculty, staff and students. She has served five Washington state attorney generals.

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FUZZ BUZZ



IT ALL ENDS IN FAIRHAVEN

On May 24, a bar on Holly Street wanted a drunk booted from the place for six months because of bad behavior and refusing to leave when asked. Bellingham Police arrived and applied the boot.

On May 25, Bellingham Police scolded a drunk who attempted to go through a Samish Way drive-thru at 3am in his underwear.

On May 26, Bellingham Police checked on a man passed out drunk on a sidewalk in Birchwood neighborhood.

On May 24, Bellingham Police spoke to a drunk transient who was wandering through Fairhaven, muttering profanity to an imaginary friend. An officer observed the man make disparaging remarks to two people and warned the man to behave himself. The officer suggested the man apologize to the people. He did.

UNCLEAR ON THE SEQUENCE

On May 20, a drunk teen stole a ski mask from a store in downtown Bellingham. He was caught and arrested.

On May 25, Bellingham Police spoke to two people spotted driving near Walmart with masks on their faces.

ALIEN SKIES

On May 3, the Sedro-Woolley saucer nest was active again. Observers provided a lengthy and detailed account of three unidentified objects traveling at high speed over the east end of Burlington. The objects were described as translucent spheres, intensely illuminated from within, with oscillating levels of brightness. After the objects fled, observers noted two fast-moving intercepting aircraft, possibly dispatched from Whidbey Island Naval Air Station, theobservers speculated.

WHO WOULD JESUS FIGHT?

On May 26, two men got in a fight at a church east of Bellingham. Police arrived and issued a warning to one of the combatants.

On May 25, two men got in a fight at the Barkley Village Cinema. Police cited both for assault.

GOLD COAST REALTORS

On May 15, a Birch Bay family contacted police after discovering a Craigslist ad for a rental home in Blaine was fraudulent. "Fortunately," police reported, "they

had the foresight to drive by the home that was listed, and happened to meet the homeowner who was happily in residence and unaware of the good deal some stranger was offering for her house. An officer took a preliminary report and also referred the reporting party to a clearinghouse website for reporting internet fraud, as the apparent suspect claimed to be working from Nigeria."

LEO IN SLUMBERLAND

On May 15, Blaine Police were dispatched to a 911 call reporting a disturbance at a downtown apartment. "The second time the caller told dispatchers that he was being beaten and needed help," law enforcement officers reported. "The arriving officer found the caller in the same position and condition as he had been on the first call: drunk and asleep, deeply dreaming an intoxicated drama. The cops in his head must have done their job, as dispatch did not receive a call number three," police commented.

NOT YOU AGAIN!

On May 16, a Blaine patrol officer observed two pitbulls unleashed and running loose. The officer recognized the animals from a similar recent encounter. "The dog owner was located and cited for failing to obtain licenses for his pets and for allowing the dogs to roam off-leash," police reported.

THE GIFT OF GRIFT

On May 22, Bellingham Police spoke to a woman who was using a 10-year-old child to hustle money from strangers.

PAY NO GST!

On May 21, security at Bellis Fair Mall approached a woman at her car after she'd been observed making two trips out of a store with merchandise she had failed to pay for. When security approached, she jumped in her car and sped off in her Canadian-plated minivan, Bellingham Police reported.

HOTEL STAIRWELL

On May 21, Bellingham Police roused several men, ranging in ages from 49 to 60, sleeping in a covered alcove of a downtown building clearly marked with a No Trespassing sign. The men were arrested.

On May 23, two transients were found sleeping in the children's play area at a daycare center in downtown Bellingham. The daycare center asked for additional patrols to deter the increase in the homeless population camping on their property.

On May 22, Bellingham Police checked on a homeless family that was setting up a camp in Whatcom Falls Park. Police advised them that while the park is scenic, municipal code forbids camping there. Police filed their concerns about the welfare of the family's children. ☺

[index]



\$15

ESTIMATED millions of dollars required to replace the aging I-5 bridge over the Skagit River. A span of the bridge collapsed last week.

71,000

APPROXIMATE number of vehicles who cross the Skagit River on I-5 each day.

4

PERCENT of the state's \$3.1 billion 2013 transportation budget spent on alternative modes of transportation, such as mass transit. State Republicans say that spending comes at the expense of highway construction and maintenance, about 84 percent of WSDOT's operating budget.

-8

PER capita demand for vehicle travel fell by about 8 percent statewide between 2000 and 2009. Meanwhile, transit ridership has increased by about 10 percent in the same time period.

400

NUMBER of structurally deficient bridges in Washington. More than 35 percent of the state's bridges are past their design life of 50 years.

11

WASHINGTON'S highways are among the worst in the nation, according to ASCE. Reduced maintenance has caused an 11 percent increase in state highway paving backlog and a 32 percent decrease in county road paving.

16

MILLIONS of tons of hazardous waste generated in Washington by citizens, industry and manufacturing in 2010.

\$2

AMOUNT needed, in billions, to improve the state's rail systems to modern standards. More than 90 percent of needed improvement projects are unfunded.

\$3.6

ESTIMATED investment in national infrastructure, in trillions, needed by 2020 to forestall disaster, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers.

SOURCES: Washington State Dept. of Transportation; American Society of Cincil Engineers (ASCE) 2013 Infrastructure Report Card

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05.29.13

#22.08

CASCADIA WEEKLY

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words

COMMUNITY » LECTURES » BOOKS



BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Serving the Queen

A PEEK INSIDE THE PALACE

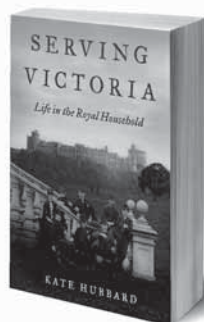
Happily ever after.

That's how things go at the end of a fairy tale. The handsome prince weds the beautiful princess, dragons are slain, wicked witches become dust, peasants rejoice and they all live—well, you know what comes next.

But maybe you're wrong. Maybe scandal comes next, or war, disease and death. Only the servants know for sure, and in Kate Hubbard's new book, *Serving Victoria*, they were also quite willing to tell.

When Alexandrina Victoria became Queen of England in 1837, she inherited a court filled with impropriety, which scandalized the young woman. Though she ultimately retained some of her uncle's court, she needed to appoint her own ladies-in-waiting, maids-of-honor, nursery attendants, physicians and other personal staff.

Members of Victoria's court were required to have a sense of duty, discretion and high morals. Most of them would come from British



aristocracy.

While writing a children's book on the Queen, Kate Hubbard came across collections of letters and diaries written by various members of Victoria's entourage—penned notes that detailed life inside the Monarchy, including daily drudgery and isolation. Hubbard also found gossip that gives modern Anglophiles an intimate peek at the Queen, her husband, uncles and other members of the Royal Family.

Working for the Queen seems like it would be an honor but it was, in truth, dull and dreary: evenings, for instance, consisted of stiff dinner conversation followed by two hours of small talk. The Queen was said to be somewhat immature and loud, often "showing her gums." More than one blue-blooded Palace employee thought Victoria and Albert were the 19th-century equivalents of trailer trash.



GET IT

WHAT: *Serving Victoria*, by Kate Hubbard

WHERE: Harper, 2013

INFO: www.harpercollins.com

Yes, there were scandals within the Monarchy. There were births and deaths (it was said that the Queen was never happier than when planning a funeral). There were romances, public and imagined. And there were fights, inside both the British Empire and the Palace walls.

So you're hooked on a show about a certain Abbey? You're a rabid Anglophile, long live the Queen? Then I'm sure you're already itching for *Serving Victoria*.

And for good reason: the Victorian Age comes alive with Hubbard's findings, taking us behind brocaded curtains and inside bedchambers to learn delicious tidbits about a woman who's been dead more than a century, but still remains fascinating.

I thoroughly enjoyed how Hubbard lays down a cheeky, gossipy tone; she's chatty, but without offending the sensibilities of historians, who will likewise relish this semi-biographical narrative.

Monarch-watchers will also like this book, as will British subjects, or anyone who's interested in or wishes they'd experienced late-Victorian or early-Edwardian life. If that's you, then *Serving Victoria* is a book you'll devour, quite happily. ☺

doit

WORDS

WED., MAY 29

FREE BOY: Judy Bentley and Lorraine McConaghy will read from their book *Free Boy: A True Story of Slave and Master* at 7pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St. The biography explores issues of race, slavery, treason, and secession in Washington Territory.

WWW.VILLAGEBOOKS.COM

THURS., MAY 30

FREEDOM SAILORS: Co-editors and authors William Dienst and David Schermerhorn read from their book *Freedom Sailors* at 7pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St. The book focuses on a grandiose plan to break Israel's illegal military blockade of the Gaza Strip, a blockade that keeps more than 1.5 million people in an open-air prison.

WWW.VILLAGEBOOKS.COM

FRI., MAY 31

SANDCASTLE STORIES: San Juan Island-based author Justin Bog reads from his new *Sandcastle & Other Stories* collection at 7pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St.

671-2626

SAT., JUNE 1

UNCOILING AND CHEATING: Judith Marcus reads from her autobiographical tome, *Uncoiling: A Memoir of Anxiety, Aneurysm and Renewal* at 4pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St. At 7pm, Rae Ellen Lee Read from *Cheating the Hog: A Sawmill, A Tragedy, A Few Gutsy Women*. Both events are free.

671-2626

SUN., JUNE 2

FREEFALL: Writer and instructor Barbara Turner-Vesselago shares ideas from her how-to book, *Writing Without a Parachute: The Art of Freefall*, at 2pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St.

WWW.VILLAGEBOOKS.COM

MON., JUNE 3

POETRYNIGHT: Those looking to share their verse as part of Poetrynight can sign up at 7:30pm at the Black Drop Coffeehouse, 300 W. Champion St. Readings start at 8pm. Entry is free.

WWW.POETRYNIGHT.ORG

TUES., JUNE 4

TEMPLE GROVE: Whitman College creative



View a menagerie of tractors, cars, trucks, horses and more at the annual Farmer's Day Parade June 1 in downtown Lynden

writing instructor Scott Elliott reads from his new book of fiction, *Temple Grove*, at 7pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St.

671-2626

THURS., JUNE 6

SHOOTING AND REDEMPTION: Nancy Bartley shares tales from her new book, *The Boy Who Shot the Sheriff: The Redemption of Herbert Nicolls Jr.*, at 7pm at Village Books, 1200 11th St. The story focuses on the true-life tale of a 12-year-old boy who shot and killed a small-town Washington sheriff in 1931.

WWW.VILLAGEBOOKS.COM

COMMUNITY

MAY 31-JUNE 2

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES: Piping, dance and athletic competitions, fiddling and other musical performances, parades, activities for kids, a beer garden, rugby games, food, storytelling and much, much more will be part of the annual Bellingham Scottish Highland Games happening from 6-9pm Friday, 7am-6pm Saturday, and 7am-2pm Sunday at Ferndale's Hovander Homestead Park. Entry is free on Friday, \$15 Saturday, and \$10 Sunday.

WWW.BELLINGHAMHIGHLAND.ORG

BLAST FROM THE PAST: A quilt show, craft and food vendors, a car show, open houses, live music, sidewalk sales, an organized bike ride and more will be part of the annual "Blast from the Past" from 9am-6pm Friday, 9am-4pm Saturday, and 9am-2:30pm Sunday throughout Sedro-Woolley. Many events are free.

WWW.SEDRO-WOOLLEY.COM

SAT., JUNE 1

FARMER'S DAY PARADE: An eclectic menagerie of cars, bands, tractors, trucks and horses will help salute the agriculture industry of Whatcom County at the annual Farmer's Day Parade starting at 10:30am in downtown Lynden. The event has been happening since the early 1900s, when the farmers of the Lynden area took to the streets to show off their produce and animals.

WWW.LYNDEN.ORG

JUNE 1-2

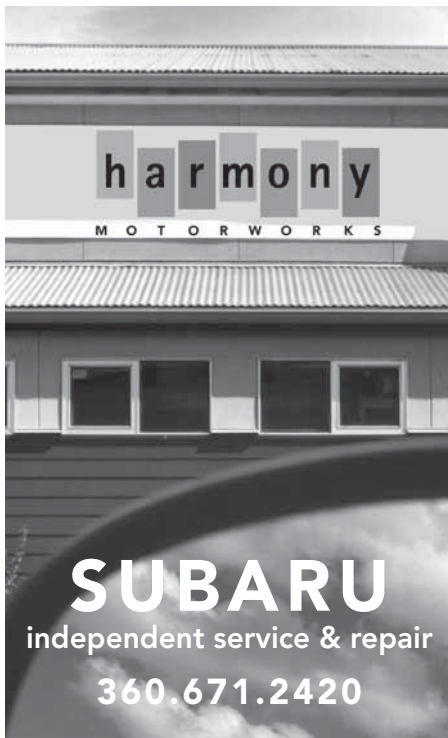
BIG BIRD FLY-IN: Dozens of aerobatic, radio-controlled planes will take to the air at the Bell Air RC Flyers Club's annual "Big-Bird Fly-In" from 9am-5pm Saturday and Sunday at Ferndale's Red River Rd. The show is free but donations of nonperishable food items or cash are accepted and will be given to the food bank.

WWW.BELLAIRRCFLYERS.COM

WED., JUNE 5

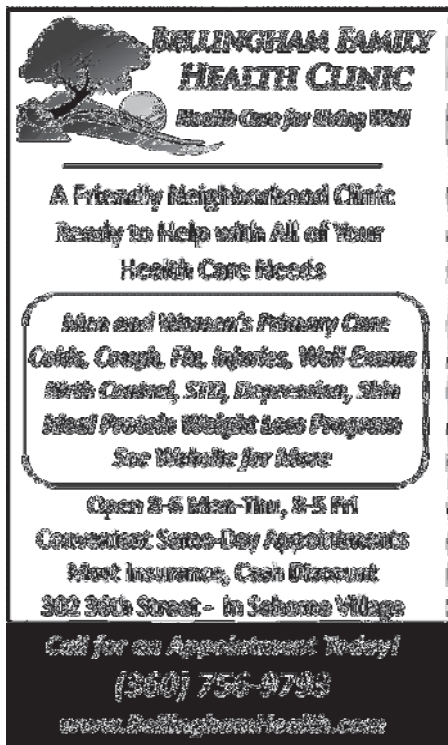
GREEN DRINKS: Kulshan Community Land Trust will host the monthly Green Drinks gathering and open house from 5-7pm at the organization's Indiana Street Homes, located at 2784 and 2788 Indiana St. Home tours and beverages by donation will be provided at the event, which is free and open to all members of the community.

WWW.RE-SOURCES.ORG



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BY AMY KEPFERLE

Blazing Paddles

A WORLD OF WATER

The last time I heard from Susan Conrad, she was helping raise money for Bellingham’s Community Boating Center by giving a presentation focusing on the 1,100-mile kayaking journey she’d undertaken in 2010 that focused on her solo adventures throughout the Inside Passage.

When Conrad contacted me a couple weeks ago to alert me about “Blazing Paddles”—Reel Paddling Film Festival’s 8th annual showcase of flicks featuring sea kayaking, whitewater kayaking, canoeing, rafting, stand-up paddle boarding and other footage from around the world—I paid attention. After all, if a woman as daring as Conrad is was excited about the roster of films, they must be worth paying attention to.

“Highlights include an accomplished Class V whitewater paddler finding strength, challenge and meaning on the river after being paralyzed from the waist down in a skiing accident; a surf ski flick that will get your heart racing; and some incredible whale footage so close you’ll feel like you’re right there next to them in your kayak,” Conrad says of the June 6 event, which will take place at Mount Vernon’s Lincoln Theatre.

And, since long-distance expedition pad-

dling is Conrad’s specialty, she’s happy to report the film festival will also include a documentary following four men in canoes through approximately 2,600 miles of self-propelled adventure—beginning in Alaska and ending in Hudson Bay. Another film, she notes, highlights a British couple’s 1,000-mile sea kayak trek in South America’s Tierra del Fuego islands.

“Shipping delays, a stolen kayak, endless red tape, incessant winds and injury all added drama to this amazing undertaking,” Conrad says.

Although Conrad stresses that “Blazing Paddles” isn’t just for those who make paddlesports a part of their everyday lives, she does allow there are common elements for those who love to get from point A to point B via lakes, oceans, rivers and various other bodies of water.

“I think paddlers love the sense of adventure and freedom that comes with being on the water,” she says. “From the vantage point of a low-slung cockpit, one’s perspective, sense of scale and appreciation (and sometimes fear!) for all that we encounter is pretty amazing stuff.

“When I get into a kayak my mind defaults into a sublime state within a few strokes. No matter how crummy my day might be going, settling into a kayak is like pressing the ‘reset’ button. Paddling helps me establish and maintain balance, stability, grace and focus in life when off the water.”

As a year-round kayaker, Conrad is aware that not every moment spent paddling is going to go perfectly. But after traversing more than 1,100 miles from Anacortes to Skagway, Alaska a few summers ago—and dealing with bears, bad weather, hypothermia and other obstacles along the way—she’s confident she can take care of herself while still doing what she loves.

It’s likely that among the gathering of people who show up to watch “Blazing Paddles,” Conrad will be asked if she plans to paddle the Inside Passage again. It’s a question she gets often, and the answer is that she’d repeat the journey “in a heartbeat.”

Meanwhile, she and her boyfriend are tackling legs of the trek she made in 2010, with an autumnal journey planned that will take them from their house on the Stillaguamish River to Powell River, which was her first re-supply point when she made the trip on her own.

“We’ll get it done!” Conrad says, and, given her past, I believe her. ☺



SEE IT
WHAT: Blazing Paddles: A Celebration of Paddlesports Around the World
WHEN: 7-10pm Thurs., June 6
WHERE: Mount Vernon’s Lincoln Theatre, 712 S. First ST.
COST: \$12
INFO: www.paddle4ever.com or lincolntheatre.org



Dachshunds and their proud owners can converge in front of Bellingham's Amtrak Station June 1 for the second annual "Doxie Walk"

THURS., MAY 30

DOWNTOWN PLANT WALK: Join members of the Komo Kulshan chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society for a "Downtown Plants" excursion at 6pm starting at the Environmental Learning Center at Bellingham's Maritime Heritage Park. The walk will be led by anthropologist Allan Richardson, co-author of *Nooksack Place Names*. Entry is free.

WWW.WNPS.ORG

FRI., MAY 31

WILD THINGS: Kids, adults and adventurers can join Wild Whatcom Walks for "Wild Things" excursions from 9:30-11am every Friday in May at Cornwall Park. Entry is by donation.

WWW.WILDWHATCOM.ORG

CEMETERY TOUR: "Bayview's Beginnings" will be the focus of a tour starting at 12:30pm at Bayview Cemetery, 1420 Woburn St. Admission is free, but reservations are required.

778-7150

SAT., JUNE 1

WALKING CLUB: Whether you're looking to improve or compete, all are welcome at the weekly Fairhaven Walking Club led by Cindy Paffumi starting at 8am at various locations in Fairhaven. Walk routes and meeting places change from week to week. All paces are welcome.

676-4955 OR 319-3350

RAIN GARDEN TOUR: Join RE Sources, Sustainable Connections, and the City of Bellingham for a "Rain Garden Tour" from 9:30am-12:30pm leaving from Bloedel Donovan, 2214 Electric Ave. Tickets are \$20 and include transportation and a box lunch. There'll also be a free "Watershed-Friendly Project Expo" from 1-3pm at Bloedel Donovan.

WWW.RAINGARDENTOUR.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM

TRAIL DAY WORK PARTY: As part of National Trails Day, join the Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition, REI, and Backcountry Horsemen for a work party from 9am-1:30pm on Blanchard Mountain's Lily and Lizard Lake Trail. A barbecue will take place following the service project.

WWW.WHIMPSTB.ORG OR WWW.REI.COM

HUMAN RACE: Pick your favorite local non-profit to support as part of "The Human Race," Whatcom Volunteer Center's annual fundraiser, starting at 10am at the Squalicum Boathouse

at Bellingham's Zuanich Point Park. Entry is to the 5K is \$25-\$35, and entry to the 10K is \$35-\$45 (family rates are available).

WWW.HUMANRACEWVC.ORG

DOXIE WALK: All dachshunds and dachshund lovers are invited to take part in the 5th annual Doxie Walk starting at 10am at the steps of Fairhaven's Amtrak Station, 401 Harris Ave. After a few minutes to "let the dogs sniff and smell for a while," the walk will continue on to Marine Park and back.

303-9202

ROSE WORKSHOP: "Growing Roses Easily" will be the focus of a free workshop at 10am at Bakerview Nursery, 945 E. Bakerview Rd. Please register in advance.

WWW.BAKERVIEWNURSERY.COM

JUNE 1-2

ANACORTES WATERFRONT FESTIVAL: Attend the annual "Anacortes Waterfront Festival" from 10am-6pm Saturday and 10am-5pm Sunday at various locales in downtown Anacortes. A boat show, educational displays, a Milk Carton Derby, a Custom Classic Car Show, boat rides, historical tours, a high tide bike ride, a radio-controlled sailboat regatta, a swap meet and art shows will be part of the weekend of festivities. Prices to take part in the races vary, and many events are free.

WWW.ANACORTES.ORG

SUN., JUNE 2

RABBIT RIDE: Join members of the Mt. Baker Bike Club for the weekly "Rabbit Ride" starting at 8:30am at Fairhaven Bike & Ski, 1108 11th St. The 32-mile route sees riders heading down Chuckanut and back via Lake Samish.

733-4433 OR WWW.MTBAKERBIKECLUB.ORG

SUMMER RIDES: As part of Everybody Bike's Summer Rides series, show up for "That '70s Ride" starting at 1pm at the Black Market Boutique, 2010 N. State St. Wear the craziest polyester shirt you can find, and ride from the store to the Railroad Trail at Alabama Bridge for a group photo—and beyond. Entry is free and no registration is required.

WWW.EVERYBODYBIKE.COM

FLY A KITE: Attend a "Fly a Kite, Help a Child" fundraiser from 2-5pm at Lake Padden Park, 4882 Samish Way. Kites are \$15-\$20, and proceeds will benefit the Afghan Child Project.

FLYAKITEHELPACHILD@GMAIL.COM

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SUNDAY, JUNE 16: Trees & Ties
1pm at Fanatik Bike Co.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30: Chocolate Detectives
1pm at Kulshan Cycles on Chestnut Street.

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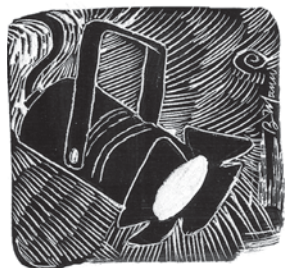
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stage

THEATER » DANCE » PROFILES



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BY AMY KEPFERLE

Chicks in Space

A STAR-STUDDERD CABARET

When the local cabaret variety group known as the Provocateurs decided to explore femininity via the adventures of an outer space journey, they became stalled when it came time to make the story flow. Not long afterwards, they reached out to local playwright and actor Pete Crandall for help with the script. Crandall took the writing reins with gusto, and secured the talents of Becca Temple to direct the show. The result is "Sci-Fi Cabaret: Chicks in Space."

Cascadia Weekly: How did the collaboration between you guys and the Provocateurs come about?

Pete Crandall: I had worked with Noelle Kurzen Burns (the captain) at the iDiOM Theater before and Sara Southerland (the Queen) at a Clambake Christmas show. They knew I was a writer and asked me if I would be

interested in a collaboration. Since I was in another show at the time, I enlisted the help of Becca to complete the vision.

CW: What was the scriptwriting process like?

PC: It was quite a challenge. As a writer, I start with a story; as dancers, they start with the dances. This required a sort of reverse engineering, for lack of a better term.

CW: Becca, did you help choreograph as well as direct, or work with the Provocateurs jointly on that end of things?

Becca Temple: I gave my input for the begin-

ning and end of each dance to work with the staging, but these ladies know what they're doing, so I didn't need to make changes.

CW: As a couple, did you two seek out each other's help when it came to writing and directing?

PC: Definitely and without a doubt.

BT: This was the first project we worked on together, and it couldn't have gone better. Pete gave the show a body and a face, I gave it a costume and put makeup on it.

CW: How would you describe "Chicks in Space" to somebody who'd never heard of a sci-fi cabaret?

BT: It's the best of both worlds, you get to geek out and watch hot women dance. If you don't like one, you're sure to like the other.

PC: A blend of story and dance set against the backdrop of the universe following the adventures of the Unification starship *Aphrodite*.

CW: What's the plot?

PC: Strange energy waves have been affecting the fabric of space.



After the disappearance of the *USS Epimethius*, the *USS Aphrodite* is dispatched to investigate the disturbance and rescue the crew of the *Epimethius*.

GET IT

WHAT: The Provocateurs present "Sci-Fi Cabaret: Chicks in Space"

WHEN: 9pm May 31-June 1 and June 6-8

WHERE: Spark Museum of Electrical Invention, 1312 Bay St.

COST: \$10-\$12; \$7 at the door Thurs., June 6

INFO: www.sparkmuseum.org

CW: What was your favorite part of helping put this together?

BT: Everything. I know that sounds cheesy, but I've had the best time. Pete and I have been talking about working together for more than four years, and we got the chance to do it. The Provocateurs have been amazing and totally willing to go on this crazy journey with

us. Together we've really made this something totally unique to what you've seen in cabaret before.

CW: There's a line in the press release about this being a "campy yet thoughtful exploration of femininity throughout the galaxy." Can you elaborate?

PC: Burlesque has meant a lot of different things to a lot of different people over the years, but at the heart of it there's always been an element of sexuality, empowerment and humor. These things are inherent to burlesque.

BT: The script is ridiculous and the premise is absurd. But, at the same time we talk about what it is to be a woman and how feminism and sexism are not the same thing.

CW: What would you say to get Bellingham to come out and support "Chicks in Space?"

BT: Come see a wacky trek across the stars—a tale of equality, love, loss and chicks dancing. ☺

STAGE

THURS., MAY 30

GOOD, BAD, UGLY: Watch "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" at 8pm every Thursday at the Upfront Theatre, 1208 Bay St. At 10pm, stick around for the "Project." Entry is \$4-\$7.

733-8855 OR WWW.THEUPFRONT.COM

MAY 30-JUNE 2

A ROTTEN DEMISE: The murder mystery dinner theater, *A Rotten Demise*, shows at 7:30pm Thursday and at 6:30pm Sunday at Mount Vernon's 1st Street Cabaret, 612 S. 1st St. Tickets to the interactive theatrical experience are \$45, and additional showings happen Thursdays and Sundays through June 27.

WWW.RIVERBELLEDINNERTHEATRE.COM

MAY 31-JUNE 1

WOMAN IN BLACK: Stephen Malatratt's ghostly thriller, *The Woman in Black*, opens this weekend with 8pm performances Friday and Saturday at the Anacortes Community Theatre, 918 M Ave. Tickets are \$18 and additional showings happen through June 22.

WWW.ACTTHEATRE.COM

ABILENE: Follow Captain Gideon Harris and his struggles to bring the first cattle drive to the town of Abilene, Kansas, when the fifth and final episode of Ben Eisner's five-part serial play, *Abilene* shows at 8pm and 10pm shows Friday and Saturday at the iDIOM Theater, 1418 Cornwall Ave. Tickets are \$10.

201-5464 OR WWW.IDIOMTHEATER.COM

SHOWCASES & HODGEPODGE: Ensembles that have been created to present special high-caliber improv performances can be seen at "Group Showcases" gigs at 8pm at the Upfront Theatre, 1208 Bay St. At 10pm, show up for "Hodgepodge" shows. Tickets are \$8-\$10.

733-8855 OR WWW.THEUPFRONT.COM

SAT., JUNE 1

PRODUCERS AUDITIONS: Audition for the Mount Baker Theatre's upcoming Main Stage Repertory production of *The Producers* from 1-4pm at the MBT's Encore Room, 104 N. Commercial St. Both paid and non-paid parts are available. Rehearsals begin Sept. 14, and performances begin Sept. 25. Please schedule a time in advance.

510-2587 OR ALISON.TERRY@

MOUNTBAKERTHEATRE.COM

IMPROV FOR EDUCATION: A student improv comedy performance, dinner, live and silent auctions and a dessert dash will be part of Community in Schools of Whatcom County's 5th annual "Improv for Education" fundraiser from 6:30-8pm at Broadway Hall, 1300 Broadway. All proceeds will benefit students. Entry is free; please register in advance (and donate!).

WWW.WHATCOMCOUNTY.CISWA.ORG

PROMISES PLAY: Go back to the times before, during and after the signing of the Point Elliott Treaty of 1855 at a *What About Those Promises?* performance at 7pm at Bellingham High School, 2020 Cornwall Ave. The play features some highly prominent Coast Salish leaders as well as a full compliment of Lummi singers, dancers and mask dancers. Entry is \$10 at the door; proceeds benefit the Lummi Youth Academy.

(360) 312-2147

SUN., JUNE 2

DYNAMO: Discover a new way to spend your Sunday nights when "Dynamo" shows at 8pm at the Upfront Theatre, 1208 Bay St. The performances feature 12 improvisers vying for the "Dynamo" title through a series of games and elimination rounds. Entry is \$2.

733-8855 OR WWW.THEUPFRONT.COM

MON., JUNE 3

GUFFAWINGHAM: A new weekly open mic for comedians, dubbed "Guffawingham!," takes place at 8pm Mondays at the Green Frog, 1015 N. State St.

WWW.ACOUSTICTAVERN.COM

JUNE 3-4

WILLY WONKA AUDITIONS: The Theater Arts Guild will hold auditions for upcoming performances of the musical *Willy Wonka* from 6-9pm Monday and Tuesday at Mount Vernon's Lincoln Theatre, 712 S. First St. There are roles for children, teens and adults.

KRISTIMUNA@YAHOO.COM OR WWW.

LINCOLNTHEATRE.ORG

DANCE

MAY 31-JUNE 1

CAPSTONE CONCERT: Up-and-coming graduating dance majors will present their final projects before transitioning into the world of professional dance at the annual "BFA Capstone Concert" at 7:30pm Friday and Saturday at WWU's Performing Arts Center, room 16. Tickets are \$8-\$12.

650-6146 OR WWW.TICKETS.WWU.EDU

SAT., JUNE 1

FOLK DANCE PARTY: The Fourth Corner Folk Dancers host their monthly First Saturday Folk Dance Party from 7:30-10:30pm at the Fairhaven Library. All ages are welcome, and no partner is necessary. Suggested donation is \$15.

380-0456

JUNE 1-2

CINDERELLA: Eighty-plus dancers will bring the timeless fairytale known as *Cinderella* to life at Northwest Ballet Theatre's production of the rags-to-riches story at 7pm Saturday and 2pm Sunday at the Mount Baker Theatre, 104 N. Commercial St. Tickets are \$15-\$24.

734-6080 OR WWW.MOUNTBAKERTHEATRE.COM

SUN., JUNE 2

AFRO-BRASILIAN FEST: The community is invited to take part in today's Afro-Braslian Festival from 10am-7pm at Western Washington University's Viking Union Multipurpose Room. Dance classes happen throughout the day, and the night ends with a 6pm Braslian banquet. Entry is free for students, \$5 general per class, and \$10 for the banquet.

WWW.CAPOEIRAWWU@YAHOO.COM

WED., JUNE 5

BALLROOM DANCING: Sentimental Journey will provide live music from the big band era at a monthly "Ballroom Dancing" gathering from 6-8pm at the Leopold Crystal Ballroom, 1224 Cornwall Ave. Admission is free, and all skill levels are invited.

733-3500

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JUNE 3-5

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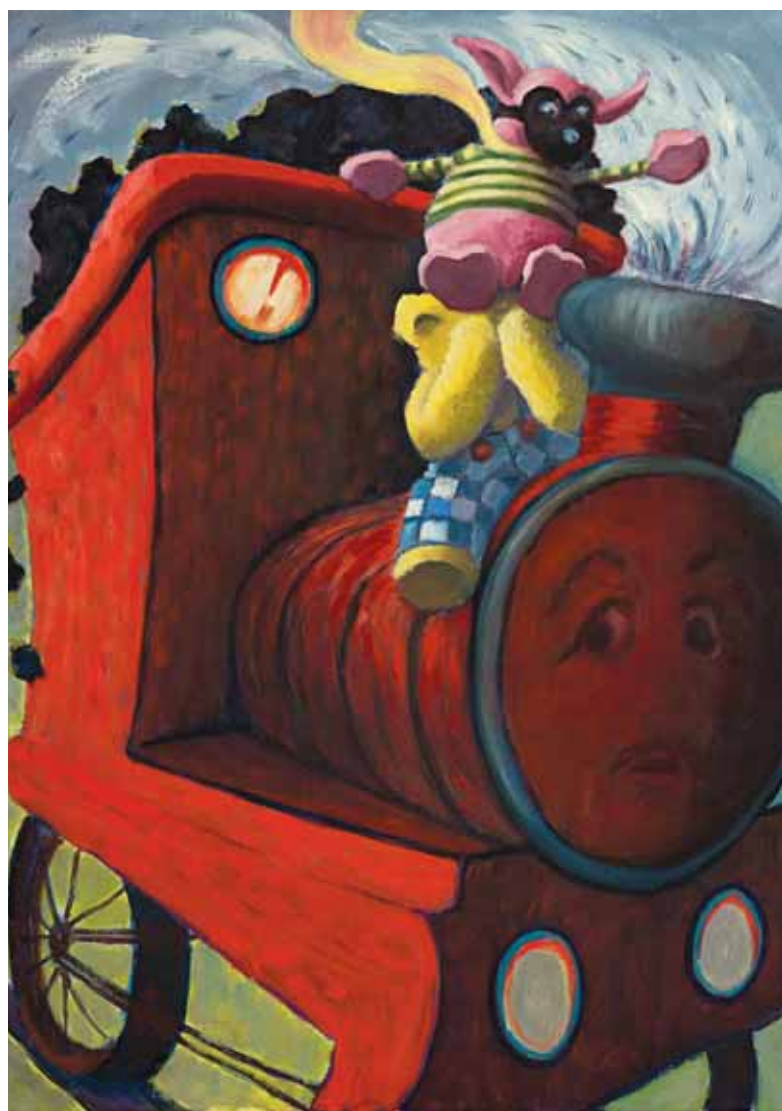
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visual

GALLERIES >> OPENINGS >> PROFILES



ART BY HELEN DORN

BY AMY KEPFERLE

Coal Train

OF ART AND ACTIVISM

Trish Harding wants the public to know that if they show up to the opening reception for Studio UFO's "Coal Train" exhibit ready to talk about the many benefits of the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal, they won't be tarred and feathered at the door.

"I'd like to stress that we're really not wanting to preach to the choir," Harding says of the show, which features paintings from more than a dozen of her longtime students who were tasked with bringing attention to the contentious issue via their artistic efforts.

That said, Harding notes that although those who took part were given the freedom to choose their platform—whether it was for the planned coal terminal in Ferndale, or against it—the 14 contributors who submitted works for "Coal Train" ultimately ended up being on the "con" side of the debate.

Even so, Harding hopes the opening night reception with the artists will

draw both those who've made up their minds that they're against the proposal, as well as those who are firmly in support of building a coal terminal on Cherry Point.

"I'm hoping people from the other side come so we can have a dialogue about it," Harding says. "I'd love to have some union and railroad people give their perspectives. I don't just want to pound people with our ideas. I think that's what's missing in politics today—people put their feet in the sand and won't budge."

Although community interaction is one of the goals Harding is striving for where "Coal Train" is involved, she says the exhibit also acted as a teaching tool. Those who took the challenge discovered more about learning to conceptualize ideas in their work. They weren't just re-creating images; they were also granted permission to paint what they wanted and step outside the box in order to make it happen.



SEE IT

WHAT: "Coal Train" Opening Reception

WHEN: 6-8pm Thurs., May 30; the gallery will also be open from 6-9pm Fri., June 7 during the downtown Art Walk

WHERE: Studio UFO, 301 W. Holly St.

INFO: www.studioufo.net

"They can see the product of the idea that anything is possible in a painting," she says. "It can enlighten, irritate, make people swoon and even make a political statement."

According to Harding, all the painters stepped up to the plate, and created images that will work to help further a community dialogue.

Because she also contributed a painting to "Coal Train," Harding says she's spent a lot of time recently thinking about the reasons why she doesn't support the coal terminal or the related issues building it might bring about—such as increased railroad traffic, coal dust and the environmental degradation of nearby bodies of water.

"I believe it is not a feasible situation to keep any kind of quality of life in Bellingham," Harding says. "It goes against what we stand for—clean air and a great place to grow. I'm also concerned about the acidification of the Sound and the shellfish industry. The terminal itself would probably be the tipping point to destroy the fishing industry in the Pacific Northwest."

If you disagree with Harding's assessment of the situation, she hopes you'll show up at the "Coal Train" opening reception Thurs., May 30—or during the month the exhibit is on display at Studio UFO—to tell her why. She promises to listen carefully. ☺

doit

UPCOMING EVENTS

WED., MAY 29

LAUNCHPAD RECEPTION: An opening reception honoring Studio Art majors at Western Washington University who are showing as part of the "Launchpad" exhibition happens from 6-8pm at the school's Western Gallery. The works—which include painting, drawing, sculpture, installation, fibers, photography, and mixed media—will be on display through June 8. Entry is free and open to the public.

📍 WWW.WESTERNGALLERY.WWU.EDU

MAY 30-JUNE 3

BFA EXHIBITS: As part of a week of exhibits showcasing works by WWU BFA students, attend an opening reception for Jarod Faw's "Con-Structures" from 5-9pm Thursday at the Lucia Douglas Gallery, 1415 13th St. From 6-9pm Saturday, June 1, there'll be a reception for Tessa Asato's "The Middle Path" and, finally, there'll be a reception from 5-9pm Mon., June 3 for Christa Dougherty's "Passages."

📍 WWW.LUCIADOUGLAS.COM

FRI., MAY 31

FINAL FRIDAY ART WALK: The monthly "Final Friday Art Walk" happens from 5-7pm a variety of venues in downtown La Conner. Entry is free.

📍 WWW.LOVELACONNER.COM

SAT., JUNE 1

INVITATIONAL RECEPTION: An opening exhibit for a large group invitational show, "From Here to There," takes place from 5-8pm at Edison's Smith & Vallee Gallery, 5742 Gilkey Ave. The works, which will be up through June 30, focus on the subject matter of movement, transition and traveling.

📍 WWW.SMITHANDVALLEE.COM

JUNE 1-2

SAN JUAN STUDIO TOUR: Fourteen art studios and 30 guest artists will be featured at the 22nd annual San Juan Island Artists' Studio Tour from 10am-5pm Saturday and Sunday throughout San Juan Island. The self-guided tour is free, and maps can be picked up at businesses in Friday Harbor or perused online.

📍 WWW.SANJUANISLANDARTISTS.COM

SUN., JUNE 2

CIRCUS ART SKETCH: Chairs and costumed models will be provided at the monthly "Circus Art Sketch" from 2-5pm at the Bellingham Circus Guild's Cirque Lab, 1401 Sixth St. Entry is \$15 and participants must bring their own easels and art materials.

📍 WWW.BELLINGHAMCIRCUSGUILD.COM

THURS., JUNE 6

BEAUTY OF GLASS: Curatorial intern Hilary Hamilton leads a walk-through tour of "Clearly Art: The Beauty of Glass" at 12:30pm at Whatcom Museum's Lightcatcher Building, 250 Flora St. Admission is \$5.

📍 WWW.WHATCOMMUSEUM.ORG

JUNE 6-8

CHARM OF SUMI-E: Japanese black ink paintings will be highlighted as part of a three-day exhibit dubbed "The Charm of Sumi-E" from 10am-5pm Thursday through Saturday at the Lucia Douglas Gallery, 1415 13th St. The show features works and demonstrations by seven artists from the rural and mountainous prefecture of Wakayama, Japan. Demos happen at

11am, 11:30am, 2pm, and 2:30pm each day.

WWW.LUCIADOUGLAS.COM

JUNE 6-9

RETROSPECTIVE IN TRANSIT: View the works of Samuel Eisen-Meyers and Tyna Ontko at "A Retrospective in Transit" exhibit from 12-5pm June 6-9 at Fairhaven Gallery, 960 Harris St., suite 103. An opening reception begins at 8pm Fri., June 7.

220-2150

ONGOING EXHIBITS

ALLIED ARTS: View works by Allied Arts Teaching Artists through May 31 at Allied Arts, 1418 Cornwall Ave.

WWW.ALLIEDARTS.ORG

ANCHOR ART SPACE: "The Harmony of Silence" shows through June 16 in Anacortes at Anchor Art Space, 216 commercial Ave.

WWW.ANCHORARTSPACE.ORG

ARTWOOD: "Wine and Cheese by Candlelight with Small Tables" will be on display through May at Artwood Gallery, 1000 Harris Ave.

WWW.ARTWOODGALLERY.COM

AVELLINO: "Sky Stories," a collaborative art show featuring works by Genevieve Gonska and Tammy Findlay, is on display through May at Avellino, 1329 Railroad Ave.

WWW.TFDESIGNPORTFOLIO.COM

BELLEWOOD ACRES: "Into the Light," a spring photography exhibit featuring works by Elvira Butler and Alma Alexander, shows through May 30 at Bellewood Acres, 6140 Guide Meridian.

WWW.BELLEWOODFARMS.COM

CHUCKANUT BREWERY: Linda Scoboria's original-cut paper pictures and prints are on display through June 1 at Chuckanut Brewery & Kitchen, 601 W. Holly St.

WWW.CHUCKANUTBREWERYANDKITCHEN.COM

FISHBOY GALLERY: Check out the contemporary folk art of RR Clark from 1:30-5pm every Mon.-Fri. at the FishBoy Gallery, 617 Virginia St.

714-0815 OR WWW.FISHBOYGALLERY.COM

GOOD EARTH: Lynn Dee's "RockFace" raku sculptures are on display through May at Good Earth Pottery, 1000 Harris Ave.

WWW.GOODEARTHPOTS.COM

HOTEL BELLWETHER: View photographer John D'Onofrio's work through June 29 at the Hotel Bellwether, 1 Bellwether Way.

WWW.ALLIEDARTS.ORG

J'S GALLERY: Works by Jay Bowen, Ed Kamuda, Dan Soler, Katie Small, Tom Pickett, Roger Small, Chuck Bankuti, and others are currently on display in La Conner at J's Gallery, 101 N. 1st St.

WWW.JAYBOWENGALLERY.COM

JANSEN ART CENTER: Sign up for classes and workshops at Lynden's new Jansen Art Center, 321

Front St. A multi-artist "Spring Showcase" will be on display through June 27.

WWW.JANSENARTCENTER.ORG

MONA: "Rik Allen: Seeker," "Allen Moe: The Earth Below," and "Structures from the Permanent Collection" will be on display through June 9 at La Conner's Museum of Northwest Art, 121 S. First St.

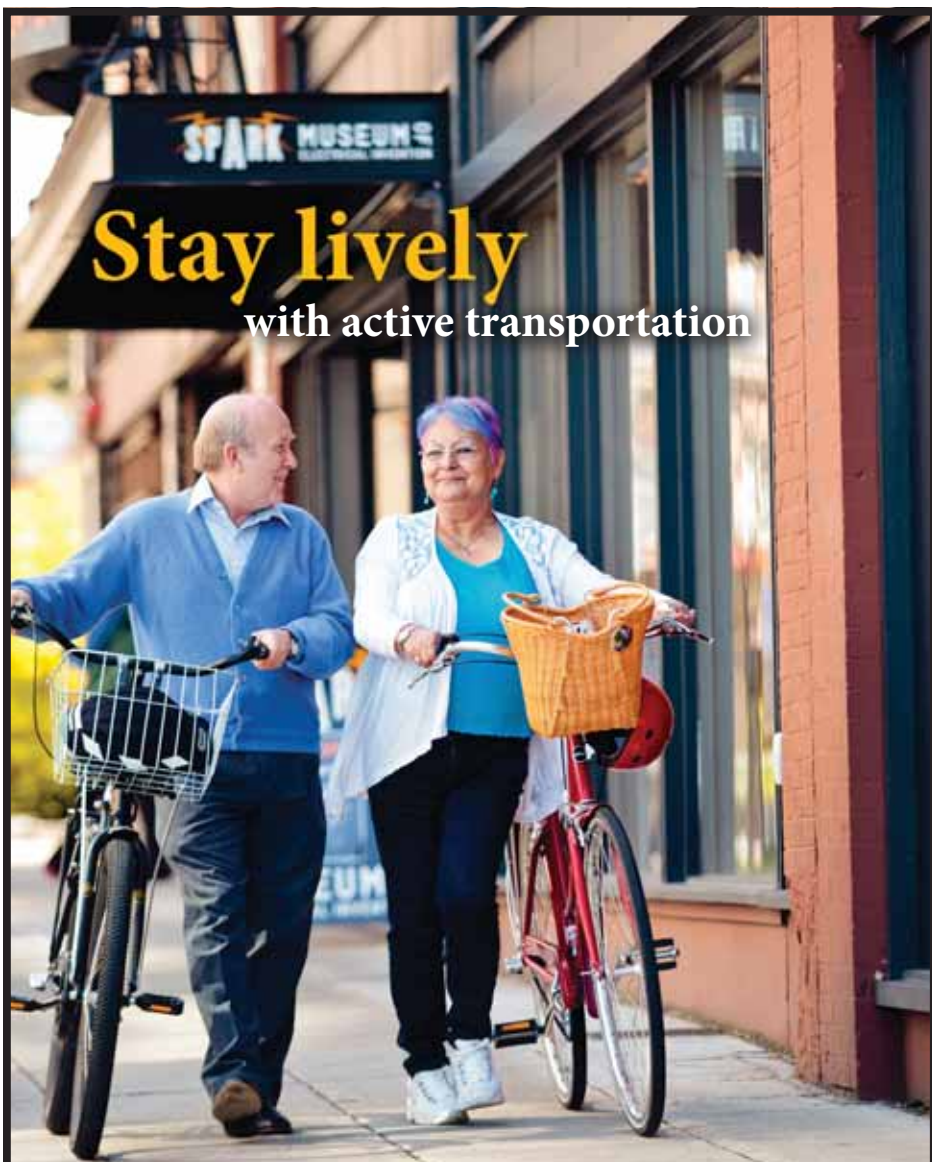
WWW.MUSEUMOFNWART.ORG

WHATCOM ART MARKET: From 10am-6pm every Friday through Sunday, stop by the Whatcom Art Guild's Art Market at Fairhaven's Waldron Building, 1314 12th St.

WWW.WHATCOMARTGUILD.ORG

WHATCOM MUSEUM: "Jim Olson: Art in Architecture," "Clearly Art: The Beauty of Glass" and "Romantically Modern: Pacific Northwest Landscapes" can currently be viewed at the Whatcom Museum's Old City Hall and the Lightcatcher Building.

WWW.WHATCOMMUSEUM.ORG



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JUNE 1 & 2

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music

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LONELY FOREST

BY CAREY ROSS

Lawnstock

A SONIC STUDY BREAK

In Bellingham, where music of all shapes and sizes can be found, people tend to have strong opinions about their aural entertainment. One person's bliss-inducing sonic soundscape is another person's headache-making white noise. Opinions are as prevalent and varied as the bands and musicians that spawn them.

However, there seems to be one type of music we can all get behind, regardless of preferences and proclivities—and that's music of the free variety.

Keeping that in mind, the braintrust behind WWU's ASP Pop Music has put together one last year-end musical blowout, and all of it can be heard and had for a grand total of zero dollars and zero cents. The show, dubbed Lawnstock, takes place at 7pm Sun., June 2 on the lawn of WWU's Communication Facility (aka the Comm Lawn), and features the diverse talents of the Lonely Forest, Sol, THEEsatisfaction, and Odesza.

It comes to mind that this is a lineup people would surely pay good money for. So the question remains: Why would ASP Pop give it all up for free?

The answer is as simple as this: Because they can.

It's tough to say which of the four acts on the roster will be the most powerful musical attractor for what I'm sure will be a sizey number of attendees, as each is a proven draw around these parts.

The Lonely Forest, yet another big success story from the tiny town of Anacortes, is continuing to win fans and friends with charms and chops to spare. The first band signed to Death Cab for Cutie's Chris Walla's Atlantic Records imprint Trans, the Lonely Forest—already poised on the brink of a breakout—released *Arrows* in 2011, and haven't looked back since. Hallmarked by nimble arrangements and singer John Van Deusen's distinctive vocals, the album



ATTEND

WHAT: Lawnstock w/The Lonely Forest, Sol, THEEsatisfaction, Odesza

WHEN: 7pm Sun., June 2

WHERE: WWU's Communication's Facility lawn

COST: Free

MORE INFO: 650-2846

When he's not globe-trotting, Sol is carrying on what is rapidly becoming a proud tradition of Seattle hip-hop. Along with his own solo efforts, the rapper has collaborated with fellow UW alumni the Blue Scholars as well as Grynch, the Physics, and even hip-hop's mightiest entertainment juggernaut at the moment, Macklemore.

Stasia Irons and Catherine Harris-White are carving out their own corner of the Seattle entertainment landscape as THEEsatisfaction, and this dynamic duo not only performs, but also writes and produces all their own material. Built on a foundation of speaking truth to power and set to a soundtrack of pure, unadulterated groove, THEEsatisfaction will engage your brain while they get you up and dancing.

Last, but certainly not the least part of this stacked lineup is Seattle's Odesza, a band on the rise in a big way right now. Actually "band" is an improper descriptor, as Odesza is two dudes—Harrison Mills (Catacomb Kid) and Clayton Knight

Rumor Has It

AS WITH EVERYONE who endures the long, gray, rainy winter months around these parts, I am in love with Bellingham and its surrounding environs during the summer.

Part of what I love about summer—as I've said many times in the past and will no doubt repeat at several points in the near future—is it allows me to take my love of music out of the darkness and into the light.

Yes, my personal mantra is "outside bad, inside good," but even I go a little stir crazy from time to time. Lucky for me, music can be found at several al fresco locales, and it all kicks off as soon as May 31 with the Urban Music Festival (see story next page).

That's not all the sweet sounds that can be heard in the great outdoors.

Sadly, Bellingham Parks & Recreation has had to curtail its music in the parks this year, cancelling the ever-popular Boulevard Park series due to construction that will take place in that park this summer. But the Elizabeth Park series remains



BY CAREY ROSS

as robust and family-friendly as ever (more on that in coming weeks), and I'd like to take this opportunity to commend Parks & Rec for continuing to offer the free concerts—even if their numbers and locales have been slightly reduced. In this time of budgetary constraints and dwindling resources, funding such endeavors is probably trickier than it's ever been and I am just one of thousands of people who appreciate Parks & Rec's commitment to this particular program.

That said, let's talk about what is, without a doubt, the Big Kahuna of outdoor summer concert series in this area, Downtown Sounds. As she has for the past few years, Downtown Bellingham Partnership Events Manager Lindsey Payne has begged, cajoled and outright charmed a bunch of worthy bands into playing the Wednesday-night Bay Street series.

After some cajoling of my own, I managed to get Payne to divulge a partial lineup for this year's Downtown Sounds, and when she said her goal was to throw a big dance party every week, she wasn't kidding. The series kicks off July 10 with Polecat, while Acorn Project is on deck for the week after (July 17). Then comes the Polyrythmics on July 24, while the Wild Buffalo and Summer Meltdown will give Payne an assist with a to-be-confirmed July 31 show (expect to see some familiar faces onstage at this show). August 7 marks the finale of this year's incarnation of Downtown Sounds, and Juno What?! will close the series out proper. Payne's also got a whole slew of worthy openers slated for all shows, although she was less willing to divulge the particulars of those until she gets everything nailed down.

Maybe the outside isn't so bad, after all. ☺

LAWNSTOCK, FROM PAGE 20

(BeachesBeaches)—who call themselves a “production team.” However they choose to describe themselves, Odesza, fresh off their first West Coast tour, is capturing the fancy of nearly everyone nearly everywhere they go. Evidence of this was on full display a couple of weeks ago at their sold-out Wild Buffalo show, and I’m sure Lawnstock audiences

are in for more of the same.

Academically speaking, Lawnstock arrives during a time when many students are tempted to buckle down, study and ignore the world outside. But everyone needs a study break sometime—and if you’re not a student, you have even less of an excuse to stay away—and Lawnstock is a far more entertaining method of mental reinvigoration than whatever else you might have planned. Not to mention the price sure is nice. ☺

BY CAREY ROSS

Urban Music Festival

ALL GROWN UP

Nine years ago, Acorn Project was a band that had just found itself a name, was still honing its sound and while a glimmer of the live-music force they would soon become was certainly evident, it had yet to fully emerge.

So what’s a band on the rise to do?

For other bands, the answer to that question involves the tried-and-true trifecta of practicing, touring and recording. Acorn Project did indeed follow that route, but they decided to up the ante and raise their visibility by starting their own music festival.

Dubbed the Urban Music Festival, many people (including myself) didn’t know quite what to make of this artistic undertaking. Part concert (a big part), part live-action art show with glass blowers and other artists creating pieces on the spot and part auction, the Urban Music Festival cobbled together a number of familiar elements to create something unique.

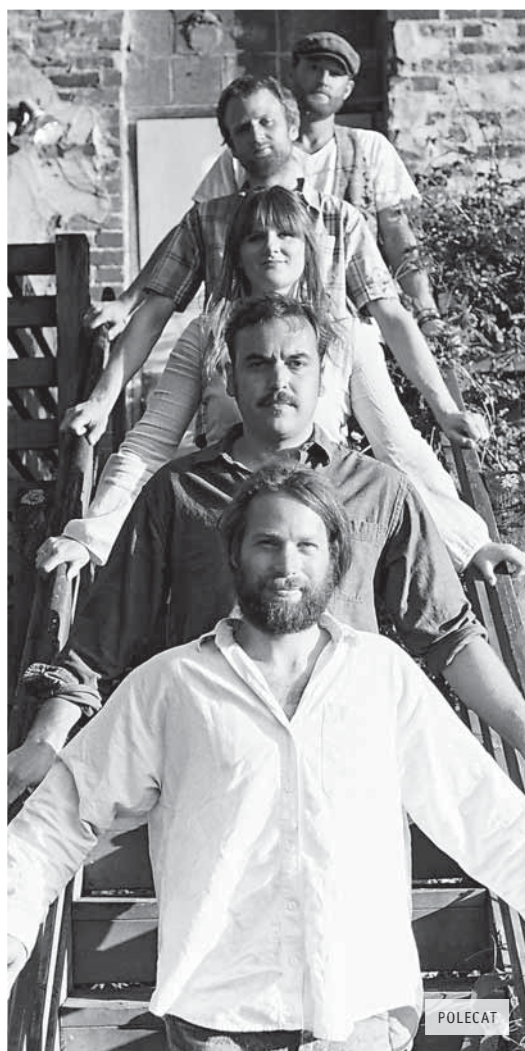
Since then, the festival has grown and changed somewhat—as these things are wont to do—changed locations and gained a steadfast sponsor/suppor-ter in Northern Lights Gardening. But Acorn Project remains the heart and soul of the festival they founded—and their back-to-back headlining slots both nights of the festival are ample evidence of that.

As has been the case for the past several years, UMF9 will not only take over the Wild Buffalo proper on Fri., May 31 and Sat., June 1, but it will also spill over into the alley next to the bar, where a stage will be set up, bands will perform, food vendors will satiate the hungry masses and glass art and local goods will also be on display.

As mentioned, Acorn Project will headline their festival, playing inside on the Buffalo stage both nights. Friday night they’ll be capably supported by a lineup that includes Polecat (alley stage), Dead Winter Carpenters (alley

stage), and Space Owl playing the Grateful Dead (Buffalo stage). Bring the kids to the alley (not a directive you hear very often) on Saturday for a free, all-ages concert featuring Galapagos, before dropping them at the sitter and coming back for a second shot of Acorn Project, who will share the stages with Galactic Cirque Performance Troupe (Buffalo stage), Prophet Massive (alley stage), Snug Harbor (Buffalo stage), and Organik Time Machine (alley stage).

After that, the Urban Music Festival will break down the alley stage and pack it in until next year—when they’ll be back, bigger and better than ever. ☺



ATTEND

WHAT: 9th Annual Urban Music Festival

WHEN: Fri., May 31-Sat., June 1

WHERE: Wild Buffalo, 208 W. Holly St.

COST: \$10 per night, \$15 adv.

MORE INFO: www.wildbuffalo.net

WED., MAY 29

SPRING CHORAL CONCERT: The award-winning Bellingham High School Showstoppers, Concert Choir, and Treble Choir will perform at a “Spring Choral Concert” from 7-9pm at Bellingham High School, 2020 Cornwall Ave. Each choir will perform a selection of songs, with a finale featuring all three choirs together. Entry is free and open to the public. ☎ 676-6575

THURS., MAY 30

ANDY KOCH: Badd Dog Blues Society’s Andy Koch performs from 5:30-7:30pm at the Piano Lounge at Lynden’s Jansen Art Center, 321 Front St. Entry is free. ☎ WWW.JANSENARTCENTER.ORG

BOB MILNE: Piano ragtime legend Bob Milne returns to Bellingham for a 7pm performance at the Whatcom Museum’s Old City Hall, 121 Prospect St. Milne has played for former presidents and at the 80th birthday of the late Neil Armstrong, so chances are he’s more than worth a listen. Tickets are \$22. ☎ WWW.RAGTIME.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM

FRI., MAY 31

EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL: As part of the Salish Sea Early Music Festival concert series, guitarist John Schneiderman and flutist Jeffrey Cohan will perform “Giulianiad: Mauro Giuliani and His Music” at 7:30pm at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 2117 Walnut St. Suggested donation is \$15-\$20 (youth 18 and under are free). ☎ WWW.SALISHSEAFESTIVAL.ORG

SKAGIT SYMPHONY: The Seattle Baroque Soloists will join the Skagit Symphony for a “Spotlight Concert” at 7:30pm at Mount Vernon’s McIntyre Hall, 2501 E. College Way. Conductor Roupén Shakarian will lead a pre-concert lecture at 6:45pm in the concert hall. Tickets are \$25-\$45. ☎ WWW.MCINTYREHALL.ORG

SAT., JUNE 1

BUG JAM: Join members of the Bellingham Ukulele Group for a jam session from 3-5pm at St. James Presbyterian Church, 910 14th St. A beginner’s workshop starts at 2pm. Suggested donation is \$5. ☎ WWW.BELLINGHAMUKULELEGROUP.COM

F.A.M.E. BENEFIT CONCERT: Local artists Sara Goodin and Andrea Rackl will share their talents at a benefit concert for Female Artists for Music Education (F.A.M.E.) at 7:30pm at Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship, 1207 Ellsworth St. The women will be joined by the Allegra Vocal Ensemble, Whatcom Sound Jazz Singers, and BAAY’s Celestial Voices. Tickets are \$15-\$20. ☎ 676-1024 OR WWW.BELLINGHAMSINGS.ORG

JUNE 1-2

BAYSHORE SYMPHONY: “Beethoven & Beethoven & More” will be the theme of Bayshore Symphony’s “Spring Concert,” which will be performed at 7:30pm Saturday at Mount Vernon’s St. Paul’s Episcopal Church (415 S. 18th St.) and 3pm Sunday at Bellingham’s Central Lutheran Church (925 N. Forest St). Suggested donation is \$10; children 12 and under are free. ☎ WWW.BAYSHOREMUSICPROJECT.COM

SUN., JUNE 2

WHATCOM CHORALE: “Harmonic Passages” will be the focus of Whatcom Chorale’s 3pm concert at the First Congregational Church of Bellingham, 2401 Cornwall Ave. The performance will focus on masterworks by Bach, Mendelssohn, and Beethoven. Tickets are \$5-\$20. ☎ WWW.WHATCOMCHORALE.ORG

LAWNSTOCK: Western Washington University’s AS Productions presents an all-ages musical extravaganza dubbed “Lawnstock” starting at 7pm at the school’s Communications Facility lawn. The free concert features music by the Lonely Forest, THEESatisfaction, Sol, and Odesza. ☎ WWW.AS.WWU.EDU

MON., JUNE 3

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC: The award-winning sounds of the Mount Vernon High School Choirs can be heard at concerts at 4pm and 7pm at the city’s McIntyre Hall, 2501 E. College Way. Tickets are \$6 for the early show, \$8 for the late one. ☎ WWW.MCINTYREHALL.ORG

TUES., JUNE 4

CHOIR CONCERT: Whatcom Community College’s Choir presents a free “Spring Choir Concert” at 7:30pm at the Heiner Center Theatre, 231 E. Kellogg Rd. The choir will sing a diverse mix of madrigals, international folks song, spirituals and vocal jazz. ☎ 383-3000

MIKE AND NAKOS MARKER:

Bellingham musician Mike Marker will be joined by his son, Nakos, for a instrumentally enhanced folk music concert at 7:30pm at the Roeder Home, 2600 Sunset Dr. Suggested donation is \$8-\$12. ☎ 734-7872

WED., JUNE 5

MUSIC CLUB: Pianist Kay Marie Zavislak will present a program featuring works by Chopin, Kapustin, and Beethoven at a Bellingham Music Club performance at 10:30am at Western Washington University’s Performing Arts Center Concert Hall. Entry is free and open to the public. ☎ WWW.BELLINGHAMMUSICCLUB.ORG



musicvenues

See below for venue addresses and phone numbers

05.29.13
WEDNESDAY

05.30.13
THURSDAY


05.31.13
FRIDAY

06.01.13
SATURDAY

06.02.13
SUNDAY

06.03.13
MONDAY

06.04.13
TUESDAY

Bobby Lee's Pub & Eatery		Karaoke w/Bobby	Karaoke w/Kristina	Karaoke w/Kristina	Piano Bar w/Bobby Lee			
Boundary Bay Brewery	Happy Hour BBQ (Beer Garden), Aaron Guest (Taproom)	Happy Hour BBQ w/Sour Mash Hug Band (Beer Garden)	Fish Fry w/Pretty Little Feet (early), Garrett and the Sheriffs (late)				Paul Klein (Taproom)	
Brown Lantern Ale House		Open Mic	DJ Ontic					
Cabin Tavern	Til All Is One, Yevtushenko, Hammertrain	Karaoke w/Amy G.	Zebrana Bastard, One Man Train Wreck, Agonizer	Old Mutt	King Elephant, Tyson and Peter		Open Mic	
Commodore Ballroom		Foals		Juicy J	Hoodie Allen			
Conway Muse		Trish, Hans and John	Ben Starner (early), The Don Richards Band (late)	Randy Norris and Jeff Nicely	JUNIP/June 3/Wild Buffalo			
Edison Inn			Piano Night	Copper & Coal, Rainieros	File Gumbo			
Glow Nightclub		DJ Little	Girl Meets Boy					
Green Frog	Scott Greene Band	Casey Neill, Kendl Winter and the Summer Gold	Rainieros, Copper and Coal	Brian Hillman Band, Fish and Bird, Laura Cortese	Slow Jam (early), Snug Harbor (late)	Guffawingham!	DJ Yogoman's Terrible Tuesday Soul Explosion	

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musicvenues

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H20	Karaoke w/DJ Steve		DJ Em Jay	Bump Kitchen			
Honey Moon	Open Mic		Stephen Connella, Gentry Watson and Benji Howard	The Penny Stinkers		Pretty Little Feet	The Shadies
Kulshan Brewery	The Shadies				The Devilly Brothers		
Main St. Bar and Grill	Country Karaoke	JP Falcon Grady and Friends	Uncanny Valley	JD and the Blackouts	Boogie Sundays		
Old World Deli				Live Music			
Paso Del Norte			DJ Dgas	DJ Dgas			
Redlight		Rattletrap Ruckus					
Rockfish Grill	Skip Hamilton			Scooch Cugno and the 88s			
Royal	Karaoke	DJ Jester	DJ Jester	DJ Jester		Karaoke	
Rumors	DJ Postal	Throwback Thursdays w/DJ Shortwave	DJ QBNZA	DJ Mike Tolleson		Karaoke	DJ Postal, DJ Shortwave
The Shakedown	Heavy Rotation	Showdown at the Shake-down	Grenades, Sloths, Caparza	Learning Team, Holiday Friends, Manatee Commune	Soccermom, Creech, VR Trainers	Tom Waits Monday	Aireeoke
Silver Reef Hotel Casino & Spa			Tony and the Tigers	Tony and the Tigers			
Skagit Valley Casino			Spazmatics	Expertease			
Skylark's		Kid'Sax	The Spencetet	Stirred Not Shaken			
Temple Bar				Bar Tabac			
The Underground		Road to Rockstar	Live Music (early), DJ Bam-bam (late)	Live Music (early), DJ Bambam (late)			
The Village Inn			Karaoke	Open Mic			
Wild Buffalo	Wild Out Wednesday w/ Blessed Coast	Mike Pinto, Natural Vibrations, Three Legged Fox	Urban Music Fest w/Acorn Project, Polecat, more	Urban Music Fest w/Acorn Project, Prophet Massive, more		Junip, On an On, Barbarossa	

The Green Frog 1015 N. State St. • www.acoustictavern.com | Edison Inn 5829 Cains Ct., Edison • (360) 766-6266 | Glow 202 E. Holly St. • 734-3305 | Graham's Restaurant 9989 Mount Baker Hwy., Glacier • (360) 599-3663 | H₂O, 314 Commercial Ave., Anacortes • (360) 755-3956 | Honey Moon 1053 N State St. • 734-0728 | Make.Shift Art Space 306 Flora St. • 389-3569 | Lighthouse Bar & Grill One Bellwether Way • (360) 392-3200 | Main Street Bar & Grill 2004 Main St., Ferndale • (360) 384-2982 | McKay's Taphouse 1118 E. Maple St. • (360) 647-3600 | Nooksack River Casino 5048 Mt. Baker Hwy., Deming • (360) 354-7428 | Poppe's 714 Lakeway Dr. • 671-1011 | Paso Del Norte 758 Peace Portal Dr. Blaine • (360) 332-4045 | The Redlight 1017 N State St. • www.redlightwineandcoffee.com | Rockfish Grill 320 Commercial Ave., Anacortes • (360) 588-1720 | The Royal 208 E. Holly St. • 738-3701 | Rumors Cabaret 1119 Railroad Ave. • 671-1849 | The Shakedown 1212 N. State St. • www.shakedownbellingham.com | Silver Reef Casino 4876 Haxton Way, Ferndale • (360) 383-0777 | Skagit Valley Casino Resort 5984 N. Darrk Lane, Bow • (360) 724-7777 | Skylark's Hidden Cafe 1300 11th St. • 715-3642 | Swinomish Casino 12885 Casino Dr., Anacortes • (888) 288-8883 |Temple Bar 306 W. Champion St. • 676-8660 | The Underground 211 E. Chestnut St. • 738-3701 | Underground Coffeeshouse Viking Union 3rd Floor, WWU | Village Inn Pub 3020 Northwest Ave. • 734-2490 | Washington Sips 608 1st. St., La Conner • (360)399-1037 | Wild Buffalo 208 W. Holly St. • www.wildbuffalo.net | To get your live music listings included in this esteemed newsprint, send info to clubs@cascadiaweekly.com. Deadlines are always at 5pm Friday.

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CASCADIA WEEKLY

23



film

MOVIE REVIEWS » SHOWTIMES



REVIEWED BY PETER HOWELL

Room 237

A CONSPIRACY OF KUBRICKIAN PROPORTIONS

The human brain is a marvelously suggestible organ. With the right encouragement (or chemical assistance), we're capable of seeing sex orgies in inkblots, ghosts in windows or a waistline 20 pounds trimmer than it really is.

So it's hardly surprising that obsessive fans of the late Stanley Kubrick would find hidden messages in *The Shining*, his 1980 psychological horror film, that the famously meticulous director may or may not have intended.

What is novel, as Rodney Ascher's entertaining documentary *Room 237* demonstrates, is how diverse these freaks are. A mixed bag of professors, artists, musicians and journalists, they believe Kubrick planted secret shout-outs in *The Shining*: coded clues about the Nazi Holocaust, the Native American genocide, homoerotic sexual urges and the "faked" Apollo 11 moon landing. They happily share their conspiracy theories online.

There's a room for all of them in *The Shining's* Overlook Hotel—and not just titular Room 237, Spook Central for the film's ghoulies.

The Overlook is the mountaintop resort (exteriors courtesy of Oregon's Timberline Lodge), where Jack Nicholson's writer/janitor Jack Torrance goes slowly loco one dark and lonely winter, with his terrified wife (Shelley Duvall) and psychic young son (Danny Lloyd) along for the scary ride.

To hear *The Shining* freaks talk... and talk... and talk (Ascher really

lets them jabber), Kubrick had way more on his mind than simply terrifying people when he made the movie, which he adapted from Stephen King's blockbuster novel.

He supposedly also wanted to use *The Shining* to fess up to his guilty feelings about the Holocaust of the 20th century and the Native American genocide of the 19th century, even though he had nothing to do with either.

He apparently also wanted to cop to having assisted NASA in faking the 1969 Apollo 11 lunar landing, having proved his cinema sorcery smarts a year earlier with the moonscapes of *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

And if that wasn't enough, randy Stanley wanted to admit to some man-on-man fantasies—why do you think Nicholson is seen reading a copy of *Playgirl* magazine in the Overlook's lobby?

Ascher lays out the various theories and ar-

guments with visual aids—arrows, diagrams, freeze frames and even overlapping filmstrips—but also without visual identification of the speakers.

People are heard but not seen, and Ascher also withholds rendering any judgments about the theories, some of which are loopier than others. Any snickering was confined to the editing bay.

It's hard to know who is saying what as the speakers drone on about German typewriters, the number 42, Indian head baking soda cans, Apollo 11 sweaters and "impossible" windows, and how they all fit into increasingly strained scenarios. (You really should see *The Shining* as a companion piece to *Room 237*, and the helpful folks at the Pickford Film Center have scheduled screenings beginning Fri., May 31 that will let you do just that.)

The voiceovers blur almost into a single chant, appropriate to cults, and here we divine method in *Room 237's* madness: it's not *The Shining* per se that draws these freaks together, but rather a deep psychological urge to engage in communal belief, any belief.

There are lots of interesting little observations made about *The Shining*, but all of them

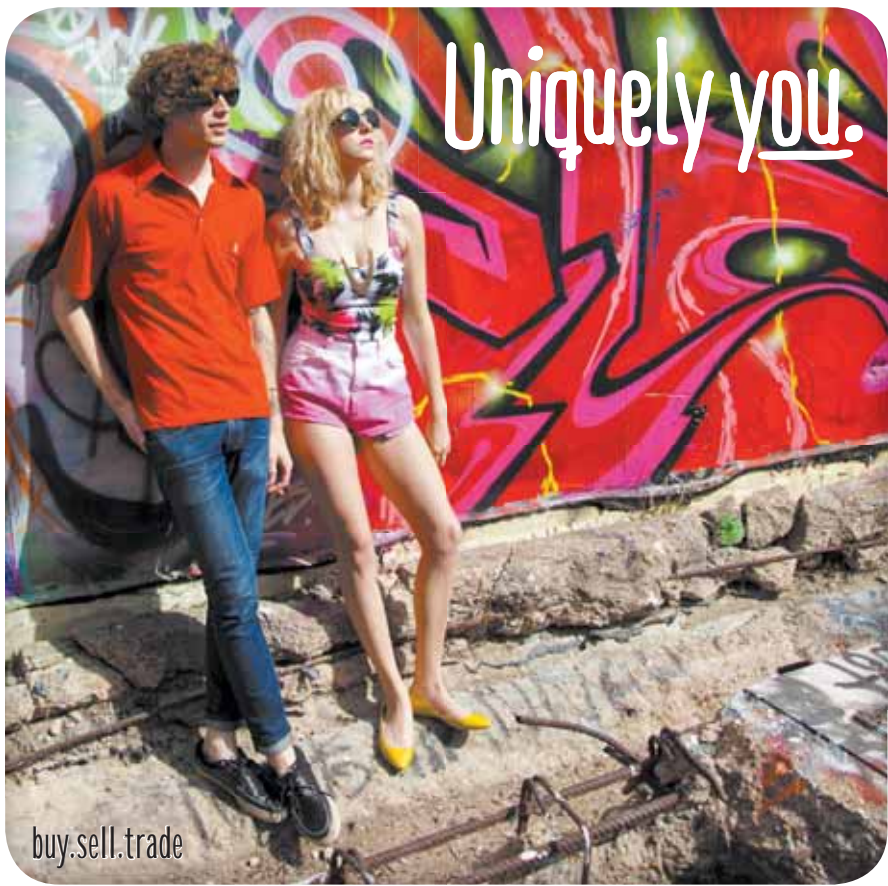
A mixed bag of professors, artists, musicians and journalists, they believe Kubrick planted secret shout-outs in *The Shining*: coded clues about the Nazi Holocaust, the Native American genocide, homoerotic sexual urges and the "faked" Apollo 11 moon landing

can be explained away by continuity mistakes by Kubrick (which is itself rather revealing) or by simple coincidence. You remember coincidence, don't you? It was something we all believed in before the Internet.

There's no smoking gun (or bloody axe) in *Room 237* that will persuade ordinary people of Kubrick's "real" intent regarding *The Shining*, even if we accept the argument of many conspiracy freaks that his secret messages came from his subconscious mind.

There's nothing at all like the cool proof I can show you on the Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper* album cover about how Paul McCartney really did die in 1966 and was replaced by a musical look-alike. Now *that's* really spooky stuff, man.

Meet me at the Overlook Hotel bar at midnight and I'll tell all (O.K., just Google "Paul is Dead mirror trick"). ☺



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BY CAREY ROSS

FILM SHORTS

100 Bloody Acres: A couple of Australian brothers run a fertilizer company in which the secret ingredient in their pro-growth formula is ground-up human bodies. But what happens when they run short of their normally ready supply of accident victims? See the sneak peek of this horror comedy to find out. ★★★★★ (R • 1 hr. 31 min.)

Pickford Film Center May 31 @ 9:00

After Earth: I'm pretty sure Will Smith already made this movie once, and it was called *I Am Legend* and costarred a dog instead of his son Jaden. Except this one was directed by M. Night Shyamalan, so it won't make any sense and will likely feature a twist that also won't make any sense. ★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 40 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

The Attack: What do you do when you're a well-to-do surgeon living in Tel Aviv and your previously apolitical wife is accused of being a terrorist in a suicide bombing? That's the question at play in this searing drama. ★★★★★ (Unrated • 1 hr. 45 min.)

Pickford Film Center June 3 @ 7:30

Epic: Only an animated movie could see a cast as eclectic as Beyonce, Colin Farrell, Amanda Seyfried, and Christoph Waltz, all in the same movie. ★★★★★ (PG • 1 hr. 42 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

Fast & Furious 6: Astonishingly, not nearly as bad as the sixth installment in a series that wasn't very good to begin with should be. Damning with faint praise? Maybe. ★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 10 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

G.I. Joe: Retaliation: This movie is no good. That may sound harsh, but in the words of G.I. Joe himself, "Now you know. And knowing is half the battle." ★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 39 min.)

Bellis Fair See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

The Great Gatsby: As F. Scott Fitzgerald is my favorite author, I would like it very much if Baz Luhrmann didn't screw this up for me, but I'm pretty sure he's screwed it up for me. ★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 22 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

The Hangover Part III: Much like a person on a bender, this is a series that should know when to quit before it's had two too many. What I'm trying to say is having a hangover is probably preferable to watching this movie. ★ (R • 1 hr. 40 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

The Host: Although Stephanie Meyer is responsible for this story, no glittery vampires are in evidence, a



happenstance I find to be most reassuring. ★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 5 min.)

Bellis Fair See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

Identity Thief: Just in case you missed this profoundly unfunny comedy when it first appeared onscreen at a theater near you, here it is again. You are welcome. ★ (R • 1 hr. 51 min.)

Bellis Fair See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

Iron Man 3: Watch this, what is said to be the best installment yet of the mind-bogglingly successful superhero franchise, and then rent *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*, writer/director Shane Black's and Robert Downey Jr.'s first silver-screen endeavor together. And then you will love this dynamic duo as much as I do. ★★★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 20 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

Jack the Giant Slayer: Some people grow up to be doctors or lawyers, while some are destined to kill

giants. Who are we to judge the whims of destiny? ★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 55 min.)

Bellis Fair See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

Mud: After making a serious of WTF mainstream movie choices, Matthew McConaughey has breathed new life into his career in the realm of independent cinema. This is one such effort, said to be his best performance in years. ★★★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 10 min.)

PFC's Limelight See www.pickfordfilmcenter.com for showtimes.

Now You See Me: I know very little about this movie other than it stars Mark Ruffalo, Jesse Eisenberg, and more, and involves a bunch of heist-pulling illusionists—some of whom reputedly learned how to perform real magic tricks during filming. Must see. ★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 54 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

One Track Heart: The Story of Krishna Das: In

1970, musician Jeffrey Kagel turned down the chance to record with Blue Oyster Cult, sold all his possessions and traveled to India in search of happiness and meaning. He found both, became a chant master in the process, and now teaches others the secrets he spent so long seeking. ★★★★★ (Unrated • 1 hr. 14 min.)

Pickford Film Center See www.pickfordfilmcenter.com for showtimes.

Oz The Great And Powerful: Turns out, without Judy Garland, the ruby slippers and those adorably creepy munchkins, Oz ain't all it's cracked up to be. ★★ (PG • 2 hrs. 10 min.)

Bellis Fair See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

Pain & Gain: Michael Bay mines a pretty horrific true story for laughs. Because he is a sensitive, sensitive man. ★ (R • 2 hrs. 10 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

Room 237: See review previous page. ★★★★★ (R • 1 hr. 39 min.)

Pickford Film Center See www.pickfordfilmcenter.com for showtimes.

Romeo & Juliet: Shakespeare's classic tale of star-crossed love, as performed by the famed Bolshoi Ballet. ★★★★★ (Unrated • 2 hrs. 48 min.)

Pickford Film Center June 2 @ 11:00am

The Sapphires: Inspired by a true story, this film follows four vivacious, talented Australian Aboriginal girls as they learn about love, friendship and war when their all-girl group the Sapphires entertains U.S. troops in Vietnam in 1968. ★★★★★ (PG-13 • 1 hr. 43 min.)

Pickford Film Center See www.pickfordfilmcenter.com for showtimes.

The Shining: This Stanley Kubrick classic is easily one of the most stylish and creepy films ever made. See it along with *Room 237* to delve deeper into the mysteries (and possible conspiracies) surrounding this horror flick. ★★★★★ (Unrated • 2 hrs. 26 min.)

Pickford Film Center See www.pickfordfilmcenter.com for showtimes.

Spring Breakers: I guess this is supposed to be Harmony Korine's indictment of the excesses of today's hedonistic youth. Forgive me for my skepticism, but what it actually looks a whole lot like is the director's desire to dress a bunch of Disney stars up in bikinis and have them act naughty for the camera. Yawn. ★★ (R • 1 hr. 32 min.)

Bellis Fair See www.fandango.com for showtimes.

Star Trek Into Darkness: Even the most devout Trekkies are forced to admit J.J. Abrams isn't ruining their beloved sci-fi touchstone. I guess if it's good enough for a bunch of grown men who find pleasure in dressing like William Shatner, it's good enough for you. ★★★★★ (PG-13 • 2 hrs. 12 min.)

Barkley Village See www.fandango.com for showtimes.



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Trained vision quest guide Deb Zucker, ND, leads a "Medicine Wheel Wisdom" workshop from 6:30-8:30pm Thursday, May 30 at the Community Food Co-op, 1220 N. Forest St. Entry is \$5. More info: 734-8158

Michelle Mahler leads a "Pump Up Your Intuition with Essential Oils" course at 6:30pm Thursday, May 30 at Mount Vernon's Skagit Valley Food Co-op. Entry is free, but there will be an optional \$10 supply fee. More info: www.skagitfoodcoop.com

Bellingham author and astrologer Patricia Herlevi helms a "Basic Astrology" presentation at 12pm Thurs.,

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Past lives, Vivid Dreams, Soul Travel, Out of Body Experience, Inner Light and Sound, and Spiritual Guidance are some of the topics to be discussed and shared. Please join in on this heart opening event for all spiritual seekers.

Saturday, June 1st
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The Village Inn
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200 MIND & BODY

May 30 at Village Books, 1200 11th St. Entry is free and no registration is required. More info: www.villagebooks.com

Nancy Soans focuses on "Compassionate Communication" at a free workshop at 9am Saturday, June 1 at the Skagit Valley Food Co-op in Mount Vernon. Please register in advance. More info: www.skagitfoodcoop.com

Sign up for a free "Pilates



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Intro class at 10:15 Sunday, June 2 at Bellingham's Joy of Pilates Studio & Massage, 209 Prospect St. Please RSVP to join the class at least 48 hours in advance. More info: 224-1433 or www.joyofpilates.net

"Healthy Aging Strategies on Stress" will be the focus of a free workshop with Richard Tran, DC, from 6:30-8pm Monday, June 3 at the Community Food Co-op's Connection Building, 1220 N. Forest St. Please register in advance. More info: 734-8158

200 MIND & BODY

"Cancer/Prevention" will be the focus of a free workshop with naturopath and acupuncturist Suneil Polly at 6:30pm Tuesday, June 4 at Mount Vernon's Skagit Valley Food Co-op. Register in advance for the free event. More info: www.skagitfoodcoop.com

Co-Dependents Anonymous meets from 7-8:30pm every Monday at PeaceHealth St. Joseph's South Campus, 809 E. Chestnut St. Entry is by donation. More info: 676-8588

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Fri & Sat: 6:30; **Sun:** 5:15; **Mon:** (3:00), 9:00
Tue: 9:00; **Wed:** 6:30; **Thu:** (3:45)

The Shining (NR) 146m - Stanley Kubrick Classic

"...it manages to traverse a complex world of incipient madness, spectral murder and supernatural visions... and also makes you jump." Empire
Fri: 8:45; **Sat:** (1:15), 8:45; **Sun:** 7:45; **Wed:** 9:00

The Sapphires (PG-13) 103m - Word of mouth hit!

"A feel-good movie in the most positive meaning of that term, thanks to the Motown music and O'Dowd's cheeky charm." - Tampa Bay Times
Fri: (3:45), 6:15; **Sat:** (1:15), 3:45, 6:15, 9:00
Sun: (2:45), 3:45, 6:15, 8:45; **Mon:** (3:45), 6:15
Tue: (3:45), 6:15, 8:45; **Wed & Thu:** (3:45), 6:15

One Track Heart: The Story of Krishna Das (NR) 74m

"Modest and affecting, it's a portrait of the possibility of finding peace, contentment and self through both music and spirituality." - Time Out New York
Fri: (4:30); **Sat:** 4:30; **Sun:** (1:45); **Mon:** 5:30
Tue: (4:00); **Wed:** (4:30)

Romeo & Juliet from the Bolshoi Ballet (NR) 168m

Sun: 11AM - Ballet in Cinema - \$10/\$16/\$20

Gathr Preview Series Selections:

100 Bloody Acres (R) 91m Aussie Horror-Comedy
Fri: 9:00

The Attack (NR) 105m Arab/Israeli drama
Mon: 7:30

The Hidden Fortress (NR) 126m - Akira Kurosawa

Tue: 6:00 - Final Masters of Japanese Cinema til Fall

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Mud (PG-13) 130m "[Director Jeff] Nichols is made in America, a storyteller in the tradition of Mark Twain, uncanny in the way he understands human nature, inventive in spinning that into a movie. There is an ease with which Nichols pokes around in people's lives, unearthing small truths in authentic ways. In "Mud," it feels as if he's caught a small slice of backcountry soul like a firefly in a jar." - LA Times

Fri: (3:20), 6:15, 9:10

Sat: (12:30), (3:20), 6:15, 9:10

Sun: (1:15), 4:05, 7:00

Mon - Thu: (4:05), 7:00



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Artists credits – center: Mary Sly; clockwise from top right: Riki Schumacher, Becky Kilpatrick, Cinda Sue Dowd, and Dona Reed



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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Back in the 1920s, the governor of Texas was determined to forbid the teaching of foreign languages in public schools. To bolster her case, she called on the Bible. “If English was good enough for Jesus Christ,” she said, “it’s good enough for us.” She was dead serious. I suspect you may soon have to deal with that kind of garbled thinking, Aries. And it may be impossible to simply ignore it, since the people wielding it may have some influence on your life. So what’s the best way to deal with it? Here’s what I advise: Be amused. Quell your rage. Stay calm. And methodically gather the cool, clear evidence about what is really true.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A few weeks ago, the principal at a school in Bellingham, Washington announced that classes would be canceled the next day. What was his rationale? A big storm, a bomb threat, or an outbreak of sickness? None of the above. He decided to give students and teachers the day off so they could enjoy the beautiful weather that had arrived. I encourage you to make a similar move in the coming days, Taurus. Take an extended Joy Break—maybe several of them. Grant yourself permission to sneak away and indulge in spontaneous celebrations. Be creative as you capitalize profoundly on the gifts that life is offering you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In Japan it’s not rude to slurp while you eat your ramen noodles out of a bowl. That’s what the *Lonely Planet* travel guide told me. In fact, some Japanese hosts expect you to make sounds with your mouth; they take it as a sign that you’re enjoying your meal. In that spirit, Gemini, and in accordance with the astrological omens, I encourage you to be as uninhibited as you dare this week—not just when you’re slurping your noodles, but in every situation where you’ve got to express yourself uninhibitedly in order to experience the full potential of the pleasurable opportunities. As one noodle-slurper testified: “How can you possibly get the full flavor if you don’t slurp?”

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Here’s a thought from philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein: “A person will be imprisoned in a room with a door that’s unlocked and opens inwards as long as it does not occur to him to pull rather than push that door.” I’d like to suggest that his description fits you right now, Cancerian. What are you going to do about it? Tell me I’m wrong? Reflexively agree with me? I’ve got a better idea. Without either accepting or rejecting my proposal, simply adopt a neutral, open-minded attitude and experiment with the possibility. See what happens if you try to pull the door open.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): If you have been waiting for the right moment to perfect your party skills, I suspect this might be it. Is there anything you can do to lower your inhibitions? Would you at least temporarily consider slipping into a chronic state of fun? Are you prepared to commit yourself to extra amounts of exuberant dancing, ebullient storytelling, and unpredictable playtime? According to my reading of the astrological omens, the cosmos is nudging you in the direction of rabble-rousing revelry.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Where exactly are your power spots, Virgo? Your bed, perhaps, where you rejuvenate and reinvent yourself every night? A place in nature where you feel at peace and at home in the world? A certain building where you consistently make good decisions and initiate effective action? Wherever your power spots are, I advise you to give them extra focus. They are on the verge of serving you even better than they usually do, and you should take steps to ensure that happens. I also

advise you to be on the lookout for a new power spot. It’s available.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Reverence is one of the most useful emotions. When you respectfully acknowledge the sublime beauty of something greater than yourself, you do yourself a big favor. You generate authentic humility and sincere gratitude, which are healthy for your body as well as your soul. Please note that reverence is not solely the province of religious people. A biologist may venerate the scientific method. An atheist might experience a devout sense of awe toward geniuses who have bequeathed to us their brilliant ideas. What about you, Libra? What excites your reverence? Now is an excellent time to explore the deeper mysteries of this altered state of consciousness.

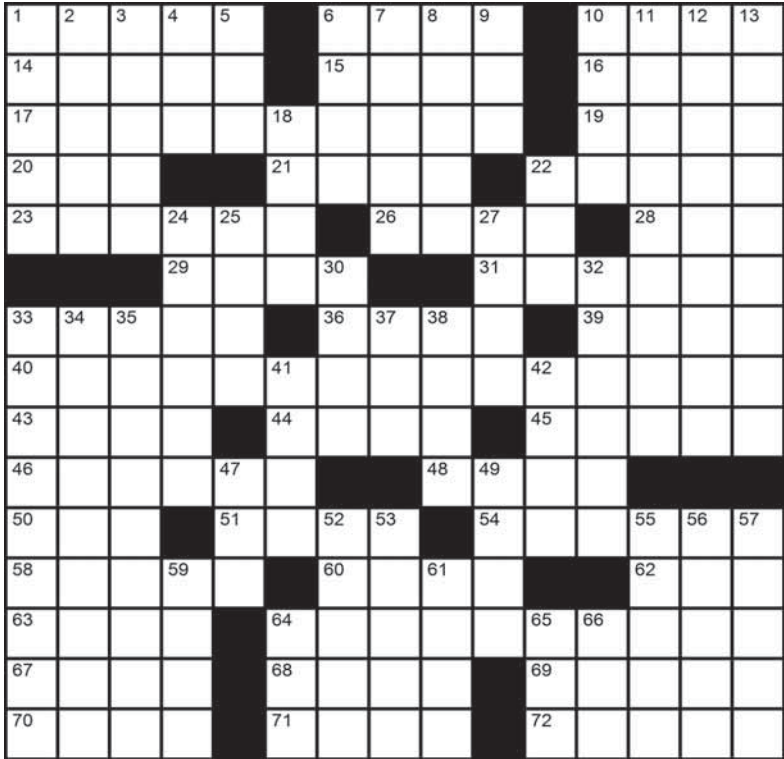
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): When explorer Ernest Shackleton was planning his expedition to Antarctica in 1914, he placed this ad in London newspapers: “Wanted: For hazardous journey. Small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger, return doubtful. Honor and recognition in case of success.” Would you respond to a come-on like that if you saw it today? I hope not. It’s true that your sense of adventure is ratcheting up. And I suspect you’re itching for intense engagement with the good kind of darkness that in the past has inspired so much smoldering wisdom. But I believe you can satisfy those yearnings without putting yourself at risk or suffering severe deprivation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): “I’d rather not sing than sing quiet,” said the vivacious chanteuse Janis Joplin. Her attitude reminds me a little of Salvador Dalí’s. He said, “It is never difficult to paint. It is either easy or impossible.” I suspect you Sagittarians may soon be in either-or states like those. You will want to give everything you’ve got, or else nothing at all. You will either be in the zone, flowing along in a smooth and natural groove, or else totally stuck. Luckily, I suspect that giving it all and being in the zone will predominate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In 1948, Nelson Mandela began his fight to end the system of apartheid in his native South Africa. Eventually he was arrested for dissident activities and sentenced to life imprisonment. He remained in jail until 1990, when his government bowed to international pressure and freed him. By 1994, apartheid collapsed. Mandela was elected president of his country and won the Nobel Peace Prize. Fast-forward to 2008. Mandela was still considered a terrorist by the United States, and had to get special permission to enter the country. Yikes! You probably don’t have an antiquated rule or obsolescent habit that’s as horrendous as that, Capricorn. But it’s past time for you to dissolve your attachment to any outdated attachments, even if they’re only mildly repressive and harmful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): As a renowned artist, photographer, and fashion designer, Karl Lagerfeld has overflowed with creative expression for 50 years. His imagination is weird and fantastic, yet highly practical. He has produced a profusion of flamboyant stuff. “I’m very down to earth,” he has said, “just not this earth.” Let’s make that your mantra for the coming weeks, Aquarius: You, too, will be very down to earth in your own unique way. You’ll follow your quirky intuition, but always with the intent of channeling it constructively.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In the following passage, French novelist Georges Perec invites us to renew the way we look upon things that are familiar to us. “What we need to question,” he says, “is bricks, concrete, glass, our table manners, our utensils, our tools, the way we spend our time, our rhythms. To question that which seems to have ceased forever to astonish us.” A meditation like this could nourish and even thrill you, Pisces. I suggest you boost your ability to be sincerely amazed by the small wonders and obvious marvels that you sometimes take for granted. ☺



- Across
- 1 Cup in some coffeehouses

6 Bounce back

10 Superficial, as speech

14 Clear jelly

15 A little depressed

16 Letter from Iceland?

17 Quiet person

29 Dish the insults

31 Decrease

33 For face value

36 Designer Cassini

39 Boo-boo

40 Quiet person who oversees new family additions?

43 Sommelier’s stat

44 Birth certificate info

45 “Green ____”
- with a Scottish accent?

19 Me, myself ____

20 A gazillion years, seemingly

21 Friendly lead-in

22 Began to eat

23 Quit the chess game

26 Indigo and such

28 Hit hard, as with a ball

- 46 Ventura County city
- 48 Supposedly insane Roman ruler
- 50 34-down craft
- 51 1952 Winter Olympics site
- 54 Secret place?
- 58 Dilate
- 60 Abbr. near a 0
- 62 Ottoman title
- 63 Month of the Jewish calendar
- 64 Quiet person who moderates debates?
- 67 Film spool
- 68 Peel, as an apple
- 69 “Real Housewives of...” aier
- 70 This, in Spain
- 71 Tiny marchers
- 72 Pump parts

- Down
- 1 Electric-dart firer

2 “... who lived in ____”

3 Covers

4 Male customer, to a clerk

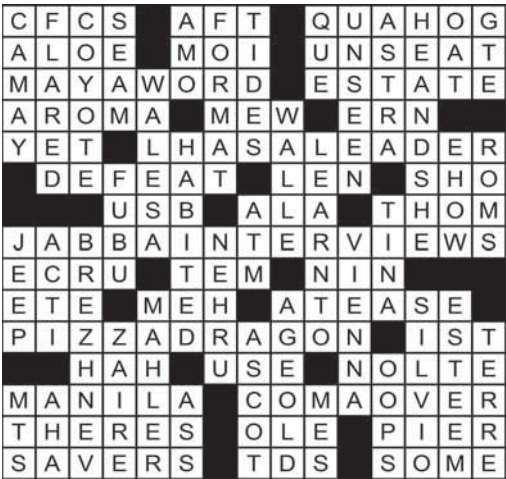
5 “The Name of the Rose” author

6 Dwindles

- 7 Did part of writing a crossword
- 8 “Time’s a-wastin’!”
- 9 Poetic contraction
- 10 Color in Cologne
- 11 Inflation driver?
- 12 Site with the slogan “Film. Biz. Fans.”
- 13 Samadhi concept
- 18 Longtime Georgia senator Sam
- 22 UK mil. award
- 24 Liqueur from the Basque country
- 25 Pink, in a nursery
- 27 Round breakfast brand
- 30 Painter of “The Naked Maja”
- 32 Business bubble that burst
- 33 “Carry on, then”
- 34 Its pilot episode introduced The Smoking Man
- 35 It may involve sitting side-by-side on a bench
- 37 On the ____ (running away)
- 38 ____ Prairie, Minn.


- 41 Wraps up
- 42 Henry VIII’s last wife Catherine ____
- 47 “Parks and Recreation” character Swanson
- 49 Make
- 52 “Mean Girls” actress
- 53 Dizzying pix
- 55 Of Benedict or Francis
- 56 “OK, so what’s the answer?”
- 57 Some Value Menu dishes
- 59 Marie Claire com-petitor
- 61 Female flock-mates
- 64 Detox place
- 65 Conan’s current home
- 66 Elemento numero 79
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BY AMY ALKON

THE ADVICE GODDESS

TIME IS ON HER SLIDE

My girlfriend is constantly late, which is annoying, but what's more annoying is that there's always an excuse: She had to do one more thing at work; traffic was horrible; her dog wouldn't pee, so she had to walk him longer; she couldn't get somebody off the phone. She always apologizes and is always late the next time. I don't take her lateness as a sign she doesn't care enough about me, but it doesn't exactly feel great, either.

—Waiting

She has to be at your place in 10 minutes? Well, that should be just enough time to retranslate the Gutenberg Bible, reorganize her closets, and then get that ship into that very tiny bottle.

It's hard for the punctual to understand how anyone can treat time like it's stretchy. (It's not as if an hour will ever go by more slowly because Time went out drinking with its friends Mass and Distance and woke up with a nasty hangover.) But the chronically late aren't necessarily the disrespectful, power-tripping jerks who those always sitting waiting for them in restaurants sometimes suspect them to be. Julie Morgenstern writes in *Time Management from the Inside Out* that if someone's late by varying amounts of time—20 minutes here, 12 there—their lateness is probably "technical," involving errors like underestimating how long things take, rather than psychological (as in, "I'll show you who's queen!").

Morgenstern advises the chronically tardy to avoid the temptation to cram in "just one more thing" by viewing time as we do space—seeing an hour as a finite container, which can only fit so many activities. Over a week, she suggests jotting down how long tasks actually take, including hidden time costs (such as travel time, cleanup time, interruption time, and dog bladder cooperativeness). And because life tends to have more snags than a bad girl's tights, she advises building in "cushion time"—an extra 20 percent on top of the time you think a task will take.

Chronic inconsideration, even when it isn't intentional, chips away at a relationship. (The way to your heart is not through your girlfriend's last-minute to-do list.) Explain that you understand that her chronic lateness isn't an attack on you, but if there is "one more

thing" she could squeeze in, perhaps it could be the thought of how you feel sitting all alone in a restaurant, keeping busy by searching for coded messages woven into the tablecloth.

Give her Morgenstern's book, and tell her it would mean a lot to you if, for the next three weeks, she'd make a serious effort to show up when she says she will. (Of course, three weeks is just a start, but that sounds less daunting than "Change your deeply ingrained habit right now!") Praise any efforts and improvements you see, and don't expect perfection. Just hope for a day when "the most unbelievable thing..." is her on-time arrival—as opposed to another eight-car pileup on her suburban cul-de-sac, making her even later than she already was, thanks to her dog's insisting on watching the rest of *Days Of Our Lives*.

MALCOLM IN THE MID-LIFE

When I turned 50, my doctor prescribed me "male enhancement pills" (just so I could be more like the old me in bed). I recently started dating a woman I really like, and I'm wondering whether I'm wrong to let her think this is the real 53-year-old me.

—Supplemented

Getting to know each other doesn't require your confessing, "I take medication to increase the blood flow to my penis" and her coming back with, "I use wax to remove my big black mustache." Just be silently thankful that Mr. Happy stands up instead of fainting when the pressure's on.

Because more and more people are getting old without getting grandpa-like, I suspect that the stigma surrounding Daddy's Little Erection Helpers will eventually go the way of the embarrassment formerly associated with Internet dating. Quite frankly, taking a pill to manage your recalcitrant penis is rather like taking one to manage your allergies, except that nobody associates your nasal function with your manhood.

Once you're in a relationship, it is appropriate to share news of any medications you're taking. When you do, clear up a misconception many women have by explaining that the pill doesn't change your libido; it just helps with the hydraulics. The problem, if any, is in the side effects, such as "erections lasting more than four hours." A woman does appreciate a man who can stand firm, but maybe not all the way to the emergency room and then some. ☺

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JEN SORENSEN SLOWPOKE



Sudoku

HOW TO SUDOKU: Arrange the digits 1-9 in such a way that each digit occurs only once in each row, only once in each column, and only once in each box. Try it!

2			4	5	3		6	
	1			6	8		5	
	3	5						8
9		3	5					
4				2			7	
	2			4	1			3
		7				9		
8	9		6	1		7		
3	4					5		1

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BY AMY KEPFERLE

Aloha Alert

FROM THE ISLANDS TO THE MAINLAND

The first time I visited Hawaii, I was a teenager staying in Honolulu with my family. I got sunburned, visited Pearl Harbor, flirted outrageously with handsome young surfers and generally acted like a clueless tourist.

Later, after my sister moved to Oahu with her new husband, I visited them a couple times and realized the island was much more than a pretty place to visit. She lived in the less populous town of Kāhala, and was privy to a wealth of beaches and restaurants that were off the beaten track.

It was here that I was introduced to the plate lunch—a simple, common meal consisting of a couple scoops of rice, macaroni salad and a variety of different toppings ranging from a hamburger patty, fried egg and gravy to kalua pig or beef.

Long after my sibling left the islands in order to move to Oregon and raise a family, I was invited to stay at a friend's house on the Hilo side of the Big Island, and my view of Hawaii was forever changed.

That initial visit, and the subsequent ones I've made almost every winter for the past five years, have shown me the aloha spirit is a real thing. I've learned that Hawaiian culture isn't just expressed through luaus and hula dancing, but also in the way the residents treat each other—with kindness, patience and a laid-back acceptance of others.

recipe



MAUI AHI POKE

—From www.food.com

INGREDIENTS

- 2 lbs fresh ahi tuna
- 1 small round onion, julienne cut
(Maui onions preferred)
- 3 green onions, diced
- ½ teaspoon freshly grated fresh ginger
- 3 finely diced garlic cloves
- ½ cup soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil
- ½ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 teaspoon Chinese chili sauce
(Rooster Brand)
- 1 teaspoon Hawaiian sea salt or 1
teaspoon kosher salt

DIRECTIONS

Cut ahi into at least half-inch cubes. Set aside and refrigerate.

Combine all other ingredients in a large glass bowl and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes

When ready to serve, toss ahi and other ingredients together. Serve on chilled platter with chopsticks or toothpicks.

I've also discovered that food is an important part of what makes Hawaiians tick. Whether they're picking up a bag of Spam musubi from the 7-11 to share with friends or throwing an impromptu barbecue from the back of their pickup trucks under the light of a waxing moon, they often make eating a group activity.

When I heard that Northwest Hawaii 'Ohana was going to host its second annual "Bridge of Aloha" Festival June 1 at the Ferndale Events Center, my thoughts immediately went back to the Big Island and the lush and lovely environs where we stay every year. I also wondered what I'd have for lunch.

Cipriano Mauricio, a longtime Hawaii resident and one of the event's organizers, told me the festival is focused on honoring the Hawaiian culture from afar and is all about "connecting the bridge" with other cultural groups in the Pacific Northwest.



ATTEND

WHAT: Bridge of Aloha Festival

WHEN: 10am-7pm Sat., June 1

WHERE: Ferndale Events Center, 5715 Barrett Rd.

COST: Entry is \$5-\$7

INFO: www.nwhawaiiohana.webs.com

WHAT: "Good Eats, Hawaiian Style" cooking class with Robert Fong. Learn how to make ahi poke, barbecued spare ribs and Honolulu beef tomato and rice

WHEN: 6:30-9pm Tues., June 4 and Wed., June 5

WHERE: Community Food Co-op, 1220 N. Forest St.

COST: \$39

INFO: 383-3200

In addition to sharing traditions, educating and building friendship between communities via traditional and contemporary Hawaiian music and dance, the event will also feature a variety of typical Luau food such as kalua pork and laulau.

"Kalua is a traditional Hawaiian cooking method that utilizes an *imu*, a type of underground oven," Mauricio says. "The word may also be used to describe the food cooked in this manner, such as kalua pig or kalua turkey, which are commonly served at luau feasts. (The food vendors will be substituting the underground method with the use of ovens.)" Lauau is a Hawaiian dish consisting of pork, fish or chicken in wrapped taro leaf."

Lomi-lomi salmon, teriyaki chicken and kalbi ribs will also be on the menu. On the sweeter spectrum, shave ice and *malasada*—a Portuguese confection made of egg-sized balls of yeast dough that are deep-fried in oil and coated with granulated sugar—will be available.

But before you get too caught up in the food-related side of things, take note of the

fact that the event will also pay tribute to the significant contributions of the Nooksack Tribe to our region, and that they'll be performing traditional dances that symbolize people living in harmony with the natural world—much as residents of the Hawaiian Islands do.

"It's important for us to honor this connection and celebrate the Nooksack people," Mauricio says. "The tribe possesses a wealth of knowledge and spiritual insight that has been passed down from generation to generation. We hope to foster recognition of this awareness, and the best way to do that is through music, dance and food." ☺

SAT., JUNE 1

FARMER'S DAY BREAKFAST: Attend a Farmer's Day Breakfast from 8-10:30am at the Lynden Community Center, 401 Grover St. Entry is \$3-\$5.
 ☎ 354-4501

MOUNT VERNON MARKET: Visit the Mount Vernon Farmers Market from 9am-1pm in the parking lot at Skagit State Bank, 901 Cleveland Ave. A Wednesday Market begins June 5.
 ☎ WWW.MOUNTVERNONFARMERSMARKET.COM

ANACORTES MARKET: Visit the Anacortes Farmers Market from 9am-2pm every Saturday through Oct. 26 at the Depot Arts Center, 611 R Ave.
 ☎ WWW.ANACORTESFARMERSMARKET.ORG

BELLINGHAM FARMERS MARKET: The market can be visited from 10am-3pm every Saturday through Dec. 21 at the Depot Market Square, 1100 Railroad Ave.
 ☎ WWW.BELLINGHAMFARMERS.ORG

FERNDALE MARKET: Attend the Ferndale Public Market from 10am-3pm at the town's Centennial Riverwalk Park.
 ☎ WWW.FERNDALEPUBLICMARKET.COM

BLAINE MARKET: The bimonthly Blaine Gardeners Market kicks off today from 10am-2pm at the town's H Street Plaza.
 ☎ 332-8082

FOOD FORAGING: *Pacific Feast* author Jennifer Hahn will teach you how to spot "the food at your feet" at a "Wild Food Foraging and Cuisine" talk and slideshow at 11am at the Deming Public Library, 5044 Mt. Baker Hwy. Entry is free.
 ☎ 305-3600

SUN., JUNE 2

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST: Meet and greet local politicians as they serve you at the monthly Community Breakfast from 9am-1pm at the Rome Grange, 2821

Mt. Baker Hwy. Entry is \$2-\$5.
 ☎ 739-9605

VEGGIE WORKSHOP: "Growing Vegetables in Small Spaces" will be the focus of a free Master Gardener-led workshop at 2pm at Ferndale's Hovander Homestead Park.
 ☎ 676-6736 OR WWW.WHATCOM.WSU.EDU

TUES., JUNE 4

PLUM DINNER: Chef and *Plum: Gratifying Vegan Dishes from Seattle's Plum Bistro* author Makini Howell will share tips, demonstrate recipes and read from her new book at 6:30pm at Ciao Thyme, 207 Unity St. Tickets are \$38.
 ☎ WWW.CIAOTHYME.COM

WED., JUNE 5

WEDNESDAY MARKET OPENING: The first Wednesday Market of the season takes place from 12-5pm today at the Fairhaven Village Green, 1207 10th St.

More than 25 vendors will offer fresh local produce, crafts, tasty treats and more every Wednesday through Sept. 25.
 ☎ WWW.BELLINGHAMFARMERS.ORG

DISHCRAWL: A progressive dinner event dubbed "Dishcrawl" kicks off tonight in downtown Bellingham. The event features stops at four restaurants in one night. Entry is \$45.
 ☎ (425) 736-3605 OR WWW.DISHCRAWL.COM/BELLINGHAM

FOODIE SERIES: The "Local Foodie Series" continues tonight at 6:30pm at Lehmann's Appliance, 2001 James St. The head chef of Bayou on Bay's Oyster Bar will teach participants how to make Oysters Rockefeller at the event. Entry is \$10; please register in advance.
 ☎ (206) 375-6080 OR CARA@FIFTHONSIXTH.COM

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