

# PNW BAINBRIDGE

PREMIER ISSUE 2022

*yesterday, today, tomorrow*

## A NEW DAY

+

Tragedy to Triumph  
Pandemic Pivots  
The Write Stuff



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**J**ane Fowler is quoted as saying, "Writing is easy: All you do is sit staring at a blank sheet of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead." It certainly feels like that at times, but no matter, I keep coming back for more. Thankfully, our wonderful team of writers embrace the process too and put together a superb premier issue of *PNW Bainbridge*. Their attention to detail, creativity and dedication to exemplary storytelling inspires me to get (and keep) writing even when the going gets tough.

I must specifically thank Connie Bye and George Soltes, our contributing editors, and my dear friends, who were all in from the word go, and who deserve oceans of credit and praise for the magazine being as good as it is.

In addition to our ongoing commitment to telling our island's stories, the editorial team has a goal to get more people, especially kids, writing. Whether someone decides to be a journalist or chooses a career where writing is central, understanding how to put thoughts to paper in an elegant way allows for greater understanding, connection and communication, something our world needs more than ever. In each issue we'll be featuring stories written by island kids. Hopefully it will light a spark and introduce more people to the rewards of wordcraft...even if that sometimes means sweating a little blood.

We're glad we're here and that you are too. Here we go.

*Allison*

Allison Schuchman  
Editor in Chief





# PNW BAINBRIDGE

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**There's an old** saying that nothing happens until somebody sells something. That somebody is my partner and pintsize *PNW Bainbridge* publisher, **Natalie Rodriguez**. In addition to ad sales, she's tackled all the moving parts of starting a new business that turn me green but are as vital as any article or photograph—like bank accounts and business licenses and spreadsheets (and likely many more things I'm too dim to even know exist) .... the things that make us legal and legit. And like any partnership, she's been a rock when I've been psycho and is the first to hand out compliments and encouragement. She's been kind when I've been a jerk and sunny when I'm snarky. Every call starts with the most insane, giant "Good Morning!" that has the magic of changing the day's course. Not only would this issue's content be less without her, it simply wouldn't exist. I hope when you cross her path (which you inevitably will because she's on every board and participates in every corner of this community, in addition to her other full-time job, owning and running Tour Bainbridge) that you'll thank her for making this magazine possible and prettier for her part in it.

— Allison



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## ABOUT THE COVER

Paul Dunn photographed the origami cranes, the mythical tsuru in Japanese, which are symbols of peace. Tsuru left at the Japanese American Exclusion Memorial honor the memory of the exiled with a wish for peace, and that the wrong done to them, not happen to others.



## | EPILOGUE |

**I get it.** It's weird to write an epilogue before you've even started. In the future, this section will be reserved for extra information we've gleaned since a story's publishing or as a follow up to a piece that wasn't said and done. On what we hope is an extremely rare occasion, we can retract something we inaccurately wrote, or apologize for putting our proverbial foot in some innocent person's mouth.

But today I'd like to use this space as a note of gratitude for two people who gave me my start as an editor. As many of you will recall, Erin and Mike Cyger published *Bainbridge Island* magazine for eight years before retiring the title in 2021. It was a superb magazine way before they hired me as its editor in 2016. They demonstrated that there was space on our tiny island for big, well-written stories on important topics that deserved to be told. They also tapped into the deep and broad talent of Bainbridge's writers and photographers who helped create a magazine worth keeping on the coffee table. When I got the job, it was one of the proudest and happiest days of my life.

I love to write, and I think I'm pretty good. But I would be remiss if I didn't mention the journalistic standards that Erin elevated me to, even when just one-tenth of one percent of readers might notice. My dad was a tough editor. (I still shudder at the thought of him pulling a razor-sharp pencil from behind his right ear and touching it to his tongue before slashing apart my writing.) Erin was tougher. But she was kinder too. And I learned immeasurable amounts from her, not to mention the friendship we forged, the bottomless coffee we drank, the occasional tear we shed and the countless laughs we shared.

So, Erin and Mike, thank you. This issue is for you.

Allison

### Connie Bye

Connie Bye, contributing editor, has been a professional writer and editor for more than three decades, including at The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, The Kansas City Star and The St. Louis Business Journal. She has written about topics ranging from environmental issues to schools and government, but she most enjoys stories about people and community life. She and her husband Dale moved to Bainbridge Island nine years ago to be near their daughter's family. They have performed in numerous Ovation musicals and sing with the group Crescendo. They live near Winslow with their little dog Molly.



### George Soltes

George Soltes, contributing editor, is an interventional radiologist at the University of Washington, where he performs a variety of minimally invasive procedures. Before going into medicine, he earned an English degree and has been fascinated by words ever since. He lives on Bainbridge Island with his wife, three children and a rotating assortment of animals. George enjoys running, cycling, exploring the outdoors, and meeting and writing about the fascinating people in his community.



### Margaret Millmore

Margaret Millmore grew up in Southern California and moved to San Francisco in the early '90s. After a 20-year career in the commercial real estate industry, she transitioned to supernatural fiction writing. Although Millmore loved the city's amenities, after 26 years in the Bay area, she wasn't as big a fan of the traffic and noise. Discovering Bainbridge Island was a dream come true, striking the perfect balance of small-town-nearby-city for Millmore and her husband, Bryan. After living here for a year, she knew she wanted to learn more about the island's vibrant community, inspiring her blog, the Island Wanderer ([theislandwanderer.com/blog](http://theislandwanderer.com/blog)) which features local businesses, artists, events and people. Millmore's books can be found on her website, [maragaretmillmore.wordpress.com](http://maragaretmillmore.wordpress.com). Millmore wrote about the Fabulous Fenderskirts on page 22.







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Photo by Sophia  
Soltes taken at the  
Seabold Road End

# The **End** of the Road

**Do you ever** want to ponder life at the water's edge? If you keep following almost any road on Bainbridge Island, you are likely to get that opportunity for reflection. The periphery of the island is dotted with 66 tiny public spaces where thoroughfares dead end at Puget Sound. Given the humble designation of "road ends," each of these spots, extending from the end of a road to a water view or water access point, offers its own unique perspective on the outside world. One of the most visited, Madison Avenue South, overlooks Eagle Harbor and features multiple sculptures and informational markers. More modestly, the Seabold Road End, on the north side of the island, is just a gravel path culminating in a bench at a steep embankment. Get there at twilight, however, and you may see the horizon burst into colors as the sun sets over the Olympics. Both sites, like many of the road ends, were once docking points for the Mosquito Fleet, the little steamers that plied the Sound from the 1860s to the 1920s, connecting islanders with the mainland and with each other. While these rights-of-way are owned and managed by the City of Bainbridge Island and, in some cases, the Parks District, they are often tucked right into residential neighborhoods, so be mindful of neighboring private properties while taking in the view.

BY  
**GEORGE  
SOLTES**



To learn more about public access road ends, visit  
[www.bainbridgewa.gov/741/Bainbridge-Island-Road-Ends](http://www.bainbridgewa.gov/741/Bainbridge-Island-Road-Ends)





# Neither **HERE** Nor **THERE**

## The Indipino People of Bainbridge Island

BY  
GEORGE  
SOLTES

**Gina Corpuz** grew up with deep roots in the Bainbridge Island Filipino community. Her father Anacleto was a raspberry farmer who helped found the Filipino Growers Association in 1935 and invested in the down payment to purchase the Filipino American Community Hall, now a national historic site. She knew very little, however, about her mother's history. Evelyn Williams left when Corpuz was 5 and her mom's side of the family was rarely discussed.

As an adult, Corpuz became curious and dug into her mother's background. She discovered a story steeped

in both tragedy and resilience. Williams was born into the Squamish tribe of British Columbia, but as a young child was taken from her family and placed in the St. Paul's Indian Residential School in North Vancouver. The school was one of 140 set up by the Canadian government to assimilate Indigenous children into mainstream Canadian society. Between 1831 and 1998, approximately 150,000 children were forced to attend these schools, run primarily by the Catholic and Anglican churches, where they were provided little formal education, suffered abuse and were stripped of their native languages and culture.

After leaving school in the early 1940s, Corpuz's mother was one of 35 Indigenous women from 19 different tribes in Canada, Washington State and Alaska who came to Bainbridge seeking a better life. They found employment as laborers, picking strawberries on the island's booming berry farms. Many of these women, including Williams, fell in love with and married the Filipino immigrants who worked alongside them in the fields. Their unions resulted in over 150 mixed-race offspring.

These children were raised in an environment in which their native lineage was largely erased. "We didn't even know we were Indigenous children," said Corpuz. "Our fathers were founders of the Filipino American Community, but in the Filipino Hall we never recognized any of the cultural traditions of our Indigenous mothers."

Corpuz now takes pride in and speaks out on behalf of her people, who identify themselves as Indipinos. She is executive producer of the award-winning documentary, "Honor Thy Mother: The Untold Story of Aboriginal Women and their Indipino Children" and co-founder of the non-profit Indipino Community of Bainbridge Island and Vicinity.

She believes there is room to celebrate both sides of her family. "For me, there's no law that says you can only be devoted or committed to one community," she said, "I don't have to say that I'm 50 percent Filipino and 50 percent Indigenous. I can be



**CLETO AND HIS GIRLS** Anacleto "Cleto" Corpuz and four of his daughters. Gina, age 5, is on the right.

Courtesy of Gina Corpuz



**WORTH CELEBRATING** A birthday party at Island Center, a hub for the Indipino community, around 1960.

Courtesy of Gina Corpuz

100 percent Filipino and 100 percent Squamish." She hopes that a greater understanding of their rich and complex heritage will allow future Indipino generations to both cherish their ancestry and to support other oppressed communities. "We need to stand beside one another in order to combat racism, discrimination, and prejudice," she said. "I hope that in the future, my grandchildren will have both the skills and the knowledge to be advocates for social justice and to protect the rights and privileges of all people."



For more information, visit [indipinocommunityofbainbridge.org](http://indipinocommunityofbainbridge.org).

**INDIPINO PROUD** At the 2018 Indipino Festival, Indipina ladies honor both sides of their heritage with Filipina kimona tops and Indigenous ribbon skirts. Left to right: Gina Corpuz, Suzanne Corpuz Diaz, Colleen Almojuela, Lorraine Corpuz Hale and Alice Oligario

Courtesy of Jason Cruz

Our Community is an ongoing collaboration with the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum. This series, in conjunction with the *Our Community: Past to Present* exhibit, scheduled to open at BIHM in Spring 2022, will explore the diverse voices that make up our island in this and coming issues.



spotlight

# Getting to Know **TAMI ALLEN**

Even after 20-plus years, Tami Allen's job as Bainbridge harbormaster still evolves. She's part of the police force, overseeing the island's 53 miles of shoreline and the waters halfway across to other cities. She deals with abandoned, sinking and drifting vessels. Allen also works with other agencies on disaster management. And if you're in the mood for some Zydeco, give her fiddle a listen.

BY  
CONNIE  
BYE

## **How did you get started?**

When the city first hired me (in July 1999), it was as a contractor. I had just finished my master's degree in port management from the University of Washington. It's a master of public administration with an emphasis in port management, so it was a perfect fit.

## **How often do you deal with abandoned vessels?**

It's not happening in Eagle Harbor with the frequency of when I started, but



that's because I'm constantly talking to the owners when their boats stay longer than 30 days. I'm a big advocate of prevention, and we do that diligently in all our harbors.

Around 2010, we finalized the Dave Ullin Open Water Marina. When that happened, a lot of the issues were resolved. It does everything that a shore-based marina does. (Boat owners) pay rent, they're sewage-compliant, they have insurance, proof of ownership.

Right in the middle of Eagle Harbor, we have 16 full-time, live-aboard vessels on buoys.

#### **What's your role with emergency preparedness?**

I'm just a small piece. In case of disaster, our essential assets—firefighters, police, electricians—might not live here, or they might be off island that day. If the bridge was damaged or ferries weren't running, we would need a way to get them here

and back to their families after their shifts.

We've used Marine 8 (a police vessel) to evacuate a shoreline when a road has washed out. If we had a wildfire, a section of the island might need to evacuate by boat.

The boat becomes a mobile communications system. The boat also can be transportation; it can provide shelter.

#### **Where do things stand with organizing an emergency flotilla?**

My goal is to sign up 100 boats; I'm about halfway there. For every boat, we need three or four trained volunteers: a captain, radio operator, dinghy operator. I also can use a lot of deck hands. They don't have to own a boat; they just have to be willing to get an emergency credential from our city so that they can be on board.

In June, we'll be part of Cascadia Rising 2022, a statewide earthquake drill. We're training for a specific type of event,


but we're preparing for the ability to respond to anything.

#### **What did the pandemic reveal about preparedness?**

We're really ahead of the game—but at the same time, way behind. Are we ready to go two months without a Safeway truck, two months without power or fresh water?

#### **How did you get into Cajun music in the Pacific Northwest?**

I play fiddle in a band with my partner, Claudette Boudreaux, called WHOZYA-MAMA. Claudette is from Louisiana, and when people from Louisiana meet, they ask where you're from, but pretty soon they want to know your father's last name, your mother's last name. They just keep going until they find some connection.

 *To join the emergency flotilla, email [tallen@bainbridgewa.gov](mailto:tallen@bainbridgewa.gov).*







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# Chai Love You, *Darjeeling*

**Forget the Northwest's** coffee-swilling image, it's teatime on Bainbridge Island.

Islanders are turning to tea to help ward off the negatives surrounding the pandemic, said Erika Thayer, who opened the Bainbridge Apothecary and Tea Shop in mid-2020 on Winslow Way. People crave health, a bit of normalcy and simple pleasures, she said.

"Tea is the perfect vehicle for that. It's food for the soul; it tastes good and makes you feel good," said Thayer, a Bainbridge resident for a dozen years. "You take some leaves, add water and find civility."

People have been brewing tea for at least 3,000 years, Thayer noted, and it ranks only behind water on numerous lists of the world's favorite beverages.

Toby Calabrese understands the appeal. She, her 13-year-old daughter Grace and other relatives celebrate special occasions at Thayer's tea shop.

"Coffee revs you up," Calabrese said. "Sipping tea makes you relax. It makes you feel like you're on vacation."

A few blocks away, Andrea and Joe Raetzer opened Steepologie Teas in November 2020 on Madrone Lane; last fall, they debuted their very first tea bar nearby. They own five Steepologies in the Seattle region.

The couple fell in love with Bainbridge 25 years ago and returned nearly every year, Joe Raetzer said via email. They

## BUDDING TEA TRADE ADDS AN AIR OF CIVILITY TO WINSLOW

BY CONNIE BYE

were drawn to Madrone Lane's "beautiful mixture of shops," and when they heard some stores closed during the pandemic, "we reached out to the landlord to see if would be a good fit, and it was."

Two longtime Bainbridge enterprises, Churchmouse Yarns & Teas and Paraffine, closed their physical stores during the pandemic but continue to sell specialty teas online.

But perhaps no one else strives as hard to create an ambience as Thayer. Her Le Cordon Bleu training is reflected in the pastries and other treats that her shop sells; she makes many of them. In selecting the 60 teas for the shop, she relied on nearly 30 years' experience in the industry, including a stint as a tea master in Utah. The delicate, vintage cups and saucers that customers use are "little warriors of civility," she said.

Customers can sip and chat at intimate booths inside the front door or linger out back inside a covered, draped, cushiony, heated patio oasis, where Carrotcake, a curly-tailed cat, often ambles up to greet visitors. "She came to us as a stray," Thayer said. "And she's been here the entire time."

Farther out back, there's a taco stand and seasonal ice cream shop. The Apothecary next door sells products that promote health and a sense of well-being. Thayer contends everything works well together.

When Thayer opened in July 2020, she said pandemic restrictions meant business "was really slow at first. That's when local people really supported me."

Among those loyalists is Calabrese, who moved from Houston to Bainbridge Island in March 2020 and discovered Thayer's shops soon after they launched. Since then, she's organized numerous tea parties and special events for family and friends. And she hired Thayer to handle the culinary details for her backyard wedding last summer.

"We had high tea after the ceremony," Calabrese said. "Then we had a sunset dinner at our house. Erika catered the whole thing. She's brilliant when it comes to food."

Thayer estimates she's done more than 200 birthday parties. She said she enjoys helping people plan tea events for groups of friends; tea celebrations for holidays, including Mother's Day; or high tea, complete with baked treats, soup, scones, preserves, chocolate confections and more.

"We even turned (the patio) into a Jolly-Roger, pirate-themed tea party for some little boys," she said.

She also welcomes off-island tea enthusiasts and novices. Her shops are some of the first and last things visitors and tourists encounter as they walk around Winslow Way and head back to the ferry.

Despite all this love of tea, she's not a coffee hater. She estimated that 20 percent of her business is cups of hot joe.

"Even I drink a cup of coffee sometimes," Thayer said with a smile. "I serve really good coffee."





# Health



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# LIKE NO BUSINESS I KNOW

PULLING BACK  
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DURING COVID

**The show** must go on ... until it can't.

For performing arts groups, the pandemic stopped exciting seasons, darkening stages and forcing creative people to think in ever more creative ways.

At Bainbridge Performing Arts, there initially were podcast adventures and events on the lawn. But BPA's biggest roadblock to resuming performances was an \$18 million renovation and expansion that has closed the theater until fall 2023.

So, as the world began reopening, BPA reached a mutually advantageous deal last year with Bainbridge Cinemas to lease movie Theater 3 as its interim home. Exciting things are on the way.

"We're polishing off nearly two years of rust and exercising those creative joints again," said Dominique Cantwell, BPA's executive director, as she sat down for a chat inside Theater 3.

BY  
CONNIE  
BYE



# “ WE’RE POLISHING OFF NEARLY TWO YEARS OF RUST AND EXERCISING THOSE CREATIVE JOINTS AGAIN.”

A new performance season launched in the fall with the return of The Edge Improv. BPA was part of “All Together Now!” a musical revue staged by more than 2,500 organizations worldwide. The Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra, other concerts and comedy sessions filled out 2021.

Expect the pace to quicken this year. Cantwell said BPA is considering the past—shows that were in the works before the pandemic—as well as the future—unique options to use a small stage. “Larger musicals could be concert versions. Or we might use fewer performers.”

Late last year, she wasn’t ready to reveal specifics, but she said BPA could announce the new show lineup at its fundraising gala in January or perhaps sooner.

BPA was allowed to stream “All Together Now!” and was considering other shows that permit that. Not everyone is ready or able to

return to live performances, Cantwell said, so streaming offers a way to connect with that audience.

The movie complex still is recovering from a previous 11-month shutdown, mandated by the state’s Covid response, said Jeff Brein, who co-owns Bainbridge Cinemas with Sam Granato. “And 50 percent of our audience here is still afraid to go out to theaters and restaurants.”

When Brein heard about BPA’s construction project, he realized that Bainbridge Cinemas was the only entity on the island with theaters to offer. And BPA’s long-term lease would bolster the cinemas’ bottom line.

The deal also benefits Pavilion restaurants and bars, as some theater patrons eat and drink before and after performances, Brein noted

in a phone interview.

BPA also anticipates partnering with area theater groups and organizations that need space to perform, Cantwell said.

Theater 3 previously was used for church services, so the small stage, some sound equipment and lighting supports already were in place. Another plus, Cantwell said: “It has an amazing air-handling system. That was one of the things that convinced us to take this leap and make a long-term commitment.”

Cantwell noted that “there’s no disguising that this is a movie theater,” not a live performance stage, but BPA has focused on the advantages. For example, the big screen allows for experiments that visually enhance onstage performances. “It gives us flexibility.”

At 264 seats, Theater 3 is the largest of five movie

houses at the Pavilion. However, to accommodate production

equipment and with an eye toward Covid safety, BPA only is using up to 190 seats for now, putting space between theater-going groups. Performers and audiences must be Covid-vaccinated, and patrons must wear masks. To sidestep the issue of lowering masks to eat or drink, no refreshments are allowed inside.

Those protocols protect audiences – and performers, Cantwell said. “If we can’t pledge to our performers that they’ll be safe removing their masks, then we’re not doing our jobs.”

BPA also is leasing a former gym upstairs at the Pavilion for rehearsal space and a dressing room. It plans to use the site for classes and camps, too.

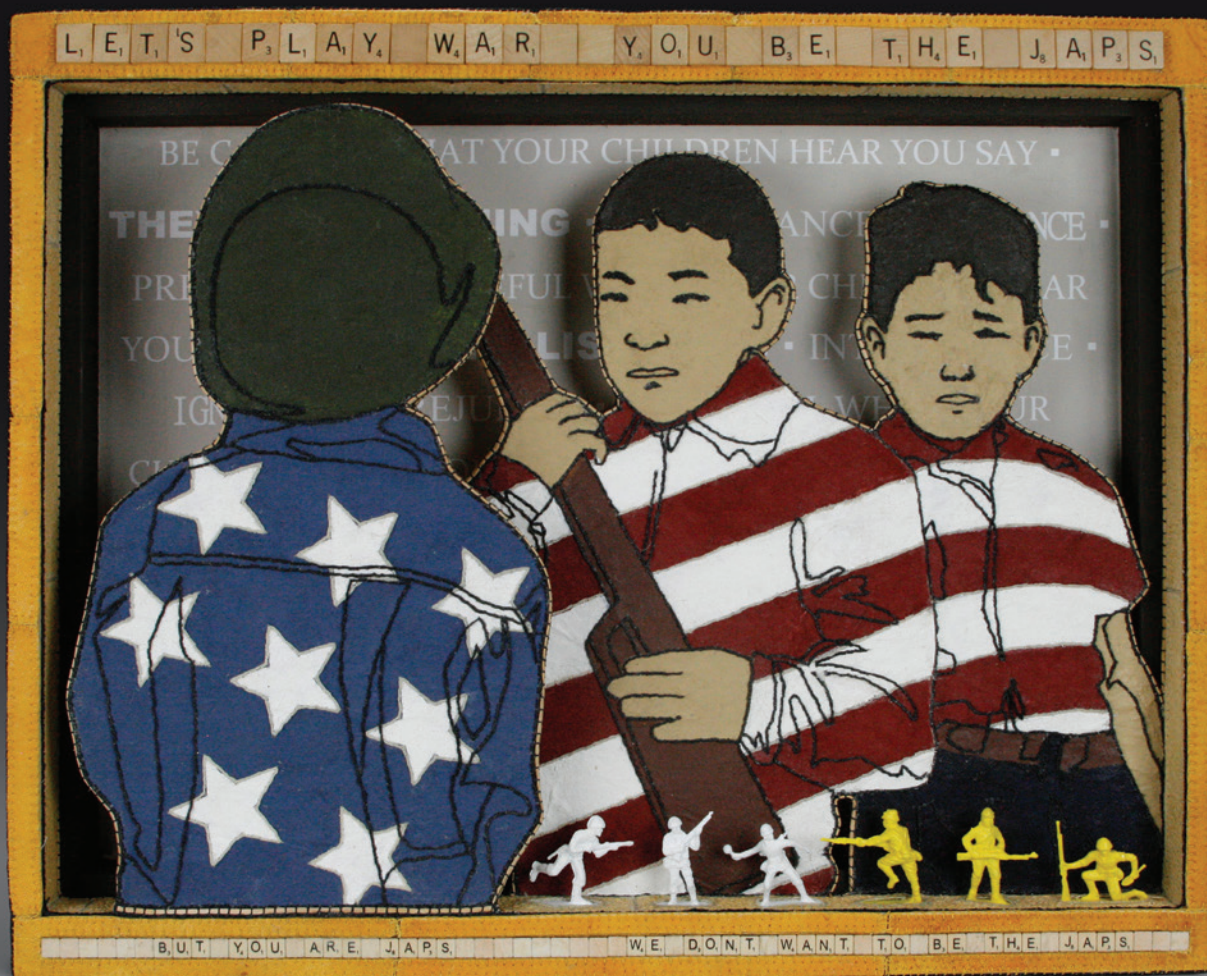
Meantime, the work on BPA’s home base is under way. So far, BPA has raised about \$15 million of the \$18 million needed, thanks partly to a state Building for the Arts grant, Cantwell said. The new facility will be named The Buxton Center for Bainbridge Performing Arts.

BPA will launch a community fundraising campaign this spring, she said. “We’re hoping everyone will feel a part of this.”



➔ *Want to know more about BPA’s expansion plans? Go to [bainbridgeperformingarts.org/buxton](https://bainbridgeperformingarts.org/buxton).*





# AMERICANS INCARCERATED:

A Family's Story of Social Injustice

March 11 – June 12, 2022

*Americans Incarcerated* is an evolving collaboration between Jan and Chris Hopkins (Everett, WA) to memorialize the federally mandated eviction of Japanese Americans during World War II.

The artists' visual narrative combines Jan's figurative sculptures and mixed media vignettes with Chris' two-dimensional works ranging from oil paintings, Sumi ink paintings, and charcoal drawings.



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# The Fabulous FENDERSKIRTS

## Three Women Who Became Bainbridge Island Icons

**Ginni Hawkins, Dianne Brown Trani and Kaetche Facemyer Miller** spent their lives making music, but when they met up on Bainbridge Island, a legend was born: the Fabulous Fenderskirts.

The local music and dance scene was in full swing by 1979, with live entertainment at venues all around the island. When Hawkins began performing at open mic night at The Lemon Tree Restaurant, other musicians occasionally joined her, among them Trani and Miller. A friendship developed, musical alchemy occurred and a harmonious partnership began that would span three decades.

Early on, they performed with an established country band, Willy and the Tailgaters, led by Scott Taylor and Bill Clark. As their popularity grew, the women formed the Fabulous Fenderskirts with a back-up band of their own. They initially specialized in dance music from the 1940s through the '70s, later adding 1980s and '90s tunes.

BY  
**MARGARET  
MILLMORE**

PHOTOS BY  
**STEVE STOLEE**

The vivacious threesome could be heard at long-gone venues, such as the Martinique and Mac's Tavern. They frequently performed at the Firemen's Ball and were the first to entertain live at the Third of July Street Fair and Dance.

Soon they were traversing the Sound, playing at Matzoh Mamma's, Pioneer Square Tavern, Tijuana Tilly's and other Seattle venues. They regularly played



at private venues and nonprofit fundraisers, too.

At the trio's farewell show in 2016 at the Filipino American Community Hall on Bainbridge, longtime fan Steve Stolee was there to film it all.

Stolee's 40-plus year career as a producer, director, writer and performer for independent films and theatrical productions on Bainbridge won him accolades, including an Island Treasure Award in 2019. He received an Individual Artist Grant from Arts & Humanities Bainbridge, which he used to produce the documentary, "A Date with the Fenderskirts," which debuted at the Lynwood Theater in October 2021.

Because there wasn't any available footage of the trio's musical adventures prior to 2016, Stolee relied on photographs and Zoom interviews to create a montage of events leading up to the Fenderskirts' final performance. "It's a celebration," he said, "of these three wonderful women that so aptly represent our island's cultural heritage."



Dianne Brown (left)  
Kaetche Miller (center)  
Ginni Hawkins (right)

## MEET THE FABULOUS FENDERSKIRTS

**Ginni Hawkins'** musical career began at age 4, when she sang and tap danced on a recording for her father, who was away on assignment with the U.S. Navy. She earned a degree in voice performance at Willamette University. After moving to Bainbridge in 1970, she performed in musicals and later played piano and sang with other musicians at various venues, where she met her husband, drummer Rick Blumenthal.

Seattle native **Dianne Brown Trani's** mother, a classical pianist and educator, shaped her early musical interests. She participated in choir and drama while attending Garfield High School, studied at Cornish College of the Arts and pursued a degree at the University of Washington School of Art. She moved to Bainbridge Island in 1971 and two years later, she joined her first island band, the Pyramid, and later formed another group, The Island.

In a small town in Pennsylvania's Allegheny Valley, **Kaetche Facemyer Miller** performed her first duet in elementary school. She later took part in high school choir and in college musicals. She moved to Bainbridge in 1975 and connected with other musicians, including her late husband, John Miller.



shorts

# Be Bold BE BRAVE

## Empowering Women to Conquer the Nice Factor

**At Pacific Fusion Premier Martial Arts,** the adage “sugar and spice and all things nice” does not apply. Be Bold Be Brave, a workshop for girls and women, turns the nice factor on its end. The three-hour course provides participants with techniques to tap into their inner warrior, teaching them that self-defense comes from the inside out.

BY  
LARA  
DUNNING

Founders Allison Kress, a psychologist specializing in counseling teen girls and women, and Steph Aduddell, a martial arts practitioner with a fourth-degree Tae Kwon Do black belt, have made it their mission to help young girls, women and anyone who identifies as female feel empowered. With years of experience in their fields and a passion for arming women with the tools to thrive, the workshop mixes conversations about issues that women face daily with hand-to-hand self-defense skills.

“Our workshops are positive and fun, providing an open and supportive atmosphere,” said Kress. “We weave in age-appropriate topics such as listening to your gut, decision making, and how to say no in different situations. We also bring in experienced and inspiring guest speakers. With Master Steph, we learn



physical self-defense skills, street smarts, verbal hand-to-hand techniques, and emotional intelligence during a crisis situation. And they even get to break a board!”

The Be Bold Be Brave workshops, available for females from middle school age through adulthood, take place at Pacific Fusion Premier Martial Arts at Coppertop Park on Bainbridge Island as well as locations in Silverdale and California and in corporate settings. Participants receive a swag bag, hand wraps and a delicious lunch.

“Both of us have been blown away by people’s desire to learn and step into their power with our unique program that embraces empowerment, grit and self-defense. With martial arts foundations based on protection, honor, perseverance, and respect, it’s a perfect combination,” said Aduddell. “It’s so rewarding for both of us to see everyone leave feeling courageous, confident, and part of a sisterhood.”



To learn more, visit [theboldbrave.com](http://theboldbrave.com) or Facebook and Instagram @beboldbebravelife.





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shorts

# PLAY IT AGAIN, SAM

## Vintage and Pre-Owned Shopping Shows Thrifty is Nifty

**Heidi Damata,** | **BY ELLE  
SCHUCHMAN**

a Los Angeles-based artist and designer, has been obsessed with colors and clothing since she was little. But in the last year and a half, her passion became her profession, when she started House of Color Los Angeles, whose parent company is based in the United Kingdom. She works mainly with women to discover what hues work best with their skin tones and then helps them determine what styles — proportions, cuts and genres — are most flattering.

Although Damata works with an increasing number of local celebrities and is surrounded by beautiful clothes and fashion designers, most of what she personally buys, she described as “pre-loved”: vintage and second-hand garments and accessories.

Damata said buying something vintage is like “holding a piece of history.”

Her rule of thumb for thrifting is inspired by a proportion often applied to







healthy eating, where 80 percent of what you consume is dedicated to wholesome food and 20 percent is reserved for treats. Accordingly, Damata is working towards 80 percent of her clothes coming from second-hand or vintage stores and just 20 percent bought new. She estimates that currently about 65 percent of her closet is pre-loved.

She may be onto something. According to America's Research Group, approximately 16 to 18 percent of Americans will shop at a thrift store during a given year.

In addition to being more affordable, shopping second-hand is good for the environment. The fashion industry is responsible for 10 percent of global carbon emissions, another reason that Damata advocates buying second-hand. "You're not adding more waste to the world," she said. "Plus, many of the products that are made currently are made from petroleum, so they're essentially plastic, chemically made."

Damata's interest in vintage and second-hand shopping began in the '80s when she accompanied her mom to artsy antique stores to shop for things for their house. Dressing for high school, Damata borrowed her dad's oversized sweaters and her mom's scarves and jewelry. During college, she began thrifting a lot and still remembers "a super funky little red dress," that she wished she had saved.

"You know, it becomes more of a treasure hunt," she said, "as opposed to when you're going to the mall and everyone is looking at the exact same sweaters and the exact same shoes."

One of her more recent "treasure finds" was in Paris, where she visited for her birthday over the summer. While at Les Puces de Saint-Ouen (touted as the largest antique and second-hand market in the world) she came upon "this unbelievable cape that was from the '70s, and it had all these great colors that I love."

She's drawn to things that have a story. "I still have some pieces of my mom's from the '70s that were totally fabulous. I love them, first and foremost, because they belonged to my mom."

She noted that another advantage of shopping vintage is that while stores selling new clothes may only offer styles and colors that are currently en vogue, "you can find almost anything that fits your preferences when you're thrifting. When you know what you are looking for, it becomes very easy."

She said that this applies to in-person as well as online thrifting. "What's great about online thrifting, at stores like thredUP, Depop, and Poshmark, is that there are filters you can apply, which help you find what you want 10 times faster than before."

Perhaps one of the best parts about buying second-hand, though, is the fun factor. "It's one of my very, very favorite things to do," said Damata. "I have a dear friend and when we've gone vintage shopping, it's like, 'Oh my gosh, come look!' My best colors and style are very different from hers. It's even more fun because she always finds stuff for me and she'll say, 'Oh my gosh, this is so you!' That's really fun."



#### → Young Writers Series

**Elle Schuchman will take Goodwill over Nordstrom (most) any day. The 14-year-old Bainbridge High School freshman, like many Bainbridge teens, has a fashion aesthetic that leans more bargain basement than haute couture. In the first of a series of articles from young island writers, Schuchman interviewed stylist Heidi Damata to learn a little more about the seduction of second-hand style.**





Courtesy of Audrey Nelson

# THE WRITE STUFF

## Bainbridge Teen Wins National Literary Prize

**Audrey Nelson** debuted as a fiction writer at age 4 with "The Bunny and the Bear," a short story about a rabbit who grows tired of being menaced by an aggressive bear and decides to trap him in a butterfly net. The story ends, in what Nelson laughingly described as a master twist, with the bunny family sitting down to a tasty bear dinner.

BY  
GEORGE  
SOLTES

Fourteen years later, in May 2021, Nelson was a senior at Bainbridge High School working part-time at Liberty Bay Books in Poulsbo. "I was in the bookstore and my phone went off, but I had silenced it because I wasn't supposed to be looking at it," Nelson recalled. As she continued to work, the store phone began ringing.

Nelson's mother, Sarah Auerbach, was on the line with an urgent message. Michael Roth, the president of Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, one of the colleges to which Nelson had applied, needed to speak with her. Nelson returned the call from a back office and was told that her short story "Complications" had been awarded the Hamilton Prize for Creativity and had earned her a four-year, full-tuition scholarship to attend Wesleyan.

The Hamilton Prize was established by Wesleyan alumni Lin-Manuel Miranda and Thomas Kail, the Tony award winning collaborators behind



“

**I HAVEN'T EVEN REALLY TRIED TO CONVINCE AUDREY TO FIND A PRACTICAL PATH. AND AS IT TURNS OUT, HER PATH IS HIGHLY PRACTICAL, BECAUSE HER WRITING HAS PAID OFF FOR HER IN SPADES.”**

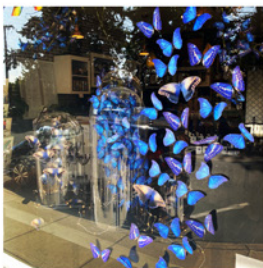
—Sarah Auerbach

the hit Broadway musicals “In the Heights” and “Hamilton.” Miranda explained in a press release why Nelson’s story had been chosen among hundreds of applicants for the grand prize: “Audrey’s ‘Complications’ was delightful and surprising at every turn: in structure, in subject matter, in its evocative language. I wanted to read more from this writer immediately.”

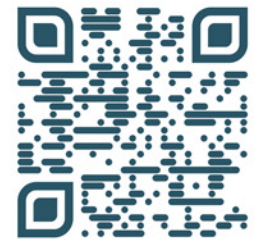
Nelson was born into a household where it was second nature to put her thoughts down on paper. Her grandmother, Jessica Auerbach, published four novels, including the bestselling “Sleep, Baby, Sleep,” which was made into an ABC network television movie. “I was really proud that my grandma had written books that we had on our shelves,” Nelson said. “I found that pretty amazing.” Sarah Auerbach is also a professional writer, with multiple romance novels published under the pseudonym Serena Bell. Nelson remembered sitting side by side with her mother at the kitchen table as a child, each of them working away at their writing.



Courtesy of Laird Nelson



**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND**  
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[bainbridgedowntown.org](http://bainbridgedowntown.org)

#bainbridgedowntown



Nelson's prize-winning story almost didn't happen. After deciding to enter the competition, she put off writing it. "I can't do this," she recalled thinking. "Lin-Manuel Miranda could be reading what I submit. There's no way I can send in any of my work. It's too embarrassing." Finally, encouraged by her parents, she found a fragment of a story she had written for a sophomore English assignment. "It was pretty plotless and didn't have much actual substance," she said. Taking those bare bones as her starting point, she completed "Complications," a magic realist fable about a woman sent home from the maternity ward with a baby bird, in less than two hours. "The stuff I just blasted off was so much better than what I had worried over for weeks," she said.

These days, Nelson is a busy freshman at Wesleyan. The former high school basketball star is trying her



Courtesy of Laird Nelson

hand at rugby, which she described as "kind of scary but super fun." She is undecided about whether she will make writing her career. Her father, Laird Nelson, is an accomplished musician who plays keyboards with local bands but makes his living as a software engineer. "I grew up in a family where my dad chose not to have his passion as his main source of work and my mom chose to do her passion as her work," Nelson said. "I get both sides of it, and I see the pros and cons of both." Whatever she decides, writing remains a big part of her life. She penned a short play called "Monstrous" which was just performed at a campus play festival and has submitted "Complications" to several literary magazines. She recently garnered her first rejection but took it in stride. "I was honestly super glad to get the first one," she said. "I'm a real writer now! Look at this official rejection! It feels good."

# Healing land, healing community.

We are proud to partner with the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association, honoring their milestone 80-year observance with restoration and stewardship at Pritchard Park in 2022.

[biparksfoundation.org/pritchard](https://biparksfoundation.org/pritchard)

BAINBRIDGE  
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# *Come feel the history.*

## Nidoto Nai Yoni (Let It Not Happen Again)



More information at  
[bijaema.org](http://bijaema.org)

Take a walk through the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, a National Parks historic site. Powerful artwork, architecture, and outdoor exhibits tell the story of an unconscionable chapter in American history. March 30 is the 80th anniversary of the day in 1942 when 227 Bainbridge Islanders of Japanese descent became the nation's first to be removed from their homes and sent to concentration camps. ***Walk in their shoes.***

*Visit: The memorial is open daily. Located at Pritchard Park,  
4192 Eagle Harbor Drive, Bainbridge Island, WA,*











# Let It **NOT** Happen Again

BY ALLISON  
SCHUCHMAN

PHOTOS BY  
PAUL DUNN, WAYNE ROTH  
AND DAVID COHEN

EIGHT DECADES  
AFTER THE  
**JAPANESE  
AMERICAN  
EXCLUSION**

---

**Lilly Kitamoto Kodama** couldn't sleep the night of March 29, 1942. She was too excited.

Her mother, Shigeko, had told her that the next day they were going to Seattle. It would be like a vacation.

But behind the brave face she wore for her children, Shigeko was planning to leave their Bainbridge Island farm for a concentration camp. The young mother was complying with President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 which, following the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, authorized the creation of exclusion zones along the West Coast, allowing the forcible removal of people of Japanese descent, regardless of citizenship or length of residence. Bainbridge was the first designated zone.

Shigeko bore the tragic exodus alone that day because her husband Frank had been arrested and jailed in a sweeping FBI island raid on February 4, 1942. "Within hours after Pearl Harbor, they came to our island," explained former Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community president and newly elected Bainbridge Island city council member, Clarence Moriwaki. "And without search warrants, charges nor trials, arrested 34 of our elders. They went to all 50 homes simultaneously in coordination with all the Kitsap County Sheriffs and Washington State Patrol. That's how quickly fear and hate, prejudice and bigotry can happen. It can happen on a dime."

Shigeko left home as ordered on March 30, 1942, reporting to the Eagledale Ferry with her four children in tow. Lilly was the oldest at age 7. The youngest was just 9 months. "At the dock I saw all my cousins and aunties because we all





lived on the island," Kodama said. She also saw soldiers with guns. "People could only take what they could carry, usually one suitcase. People ask what I think was in my mother's suitcase. Naturally, it was diapers."

Alongside 271 other people from the island, Shigeko and her children departed Bainbridge for Seattle and were then sent to the concentration camp in Manzanar, California.

March 30, 2022 marks the 80th anniversary of that fateful day.

Kodama supposes that one of the reasons Bainbridge was the first exclusion zone was that its Japanese population was small enough to be imprisoned at Manzanar, which had previously been run by the United States Army. "I always tell people, there was an advantage to being the first," she said. "Barracks were not the best place to live, but it was a lot better than temporary housing that other communities were



sent to, for instance at fairgrounds where their rooms were makeshift animal stalls."

Kodama recalls her mother's dignity despite the rigors of caring for her family in the camp. "I do not remember my mom and my aunts grousing and complaining about the terrible conditions. I think about myself as a young mother with toddlers and I would have coffee with my friends. We would complain about our toddlers or about our husbands who never help. I marvel that they didn't do that. I think they were protecting us and trying their darndest to make things as normal as possible. I often point that out to children. No matter how bad the conditions are, as long as Mama's with you, everything is okay."

Kodama said another advantage of being first was that they got a lot of press coverage. "Bainbridge Island was totally different from



other communities on the West Coast because the Woodwards, who were the owners of the Bainbridge Review, consistently editorialized what was happening to our community."

At the time of the exclusion, high school senior Paul Ohtaki, a Japanese American, was working for the newspaper, sweeping up and acting as a gofer for Walt and Milly Woodward after school. As his removal loomed, the Woodwards proposed that Ohtaki work as a reporter from Manzanar, an arrangement that ultimately helped preserve the connection between those excluded and the islanders back home. "He would write things to the Review about what was happening to us in the camps," Kodama said. "Telling about marriages and births and deaths. Then, in turn,

**"ANOTHER  
REMARK-  
ABLE THING  
IS WHEN  
THE WAR  
ENDED, WE  
WERE ABLE  
TO RETURN  
TO OUR  
HOMES."**

the Review was sent to the camps so the people in the camp knew what's happening on Bainbridge. In other communities, once the Japanese were gone, they were gone."

Moriwaki concurs that the Woodwards' legacy cannot be overemphasized. "When Pearl Harbor happened, Walt wrote a careful editorial saying let's not rush to mob rule ... these are friends and neighbors. But when Roosevelt signed order 9066, his editorials were blistering," Moriwaki explained that although in the beginning the Review was not alone in its opposition to the exclusion, it maintained that stance throughout the war while other news outlets jumped on the bandwagon of Japanese racism. "[Walt] Woodward was strong.







He lost subscribers, he lost advertisers. But through his editorial leadership, he set the tone of what the community was and what it stood for."

"Another remarkable thing is when the war ended, we were able to return to our homes," said Kodama. After her father's arrest but before the family's exclusion, Frank Kitamoto wrote to his wife, suggesting that she ask the two Filipino men who had worked on the farm for years, cousins Felix Narte and Eulalio Aquino, if they would move into the house and care for it while the Kitamotos were gone. The cousins did so until the family's return in August 1945.

"They were like family to me," said Kodama. "After the war, my parents gave them not quite an acre of land, deeded it over to them. After my husband [Mits "Joe" Kodama] and I retired, we moved back to the island, and I now live in the house I was born in. Right next door is Felix Narte Jr., who lives in the

house his father had built on the farm. So, it is still family and friends living right next door to each other. I think that's a telling story."

Since neighbors throughout the island agreed to take care of the Japanese Americans' farms, and because of the widely held sentiment that the exclusion was immoral and illegal, Bainbridge holds the distinction of having had more than 150 of the 276 excluded people come back. "There's not a community on the West Coast that came close to 15 percent returning," said Moriwaki. "Some communities, like Bellingham, passed an official resolution forbidding their return. They were met with terrorism, groups of people with pitchforks and rifles coming to meet them. That's fearful intimidation. Why would you want to stay? And that was sanctioned by the government. What makes our island different is that we didn't accept the tide of racism."

Though Kodama points out that the Japanese community was not unanimously welcomed home, she believes that the island's response to their return makes Bainbridge a unique community. Despite her three-and-a-half-year absence, "I don't remember anything untoward happening to me in school. My classmates treated me as if I was just gone for a little while and came back."





Photo | Wayne Roth



Photo | Wayne Roth

After World War II ended, Kodama explained that many in the Japanese community avoided speaking of the exclusion and imprisonment, in part because it was such a dark chapter and would reopen old wounds, but also because the community felt that it had risen above it and carried on. Others, she said, disagreed. "They'd say we should not forget that this happened, so that it should never happen again to any others. My brother was actually that person, as were his friends Junkoh Harui and Don Nakata. I think the three of them were maybe the ones who began to tell the story of what happened to us."

Kodama's brother Frank Jr. became an outspoken leader of the Japanese community. He, along with Jerry Nakata and Walt Woodward, took a traveling exhibit about the exclusion to schools, community centers and churches. This, in turn, prompted the Interfaith Council of Kitsap County to reach out to the community and float the idea for something more permanent to commemorate the exclusion.

Several smaller tributes were created and from those grew the ambitious idea for the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial. Shortly after Kodama and her husband moved back to the island, they attended a baby shower. "They were discussing raising millions of dollars for this memorial and I'm thinking there are not that many of us on the island. But it wasn't just the Japanese community, it was the entire community that got involved."

Millions of dollars were indeed raised from donations and grants to construct the memorial, which opened to the public on July 30, 2011 and is now launching its final phase of construction. Its centerpiece is a curving cedar wall that lists the names of all 276 island residents who were excluded. It was designed pro bono by American



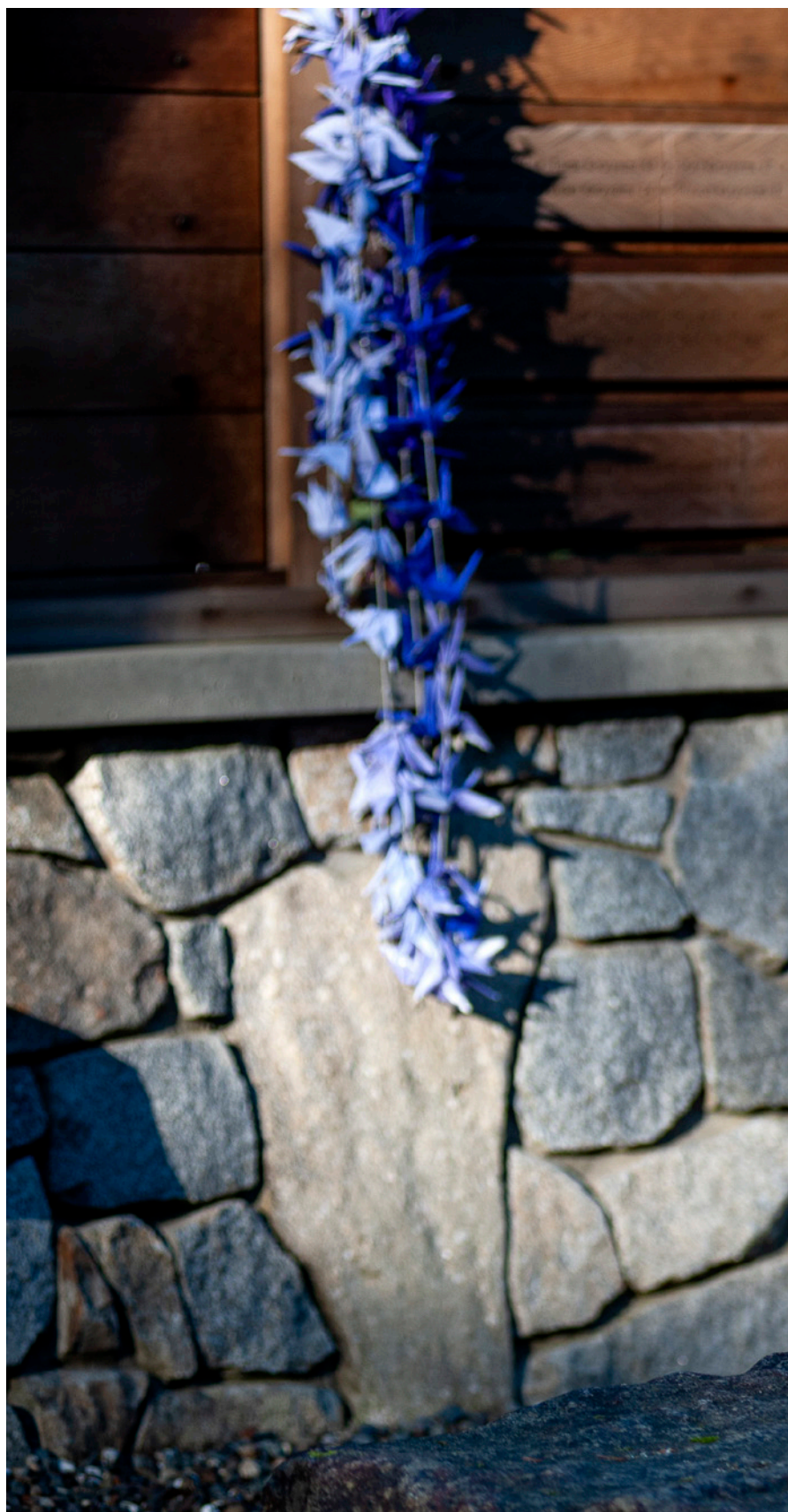


Indian architect Johnpaul Jones. Artist Steve Gardner created murals that depict scenes of residents being herded onto the ferries. The installation's motto is "Nidoto Nai Yoni," a Japanese phrase meaning, "Let it not happen again."

Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association (BIJAEMA) president G. Val Tollefson estimates that, based on the experience of docents who run tours and on the observations of the National Park Service ranger who is on site during the summer, more than 10,000 people a year visit the site, 70 to 80 percent of whom come from outside Bainbridge and Kitsap County. "It's not just about casting memories in amber," he said, "This is not just history, it's human rights. It's relevant today."

Moriwaki explained that not everyone knows how to feel when they learn this part of American history. "A lot of people have different reactions. A lot of people feel guilt or anger, humiliation, frustration. And all those feelings are valid. What we wanted with this statement, 'Nidoto Nai Yoni,' was to be an aspirational call that when times of fear happen, remember what happened to American citizens in World War II. If you can take inspiration from how our island responded to a nationwide tidal wave of fear and racism, then our memorial had its impact. But it's more than just feeling. You must act. You have to actually act it when it does happen."

"I remember that when the project was almost completed, we had a big potluck gathering at the









American Legion Hall," said Kodama, "and I happened to sit next to a second-generation man and he said, 'You know, I was one who didn't like the idea of this memorial, but I'm sure glad they didn't pay any attention to me.'" Kodama said that it is not only the Japanese community who continues to embrace and support the memorial, pointing out that most of the people on its board are not Japanese. "I think it's pretty telling about what kind of community this is and I am so proud and happy to be part of it."



Before Frank Jr.'s death, Kodama would follow behind him while he gave tours at the memorial. "He always pointed out that it was not something built to place blame or shame or guilt, but to make sure that people realized what happened and make sure that this would not happen ever again to any other group." After he passed away, Kodama realized that someone needed to pick up where he left off. "I was one who didn't feel comfortable speaking in public, but it's become easier and now at my age I think, 'Why am I worried about that?' So, I play my senior card a lot."

## THE RESPONSIBILITY TO SHARE

"People need to recognize that the Japanese American exclusion story is basically people being afraid of people because they look like the enemy," said Bainbridge Island History Museum community outreach manager **Katy Curtis**. The museum, in partnership with BIJAEMA and the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community (BIJAC), as well as the National Park Service and Bainbridge's Parks District, helps preserve the collection of the Japanese American community and its cultural objects.

Curtis personally sees her role as a custodian for the stories surrounding the exclusion, including preserving the wisdom and work of her special friend Kazuko "Kay" Sakai, who passed away at age 100 in 2020. Sakai's family was among those excluded and, in the years following their return to island, her story became fundamental to the telling of her community's experience.

"There are 120,000 stories," said Curtis, referring to the total number of Japanese Americans who were excluded and imprisoned. "I feel like I had the honor of being friends, and so I feel, I don't know how you'd say it, but I feel whatever is the positive word for obligation. I feel like her story must be told to all generations of islanders."

On display at the museum during the commemoration surrounding the exclusion's 80th anniversary is one of the posters the military posted on March 24, 1942, instructing Japanese islanders to report to the Eagledale Ferry on March 30. Curtis said that the poster cannot be indefinitely displayed in the exhibit as it will become further degraded by the light. However, people attending the commemoration can see it.

**Johanna Vander Stoep**, a retired educator and the founding principal of Sonoji Sakai Intermediate School, is proud of the school's curriculum and its role in the preservation of the history of the exclusion. "Until the '80s, that whole history was not talked about a whole lot and certainly would not have defined Bainbridge Island in the way that it puts us on the map. It's that story that we feel most responsible to share."



She said that the naming of the school embraced that duty to the community. "Since the year that the school was being planned, it has been important. The school is 21 years old and it continues to be so." Vander Stoep points to the public art that is part of the school, including a photo display of a group of friends—The 7-Ups—who were in seventh grade when they were incarcerated. "They tell the story of the friendship that they forged in camp and that continued through the rest of their lives."

Vander Stoep said that most important day of the year at the school is called "Leaving our Island Day," during which sixth graders learn about the exclusion firsthand from survivors. As time goes by however, those opportunities are waning, so the school continues to build its library of recorded interviews, as well as reaching out to survivors from other communities and inviting them to participate.

"Getting to meet survivors, students describe that as life-changing," she said. "You hear about children being incarcerated in the desert, but when you meet Lily Kodama and see what kind of wonderful, law-abiding human being she is, it just becomes so real. Students' lives are changed in terms of understanding injustice. And hearing how they kept community while they were away, learning lessons of resilience and patience and perseverance."





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BY KERRIE HOUSTON REIGHTLEY

# BAINBRIDGE PREPARED

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STORY ABOUT HOW  
26,000 RESIDENTS CAME  
TOGETHER IN A CRISIS

**IT WAS A MEET MADE FOR TELEVISION AND FILM:** two unlikely people cross paths while going about their ordinary lives, then something extraordinary happens. It's the stuff of Hollywood movies — and it's what happened to Loren Bast, executive director of

**Bainbridge Prepares**, and Mark Hewett Tan, owner of Bainbridge Island Community Pharmacy.

Bast and Tan joke that they fell in love over hand sanitizer (both are happily married to their wives, Heather and KC). They first crossed paths in March 2020, at a peak of the Covid-19 pandemic, when Governor Jay Inslee issued a statewide Stay Home-Stay Healthy order. Bast was busy working with local distilleries to produce and distribute hand sanitizer to essential businesses on Bainbridge, including Tan's pharmacy, where customers could fill their containers for free.

Eight months later, with vaccines becoming available, Tan submitted paperwork to the Washington Department of Health for







his pharmacy to be a vaccine provider. “They wanted to know if we had storage capabilities for the Pfizer vaccine,” he said, which had to be kept at -70 degrees Celsius. They did not. They did however have the capacity to store the Moderna vaccine, which could be kept between 2 and 8 degrees Celsius.

On December 21, 2020, Tan called Bast with breaking news and an urgent plea for help. “Three hundred doses of Moderna are arriving in two days! I was in a complete a panic,” he said. “It was the holiday





season. And the state wanted us to administer everything we got at the same time.”

That call set in motion the full force of Bainbridge Prepares (BP) and its well-crafted, no-stone-left-unturned Emergency Management Strategic Plan (EMSP), which was devised in concert with BP’s partners, the City of Bainbridge Island and Bainbridge Island Fire Department. The collaboration, started 11 years ago, was the brainchild of BP founder and chair Scott James. What James describes as his Dream Team includes Bast, Deputy Fire Chief Jarod Moravec and Anne LeSage, emergency management coordinator from the







#### Homegrown Heroes

Dr. Andrea Chymiy (Medical Reserve Corps co-lead), Mark Jowett Tan (owner, Bainbridge Island Community Pharmacy), Loren Bast (Executive Director, Bainbridge Prepares), Dr. David Cowan (Medical Reserve Corps co-lead), Anne LeSage (COB Emergency Management Coordinator), and Jared Moravec (Deputy Chief, BI Fire Department)

City of Bainbridge Island. Their goal: to become the most resilient town in the state.

EMSP's organizational chart reveals the depth of the island's emergency readiness, ranging from preparedness teams to volunteer management and credentialing, from medical training and emergency response teams to neighborhood mapping, auxiliary radio service, plans for family reunification and more.

When Bast got Tan's call, it was simply a matter of pushing the emergency buttons the three-way partnership already had in place. An empty office space in Winslow Green was secured and turned

into a vaccine clinic, and the city activated its volunteers, including the 235 medical personnel who make up Bainbridge Island's Medical Reserve Corps. "The Reserve," Bast said, "was born [nationally] out of 9/11, when lots of doctors and nurses showed up to help at Ground Zero but there was no structure." He said that Bainbridge has one of the largest reserve corps for our size.

The Moderna vaccinations arrived at noon on December 23. "We started vaccinating at 3 p.m. and administered 65 doses," Bast said. "On Christmas Eve, 130. We took Christmas off and then did the remaining [doses] on December 26, to get 300-plus vaccinated."

Since then, more than 60 clinic sessions have been set up at Commodore, Woodward and the Senior Center, as well as 22 clinic sessions in Chimacum and mobile sessions at various locations.

In this community-wide effort, 85 percent of Bainbridge Island residents 12 years and older were vaccinated as of mid-November, as well as 99 percent of 12- to 17-year-olds. A recently approved jab for 5- to 11-year-olds resulted in 1,400 appointments booked in 15 minutes. On November 6 and 7, 1,562 vaccinations were administered to that age group. By mid-November, a grand total of 31,500 had been vaccinated on Bainbridge Island and surrounding areas.

LeSage, responsible for volunteer coordination and activation, said that by any measure, the role played by

“WHENEVER  
WE HAVE A  
SIGN UP, THE  
VOLUNTEERS  
STALK THE  
PAGE!”

637 background-checked, credentialed, registered and trained volunteers, who contributed nearly 33,000-plus hours, was vital.

"Whenever we have a sign up, the volunteers stalk the page!" she said. LeSage reported that 55 volunteers logged 100 to 199 hours, 14 volunteered 200 to 299 hours, seven gave 300 to 399 hours and six donated more than 400 hours. LeSage's counterparts across the country can't believe the high numbers.

She is particularly pleased with the level of creativity and collaboration. "We have a mobile unit, the first in Washington State," she said. "We did a mobile for Far Bank Enterprises, who manufactures Sage fishing reels on the island. We did a couple hundred of their warehouse staff and all four senior living facilities on the island. We also filled requests for the rest of the county. We'd get a call asking if we could help, maybe someone who couldn't leave their house, and we went."

Longtime resident Whitney Warren explained how the effort affected her family. "Last winter, Bainbridge Prepares, in concert with Island Volunteer Caregivers, went knocking on residents' doors at Finch Place [senior] Apartments in Winslow, where my 87-year-old mother lives," she said. "Many residents



don't drive or have computers. They would have been lost."

Warren's mom got her first vaccination, but when it was time for the second dose, an unrelated illness prevented her from going to her next appointment. Bainbridge Prepares and Island Volunteer Caregivers sent a retired doctor and nurse to her apartment to administer the dose. "They acted unhurried, even though they had a high number to tend to," she said. "That caring couple were truly angels."

LeSage's biggest challenge? How to properly thank all the volunteers.

Moravec, a 16-year veteran of BIFD, noted that with a few exceptions, the work was done by volunteers. "I say to them, 'I

know you're volunteering away from your family, this is hard work, everyone is tired, rinse and repeat every weekend, but never forget you are saving lives," he said. "For every dose in an arm, maybe you save that person's life or a loved one or a stranger's life."

Moravec said it's sometimes hard to wrap one's mind around prevention as a mindset. "How do you really know that maybe teaching someone in third grade to call 911, that 10 years later they may have to call 911? So, when you apply that to keep people motivated, I know that every single one of those people that volunteered, regardless of helping with parking in the rain, or the



“  
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A STRANGER'S  
LIFE.”

vaccinator putting in a needle, or entering data into the state system, or signing people in, whatever, they were part of the bigger effort to save lives."

He added: "So many times, you're hearing or seeing or reading about disasters and all the tragedy and the heartache and destruction, and that's part of it. But behind all that are people trying to solve problems and get everybody through it. One of the things that Scott has come up with, that's absolutely brilliant, is when you look at solving difficult problems through a lens of love, rather than fear, it makes people want to be a part of it. It builds community, a sense of place."

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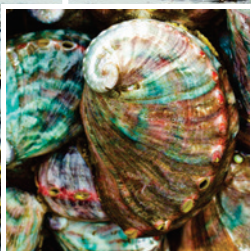
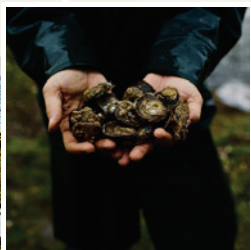
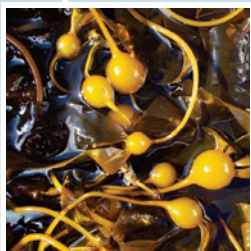


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Photo: Keith Brofsky





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# MISE *EN* PLACE

A Photographer's Vision for a Fort Ward Home

BY ALLI SCHUCHMAN || PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID COHEN



“W

e met young and got married young,” Alisa Cohen recalled quietly to David, speaking with vestiges of a Dutch accent. “I was 22. You were 25.”

Alisa was born in Holland and David came from Pittsburg. They met in Philadelphia through mutual friends.

After marrying, the pair lived in Colorado, spent a year in Holland, then came to Seattle, where Alisa attended graduate school to become a medical social worker. The move introduced David, who’d studied theater at Rutgers, to a new line of work with a software company, where he spent the next 20 years. (At 50, he took early retirement from Adobe and pivoted to a new career in architectural photography.)





After Alisa finished school, the pair landed on Bainbridge. “We found a house a mile north of the ferry, and that’s where we lived from ‘93 until 2020,” she said. With the couple’s son Ben entering high school, the prospect of moving farther from town became more appealing since their original home’s location—with its easy access to school and sports—would matter less once he was away at college.

On a Tuesday in May 2016, David saw a listing for a homesite in Fort Ward. “I drove out here and parked the car,” he said. “I brought a camp chair and I sat for about an hour, and I saw the house. I could see it.” A week later, he and Alisa were under contract for the five-acre expanse of wetlands located on what was formerly the fort’s military airstrip in WWI and WWII.

Two years after buying the homesite, Alisa urged David to bring to life what had lived in his mind since







the day he found the land. “I was kind of like, ‘Well hurry up or we’ll be dead. What are you waiting for?’” she said.

The Cohens enlisted architect and longtime islander Seri Yeckel, a colleague of David’s who has been designing homes here since the 1980s. She estimates that well over 100 island homes have been built from her plans. Although David is exceptionally visual and more outspoken than Alisa, Yeckel said she was committed to making the home work well for them both.

David originally pitched the idea of building a shipping container home. Although it was an interesting concept, Yeckel explained it couldn’t work technically. Her ultimate design, however, spoke to the industrial feel the Cohens envisioned. Not too big and not too small, at 2,300 square feet. Two dedicated bedrooms and two offices. And simplicity was key. “I said I want to

have very straightforward shed roofs,” David told her. “I don’t want to have all the peaks and valleys.”

One early challenge was building alongside wetlands. “It’s a big parcel,” said Yeckel, “but there are really only two areas to build. Fortunately, the [barrier] delineations worked out and gave us space.”

Another of David’s requests? “I really wanted her to paint the house in light,” he recalled. “The way that she positioned the windows was very specific, so that at different times of the day or time of the year, the light comes in differently.”

After settling on a design, the Cohens hired builder and Bainbridge native John Viele of Craftsman Building Fine Homes. Viele worked with excavator Josh Rodrigues (of JT Industrial) and drainage engineer Adam Wheeler (of Browne Wheeler Engineers) to ensure the home’s crawlspace and interior would stay dry. “They were tremendous in figuring out how to build up the base,” said David. The team devised a plan to excavate through the clay soil and utilize geotextile fabric and about 18 inches of compacted gravel as the base for the foundation.

The home’s striking exterior, said Viele, “is an artistic vision” inspired by a similar house David had seen in Norway. Viele contracted Ted Olsen of Wholesome Home Construction to fabricate it. “With all the trim, and cutting in the siding in red and black, the precision means you measure three times and cut once,” said David. “Plus, you have to take care not to scratch the galvanized coating, which keeps everything from rusting.”

The kitchen is David’s happy place. Viele said one of the things he thinks turned out best was pulling the galvanized siding elements inside into the kitchen area. For David, it was foremost that it be functional. “I just want to be able to work where things are known to me. Like the French phrase, ‘mise en place’. I love having all my spices up around the cooktop,” he said gesturing to his workspace.

The butcher block, which the Cohens have had since they lived in Colorado, a galvanized island with open lower shelving, and a gas cooktop from a friend’s remodel give the space personality. “(David’s) mom was a cook. She had three boys and taught them recipes,” said Alisa. “He’s like his mom, very organized and there’s nothing that makes him happier than to cook for a crowd, when people are happy and saying, ‘Well, David that’s delicious.’”

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HAVE  
ALWAYS  
BEEN SORT  
OF THE  
BIG MEAL.”



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David added: “For us, Sunday dinners have always been sort of the big meal. Especially with Alisa working at the hospital when she has weekend shifts. I just like having something that she can come home to.”

Alisa’s favorite space is upstairs. The open area is home to their bedroom, laundry, a stretching area and bathroom. “I love the bedroom. In the summer, when there’s more sunlight, the dogs come and join me. There’s this corner where the sun shines and they lay on the carpet. Usually after dinner I have a whole stretching regimen. I love to listen to music and I’m studying French again, so I listen to French music. I love the space and the view.”

Though the home is modern, it’s appointed with a mix of older and more rustic things too: a game table from David’s great grandfather who was ambassador to Prussia before WWI, an heirloom dining room table, foreign artwork and a giant beam suspended over the dining room table from friends Bill and Amy Chamberlain’s home on Old Mill.

The couple’s two sweet beagles, Copper (14) and Evy (6), are always within earshot, usually lounging on the entry couch or on a dog bed by the fireplace. Or in a lap. “They say beagles are escape artists,” Alisa said. “In all the years that we’ve had Copper, maybe one of them has slipped out for a minute and they get yelled at so hard.”

“Beagles’ noses will take them anywhere,” added David. “They can smell when you open the mudroom door who’s been in the yard, (if) there’s been a deer, a coyote or a bunny rabbit.” David said one design regret is not making the windows lower because the “dogs love to look out,” and their paws have scratched up the wooden sills. A small price to pay, both he and Alisa agree.

The couple no longer has a big garden, but David built planter boxes with some leftover siding. “So long as I don’t have to go out and mow the lawn,” he said. “The idea is for the meadow and all their natural grasses just to grow in.” Perhaps adding solar and maybe even residential wind turbines is in the home’s future. “Everything just one step at a time, and I think we’ll get there,” said David.

“  
I LOVE THE  
BEDROOM.  
IN THE  
SUMMER,  
WHEN  
THERE’S  
MORE  
SUNLIGHT,  
THE DOGS  
COME AND  
JOIN ME.”





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# Kvetch Me *if You Can*

BY ALLISON  
SCHUCHMAN

Sometimes it simply feels good to complain. Having a safe space for the occasional vent fest allows us to express our frustrations, gain some perspective and resume our day with gratitude and grace. Although most of us think Bainbridge is about as close to perfect as it gets, sometimes we all get a burr under our blanket that, left unspoken, can gain more traction than it really deserves. While the pages of this magazine are largely filled with all the things we islanders justly celebrate, this little corner is reserved for grousing, groaning, griping and grumbling.

First up, demonstrating that complaining can truly be an artform, is master kvetcher Charlie King. King first charmed us with the Transplant Weather Service, an ongoing social media series featuring “a New Englander’s take,” his good-hearted take-down of the trials and tribulations of life in the Pacific Northwest.

King started life as the son of old-school New England parents, growing up just outside of Boston in the 1970s and 1980s. He spent his formative years immersed in what he calls the “Massachusetts Mindset,” whose disciples he describes as good-natured, snarky, and quick with a laugh. “My sometimes-debilitating Puritan work ethic leaves my humor more self-deprecating and a reflection of the absurdities of this human existence,” he said.

King is a 20-plus year resident of Bainbridge who loves life in the Northwest, “with my roots firmly seated still in Boston.” King made his maiden Transplant Weather Service post back in 2015 when the island’s social media was in a furor over a big dump of snow that had closed the schools and shut down power. “It seemed the community needed a voice that reflected both its excitement about the weather, frustration over the conditions and in general needed a smile,” he said. “My work continues to evolve, as much



about living in the Northwest as about how we navigate this magical, frustrating, yet beautiful life.”

In his January 6 rant (which we hope you'll go watch) King explained that he was, quite simply, over the rain. Despite feeling like a wet noodle, he conceded that he was grateful that at least the precipitation wasn't snow, lest we be buried under 10 feet of the white stuff. “This is our January when we earn our medal,” he declared. A few days later, King delved into the scourge of “wipah” blades. Follow him live on his YouTube channel, Forever Boston.

➔ *Have something to kvetch about? We'd love to hear it and share your lament. Contact us online by visiting [pnwbainbridge.com](http://pnwbainbridge.com).*



# Bainbridge by THE NUMBERS

**Bainbridge Island's vaccination rate for ages 5 to 18 far surpassed other areas of Kitsap County late last year.\***

Area	Vaccines initiated	Vaccines completed
Kitsap County overall	32%	29%
Bainbridge Island	52%	48%
Bremerton	29%	26%
Central Kitsap	32%	28%
North Kitsap	33%	30%
South Kitsap	27%	25%

Source: Kitsap Public Health District  
\*As of November 30, 2021



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# CHANGES AT RESTAURANT MARCHÉ

Three essential facts about **Greg Atkinson**: He loves food, he loves to cook and he loves being a part of the restaurant business. For nearly a decade, the chef and proprietor of Restaurant Marché has poured that love into creating exquisite French meals in the heart of Winslow. And yet recently, the menu has looked a little different.

"Especially since COVID, it's been more about comfort food," says Atkinson, who opened Restaurant Marché with his wife, Betsy, in 2012. The restaurant's name works off the French term *cuisine de marché*, a style of cooking that relies on the fresh, local ingredients that could be found on a stroll through a farmer's market. For a long time, that was the idea – the flavors of a French bistro created from the ingredients of the Pacific Northwest.

But everything, even beloved local restaurants, is subject to change, and Restaurant Marché has undergone something of a metamorphosis during the last two years. It all really started with a universally surreal week in March 2020, just before the stay-at-home orders took effect. We have all experienced our own painful and strange versions of the days leading up to lockdown. For the Atkinsons, it was a tense week of in-house service before their dining room closed for what would end up being 13 months. Atkinson recalls a disquieting moment from the final night of in-person dining: "The first table that came in said: 'Oh, don't feel bad chef, because every restaurant in Paris has to close tonight.' And that seemed so unreal to me."

The words had a mallet-to-gong impact on Atkinson, reverberating over the next few days as he and his staff made the transition to their comfort food to-go menu. While the



PHOTO BY ANNIE GRAEBNER









kitchen stayed busy, the dining room sat empty as a ghost town saloon.

"It was like the Good Ship Marché got drafted into the Coast Guard," Atkinson says. "We canceled our linen service, we put away the candle holders – everything was just stripped down bare."

Through the stress of it all, Atkinson buoyed himself with yoga and writing. In a series of essays that he published on social media, he documented everything, from the trauma of closing the dining room in March 2020 to the cautious optimism of re-opening in April 2021.

"They were sort of like a memoir in real-time," Atkinson says of the essays. "It really attracted people to our business."

As they awaited reopening, the Atkinsons had time to reflect on the things about Restaurant Marché that they wanted to change. Prior to the pandemic, Atkinson



PHOTO BY ANNIE GRAEBNER

**"IT'S EASY FOR ME TO FIND THINGS TO BE GRATEFUL FOR ABOUT THE WHOLE COVID MESS BECAUSE IT FORCED ME TO SEE WHAT I WAS DOING IN A WHOLE NEW WAY."**

had been working 16-hour days, six days a week. On top of that punishing schedule, he was constantly engaging with the diners — answering their questions and making conversation. At times, it could all be overwhelming.

"It's easy for me to find things to be grateful for about the whole COVID mess because it forced me to see what I was doing in a whole new way," says Atkinson. "It's like I've been doing this Broadway show with matinées for eight years and I'm tired."

When the time finally came for Restaurant Marché to reopen, the choice to scale back their operation was a no-brainer. "It turns out that doing less works a lot better," Atkinson says. "It's healthier for the business and healthier for us."

These days, Restaurant Marché's dining room is back open with limited





PHOTO BY ANNIE GRAEBNER

# RAISING A TACO BARN



When **Taco Barn** first opened its doors in July 2021, proprietor Erika Thayer thought it would only be for the summer. But when the days got shorter and the lines for street tacos stayed long, she decided to keep the food, sangria and live music coming.

"We didn't intend to be open as long as we were," Thayer says. "But then people loved the tacos, and so we've decided to stay open year-round."

Taco Barn is an extension of the Bainbridge Apothecary and Tea Shop, initially conceived as a warm-weather enterprise to fill the space behind the two shops.

"When we first started out this venture, the back was kind of something we hid," Thayer says. "Within the last year and a half, we really tried to build it out to be a community space." She and her team adorned the property with wildflowers, maples, and cherry trees, creating a hidden garden just a few feet away from the bustle of Winslow.

The same care that went into creating the Taco Barn's venue goes into every taco. Through the alchemy of slow cooking, free-range chicken and pork are transformed into something revelatory.

With its delectable menu and events every weekend, Taco Barn is the perfect place to unwind. As Thayer puts it: "We're trying to create an experience where when you come here, you feel like it's not just a cup of tea, or it's not just a taco, or it's not just a tonic. It's a place where you feel like part of something."

seating, and the take-out service is still available. Lovers of traditional French cuisine can get their fix with classics like French onion soup and crème brûlée, but the daily specials often lean towards comfort foods like chicken adobo, mac-and-cheese and fried chicken sourced from Heyday Farm.

As for Atkinson, the chef is glad to have the dining room back. What's more, despite the trials of the last two years, his love for his craft and his industry has remained intact. "I can still feed people and give them this kind of magic that only happens when someone cooks for you," he says. "To be fed by another human being – it's kind of a sacred act."





feast on this



## SPECIAL DELIVERY

The daily question arises:  
*What's for dinner?*

**IslandBite**, Bainbridge's very own restaurant delivery service, has the answer.

"I think the major reason why IslandBite has been successful is because we help support the restaurants directly," says Tanner Baughman, who founded the service in 2017. At the time, Baughman was coming over from Seattle to help an old friend with the construction of Saffron Bistro, which opened later in the year. During his time on the island, he noticed that the usual suspects of the food delivery world – UberEats, DoorDash, GrubHub – had not made it to the rock. Baughman started envisioning a delivery service that would prioritize local restaurants, and from these musings, IslandBite was born – a boon for the tired, the busy and the rained-out.

In its early days, IslandBite provided delivery service for Saffron and a handful of other restaurants in the Pavilion. For a few years, word of the service spread steadily and centrifugally outwards, growing a network of restaurants, drivers and customers. IslandBite's true lift-off moment came in 2020, during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic. With stay-at-home orders in place, the IslandBite team was suddenly juggling several hundred orders per night. They also began delivering for more restaurants and hired several new drivers, a welcomed opportunity to provide work during a brutal time for the business.

"I just felt so grateful during that time to be in a position to help," Baughman says. "A lot of the restaurant industry folks got laid off, and they just rolled right into delivery positions."

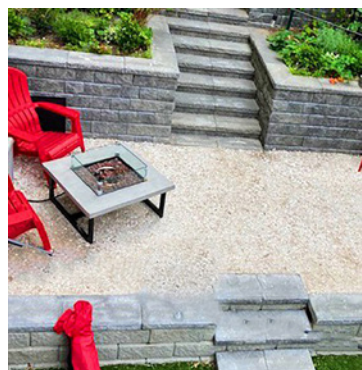
Today, IslandBite is partnered with over 20 restaurants. To place an order, use the IslandBite app or visit the website.



# SHELLSCAPES

## Upends Traditional Landscaping Ideals

Transforming outdoor spaces into hardscape living areas with an inviting sustainable design is a trend that shows no signs of slowing down. Mark Soboil, founder of Shellsapes shared that "Increasingly, homeowners are seeking outdoor gardens that extend a home's living space." Shellsapes is best known for its use of recycled crushed oyster shells, a superior



alternative to gravel that can be used on pathways, driveways, bocce courts and other hardscape projects. The bright white shells add a striking, unexpected visual element.

"We evaluate landscapes to ensure our design considers local ecology," said Soboil. "We want your landscape to thrive with natural resources, rather than devoting extra water or chemicals." Soboil works with oyster farms and restaurants to source the shells which otherwise might end up in landfill.

He sees his work as twofold: creating beautiful, one-of-a-kind landscapes and being a steward to the environment. Shellsapes also specializes in outdoor "rooms" with built-in fireplaces, arbors and gardens as well as "soft shore landscaping" which helps restore natural shorelines and mitigate the risk posed by coastal erosion. For more information, call 253-670-9948.



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## INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL JAPANESE Living on Bainbridge Island

**MARCH 11**

### "Let It Not Happen Again" at the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum

Marking the 80th anniversary of the forced removal of Japanese Americans from Bainbridge Island, Bainbridge Island Historical Museum will be displaying an installation of materials and photographs from their Exclusion period collection from March 11 through March 30. For more information, visit [bijac.org](http://bijac.org).

**MARCH 19**

### King Youngblood, live at Pleasant Beach Village

Catch this rising alternative rock band at the Manor House at Pleasant Beach. Concert starts at 7 p.m., masks are required. For more information or to buy tickets, visit [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

**MARCH 25**

### Festival of Frogs

Venture out to Islandwood's Brightwater Center campus in Woodinville for a night of amphibian exploration. Participants will learn all about local frogs before heading out into the wetlands. This free event runs from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and is perfect for families with children ages 6 to 12. To register, visit [islandwood.org](http://islandwood.org).

**APRIL 16**

### mEGGa Hunt

Hop on over to Battle Point Park for an egg hunt like no other. This free event is perfect for families with children ages 12 and under and runs from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, visit [biparks.org](http://biparks.org).

**MAY 1**

### Michael Partington, live at the Waterfront Park Community Center.

As part of the First Sundays concert series, Bainbridge Island Piano Association presents Michael Partington live at the Waterfront Park Community Center. Partington is an acclaimed classical guitarist and an artist in residence at the UW. Concert starts at 4 p.m. and proof of vaccination and masks are required. For ticketing information, visit [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com).

**MAY 7**

### Master Gardener Plant Sale

Calling all green thumbs! The Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County is holding their annual plant sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. Proceeds will go to Kitsap's Master Gardener programs, including demonstration gardens, children's programs, and virtual/farmers' market clinics. For more information, visit [kitsapgardens.org](http://kitsapgardens.org).

**MAY 11 TO 15**

### Puget Sound Local Yarn Store Tour

Get crafty with the 16th annual Local Yarn Store Tour. Prizes, free patterns, and discounts are available at participating locations throughout the Puget Sound area. For more information, visit [lystour.com](http://lystour.com).

**MAY 14**

### Red Shift Dance Party at Island Center Hall

Put on your dancing shoes and grab a partner for this community dance at Island Center Hall! Bainbridge's own Educated Feet Studio will kick off this event with a workshop at 7 p.m., followed by uninterrupted dancing from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Dancers of all ages and skill levels are welcome. For more information, visit [educatedfeet.net](http://educatedfeet.net).

Japanese persons, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from this area by noon on Monday, March 30, 1942. Japanese persons will be permitted to leave or enter Bainbridge Island after 9:00 a.m. March 24, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the Civil Control Office established on this island near the ferry boat landing at the Anderson Street in Winslow.

Civil Control Office is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

- by advice and instructions on the evacuation.
- by advice and instructions on the management, housing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, livestock and farm equipment, boats, tools, household goods, automobiles, etc.
- by temporary residence for all Japanese in family groups, churches.
- by purchase and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence, as specified by all examinations and make provision for all isolated persons affected by the evacuation order.
- by permission to individuals and families who are able to leave the area and proceed to an approved area on or prior to March 28, 1942.

Instructions must be observed:

- Each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person in charge, will report to the Civil Control Office to receive instructions.
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Joel Sackett





# *West Sound* WILDLIFE SHELTER



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# ONE IN A VERMILLION

**One can never** be truly prepared for what fall and winter have in store in the Pacific Northwest ... especially after a summer that broke all kinds of records, even serving up a heat dome, for the love of Pete. The transition can have us all wondering if we simply forgot what dark sideways rain feels like or if indeed this is something abnormal. Here's the good news: you're not going crazy. The weather has been genuinely gross. In fact, the Seattle metroplex logged its rainiest fall EVER since we've been keeping track, accruing about 19 inches of rain.

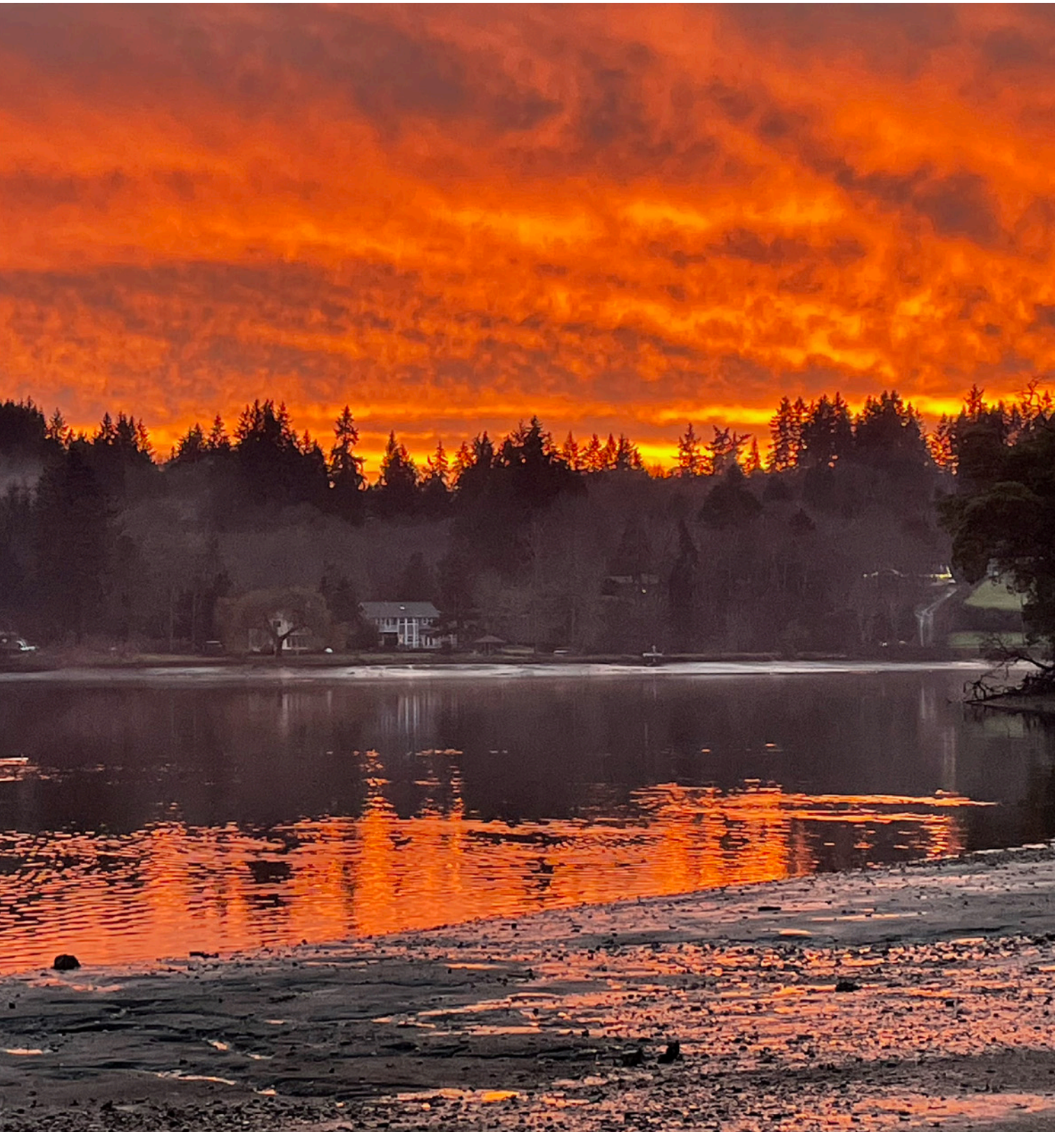
So, in mid-January, when the skies parted, it's no wonder that islanders were awed by the divine sunrises and sunsets, inspiring them to share their amazement with the online community. Islander Deb Rudnick and her daughter, Hannah Ast, were on their way home from downtown when Rudnick looked up and saw the sky. "We have to stop at Strawberry Park!" she said, the closet shoreline access she could think of.

As Ast reached the water's edge, Rudnick snapped the photo. "This sunset is just what the doctor ordered," she said. "It also reminded me very much of my mom, who passed away last summer. Her favorite color was red."

PHOTO BY DEB RUDNICK











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## SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2022

ROTARY CLUB OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND



# SALE AUCTION & RUMMAGE

**The Rotary Club is planning a  
return to our community's favorite event!**

We hope to hold an in-person event, but will follow all public health guidelines with everyone's safety as our #1 priority. We will keep you updated.

Start saving your item donations now and get ready for  
the 62nd annual Rotary Auction & Rummage Sale this summer!

**Vehicle donations accepted right now; please visit our website for details and updates.**

**BainbridgeRotaryAuction.org**

100% of Rotary Auction proceeds are invested in the community: local, regional, international.



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