

RICHMOND BEACH COMMUNITY NEWS

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April 2008

Richmond Beach Community Association General Meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 2008
7:30 pm
Congregational Church

What If?

By Ed Adams, RBCA Vice President (and King in Waiting)

Looking towards the future, with an eye on the past, there seems to be plenty of things going on around our area that could be worse than they currently are or appear to be. This article is a look at some of these with my "What ifs" thrown in.

What if a certain industrial plant along the waterfront decided not to go along with a future development plans for retail and condos? **What if** they decided to work along with our local government, city, county and the state, and decided to give a huge tax break and free land to a professional sports team with out-of-town owners who are looking for relocation? Twenty-thousand-plus visitors and traffic a minimum of 42 nights a year with concerts, home shows, boat shows and the like sure to follow.

What if the tunnel project between the waterfront and Woodinville couldn't be bored with a tunnel machine? **What if** they had to "open trench" dig the project? Two hundred feet down and eighteen feet wide from Point Wells to 8th Ave NW would only be half of the problem. Oh, the trucks and time.

What if a permit application was granted for a new business in the old Wild Horse Saloon? **What if** that permit was for an adult book store? **What if** it's a casino?

What if they found oil under the site of the library and the park? **What if** they decided to close both and drill for oil?

What if Saltwater Park was closed for lack of funds? **What if** the city had to sell

the property for money and it was sold to a developer? How many houses could you get in there?

What if the state decided to relocate the ferry terminal from Edmonds to Point Wells? **What if** all of those cars came through your neighborhood?

What if Kruckeberg Gardens closed and cottage housing went in? **What if** it was a work release camp?

What if, to improve traffic flow along NW Richmond Beach Road, they removed the sidewalks and put in a turn lane? **What if** the speed limit was raised to 45?

What if the next group of Richmond Beach Community Association officers were to be called King, Queen, Prince and Princesses? **What if**, due to lack of memberships, financial support and volunteers, the RBCA had to do away with most of the activities?

As you can see, I have a very active imagination. If I thought about it, I could come up with more but I'm sure you are getting tired of it. I know my family does. Take these **what ifs**, with a grain of salt and think about how bad it could be and reflect on all of the positives that living in our community provide you and your family. Support your local retailers, clean up your local parks and support your local community association by volunteering and purchasing a membership.

One last thing, the **what if** about the King, that was for my own laughter.

Community Garage Sale

By Sheri Ashleman

Turn unwanted items into extra cash! It's time for spring cleaning and the annual Richmond Beach Community Garage Sale sponsored by Richmond Beach Community Association. This year's event is scheduled for **Saturday, May 17**.

Simply round up your sale items and post a sign in your front yard. RBCA takes care of the publicity and advertising for you.

Ads will be placed in the Shoreline Enterprise, Little Nickel and on Craigslist and a sign will be posted at Richmond Beach Road and 8th NW.

Deseret Industries will not have a truck at Spin Alley after the garage sale this year, but will gladly accept donations at their store located at 17935 Aurora Avenue North in Shoreline (542-9447).

President's message

By Sean Quigley, President

At May's general meeting we will be electing our new board members. In order to vote, your RBCA membership must be paid up 30 days in advance of the general election. Write your check today and join us with a vote that counts.

At our last general meeting, the Friends of Saltwater Park came and told us about their restoration project. This is the second year of the project, utilizing the University of Washington Restoration Ecology Network students and the City of Shoreline to create a native-dune habitat. By removing the Scotch broom and replanting with native vegetation the restoration is well on its way. Any volunteers interested in helping out please call 206-546-5041.

Also at our meeting, Dick Deal, the head of the Shoreline Parks Department, gave us an update on our new park located at the pump station. We were told that the design would be complete and out for bid by June or July, with a projected start date around



Sean Quigley, President
Richmond Beach
Community Association

the end of summer. The Saltwater Park improvements go out for bid in May or June, with work beginning on this project in July.

Lastly, we continue to keep our ears to the ground and our eyes open on the Point Wells issue. We encourage everyone to stay active and interested in this story. It will impact all of us; how much will be determined by our level of community involvement.

Art Show & Strawberry Festival

By Sheri Ashleman

Experience two great events in one great location! Plans are firming up for what promises to be a fun-packed weekend in Richmond Beach. Come celebrate what makes our community special: the artists, the music, the businesses, the history and you—the people!

Friends of the Richmond Beach Library will be hosting its 42nd annual Art Show at the Richmond Beach Library on Friday, May 9, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Local artists will be displaying crafts, paintings and pottery for your enjoyment and purchase. Take delight in the framed art, prints, crafts, raffle and kids' hands-on art. Friday night features music by a Shorewood High School string quartet.

Richmond Beach Community Association will be hosting its ninth annual Strawberry Festival at the Richmond Beach Community Park next to the library on Saturday, May 10, from noon to 5:00 p.m. This event is co-sponsored by the City of Shoreline and supported through a grant from the Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council. Parking is limited, so please walk, if possible. Here's what you have to look forward to:

The sensational music line up is as follows:

Noon: **SOMETHING SIMPLE** - a jazz combo from Shorewood High School; received the award for musicianship at the Richmond Beach Youth Jam

1 p.m.: **HO ALOHA** - traditional Hawaiian music and dance

2 p.m. **SEATTLE SEACHORDSMEN** - barbershop harmony chorus
3 p.m.: **CORNUCOPIA CONCERT BAND** - ragtime ensemble
4 p.m.: **JIMMY FREE'S ACOUSTIC SNACKS** - acoustic blues and folk

Delectable food will be offered by the following vendors:

THE CABIN
RICHMOND BEACH COFFEE CO.
SAHARA PIZZA

SPIN ALLEY (rumor has it the cute boys in white t-shirts and cowboy hats will be back!)

And, of course, there will be the traditional Strawberry Shortcake served up by RBCA.

In addition, there will be a walking tour of historic Richmond Beach at 1:00 p.m. (meet in front of the library), community information booths, Shorewood photography contest, lots of games and activities for kids and a visit by Shoreline's finest—the police and fire departments. A raffle to support this event will feature fabulous gift certificates and other fun prizes from local businesses.

T-shirts will be on sale to celebrate RBCA's 100-year anniversary. Buy a t-shirt to support your community and forever commemorate this monumental occasion! See order form in this newspaper.

Call Sheri Ashleman at 542-9147 if you need more information or to volunteer.

Marge Unruh Award nominations sought

Please use form on Page 7

Anina's CORNER

by Anina Coder-Sill

When it was time for our college-bound daughter, Katrina, to go to Santa Barbara last fall, my best friend Cindy and I escorted her. Katrina and I got lost trying to meet Cindy at her workplace in Tukwila to carpool to the airport, despite Cindy's explicit driving directions which included "then you drive down this hill and around a bend, voop, voop." We flew to San Diego, rented a car, and thanks to Katrina, averted shredding the car's tires when we almost left the lot the wrong way. We visited the San Diego Zoo and planned to visit my cousin in Solana Beach. Though we had maps, the freeway entrance repeatedly eluded us, and Cindy finally rolled down her window and asked a very patient police officer for directions at a

stop light. Once again we missed the entrance, even though the officer flashed his lights to point it out. He kindly led us around the block again, through a yellow light, until we were safely on our way. We spent a few days with my cousin and her family, and went on a fun day-trip to Tijuana. On the return trip, my cousin inadvertently crossed a yellow line when trying to get in the correct U.S.-bound lane. A Tijuana motorcycle policeman pulled her over to a side street and said she owed \$65 cash. Or she could pay three days later but he'd have to keep her license, and then we couldn't cross the border; or we could go to the courthouse. She paid him cash—no receipt was written—and he drove away, turn indicator blinking in the wrong direction. We'd heard stories about that kind of thing, but couldn't believe it happened to us.

Cindy, Katrina, and I continued on our way, stopping at beaches, and spent a few days setting up Katrina's dorm room. As we exchanged tearful goodbye hugs, I obeyed Katrina's instructions not to look at her, and Cindy and I headed up the coast on Highway



101. The drive was lovely, and we took our time stopping along the way. We arrived in San Francisco later than planned and got lost again. We called the hotel concierge and named the cross streets, and he said, "You are going the wrong way!" We knew that already—that's why we were calling. We finally arrived at 10 p.m., and I told Cindy not to look at me because it was back to our age-8 friendship and we had the giggles. I really couldn't look at her without laughing—she had green felt pen around her face because she'd held it in her mouth while driving. I told her that here she was pretending to be grown up, and on a road trip—but look at her. Look at us!

Youth Jam

By Sheri Ashleman

Richmond Beach was bustling with raw talent at the Youth Jam held on February 23. It takes a lot of courage to perform before one's peers and a room full of strangers, but these young musicians made it look easy! Six groups competed for prize money in three categories. They were:

- Michelle Hur - pop singer
- The Canorous – five-piece rock band
- Melody Chang and Reghan Biddle - pop duo
- The Hiatus Effect - rock duo
- Helen Stimson - pop singer and writer
- Something Simple - jazz combo

Award recipients were as follows:

- Award for Performance (\$200)** - "The Hiatus Effect"; Alison Cohee - vocals and Clara Ross – guitar
- Award for Creativity (\$200)** - "Helen Stimson"; Helen Stimson - vocals/songwriter and Clara Ross – guitar
- Award for Performance (\$200)** - "Something Simple"; Tory Brediger – bass; Davis Hill – piano; Meredith Hill – drums; Chris Lewis – trumpet; Brad Murphy – sax; and directed by Paul Harshman, Shorewood High School

Look for Something Simple to perform at the Strawberry Festival on May 10 at noon.

Judges for the competition were Brian Reding, Joseph Lee and Scooter Austin. Their time and expertise are very much appreciated.

Many thanks to Richmond Beach Grill House for donating the delectable desserts for the Youth Jam. What a great way to endear themselves to the community! Stop

by to say thanks and try out their delicious menu.

Door prizes at this event offered cultural and entertainment opportunities. Many thanks to our donors: Seattle Public Theater, Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council, Taproot Theatre, Edmonds Center for the Arts, Joseph Lee and RBCA. Please thank these organizations for their generosity when attending their programs.

Our gratitude also goes out to RBCA board members Ed Adams, Deborah Bowen-Mills, Lisa Buchheit-Ekdahl, Jill Gardner, Starla Hohbach, Sean Quigley and Rick Sola for help with set up, serving and clean up; to former RBCA President Dave Bannister for selling tickets; and Kenneth Husted for help with the sound system.

A huge THANK YOU to Scott Becker and Fourfold Architecture, PLLC, for generously donating the prize money for this year's award winners. Their support of the arts and youth in our community is greatly appreciated.



Chris Lewis, trumpet, member of Something Simple.

Chris Lewis, trumpet, and Brad Murphy, saxophone and Davis Hill, piano, all members of Something Simple.



Richmond Beach Community News

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The *Richmond Beach Community News* welcomes letters to the editor and articles of opinion. For verification purposes only, letters must include name, address, telephone number and signature.

Richmond Beach Community Association DUES FORM

Dues are \$15 per person per year

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Join now and support the Richmond Beach community. There are many opportunities to be involved and you and your family will enjoy the fun of working with others to make our community a better place to live.

Letters



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January 16, 2008

Starla M. Hohbach
Richmond Beach Community Council
2616 Nw 204th St
Shoreline, Wa 98177

Dear Ms. Hohbach:

It is my pleasure and honor to present to your organization the enclosed certificate recognizing Richmond Beach Community Council as having been incorporated since December 29, 1908.

It was on that day in 1908 in which members of your organization appeared before Secretary of State Sam Nichols to formally incorporate. Although your organization may have existed long before, it was then that they sought the protections that come with incorporating.

Although I do not know the individual circumstances of your particular group, incorporations were at that time primarily delivered by horseback. Because few owned cars, and the roads outside of Olympia were virtually impassible, incorporating a business was quite an adventure. Of the nearly 3400 incorporations filed in 1908, only 65 exist today and you are part of that small group. I have attached a list of the other Century Corporations for your information.

If you would like a copy of your original incorporation papers, please contact Rob Thompson at the Corporations Division of my office and he can send them to you for a small fee. His number is (360) 586-6782.

My best to all of you on this important day. I wish you great success as you carry out your work for the next 100 years.

Sincerely,

SAM REED
Secretary of State



RB Graduating Seniors

By Sheri Ashleman

The June issue of the Richmond Beach Community News will once again feature students living in the Richmond Beach area who are graduating from public or private high schools or colleges this year. If you or someone you know fits this description, please contact Sheri Ashleman at 542-9147 or email the information to her at sbashle@aol.com by **May 15**. Tell us about

the senior's school experience (sports, music, clubs, academics, awards, etc.) or other memorable experiences (church activities, employment, volunteer work, etc.) and be sure to include their future plans. There is only room for a short paragraph about each student, so please list highlights only and be brief.

Beach Blossoms Garden Tour

By Lynn Wright

Time is running out! No joke, May 1 is the deadline to sign up to be a destination garden spot on our 16th annual Richmond Beach Garden Tour! I'm picturing you reading this with deeply furrowed brow, sitting on the fence of indecision. It's time to take action, no more procrastinating! We have nine gardens on the tour so far; we'd love to have a few more! As I've said before,

all gardens are welcome, in all stages of growth and development. This is your final invite; the May issue of the Richmond Beach newsletter will have information on how to get a copy of the garden descriptions and a map. Please say yes, and give me a call or send me an email. Lynn Wright – 206-542-4554, beachrights@msn.com

Readin' and Bleedin'

By Tom Peterson

Twenty Richmond Beach residents – including four Richmond Beach library staff members – volunteered their time and their blood for the blood drive held in the library meeting room on March 7.

Library manager Anina Sill donated blood for the very first time. "I don't know why I haven't done this before," she said. "It's the kind of thing I do!"

There were plenty of experienced donors on hand at the library drive as well; several donors sported "gallon pins" (denoting a gallon or more of blood donated in 1-pint units).

Librarian Aarene Storms organized the first Richmond Beach Library blood drive; now

the event is organized by local citizen Tom Petersen, who plans to make blood drives a regular occurrence at the library because the library is already a center of community activities.

The next drive is scheduled for May 10, in the parking lot at the fire station, corner of Richmond Beach Road and 20th NW, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. This will be the same day as the art show (which is why it's not in the library); visitors to the library art show are encouraged to participate in the blood drive as well!

For more information about donating blood, visit the webpage of the Puget Sound Blood Center: www.psbcc.org

Restaurant Review

By Tom Peterson

The Richmond Beach Grillhouse opened last month next to Spin Alley, with great food and new features that have been missed in Richmond Beach. Owners Shaun and LaRae Richards and manager Dayne Richards are going for that "good old neighborhood grill" feel with "28 burgers and comfort food," and if this reviewer's experience and the healthy crowds are any indication, they've hit the spot.

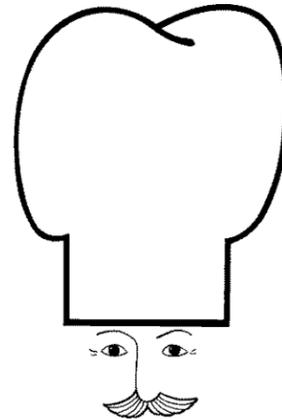
This is the Richards' second restaurant, after the popular 5th Avenue Grillhouse in Edmonds. Their burgers are distinctive, being made from 100% Black Angus beef and embellished with a wide variety of toppings, some thematic, some novel, but all highly flavorful. The restaurant also has nightly specials like other cuts of meat and seafood.

The remodeled restaurant is now linked to Spin Alley. The old Spin Alley snack counter, which served a limited menu, is gone, replaced by a small overflow dining area leading past the restaurant foyer to the

main room. The counter is now part of the full bar, another addition, though the service area is discreetly angled away from the

bowling alley's family zone. The Grillhouse maintains the fun family ambiance associated with Spin Alley with peppy service and a couple of big flat-screen TVs tuned to cable sports channels. "Hey, I like sports," says Manager Dayne, "and it's not like a regular show where you have to always watch and listen to what's going on. Sports you can just check on while you're eating."

Dayne readily acknowledges that the Grillhouse fills the niche left vacant when the Wild Horse closed, but the new restaurant, with its bright décor, family-friendly feel, and quality fare with a touch of artistry is definitely establishing its own image. They are also enthusiastic neighbors, pitching in for the good of the community by donating desserts to the RBCCA's Youth Jam in February. They are also slated to operate a burger stand at the Strawberry Festival, May 10.



Anina Sill (first pint) compares bandages with Aarene Storms (3 gallons) during the blood drive



Anina Sill gives her very first pint of blood

Conversation with a dead woman

By Chris Riveland

Greetings, Empress *Catherine the Great of Russia!*

Glad you consented to an interview. By the way, thank you for the smoky tea from the *samovar* your servants handed me. Your life was quite an adventure. Several things about your remarkable reign interest me greatly—how you, a minor German princess, became a historically significant, influential Russian noblewoman. Right off, something has always puzzled me: would you have approved of Marlene Dietrich portraying you in the movies?

“That woman would **not** have been my first choice. She drank, she smoked, she slept around, she was a spy, but she had great legs, something I wish I had. And besides, I think they could have found her a better leading man in the movie *Destry Rides Again* than Jimmy Stewart. But, then again, some of my lovers were not so great looking, either. I did like her outfits in that movie’s last bar scene—she showed great forms, something I was not permitted to indulge in public. Too bad fake eyelashes had not been invented during my lifetime. But please, help yourself to anything from the *zakuski* table. I know you think we eat nothing but cabbage, potatoes, mushrooms and game, but the delicacies on the table might surprise you!”

Your public life came under much scrutiny, as did your lavish banquets at the palace. Coming from fairly impecunious though privileged German background, where did you learn to throw such extravagant affairs?

“Listen, honey, with all the advisers and staff at my disposal, with the intrigues and all the vested interest these people pursued—to see influential folk invited to the palace—that was a no-brainer. You have no idea how many people, from the kitchen staff to the most senior ministers, benefited from a well-done banquet. I was used to interesting foods in Germany and got bored with the usual Russian fare, so I hired French and Austrian chefs to kick up the menu.”

Who selected the food tasters, to make sure neither you nor your lame duck husband would be poisoned? What did you do with the leftovers?

“We fed the leftovers to the many dogs in the kennels behind the palace. For food tasters

we chose brawny men from the Russian Steppes who had cast-iron stomachs. If they got sick, we knew we had a problem. Then, of course, we had to banish the whole kitchen staff and all the food purveyors and delivery people to Siberia, to the gulags. But that rarely happened, because these people wanted to get a regular paycheck. I had enough control and also kept people content so things went well, and no one had the energy to unseat us and take over the country yet. But, had it been during the time of Stalin or Putin, that would have been a different story.”

Whom do you like better—Stalin who once trained for the Catholic priesthood, or the former KGB hood, Putin?

“They are both short, exemplifying the Napoleonic complex, but Stalin had better hair. Putin’s hair looks like he slicks it down with bear grease every morning, and he has this sinister look in his eyes. Stalin looked vicious, but with him you knew where you stood.”

Your given names were Sophie Augusta Frederica. As custom dictated, your French governess raised you. Did others tease you about your names? Did the names reflect your kinship with Swedish nobility? Do you wish you could have changed your names sooner than at the time you became empress?

“My nickname was actually ‘Kitty,’ given to me by a delivery boy at my father’s court in

Germany. I had a secret crush on this red-haired fellow, in spite of his rumpled clothing and dirty face. Perhaps his earthiness excited me. We would exchange furtive glances. He was the one who one day whispered the word “empiricist” into my ear, and then quickly fled. I did not know until years later what that meant. By then I had learned of James Locke and his enlightened ideas about education and wondered where the boy heard that phrase.”

This young boy looked ragged, but **you** of course are always well dressed. Would you buy your clothes now from the Christian Dior Salon in Paris, in deference to your French governess, or would you think frugally and perhaps have a credit card for Lord and Taylor in New York or Neiman Marcus in Dallas?

“Actually, with Fed Ex and UPS operating all over the world now, I would trade with any and all of them. Their service sure beats delivery by troika, especially in the winter when the snows around here are deep and the horses get tired. On the other hand, having my own seamstresses at my beck and call is an advantage. They live in a condo behind the palace. All I have to do is dial

their cell phone and they are here in a hurry. But the type of fabric they bring me to select from often leaves something to be desired. I sure like the modern fabrics that don’t need dry cleaning.”

What are you reading these days, Madam, and what kind of music pleases you?

“As to literature: my interests are varied, ranging from the Chinese classic “the Art of War” by Sun Zu, to James Locke’s books on education (Locke’s view; push the “nature-nurture” concept vs. Descartes’ “doctrine of innate ideas), to Meister Eckhard’s mysticism, and I like the 12th century epic poem “The Tale of Igor’s Campaign,” but am also partial to certain works by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, particularly the Werther Series. They remind me of my own messed-up love life. I also like the humor books by Woody Allen. That guy can really tell a joke.

My musical choices range from Mozart and Beethoven’s compositions to Viennese Waltzes, but I also have a certain liking for Reggae and Hip Hop. I cannot stand Rap music—simply revolting! I also like to listen to certain kinds of Russian folk tunes; of course all the world-renowned Russian composers were born after my time.”

I hear you have a talking *Circassian Orloff* Wolfhound for sale, real cheap! Why would you sell him so cheap?

“That dog is impossible! He brags to everyone about all his heroic accomplishments: spying for the empire, escaping from his pursuers, rescuing people from their burning *Dachas*, pulling children from frozen ponds when they crashed through the ice. That dog is a liar! He has done none of those things! Do you want him? I am asking only three Euros for him. But he eats like a whale!”

What gives you a hint that your interior designers have worked too hard?

“When they embroidered the toilet paper holders, to match the bathroom wallpaper.”

When you first suggested to your husband to settle the fertile Odessa region around the Black Sea with German farmers, how did he react?

“He said, ‘Kitty, let’s be generous and give each farmer 50 gold pieces, a horse and enough farm equipment to make a success of this. This is my birthday gift to you; but if they flop, you are out of my will.’ My former countrymen did not disappoint me. They even sent me good German beer, because I got tired of the *kvass* the locals brew from stale black bread. All went well,

that is, until war broke out. But then all plans were dashed.”

So, that means your *troika* drivers met the Black Sea caravan halfway for the beer deliveries? Who taught your *troika* drivers defensive driving techniques?

“That could not be done! I did not even try! You see, first of all, those stable hands laced the horse feed with steroids! Furthermore, the drivers were so headstrong, they drove like *Rasputin*-possessed and even made the doped horses work too hard; during the winter the **drovers** drank too much to keep themselves warm; no one could take their vodka away from them.”

Have you ever heard of a Scandinavian delicacy called *lutefisk*?

“We had a visiting Scandinavian emissary one winter who desired to regale us with a touted fish specialty he had brought with him. On the day the specialty was cooked the whole palace smelled so strange, we determined to find the source of the odor. When we did, we threw the emissary and the fish into the snow, and fumigated the whole downstairs of the palace. We sent the man home in disgrace, but with a huge tin of the finest caviar, to let his people know what excellent fish delicacies we have here in Mother Russia.

This has nothing to do with fish, but was the peculiarity of a German guest pianist giving a concert. His music was nice, but the man was strange. He said odd things; for instance he wanted ‘fricken chickasee’ for dinner. It took our chefs a while to figure out that he meant ‘Chicken Fricassee.’ I tell you, some of those foreigners visiting at court drove me to distraction.”

Your highness, though you were only 34 years old when you died, you managed to greatly extend the borders of Russia and took lands away from the Ottoman Empire. History will tell if this was a good thing, or a bad thing. What advice do you have for the woman in America currently seeking a position similar to yours?

“Be true to yourself; surround yourself with the best advisors you can afford; don’t be too ambitious or too greedy in your quest for power and influence, because that will backfire. And by all means, keep your automobiles in top shape and their tanks filled at all times. You never know when you will suddenly have to ‘head for the hills.’ But I can tell you this, she will never be able to afford the kind of jewelry I had. And don’t let Britney Spears play her in the movies!”

Thank you, your Grace, for this interview.

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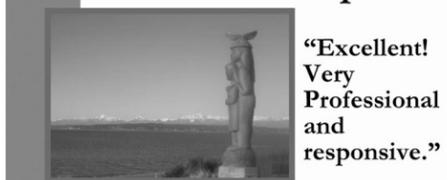
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Gardening Notions

by Deborah Bowen-Mills

April showers bring May flowers; yes, indeed, we need those spring showers. It's a softer rain and you can smell the soil and plants coming to life again. Also, the seeds we plant and the ones Mother Nature plants need the rain to germinate. This is the time that you have cleaned up your beds and spread your favorite soil amendment. I use bark mulch and some kind of compost. For flower beds and vegetable gardens you really do need to use a soil amendment every year. These plants are hungry for nourishment; so are annuals. This group of plants provides a lot of flowers and vegetables for the season. Just about all shrubs and trees do not need special amendments once they are established. Shrubs that bloom will do better one season, then take a rest the following season. I always fertilize my annuals and vegetable beds or containers. You can use whatever you prefer. I am a low maintenance gardener and use a product called Osmocote®.

This product comes in granules and it is slow released over the entire growth season. On my roses and sometimes my perennials I will sprinkle a little. I also like to use alfalfa meal; roses love it and you don't have to worry about fertilizer burn because this product is natural. If you want to you can still use your Miracle-Gro with the Osmocote® and alfalfa meal. Now many people are into planting new plant material and the best advice I can give you is plant the plant where the tag says what sunlight it prefers. Shade is no sun until after 1 p.m. and sun lovers can have lots of afternoon sun. I have not found a lot of plant material that likes sun all day long, but they are out there so just ask your local nursery. Have your hole dug and ready for your plant; always plant the plant at the same depth that it is at inside the container it's in. I dig the hole a little wider to help promote root growth. Do not plant your plant in the container it is in. I have seen trees planted

still in the plastic pots. The only plant that I will leave what it comes in is ball and burlap and then I still remove the twine and loosen the burlap and if the plant is root-bound then remove the burlap completely. Root-bound plants need to have their roots rubbed to help the roots spread. I have seen plants strangle themselves that have been planted when they are root-bound. I always throw a handful of alfalfa meal into the hole, and if needed some Osmocote®. These products have worked for me for many years. Then the VERY important thing you can do is water, water the newly planted plant for a full growing season. Even in a freeze and sunny weather get out there and water your new plants. Once the new plant is established then you can just do water as needed. The native plants are easier and get established much sooner, I don't think this needs an explanation. If your plant has been just potted up at the growers then be very careful to try and keep as much of the original

soil with the roots. If you give your plants a good start then you will have a healthier, more disease-resistant plant for the future. As far as seeds go, I plant directly outside and let the growers in the greenhouses do all the work. There is a process to get your seeds to germinate and I took two classes on propagation; that's when I decided it is easier to buy the plant. Many seeds are easy: mixed wildflowers, poppies, some perennials and many vegetables. Our growing season is short so I always start with the gallon-size tomatoes. So this tells you a little how I garden. Well have a great time planning and planting your garden and remember if you have any questions ask your favorite nursery person. During the week is a good time to get some individual attention, the nursery is slower and someone can spend time with you. I will talk next time about my favorite perennials and more. Happy gardening and welcome SPRING!



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Few Remember the Richmond Beach Winery

by Stacy Smallgal

On the morning of January 18, 1920, Ernesto and Julia Gello went behind their barn to throw a tarp over their Fordson tractor to protect it from frost and a light dusting of snow. The tarp was over what they thought was a stack of empty strawberry flats, but to their surprise, at least 20 of the boxes still contained last summer's harvest—only now the crop had fermented! Pooling in the bottom of the boxes were several gallons of strawberry wine.

According to papers and diaries from the time, neighbors were roused by an animated argument over which one of the Gellos was responsible for failing to account for several dollars' worth of produce.



Ernesto and Julia Gello in front of their Richmond Beach winery found taped to the screen door.

Several neighbors went to see what was wrong. Ernesto was supposed to have said to the gathering crowd, "I told-a you a-before, I'm-a not-a gonna join-a First Lutheran!" (Records show they did, however, send their children to preschool there.)

Ernesto Gello had emigrated from Italy in 1902 and moved to Richmond Beach in 1910. He married Julia O'Banion of Ronald in 1914, some months after they met at the Interurban stop and discovered that they had a common destination: Seattle's Pike Place Market. He was going to sell strawberries from his tiny farm; she was going to buy strawberries. Julia is said to have yearned for big city life, and Ernesto wooed her by pointing out that Richmond Beach had a hardware store, a post office, a hotel, a soda shop, a train station, ferry dock, and a new high school—and its own telephone exchange! Swept away by this vision of bright lights and excitement, she made the trek down from bucolic Ronald to the bustling metropolis on the shore of Puget Sound.

Now, on a frosty morning six years later, as the baleful couple prepared to pour out the alcoholic slop that should have been the year's profits, someone remembered that it was the day Prohibition went into effect. Perhaps the wine might be disposed of in "other ways." It was, and thus was born the Richmond Beach Winery. It was not the first winery in the state of Washington, nor even in King County, but it became a peculiarity for this area.

Because of Prohibition, the Gellos could not legally manufacture wine, but that did not stop them

from opening "Gello Cellars" (spelled "Sellers" on a sign that hung over the door until 1923). Their scheme was to sell the ingredients for Gello Strawberry Wine—strawberries—to do-it-yourselfers. This appeared no different from their initial venture as strawberry farmers, but as a marketing gimmick, it worked rather well. By 1925, the couple was offering tours of the three-acre "vineyard" and of the "cellars," their 600-square-foot basement. In 1928 the King County Sheriff paid a visit to the Gello farm, investigating reports that tourists were staying in the "Cellars" an inordinately long time. Satisfied that no "wine tasting" was going on and cheerfully loading several flats of "ingredients" into the back of his Lincoln, along with a number of "decorative decanters" that Mrs. Gello was now selling, the Sheriff departed, never to bother the Gellos again.

Business declined in the late 1920s, though. Strawberry customers seemed to be taking a greater interest in "grains" being grown in the woods north of Kenmore. Where once Richmond Beach residents used to go down to the pier in daytime to watch boats, taking some strawberries along, now many seemed to be meeting boats there at night, and bringing berries and other produce back. Strangely, this produce, mostly from Canada, was packaged in bottles.

The onset of the Great Depression put additional strain on the Gellos. Business continued to fall. Desperate, the Gellos tried planting exotic fruits and berries to diversify, but the climate wouldn't support them. After Mrs. Gello cleaned the basement in the spring of 1932, tourists complained that the "Cellars" had lost their charm and visits all but stopped.

The Gellos shut down the farm, sold the land and the house, and moved away. Waving to old friends, the pastor at First Lutheran, and the Sheriff, they drove off on April 5, 1933, never to return. Ironically, the next day, Prohibition ended.

The story was not completely over, however. The Gellos moved to Petaluma, California, and started a new strawberry farm, which attracted some dubious attention for its advertising claiming "Fertilized by 100% Chicken Manure." That farm is still in the family, and the third generation has entered the wine



The Gello homestead in 1923.

business as a sideline. The vineyard is called "Le Parke Bench" and is near downtown Petaluma, on the site of an abandoned landfill that was behind the strawberry farm. The Gellos ingeniously use old refrigerators as their "cellars," and the tasting room, a vintage Airstream on blocks, offers a wide array of berry wines, some fortified, delightfully served in single-serving bottles placed in tiny brown paper bags.

Shoreline Arts Festival

June 28 and 29, 2008

The Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council presents the 18th annual Shoreline Arts Festival from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 28 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday June 29, 2008 at Shoreline Center, 18560 1st Ave NE, Shoreline.

The 2008 theme is "Green: Art and the Environment" and will feature art that is about the natural world. The definition includes art that interprets nature, including creating artworks that inform us about nature or about environmental problems we face, or uses recycled materials in new ways.

This unique two-day multi-arts festival features music on two stages, dance, juried visual

art exhibits, crafts marketplace, hands-on art, theater, poetry, film, cultural rooms, a food court, and many participatory activities. Over 10,000 attend the event each year.

The Arts Council has named Pam Barrett as the 2008 Arts Festival coordinator. Pam is currently employed by the City of Shoreline as the Special Events Coordinator for the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. She has been with the city for 12 years. A graduate of Seattle Pacific University with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education, specializing in Recreation Management, she resides in Seattle with her husband and three children.

Please contact the Arts Council at 206-417-4645 if you have any questions.

Call to Artists

The Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council is seeking artists for the 18th annual Shoreline Arts Festival to be held June 28 and 29, 2008. Juried categories include 2-D art, sculpture, artisan crafts, photography, poetry, and film. Deadlines vary. Applications are available online at www.shorelinearts.net.

The Shoreline Arts Festival is a community event featuring two extraordinary days of music,

dance, theater, literary arts, visual arts and food, plus the Shoreline Philippine Festival and Lake2Sound Film Festival. The 2008 theme is "Green: Art in the Environment." The event draws approximately 10,000 individuals to the Shoreline Center at 18560 1st Ave. NE in Shoreline, WA. Please contact the arts council at 206-417-4645 for more information, or visit our website at www.shorelinearts.net

Point Wells Portal Nears Completion

By Monica Van der Vieren, KC Metro

King County's West Tunnel contractor, JCT-JV, is completing construction of the portal to construct and launch the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM). The TBM launched from Point Wells will be the last set in motion to construct almost 14 miles of tunnels for the county's new Brightwater treatment system.

The Point Wells Portal is about 185 feet long, 60 feet wide and 35 feet deep. The contractor installed support walls before excavating the shaft using a method called jet grouting. The high water table at Point Wells made this a more practical method of construction than traditional shoring and excavation methods.

After installing support walls, the contractor excavated the shaft and then flooded it with water to equalize pressure with the surrounding ground. A base slab was then installed by pumping concrete to the soil surface while drawing water off the top. After a layer six feet deep was installed, over 900,000 gallons of water were drawn off the surface and sent to the sewer system. A top slab was poured to complete the base layer of the access shaft.

Manufacture of the West Tunnel TBM is nearing completion in Toronto, Canada. The

machine will be delivered in parts that are assembled on site. About a month of work is required before the TBM can be launched and mining can begin.

Once tunneling starts, crews will work around-the-clock for most of the week. Limited construction activities occur at the surface overnight, with most work concentrated inside the tunnel.

The Marine Outfall contractor team, led by Triton Marine Construction, will soon arrive on site and anticipates beginning construction activities in June. This team will take up where the West Tunnel contractor left off, at the end of the marine outfall connector pipe that comes from the portal site and ends high on the beach. Triton's crews will build a marine outfall that will extend from the beach at Point Wells and extend a mile offshore and 600 feet deep in the Puget Sound, where treated wastewater will be released.

For more information about Brightwater projects at Point Wells, contact Monica Van der Vieren at 206-263-7301 or monica.vandervieren@kingcounty.gov.

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Marge Unruh Community Service Award Nominations

Previous recipients

- 1999**
Vladimar Oustambassidis & Pizza Mia
Grace Marshall
Scott Keeny
- 2000**
Susan Will
Sheri Ashleman
Karen Thielke
- 2001**
Rick Ashleman
Bill Clements
Ron Greeley
- 2002**
Maggie Fimia
Linda Jo Pym
Scott Jepsen
- 2003**
Richmond Beach Congregational Church
Donna Spee
John Thielke
- 2004**
Everett Ellis
Paul Gorgen
Nancy Shaw
- 2005**
Mary Bannister
Dr. Art Kruckeberg
Vladimir Oustambassidis
- 2006**
Starla Hohbach
Harley O'Neil
Dave Bannister
- 2007**
Jerry Girmus
Sean Quigley
Chris Riveland

RBCA Marge Unruh Community Service Award recognizes those who make a difference in our neighborhood

The Richmond Beach Community Association (RBCA) is seeking nominations for the annual Marge Unruh Community Service Awards.

The award was created by the RBCA in 1999 to recognize individuals in Richmond Beach who get involved and make this a great place to live. Award winners receive a plaque and have their names engraved on a perpetual plaque. In 1999, Will Unruh accepted a plaque in memory of his wife, Marge Unruh, in whose honor the award is dedicated.

Recipients are chosen by a RBCA Board selection committee from nominations submitted by Richmond Beach residents. Everyone knows at least one person who deserves to be considered for this award. Please take the time to fill out the nomination form and return it by April 15th.

Criteria for selection will be based on outstanding service to the community. Candidates may be a person, business, or organization, but do not necessarily need to reside in Richmond Beach or be a member of the Community Association. Some examples include service to the Richmond Beach Community Association through board leadership, serving on standing committees or participation in RBCA activities; promotion of issues benefitting the community; fund raising for community projects; service to youth/elderly/disabled in the community; environmental service to the community; or beautification of the community.

Recipients will be announced at the May Richmond Beach Community Association general meeting.

RBCA Marge Unruh Community Service Award Nomination Form

I would like to nominate:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Because: (List service to Richmond Beach as well as other service outside the Richmond Beach community).

My name and phone number:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Send to:
 RBCA/Community Service Award
 P.O. Box 60186
 Richmond Beach, WA 98160
OR
 Deliver completed form to any RB
 Council board member

Deadline:
April 18, 2008

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Making Art

by Aarene Storms

On Saturday, May 24, library staff member/artist Ann Blanch will lead a group of teen artists through the process of creating a small-scale concept for an art project, starting with photographs of local kids playing games at the library. Then she will transfer the concept to the actual large display space, and schedule appropriate times to paint the project with student help.

Teen artists are invited to participate in the project by:

- Modeling for the photos (basically, playing games while we take pictures!).
- Working with Ann to create the project concept based on the photos and drawings.
- Painting the project under Ann's guidance.

The project will be located on the east wall of the library meeting room, where it will be visible to people in the library and meeting room, and also to people in the park outside the building. By placing it in such a highly visible location, we will promote the talents of participating teen artists as well as the teen gaming program at the library. The finished public art project should be an excellent addition to the portfolios of everyone involved. Volunteer hours are available to students who participate in this project.

At this time, we are seeking students ages 12 to 18 to participate. If you would like to volunteer, or if you have questions, comments, thoughts or suggestions about this project, please contact Aarene at the Richmond Beach Library, (206) 546-3522, or email astorms@kcls.org.

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April calendar of community events

Richmond Beach Library Call 546-3522 for information

Children & Families

Read to Me!

For children ages 0-5 and their caregivers.^o
Read together for 20 minutes for 20 days in a month, and bring a completed "Read to Me" form to the library to select a free prize book!^o
Ask at the Information Desk for more details.^o
This program runs through June 2008.

Study Zone

Mondays, April 7, 14, 21 and 28, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

**Need homework help? Get it at the library!
The Study Zone is a great place to study, do homework, and get help with your questions.**

Pajamarama Family Story Time

Wednesdays, April 2, 9, and 30, 7 p.m.
All young children welcome with parent or caregiver.
Wear your pjs and join us for books, stories and songs!

Toddler Story Time

Thursdays, April 3 and 10, 10:15 a.m.
Join us for books, fingerplays, stories and songs just for toddlers! Ages 2 to 3 with adult, siblings welcome.

Engraved paver tiles are available for purchase at the Richmond Beach Library from \$40 to \$50. Commemorate a special occasion, honor a loved one, or have your own named engraved! Order forms are available at the library, and online at <http://www.kcls.org/richmondbeach/>

Special programs at the Shoreline Library 345 NE 175TH 206-362-7550 SCORE counseling for new and existing businesses Thursdays at 10 am please call Shoreline Library to schedule an appointment

Book review by Aarene Storms

Does My Head Look Big in This?

by Randa Abdel-Fattah

Against the advice of her parents and some of her friends, Australian teen Amal has decided to wear the hijab, the Muslim headscarf, full-time. The story of her 11th-grade year chronicles her experiences with family, friends, classmates, neighbors, and total strangers as she comes to terms with her religious beliefs.

Amal's life isn't always focused on religion —rather, she lives much like other girls her age, worrying about grades, zits and peers pressure; constantly wonders about boys and friends; and curiously anticipates the future.

Preschool Story Time

Thursdays, April 3 and 10, 11 a.m.
Share the wonderful world of books with your preschooler! Ages 3 to 6 with adult, siblings welcome.

Adult & Teen

Evening Book Discussion Group

Monday, April 7, 7 p.m.
Join us for a lively discussion of "Pilgrim at Tinker Creek" by Annie Dillard.

Talk Time

Tuesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 4 p.m.
Improve your speaking and listening skills in this English conversation group.

Afternoon Book Discussion Group

Thursday, April 10, 2 p.m.
Join us for a lively discussion of "Dogs of Babel" by Carolyn Parkhurst

SAT Preparation Sessions II through V

Saturdays, April 5, 12, 19 and 26, 10:00 a.m.
For Teens. Five sessions will get you started to prepare for the SAT. In addition, you'll receive a copy of the Official SAT Study Guide. You must have already registered and attended the March 29 session to participate.

Shoreline School District

Elementary and Middle School WASL Testing
Apr. 14-May 2

PTA Appreciation Week
Apr. 14-18

School Board Meeting
Mon., Apr. 14, 7:00 p.m.

High School WASL Testing
Apr. 15-18

School Board Meeting
Mon. Apr. 28, 7:00 p.m.

Teacher Appreciation Week
May 5-9

School Board Meeting
Mon., May 5, 7:00 p.m.

Syre Elementary

Birds & Bees & Your Kids
Thur., Apr. 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Library

Guys and Kids Night
Tue., Apr. 22, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Syre PTA Meeting
Tue., Apr. 22, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Library

Principal Brown Bag
Thur., Apr. 24, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Office

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
Fri., Apr. 25, 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Library

Shorewood High School

Principal's Coffee
Thur., Apr. 10, 8:00-8:45 a.m.

Principal's Brown Bag
Tue., Apr. 15, 12:45-1:30 p.m.

Shorewood PTSA Meeting
Tue., Apr. 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m. SW Library

Pick Up Caps & Gowns
Wed., Apr. 16, 11:55 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Spring Tolo
Fri., Apr. 18, 9:30 p.m. - Midnight

Junior Night
Wed., Apr. 23, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
SW Library Senior timeline information

History Fair
Thur., Apr. 24, 6:00-8:00 p.m. SW SAC

Senior Meeting
Fri., Apr. 25, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Theater

Spring Sports Assembly
Thur., May 1, 9:35-10:15 a.m.

Spring Play
May 2-5 and 8-12, 7:30 p.m. SW Theater

Einstein Middle School

Wrestling Awards Ceremony
Tue., Apr. 8, 3:00 p.m. Cafeteria

Track Practice Begins
Mon., Apr. 14, after school

Einstein PTSA Meeting
Tue., Apr. 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Staff Lounge

Grades Posted Online
Mon., Apr. 21

RBCA Community Events

Art Show

Fri., May 9, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Sat., May 10, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Richmond Beach Library
Artists contact Bette Round at 542-0336 or Richmond Beach Library at 546-3522
Sponsored by Friends of the Richmond Beach Library

Strawberry Festival

Sat., May 10, Noon-5:00 p.m.
Richmond beach Community Park
Music, food, games & more!
Sponsored by RBCA

Community Garage Sale

Sat., May 17
For buyers and sellers alike!
Sponsored by RBCA

Beach Blossoms Garden Tour

Sat., June 14, Noon-4:00 p.m.
Community sharing of gardens
Call Lynn Wright at 542-4554 to be included on the tour
Sponsored by RBCA

Sandcastle Building Contest

Sun., Aug. 17, Noon to 3:00 p.m.
Registration begins at 11:30 a.m.
Richmond Beach Saltwater Park
Awards, prizes, music, and more!
Sponsored by RBCA

Community Help Needed

Raffle Donations for Strawberry Festival (spring) - Soliciting donations from local businesses for raffle at Strawberry Festival. Proceeds help cover costs of event. Great opportunity to highlight businesses in the Richmond Beach community. Donors would be acknowledged in this newspaper and at the event. Contact Sheri Ashleman at 542-9147.

Volunteers to Work at Strawberry Festival (May 10) - Need helpers to set up, assist at food booths, run games and activities and clean up. Contact Sheri Ashleman at 542-9147.

Halloween Decorations - (year round) Cleaning out the closets? Don't throw away your unwanted Halloween decorations. Will take anything in *good* condition that can be used to decorate the carnival. Contact Sheri Ashleman at 542-9147.

Front Desk Receptionist: The front desk is the hub of the Senior Center. If you, or someone you know, wants a responsible, vital volunteer experience, this is the one! Receptionists usually work one-half day per week; either mornings or afternoons. Positions are now available. 18560 1st Avenue NE, in Shoreline, 206-365-1536, shorelinesc@seniorservices

Volunteer Drivers Urgently Needed: The Shoreline/Lake Forest Park Senior Shuttle urgently needs more volunteer drivers. We are seeking dedicated people to drive our senior shuttle, which transports local seniors to hot lunch programs, grocery stores, and local errands. Drivers do not need a special driver's license and we offer free training. If you are interested, or if you know anyone that may be interested, please call (206) 448 5740 or apply online at www.seniorservices.org

Help wanted?

Are you involved with a non-profit organization that seeks volunteers? Perhaps we can help. The *Richmond Beach Community News* will include a monthly "Help Wanted" column to provide a space for organizations to ask for volunteers. There are many ways Richmond Beach residents can help others in the community and this is your access to these opportunities. Send an email with your "Help Wanted" ad to grahmarc@ctr.net. Notices should be less than 50 words. Please provide a telephone number for contact.

Other Community Events & Opportunities

Richmond Beach School Reunion

by Cliff Nixon

The 17th Richmond Beach School reunion will be held on Saturday, July 26, 2008, at Rickey's Bar and Grill, starting at noon. Lunch will be served from 1 - 3 p.m. Rickey's is located in the QFC complex at 185th (Richmond Beach Road) and 8th Avenue NW. Please call Cliff Nixon at (206) 300-4250 if you have questions. All friends of Richmond Beach are welcome.

Help Wanted: Hill's Food, Wine & Catering Hill's in Richmond Beach is looking for a dishwasher (in case any of you know someone who might be interested in a minimum wage job). Must be at least 16 years of age. Call 542-6353. And for those of you who have missed having lunch at Hill's—good news! They are reopening for lunch sometime in April. (Submitted by Sheri Ashleman)