



The Village View

February 11, 2021

Pam & Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson,
Guest Editors

Upcoming Events, on Zoom:

Pathwork, Sunday, February 14
Third Age, Friday, February 26

An Unexpected Journey

By Colette Hoff

First of all, I would like to thank Kirsten, Marjenta, Pam & Elizabeth for editing the *Village View* over the past few weeks. I understand that some of you may be learning about my unfolding (health) journey for the first time.

In late December, I learned that I wasn't in charge of this journey as my gynecologist let me know that he found cancer in my uterus. I kept this news to myself for a couple of weeks so that I could process it, and then I needed to let the news out. Since surgery was scheduled for January 28, I began to prepare, knowing that a hysterectomy represented the biggest challenge of my life. A careful visit with my family and a couple of days at the ocean were essential.

This journey isn't something I've chosen: It has chosen me. It has made me face my arrogance—a major health situation would never happen to **me**! I mistakenly thought that I was in charge of my great life; but this journey has required surrender, humility, and living day-to-day.

The surgery went very well at St Anthony's hospital in Gig Harbor. A wonderful physician, Dr Michael Bidus, performed the surgery. I stayed in the hospital for two nights and came home to heal, or so I thought. Shortly thereafter, I became ill, not able to keep food or drink down, and spent another five days at St Anthony's.

Today, Wednesday, I am back home, feeling fine and eating with care, at beautiful Sahale. My journey will continue with required treatment happening over the next few months.

On-Line News of the Goodenough Community System

The American Association for the Furtherance of Community
Convocation: A Church and Ministry / Mandala Resources, Inc.
Sahale Learning Center / The EcoVillage at Sahale

The support and love I have received---and continue to receive---have sustained and lifted me more than my words can convey here. I feel very loved by so many of you and appreciate all of your expressions of warmth and care. At Sahale, each resident has stepped up to offer support from direct care, from doing my laundry, preparing food, providing transportation, keeping Kloshe warm, filling in for me, maintaining ongoing systems, and so many other instances of care and support.

I want to learn from this experience and allow the journey to unfold, understanding now that I am not in charge: Cancer can happen to anyone; receiving love and support makes a difference; I'll get through this process; there will be ups and downs along the way.

Thank you again for your love and support.

With love and gratitude,

Colette

A Valentine to Colette

By Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson

Colette's story really touches me as she shares her feelings of the unexpected becoming true, suddenly and without warning, not asking permission in advance.



Colette also admits to some arrogance, letting us know how she has believed all along that she has been in charge of the entirety of her life, including her physical health. It is hard to imagine anyone not responding in a similar way with news of cancer. And yet, her awareness causes me to notice what I take for granted in my life—largess in general and Colette's life and gifts in particular. Indeed, the pain of awareness is upon me.

Colette demonstrates the value of intimacy, allowing herself out so that others can see in. That is a vulnerable thing to do and the kind of leadership that is both up front and from the "back of the bus," teaching not always with words but from day-to-day life experiences. To me, that is the difference between a traditional therapeutic model of healing and one where intentionally living life with others, within a culture of feedback, learning, and guidance, is both the path and the cure. It is the journey of the hero.

With the death from cancer of my oldest nephew Seth shortly before Colette was admitted to the hospital, I feel the fragility of life--for Colette's, for her extended family, for my wife, children and grandchildren, for community and community friends wherever they live, for pets, plants, for Gaia. And for me.

Warmly, *-Elizabeth*



Mindful Mike's Blog: Farmer?

By Mike deAnguera

I got up this sunny morning and made some eggs and hash browns. Humming a tune I made up all the way. Guess you could say I was praying. Praying to whom? The Big Cheese who controls everything? God? Why not. Generally, he is good loving guy. The description Kathleen Notley gave me of her relationship with God was in my mind. I felt like I was having fun with this Being.

Now is the time to go get the Jane Deere going. Battery needs charging and one tire may need patient reinflating. The Jane Deere is a good machine who will help me haul a lot of grape branches down to our biochar area. Of course I am humming all the time as I usually do when I work.

Let's see....Jane Deere is not starting with the charger so let her charge up a bit. Patience is required. I now fully understand the Buddhist concept of chop wood carry water.

Does the Dalai Lama think about where his food comes from? I would guess not. Everything from the growing of food to the maintenance of farm machinery is taken care of by others. So he gets to write and talk about what people already know they should be and do. In other words as a Master his primary job is to remind us of we all forgot while coming down the well of forgetfulness. That's what it takes to be born into this world.

As you can see I am writing about stuff as it is happening in the present moment. And telling you about my present state of mind. Did I meditate this morning? I probably did my usual pause although I didn't pay attention to my breathing. So some more work to do. At least now you the reader are following my thought processes. This is in fact how I become a responsible person.

Are we farmers? No. But our particular kind of permaculture work has involved the Washington Conservation Corps. They sent volunteers out last Saturday to plant over 300 cedar trees near the Tahuya River. The idea is for these cedars to take over from the alders as they die out. The area is swampy but cedars love wet feet. We and the State of Washington are doing our part to help restore the evergreen forests of the Puget Sound Region.

Sahale's biggest contribution to Earth restoration is through our educating others about forest management and permaculture.



I watched two of Irene Perler's DVDs on biodynamic farming. One is *The Real Dirt on Farmer John*. The other is *How to Save the World*, the story of Peter Proctor's biodynamic farming work in India. Both of these individuals understand what's at stake: our food and our very lives. Corporate farming destroys communities as well as the very soil in which food is grown.

Farming is hard work. That's especially true for commercial farming. One has to grow enough to sell at a profit. Mechanization enables more crops to be grown at a faster rate. So the farm machines get bigger and bigger. Economy of scale. The addition of pesticides after World War II seemed to better things at least for awhile. Then Gmos. Farming as a science developed by the big corporations serving Wall Street investors who will never set foot on the land.

One can invest in agricultural products such as pork bellies. This is one of the ways in which a major city like Chicago makes its living. Large scale industrial agriculture.

The people who are most important to the production of food are those who actually plant and harvest the crops. We need to acknowledge their work and the power of community.

We acknowledged the importance of our people like Irene Perler by celebrating events in their lives like her 60th birthday. Here she appears like a Buddha. Very calm, serene, and happy.

- Mike



Below is a story of a Southwest Washington Pioneer: George Washington Bush (1779 – April 5, 1863), eventually settling near Tumwater, Washington. He was an American pioneer and one of the first African-American (Irish and African) non-Amerindian settlers of the Pacific Northwest and was a co-founder of Tumwater.

Thank you, Colette, for bringing this to us. I grew up not far from Bush Prairie and have not known this story. – EJ [References drawn from Wikipedia]

Early life and education

George W Bush was born in Pennsylvania around 1779. An only child, he was raised as a Quaker and educated in Philadelphia.^[2] Bush's African American father, Matthew Bush, was born in India.^[1] Matthew Bush worked for a wealthy English merchant named Stevenson for most of his life. At Stevenson's home in Philadelphia, Matthew Bush met his wife, an Irish maid who

also worked for Stevenson, and they married in 1778. Pennsylvania did not repeal its anti-miscegenation law until 1780, suggesting that Matthew Bush was either not considered black, or he was married under the care of Germantown Friends Meeting in violation of the law. George's parents served Stevenson until his death. Stevenson had no other family and so left the Bushes a substantial fortune.

When he was about twenty years old, Bush moved to Illinois where he entered the cattle business for the first time. In about 1820 Bush moved his cattle business to Missouri where he remained for the next twenty years.

Soldier and trapper

Bush fought under Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812 at the Battle of New Orleans. (Bush, Jeremiah Mabie and William Rutledge are the only known War of 1812 veterans to have settled in Thurston County, and the earliest known U.S. veterans in the county.) He later worked as a voyageur and fur trapper with a Frenchman named Joseph Robidoux IV headquartered in St. Louis, then spent several years in the Oregon Country working for the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC).

Missouri and marriage

About the time Robidoux was hired to establish a trading post at the Blacksnake Hills (which became St. Joseph, Missouri), Bush moved to the area near said trading post and in 1828 purchased (with cash not grant or homestead) 80 acres of land. His property was in an unorganized part of Clay County, where he married Isabella James, the daughter of a Baptist minister of German descent, on July 4, 1830. Missouri was a slave state at the time and had adopted anti-miscegenation laws in 1821, but like his father's marriage, there is no evidence that his marriage was thought to be illegal at the time. Bush was a free man and had never been a slave, but, while he was of African and Irish descent, Missouri did not provide him the same legal status as a white man. It is noted that the marriage was performed by John P. Smith, Justice of the Peace, who may have had an arrangement with Bush. Smith had been appointed Justice less than a month before Bush's marriage, immediately following the formation of Washington Township in May 1830. To qualify for the formation of the township they had to certify to the Secretary of State "that there were at least 95 taxable inhabitants in the township upon its creation," including George Bush, whose 1828 land purchase was within Washington Township boundaries.

Some sources state that his family lived in comfort there, while others suggest they faced increasing prejudice. Land records show they moved from the edge of Clay County to unorganized territory in what became Daviess County, and finally into unclaimed territory north of St. Joseph. This area was annexed after the Platte Purchase, and organized into Andrew County in 1841. The Bush family left a few years later.

The family had nine boys, of which six survived past infancy, including Owen in 1832, Joseph T in 1833, Riley B in 1836, Henry S in 1840, January J in 1844, all in Missouri, and Lewis Nisqually in 1847 in the new territory.

To the Northwest

In 1844, Bush and his family (along with five other families including his friend Michael Simmons, totaling 31 people) left Missouri, heading west on the Oregon Trail. Bush's navigation skills and knowledge of the western region, gained during his years as a trapper, made him the indispensable guide of the party. Isabella's training as a nurse was an important contribution as well. Bush and his family were also known to be very generous, purchasing supplies for their fellow travelers first in Missouri and later at great expense at Fort Bridger. Bush bought six Conestoga wagons, equipping them with enough provisions for a year, and helped several families make the trip to Oregon. According to the Bush family history, Bush built a false bottom onto his wagon in which he hid over a hundred pounds of silver, worth about \$2,000. The great-granddaughter of Bush claims that Bush had hidden \$5,000 in silver dollars, some gold bricks, and fifty dollar slugs. With him he brought many species of fruit and shade trees that he would plant in his farm at Bush Prairie.

By the time the Bush-Simmons party reached the Oregon Country over four months later, the Provisional Government of Oregon reacting to racially-charged violence had passed an exclusionary law barring black persons, slave or free, from entering the Oregon Territory on pain of lashing. As a result, Bush and his party traveled north across the Columbia River, into territory that at the time was claimed by both the United States and Great Britain. The wagon path they laboriously cut would become the northern spur of the Oregon Trail. Bush's connections with the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Vancouver may have helped the settlers gain access where the company had previously barred Americans from settling.

Bush Prairie

The Bushes and the other five families established a settlement, named Bush Prairie, at the southernmost tip of Puget Sound in what is now Tumwater, Washington. (Tumwater's official history has been "white washed" giving almost all the credit for its founding to Simmons and the other white settlers; and mentions only in passing one of the main founding fathers of Tumwater, George Bush) Bush and Michael Simmons built the area's first gristmill and sawmill in 1845, and Bush helped finance Simmons' logging company. Bush introduced the first mower and reaper to the area in 1856.

In addition to their farm, the Bushes ran a roadside hotel for free. Wayfarers traveling between Cowlitz Landing and Puget Sound liked to stop there. It was open to anyone who came through the area. The Bushes would give visitors a good square meal and gave gifts of grain and fruit grown on the Bush farm.

The Oregon Treaty of 1846 ended the joint administration north of the Columbia, placing Bush Prairie firmly in the United States. By staking an American claim to the area, Bush and his party had also brought Oregon's black American exclusion laws, clouding the title to their land; these laws would not have applied if the territory were under the British Empire. When the Washington Territory was formed in 1853, one of the first actions of the Territorial Legislature in Olympia was to ask Congress to give the Bushes unambiguous ownership of their land, which it did in 1855. Bush was thus among the first African-American landowners in Washington State.

According to the Oregon Trail History Library,

The Bush-Simmons Party is credited by some historians as having been in large part responsible for bringing the land north of the Columbia River—the present-day state of Washington—into the United States. They established a presence that attracted other settlers and strengthened the American claim to the area in later debates between Great Britain and the United States over partitioning the Oregon Country.

George Bush lived out the rest of his life in Washington. He maintained excellent relations with local Amerindians, many of whom he nursed through epidemics of measles and smallpox. He also extended remarkable generosity towards his fellow settlers, sharing grain with needy neighbors rather than selling it to speculators at great personal profit. One year, wheat was in short supply and Bush was offered an unheard-of price for his entire crop. His response was "I'll just keep my grain to let my neighbors who have had failures have enough to live on and for seeding their fields in the spring. They have no money to pay your fancy prices and I don't intend to see them want for anything in my power to provide them with."

Bush died in Tumwater on April 5, 1863.^[19] Isabella James Bush died September 12, 1866.

Legacy

Historians have noted how Bush's experience exemplifies the interdependence and interconnection of people from different racial groups on the western frontier, as well as the ugliness of racial prejudice.

Their six sons carried on their tradition of farming and public service. The eldest, William Owen Bush, served twice in the Washington State Legislature. In 1890, he introduced the bill establishing the institution that is now **Washington State University** (bolding by Editor).

In 1973, Jacob Lawrence did a series of five paintings depicting George Bush's journey by wagon train from Missouri to Bush Prairie. The paintings are in the collection of the Washington State Historical Society.

In 2009, a Bush butternut tree was planted in Bush's memory on the grounds of the Washington State Capitol, and later also dedicated in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. The tree is a direct descendant of a seedling brought west on Bush's wagon and planted in 1845 at the Bush homestead on Bush Prairie. The original tree is one of the largest, and likely the oldest living butternut tree in the United States.

Bush was buried in Tumwater, Washington at Union Cemetery, now a city pioneer cemetery called Bush/Union/Pioneer Calvary Cemetery. The cemetery is listed on the national, state and city registers of historic places.



Submitted by Kirsten Rohde

Dear Green American,

Boxes of Valentine's Day chocolate should be full of delicious treats, not child labor, deforestation, or pesticides.

Despite decades of commitments from big-chocolate companies to end child labor in cocoa, **there are still over 1 million child laborers, and children are being exposed to MORE pesticides.**

Before you pick up any Valentine's Day chocolates, [take a look at these small, but mighty, chocolate companies! They are working to reform the chocolate industry from bean to bar.](#) And, their chocolates are truly delicious!

Many of these companies are also Certified Green Business Network Members of Green America, so they are green through and through. And, all of these chocolates are available for purchase online!

With workers and small businesses being hit particularly hard in the last year, voting with your dollar has an even greater impact. [This Valentine's Day, I hope our buying guide helps you find the perfect chocolates.](#)

<https://www.greenamerica.org/blog/put-down-big-name-chocolate-bar-grab-one-these-instead>

Thank you for all that you do,

Charlotte Tate

Labor Justice Campaigns Director

Green America



Programs and Events of the Goodenough Community

*Because of our unpredictable times,
dates and descriptions shown represent our plans for now.*

What makes community meaningful and fun? The richness of life in community comes in many ways – getting together informally over a meal ... celebrating a significant birthday with long- time and new-found friends ... working together in a creative endeavor ... collaborating during a work party ... thinking deeply with others about what it means to be fully alive and connected with ourselves, each other, and Spirit ... and more.

Of course, community is about adapting to change, and that has been the case with the pandemic as we have adapted many of our ways to connecting, many of which are via Zoom.

Throughout the year our intention is to offer programs that help you participate in your own development, learn about relating well with others, and help you discover your potential to have a good time in life and with others.

Information about programs and upcoming events can be found on our website:

www.goodenough.org



The Goodenough Community's governing body, the General Circle, meets monthly, 7:00 PM, via Zoom. Below are dates for our winter meetings:

- February 15
- March 1

For additional information, contact [Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson](#)



The Women's Program is a long-established and ever-growing way for women to enjoy each other's company, learn about themselves as women, and even perhaps to experience the Divine Feminine. For more information, contact [Hollis Ryan](#). *Stay tuned for an announcement of the next Women's gathering.*



The Third Age - Those age 60 and older have been gathering monthly, Friday evenings. 7:00 PM. With the pandemic, meetings are virtual. The next scheduled meetings is February 26. Contact [Kirsten Rohde](#) for more information.

The Men's Program - Our Men's Circle is an expression of brotherhood and practice with wisdom, gathered from own lives, other men's work advocates and the founders of this circle. A weekend is planned from June 4 & 5, 2021. Stay tuned for details.



Pathwork, a Program of Convocation: A Church and Ministry – Pathwork offers you a spiritual home in which to rest and to share your heart and mind as you move through these unpredictable times. We come together under the leadership of Pastor Colette Hoff and find support and encouragement as we clarify our personal goals and develop the practices we choose for a spirit filled life, gaining wisdom from the world’s faith & wisdom traditions. You are welcome to join. Meetings are held via Zoom on alternate Sundays from 7pm to 9pm. Contact Colette: hoff@goodenough.org for Zoom information.

February 14 and 28
March 14 and 28



True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 4, 2021



We are planning our 2021 event! Hold this date on your calendar. We traditionally hold this event on Mercer Island. Stay tuned for details.



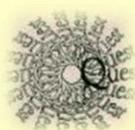
Human Relations Laboratory, August 8 to 14, 2021

This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth and relational development within a rich culture with art, music dance, song, drama and more. This summer we will celebrate 52 years! Contact: Colette Hoff, hoff@goodenough.org

Work and Play Parties throughout the Year. *Traditionally*, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over Memorial Day weekend as well as other times to express gratitude for the presence of our beloved retreat center, Sahale, and to experience the satisfaction of playing and working together. Please email hoff@goodenough.org with questions during these times of the Pandemic.



Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center



Our belief is that mental and emotional health is a prerequisite for spiritual wellbeing, collaboration, and the expression of compassion. Quest’s counseling and education programs, open to all interested individuals, focus on empowering individuals, couples, and family groups to be happier and more effective in relationships. *Call Colette (206-755 8404) if you find you need to talk out your feelings regarding the pandemic crisis.*

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