

# The Village eView

April 19, 2017  
Colette Hoff, Editor

## Diligence

Persevering determination  
to perform a task;  
conscientiousness.

dil·i·gence<sup>1</sup>

(dīl'ə-jəns) *n.*

1. Earnest and persistent application to an undertaking; steady effort; assiduity (constant or close attention to what one is doing).
2. Attentive care; heedfulness.

Diligence is the earnest, conscientious application of our energy to accomplish what we've undertaken. When we are diligent, we pay careful attention to detail and are dedicated to achieving quality results.

Diligence means that we are continually working toward our goals, making use of what resources and opportunities are available. We are vigilant to avoid errors and to stay focused on the task at hand. Our diligence provides a basis for people trusting us with jobs that are tricky or complicated and also important to them. Diligence does not rely on talent, but employs commitment, industry, and perseverance to transform vision into reality.

<http://www.wisdomcommons.org/virtue/37-diligence/quotes>



### A Diligent Group of Leaders

Colette Hoff

Last week, the theme of professionalism was presented as a group of leaders were preparing for

#### ***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**

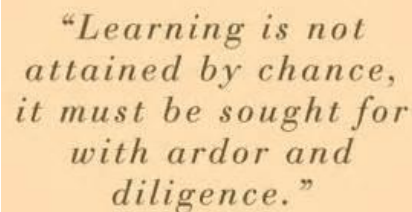
weekend of training together. The assembled group of 17 demonstrated their professionalism through skillful participating in a dynamic weekend experience.

After reviewing learning materials and becoming heart-connected, individuals shared the skills and gifts they bring to any group process. Following patterns of someone's story, re-framing, seeing the whole of what is happening, offering compassion, identifying themes in individual work, offering presence, listening with care are some of the gifts claimed by this group. Confirmation was given to each sharing and the group as a whole began to see itself and the fullness of the gifts within each individual creating a powerful whole.

The concept of diligence emerged as the specific skills of group-leading were presented. Effort is required to manage a group well and pay attention to all aspects of the process. Two different small groups were formed and live individual work was encouraged with the rest of the participants gathered around watching ensuring that learning was live, individuals were encouraged to do some personal work, and many questions were answered about group leading.

Diligence is required for continued development and is necessary for growth beyond being caught in family of origin dynamics. Diligence was encouraged in individual work in dealing with difficult sub-personalities by shifting and not empowering a difficult inner voice. Some identified a desire to apply more diligence to health practices like meditation and eating well. As our weekend continued, we agreed as *professional* leaders to be diligent in keeping our agreements with each other to do our best and help each other offer effective leadership to the 2017 Human Relations laboratory.

**Co-Creating A Meaningful Life** is the theme for this 48<sup>th</sup> annual Lab. The training weekend was practice for what we hope to accomplish August 6 to 12. And, if this past weekend is an indication, this Lab will be especially creative, connected, and collaborative. Mark your calendar and join us! Registration is available on-line.



*“Learning is not  
attained by chance,  
it must be sought for  
with ardor and  
diligence.”*

*-Abigail Adams*

## Yes, We Can

When we have faced down impossible odds, when we've been told we're not ready or that we shouldn't try or that we can't, generations of Americans have responded with a simple creed that sums up the spirit of a people: Yes, we can. Yes, we can. Yes, we can. It was a creed written into the founding documents that declared the destiny of a nation: Yes, we can. It was whispered by slaves and abolitionists as they blazed a trail towards freedom through the darkest of nights: Yes, we can. It was sung by immigrants as they struck out from distant shores and pioneers who pushed westward against an unforgiving wilderness: Yes, we can. It was the call of workers who organized, women who reached for the ballot, a president who chose the moon as our new frontier, and a king who took us to the mountaintop and pointed the way to the promised land: Yes, we can, to justice and equality. Yes, we can, to opportunity and prosperity. Yes, we can heal this nation. Yes, we can repair this world. Yes, we can

[www.nytimes.com/2008/01/08/us/politics/08text-obama.html?pagewanted=1&r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/08/us/politics/08text-obama.html?pagewanted=1&r=1)"> New  
"Barack Obama's New Hampshire Primary Speech



## Understanding and Diligence - The Means of Success

By John Kenworthy | Submitted On June 01, 2008

The world's richest list is topped by Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. Imagine being ten times wealthier than these two combined. Impossible? Not at all!

There's plenty of books on Bill Gates and Warren Buffet, to discover how they made their fortunes. All you have to do is create the next critical component of everyone's lives, or invest in absolutely the right thing at exactly the right time. The track records and phenomenal success of these businessmen are inspiring, yet how can we apply this to our own lives? Yet, there's another whose wealth utterly dwarfs that of today's richest people, if the accounts of his wealth are accurate. King Solomon's wealth would today top 1 trillion dollars!

King Solomon's secret? At just 12 years old, he ascended the thrown of Israel when God appeared to him and granted him one wish. Solomon did not ask for riches and honor, he asked for wisdom. Concerned that he was young and inexperienced, Solomon asked God for something that would help him rule effectively and judiciously lead the people. Because Solomon asked for wisdom (or a 'Hearing Heart') and did not ask for riches and honor, God blessed him with wealth also.

Solomon was bestowed with riches and honor far greater than any king before or after him. His sage advice was sought by rulers of nations. His success and wealth increased beyond even your vivid imagination. His gold reserves are the subject of legend, his palace immense. He penned

the Proverbs in the Bible which not only survive but his writing on wisdom, understanding and diligence remain a world influence after three thousand years.

So what can we learn from Solomon about diligence and understanding?

He who cultivates his land will have plenty of bread, but he who follows worthless people and pursuits will have poverty enough. (Proverbs 28:19 - Amplified)

Surf around the Internet and you soon find people guaranteeing you instant riches with little or no work. Follow such get-rich-quick schemes and you show your naivety and ignorance. Solomon cautions against following worthless people as leading to poverty - those who work hard will reap the rewards of their efforts.

The appetite of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the appetite of the diligent is abundantly supplied. (Proverbs 13:4 - Amplified)

Those whose desire is high yet their diligence to work is slight remain unfulfilled. Having a great dream is one thing, now to put in the effort required to achieve it.

The hand of the diligent will rule, but the slothful will be put to forced labor. (Proverbs 12:24 - Amplified)

Lazy or slothful people have their time and effort dictated by others. Banks and credit card companies, most frequently these days, are the rulers of those lazy with their money. Instead of choosing how to enjoy our disposable income, we are forced to sue it to repay debts from living beyond ourselves earlier.

But I've worked hard, very hard! I put in more hours than anyone else. I just haven't had the breaks I need. It's not my lack of diligence, it's the economy, the government, the system, the market, the competition... (choose one or many). Yes, but what is it all for?

Define your dream

Where there is no vision, the people perish (Proverbs 29:18 - KJV).

Without a vision or a dream, we are directionless. We lose motivation to do much at all, we're not committed to anything. Our joy disappears and our energy wasted. But bring your dream forward into a clear vision and the opposite is true. You'll find the spark that ignites the fuel to send you rocketing towards your dream.

Wake up and smell the coffee.

How long will you sleep, O sluggard? When will you arise out of your sleep?... poverty come like a robber or one who travels [with slowly but surely approaching steps] and your want like an armed man [making you helpless] (Proverbs 9,11 - Amplified).

The real enemies of procrastination and excuses cause the wasteful hours that lead to empty days, inactive weeks, months without meaning and years of unproductive toil. Pointless activities that yield no fruit and a life of regret and unfulfilled dreams.

What I need is time management! Time is relative, but it simply isn't within your powers to manage it. Give your dream a fighting chance and get off the chair.

Partner with others

A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he rages against all wise judgment (Proverbs 18:1 - NKJV)

A wise leader develops a team of talented people around them and a network of friends and partners who support so that they become rich in social capital. When we isolate ourselves, we cut off that all important support. Have you ever met a wealthy, successful and fulfilled person who was completely isolated and did it entirely alone? I didn't think so.

Solomon was the richest man who ever lived, yet his true wealth was in his godly wisdom. We can all learn from this - and whilst we may not like the advice, you know that living a life of purpose and godly diligence will satisfy.

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## **The deAnguera Blog: Lab Training Weekend 2017**



Lab is about choosing to relate to each other in a more harmonious way. It starts out with practicing being real with each other. This practice is diligently reinforced through Community events and subsequent Labs. A long term effort is usually required to make change. Why is this



so important? Well, we have all had lifetimes practicing being unreal with each other. That's right practice makes perfect so we start out being perfectly unreal with each other.

Blaise Pascal concluded, "All men naturally hate one another." Is this one of the results of our previous practices? Was it perhaps compounded by our increasingly miserable lives?

Our religions are a way we learn to cope with our misery by turning away from it to gaze upon heaven. Heaven as being beyond this lifetime. Of course if I didn't do right the Divine would drop me into Hell.

Colette has a book called *The Co-Creator's Handbook* which shows step by step how to build circles of loving support. This sounds like a way to create heaven now. It certainly is a great alternative to the vision of a society where we are all taught to compete against each other. We even hone our war waging skills as a country and celebrate the wars we have waged and won. Does it seem like we are all working hard to create a dysfunctional culture? Are those who cheerlead us on benefitting the most from our efforts to make them rich?

The Human Relations Laboratory is a way for us all to practice relating to each other better. This can better our work lives but also create dissonance. That's because our work lives may never live up to the ideals of Lab. So a clash can result and Lab attendees may need to see what is most important in their lives.

We all learned the art of facilitating relationship in two small group exercises. These brought us to a very deep level. Participants are drawn out so deeper bonds can be formed. This was true even for veterans of many Labs.

Good friends have let me know how much I have grown through the years. I used to be a very closed down person. That was how I learned to survive. Life seems so challenging especially for kids.

Making change is never about what one should do but rather what one wants to do. I am much more likely to change if it is change I want.

I have wanted loving relationships but felt so confused about it all. That's because I am used to thinking of love as a way to find a mate and have her do what I want? If I love somebody should I marry that person? The one and only person I am to love for the rest of my life?

Imagine a diligent cultivation of relationships under the guidance of a facilitator. I can learn to love and support the dreams of many people. We can all help to create just the right environment like planting a garden.




Phil Buchmeier doing a walking meditation in traditional Northwest garb complete with an umbrella. Necessary for our season of never ending rain.

# Diligence

Diligence is doing what needs to be done with care, concentration and single-pointed attention. It springs from our desire for excellence. When we work with diligence, we give our absolute best. We are artisans, crafting whatever we create with love. We work meticulously in alignment with our purpose. Diligence is needed in tending our relationships. We choose them with discernment, then give them our full commitment, joy, love and excellence to keep them strong and alive. Diligence is deeply satisfying to our souls.





*We the*  
**ARTISTS**  
Reactions to a fractured nation

**Columbia City Gallery**  
Artists' Reception | Saturday, April 22th, 5-7pm  
[ Show runs April 19th through May 14th ]

4864 Rainier Avenue South | Seattle, WA 98118  
In the heart of historic Columbia City  
206.760.9843 | [www.columbiacitygallery.com](http://www.columbiacitygallery.com)

SEEDARTS KUOW 94.9  
Columbia City GALLERY 4 CULTURE A&E

While the opening is over, Max is still on display. Take a minute to go to the gallery!

ARE YOU READY TO MARCH FOR THE FUTURE  
OF OUR PLANET?  
JOIN US at  
**Occidental Square, 10AM**  
this Saturday, April 29  
117 S Washington St  
We will march up 4th Avenue to  
**Westlake Park**





Saturday, April 29 is a national day of marching for the planet, jobs, and justice. The People's Climate March will take place in Washington, D.C. and Sister Marches will take place across the country.

The Seattle branch of the march is slated to start at Occidental Park in Pioneer Square, and end at Westlake Park, a mile away.

We strongly recommend that you RSVP for the event here so we can let you know if the route changes due to a large number of participants.

Everyone is welcome. <https://seattlepcm.wixsite.com/climate march17>



## Men's Weekend and Tent Raising

I'm writing to invite you men to a **spring retreat weekend, June 9-11**. This date is the best fit for the most of the men I've asked. I realize not all of you will be able to make it, a sad truth about planning. If you're not able, please consider sending me an email with a "check in" you'd like shared in our circle.

This year, different than we've done before, we're combining our annual raising of our Big White Tent with our men's retreat. The tent

raising, as we usually do, begins on Friday morning and concludes Saturday by lunch. Jim Tocher and Norm Peck generally like to have about 8 to 10 guys on hand for a tent raising. It takes that many to execute the entire process smoothly, as we've learned. Look for further contact about this and, if you'd like to pitch in, let me know and I'll pass your interest along.

On a personal note, I'm still feeling the important opening of our recent women's and men's weekend intensive and I'm interested to continue the conversation as theme for our gathering.

If you were not present for this event you could know that we plunged into the important and sometimes difficult topic of patriarchy, gender inequalities, changing roles and fluidity of gender identity. It was a powerful experience of truth spoken and heart opening.



### Sahale Wish List

A refrigerator for Potlatch with ice maker  
Brown and aqua double sheets  
Bed side lamps  
Brown, blue, gray, green towels

What aspects of this theme would you like to explore? What about the structures of patriarchy would you want to explore together? For me, the notion that I'm part of the problem and the solution continues to ring. I want to urge on my own wake up to my unconscious gender bias and the ways I act out old ideas, asleep to my impact.

Please RSVP with your interest about our Men's Retreat and look for more details as the time draws nearer. Warmly, Bruce Perler

## **An opportunity to become a member of our community**

Kirsten Rohde

We are offering a simple membership plan at the rate of \$5/month, or \$50 for the year if paid up-front. Our desire now is to be inclusive, understanding that we will together begin to define some rights and responsibilities of membership. While we generally use a form of consensus for decision-making, having membership formalizes decision-making for community issues. Our Community Covenant continues to guide us.

Belonging: membership of a group or organization offers

- a sense of belonging,
- a desire to help with decisions and plans,
- joining together,
- valuing our community and its work,
- buying in means you tend less to take things for granted,
- the feeling of home,
- heart commitment.

If you would like to join us in membership, please contact Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson, [elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com)



## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

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 **Happy birthday, Lee Benner – April 29**



## **Making Choices about Medical Care in Later Life, Wednesday May 3, 5:15 – 6:45 p.m**

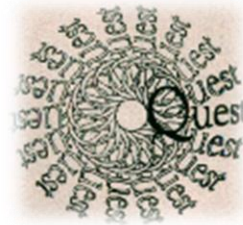
Submitted by Hollis Ryan

Would you like to know how geriatricians are thinking about your choices? Let's discuss!

Speaker **Wayne C. McCormick**, MD, MPH, is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington, Department of Medicine, Division of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine, Harborview Medical Center. He is a graduate of Washington University Medical School in St. Louis and of the University of Washington School of Public Health in Seattle. He is a former Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar and is board certified in medicine, preventive medicine and public health, palliative medicine, and geriatrics. **Date, time, location: Wednesday May 3, 5:15 – 6:45 p.m.**, Odegaard Undergraduate Library. **Register [HERE](#)**, or click through on the event announcement at [uw.edu/uwra/calendar](http://uw.edu/uwra/calendar).

### **Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center**

Our belief is that mental and emotional health is a prerequisite for spiritual well-being, 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 be effective in relationships.



more

**Call John or Colette (206-755 8404) or Colette and John at Sahale – 360 275-3957. In Seattle**, John and Colette meet with clients at the community center, 3610 SW Barton Street, Seattle 98106, as well as at Sahale.

**Cultural Programs in the Goodenough Community are created for visitors and they are developed as opportunities for our members and friends to practice our lifeways and apply them to contemporary issues and problems in our lives.** For instance, the men's program must be an expression of the best wisdom men have gathered from their life together—about what is a good man and how he could best express that in his own life. Similarly, women must return to the essentials of being a good woman in this day and age.

### **Calendar of Programs and Events, 2017**

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 newfound friends ... working together in a creative endeavor ... collaborating in a work party ... thinking deeply with others about what it means to be fully alive and connected with ourselves, each other, and Spirit ...

In the Goodenough Community, we recognize such ways to connect as expressions of **community culture**. Throughout the year, we offer **cultural programs** so that you can engage with the community, participate in your own development, and have a good time.

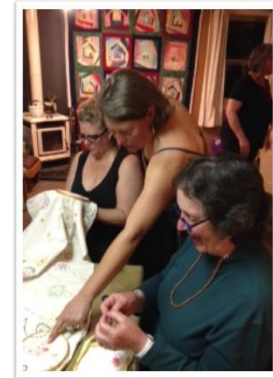
We **welcome your interest** and your participation, and hope that you will join us at any – or many! – of this year's events.

### Women's Culture

#### Women's Weekend, May 5-7, 2017 at Sahale

Women of the Goodenough Community have been gathering intentionally and regularly since 1983 to discover in themselves and each other the essence of womanhood at any age and the presence of the Divine Feminine.

Focal Person: Hollis Guill Ryan, [hollisr@comcast.net](mailto:hollisr@comcast.net)



### Third-Age Gatherings

Next gatherings will be Friday evenings, March 31 and May 12 at the community center in West Seattle. Focal Person: Kirsten Rohde, [krohde14@outlook.com](mailto:krohde14@outlook.com)



A weekend for men is being planned for **June 9 to 11**. Focal Person: Bruce Perler, [bruce\\_perler@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce_perler@hotmail.com)

### Work Parties throughout the Year

Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over Memorial Day weekend (**May 26 to 29, 2017**), as well as other times throughout the year, to express gratitude for the presence of our beloved retreat center, Sahale, and to experience the satisfaction of playing and working together.

Focal Person: Colette Hoff, [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org)

### Summer Camp for Youth, June 25 to July 1

A wonderful opportunity for children 9 to 12 to have a full camp experience in a beautiful setting with loving leadership.

Focal Person: Irene Perler, [Irene\\_Perler@hotmail.com](mailto:Irene_Perler@hotmail.com)





### Human Relations Laboratory, August 6 to 12, 2017



This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth, and has been presented annually and is now in its 48<sup>th</sup> year!

Focal Person: Colette Hoff, [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org)

### True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 2, 2017



Be part of this fun-filled family-oriented evening, and prepare yourself for a holiday season (whatever faith tradition you follow) that fills your heart.

Focal Person: Kirsten Rohde, [krohde14@outlook.com](mailto:krohde14@outlook.com)

### Winter Solstice Bus Trip, Saturday December 16, 2017

Board a bus, play in the snow, shop in Leavenworth, have a horse-drawn sleigh ride and enjoy an abundant dinner. Focal Person: Colette Hoff

### New Year's Eve at Sahale, 2017 – 2018

Sunday will be New Year's Eve and Monday will be New Year's Day next year.

**Annual Organizational Meetings**      **March 2018 This weekend is foundational to all programs and events within the community. Come and be curious!** Please contact Kirsten Rohde 206 719-5364 for more information.

**Diligent**  
adjective dil - i - gent  
characterized by steady,  
earnest and energetic effort