

A Unique Vision of Everyday

# The Keen Observer

Volume 20 6/15/2010

## Fathers, You Deserve Photographs Too!

Who takes the photographs in your family? Typically, the man-of-the-house is in charge of capturing the memories of a family while at the same time being left out of them. When you are always behind the camera, it is hard to be in front of it, both physically and mentally. Photographs of dads interacting with their children are special and beautiful. No family album should be without a few.



Are you getting ready to have some family portraits taken? Don't forget to include that illusive father. He may find an excuse, or say he'll break the camera, but the memories that will be created will last on your walls and make you smile as you walk past. Capture the fatherly love this summer.

## Thank a Soldier for July 4th!



Since this newsletter is getting out a little late this month due to me being out of town, I cannot write about Memorial Day, but since our Independence Day is right around the corner, please remember our troops and let them know that they are in your hearts and minds. There are many ways to do this, but the simplest one is at the website [www.lets saythanks.com](http://www.lets saythanks.com). It will take 10 seconds.

## Snippets

- Need a gift? Find ties, mugs, shoes and more with Ardent Photography photographs at [Zazzle.com](http://Zazzle.com)
- Like one of the photographs you see? Don't forget you can order online anytime through [e-mail](mailto:email) or my [Etsy.com](http://Etsy.com) shop.
- I write books too! [One Cream, Two Sugars](http://OneCream,TwoSugars)—Poetry combined with photography and [Painting Life](http://PaintingLife)—an artistic children's book are available through [Blurb.com](http://Blurb.com).

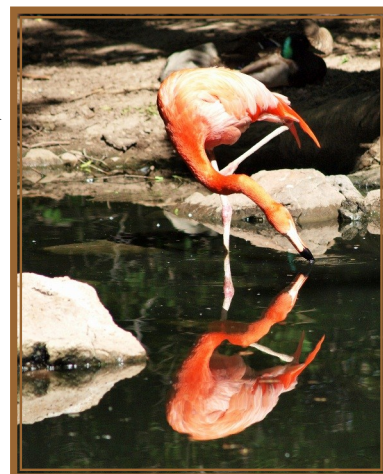
**“People think that all cameramen do is point the camera at things, but it's a heck of a lot more complicated than that!”**

**~Larry in  
Groundhog Day**

## Safari at the Zoo



I would love to be able to jump on a plane and go to Europe, Africa, Asia, any of those locations where beautiful photographs are made, but alas, that is not an option. So when life gives you children, go to the zoo. Zoo photographs do not have to include the trappings of the zoo itself. Zoom in and get as close to the animals as possible in order to leave out things such as concrete barriers, fences and other zoo attendees. Try different angles. Get down low (the height of your children?) and shoot up at the sky. A lot of the new cameras have a shooting mode called *aquarium*. Make use of this when traveling through the indoor exhibits where animals are kept behind glass. Equip your little ones with cameras as well, not only to see the world from their perspective, but also to let you have a little more time to set up your shots.



“Oh look, a Giraffe!”

### BACON BROWNIES



These brownies have a praline frosting on them. I made them in a heart shaped pan for Valentine's Day. My husband and the kids all approved.

## Bacon Brownies

- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 6 tablespoons melted butter + 2 tablespoons bacon drippings
- 1 1/4 cups cocoa
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 4 strips of bacon, diced

Cook bacon in a small skillet until quite crisp then remove to a paper towel. Reserve 2 tablespoons of the drippings.

Preheat the oven to 300 degrees. Prepare the chosen pan.(8" x 8" square or equivalent).

Beat together eggs until fluffy, then add sugars and remaining ingredients except bacon but including drippings. Mix in bacon pieces. Pour into prepared pan.

Bake for 45 minutes, checking for doneness with a toothpick. Remove from oven and cool on a rack for at least 20 minutes.

# JUNE/JULY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
13	14	15	16	17	18 *	19
20	21 *	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4 *	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 *	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## The Art of June/July

- ♦ June 18th-19th—Homeschool Conference at the Puyallup Fair Grounds
- ♦ June 21st—Summer Solstice—Summer officially begins. The sun is out and the kids are free from school.
- ♦ June 27th—Urban Arts Fest—People's Park Tacoma
- ♦ July 4th—American Independence Day
- ♦ July 11th—Art on the Ave—Art festival on 6th Avenue in Tacoma 11am-5pm

## Art Price Break

Save 20% on any  
framed art  
purchase in June/  
July 2010!

Use Coupon Code:  
**AP20PERCENT2010**



## Portrait Sessions

\$75 per half hour for Family, Baby, High School Senior, Individual, Business Head Shot, etc. in a location of your choosing 20 miles from University Place, WA (there is an additional fee for location over 20 miles from my office.) The session fee includes my time and eye during your photo session as well as my ability in post processing.

Print are available separately.

Within two weeks your photographs will be available in a private online gallery for viewing and ordering.

**Book a Session** [sarah@ardentphotography.com](mailto:sarah@ardentphotography.com)

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**Ardent**  
PHOTOGRAPHY



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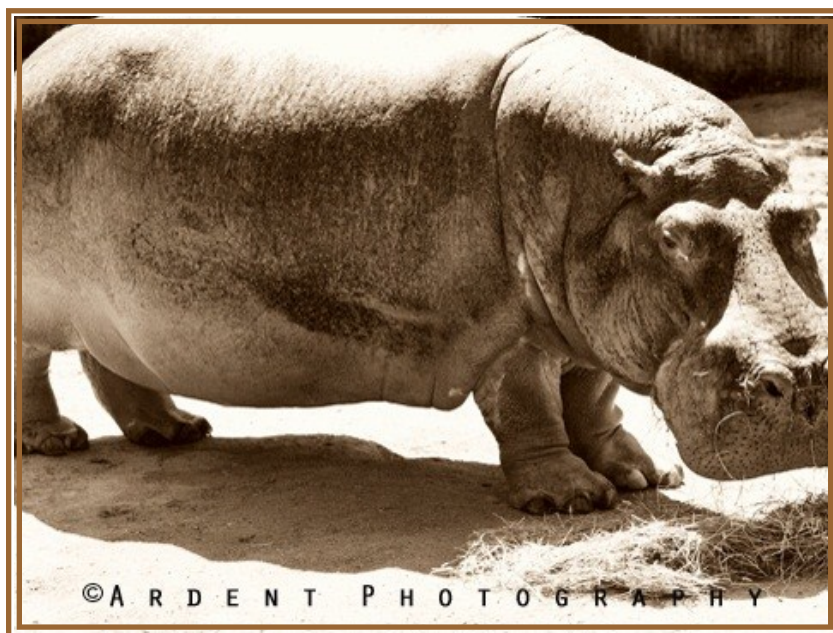
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[WWW.ARDENTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM](http://WWW.ARDENTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM)

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## Photograph of the Month



Making the everyday unique.

### *A Request...*

Summer is slowly arriving to our part of the world. While you are enjoying the rare and beautiful sunshine, don't forget to visit the numerous local craft and art fairs around the sound. Here are a few .

June 27th—[Urban Arts Fest](#)—Tacoma

July 4th—[Freedom Fest](#)—Joint Base Lewis McCord

July 4th—[Freedom Fair](#)—Ruston Way

July 11th - [Art on the Ave](#)—Tacoma

August 7th—[Proctor Arts Fest](#)—Tacoma



Also, 6th avenue and downtown Tacoma as well as Puyallup have Farmer's Markets all through the summer with crafts and locally grown vegetables.

Thank you,

*Sarah McTernan*