



ISSUE #187
MAY 7TH 1999





**COMOX VALLEY
KAYAKS**

**Quadra Island Kayaks
Grand Opening & Demo Day**



Next to the Heriot Bay Inn
(park at the Inn or at the Government Dock).
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**Join Us For
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**Sunday, May 9th
10am to 1:30pm**

**\$14.95 adults \$7.95 children
Reservations Recommended**



Call 285-2042

#187 May 7th 1999

The **Discovery Islander** is published every two weeks and distributed free throughout the Discovery Islands by:

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Submission Guidelines

We implore all our contributors, please submit material that has been prepared on a computer via email or saved onto a 3.5in floppy disk in **Word** or **rtf** formats. Please **NO BLOCK CAPITALS!!**

Disks can be picked up at Hummingbird Office & Art Supply in the Cove Centre for no charge, just ask for an "Islander Disk" at the counter.

Retyping is a time consuming and often unnecessary task, please help us out! If submitting handwritten material please print very clearly, **please do not send us original, irreplaceable material.**

While every effort is made to include all items, omissions do occur and the Discovery Islander should only be one part of your publicity efforts.

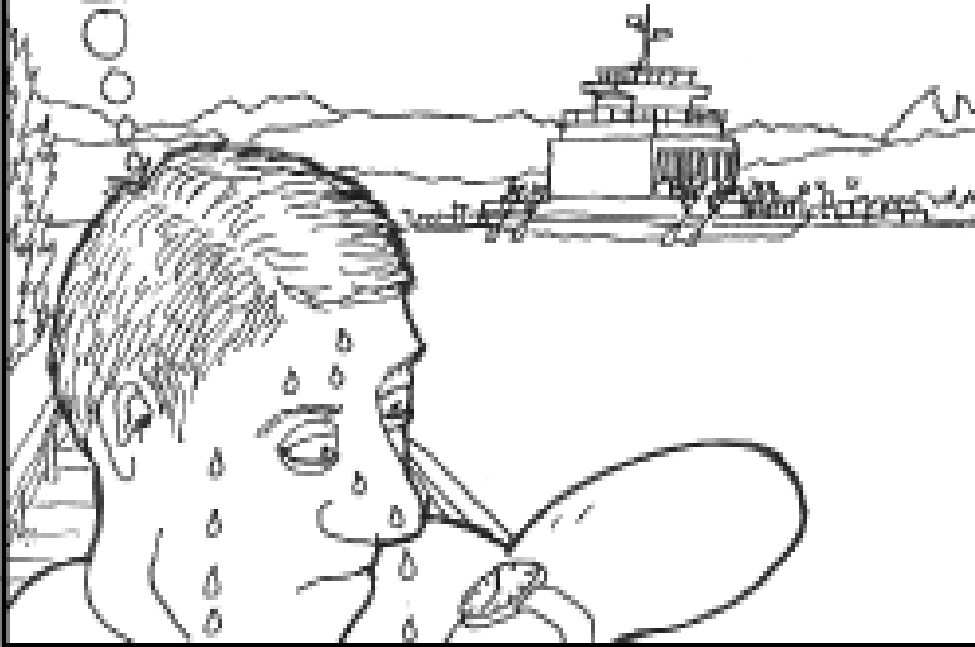
Submissions and advertising material maybe dropped off at the Heriot Bay Store and Quadra Foods or faxed to 285-2236.

Next Deadline 7 pm Monday May 3rd



**Mdm. Seefardowntheroad
a.k.a. Jocelyn Reekie at Quadra
Daycare's "Celebrate Yourself" May 2.
Photo: Tanya Storr**

OK, let's just keep calm. So the Propeller
fell off and they're a little late. It only
means I'll miss the Vancouver ferry, my
flight to Toronto and Geneva and the
Disarmament Conference. Which will
lead to end of the world as we know it.



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Our hanging basket workshop

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Quadra Island Recreation Society Events and Workshops

May Day preparations are underway! The theme this year is Millennium Mardi Gras. Celebrate the end of the milenium with wild, colourful costumes, masks, headdresses, beads whatever zany, bizarre outfit you can create goes! The parade will start at **10 a.m. Saturday, May 29 at Rebecca Spit Park**. Get your neighbourhood together and do the float thing! That night, 'Accelerate', a rock n' roll band from Comox will entertain at the Q.C.C.

The May Queen speech contest will be May 17, attended only by former May Queens who will judge the winner by pre set, agreed to criterion on public speaking. The queen and two princesses will be first, second and third in the contest.

Thank you to the 30 people who have committed to do specific organizing tasks for the event. **Still needed are:** someone to organize the box lunch auction; this means, contact resorts and businesses who contribute fantastic box lunches collect them Saturday morning and bring them to the Spit before the ceremonies, then, assist the auctioneer. Also needed is a parade marshal: someone to direct floats and walkers etc. to the appropriate line up station before the parade and then, when everyone is ready, start the parade. Do you want to be part of the afternoon entertainment at the Spit? Phone the Q.C.C. and let me know. Sandy Spearing, **285 3243** 8-2p.m.

Support the next generation: Walk-for-tots is a fund-raising walk-a thon for Parents and Tots at Rebecca Spit, **Saturday, May 15**. Call Trish Primrose at 285-2808.

Belly Dancing workshop 12-3 p.m. **Saturday, May 15**. Call Barb Frank to register, **285 3714**.

Belly Dancing show, 7:30 **Saturday, May 15**. Appetizers and beverages by CCAP

Tai Chi workshop with Henry Wang. 10 -4 p.m. **Saturday, June 5**. Call Brenda Dempsey at 285-3054



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Island Calendar

•Every Saturday

-Farmer's Market
10:00am-1:00pm

Behind Credit Union

May 7

-Slideshow "Expanding Community"
8 pm

Community Centre

May 8, Sat.

-Plant & Bake Sale
10am-2pm
-Smooth Edge & Friends
7:30 p.m.

Quadra Legion

Aroma

May 14, Fri.

-Island Voices
Point
8:00 pm

Trinity, Willow

May 15

-Belly Dance Show
centre
7:30 to 11pm

Community

May 16, Sun.

-Simple Abundance
7:30 pm
-Island Voices
2:00 pm
-Sierra Quadra Mystery Hike
10 am - 3 pm

United Church

Passages, Saratoga

ph. Ken @ 2580

May 22, Sat.

-Pottery Seconds Sale
10 a.m.- 2p.m.

224 Quadra Loop

May 25, Tues.

-QI Vol Fire Dept AGM
7:30 pm

Community Centre

May 29, Sat.

-MayDay
-May Day Dance
9pm - 1am

Rebecca Spit
Legion

June 20, Sun.

-Rev. Jack Kent

United Church

June 26, 27

-Quadra Island Garden Tour
-Quadra Island Arts Fest
10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Community Centre

Deadline For Next Issue

7 pm, Mon. May 17th

*Only Items Received Before The Deadline
can be guaranteed space in the upcoming issue.*

Our eMail address is hyacinth@island.net

fax 285-2234

News & Events

Children's Festival

The Tidemark Theatre's Annual Children's Festival has proven to be a summer favourite and will once again be held for the 9th year in a row. On **July 1st, from 10 am to 4pm**, it's going to be the highlight of Campbell River's summer, but the help of the community is needed.

As a leader in the "arts for young audiences", the Tidemark Theatre's Annual Children's Festival strives every year to present an exciting and exuberant programme. Known for its wonderful mix of children's talent, the festival organizers are **making an open call** for talented jugglers, mime artists, magicians, story tellers, musicians and dancers and virtually any form of children's entertainment. Contact Jo Watson at **923-3500** before April 15th.

Each year, the festival is located directly in front of the Tidemark Theatre with the city street blocked off from the Royal to All Occasion Florists. The area is jam packed with hands on activity centres, safety information, street entertainment and much more. The concept is simple: Let it be affordable, family-oriented and the most fun a body can have in one day for only a twoonie.

Enthusiastic and hard-working organizers and volunteers have made this festival a great occasion to stimulate the imagination and creativity of young people.

Aerobics

"get in shape for the summer..."

New Times: 6:30-7:30 Mon. & Wed. Starts April 26 to June 30, \$40/8 classes. QCC

Marion Eberlein is a certified aerobics instructor who will tailor the class to meet your needs. For more information call **285-2895**

Farmers' Market

Our Farmers' Market is held rain or shine, from the beginning of May to the end of September, **every Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm** behind the Credit Union. Vendors must be from Quadra or the Outer Islands. Set up charge is \$3 for adults and \$1 for kids. Bring your own table. Dancers, drummers, jugglers, musicians etc. are very welcome - this is our village green. **Please dogs on leashes.** Come join us to make the Market the best it can be. For more information phone Dalcyce 285-3180.

Island Voices

Island Voices, a new chamber choir with singers from Denman to Quadra, presents **Melodies for Spring** at Trinity, Willow Point on **Fri. May 14 at 8 pm** and at Passages, Saratoga Beach on **Sun. May 16 at 2 pm**. For tickets, call Joyce at 285-3298.

Just Imagine...

Imagine if everybody who came to MayDay on **May 29th** brought a non perishable food item. Just imagine how much food that would be! The Quadra Island food bank group will be having a float for the MayDay parade and we challenge all the residents of Quadra Island to bring a food item to contribute to our parade float.

This is one small way to show support to the many people from Quadra Island who use the Campbell River Food Bank.

What a great cause, and right in our own backyard!!

If you would like to join us in the parade call us for details. Tucker Dinnes 285-2166 or Theresa Hendricks 285-2204. See you at MayDay!

Belly Dance Show

Quadra Is. Community Centre
May 15, 1999 730 to 11PM. Coffee House Setting \$6.00 @the door. Appetizer Plates and Beverage proceeds go to the C.A.P.

Feature performances Asmira of Victoria Bronwyn of Denmen Is. accompanied by: Quadra, Nanaimo, Cortes, Comox Dancer's 3hr. Workshop with Bronwyn 12-3PM. Community Centre Sat May 15

3hr. workshop with Asmira 12:30 to 3:30PM. Sun, May 16. For more information or to register call Barb @ 285-3756

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Pottery Seconds Sale

and
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Cheri Lamb
Barb Wagner
Susan Westren

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Quadra Quilters

Our regular meeting was held on Tuesday, March 4 with a good attendance of members.

A big thank you to our Raffle Quilt Committee who presented out two completed quilts. Well done ladies. We also now have notecards available depicting our Centennial Quilt for sale. The raffle tickets are ready to sell. Both of these items are available from quilt members. Dates have been set for our Quilt Show at the Fools Gallery. **Mon. May 16th through to Sun. May 30th.**

A busy session was held following our business. Some members making vests, layering various quilts. A demo on one type of applique was presented. Our members have been very busy over winter months by the wonderful collections of projects displayed, including quilts for Transition House and a great display of FANTASTIC quilts from a recent workshop.

Final plans were completed for our workshops with Janet Rice-Bredin from Toronto. Next meeting **Tues. April 13 at 9:30 a.m. at the Community Centre.**

Kwagiulth Museum and Cultural Centre

will present a workshop at the new Carving and Artist Centre with Wautah "Christine Twance" on **TRADITIONAL PLANT USES OF THE Kwakwaka'wakw** a field trip will also be planned to gather plants. The workshop will be held on **Saturday, May 15, 1999 from 10am - 3pm.** Cost: \$20.00 museum members and \$30.00 non-museum members. Register at the Kwagiulth Museum - Deadline for registration is May 13th, 1999. Phone 285-3733 for more information.

Sweet Treats for Mom

Looking for some unique way to celebrate Mother's Day? An afternoon of special delights awaits you at the Museum at Campbell River on Sunday, May 9, where "Sweet Treats for Mom" includes an array of captivating programs, prize draws, dainty refreshments and pleasing melodies. Mom could even choose her own gift at the Museum Shop, where a Mother's Day Sale is in effect from May 1st through May 15.

Beginning at noon, two half-hour films that highlight the lives of local pioneer women will be shown in the museum's Westmin Audio-visual Theatre. This inviting little theatre is wheelchair accessible and charmingly reminiscent of movie houses in a bygone era. The films, "A History of Women of Northern Vancouver Island 1915 - 1945" and "Native Women of Vancouver Island" are lively and inspiring portraits of women who lived in this region and helped to shape our past. Produced by the museum through a Women's History Project, the films are of professional quality using live interviews and poignant archival photographs.

Visitors may join a tour of the Major Exhibits Gallery, including the First Nations Gallery, Campbell River Then & Now photo exhibit, the Pioneer Cabin

and Logging in the Jungles. Works by the renowned Campbell River artist and art teacher Sybil Andrews will be on display in the Fletcher Challenge Canada Gallery.

Food is definitely the highlight of any celebration, and "Sweet Treats for Mom" is no exception. Between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. a tantalizing array of mouth-watering pastries will be served along with tea, coffee and juice, while visitors relax and perhaps share some stirred memories. At 3 p.m. the group "Whirlwind" will perform a collection of Celtic music and old-time jigs, polkas, waltzes, hornpipes and slow airs. Instruments played by "Whirlwind" include fiddle, concertina, flute, guitar, piano, and bodhran (Irish drum). Members of the band hail from the Discovery Islands, where they play lively music for all ages.

Tickets for "Sweet Treats for Mom" are \$7 each, \$4 for children 12 and under, and may be purchased in advance at the Museum Shop. A limited number of tickets are available.

The Museum is located at 470 Island Highway, entrance off 5th Avenue. For information call 287-3103

Preschool Raffle Winners

The Quadra Preschool's raffle was held on May 1st at our 20th anniversary celebration. The winners were:

1st prize of the toy ferry and docks - Gabriel Lessard-Kragen 2nd prize of the craft supplies and tote - Kathy Jukes 3rd prize of the children's book - Carol Tymchuk 4th prize of the children's tool box - Grant Neilson

Special thanks to Rick Burnett for building the amazing ferry and docks.

United Church

Quadra Island United Church invites you to the evening service on **Sun. May 16 at 7:30 p.m.** Win and Cordelea Stokes from Victoria will speak on Simple Abundance- nourishing a wealthy frame of mind. A women's choir will sing Linden Lea and other songs. Come share a spiritual hour in a beautiful space! No need to dress up.

Sunday School with Mignon continues every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

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Smooth Edge & Friends

Sat., May 8, 7:30 p.m. At Aroma. \$5 cover.

Legion News

Plant & Bake Sale, May 8th, 10a.m. to 2 p.m.

May 15th, Beavers 40th Birthday Bash! Potluck dinner 7:00 p.m. Kids welcome till 9:00 p.m. Dance starts at 8:00 p.m. with "Top Heavy Cat". No Cover!!

May 29th, May Day Dance to "The Relics" 9-1, tickets \$6 in advance at Hummingbird, Explore & the Legion or \$7 at the door.

June 26th, Ball Players Ball. Dance to the rockin' blues sounds of "Summer & the Sinners." 9p.m. - 1a.m. Tickets \$6.50 at the door!

See ya at the Legion, free pool, use our bar-b-que any time!

CR Museum

On Wednesday, May 12, the Campbell River, Courtenay & District Labour Council, in conjunction with the Museum at Campbell River, will present "Carry it On" a Labour History Month event.

Beginning at 7:30pm, the evening will feature the Comox Valley group, Cumberland Gap, playing and singing labour songs. Cumberland Gap, which includes John Hurley (guitar & vocals) Nick Sullivan (mandolin, guitar & vocals), Gordie Carter (guitar, banjo, & vocals) has been well known for many years as the premier bluegrass group in the Valley and surrounding areas. The group's repertoire also includes such favourite labour songs as "Joe Hill" and "Union Maid". In addition, the group does a couple of songs concerning Cumberland: "Cumberland Mines", written by the group, and "Alberni Draw", written by Gordie Carter, which tells the story of Ginger Goodwin. Cumberland Gap has played at the May Day Bean Supper in

Cumberland, and is the host group at a folk concert, "Songs of the workers", the evening before Miners Memorial Day in June.

The evening will also feature short talks by several labour activists. The speakers will include: Nick Chernoff, former Labour Council president and long-time IWA member, now retired, who has spent many years working in the woods, and Sy Pedersen, president of IWA Local 363, who spent his days in the woods as a faller. Another speaker, Marianne Davies, is the current President of the Labour Council, as well as being an HEU member who works at the Health Centre in Cumberland, and is active with both union groups and other social activist organizations. The speakers will relate some of their experiences in the labour movement and perhaps share a story or two.

Admission is \$5.50 adult and \$3.50 student/senior. Museum members receive a 10% discount. The museum is located at 5th Avenue and Island Highway. For more information call 287-3103.

Y2K Books & Websites

Books

Y2K Citizen's Action Guide - supplement to Utne Reader. \$5.95 at Quadra Foods & Heriot Bay Store.

Awakening - The Upside of Y2K. \$14 at Explore.

Time Bomb 2000 - Edward Yourdon (416 pages). What you must know, and what you can do. Author is well known computer systems expert and has written 25 computer books. \$27.95 from Duthie Books 1-800-663-1174.

Websites - <http://www.1.millenia-bcs.com/casframe.htm> or cassandraproject.org

The Cassandra Project, community preparedness, top 10 recommended Y2K websites.

2. yourdon.com

author of the above book.

3. yardeni.com E d Yardeni is one of the world's most respected economists.

4. year2000.com t h e grandfather of Y2K. Peter de Jager's site.

5. garynorth.com Gary North himself is uncompromising in his expectations of catastrophic problems and often draws severe criticism for being a "gloom & doomer." Still a great source of information, with over 2000 links, which allows all to do their own research and draw their own conclusions.

Invitation for Submissions

The Dragonfly Review is an on-line literary journal published quarterly by Chiron Press. The next issue is scheduled for Summer, 1999. We are seeking (but not limited to) short stories, poems, personal essays, reviews and interviews that reflect the unique nature of the Pacific Northwest...especially by writers whose work is touched by the sea.

Submission Guidelines and other information of importance to contributors can be obtained at the Chiron Press website: www.chironpress.com

Quadra Island Senior Housing Society

The 1999 Annual General Meeting was held at the Community Centre on Monday evening, April 19th, and President Ken Duncan welcomed those in attendance.

The President reported that since the last meeting the rezoning of the property took place, and is now classed as "Bonus density", which will allow for the planned 8 units for this project to be built. He also told those present that the Regional District offices have provided us with a Designated Development Permit, which will allow us to develop the property. This

permit gives details of the guidelines that we will be expected to follow during the building phase, and deals with such things as exterior lighting, and placement of units on the site.

It is being noticed that interest is growing in the project and several senior have already indicated they would consider moving into this island development rather than moving to another facility somewhere on Vancouver Island. We are assured that when construction starts there will be no lack of eager tenants.

Fund Raising Report:

A raffle is well under way, with the draw being done on Island "May" day. Several nice prizes are to be won, so please support your local ticket sellers! Other events are in the planning stages so watch out for the flyers around town.

Building Report:

The progress on the project to date showed drawings of some provisional design floor plans of the 4 duplex units laid out on the site, with the perimeter one way driveway which certainly looks an appealing layout.

Ray Marean, Mgr. Loans & Business Development - Quadra Island Credit Union addressed this group and reported that they would very much like to get involved in this desirable project and can assist the society with loans etc. when we are ready to start.

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Report From Coastal Council

By John Sprungman

Ferry fares will remain as they are until at least April 2000, and the time limit on the use of commuter ticket books will be removed, Ferries Minister Gordon Wilson told the stakeholders' Coastal Council to B.C. Ferries Monday in Nanaimo. He also said there will be no reductions in service. "Some vessels will be changed, but capacity that is available to the communities will remain the same," he said.

Wilson also announced he has asked the B.C. Ferry Corporation to "more actively plug itself into the local economies" in partnership with communities and businesses.

He mentioned showcasing local industries on board, doing joint promotion with tourism and small business in ferry-dependent communities, putting naturalists on board, and making terminals available as venues for special events such as summer festivals and fairs.

"We want B.C. Ferries to be the gateway to your communities and to be tied into local economic activity," he told more than 30 Coastal Council delegates from stakeholder groups, chambers of commerce and tourism bureaus in most of the communities served by B.C. Ferries. Senior management and B.C. Ferry & Marine Workers Union officials also attended the all-day meeting at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel.

In promising another full year without fare hikes, Wilson said that any future consideration of tariff changes will be done in consultation with stakeholders to ensure that rates are "fair, affordable, and consider local economies."

He also said the government has "dedicated a portion of the existing gas tax to B.C. Ferries" which he said was a "certain victory" in the effort to have ferries recognized as an extension of the highways.

The equivalent of one-cent per litre of the provincial fuel tax to the operation of B.C. Ferries with an increase to 1-1/4 cents in October. BCFC Treasurer Peter Mills estimates the fuel tax will provide the Crown corporation with \$64 million in this fiscal year and more than \$70 million in future years. Last year's provincial budget gave BCFC \$24 million.

The new funding still falls short of the funding BCFC would receive if the government adopted the Coastal Council's recommendation last December that funding be based on the original 1977 highway

equivalence model in which B.C. Ferries would get the same amount per route mile that it costs per mile to build and maintain B.C.'s highways.

Wilson said the Corporation still "has a lot of work to do to get its financial house in order." He said the corporation had focused on the fast cat construction program for the Nanaimo to Horseshoe Bay run and had not given enough attention to replacing conventional vessels and that was now being made a priority.

In response to question about delays in implementing a new service plan for the Southern Gulf Islands, the minister said that the reallocation of vessels not only required the agreement of the communities and the corporation but also the cooperation of the B.C. Ferry and Marine Workers' Union. The union is still without a contract after rejecting a recent proposal taken to them by their leadership.

Wilson said he was committed to concluding the labour negotiations without disruptions to service. "People who runs the corporation are trying to do what is best for communities, but in order to make it work properly you have to have a really good employer-employee relationship," Wilson said. "That doesn't exist right now, and that's a huge concern. Unless you get everyone working together...that requires a huge level of trust, which frankly does not exist, and that's one of the biggest problems."

BCFMWU President Ken Michael told the meeting he appreciated the minister's directness and said that negotiations would be continuing this week.

Wilson said he had hoped to announce Monday that the time limit on the use of commuter tickets had been removed, but because it is a tariff change, he has to take it to Cabinet. "There is an agreement to do it, and you can expect to see that very shortly," he said.

BCFC President and CEO Bob Lingwood said the current practice of mailing in expired tickets for a refund will be eliminated. Existing tickets will be honored, and new tickets will carry a purchase date, indicating what was paid for them. In the event of a fare increase, users will pay the difference. Treasurer Mills estimated that 40 per cent of Inter-Island Services ferry travel is by ticket book.

Credit Union to Sponsor Youth

Quadra Credit Union is once again sponsoring participation for Discovery Island's youth to attend the Rainbow Youth Excellence Society's Camp Rainbow program. This years Leadership Retreat will be held July 11-17 at Camp Moorecroft in Nanoose Bay, and will teach participants valuable skills in self esteem, taking initiative, taking responsibility and understanding the benefits of win-win relationships, all while having a wonderful camp experience. The program is open to youths aged 14-16, who are members of Quadra Credit Union. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from the camp. For more information, contact Ruth Rombough at the Quadra Branch or Sybil Irwin at the Cortes Branch.

Quadra Arts Fest

Quadra Island Arts Festival Committee announces: **Quadra Island Art Festival, Sixth Annual. Saturday, June 26th - Sunday, June 27th. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Quadra Community Centre.** Call to all artists!! Living on or around the Discovery Islands. Quadra, Sonora, Maurelle, Read, Cortes, Redonda.

Please call Leanne for exhibition and registration information. Deadline Friday June 11th.

* The Garden Tour and Arts Fest will be offered the same weekend.

Volunteer Trail Maintenance Program

Many of us on Quadra enjoy hiking the various trails on the island on a regular or occasional basis. The trails are also one of the many natural features that attract visitors to the area.

The Trails Committee is in the process of negotiating a Trail Stewardship Agreement with the Ministry of Forests. We will be responsible for organizing and supervising volunteer trail maintenance crews.

If you feel you could help in this project, and have some fun and exercise at the same time, please call Jim Thomson at 285 2393 or Judy Johnson at 285 2922 for additional information.

The Whaletown Community Club presents:

Kim Paulley, Soprano, and Bruce Hipkin, Piano in a concert of "Songs My Mother Taught Me", an evening of sweet, sassy, sultry show tunes and jazz standards.

Saturday, May 15, 8 p.m. General Admission \$10.00; Seniors /Students \$7.00. For more info call 935-6615.

Kim Paulley received her classical training at UBC's Music Department in the mid 80's. With this concert, like her two previous Cortes Concerts, 'A Soprano and a Piano' and 'Songs for Winter' Kim is delighted to follow her heart's desire, musically speaking.

For the past thirty years, Bruce Hipkin has had a great time playing keyboards in a variety of bands from top-forty to pop, rock, country, dixieland, swing and jazz. He has degrees in Education and Music and before retiring to Cortes Island, he taught Music and Mathematics at Carihi in Campbell River.

Sierra Quadra Hikes

Do you want to explore some of the fascinating, unique, exquisite and sometimes endangered features of Quadra Island and the surrounding waters.? Then participate in the Sierra Quadra 1999 hiking series. We plan to view Seymour Narrows during a large flood tide, to experience old growth forests, to explore other little known areas and generally to have a good time and good fellowship. Mark your calendar for May 16, June 13, July 11, Aug 8 and Sept 12 to be sure not to miss any of these enjoyable and educating adventures.

These hikes will be both on and off established trails in whatever weather nature bestows on us. So come prepared with proper hiking footwear, all weather clothing, hearty snacks and a basic level of physical fitness. The rules for everyone's enjoyment and safety include No dogs, No drugs, No alcohol.

The series starts on May 16 with a surprise off trail hike of moderate difficulty. It will be for 4 or 5 hours including a lunch break. The meeting place will be the Heriot Bay Market parking lot at 10:00 am. Phone Ken at 2580 for further details.

Bikeathon

June 13, Sunday, Community Centre, West Rd. 5th Annual Family Bikeathon on Quadra Island.

Enjoy live music, entertainment, "poker-draw" ride, concession, and games for prizes! All profits donated to Quadra Daycare! Register on site, 1-2 pm. \$5 individual/ \$15 family. Grand start 2pm. Music, games, entertainment 3-4 pm. Poker prizes awarded at 4pm. Contact Pauline Falck 285-3682

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From the U Ground p

Garden Planning

Planning the garden. Should it be spontaneous, planning as you plant? Or is it better to have an organized plan? Does it matter? Yes it does! Incorporating the rules of crop rotation into the garden plan is valuable for insect, disease and weed control, as well as affecting plant yield and soil structure.

The general principle of crop rotation is simple: avoid planting successive crops which are of the same plant families. Crop rotation also involves being aware of pests and diseases which affect various crops, and each crops preferences for compost and manure. Some crops thrive with fresh manure or compost, while others prefer it when its been in the ground for a year already.

If the same crop or crop family (brassicas, for example) is planted in the same area of the garden each year, insect infestations, nutrient imbalance of the soil, or disease (club root) is much more likely to develop. Crop rotation means variety; the longer the rotation between related crops the better, as this hinders the build up of pests or disease. Monoculture farming, which is where most commercially available non-organic vegetables come from, uses many chemical pesticides and herbicides because they do not rotate, and thus pests are waiting in the soil every year, sure of a snack getting planted that will suit their needs.

In addition to insect and disease control, crop rotation is good for weed control (something I definitely need), soil structure and higher yields. Some crops, like root vegetables, require more intense cultivation than others to keep them weed free. Other crops, like squash and potatoes (called "cleaning crops" because they do not easily allow weed uprisings), are easier to keep weeded. One of the secrets in crop rotation is to use each crops growth characteristics for your benefit. Planting root crops this year where squash or potatoes last year did not allow the weeds to thrive and go to seed will be much less work.

Crop rotation preserves and improves the soil structure. Different crops send roots to different soil depths. Plants which are deep rooted leave paths in the soil for less vigorous crops. As well, deep rooted plants draw up minerals and eventually deepen the topsoil.

In addition, and this is one of the cornerstones of the crop

rotation philosophy, proper management of the rotation schedule will positively affect crop yields. Many crops are affected, positively or negatively, by the preceding crop. General benefits to following crops include an increase in soil nitrogen left by leguminous crops, a well conditioned soil left by crops which are deep rooted, and control of weeds & disease, as previously mentioned.

Crop Rotation Guidelines

There are certain guidelines for rotation which have been learned through trial and error by many farmers, as well as scientific testing. These are not rules, only guidelines; you have to decide if they make sense and work for you in your garden. Experience and keen observation are the best teachers. These guidelines I have gleaned from several sources:

- Legumes are beneficial preceding crops.
- Onions, lettuce and squash are beneficial preceding crops.
- Potatoes yield best after corn.
- With potatoes, some preceding crops will increase scab (peas, oats and barley) while soybeans decrease scab significantly.
- Corn and beans are generally not affected by the crop that preceded.
- Onions are not helped by following a legume.
- Carrots, beets and cabbage often have a negative effect on the following crop.
- Members of the chicory family (endive and radicchio) have a positive effect on following crops.

Creating a Crop Rotation Plan

Putting these guidelines into effect in the garden requires a plan! The factors to be considered in creating this plan are the number of garden sections/raised beds to be included, and the number and type of crops to be planted. List the varieties planned for the garden, then list them again, but this time divide them into botanical families. (See chart for common garden vegetables listed by botanical family). Then list them one more time, but this time organize the list by type of crop: roots, greens, fruits, grains, legumes, brassicas and vines. This mixes up the families of plants, but makes it clearer in planning sections of the rotation in order to minimize work. Consider crops which have similar cultivation requirements or which will be harvested at the same time.

Now you are probably planning more crops than you have sections or raised beds in the garden, which complicates the crop rotation plan. Obviously, some crops require more space than others, such as corn, potatoes and squash. This may seem slightly confusing... but do not despair. Imagine your garden as a board game or puzzle.

A physical representation of this puzzle planning might happen like this... Start with a number of equal sized pieces of paper representing the number of sections in the garden. Crops big on space consumption go on a whole piece of paper. Other veggies, of which less are grown (or which celebrate economy of space), will share space on the other pieces of paper. When choosing which crops will



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be sharing a section, choose vegetables from the same families, or ones which have similar growth habits and cultivation requirements.

Now the game begins. The goal is to place the pieces of paper in an order which follows as many of the aforementioned crop rotation guidelines as possible, without destroying every last shred of sanity. Remember to leave at least two, but preferably three or more years between the time vegetables of the same botanical family are grown in the same space. Consider also adding a rotation of a green manure to the plan, especially if the rotation is a short one. Cover cropping and under cropping are also key in crop rotation, but that's another article. Upon completion of the crop rotation schedule, be sure to copy and save it for following years.

Crop rotation is as simple as moving the carrots around the garden trying to outwit the carrot fly. It is also a complex garden puzzle that may never be quite perfect. Rotating crops around the garden is a useful organic tool in controlling pests and diseases. Adversely affecting the local weed population and improving plant yields are other excellent reasons to plan the garden with crop rotation principles in mind.

Vegetables by botanical family

Botanical Family	Plant Members
Asteraceae	Lettuce, Jerusalem artichokes
Chenopodiaceae	Beets, chard, spinach
Compositae	Chicory, dandelions, endive, marigolds, sunflowers
Cruciferae (a.k.a. Brassicaceae)	Bok choy, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, kress, kale, kohlrabi, many oriental greens, radish, rutabaga, turnips
Cucurbitaceae	cucumbers, gourds, melons, pumpkins, summer and winter squash
Gramineae	corn, rye, wheat
Leguminosae (a.k.a. fabaceae)	Alfalfa, beans, lupine, peas
Liliaceae (a.k.a. alliums)	Asparagus, chives, garlic, leeks, onions, shallots
Polygonaceae	Buckwheat, rhubarb, sorrel
Rosaceae	Bramble berries, strawberries
Solanaceae (a.k.a. nightshade family)	Eggplant, nicotiana, peppers, petunias, potatoes, tomatoes
Umbelliferae (a.k.a. Apiaceae)	Carrots, celeriac, celery, chervil, dill, parsley, parsnips

Money Matter\$

Steven Halliday

Believe it or not, the worst may be over. Credit Union Central of BC's most recent issue of *Economic Analysis of BC* is headlined "BC Economy Faces Gradual Improvement", and it appears that provided we have no sudden shifts or nasty surprises most indices will show modest improvement over 1998.

On the provincial level, our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to show an increase in real growth from -.8% to .4% this year - I realize this looks a little sick when compared to 2.7% nationally, but at least it reverses the negative trend of the last 2 years. Unemployment is forecast to reduce slightly from 8.9% to 8.7%, with net employment rising 50,000 to 1.910 million employed. Inflation is expected to remain low, with policy makers keeping a close eye on the spectre of looming deflation, an unhealthy economic condition of falling prices associated with production overcapacity, which globally is at record levels. Interest rates are expected to remain flat through most of the year, with prime rate at year-end unchanged from today's 6.5%. Population growth is anticipated to continue to slow, with growth of only .4% (compared to 1997's 1.7%) with net migration to the province reversing to see roughly 2,000 more people leave the province than move to it due to better economic conditions in other provinces. Retail sales are expected to slow until 2000, although capital expenditures are expected to strengthen somewhat due to increased government spending as a result of the latest budget. Housing sales will increase slightly in 1999 and more so in 2000 as low interest rates and slightly lower prices attract more buyers. Finally, growth in exports from BC are expected to strengthen from -3.5% in 1998 to 4% in 1999 and 6% in 2000, due to improvements expected in the Asia-Pacific economies but also due to falling imports.

How will our local economy fare? Forestry is expected to improve slightly in 1999, but in a mixed manner. Exports to the US are already at maximum under existing quota agreements, and it is unlikely producers will pay the necessary tariff to exceed quota at current price levels, and Japan is nowhere near ready to recover and improve purchases from BC, which dropped 37% in 1998. The pulp sector is not expected to improve, while newsprint (ie. Fletcher Challenge) is expected to be stable provided the Canadian dollar remains in its present range. Unfortunately both production and prices are expected to remain weak in softwood lumber production, requiring increased Asian demand to prompt any recovery. Mining is not expected to improve, with improving but still weak commodity prices and continuing weakness in demand. Tourism should improve marginally in 1999, but the loss of free spending Asian tourists will not be totally offset from visitors from other areas such as the US and other parts of Canada.

Unfortunately, the historic engines of our economy will continue to splutter somewhat in 1999, while the hot new growth areas such as high tech manufacturing, communications and film production tend to cluster around the lower mainland, with little direct benefit to other parts of the province. The Northeast sector of the province will continue to flourish with oil and gas production as well as new pipeline construction. Here on the North Island, we can expect 1999 to be similar to 1998, with the exception of the mill in Campbell River being up and running all year. There are some new capital projects in the region, such as the co-gen plant and new government spending, but this will have little or no impact on the Discovery Islands. By the way, long range forecasts show a distinct improvement over 1999 for British Columbia, which will hopefully impact the two-thirds of the province that have been hurting recently.

Earth Day '99-Cleaner Beaches for Quadra

Quadra's beaches are now cleaner thanks to the efforts of about 150 islanders who joined Sierra Quadra to celebrate Earth Day 1999. The annual beach clean-up on Saturday April 24th was the culmination of Earth Week.

The beach clean-up began with a pancake breakfast at the Quadra Community Centre, the food provided by the generosity of several local businesses. Over breakfast, people were able to browse local-issue information booths set up by Sierra Quadra, sign up for a beach to clean, and even talk to our local MLA, Glenn Robertson, who also came to clean a beach.

Many of the beaches on the east side of Quadra needed cleaning after the generous amounts of garbage deposited by the winter storms blowing up the Strait of Georgia. The presence of such garbage coming from elsewhere is a vivid reminder that we live in an interconnected world in which the actions of others affect us, just as our actions affect them. By being mindful of this principle, perhaps we can celebrate Earth Day every day.

The clean-up project scoured beaches from Francisco Point to Crescent Channel beyond Village Bay. A boat carried garbage from remote locations. Pickup trucks loaded bagged garbage from pre-arranged collection

sites and then transported the material to the Community Centre for re-loading onto larger trucks. These tandem trucks were then given free ferry passage off Quadra and free dumping privileges at the Campbell River land-fill site.

Some of the more unique items found during the beach clean-up included a skill saw, truck tires, a five-gallon boat



fuel tank, a telephone, plastic barrels, a 20 lb propane tank, a deep freeze (not in operating condition) and a clothes dryer (without clothes). There was also the usual ubiquitous supply of styrofoam, poly rope and miscellaneous plastic products that concentrate in such high volumes on our

beaches.

By the end of the day, volunteers had removed enough debris to fill two large dump-trucks. Regretably, this represents only a small portion of the garbage that washes up on our shores.

Cleaning beaches gives us a moment to reflect on the waste we generate in our society. An aboriginal proverb reminds us, "The frog does not drink up the pond in which it lives." When we consider the amount of garbage we create and the amount we discard into nature, perhaps it is time to heed the wisdom of the frog.

The large turnout of volunteers for this Earth Day event attests to the pride that islanders have in their Quadra home and the concern that we are willing to show for the natural world in which we live.

The Sierra Club would like to thank all the individuals, groups and organizations that helped to make the beach clean-up such a success.

Special thanks is extended to: Quadra Elementary School, the Stevensons and Paul Davies, Aroma—Island Roasted Coffees, Seamar Industries, Regional District of Comox-Strathcona, Heriot Bay Store, Spirit-of-the-West Adventures, Quadra Station, B.C. Ferry Corporation, Quadra Foods, Uplands Excavating, Pitch-In B.C., Campbell River

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Y2K - Helping Each Other


Sandy McCairns

So far, in these articles, we have considered how the average person or family can prepare to weather out the storm of possible Y2K problems. Putting away some cash, water and extra food may be no problem for you, or it may be difficult or impossible. There is a significant group of us who are living from one day to the next with no idea whether there will be enough money to pay the rent or buy some groceries. The food bank is under constantly increasing demand. How can those of us in this kind of situation even plan to have something to eat if worse comes to worse, and food is not available in the grocery store in the days following January 1, 2000, or if that monthly cheque does not arrive in the mail?

We are very lucky to live in a climate where winters are not extremely cold, and most of us use wood to heat our homes, but what about those of us who rely upon BChydro to provide electricity for heat? How will we keep warm if the power goes out for more than a day or two in January 2000? In cities these problems present a huge challenge, but here on the islands we are in a better position to deal with them. We tend to know our neighbours and have a better developed sense of community. We are used to helping each other. There will not be huge groups of people needing assistance, as there are in the cities.

What kind of assistance will be needed

if there are Y2K difficulties? Some of us will need food and water because we have been unable to stockpile any. Some of us will need a place to stay because our homes are not wood heated. These are the most basic needs. The challenge is for us as a community to meet them. We need to prepare places where food can be gathered and cooked and people accommodated. Our churches and public buildings are likely the best such locations, but other places might be even more suitable if they have the appropriate heating and kitchens. What is really necessary is for us to get these kind of plans in place and to start storing food. Money to purchase food will be needed. Fund-raising (that dreaded word) will be necessary. If you are a member of a church, the Legion, OAP, or other organization, now is a good time to start talking about helping each other and the members of our community. Y2K is not something that is going to pick and choose who it affects. Someone likened preparing for Y2K to preparing for an earthquake. The big difference is, that when an earthquake hits, there are other people out there who come into the stricken area to help. Y2K at its worst will be like an earthquake happening to everyone at the same time. We must help ourselves.



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Island Forum

Thank You

Thank you Karyn, Gail, Carlene and Adele for taking such good care of Poul. Thank you Barbara and Jackie, you were great. A further thank you goes to Nancy for all your support and to Dr. Francis. We appreciate the help you all gave Poul, enabling him to uphold his dignity and remain at home until his death on April 3/99.

Tommy & Vibeke

Hit & Run

Dear Editor,

This note is for the person who hit and killed a young little Basset Hound on Heriot Bay Road in Drew Harbour. I just wanted you to know, her name was Milly, she had a family that loved her, of those family members two are little girls. I feel the least you could have done is find out who owned Milly and tell those two little girls what happened and how sorry you are. Instead you chose to leave Milly where you hit her and not even bother to see how bad she was hurt. You just sped off in your car, I am a friend of the family and I also loved Milly. She was my little buddy. Milly did not die right away. She suffered a great deal and so did her family. I can only hope you felt just one small pang in your heart after hitting her.

From Milly's friend Brenda

Dear Editor,

"Exposure: Self to Art" a local literary magazine is expiring. That is, unless advertising revenue comes pouring in. Chris Thompson has been producing and editing this monthly for two years, in the hope that it could become a forum for exchange of ideas in the arts community.

Is there an arts community? It seems that writers, painters, sculptors, photographers, dancers are all focused in on their own little realms. There were too few writing to the Editor taking issue with his reviews, and breaking ground for growth and insight in the arts. Well. I remember that somebody wrote in that Chris should get off his advocacy for the poor! Good grief.

Chris was keeping us in touch with happenings in the arts, in Campbell River and Quadra Island, with the museums and galleries, movies, coffee shop venues for painters, live theatre, music, books, pubs. His reviews were fresh and incisive. Sharp enough to take issue with, surely.

"Exposure" was worth what you paid for it (nothing) for the writings of Chris Thompson alone. Read his "Three poems for Ranger who died on Thursday" on the back cover of the April issue. This is exquisite writing. He wrote funny and wonderful illogical stuff for every issue - a new quixotic way of seeing. It is pitiful that our society is so grubbly that literary magazines cannot get the support of advertisers.

Say it isn't so.

Joy Inglis

Dear Editor;

I write in reply to Hilary Stewart's letter published in the April 23 issue of the Discovery Islander. Unfortunately the Chamber has not met since the publication of this letter, so the opinions expressed here are my own. The Chamber is neither deliberately ignoring nor quite unaware of what is happening to the island's forests, and as my letter to the Minister of Forests states "(the Chamber) supports any initiative that will preserve or enhance the natural beauty of our area".

The Chamber recognizes the value of the lands and forests we are lucky to be able to enjoy, and I think I speak for most of the executive in saying we recognize that eco-tourism related activities are and will continue to be the fastest growing segment of our local economy for the immediate future. The forest industry, on the other hand, remains the largest employer in the province, and many people in our region depend on the industry for their livelihood. Ideally, both groups could co-exist and prosper. Sadly, this is unlikely in the present environment.

There is little the Chamber can do about the damage done to our environment in the past, but I can assure you the Chamber will be active in all future matters related to our environment.

Yours truly,

Steven Halliday

Dear Editor,

How encouraging to read Tanya's article about Quadra Islanders cleaning up roadside litter. I've written about this on a couple or previous occasions and am glad to know I'm not one of a few out walking with my garbage bag. If more folk would do so, perhaps we could keep up with those "litterers". I've also decided to beep loudly when I'm driving behind someone who tosses out a piece of litter. Why don't we all try that for a while?

J. Baker, Quadra

White Squirrels Sightings at Small Inlet, Quadra Island

In discussion with Tom Jones (250 - 285 - 2413), April 28, 1999 about the land dispute between the Provincial government and the property owner Merrill & Ring Logging Ltd, of Washington State the following information was presented.

Tom has seen for many years families of White Squirrels up on of the drainages to Small Inlet. He regularly spotted the squirrels while out picking mushrooms. White squirrels to my knowledge are not listed as inventoried mammals in B.C. They could be an as yet un-reported sub-species due to local conditions, similar to

the Kermodie Bear of the Great Bear Rainforest, coastal British Columbia.

The sightings appear to be in or adjacent to the lands which have been promised by the Provincial Government, 1996 to be purchased from Merryl and Ring for the extension of Small Inlet - Wiatt Bay Provincial Park.

Tom Jones, we view as a very credible observer, with no reason to bias any observations of fact. Mr. Jones lived at Small Inlet, homesteading in the early 1990's.

Sincerely,

Rod Burns, Geraldine Kenny
Sierra Club, Quadra Island

Articles, letters and artwork are all welcome for publication under Island Forum

The opinions expressed herein are those of the writers and do not represent the views of the publishers.

All submissions must be signed and include a phone number (for verification only). Items may be edited for content or layout considerations.

Next deadline 5pm May 17th

Dear Editor,

Following on the heels of my letter in the previous edition of the Discovery Islander, about clear cutting and tourism, I received 3 pages of the detailed journal of two people from the U.S. They own property on one of the small Discovery Islands, which they love and treat with the utmost respect.

Having spent the winter in the San Juan Islands, aboard their sailboat, they, with their two cats, recently took 5 days sailing back to spend the summer here. One of them is a writer whose interesting journal entries are published regularly on the world wide web.

I thought it might interest the Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce - and many others - to know something of how they experienced their return to "the glories of the islands...the very best natural scenery on the coast"...and "our magnificent environment," to quote the Chamber of Commerce.

Day 4. 18. April

It is difficult to describe the intense sense of light here - how the sea and sky reflect each other and how the presence of these massive snow-covered mountains bring a heightened awareness, a pleasant edge to all of our senses... The absence of disturbing background noise allows us to hear a bumblebee that flies aboard... the snort of a harbour seal that wants our attention... Being here is much like being in constant motion, an unintentional, unavoidable centering. Island time is no time.

Day 5. 19 April.

...We are in a narrow channel between the high steep densely forested mountains of Cortes Island and West Redonda Island. Ghosting along the dark green mist shrouded corridor, we were caught off-guard by the terrible noise of a helicopter suddenly cruising low over us. A heli-logging operation emerged on our port side opposite Teakern Arm - a steep mountainside on Cortes Island being efficiently denuded by bright orange and yellow machines - and fire - slash burn smoke merging with the clouds - the helicopter carrying bundles of felled trees to the water's edge. We watched in silence. A fringe of trees still stood along the shoreline - required by law we think - but disguising nothing. The clear-cut went on so long. Just as we came to the end of it, there was an eagle sitting atop a tree. Behind the eagle, as far as we could see into the mist, were stumps. This is great sadness.

Hilary Stewart

A message from the 'landwatch' discussion list

On January 26, 1999, Timber West Forest Corp received the following deal from our provincial government:

In exchange for 2030 hectares of private land given up for parks and watershed purposes, Timber West was allowed to remove 60,000 hectares of its private land from TFL agreements, received an additional 3,300 hectares of newly privatized crown land and \$500,000 in cash.

These newly released/acquired 63,300 hectares received for 2030 hectares of old growth forest have some of the highest growth rates in Canada (7.2 m3/hectare), are no longer subject to cut control regulations, are no longer subject to code, are no longer subject to stumpage, are no longer subject to provincial raw log export quotas, and are not subject to any social responsibility regarding milling, employment or return to the province. As a result of this trade, Timber West has increased its cut on its private lands from 1.8 million to 2.4 million cubic metres per year. (This alone is worth millions)

Further, investors making profit from log exports originating on private land are tax exempt. I could go on, but why bother? You get the picture. Maybe someone who reads this can calculate the few hundred million in windfall cash/equity Timber West got for "giving up" 2030 hectares to the public of B.C. The calculation is beyond me because I cannot stay focussed long enough to do it; my senses go into overload. But, not to worry, Timber West assures us it was a "value for value" trade, as in: "step right up citizens of B.C., I have a bridge I want to sell you." If it weren't that it is our birthright that is being tossed away to increase corporate profit, the situation might even be funny in a farcical kind of way.

Maybe.....but history shows that it is this kind of greed that leads to abrupt discontinuity of political regimes, and the disembowelment of their corporate producers and directors. The theatre of the absurd.

Dave Shipway

ps. This material is contained in the Annual Information Report filed by Timber West with the securities and exchange commission, March 1st, 1999. Check it out.

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Sierra Quadra

Merrill & Ring -

An Update and A Concern

Logging in designated parkland is now taking place on Quadra Island. Merrill & Ring has sliced a network of roads through a 75 year-old forest and two clearcuts now exist north of Small Inlet and Waiatt Bay where the American timber company owns 395 hectares of property.

Merrill & Ring's eastern clearcut of about 20 hectares is out of view from Waiatt Bay. However, the western clearcut—now about the same size and growing—has expanded up a south-facing mountain at the northwestern boundary of their property. This cut has now scarred the view from Small Inlet. The area has prime scenic, yachting, ecotourism, archeological and ecological values for Quadra and the region. Sierra Quadra is also concerned about possible habitat damage to a fish stream flowing through the western cutblock.

A logging road built southward by Merrill & Ring last autumn from the north shore of Quadra to their properties adjacent to the Octopus Islands Provincial Marine Park and Small Inlet Provincial Park is now providing access for the loggers and a roadway for the removal of logs.

Sierra Quadra is monitoring the situation as closely as possible. The waters of Waiatt Bay and Small Inlet, Newton Lake, and all the Crown land within the designated Goal 2 boundaries along the shores are now legislated as Class-A provincial parks. Negotiations for the private land are under way between Merrill & Ring and representatives of the government to procure by trade the portage route, the private property south of the portage, and a visual buffer to the north of the portage. Merrill & Ring are willing partners in these negotiations, a key condition in the land-acquisition process.

The technical studies that identified these park areas during the Protected Areas Strategy of the Vancouver Island Land-Use Plan were rigorous and the boundaries were stringently set to establish only minimum protection of the visual, recreational and ecological values of the sites. The

government recently acknowledged it does not have the money or the available untenured Crown land to acquire the entire 395 hectares of the Merrill & Ring property.

Such a default by the government to protect what it identified and then agreed to protect is essentially a violation of the principle of the land-use agreement reached during a long and extensive public process. It also calls into question the resolve of the government to protect remnant areas of endangered ecologies in the Strait of Georgia Lowlands, one of the most environmentally stressed portions of B.C. and Canada. Any reduction in the park boundaries, therefore, have to be considered as extremely unfortunate.

It is also unfortunate that Merrill & Ring has chosen this time to log in such a known sensitive area and to use clearcutting as its only operation. Logging has now impaired Small Inlet's beautiful setting. The scenic and recreational values of the entire area could be further impaired if the logging continues in other visible places. The present situation, in our estimation, is critical.

Everyone involved in this issue is in an awkward situation. Merrill & Ring owns property that has been identified as having preservation values of a provincial stature. The government has promised to protect it as park. Ecotourism companies use this special place for their touring operations. Environmentalists covet the area for its ecological representation. Yachters, hikers, Islanders, and the public at large recognize the scenic and recreational importance of the inlet, bay, lake and trails.

In newspaper coverage last year, the July 24th and August 7th editions of the Campbell River Mirror took editorial and commentary positions in favour of acquiring the Merrill & Ring lands for parks. Wave Length, a provincially distributed kayaking magazine, gave an August-September cover picture and feature article to Quadra Island, supporting the importance of protecting the Waiatt Bay-Small Inlet area. In a similar feature in July, Pacific Yachting gave cover

and feature stories to Quadra, the Octopus Islands in particular, and the need to protect the "seventh best" anchorage area on B.C.'s coast.

Unfortunately for Merrill & Ring, any failure to conclude a satisfactory trade has the makings of a public relations disaster. The same applies to the government. Without a concluded deal, everyone else—the public of B.C.—will also be losers.

Sierra Quadra has organized a coalition of organizations to encourage both Merrill & Ring and government to bring this matter to a successful conclusion. This coalition is exerting pressure where it can and both parties are aware of the mounting concern.

For more information, call the coalition c/o Drew Williams at 285-3692. You can encourage a satisfactory conclusion to this matter by writing with your concerns to the Honourable Cathy McGregor, Minister of Environment, Room 337, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4 (fax 250-387-1356) or by phoning toll-free at 1-800-663-7867 and asking for 387-1187.

Ray Grigg for Sierra Quadra

Sierra Quadra's next meeting will be Monday May 10th at 7:00 pm in the lower floor of the Quadra Island United Church. Please join us. Together we can make a difference.

Don't Knock B.C. Ferries

We hear a lot of complaining about the B.C. Ferry system. When a person travels on some of the ferries in other parts of Canada, our fleet looks pretty good.

In October of 1990 Phillis and I flew to Halifax for a tour of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. We joined a bus tour and travelled to Peggy's Cove, site of the recent air disaster, and then proceeded through the Annapolis Valley to Port royal, the location of Champlain's first settlement in the 1600's.

We spent the night and part of the next day in Digby, the self proclaimed Scallop Capital of almost everywhere. I really liked Digby, it reminded me of Alert Bay, being built along the curving shore of the bay, most of the buildings on the shoreward side and a few built on pilings over the water. One waterfront café served three types of chowder: fish, clam and scallop. A large bowl of excellent scallop chowder cost three dollars.

In the afternoon we proceeded south a couple of miles to board the Acadian Princess for the crossing of the Bay of Fundy to Saint John, New Brunswick. Unlike on B.C. Ferries, the passengers were unloaded beside the vessel and walked aboard over a gangplank. The driver then drove aboard through the stern ramp and climbed up a nearly vertical ladder to the passenger deck. We crossed the Bay in pea soup fog and hit the harbour entrance right on the button. The driver retrieved his bus and the passengers walked off the vessel and re-boarded the bus.

We spent a night in Saint John and in the morning went for a look at the famous "Reversing Falls", which is just a tidal narrows and no big deal for a B.C. boy. Across the "Falls" was a pulp mill owned by Irving, the King of New Brunswick and his three sons Oily, Gassy and Greasy. This mill was in full production, belching steam and with whistles and bells doing their thing. As we re-boarded the bus the driver mentioned "by the way, that mill is on strike."

We proceeded northward through the New Brunswick bush to board the ferry to Prince Edward Island. This was an older ferry, now replaced by the new causeway. We left Spud Island on another slightly newer ferry which sailed from the eastern end and crossed over to Pictou near New Glasgow in Nova Scotia. After these crossings I swore I would never again knock B.C. Ferries.

In 1995 we went to the Yukon and Alaska and experienced another type of ferry. We crossed the Yukon River to Dawson City on a small barge which held one bus and a couple of cars and was crewed by skipper and engineer-deckhand.

Because of winter ice conditions it is impossible to build proper ramps so they just ram the scow up on the beach, drop the ramp and the passengers drive aboard. There is no schedule; if they see someone waiting they cross over and pick them up.

The following year, 1996, we went to the Northwest Territories for more ferry research. We crossed the mighty Mackenzie River at Fort

Providence on our way to Yellowknife. This is a summer ferry only; they run until the ice floes get too thick to work their way through and then use a helicopter for freight and passengers until the river stiffens up enough to drive on.

Later we crossed the Liard River (french for cottonwood) to Fort Simpson. This was another run on the beach ferry, designed in Vancouver, built in sections in Edmonton and hauled over the Alberta Railroad to Hay River for final assembly. There was the bus and a car or two. The mate came along and asked the bus driver how many passengers he had. He replied, "thirty two." The crewman answered nonchalantly, "Well we have thirty lifejackets, they are in that box over there."

Last year, 1998, we went to Newfoundland and Labrador. The trip from Sidney, Nova Scotia, to Port aux Basques, Nfld., takes six hours and the vessel is reminiscent of something built in the 1940's or earlier, but to my surprise was only 12 years old. They show movies and serve booze and maritime music to keep the locals happy.

The crossing to Blanc Sablon, Que., takes 1 1/2 hours and carried freight trucks as well as our bus and a handful of cars. Reservations are required on these crossings and you must be there one hour before sailing time.

This ferry to Labrador requires the passengers to walk aboard through the car deck and upstairs, carefully avoiding the tie down lugs welded to the deck to stop vehicles from moving about in inclement weather. The restaurant resembled a truck stop diner with stools.

Vehicles had to back on and truck drivers had to quite skilful as there was barely room for mirrors.

The drivers then had to climb up to the deck. I was told of one over-weight driver who could not get out of the cab and stayed in the truck all the way across. He was some unhappy. If you are not on time for the return sailing you miss your spot.

All in all, B.C. Ferries look pretty good to me and I look forward to many enjoyable crossings on the new fast cats.

Harry Allen

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Caring for Children for Community's sake

I am a daycare parent. At Quadra Daycare I have seen the value of letting children be children at a child's pace. Psychologist Paul Chance looks back at his own boyhood at a time when growing up was a slow dance of awkward movements and moments.

When I was a boy 40 odd years ago, growing up was a long, slow process marked by distinct milestones. Graduation from short pants to long pants was a kind of bar mitzvah, an admission to a higher order of citizenship. One left behind the ambiguity of gender that came from having, in common with girls, a pair of naked knees. From then on, girls fell down and scraped their skin and boys fell down and tore holes in their pants. It was no coincidence that the transition to long pants occurred at a time when girls were learning that they were supposed to be ladylike. Scraping a naked knee hurts.

Long pants came equipped with back pockets, and it wasn't long before an aunt or uncle gave one of those pockets purpose with a gift of a leather wallet. The standard boy's wallet came in western motif: horse's head on one side a saddle on the other, plastic zig-zag stitching at the edges. There was always a secret pocket where you were supposed to hide your fortune. Lucky boys found a dollar there. Wallets and money were important because they were among the things that distinguished big boys from little boys. Big boys had money; little ones didn't.

Perhaps the most important step towards adulthood was the one that took us through the schoolhouse door. A few rich kids went to private kindergartens, but for most of us, the first day of school began in our sixth year, when we entered first grade. It was a major event. Not only did the students learn important adult skills such as reading, writing, and counting the money in one's wallet, but school gave us an occupation. School boys went off to school the same way fathers went off to work.

The next important milestone came years later with puberty. The arrival of puberty is more subtle in boys than in girls. It doesn't announce its arrival in a single moment but in a stream of moments. For months the voice plays the orchestra, from piccolo to kettledrum, before it finally settles on a new instrument. One begins to sweat and to produce odors that seem inappropriate indoors. One day my mother came home with the groceries and wordlessly handed me a tube of old spice deodorant, and in that awkward moment I realized that others knew that I was becoming a man.

Puberty marked the beginning of adolescence, a time for boys to be initiated into the mysteries of a gender that, as a rule, smelled better than we did. Boys usually began dating when they began scraping spidery growths from their chins. They also began to talk a lot about doing *it*. Most of the talk was just that, talk. Most of us did get some practice at touching and purring, but we made up for the rest with wet dreams and lies.

High school graduation was the last clear milestone to

adulthood. With the exception of his parents, nearly everyone considered the male high school graduate *a young man*. He might be wet behind his ears, greener than grass, but he soon had a job, his own apartment, stayed out as late as he wished and ate what, when and where he wanted. Either that or he joined the Navy. For the 20% who went off to college, admission to adulthood was generally delayed for four years, or until they flunked out, but even the *college man* considered himself to be a man in almost every way.

Growing up is different these days. That, in itself, is nothing new. I suppose the business of growing up has always changed from one generation to the next. Fewer boys of my generation worked on the family farm, and that change must have convinced a lot of people, my uncle Tom among them, that we were becoming a *sissified* nation. But there is, to my middle-aged eyes, a larger more fundamental difference between the growing up that I knew and growing up today.

Today, childhood is a speed course, as if it were an unpleasantness to be gotten through as quickly as possible, rather than a time to savor. Babies go from diapers to long pants. Wallets are given at an earlier age and come with more cash. One nine-year-old of my acquaintance pointed to a bank as we drove through town. "That's where I keep my money," he said, and he wasn't talking Christmas Club. By age six, today's youngster is an old hand at the school business, having started nursery school at two or three, graduated to pre-school; then kindergarten.

Sex, like everything else, is part of the crash course in growing up. Kids begin dating in elementary school and are old hands at it by the time they reach puberty. It is still the favorite topic of conversation during adolescence, but they don't just talk anymore. The distinctions between big boys and little boys, big boys and men (and their feminine counterparts) seem to be disappearing.

Perhaps we are seeing a kind of cultural atavism, a devolution toward an older view of childhood still found in primitive societies today. In such societies, childhood is a brief period that encompasses the first few years. By age six, if not sooner, children look after babies, prepare meals, gather food, do a day's work. Maybe that's what our next generation has to look forward to. In my days coming of age was not always pleasant, but it sure beat that.

Psychologist Paul Chance's reflections on human nature appear in *Psychology Today*. Submitted by Sue Clandening

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Island Report

Quadra Preschool Celebrates 20 Years

by Tanya Storr

Gumboot dancers, jugglers, children, teens, and adults all turned out to celebrate Quadra Island Preschool's 20th anniversary on May 1.

The event was held to mark 20 years of preschool in the current building, but the preschool has actually been in existence since 1976. Originally located behind the old Heriot Bay Store, the preschool was constructed by islanders with the aid of Local Initiative Program (LIP) grants. The store burnt down on Mayday in 1978, and the preschool was badly damaged by the fire.

A new home for the preschool was needed, and the preschool society purchased the old Granite Bay schoolhouse for \$1. Dedicated islanders raised the money to move the building, make repairs, and install the septic tank. The building was moved to its current location, the site of the old Heriot Bay School, and it opened in January 1979.

Claire Oppenheim, who was the preschool's first teacher, recalled the challenging task of moving the schoolhouse from Granite Bay to Heriot Bay.

"We trucked it down and they had to close the road for us to do so. Pete Craddock was driving and his brakes failed, so he couldn't come down the Comox Hill by the hatchery. Roy Dahlnas filled his truck with gravel and acted as a brake from the rear, by attaching a chain from the trailer with the schoolhouse on it to the front of his truck," she said.

When Claire was the teacher, she often had animals at the preschool, including snakes, guinea pigs, hamsters, and chickens and ducks (hatched from eggs). One winter someone brought in a hibernating bat they had found while renovating their woodshed.

"We kept it out in the storage shed where it would stay cold. I was trying to encourage the children not to be fearful of bats. When I brought the bat in to show it to the children, I quite often had to ask the adult assistants to leave because so many of them were afraid of bats," Claire remembered.

Mieke Coddington, who helped co-ordinate the LIP grants for the first preschool, reminisced about spinning with the kids.

"They were very interested in how the fleece became wool, but the fleece was raw so it was a little smelly. The children weren't sure if they liked it, but one kid said he did and then the rest decided they liked it too!"

During the party, several people who have been instrumentally involved with the preschool were honoured. Claire Oppenheim, Susan Enns, Lee Parkinson, Mieke Coddington, Jessica Whittingham, Sally Bodner, Tee Maur, and Carol Yole received certificates of appreciation and handmade cards.

"Quadra Preschool is such a special place," said Sue Rose, as she introduced the presentation. "Everyone has put in hours of their time and affection, and it really shows in the children as they grow up. Thanks to the parents who made it all possible and those who are still doing so."

Current preschool teacher Baerbel Jaekel announced to much applause that Island Cookery I, a fund raising cookbook for the preschool first printed in 1981, has now sold 26,000 copies.

Carol Yole, who was the preschool teacher from 1991-1997, noted



Gumboot dancers help celebrate Quadra Preschool's 20th anniversary
Photo: Tanya Storr

that the preschool has a great deal of parental involvement.

"We've had some really wonderful volunteer parents over the years," she said.

Melissa Aston was one of the gumboot dancers and jugglers who performed at the party, and she told me some of her memories of going to the preschool.

"I was in preschool in 1977, and I remember my teacher Claire giving us some guinea pigs. I also remember going to a potter's house on a field trip. He let us all sit at the wheel and helped us make egg cups. I still have the egg cup and now I'm a potter."

Michelle Buchanan, whose four-year-old son Desmond attends preschool twice a week, said she doesn't know what they'd do without it.

"Des loves going to preschool. It's a really stimulating environment, very child-focused. Children set the agenda most of the time, Baerbel is fabulous, and I like the parental involvement. It creates a sense of community—what you get from it is so much larger than a preschool."

Nancy Barker told me her son Kyle is in his second year at the preschool. "This is such a wonderful place to be," she said.

Volunteer Waltraud Murray described the preschool as "a special place for children to meet and learn social skills, and a nourishing place for the soul."

Two years ago, the board decided that the preschool would be inspired by Reggio Emilia principles, which follow the children's lead and encourage collaboration with parents, as well as emphasize the importance of an aesthetic and stimulating environment.

Quadra Preschool is open to children aged two-and-a-half to five years, and operates Monday-Thursday from 9:15 a.m.-noon. For more information, call the preschool at 285-3711.

Surge Narrows Elementary to Remain Open Islanders Fought Plan to Close School and Won

by Tanya Storr

A delegation of approximately 13 Surge Narrows Elementary parents and supporters travelled to a school board meeting in Campbell River on April 27, to protest against a plan to close their school.

The school board had announced it was proposing to close three schools—Surge Narrows, Ecole des Deux Mondes and Maple Elementary—in order to help reduce its \$1.15 million budget shortfall.

Over 200 people attended the meeting held at Pinecrest Elementary. Members of the Surge Narrows delegation were placed at the beginning of the speakers' list, so they could make it back to Quadra and then Read Island that night.

The morning after the heated and lengthy meeting, school board chair John Hamstra announced that the board will not be closing any local schools. He cited a lack of information from the Ministry of Education about the school closure process, the funding implications of such closures, and the ministry's expectations as the main reason for the decision.

If the school board had decided to close the three schools, the Ministry of Education had promised to give the board all of the money they would save from operating the schools the first year, two-thirds of the money the second year, one-third the third year, and none after that.

As one Maple Elementary parent at the meeting pointed out, however, little or no research had been done on what it would cost to close the schools, maintain the buildings, transport children to other schools, and install portables as classrooms for those children.

At the meeting, Surge Elementary supporters carried placards created by the students and made a strong case for keeping the school open. They also brought letters to the school board from students and parents.

Hugh McNab pointed out that the first school on Read opened in the late 1890s, before there was a school board in Campbell River. He added that Surge Elementary benefits from significant parental participation, and mentioned the community-built school gymnasium/community hall as one example of that participation.

"Art, music, and French are all taught by volunteers. Kids from many other islands—

including Sonora, Maurelle, and Rendezvous—come to Surge Elementary by boat. School is a good social outlet for the kids, and they like going there," he said.

Lannie Keller noted that Surge School kids have a lifestyle which, remarkably, is largely uninfluenced by commercial media.

"These children are especially imaginative and well-read. We believe Surge kids have an unusual and very positive influence when they enter Campbell River schools later in life . . . Because of the multigrade classroom (and very busy teacher), kids have always relied on each other, and have learned to give generously when they could help another.

"Since the kids must often work self-directed, they develop high levels of initiative and independence. The success of Surge education can be partly measured in the large number of our students who appear on the Campbell River and High School honour rolls."

Teresa Beyerstein said there are currently nine children enrolled at Surge, four of whom are in kindergarten, and an additional six use the second classroom to pursue their correspondence studies. She noted that not only would the students' education be jeopardized if the school was shut down, but a unique method of education would be jeopardized.

Kevin Kavanagh, who is principal of Surge Elementary and Quadra Elementary, implored the board not to close Surge's school.

"Surge is a truly exceptional learning environment for the kids. The teacher does a kindergarten to grade seven split and does a wonderful job. If you close this school, the students don't have the option of a 10-minute bus ride to the next full-service school. Water conditions and wind often dictate that the kids can't go to Quadra or Cortes schools."

Kavanagh added that the school now has an Internet hook-up (a recent federal government initiative has ensured that every school in Canada is hooked up to the Net) and would like to explore a partnership with the North Island Correspondence School out of Comox.

"In human terms, closing the school would deal a staggering blow to our

community of islands," he said.

Area 'J' regional district director Jim Abram described Surge Elementary as not just a school, but a library, a gymnasium, and a meeting place for all of the families that live in the outer islands of Read, Maurelle, Sonora, Rendezvous, and Stuart.

The school board said it would save \$100,000 if it closed Surge, but Abram pointed out that school taxes for the immediate areas serviced by the school add up to \$170,000.

"These people are more than paying their way and do not deserve to have their school closed. They are completely justified in demanding that it remain open. If it closes . . . families will move, property values will decrease, and provincial revenues will decline," he said.

Other delegations making presentations at the meeting included Maple and Ecole Des Deux Mondes parents, educational assistants, and CUPE staff. The school board will announce its final budget decisions on May 4.

In response to the news that the school board has decided not to close Surge and the other two schools, Jim Abram said he is extremely pleased.

"What did it was the public showing of disgust with the board's extremely stupid decision to try and close the schools. It just shows once again that when communities band together with a common purpose, they can achieve great things."

Quilting on Quadra

by Tanya Storr

When asked why they enjoy quilting, Quadra Quilters members Shirley Duncan and Yvette Friday cited a love of fabric and colour, as well as the social aspects of quilting, as their main reasons.

"Fabric, fabric, fabric," enthused Shirley, who is president of Quadra Quilters.

"And quilters are interesting people," added Yvette. "They're creative and fun."

The two were attending a workshop, along with approximately 30 other quilters, held at Quadra Community Centre on May 1. The

workshop was one of two given by quilting instructor Janet Rice-Bredin at QCC last week.

Janet is from Parry Sound, Ontario, and is a renowned Canadian quilting instructor and owner of Morning Glory Designs. She has won a \$2,000 prize for one of her quilts. Quadra Quilters and two other quilting guilds raised the funds to bring her out to B.C.

On April 28 and 29, Janet taught the group about landscape quilting. This method involves using strips of fabric to recreate an image, such as a photo, on a quilt. The May 1 workshop concentrated on machine quilting.

Both Shirley and Yvette said they were learning a great deal at the workshops.

"I'm even learning about some of the things I already knew about. When someone else presents it, it's quite different," Yvette commented.

Quadra Quilters formed seven years ago, and members meet on the second Tuesday of each month. The group currently has 32 members, with the majority between ages 40-50. There are also some younger and older women in Quadra Quilters, but so far no men have joined.



Quadra Quilters workshop, May 1 Photo: Tanya Storr



Linda Smith & Shirley Duncan at their machines
Photo: Tanya Storr

One of Quadra Quilters' recent projects was making quilts for the Campbell River Transition House. The quilts are currently on display at Quadra Credit Union. Shirley explained that quilting guilds across Canada make quilts for hospitals, transition houses, and other organizations that need them.

Quadra Quilters are selling cards depicting the gorgeous centennial quilt they made last year. The cards cost \$2 each and are available from any Quadra Quilters member.

In other Quadra Quilters news, a Quilt Show is taking place at the Fools Gallery from May 16-May 30. For more information about Quadra Quilters, call Shirley (285-3787) or Theresa (285-3888).

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May 8 - May 20, 1999

Day H/m	Time	Ht/ft
Sa 3.1 8 3.1 1.6	0640 0830 1605	10.2 10.2 5.2
Su 4.0 9 2.8 3.0 1.7	0005 0740 1030 1705	13.1 9.2 9.8 5.6
Mo 4.1 10 2.6 3.1 1.9	0045 0820 1220 1805	13.5 8.5 10.2 6.2
Tu 4.1 11 2.3 3.3 2.0	0125 0855 1335 1855	13.5 7.5 10.8 6.6
We 4.2 12 1.9 3.5 2.2	0200 0925 1435 1945	13.8 6.2 11.5 7.2
Th 4.2 13 1.6 3.7 2.4	0230 0915 1535 2030	13.8 5.2 12.1 7.9
Fr 4.3 14 1.2 3.9 2.7	0305 0955 1630 2115	14.1 3.9 12.8 8.9

DISCOVERY ISLANDS REALTY Ltd.



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(jointly)

Real Estate Specialists

Serving Quadra, Cortes, & the neighbouring islands

Box 649, Quathiaski Cove, B.C. V0P 1N0

True Get Away



Approx. 10 acre waterfront properties, each with mossy bluffs, native forest, and little bays. Two parcels left, for sale by share, \$175,000 ea. Enquire for details about these spectacular, natural settings on Middle Rendezvous Island.

Waterfront Living at it's Best!



Spectacular views, glowing sunsets, enhanced landscaping, and 80 ft. of walk-on beach. Beautifully crafted panabode with full, unfinished basement, double garage and workshop, located on a quiet, no-thru road. Superb protected moorage potential. \$329,000. Quadra Island

Lots of Space



This older, but well maintained 3 bedroom home would love a family. The 0.76 acre lot includes a greenhouse and fenced garden area with great soil, and an excellent well. Partial basement makes a good workshop. Located minutes from the marina, library, stores and post office at Heriot Bay. Appliances included. \$115,000. Quadra Island

Cozy Home



Located in a family oriented neighbourhood. This unique home has been recently remodeled and some finishing remains. Includes a large in-house workshop/studio, deck, skylight over the kitchen, a new roof five years ago, and a decorative partial rock wall. The half acre lot is cleared in front and nicely treed in the back for privacy. \$95,000. Quadra Island

Spectacular Log Home



Overlooking Cowford Harbour. Most of the 4.97 acres is beautifully treed. Spacious rooms with lots of windows and skylights. The 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home has a full, undeveloped (roughed in plumbing) walk-out, view basement. Mobile on property currently rented. \$299,000. Quadra Island

Bring Your Building Plans! 4.7 acres with a private building site amongst beautiful fir trees. Several mature fruit trees, convenient location, older mobile - presently rented. \$119,000. Quadra Island



Thanks Julie For
Organizing Garbage Cleanup
Congratulations on your
Big Find!

Harvest Crunch
Granola Cereal **\$3.79**
750g

Kraft
B.B.Q. Sauce **\$2.19**
455ml

Kraft
Miracle Whip **\$3.89**
71

Family Pak
Ice Cream **\$4.29**
4L Pail

Lipton
Drink Crystals **99¢**
195g

Pedigree Dry
Dog Food **\$12.29**
7.2 kg

Pepperoni Sticks **DELI** **99¢**
100g

MultiGrain
Bread **\$1.39**
each

IN STORE BAKERY
Fruit Cream Cheese
Sticks **3/99¢**

Calabrese
Bread **99¢**
each

Sweet Mexican
Mangoes **79¢**
each

PRODUCE
Organic California
Bananas **99¢** lb
\$2.18/kg

Organic California
Broccoli **79¢** lb
\$1.94/kg

Organic Hothouse
Tomatoes **\$1.88** lb
\$4.14/kg

Inside Round
Roast **\$2.99** lb
\$6.59/kg

MEAT

Chicken
Thighs **\$1.79** lb
\$3.95/kg

Specials in effect April 25 - May 5 While Supplies Last
Store Hours - Sun-Sat 9-7