

Issue 390

March 2, 2007

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Discovery *Islander.ca*

Community News and Events from Quadra Island, Cortes Island and the Outer Discovery Islands



www.discoveryislander.ca

discovery Islander

Issue 390 March 2nd, 2007

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Submission Guidelines

Items for publication are welcomed on subjects of interest to the Discovery Islands community.

Please help us by following these guidelines:

- Please print handwritten material clearly.
- Electronic items sent by email & must be saved as Word or rtf formats. Please spell check in Canadian English. Sorry no floppies.
- No MS Publisher, WordPerfect files or graphics in Word files please. Send imported graphics separately.
- Please use the title of the item as email subject & send multiple items in separate emails.
- Please don't send original irreplaceable material, make a trip to a copier first!!
- Please remember to caption & credit photos and artwork. Don't write on the back of photos use labels or Postits™.

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

Next Deadline

7 pm. Monday, March 12th

Internet Banking - Member Direct - www.quadracu.com



Quadra Credit Union continued its long history of community support in 2006, providing over \$9,000 in community donations and student bursaries.



QCU Member Services Manager Ruth Rombough presents a cheque for \$675 to Sandy Spearing, Coordinator of the Quadra Community Center. The funds were raised by Credit Union staff selling Mambo the Moose (pictured at center) stuffed animals, with all funds collected directed towards the Community Centre Playground.

www.quadracu.com

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Island Calendar

Submit your event: eMail: news@discoveryislands.ca • fax: 285-2236 • drop-off: 701 Cape Mudge Rd.

The Regulars

- **Quadra Legion** - Now Open Fridays & Saturdays at 3:30 pm until 1:00 am
- **Every Monday** - Badminton, 7:30 Cape Mudge Hall
- **Every Tuesday** - Kalina Folkdancers -QCC, 7:30 to 9:30 pm, Sept.to Apr.
 - Sketching group at Firesign Studio 10 am-12:00 pm
 - Al-anon meeting, 7.30 pm at the Childrens Centre
- **Every Wednesday** -Yoga 9:30 am and 7:00 pm Community Centre
 - Community Kitchen 12:00 noon Community Centre
 - Badminton, 7:30 pm Cape Mudge Hall
- **Every Thursday** - Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm at Quadra Island Bible Church
 - 7-9:30 PM: Life drawing sessions at Firesign Studio 285-3390
- **Every Friday** - Yoga 9:30 am and 4:00 pm Community Centre
 - Free Pool, Darts and Shuffleboard at the Legion 4:00pm to 1:00am
- **Every Saturday** - Legion Meat Draw 5:00pm to 6:30pm
- **Every Sunday** - Sunday Service QI United Church 10:30
 - Family Worship Service 10:30am Quadra Island Bible Church
 - Buddhist Meditation 10:00 am Upper Realm
 - Sunday Celebration, Centre for Positive Living - CRCC 10:20 - 11:20 am
- **1st and 3rd Wednesday** - Food Bank 1-2 Community Centre
- **3rd Sunday of Month** - Raw Food Pot Luck 5 - 7pm 285-3827
- **Last Saturday** - Bonus \$50 cash draw or gift certificate. Quadra Legion 6:30 pm

Next Deadline: Monday, March 12th 2007

5 Day Forecast from Environment Canada

Thursday	Thursday night	Friday
High 5°C	Low -1°C	High 7°C
Sunny with cloudy periods	Periods of snow	Periods of rain or snow
Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 11°C Low 5°C	High 11°C Low 4°C POP 50%	High 12°C Low 5°C
Periods of rain	Chance of showers	Rain



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Day by day

Saturday, March 3

- The Ballad of Rainbow Snow Q.C.C.
- Tickets \$17 at Hummingbird and Quadra Crafts or \$20 at the door.

Friday, March 9

- Karel Roessingh Quartet Q.C.C.
- 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 10

- International Women's Day potluck dinner Q.C.C.
- 6pm

Sunday, March 11

- Triple Forte Q.C.C.
- 7 pm

Monday, March 12

- Garden Club presents Dan Jason of SaltSpring Seeds Q.C.C.
- 'Saving your own seeds' 7pm

Friday, March 16

- Friday Flicks - The White Countess Q.C.C.
- Doors open 7:30 pm
- Four Seasons - Vancouver Island Symphony Tidemark Theatre
- 7:30 p.m. (Pre-concert talk 6:30 p.m.) Tickets: 287-7465

Saturday, March 17

- St. Patrick's day Dance with Casey Ryder Q.C.C.
- 9 pm - 12:30 am

Saturday, March 24

- Emergency Preparedness - Reception Centres Firehall, Heriot Bay Rd
- 10 am - noon
- Garage Sale by the R.C.L. Ladies Auxiliary #154. Quadra Legion
- 10am to 2pm.

Saturday March 31

- Dance with Shane Philip, All ages Q.C.C.

Island Calendar online: www.discoveryislands.ca/news

WIN!

We Have a Pair of Tickets to Give Away

For the Vancouver Island Symphony **Four Seasons** performance March 16th

Just email news@discoveryislands.ca before 5pm March 12th and leave your name and number and you'll be entered in the draw.

On the cover



The Inlet Raider and Acapulco on the scene of the February 2005 floatplane crash off Quadra Island with a NewtSub R.O.V. submarine. The R.O.V. located the plane engine block which has been recovered for further investigation. 4 local loggers and pilot died in the crash and the families would like a coroner's inquest into the accident.

Photo: Philip Stone



Drilling for Oil in Q Cove

It seems "environmental clean up" is the hottest political phrase on the planet these days. Some islanders may not be aware of the fact that there has been an environmental clean up going on in Quathiaski Cove for some years now.

Many of us remember Q Cove with the net lofts, the boatworks and the fuel dock; it was one of the most picturesque locations on the west coast. When the fuel dock and storage tanks were dismantled the cove was still beautiful. It was green. The hillsides where the fuel tanks had stood were still covered with trees and lush vegetation. The banks were matted with periwinkle and thick patches of brambles. However, this was short lived when the geotechnical engineers arrived. Soon heavy equipment was digging into the hillside and soil was hauled off the island by the truckload. The bank was stripped bare of all its natural vegetation and left in that condition. Of course when the rains came it turned to mud and slid all over Pidcock Road.

These mudslides continued for some time and then one day the environmental engineers returned and draped the whole hillside with huge sheets of thick black plastic. They strung lengths of Big O Pipe across the hillside and secured it here and there with a few rocks. Some of you may remember seeing this from the ferry and wondering what it was. It looked like part of the cove was being stuffed into a big black garbage bag.

When the storms came that fall, the winds shredded the plastic and the bank continued to slide. The mud gobbled up the black plastic and sucked it under. To this day tufts of black plastic can still be seen sticking out of the mud like some ugly alien plant species. Coils of black drainage pipe are still strewn across the slopes serving no functional purpose other than adding to the pile of plastic garbage which is embedded in this man-made mountain of muck which was created under the auspices of environmental cleansing.

Perhaps if the hillside had been given a little rest mother nature would have healed it, but the environmental engineers just keep coming back and drilling their core samples. Last summer they returned again, closed off Pidcock Road and excavated a great hole in the road beneath the bank. They were at it for weeks drilling for core samples. As usual the road was left in a mess. When they arrived they never informed the residents that they were going to close the road and when they left they never removed their barriers.

If there has been any amount of contamination found in the soil of Quathiaski Cove I think it must pale in comparison to the disgusting mess which has been left on the surface by these so called contamination remediation specialists.

To those of you who have an environmental conscience I invite you to drive down Pidcock Road and see what four years of environmental remediation looks like. Do not come when it is raining, the road is a mess of pot holes and the bank is unstable. If it should slide when a pedestrian or a vehicle is passing it could result in tragedy. The hillside can also be seen from the ferry, the ugly grey slash between the trees. Some green stuff was sprayed on it last summer, a feeble attempt to cover it up. Recently some concrete blocks have been placed along the foot of the hill. Too little too late it is doubtful if this band-aid solution could contain a serious mud-slide.

When politicians at every level of government are pledging to contribute millions, billions and trillions of dollars to end pollution and clean up the environment they better have some rules of accountability in place or it will be nothing short of a license for the environmental janitors to dig holes forever and bury money in the mud.

Who could hazard a guess as to what this clean up in the cove has cost to date? It must be in the millions and no end in sight. What has it accomplished besides defacing the countenance of a once beautiful landscape?

Preserving the planet starts on our own doorstep. In this case the cure was much worse than the cause. Leave well enough alone. Let nature heal herself as she has done since the beginning of time.

Ann Mclean

Pat Q's Request Someplace Special

A Story-Time Stolen

- She waited for 3 months in a 4 bed hospital room.
- She waited for 2 years to return to her home.
- She is gone.

The wonderful feisty granny is gone, in her place is a gentler soul - for that I am grateful.

For the 3 years that she waited - I feel loss.

We all lost.

By S. Quintrell

Thank You from Quadra P.A.C.

Quadra School P.A.C. would like to extend an enormous "THANK YOU" to the businesses that made donations to our Family Dance!!

Niko's Sushi, Quadra Foods, Heriot Bay Tru-Value Foods, Action Sports, Amped on Nutrition, B.C. Cancer Prevention Agency, Canadian Tire, Coastal Spirits Expeditions & Lodge Ltd., Intersport, Island Cycle, Ocean Pacific Marine Supply Ltd, On the Rocks, Pedal Your World, River Sportsman Ltd., Ski Tak Hut, Spokes, Sportmart, Staples, Strathcona Gardens, Superstore, Thrifty Foods and

Yellow Dog Trading Company.

The evening was a huge success due to your generosity!

We would also like to thank the staff, students and their families for volunteering their time to make our Dance such a fun and rewarding event!

Dear Editor,

I wish to thank Steve Halliday and the staff of the Quadra Credit Union for getting behind the idea of fundraising for the new playground in Blenkin Park. They came up with the idea of selling "mambo" the toy moose throughout the Christmas season. Toy sales added \$675 to our coffers. So far, we have \$12,000 toward a playground and we invite other groups in the community to climb aboard the fundraising bandwagon. The Quilt and Garden Tour committee is, for the 2nd year in a row donating toward the playground. Working together as a community for the benefit of our children and grandchildren: what could be better!

Cheers,

Sandy Spearing

Community Centre Coordinator

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If you would like

Next deadline 7pm March 12th



News and Events

Submit your event: eMail: news@discoveryislands.ca • fax: 285-2236 • drop-off: 701 Cape Mudge Rd.

At the Legion

Quadra Legion open Friday and Saturday 4:00pm to 1:00am. Free pool, darts and shuffleboard. Meat draws every Saturday 5:00pm to 6:30pm. Come help raise money for Quadra Island based non-profit organizations. Having a party? Book the Legion 285-3121. New and established members with guests welcome. See you at the Legion!

Spring is coming! Aerobics has started again

Enjoy a refreshing, complete body workout with Marion. Experience high- low aerobics, floorwork, strength training and stretching to the beat of great music.

Everyone is welcome. The class is suitable for beginners. 7:00 - 7:30 will be focused on stretching.

Classes are Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00pm-7:30pm at the Community Centre 8 classes \$32 or drop in. For more questions call Marion at 285 2895

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Garage Sale

Garage Sale by the R.C.L. Ladies Auxiliary #154.

Saturday, March 24th 10am to 2pm. Quality items welcome to be dropped off Sat. morning, all proceeds go to charity.

Table rental \$10.00 Please call 285-2757 to register

Triple Forte on Quadra

Violinist Jaspas Wood, cellist Yegor Dyachkov, and pianist David Jalbert perform piano trio music together on Sunday, Mar. 11, 7PM at Community Centre. "Before the first bow is raised or the first note is played, there is already one notable difference in this classical trio: the musicians are very hip and very young". *Welland Tribune*. Watch for more information in the next DI.

Moms & Babes

Wednesdays from
11:00 to 12:00

Just had a baby, or are you about to? Come on out to the baby group! We meet in the small room by the garden at the Quadra Island Community Centre. There is no fee. The community nurse checks in monthly should you have any health questions. Come meet other moms, nurse, share concerns and delight in each other's babies. This is a great "first outing" for new moms.

Though this group is dedicated to supporting mothers and primary caregivers of the very young, other family members are encouraged to visit.

Take a break afterwards and let someone else prepare you a meal at the community lunch, in the hall, at noon, after Moms & Babes. The cost of lunch is "by donation".

LOST

Large faceted red stone, just glass but beautiful, lost around the Fermentations Wine Store or the Q-Cove. Fell out of my ring and I miss it! Call 923-8291

Cortes Island Cinema Club

Manson's Hall doors open at 7 pm, show starts at 7:30.

March 6 A Simple Curve

His parents went back to the land, he's been stuck there ever since. Caleb is 27, raised in the Kootneys in BC and working as a cabinet maker with his idealistic hippie draft-dodger father. Breathtakingly photographed in the magnificent Slocan Valley, this is a tender and fun drama/comedy.



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Christina Munck Exhibits New Artwork With Firesign Four At March Tidemark Show, 'Transitions'

Christina Munck joins three accomplished artists from Quadra and Cortes Island: Perri Sparks, Nanci Cook and Dianne Bersea at a Tidemark Theatre exhibition March 3 - 30. Brought together through classes and workshop facilitation at Firesign Art & Design Studio on Quadra Island, the four artists will display paintings that reflect elements of recent transitions they have experienced in their creative and personal lives.

Christina is embracing a transition to an island life style and new commitment to her artistic career. As an active participant at many Firesign workshops Christina has re-invigorated her own work. "I've been drawing and painting from childhood on, with the inevitable stops and starts as I got married and had a child." With an interest in science and a BSc in Biology, Christina pursued illustration at Concordia University and drew nature in fine and carefully rendered detail.

"My main medium was pen & ink, some watercolour. Now I'm working in acrylic on canvas to break from formal representation. I'm looking for a more relaxed style, a more minimalist approach relying on pattern and vigorously applied brush strokes. And, I want to have fun with it!"

For Christina, challenging herself is an essential part of the creative process. Recently juried to Active Status with the Federation of Canadian Artists, Christina has also joined several Island FCA Chapters and is actively submitting work to juried shows with an Honourable Mention at a fall show in Comox.

Christina and husband Eric are relative newcomers to Quadra, becoming year round residents three years ago, making the move from Ontario where Christina had a number of shows. Involvement on the 2006 and 2007 Quadra Island Studio Tour Organizing Committee has introduced Christina to the wider island art scene. "I'm enjoying being part of such creative community!"

Nanci Cook, around whose studio and workshops Christina and the others have gathered, is in the 17th year of a major life transition necessitated when osteoarthritis and tendonitis disrupted her life as a studio potter on Hornby Island. In addition to a move to Quadra and training for business opportunities in the tourism industry, Nanci transformed her pottery studio into a painting studio and workshop space.

"I'm very fortunate. I live in a beautiful place and I have an art school in my studio. With weekly life drawing, periodic workshops with off-island artists, it a creative cauldron! This year I'm excited about adding new presenters like Peter Shostak and Brian Simmons, and, Dianne Bersea and Perri Sparks will be back with their popular presentations. Who wouldn't be inspired?"



Join Christina and the Firesign Four at the Tidemark Theatre for an opening reception, Saturday, March 3, from 1 pm to 4 pm with demonstrations, snacks and beverages. The show continues through March 30, noon to 5 pm Tuesday thru Saturday and during performances. For more information call Christina at 250-285- or check the website at www.firesignartanddesign.com.

Quadra Island Studio Tour

June 2nd & 3rd, 2007

Over 30 Quadra Island Artists present their recent work during this popular annual event both at their studios around the island and at the large exhibition at the Quadra Community Centre. Painters, sculptors, potters, woodworkers, fabric artists, blacksmiths and even a glassblower show their work and many of them give demonstrations. See artists at work in their own environments.

Tickets \$5 available at Q.I. Tourist Info. and Hummingbird Office Supply. For more information visit www.quadraislandarts.com email: studiotour@quadraislandarts.com or call 250-285-3101.



Frank Boas with some of his work.

Seniors' News BR. 91 BCOAPO.

A most successful regional meeting of seniors was held on Feb 20th at the Quadra Recreation Centre. Close to 80 members from seven North Island branches were in attendance for the meeting which was hosted by the Quadra branch. We are so fortunate to have such great support from our local community when an event like this is held. The previous edition of the Discovery Islander listed all the local donors. Your continued cooperation and support is really appreciated!

Wayne Langman and the Community Lunch Crew put on a superb lunch for the gathering, with proceeds going to the Quadra Food Bank. An abundance of delectable desserts were provided by Quadra branch members. The hall was decorated with a pleasing green & white 'Spring' theme and the musical entertainment provided by the quartet 'First Pressings' – most appropriately chosen. Numerous compliments were exchanged making the event a very happy occasion.

The venue for the next regional meeting in May is yet to be decided, but it is likely to be on Texada Island where there is a flourishing group of active seniors. This year the Seniors Provincial Organization will be celebrating its 75th anniversary, having achieved much in that time in looking after the needs of seniors, with much still to be done in safeguarding health care, better provision for home care etc etc. That celebration will likely coincide with the North Island district picnic in July in Black Creek.

This Wednesday, March 7th will see the regular monthly meeting to be held at the Legion commencing at 10:00 am, when anyone interested is joining us will be most welcome. Apart from our monthly meetings, each week we offer Tai Chi and carpet bowling at the Legion also at 10:00 am, with weekly walks around the Spit, meeting at the Boat Launch at 11:00 am. In the planning stage are visits to the theatre in Chemainus, the Tidemark Theatre in Campbell River, local boat trips in Desolation Sound, with possible trips on the Lady Rose from Port Alberni, and the Uchuck from Gold River. No moss gathering on these rolling stones!

Emergency Preparedness Reception Centres

First we would like to thank the large number of people who came out for the Introductory Meeting on Saturday February 17. It is very encouraging to find that islanders are not only interested in finding out how to prepare for an emergency but are willing to volunteer their time training to help others. If you have decided that you would like to volunteer in a Reception Centre, this next session is for you. On Saturday, March 24, at 10 am at Firehall No 1, we will have a two hour session which will give an overview of the positions to be filled, some basic instruction on what these positions entail and a paper exercise on how we could set up the Community Centre as a Reception Centre. Experience elsewhere has shown that only about 10% of trained volunteers are available at any one time, so we do need to have a large number of individuals trained in as many areas as possible. If you would like to see what a Reception Centre looks like, Comox Valley are having a mock set up on March 3. They need people to be evacuees. As an added inducement, it is also Seedy Saturday in Courtenay so you could kill two birds with one stone. If interested, please contact me <emackay@connected.bc.ca> for further information.

It is also necessary to register all volunteers with ESS and to ensure that they have taken ESS 1 and 2. Check the internet under ESS to find the online courses or contact Judy Hagen, ESSD for Quadra Island at 285 2150.

We all hope we will never have a large emergency here on Quadra, but being prepared will make it easier for everyone.

Victoria Jazz Quartet to Perform

The Karel Roessingh Quartet will be the guest artists at a special Concert at the Quadra Community Centre on Friday March 9th at 7:30. The concert is presented by the CARIHI Music Department and will also showcase the CARIHI Jazz and Concert Bands.



The concert concludes a two-day music workshop and retreat at Camp Homewood where the students will have the opportunity of working with the professional musicians.

Karel Roessingh is a well-known composer and jazz performer whose list of musical accomplishments is impressive. He studied jazz arranging and composition at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts and has composed for film, television and video since 1985. In his spare time, Karel still loves to play the piano and plays in clubs, concert halls and in the studio whenever possible. He writes jazz tunes for his own and other groups, and has played with jazz greats such as Bud Shank, Ian MacDougall, Pat LaBarbera, Don Clark, Floyd Standifer, Roy Reynolds and many well-known vocalists. He's regularly asked to play at jazz festivals as both leader and sideman.

This concert is a fundraiser for the Dave Roberts Scholarship fund, which allows one or two students to attend CYMC. Dave Roberts was a well-loved music educator and performer. Admission is by donation.

April is Cancer Awareness Month.

The Canadian Cancer Society will be accepting Residential Campaign donations at Quadra Foods on April 1(Sunday) between 11-4 PM and True Value Foods (Heriot Bay) April 14(Saturday) from 11-4 PM. Donations can also be made online at the CCS website or at the local Campbell River Office, located at 1423 16th Ave., C.R. V9W2E4.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support!

IWD Celebration For Women

Quadra women will be celebrating International Women's Day with our traditional potluck dinner at the Community Centre on Sat. March 10.

This year a special invitation is extended to the elder women in our community who we wish to honour. In the spirit of the "international" of IWD, we are also happy to present a short but vibrant and inspirational film which honours the grandmothers of Africa and the growing network of Canadian women formed in support of these "unsung heroes of Africa." African grandmothers are raising the abandoned and orphaned children whose families have died in the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

As the women of Africa meet and greet each other with song, we can join with Let's Sing's Tina Erickson in a similar way and to similar music. Sally Gellard from Merville will also share photos and stories of the nine months she spent in rural Kenya and her work with one grandmother who is raising 35 children in a home she calls the Victorious Children's Home.

Our Member of Parliament Catherine Bell will be joining us. Come along with other women on Quadra for this wonderful evening which starts at 6 pm.

Bring your sisters, mothers, grown daughters, women friends, your favorite food and your own utensils: \$2 to cover expenses and some extra money in case you are moved to make a donation to the grandmothers campaign. If any woman needs a ride, call Geraldine 285-2722

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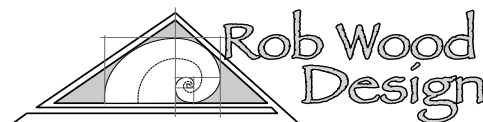
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Input Needed for Ferry Minister Meeting

by John Sprungman,
Chair, Ferry Advisory Committee

Representatives of the 12 Ferry Advisory Committees on the coast will be meeting with Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon in Victoria March 19 to present our concerns regarding the substantial increases in ferry fares under the government's contract with B.C. Ferries.

At a November meeting with ministry officials, it was clear that we would need to show the minister convincing evidence that fare increases "are negatively impacting the economies of ferry-dependent communities to get the government to back off on the move toward more and more user pay."

If you operate a business on Cortes or Quadra and ferry fare hikes since the government quasi-privatized B.C. Ferries in 2003 have hurt your business, please send me a letter or email explaining how you have been affected. I will present all the messages I receive to the Minister at the meeting.

I am well aware that individuals and families also find island life more challenging because of higher fares, and the government needs to hear from you too. You can email me at sprungman@twincomm.ca or write to Box 30, Manson's Landing, B.C., V0P 1K0. Please write sooner than later so I have time to print and collate all the messages.

Cortes Reservations

B.C. Ferries is prepared to offer reservations on the Cortes ferry, beginning as early as the Victoria Day weekend in May, if Cortes ferry users want them. Reservations would require payment of a fee and would only assure loading at Whaletown or Heriot Bay. They would not guarantee getting onto the connecting Quadra-Campbell River ferries.

I asked B.C. Ferries to explore this possibility as an alternative to the current practice of people putting vehicles in line at Whaletown the night before. For most Cortes Islanders, this requires having a second vehicle make two roundtrips to Whaletown.

Details about how the reservation system would work along with a response form will be circulated on Cortes Island as soon as possible to determine if there is sufficient interest to add Cortes to B.C. Ferries' existing reservation system.

Q. Cove Construction

The construction of a second holding lane on the hill at Quathiaski Cove seems to have taken some people by surprise. For several years, there has been discussion at the FAC and in the Discovery Islander about changing the traffic lanes and facilities at Q. Cove.

B.C. Ferries and the Q. Cove Harbour Authority were unable to come to a mutually agreeable plan for joint use of their properties in the Cove so B.C. Ferries was limited to using the Crown land under their jurisdiction. Heavy summer traffic has backed the lineup beyond the shopping center. Adding a lane on the hill is an effort to alleviate this problem.

Unfortunately, B.C. Ferries did not tell us the date construction would begin in time to put a notice in the D.I. before the excavators went to work. This project is scheduled to be completed in March, hopefully with appropriate landscaping.

Tenaka Refit

After numerous rough rides and weather cancellations in November and December, Cortesians found themselves back on the 16-car Nimpkish in January when the Tenaka went away for refit. The slower Nimpkish cuts through the waves like a cork so the rough rides continue. The Tenaka is due back early in March, but the exact date remains uncertain. The weather is improving...isn't it?

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Quadra Firm Wins Workplace Award

"Life happens" is how an employee describes the flexible attitude her employer has towards work arrangements at M.M. Johnson's busy structural engineering office on Quadra Island.

Each year, company owner Murray Johnson calculates the number of workable hours his employees work each month, and they can work more or less hours to suit their schedules and life needs, as long as the overall hours are met. "Our boss is prepared to make things work for his employees in order to keep them," said Reggie Gray, Office Manager.



James Gorman (Deputy Minister, BC Public Service Agency), Murray Johnson (owner), Minister Reid.

Part of the work-life supportive arrangements include a well-equipped lunchroom "set up like home" where children are welcome during the day and after school. It has Internet access, a TV with a game console and a VCR/DVD player. There is a shower, too. "I've seen a lot of kids grow up here," said Johnson.

"I have what I call 'no fault' absences," Johnson said. "If a staff member has a sudden need to be away, we work around that. No one abuses this." He has two part time positions for staff with children but offers them full time statutory holidays and benefits. "Everyone has a different schedule that suits them and their family. And we do not work weekends."

"It is interesting to think about how I got into this. It started 18 years ago when I worked for an engineering firm in Vancouver. I wanted to go back to living on a small island like the one where I grew up. They allowed me to do that – and that was before we had Internet and fax machines. I started working from my home. My desk was next to the nursery. I told my clients that if they heard a baby crying I would likely end the call. It was much more of a novelty then, but people were very supportive."

"Five or six years later I started my own engineering firm. There are now five of us full time and every one of them is still with me, which is no small feat over 12 years. I believe the fact I have had almost no turnover is a result of the flexible work environment. I mention flexible work options in my advertising when I am hiring and it definitely helps attract people," said Murray.

"Engineering is competitive and there is a shortage of qualified people. Our business depends on having skilled experienced people and we can't afford turnover. The costs of retraining for a small firm like ours are too high for us."

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We All Come From The Goddess

We all come from the Goddess, that's how the chant goes, it sounds vaguely familiar, I feel emotions stirring within but what does that mean exactly? Somewhere down through time they forgot about the divine feminine energy, our culture suppressed it in the name of the father, of God, of the great creator. Some remembered, some never forgot and slowly the information passed on and down the line. It was shared in circles, between mothers and daughters, grandmothers and aunts. Generation after generation the rituals and celebrations continued, secretly, quietly. The world gave way to moving farther and farther away from the rhythms of the earth. Whole civilizations after all discovered that they could control through manipulation and fear, this gave them power. Not personal, internal power, rather it gave them power over others. With great gratitude I give thanks to our ancestors, our historians, our archeologists, and the strong women who have chosen to step forward, to uncover and share the truth about the divine energy of the Goddess. We all have this energy, this connection to the Mother. She is after all the other half of the whole.

The ways of the Goddess go back many, many years, 30 000-35 000bce to be exact. Much work has been done in relation to the goddess and what she represents to our culture, our beings, and our planet. The beauty and the connection of our bodies with the cycles of the earth were once revered. We honored our bodies and the natural flow of our cycles with the cycles of the moon, our grandmother. Why are the majority of us not taught about the wonder of menstruation and the blessings which come forth because our bodies have a natural flow of blood? With this flow comes the joy and honor of being creators. We are the maidens, the mothers and the crones. We follow the moon in all of her glorious phases, just as we also breathe the breath of the mother and feel the beat of her pulse. Pagans have had these beliefs since the beginning of their time. To honor the feminine you don't have to fall into any particular category, religion or belief system, you just have to unite with the Goddess.

It becomes challenging when we are not shown through our lives how to be in tune with ourselves and our continuous changes and our relationship with the enormity of feminine energy. We don't learn in school unless we take a women's study class, we don't learn at home unless our mothers were in touch with the divine themselves, so we live our lives sort of in a state of chance. Perhaps somewhere along the way information will come to us, spark an interest and we feel a glimmer of stirring within. What is this flame that flickers within? It is the eternal flame of our spirits. To increase the intensity of its glow we must honor all parts, not just the masculine connection, the feminine aspect must be honored as well.

We have been so far removed from the divine feminine; it has not only affected us as women and men but has created havoc to the one who sustains

us, Mother Earth. Healing begins at home, so in order to create change we must go within. The adjustments we make internally flow outward creating external change, shifting the web of life.

One by one we will connect and remember the love of the Goddess, the love of ourselves and the vibration of her nurturing and creative ways will continue to grow. The energy of the God and Goddess are of one. At this time of our existence it is imperative to focus on the feminine side, so that the intensity of the divine feminine may rise and resonate in harmony and balance with that of the masculine.

Angela Thurston resides on Quadra with her family. She teaches World Dance and World Dance for Children. Angela facilitates Goddess workshops. Her next series begins March 10th and focuses on exploring, discovering and awakening the Goddess through the Chakras. Angela may be reached at 285-2963.

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World Renowned Children's Author Writes To The Quadra Children's Centre!

In December we had no idea what would unfold as we read "Harvey Slumfenburger's Christmas Present" by John Burningham.

The children were inspired to make a connection with the character in the book and extended this to the author himself. Here is a glimpse of the children's show of kindness to Harvey Slumfenburger, "the boy".

Ella: "I would like to draw the boy some food because his family is poor."

Ella draws a candy cane. "Is the boy real?" She asked.

Sue: "He may be real to the author because he wrote a book about him."

Ella: "Maybe we could send our presents to the author and he can get them to the boy?" "Can we make a box to send them in?"

Sue: "What a wonderful idea!"



The children compose a letter.

Dear Mr. Burningham,

We have made a super hero for Harvey Slumfenburger and two more gifts and they are a magic wand and a candy cane. The magic wand makes food because he is very poor, he has no money at all.

We also have two more presents for the boy, it is love but it is wrapped. There is also another gift, a boy and a mountain. It is like a picture for him.

We made these gifts for the boy to make sure that you give them to Harvey Slumfenburger.

Sue: "Do you know where the parcel is going?"

Grace: "To Roly Poly Mountain!"

Sue: "That is where Harvey Slumfenburger lives in the story. Your package is going all the way to England!"

The next week Grace greets Sue with, "Did you mail the package to Slumfenburger yet?"

The presents were sent to the author's agent along with our hopes that the children's wish would be honoured and it was!



Haylee drew a present with a heart attached to it.

Sue: "I wonder what your present is?"

Haylee: "It's love because the little boy is very poor."



**Come and see the
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Quadra Island Garden Club

The Garden Club welcomes Dan Jason from Salt Spring Seeds on Monday March 12, 7 pm at the Community Centre. Dan is a leader in 'saving our own seeds' and will talk, with a slide show, about the unique organic crops he is growing on Salt Spring Island. He maintains the gardens at the Yoga centre on Salt Spring and runs a mail order seed company. Collecting his seeds to sell from 10 different organic farms/gardens, he offers 257 varieties of tomatoes and 82 varieties of lettuce.

Dan will explain how to protect ourselves, and our communities, from large corporations' control over the world's seed supply. Like oil and water, plant seeds are a commodity that will be more difficult to own if 'trade marking' continues. Salt Spring Seeds has been growing for twenty years and has helped to establish a safe seed sanctuary. see <<http://www.seedsanctuary.com/>>www.seedsanctuary.com This is a national gene pool of seeds to protect against disasters of all types. Focus and Shared Vision magazine has just published an article about Dan's work (link from his website <<http://www.saltspringseeds.com/>>www.saltspringseeds.com) In the article they list an example of the diversity of seeds that he grows, as wheat from Egypt, winter leeks from Denmark, barley from the Himalayas and quinoa from the Andes. He will bring seeds for sale, so get your annual lists ready.

For the show and tell table, bring spring flowers from your garden, or better yet, a sample of your winter vegetables. Through the cold and snow the hellebores have remained beautiful, and the early daffodils are colouring. It is time to buy the seed for your vegetable garden and get growing. Share your extra seeds or seed catalogues. Bring divided plants to the perennial table it is not too early to donate them. Drop ins welcome \$2 at the door or buy a membership (now) \$10 annually. The special April meeting with guest speaker Sheena Adams will cost \$10 unless you are a member. No new memberships will be available in April.

www.discoveryislander.ca

St Patrick's Day Dance

March 17th, 2007 St. Patrick's Day! Saturday Evening, Dance Benefit for our Q. I. Childrens Centre !! Let's count our lucky charms for this beautiful childrens centre & contribute to the future !!



Casey Ryder is bringing a hot 6 piece dance band from Victoria to the Quadra Community Hall on March 17. 9p.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$10.00 advance or \$15.00 at the door ! Over 19 of age only please. Door Prizes & " Mean Green " Costume Prize!

Casey's usual trio of guitar, acoustic bass & drums will be present, as well as an added bonus of saxophone, trumpet & trombone. Although it's St.Patty's Day, he'll be focusing on his original brand of "Twangy roots music...and beyond!". Expect to ear swing, rock-a-billy, blues, Latin, country with a touch of Celtic and get this, ska! There will be door prizes for best costume (yes, costumes!) as well as snacks and adult beverages. The smokin' Hal Douglas Blues band will be performing the opening set. advance tickets available...see you there!

Casey Ryder - Gretsch electric guitar & vocals
Damian Graham - drums & vocals
Glen Manders - acoustic bass

the Horned Devils are:
Nick LaRiviere - trombone
Alphons Fear - trumpet
Noah Becker - saxophone

If you are not able to attend but still wish to contribute, buy an advance dance ticket or contribute at the Q.I. Credit Union Box at entrance !!

www.caseyryder.com

Friday Flicks Tonight!

The Mistress of Spice

Q.C.C. \$5 - \$4 stu/snr

Doors 7:30 Showtime 7:45

Bollywood superstar Aishwarya Rai plays Tilo, a magically trained Indian priestess, who uses the power of spices to divine people's future and remedy what ails them. As a child, she was orphaned through regional strife in India, kidnapped by bandits and, after escaping, educated, with a group of girls, in the ancient magic by an elderly Mistress of Spices. She ends up tending the Indian diaspora from her spice shop in Oakland. To know and practice this unique shamanism, Tilo made a pact to never leave her shop, never touch another human being, never fall in love. To break the pact would be calamitous.



The script, by Gurinder Chadha (Bend it like Beckham, Bride and Prejudice) and Paul Mayeda Berges, is adapted from the 1997 novel by Indian-born, scribe Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni which mixes poetry and prose in this tale of magical realism.



Friday Flicks – Coming Up.

The White Countess March 16th Q.C.C.

Sophia Belinsky is a former Russian countess brought low, who supports her exiled in-laws by working as a taxi driver and prostitute. Displaced aristocrats living in poverty are hardly unique in Shanghai's teeming international mix, and their days of refuge are dwindling as the invading Japanese make inroads in northern China. Sophia finds an unlikely savior in ex-diplomat Todd Jackson (Ralph Fiennes) who has lost his eyesight and his family. Though he can't physically see her, Jackson finds in the countess the perfect mix of "the erotic and the tragic" that he seeks for his glamorous nightspot. He names his bar the White Countess, after her, and hires her as lead hostess.

With the threat of invasion by Japan, Jackson's club becomes an unofficial League of Nations. He pulls in various political factions from the city creating a Cabaret-flavoured political intrigue to the business.

Natasha Richardson as Sophia finds the story's heart and Fiennes is her match as he too is drawn into tragedy, love and intrigue. Fiennes grounds the film and is impeccable, inching from bitter bereavement and deluded escapism to emotional rescue. The film's final section captures the chaos of a city, and individuals, under siege.

This last in the long, distinguished line of Merchant-Ivory collaborations

Ismail Merchant died during production is, a handsome, well-acted period evocation with attractive credentials, such as three members of the Redgrave dynasty on one screen. It's a thoughtful, meticulously crafted meditation on loss and longing set against the backdrop of pre-World War II China.

Review credits: Empire, Rolling Stone, Toronto Star, BoxOffice.

Piano Trio on Quadra

Quadra Recreation's Concert Series continues its high-calibre performances with Canadian piano trio *Triple Forte* on Sunday, March 11 at 7pm. *Triple Forte* has chosen its name well. Forte (pronounced FOR-tay) is the Italian musical term for strong; triple forte (fff) or fortissimo means very strong. And there we have it: three very strong soloists joined together to perform powerful music.

Triple Forte combines three of Canada's most prominent new-generation soloists. Still in his 20's, David Jalbert is already gaining recognition as one of Canada's most remarkable solo pianists. A national and international prize-winner, he boasts a wide-ranging repertoire and a very warm and communicative style which has been hailed by critics and audiences alike.

Jaspar Wood is an internationally acclaimed competition winner who had his first performance at 5, and has gone on to capture the hearts of music lovers with his spell-binding virtuosity along with a unique and serious approach to music. He has performed extensively as a soloist and chamber musician throughout North America, and has recently been appointed (along with his 1700 Stradivarius) to the Music Faculty at UBC.

Cellist Yegor Dyachkov won titles of both CBC's "Artist of the Year" and "Young Canadian Musician Award" in 2000. Described by critic F.Tousignant in Montreal's *Le Devoir* as "extraordinarily masterful and intense", Dyachkov is on track for a brilliant career. He has drawn praise for the intensity and richness of his playing, his remarkably mature musicianship, and the diversity of his repertoire.

Triple Forte has developed a reputation for its passion, intelligence, sensitivity, and sheer joy in musicmaking. Separately, as soloists, these three stars have delighted audiences internationally for years; together, they now make up Canada's newest chamber music asset.

Advance tickets are available at Quadra Crafts, Hummingbird Stationery, and The Music Plant at \$17. Children 16 and under are free when accompanied by an adult.

Tickets will be available at the door for \$20. For information call 285-3245.

Update from Our MLA

A number of issues have been dominating my agenda since the return to the Legislature mid-February. Chief among them are the ongoing battle over the future of our hospitals, the expansion of aquaculture and the stresses faced in our childcare system.

I had a positive, 40 minute, meeting with Minister of Health George Abbott to give him the views of many North Islanders which he has not been receiving from the Vancouver Island Health Authority. I informed him that many people strongly oppose building a hospital at Dove Creek and that most want to keep our existing hospitals.

Despite the land deal in which Timberwest gave land which is in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) to the health authority, the decision on location and in fact on a new hospital, is not final. VIHA still has to get approval for its plans from the Ministry of Health and still has to get its budget approved.

I would urge people who are worried about the downgrading of their hospitals and the plans to locate the regional hospital at Dove Creek to write to the Minister of Health (and please copy me) to make their voices heard.

The Special Committee on Sustainable Aquaculture is starting to move into its final deliberations. But we have also heard some new evidence about geoducks involving what seems to be a planned expansion without any scientific evidence about the impacts to the ocean floor. It is also being done without full consultation with Cape Mudge or Klahoose First Nations. The decisions on the Quadra and Cortes sites are still pending.

I am still trying to get clarification on the hunting of wolves on Quadra. The Ministry of the Environment says it's legal. But in a recent letter from the Minister, Barry Penner, he stated that "We acknowledge there is an increase in the abundance of deer on Quadra Island. The ministry will apply wildlife management science in determining the appropriate response." Whether that means the wolf hunting will be allowed to continue or nature can take its course, I am endeavouring to find out.

Faced with a renewed opposition, the government only reestablished a Ministry of Environment in 2005. It set out a green agenda in its Throne speech last month. But clearly there's only a partial

conversion with no money in the budget to back it up; not much hope for our environment there.

A Quadra resident raised concerns with me about our garbage collectors being tied in as part of a neighbourhood watch program. I am in correspondence with the Solicitor General about this as I have not received a satisfactory reply to the concerns about the potential invasion to our privacy inherent in this scheme.

As the critic for childcare, I've been trying to get to the root of what's happened to childcare monies. The provincial government is using the excuse of losing federal funding for childcare to squeeze the sector even further. It's already hard to find a childcare space but it's going to get harder as funding for new spaces is stopped.

As ever I am always happy to hear from you. I can be contacted by email at claire.trevena.mla@leg.bc.ca, through my Campbell River office on 287 5100 or at home on 285 2167.

- Claire Trevena

Cancer Study Continues

Amped on Nutrition is still involved in a cancer study on Quadra Island. Please if you or any member of your family has now or has previously had cancer while living on Quadra Island you qualify for the study. This is a long term project which will probably take 5 years to complete.

Amped is taking information on cancer cases and mapping the occurrences on Quadra. We are working together with the Cape Mudge Band which is now in the process of testing for cancer causing agents in the air. In trying to identify the source they are working with an environmental consultant Michael Gordon from Vancouver.

In addition Dr. David Martin of Health Canada is in the process of matching postal codes with cancer on the south end of Quadra. We need to know your postal code as part of our information gathering. Please contact Amped on Nutrition with your details at 285-3142

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Trevena Meets Health Minister On Hospital Proposal

VICTORIA – There has been no final decision to place a regional hospital part way between Comox and Campbell River, said North Island MLA Claire Trevena.

Trevena made the comments after meeting with Health Minister George Abbott in Victoria on Wednesday.

"The Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) has indicated its preference for a single hospital at a particular location, but it still has to get approval for its plans from the government," said Trevena.

"That's why I met with the Minister. He needed to know about the widespread opposition to the project. I'm still hopeful that citizens from the Comox Valley, Campbell River and the whole North Island will have the final say."

Trevena's meeting with Minister Abbott came amid a growing sense that VIHA neither listened to the thousands who protested the move to a regional hospital nor took into account all the potential impacts of placing a large hospital at Dove Creek.

"The Minister was able to hear about the concerns of the 8,000 people who signed petitions to keep our existing hospitals in the Comox Valley and Campbell River, and about the hundreds of emails and letters from people who want their voices heard," said Trevena.

"There are huge healthcare issues associated with placing of the hospital in a remote location. It takes people away from their communities and it adds travel time when there's an emergency.

"And there is also a huge environmental impact – both in building within the Agricultural Land Reserve and also in the travel to and from the hospital. The government last week said it wants to reduce sprawl, but this location will create just that."

Accommodation Proponent Chosen For Cape Scott Park

VICTORIA - Following a request for proposals, Strategic Forest Management Inc. (SFMI) has been selected to design a fixed-roof accommodation facility and provide associated visitor services for Cape Scott Provincial Park.



Cape Sutil on the new North Coast Trail

SFMI's overall concept involves a hut-to-hut operation along the North Coast Trail that utilizes yurts for roofed accommodation and offers a variety of educational, recreational and interpretive services for park visitors. The yurts will be designed and built to have minimal impact on the sensitive ecosystems and wildlife populations in Cape Scott Park.

SFMI is the current Park Facility Operator for Cape Scott, as well the contractor for construction of the North Coast Trail. The locally based company employs about 50 professional and technical staff and plans to expand its tourism and recreation sector business.

The successful proponent is responsible for the completion of agency, stakeholder and public consultations. The ministry is responsible for consultation with First Nations and, where necessary, accommodation of First Nations' interests.

The goal of the BC Parks Fixed-Roof Accommodation Policy is to offer greater choice to a wider range of visitors, while protecting the ecological integrity of our parks over the long term. B.C.'s population is aging and, while tenting is attractive to many people and some can afford large recreational vehicles, others may prefer or require the option of staying in a cabin or lodge.



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Four Seasons

with the Vancouver Island Symphony and guest artists Tetsuumi Nagata and Wendy Hatala Foley

Friday, March 16, 2007, 7:30 p.m. (Pre-concert talk 6:30 p.m.) Tidemark Theatre Tickets: 287-7465

In celebration of Spring the Vancouver Island Symphony presents an all Vivaldi concert with a special performance of The Four Seasons as played by guest artist Tetsuumi Nagata, Nanaimo's protégé, recent graduate of the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music in England, and young violin virtuoso. Nagata will demonstrate his brilliant technique, warm beautiful sound and interpretation. Also featured are Concerto for Orchestra RV 155 in G minor and Stabat Mater with mezzo soprano Wendy Hatala Foley.

Call For Submissions For exhibitions in the Satellite Display Cases

The Campbell River and District Public Art Gallery is looking for work from North Island Artists to exhibit in our Satellite Display Cases located in the lobby of the Centennial Building (home to the Visitor Info Centre and the Gallery). We are currently accepting proposals for exhibitions for the 2007 schedule. Emerging artists, art students of all ages, local artists, and community groups are invited to submit proposals for exhibition.

There are four cases measuring 6, x 6, and 11' in depth. The displays in the cases rotate every four to six weeks throughout the year so there are many opportunities for exhibitions. If you are interested in submitting an exhibition proposal please send or deliver a description of your proposal for the cases and up to ten images (slides, prints or jpeg's on a CD) of your work. Please include a list of works (including dimensions) and artist(s) biography. Submissions can be sent to Satellite Submissions, Campbell River & District Public Art Gallery (1235 Shoppers Row, Campbell River, BC V9W 2C7). For more information please contact the gallery at 287-2261 or e-mail art.gallery@crcn.net.

It's never too late to discover the artist in YOU!

Trying something new shouldn't be intimidating. If you've ever felt the urge to put pencil or paint brush to paper but are not sure how to start, then the Campbell River Art Gallery has the answer for you. The gallery is offering two introductory art classes in drawing and watercolour painting with artist and instructor Sandra Lamb. Sandra is well known and well thought of by her former students. They will be the first to tell you that she has a gentle, patient attitude to her teaching style ^ no intimidation, just a matter-of-fact approach to providing her students with the skills to meet their artistic needs. Award winning fibre artist and former student Carol Seeley has used her new-found drawing skills to create images that she incorporates into her quilts. 'Sandra was very patient with us,' Carol states, 'She worked to each student's level whether you had some previous drawing skills or not'.

The 'Intro to Drawing' session is offered on Monday evenings beginning March 5th. Sandra will gradually introduce her students to the basic materials and techniques to get started during this eight-week class. The fee for members is \$130 and \$145 for non-members. A short supply list can be picked up at the gallery. Please register by the closing date of Saturday, March 3rd.

For those looking for something new in watercolour, consider signing up for Judi Pedder's one-day workshop on painting on Masa paper. Most artists paint on watercolour paper that is very absorbent and smooth to the touch. Using a different surface, like that found on Masa paper, offers up a range of effects ideally suited to subject matter like landscapes and florals. Drop by the gallery lobby to view some examples of Judi's paintings on this paper that are in the gift shop display case. This class will be held on Saturday, March 10th. Bring along your regular painting supplies. Judi will provide the Masa paper on which to work that day. The fee is \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members. The closing date for registration is Thursday, March 9th.

These are the last introductory classes on the program schedule this Spring so don't miss out. Registration can be done over the phone (287-2261) or in person. The gallery is located at 1235 Shoppers Row (same building as the Visitor Info Centre). Hours of operation are 12pm to 5pm Tuesday through Saturday.



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New Exhibits at CR Public Art Gallery

The Campbell River Public Art Gallery is the place to be on the evening of Friday, March 2nd as they welcome the arrival of two new exhibitions by Lower Mainland artists Cynthia Nugent and Krista Mullally.

The Main Gallery will be filled with Cynthia Nugent's show 'Rumpelstiltskin's Cupboard: Interactive Fairytale Art'. Nugent is a well-known Vancouver painter and children's book author and illustrator who works in oil monotype, watercolour, wooden automata, and acrylic. She has had many exhibitions of her artwork and has also illustrated a number of award-winning picture books, all of which have been included on the Canadian Children's Book Centre's Our Choice lists. Stephen Hume of the Vancouver Sun once wrote that Cynthia Nugent is "one of the best illustrators in North America." Her first book, *Mister Got to Go*, is now considered a Canadian classic. Her other books include *Mister Got to Go* and *Arnie, Goodness Gracious Gulliver Mulligan, When Cats Go Wrong and Memories* (Scholastic Education). Upcoming in 2007-08 are four new illustrated books including *The Aunts Come Marching* by author and beloved CBC radio personality Bill Richardson. Cynthia is also the author of the juvenile novel *Francesca and the Magic Bike* (Raincoast) which was shortlisted for the B.C. Book Prizes and four children's choice awards.

Nugent's body of work will provide visitors of all ages a chance to explore fairytales through the eyes of this artist. Bring your family, friends, school classes and leisure groups down to the gallery for a very unique exhibition.



Cynthia Nugent's exhibition 'Rumpelstiltskin's Cupboard: Interactive Fairytale Art' opens at the Campbell River Public Art Gallery at 7pm on Friday, March 2nd.

'Rumpelstiltskin's Cupboard' will remain at the gallery until April 5th.

Krista Mullally's 'Diary of an Obsessive Compulsive' is opening this Friday as well in the Discovery Gallery. Mullally is a self-diagnosed obsessive compulsive whose moments of 'OCD' are moderately disruptive to her lifestyle. Mullally states, 'After first going public with my condition and introducing it into my work, I realized both the therapeutic nature of presenting the condition in an amusing light, as well as the fulfilling nature of a piece of work that was completely honest and one I could speak to as ^ in my non-medical opinion - a complete authority.' By presenting a condition she found embarrassing and frustrating as a funny reminder of the uncontrollable neurosis that make us human, she found herself being able to relate to her audience in a newly rewarding way. 'While I had typically worked from a very non-personal point of view,' Mullally comments, 'exploring this disorder or facet of my personality has enabled me to connect with my work in a way that I hadn't done previously.'

The exhibition is laid out as a 'journalistic' photoshoot interspersed with paintings of five items, out of the many, that obsessed her at the time, and more often than not, made it difficult for her to get outside. Mullally is a recent graduate of the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design. She currently resides in New Westminster.

Both exhibitions open this Friday, March 2nd at 7pm. The public is invited to attend. Admittance is by donation. Also, a reminder that the next Super Saturday family drop-in event is on Saturday, March 3rd from 1-3pm. Participants will be trying their hand at creating puppets in a program called 'Rumpelstiltskin in the Studio'. The gallery is located at 1235 Shoppers Row (next to the Visitor Info Centre). Hours of operation are Tuesday to Saturday from 12-5pm. For further info about exhibitions, classes, and other events call 250-287-2261.

New Instructors at CR Public Art Gallery

The Campbell River Public Art Gallery has added two new art instructors to help provide some fresh ideas and fun for kids participating in the children's afterschool art programs this spring. Quadra island artist Pippa Kaye has developed a following of 'little' artists on this island in her private classes. She will run the Tuesday program for 4 to 7 year olds beginning March 6th with a five week class called 'Storybook Pictures' based on the upcoming exhibition by Cynthia Nugent called 'Rumpelstiltskin's Cupboard: Interactive Fairytale Art'. Pippa will help the kids tell stories, their own or standard fairytales, through visual art. Each child will find a unique way to communicate their tale whether it's through drawing, painting or collage. 'This is a fun way for children to learn how to paint and draw while creating a visual language,' claims Kaye.



'It also teaches them creative problem solving in a fun environment.' Her background as a scenic painter for film, television, theatre and dance is sure to help her guide your little ones through some challenging creative projects. The deadline for registration for this class is Saturday, March 3rd.

Pat Carpenter has also recently joined the gallery to teach afterschool programs for 7 to 12 year olds on Thursday afternoons. She currently resides on Quadra Island, though she is originally from California. She brings a wealth of experience with her as she has been actively involved in children's leisure service programs

in many of the communities that she has lived. She begins with 'Stories in My Cupboard', a five week course beginning March 8th. This is a great program for youngsters who like to build things rather than draw them, as they'll be putting together Dioramas (small scale scenes in a box) based on their favourite stories. All types of materials will be cut up, glued, recycled and refabricated to tell a story. Be sure to visit the 'Rumpelstiltskin's Cupboard' exhibition for diorama ideas. The deadline for this class is Tuesday, March 6th.

Katherine Douglas will be once again teaching her popular 'Manga Mania' class to 7 to 12 year olds on Wednesday afternoons. Japanese cartooning has become a pop culture phenomenon to the newest generation, and Campbell River kids are no exception. This class fills up quickly

so be sure to register well before the deadline (Saturday, March 3rd).

All of the afterschool programs run from 3:30-5pm for a period of five weeks. The gallery provides all the supplies, just wear your art making clothes in case it gets a little messy. The fee for members is \$57, and \$69 for non-members. There are still two more sessions after this set of classes so be sure to pick up your schedule. The gallery is located at 1235 Shoppers Row (across from the library). Hours of operation are Tuesday to Saturday from 12-5pm. Registration can now be done over the phone as well (287-2261).

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Halliday's Viewpoint

by Steven Halliday

An Act of Political Folly

Iraq and Iran have very little in common other than rich histories, buckets of oil and a predominately Islamic population. While a civil war rages between Shia and Sunni Muslims in Iraq, Iran is firmly in the control of the country's Shia majority under ruling cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Some in the west have become concerned at the rantings of Iran's bombastic young President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, but the real power rests with Khamenei, who tolerates the younger President's provocative and fiery denunciations of the USA and Israel as it serves a political purpose, and Ahmadinejad has developed a following with younger Iranians. He has come under criticism within Iran of late, since his frequent and lengthy speeches do nothing to alleviate the very real economic concerns of the average Iranian. Iran is a wealthy country, with the second largest reserves of oil in the world, but economic sanctions imposed by the UN over Iran's nascent nuclear program are starting to take their toll. One other thing the two countries have in common – both endured dictatorial regimes that were either put in place or actively sponsored by the USA, and it looks increasingly likely they will share the same fate due to America's displeasure and present foreign relations strategy of pre-emptive strikes.

In spite of repeated denials by senior officials of the US government, speculation is rampant that Iran is in the crosshairs of the US Air Force and Navy, and that all of the necessary assets are now in place to launch an air attack with the arrival in the Persian Gulf of the USS *John C. Stennis* carrier group, which joins the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* and its supporting vessels. Responsibility for military operations in the region has recently been handed to Admiral William Fallon with confirmation of his appointment as Commander of US Central Command. Fallon is an air attack specialist with experience in carrier operations from Vietnam through the Gulf War, and CENTCOM has never before had a Naval leader; unsurprising, since CENTCOM is a land command, while the Navy, quite logically, usually

looks after regions such as the Pacific and Atlantic Command's. The change in tactical command (Fallon replaces ground pounder Gen. John Abazaid), coupled with redeployment of the *Stennis*, appears to many observers to be the culmination of Pentagon planning for the attack. Further indications of US intentions comes with recent allegations of Iranian meddling in Iraq by George W. Bush and Dick Cheney, although other senior members of their administration, including Joint Chiefs Chair Gen. Peter Pace, have been trying to downplay the rhetoric due to the extremely vague nature of the "evidence".

The basis for the USA's concern is primarily two-fold. Iran makes no secret that they are developing an extensive nuclear power program to supply energy, and are resistant to US and UN demands that they cease doing so since they are also developing the capacity to produce nuclear weapons. Though Iran denies this charge, nobody really believes them, and in view of what has happened in Iraq and fundamental disagreements with nuclear-armed Israel, it is really no surprise that Iran would seek these weapons. The second irritant for America is that Iran is surreptitiously providing material support to Shia militias in Iraq, which often ends up being used against American personnel in Iraq. The latter should come as no surprise to anyone, given the past and present plight of Shiite followers in Iraq at the hands of the Sunni, and is undoubtedly true – Iran has always covertly and overtly supported Shiite militias in the region. And it is indeed highly likely that Iran does intend to develop nuclear weapons, and wishes to join Israel, Pakistan and India as regional nuclear powers. This development is entirely unacceptable to the Bush administration, and many observers agree that an attack on Iran will be focussed on taking out the nuclear infrastructure now in place. To do so, however, will require an intense assault to neutralize Iranian air defences. Something all observers agree on is that Iran will certainly retaliate against any

attack, likely by blockading the Straits of Hormuz (the transit point for 40% of the world's oil); and worse, taking advantage of the presence of 130,000 US troops in Iraq – virtual sitting ducks. They are capable of both.

Fortunately there is by no means a solid consensus of support for any attack. According to the *Guardian* of February 10/07 "Neo-conservatives, particularly the Washington-based American Enterprise Institute, are urging Mr. Bush to open a new front against Iran. So too is the Vice President, Dick Cheney. The State Department and the Pentagon are opposed, as are Democratic congressmen and the overwhelming majority of Republicans...The Bush administration insists the military build-up is not offensive but aimed at containing Iran and forcing it to make diplomatic concessions." If this is indeed the case, why then did the Americans rebuff Iran's previous efforts to negotiate? A story in the March 2007 issue of *Vanity Fair* magazine ("From the Wonderful Folks Who Brought You Iraq" – Craig Unger) describes how in May 2003 the Iranian government forwarded a comprehensive proposal to the USA (via Switzerland's Ambassador to the US) that included submission to strict International Atomic Energy Agency inspections, cessation of support for radical political organizations such as Hezbollah and Hamas, and acceptance of the 2002 Arab League resolution calling for peace with Israel. "It was somewhat surprising when the Bush Administration simply declined to respond. There was not even an interagency meeting to discuss it." Instead, "the White House had the State Department send Guldemann (the Swiss Ambassador) a message reprimanding him for exceeding his diplomatic mandate".

If an attack is truly being considered, the Bush Administration has one sure ally – Israel. Former Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu (who is apparently seeking a return to power) gave an interview to CNN in November 2006 in which he said, "Iran is Germany, and it's 1938,

except that this Nazi regime that is in Iran...wants to dominate the world, annihilate the Jews, but also annihilate America." The article points out that that attacks on hardened targets in Iran would require the use nuclear "bunker busting" weapons, though the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty bans the use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states. However, it is believed the USA has sold Israel such bunker busters, and Israel is not a signatory to that treaty.

Last December the Bush-appointed Iraq Study Group released its report, which was of course completely ignored by Bush. One of its key recommendations was that the USA begin direct dialogue with both Syria and Iran over Iraq and other Middle Eastern issues. Unfortunately this recommendation, like the recommendation to send no more troops to Iraq, has not been heeded. The *Guardian* article quotes a spokesman for an American think-tank – "To argue diplomacy has not worked is false because it has not been tried. Post-90's and through to today, when Iran has been ready to dance, the US refused, and when the US has been ready to dance, Iran has refused. We are at a stage where Iran is ready to walk across the dance floor and the US is looking away." According to the February 10-16/07 issue of *The Economist* – its cover features an in-flight B-2 bomber under the words "Next stop Iran?" – Bush "may come to see a pre-emptive strike on [Iran's] nuclear programme as fitting way to redeem his presidency. That would be a mistake." Gee, no kidding. And *Vanity Fair* quotes former US National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski on such an assault – "an act of political folly" so severe that "the era of American preponderance could come to a premature end." Perhaps the end of preponderance would be a good thing – and hopefully before Bush causes a firestorm in the Middle East that could engulf the rest of the world.

Iran is not Iraq, and a diplomatic solution – not another war – is the only way out of the mess.



Island Report

by Philip Stone

Plans Afoot for a New Library on Quadra Island

Perched on a scenic lot above the wharf at Heriot Bay the Quadra Island branch of the Vancouver Island Regional Library has served Quadra and outer islanders since the library moved into the location in 1990. But while the aging building has provided stalwart service over the last decade and a half, demand for library services on the island seems to be out growing the current facility.

As is the community way, an interested group of Quadra residents have struck, what has been up to now, an informal committee to discuss the concept of building a new, expanded facility in a more central location. One of the committee members Bruce Bjornson describes what the committee has discussed so far: "It began with an idea about a year ago that it might be time for Quadra to have a larger better equipped library" Bjornson said, "As the community centre seemed a natural location the idea was brought before the Quadra Island Recreation Society board and was met with enthusiasm".

The board passed a unanimous resolution to support the idea of a new library building either as stand alone building adjacent to the community centre or as an addition to the centre itself. So enthusiastic were the board that members Steve Moore and Sue Rose joined Bjornson, his partner Darcy Mitchell and Paul Puddy on a committee to take the matter further.

The next step was to approach the Vancouver Island Regional Library where Susan Yates put the Quadra group in touch with V.I.R.L. Board member and Regional District Area B (Lazo North) director Barbara Price. Price is the Regional District rep. to the V.I.R.L. board. Price also supported the concept and so the necessary bases and support was covered.

Area J director Jim Abram is also in support of the new library and has advised the library committee that there may be provincial funds available for the project.

Not surprisingly fund raising is one of the main hurdles to overcome. But with \$55,000 already committed in private donations the fund is off to a good start toward its goal of some \$200-\$250,000. Bruce and the Quadra Library committee are hoping that although some government funds might be



Quadra Island's library on Cramer Rd.

photo: Philip Stone

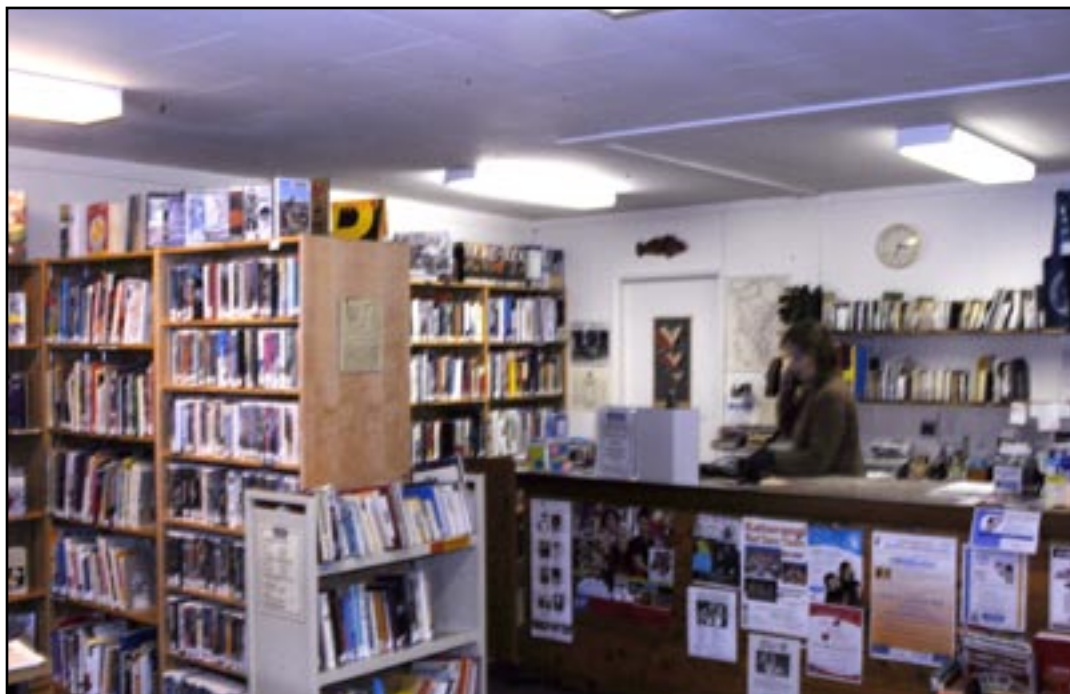
available that there will be some Islanders who will see the new library project as an ideal cause to donate money toward and the library will become a legacy that everyone can be proud of contributing to. The intention is to fund raise for the entire project and contract the construction of the building according to V.I.R.L.'s specifications. The library would then be made available to V.I.R.L. under some form of lease arrangement at less or equal cost to that of the current facility.

That Quadra needs a new and expanded library seems to be a widely held idea. The current library is an older, rented, converted home and at around 1,000 square feet just doesn't have enough room for the amount of use and certainly not enough for the expected growth in use as Quadra's demographics continue to change.

There is no room for expansion at the current library and the limited shelf space means that librarian Barb van Orden is continually having books shipped back off the island as there's no room to keep them here.

The West Road site has several advantages: there's the draw of the community centre itself almost guaranteed to have a positive effect on the library's use. The Quadra Children's Centre is barely a hundred metres away bringing a new generation of young readers within easy walking distance; there's the water and sewer systems of the community centre that are able to accept the additional demands of a new library, thus reducing the overall cost of the building; with the support of the Quadra Rec. Board and Regional District already secure siting the library on the community centre property will reduce the fund raising target from having to meet the rising purchase price of land and construction cost, to just focus on reaching enough money for an excellent building.

What shape the new library takes is of course a question filled with yet more questions but the concept Bjornson and the library committee have developed suggests that; subject to community and outside agency input, a building of about



Librarian Barb van Orden with her charges in the current library.

photo; Philip Stone

two thousand square feet would be adequate.

Also subject to V.I.R.L. and community input, the new library could contain suitable handicap accessible washrooms, an expanded children's area, an additional computer terminal or two, perhaps an expanded periodicals section, a quiet reading area, and an expanded reference section. And, of course, additional shelf space for books - lots of books.

It may be suitable to block off part of the new library building, perhaps

two hundred fifty to three hundred square feet or so, with an exterior entrance, for a community radio station, gallery space or any one of a number of suitable public facilities or services.

With support from the various interested bureaucracies in place and what appears to be a widely held opinion that a new library would benefit the community the library committee is looking for more public involvement and input.

Anyone that would like more

information, to make a donation or to get involved with the new library project can contact any one of the committee members; Bruce Bjornson and Darcy Mitchell 285-2739, Steve Moore 285-3323, Paul Puddy 285-3931, Sue Rose 285-2512.

Comments may also be sent to Susan Yates at V.I.R.L Box 3333, Nanaimo, BC, Canada V9R 5N3

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02	04:39	4.1	13.5
Friday	11:56	3.1	10.2
	15:29	3.8	12.5
	22:55	1.4	4.6
03	05:03	4.1	13.5
Saturday	12:27	2.9	9.5
	16:14	3.8	12.5
	23:18	1.6	5.2
04	05:28	4.1	13.5
Sunday	12:54	2.6	8.5
	16:59	3.7	12.1
	23:14	1.8	5.9
05	05:53	4.1	13.5
Monday	13:13	2.4	7.9
	17:45	3.7	12.1
	23:29	2.1	6.9
06	06:16	4.1	13.5
Tuesday	12:49	2.2	7.2
	18:37	3.6	11.8
	23:53	2.4	7.9
07	06:34	4.1	13.5
Wednesday	13:18	1.9	6.2
	19:35	3.6	11.8
08	00:17	2.8	9.2
Thursday	06:45	4.0	13.1
	13:55	1.8	5.9
	20:43	3.5	11.5
09	00:38	3.1	10.2
Friday	06:57	4.0	13.1
	14:35	1.6	5.2
	21:59	3.6	11.8
10	00:58	3.4	11.2
Saturday	07:16	4.0	13.1
	15:21	1.6	5.2
	23:23	3.6	11.8
11	01:23	3.6	11.8
Sunday	07:41	3.9	12.8
	16:16	1.5	4.9
12	00:51	3.8	12.5
Monday	02:11	3.8	12.5
	02:43	3.8	12.5
	05:17	3.7	12.1
	08:10	3.8	12.5
	17:24	1.5	4.9
13	01:52	3.9	12.8
Tuesday	06:40	3.7	12.1
	08:44	3.7	12.1
	18:38	1.4	4.6
14	02:29	4.0	13.1
Wednesday	07:29	3.6	11.8
	09:47	3.6	11.8
	19:39	1.3	4.3
15	03:02	4.0	13.1
Thursday	07:56	3.4	11.2
	12:51	3.6	11.8
	20:30	1.2	3.9
16	04:32	4.1	13.5
Friday	09:28	3.2	10.5
	15:08	3.8	12.5



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