

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



Discovery Islander.ca

Gallery

Seasons Greetings!



Ferry Schedules

Campbell River - Quadra Island

Crossing Time: 10 minutes

Leave Quadra Island

6:15 am	3:05 pm
†7:05 am	**4:00 pm
8:00 am	5:00 pm
9:00 am	5:50 pm
10:00 am	7:00 pm
11:00 am	8:00 pm
12:00 pm	9:00 pm
1:00 pm	10:00 pm
2:00 pm	*11:00 pm

Leave Campbell River

6:40 am	3:30 pm
†7:30 am	4:30 pm
8:30 am	5:25 pm
9:30 am	6:15 pm
**10:30 am	7:30 pm
11:30 am	8:30 pm
12:30 pm	9:30 pm
1:30 pm	10:30 pm
2:30 pm	*11:30 pm

Quadra Island - Cortes Island

Crossing Time: 45 minutes

Leave Quadra Island	Leave Cortes Island
† 9:05 am	† 7:50 am
**11:05 am	9:50 am
1:05 pm	11:50 am
3:05 pm	**1:50 pm
5:05 pm	3:50 pm
6:45 pm	5:50 pm

* - Fridays and Saturdays only. † - Daily except Sundays.
 ** - Tuesday sailings are for Dangerous Cargo - No passengers.

Avoid Line-Ups

Peak local traffic are during morning and evening commutes. On Monday and Thursday Quadra - CR 9 am sailings, Cortes Island traffic has priority.

For More Information

Pick Up A Copy

of the Guide to the Discovery Islands and the Quadra Island map-brochure



www.quadraisland.ca
www.discoveryislands.ca

Serving the Discovery Islands since 1941

All of us at

Quadra Credit Union

wish the Best of the Season to our friends on the Discovery Islands.

It has been our privilege and pleasure providing community banking services to you in 2007, and we sincerely look forward to working with you in 2008.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Quadra Office: Lynne Jurgens

Ann Bown Carol Marrett

Cheryl Cartwright Angie McCabe

Maxine Donaldson Tania McMartin

Diane Elliot Asia Moir

Steve Halliday Ruth Rombough

Jennifer Hansen Janice Scott

Marg Heald Fair Taylor

Cortes Office:

Joan Bevington

Marthe Laberge

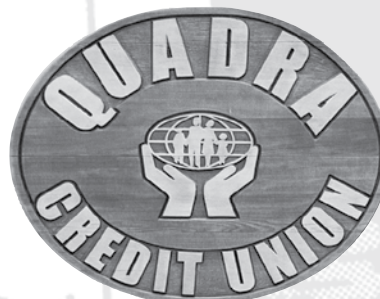
Ayami Stryck

Dolores Watson

Linda Winje

Member Direct™

www.quadracu.com



Quadra Island branch
 657 Harper Rd.
 Quathiaski Cove
 P.O. Box 190 V0P 1N0
 250-285-3327

Cortes Island branch
 777 Sutil Point Rd.
 Manson's Landing
 P.O. Box 218 V0P 1N0
 250-935-6617



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 and Saturdays at 4:00pm
- **Every Monday** - Badminton, 7:30 Cape Mudge Hall
 - Parent and Tots 9:30 am - noon Q.C.C.
- **Every Tuesday** - Smile Makers Kidz Klub Q.I. Bible Church from 2:4-4:15 pm
 - 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 Children's Centre
- **Every Wednesday** - Moms and Babes 11 am - noon Q.C.C.
 - Community Lunch noon Q.C.C.
 - Badminton, 7:30 pm Cape Mudge Hall
- **Every Thursday** - Parent and Tots 9:30 am - noon Q.C.C.
 - Isle Sing 3-4:30 pm Q.C.C. upstairs, use South entrance
 - Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm at Quadra Island Bible Church
 - 7-9:30 PM: Life drawing sessions at Firesign Studio 285-3390
- **Every Friday** - Free Pool, Darts and Shuffleboard at the Legion 4 pm to 1am
- **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 - 900 Alder St. C.R. 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, December 31st 2007

Island Calendar is a list of on island events. Please submit separately for the **Island Calendar** and **News & Events** or indicate in your submission if you would like your event placed in both. **Following the text order exactly as above for email submissions is appreciated** (month, date, day, title, place and time), use the title as your email subject. Current advertisers welcome to submit events but not-for-profit items will be given priority. Thank you.

5 Day Forecast from Environment Canada

Thursday	Thursday night	Friday
 High 6°C POP 30% Chance of rain showers or flurries	 Low -3°C A few clouds	 High 4°C Rain or snow
Saturday	Sunday	Monday
 High 6°C Low 3°C Rain	 High 7°C Low 3°C Rain	 High 7°C Low 2°C POP 70% Chance of showers

Next deadline for the
Discovery Islander

December 31st

701 Cape Mudge Rd
news@discoveryislands.ca

On the cover



Astrid Johnston welcomes visitors at Draw Gallery - Village Square.
Photo: Tanya Storr

Day by day

Month of DECEMBER Firesign Christmas Gallery Show & Sale. Opening reception Dec 1 & 2 10- AM-4 PM. 730 Smiths Road, call Nanci for a Perrin Sparks portrait 285-3390

Saturday, December 22

- Old Fashioned Christmas
10:00 am - 4:00pm
QI Bible Church

Wednesday December 26 Boxing Day

- Annual Casino Night
7 pm to 1 am
Quadra Legion

Monday, December 31 New Year's Eve

- Noelle Maffin and Ian Christopher
\$39 per person 'til midnight
Heron @ the HBI
- Duffy Live
Tickets at the Legion bar \$15, includes late night buffet
Quadra Legion

Friday, January 25

- Quadra Sustainable Energy Fair
7:30 pm key note speaker, Joe Van Belleghem
Q.C.C.

Saturday, January 26

- Sustainable Energy Fair - Exhibits & Presentations
10 am to 6 pm Sponsored by Sierra Quadra
Q.C.C.

Island Calendar online: www.discoveryislander.ca

Where can you find...

Quadra Island - weather, tides, coming events, news accommodations, Google™, Yahoo™, webmail, links to local businesses and societies?

www.quadraisland.ca



Discovery Islands Realty Ltd.

ISLAND SPECIALISTS
Quadra, Cortes & The Neighbouring Islands



Please call us for any of your real estate needs.



Nancy Allwarden
Quadra & Outer Islands



Bill Bradshaw
Quadra & Outer Islands



Vicki deBoer
Cortes

www.discoveryislandsrealty.ca

Quadra 250.285.2800 Cortes 250.935.6716 islands@island.net



Subscriptions available

\$30.00* for 6 months

\$50.00* for 12 months (* includes GST)

Call 250 285-2234 for details

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, December 31st



Our Harbours, Our Community

Dear Editor,

Quadra Island is very fortunate to have two major harbours in our community, as well as two lesser ones in Granite Bay and at Surge Narrows. The two major ones, of course are in Quathiaski Cove and Heriot Bay.

These two harbours are owned by Fisheries & Oceans, Small Craft Harbours Branch. In 1995, they were leased out to a user group provided they formed a non profit corporation, with a membership and an elected board of directors. Their mandate is to maintain and operate these harbours and provide moorage and marine services to the public. The corporation, called a "Harbour Authority" charges moorage and user fees for services, and gets to keep the revenue to defray the costs of operation and maintenance. There are also funds available from Small Craft Harbours for capital improvements and major repairs.

In 1995 the "user group" was made up of people who used the harbours, mainly commercial fishermen. Their main focus was to provide a tie up spot for their vessels and to keep their moorage rates as low as possible. Over the years this dynamic has changed, due to the downturn in the fishing industry. Now, the majority of harbour users are made up of recreational vessels and other commercial vessels like dive charters, kayak outfitters, water taxis, aquaculturists, and service industry vessels. Heriot Bay is also heavily used by residents of the outlying islands. What has not changed, however, is that control of the Harbour Authority is still in the hands of the same few commercial fishermen who sit on the Board of Directors. The bylaws have been structured so that a majority of the board has to be from the commercial fishing sector. The board has also recently amended the bylaws so that they can control who is allowed to be a member. The bylaws say that membership is limited to those persons who are interested in furthering the objects of the corporation (which are not defined) and whose application for admission has received the approval of the Board of Directors. This was never the case in the past.

The board has also changed the bylaws so that, when a board member who is a commercial fisherman, comes up for re-election (every two years), only the commercial fishermen who are members (and are present) can vote on his re-election or replacement!

A small portion of the Board has recently taken it upon themselves to make some major changes in the operation of both harbours. These changes included removing me from my position as Harbour Manager. This has resulted in some serious consequences for the corporation, particularly for the harbour in Heriot Bay. Their focus is in Q Cove, and it shows.

The Annual General Meeting for the Harbour Authority took place on Dec.6th. It is required that the board provides the public with a minimum two weeks notice of this meeting. This was not done. They didn't notify all the members. In fact, they don't even have an updated membership registry, so they don't know who all the members are!

I applied for membership in the Harbour Authority on July 6,2007. I have a vested interest since my boat is tied up in Heriot Bay and has been for the past five years. The bylaws say that the Board will address new applications at the next board meeting. They had several meetings over the summer. I received a letter on Nov.26, 2007 signed by the new harbour manager. It informed me that my membership had not been accepted by the board! I went to the AGM to protest the board's refusal to accept my membership. I believe that the bylaw which allows the board to control the membership is both illegal and unethical. There are several other sections of the bylaws which fall into the same category. When I brought this up at the AGM, I was told that the bylaws were legal, and I was asked to leave. This is not a rant by a disgruntled former employee. I believe, as do many others, that these harbours are too important to be left in the hands of a few individuals who have their own personal agenda! Merry Christmas!

Paul Ryan

Salmon Farmer Responds

Dear Editor;

I find it necessary to respond to Roberta Robson's recent letters in the D.I. (Nov. 9th and Dec. 7th) which describes her perception of salmon farming in BC.

Let's get formalities out of the way – I am a salmon farmer and currently farm alongside the Kitsoo First Nations in Klemtu, BC. I enjoy what I do for a living and believe that we can enjoy both cultured and wild salmon on this coast. I am not writing today to claim our industry has zero impact. But this subject requires context to help your readers make an informed choice of their own.

I am not going to waste ink pointing out all the inaccuracies in Ms. Robson's letters, but a few absolutely require it:

- The anti-salmon farming rally that she recently attended in Port McNeill was organized by logger and ex-commercial fisherman Gary Stoner. He has claimed that logging, mining and fishing have had no negative impact on wild salmon stocks (Hansard notes, June 27, 2006, page 436) – yeah, right!

- The salmon farming industry does not claim zero impact from sea lice – it never has. If not properly managed at the farm, it has the potential to impact both our stock and wild stock. What the industry does argue is the fear mongering, headline grabbing claims that we have decimated pink salmon runs in the Broughton Archipelago. Remember, the highest return in a 50 year history occurred in the Broughton area in the year 2000 – salmon farming was the same size then as it is now.

- I disagree with her perception that salmon 'regularly' escape from net pens. The data Ms. Robson sites is from 1987-1996. Although newer information is readily available to her, she chose to cherry pick data that serves her purpose.

- Contrary to Ms. Robson's claims, Alaska DOES allow salmon farming – they call it ocean ranching. Whereas BC farms less than 20 million Atlantic salmon each year, Alaska ranches 1.5 billion Pacific salmon. Just like farming, ranching programs in Alaska produces salmon in hatcheries, transfers them to net pens in the ocean and feeds them the exact same feed. They then release 1.5 billion salmon into the ocean to compete

with natural salmon (in BC, we would have to call those salmon 'escapes'). Just like farming, ranching programs are only intended to produce additional salmon for commercial gain. If one is concerned about fish poop, feed consumption and genetic mixing, then perhaps ranching is more of a concern to you. (google search: "salmon ranching examined").

- Feed conversion ratio (FCR = the amount of feed to raise livestock) is most efficient when raising salmon at our farms. It takes less feed to raise salmon than it does to raise other types of meats. One reason for this excellent ratio is because salmon are cold blooded, and do not waste valuable energy heating their bodies.

- For Ms. Robson to scare the consumer away from a healthy product such as farmed salmon is silly. Salmon, farmed and wild, is extremely healthy...period.

- She is quoted as stating "Don't forget the collapse of the east coast cod fishery". Don't worry Roberta, I won't forget that the commercial fishing industry over-fished it. Thanks for reminding me. By the way, now they are farming cod on the east coast.

That is just a few of the inaccuracies in Ms. Robson's letters. In fact, it looks as though she has simply 'copy and pasted' the same old false information that you can find on numerous 'environmental' (ENGO) websites. Some of these ENGO's are heavily supported by U.S. philanthropic foundations that feel good about themselves when they attack BC salmon producers on behalf of the Alaska salmon producers. For example, the U.S. based Moore Foundation granted Seaweb \$560,000 for "identification of anti-farming audience and issues, integration of aquaculture science messages into anti-farming campaign, standardization of anti-farming messaging tool-kit, creation of an earned media campaign and co-ordination of media for anti-farming ENGOs."

My guess is that Ms. Robson has never toured a farm. I would be more than willing to arrange a tour for her on one of my farms, so she can have some accurate information about salmon farming in BC.

Brad Hallam
Quadra Island

Editor, dear sir,

The splitting of the regional district into two parts at the expense of an electorate that neither wants, needs nor can it afford such an increased burden makes no sense. On the face of it, it is stupid.

But someone will benefit from this action. Who? Government does a lot of stupid things - most things, actually, when you think about it. But, after the dust has cleared, someone comes out ahead if not smelling of filthy lucre. Look to the release of Crown lands near Port Renfrew for one of the latest and most transparent manifestations of greed and corruption. How does that initiative benefit the citizens?

"There will be jobs!" said the minister. So, we give away our children's birthright for the possibility of being hired to frame houses? Yippee.

One has to wonder at this Ida Chong-inspired government initiative to split the CSRD in the same light. Mis-spending 6.6 million just to move bureaucrats is the 'typically stupid' part. Now to find the corruption.....

What could possibly be in it and for whom (the usually behind-the-scenes, unidentifiable 'them')? Why would government do such a thing?

The only thing that makes sense is that it serves their political purpose. But, then the question is: "For whom and what is that purpose?" Given that it is not for the benefit of the people (and don't entertain that thought for a nanosecond even if you are a carpenter who wants to frame houses) then for whose benefit is it? Hint: follow the money.

Currently the money is in the Comox and Courtenay region. Could this all be development motivated? Could our neighbouring politicians to the south be responsible for this? How would they benefit? Well, for one thing they would be able to rid themselves of dissenting voices and contrary opinions. 'Democracy' would be so much easier. Their aspirations to greater political power could be facilitated by dividing the region. And the 'selling' of Comox/Courtenay would be simpler without dissenting voices.

The division of the CSRD would effectively silence rural voices; they would be marginalized into nether space. And so would we.

So far, the only obvious beneficiary is Comox/Courtenay politicians. The victim is our right to representation and our wallets.

J. David Cox

Articles, letters and artwork are all welcome for publication in 'Island Forum'
Opinions & endorsements expressed herein are those of the contributors and do not represent the views of the publisher.
If you would like to see an alternative point of view represented submit something yourself. We reserve the right to edit for space and content.

Next deadline 7pm December 31st

Some Lucky Jim History

Some Quadra Islanders are aware that we have preserved the Lucky Jim Gold Mine recently, as a heritage site for enjoyment by Canadians and tourists. Jim Abram co-ordinated me and other volunteers to make this project happen. The Lucky Jim Mine represents an example of Canadian history from the early 1900s, during the aftermath of the Klondike Gold Rush; when any gold discoveries created intense interest.

During the past year, I have donated four days' work, including library research, to help with the Lucky Jim preservation project. I have researched the mine's history, in the Campbell River Public Library, and in the Campbell River Museum Archives. I have also drawn and printed a Lucky Jim Mine location map and information sheet which is now available in local Tourist Information Centers. During last summer, I directed tourists and locals to the mine, and they showed much interest in the site. It's a pleasant half-day trip out to the mine and back, from Quathiaski Cove. The mine is near Granite Bay, on Granite Bay Road.

There is also a Geo Cache at the mine.

Here are some historical facts about Lucky Jim Gold Mine.

The Lucky Jim Mine began its life in 1908 with initial surveying and shaft drilling. By 1909, the mine was producing copper, silver, and gold in worthwhile quantities. Each ton of Lucky Jim ore was 8% copper, plus contained 3.5 ounces of silver and \$22.00 worth of gold. In those days,

\$22.00 was big money, and for a few years the mine was lucrative.

A steam locomotive, 'Old Curly', carried the ore from the mine to Granite Bay, where a ship took it to Ladysmith for crushing and smelting. 'Old Curly' had been used on Quadra Island since 1881, for hauling logs to Granite Bay, and was the first steam engine used on British Columbia's coast. The Union Steamship berthed twice weekly at Granite Bay and at other Quadra Island wharfs.

Finnish settlers arrived from Sointula Island and from Finland to work in the mine. Alfred Luoma, a craftsman cabin builder, was the Finn who built the cabins at the Lucky Jim Mine. He arrived from Finland with his brother Emil in 1908. The remains of the cabins Alfred built, with their distinct Finnish style, are still visible beside Granite Bay Road, near the mine. Arthur Stenfors arrived in 1908, and became the Lucky Jim Mine superintendent. During 1909, the Lucky Jim Mine produced 305 tons of ore.

Lucky Jim's main vertical mine shaft is 150 feet deep, with numerous side shafts---'drifts'---going horizontally off the main shaft at various levels. The second vertical shaft is 30 meters from the main shaft and is 35 feet deep. During its peak in 1910 and 1911, the mine produced 1100 tonnes of ore per month. The final year of production was 1912. Mechanical problems, plus a drop in the gold price, plus flooded shafts, closed the mine. The great Quadra Island Forest Fire of 1925 destroyed

the mine's buildings. This was the third of three large Quadra Island forest fires during a 20-year period.

In 1984/85, Butler Mountain Mineral Corporation became very interested in re-opening the mine, but this didn't eventuate.

Besides the two vertical mine shafts, the main attraction at the mine site is the old steam engine, which pumped water from the shafts, pumped ventilating air down into the shafts, and pumped air down to the miners' rock drills. Each gold mine from the gold rush era usually had unique steam or water-driven machinery. The Lucky Jim's steam engine, with its huge flywheel, is unlike anything I have ever seen at other old gold mines.

The Lucky Jim Heritage Site is worth visiting, and will soon be an important Quadra Island tourist attraction. Both of the two vertical mine shafts are now covered in heavy metal grills, on which you can stand and peer down into the shafts' depths. Children (and some adults) enjoy peering down into the deep vertical shafts, and imagining what it would be like to be stuck in the cold black water far below.

It was small-scale operations such as the Lucky Jim Mine, which helped establish Canada as a European colony, and as a modern nation. After lying abandoned, rusting, and rotting, for almost 100 years, the Lucky Jim Gold Mine now lives again, giving Quadra Islanders and tourists an historical treat.

Greg Ross
alpinewriting@lycos.com

Premier Campbell,

I am writing to express my opposition to the split of the Comox Strathcona Regional District and the abolition of Area K.

As Administrator of the Hornby Island Resident's & Ratepayers' Association for the past 13 years, I have had a close working relationship with the CSRD and an in depth knowledge about its service delivery.

I am opposed to this direction and to the process because:

1. No public consultation preceded this proclamation.
2. CSRD works well - maintains diversity in delivery of services in respect of the unique communities it encompasses.
3. The rural/urban balance, currently present in the CSRD, is absolutely necessary to assure sustainable communities.

Here on the west coast, we have a great responsibility. Quoting John Ryan, a Washington state environmentalist,

"No place on earth has a better shot at reconciling man and nature than the Pacific Northwest, the greenest corner of history's richest civilization."

Dismantling the CSRD I see as a fragmentation of our ability to work toward this reconciliation.

Yours truly,
Janet LeBlanc
Hornby Island, B.C.

New Electronic Toys

Aren't we fascinated with every new gizmo that comes along. We'd barely discovered the ampere when we set up the electric chair. A handy tool to make 'em squirm.

However I notice we got rid of the gas chamber. I suppose it was too obvious that it put us into a camp that we were in a big hurry to disassociate ourselves from.

I hear there's work being done on disabling lasers as another handy tool. The asp and the hemlock is out folks but who knows, it may come back. Water boarding did.

Still I am amazed that the lethal injection has not been replaced by the microwave oven or maybe it's the word 'oven' that chokes us up.

What will they think of next?
Dennis Gignac

www.discoveryislander.ca



**The Coast Discovery
Inn and Marina**

**North Islander
Special from... \$85***

DOWNTOWN CAMPBELL RIVER
(250) 287-7155 • 1-800-663-1144

***Fanny Bay
North** Restaurant - Lounge - Spa

www.coasthotels.com

**CHRISTMAS
arts and crafts
MARKET**

November 16 - December 24
Monday - Saturday from 10am-5pm

*a selection of high quality, handcrafted gifts by
Island artists and artisans*



1235 Shoppers Row, Campbell River (250)-287-2261

Quadra Emergency Program MEDICATIONS

In the event of an emergency on Quadra – such as a forest fire, mudslide or prolonged power outage - you might be asked to evacuate your home, or you might choose to relocate to another area.

Many people have medications that are critical to their health, and even a few missed doses can be life threatening. As part of our personal and family emergency plan readiness, we are advised to carry a list of current medications in our purse or wallet, or on our person, and to keep current medications together, easily accessible to pickup and go.

This information is always needed by Ambulance and hospital ER staff, during a personal emergency, and by eye doctor, and dentist as well. It would be of assistance in a general emergency to ID a person's need for critical medication.

Colleen Hogg at Peoples Drug Mart has arranged to provide a printed card containing clients' ID, PHN, personal health info, allergies, and list of medications, that could be easily carried in wallet. This service is free to her clients and available at a nominal cost to any others requesting this card at her pharmacy.

See Colleen for request forms that anyone can fill out for themselves, giving permission for Colleen and staff to provide this info on a card, and to keep

a printed copy on file at store, in event of total lack of internet access during a disaster.

One other suggestion from Colleen that could be helpful, would be to have ALL your current medications - prescription and non prescription - together - in one container, bag, or box that is easily picked up and transported in an emergency.

If you choose to have a 1-2 week supply of current meds in a "grab and go" bag with other personal care items, be conscientious about reviewing these meds every 3-6 months, as some outdate and dosages change.

We all know to do so, but many of us are not always good about reviewing ALL medications on hand. We should regularly be discarding out of date, and non used medications, including vitamins and over the counter pills, liquids and creams. Doing so each time you get a prescription refilled, might be a good reminder for some, as this is about every 3 months.

Colleen and/or any pharmacists can answer questions you might have regarding what and how to dispose of outdated and no longer used medications. Please call or visit your pharmacist if you have questions about your medications.

Betty Doak for Quadra Island Emergency Program

Please support your local bookstore

I just read an article in the latest issue of Yes ("Building a Just and Sustainable World") Magazine.

The author says that one of the best ways to get free of corporate power is to support your local bookstore.

(other ideas we are familiar with, are carpooling or riding a bike, making our own or buying locally made clothes, growing and buying food locally, using a local currency system, playing our own music and supporting independent musicians and filmmakers)

We are so lucky to have a great bookstore right here on Quadra!

Now I don't really want to berate you about driving to the US just so you can save on book prices...

I'd rather nudge you to do your bit by remembering that we all benefit from helping one another.

Another article in this same magazine states that people's health tends to be better in places where the gap between the rich and the poor is smaller. The wider the gap, apparently, the poorer people's health tends to be. Yes, 'the wealth divide also hurts the rich'. The notion proposed is that people with good health are those who take more time to slow down and spend time together, thus fostering interdependence... (book review, page 54, on the book: "Why good things happen to good people" by Stephen Post and Jill Neimark). Sounds like a great book! Maybe Robin can get you a copy...

If we support our local economy, we will keep it healthy too.

Nowhere is this more easily and immediately measured than in small communities like ours.

The right book can be such a meaningful, valuable gift. Books educate, entertain, teach us to live more simply, quietly, and best of all, they can be read by candlelight!

Books are great material for conversation, and they even inspire some people to write! Hooray for books! Let's bring back reading as a number one pass time!

Consider buying someone a gift certificate from our Quadra owned bookstore this year for Christmas. It will melt the cockles of your heart to know that, besides delighting someone with a true gift, you are turning your local economy around!

Power to the people!
Carriona O'Curry

What Time is It?

Time is of the essence

Time is money

We never have enough time

Time for family, time for work,
time to pursue pleasure

Our days are relegated to time
management

At this time.....

How long will it take to get there?

What time do I have to be there?

Time, the thief of peace and inner
solitude

I don't have time to reflect right
now, maybe tomorrow...I have a
deadline to meet.

Time, we are only allotted so
much of it.

Our days are numbered,

Written in the book of life,

Along with the number of hairs on
our head.

Use your time wisely, don't waste
time.....

What will I use my time for?

Will I use it to make a fortune, to
pursue power and prestige, fame?

Or will I use my time to reflect, to
love, to understand others?

Time, will I use it well?

Will I be happy at the end of my
time, content and at peace with how I
managed my time?

How will I use my time?

I will use it to write a prayer for all
those who are important in my life,
that they be blessed, that they not
suffer, that comfort will find them.

- Tucker Dinnes

A Unified Voice for the Islands' Business Community



JOIN TODAY

- Forum for Island businesses.
- Coordinating island promotion.
- Low annual membership dues

FOR MEMBERSHIP INFO

www.discoveryislands.ca/chamber

D.I.C.C. c/o Box 190, Quathiaski Cove. BC V0P 1N0

Call 1-866-285-2724 or eMail chamber@discoveryislands.ca

Tanya Storr

B.A. English

Freelance Writing
& Editing



285-3937

tstorr@connected.bc.ca



Area I Regional Director's Report

December 21, 2007

by Jenny Hiebert

Regional District business has kept me very busy this year and I hope to tidy all the loose ends today so I can move on to all the holiday activities. I haven't started any holiday preparations yet! No decorating, no presents, no baking—zippo! However, a welcome bit of holiday colour has blossomed forth in my house. Earlier this year I purchased a Double Red Dragon amaryllis bulb. The first flower has opened and it is the perfect festive red!

Comox-Strathcona Regional District Division

Minister Chong scheduled a meeting on December 3 in Victoria to discuss the division of the Comox Strathcona Regional District. Weather conditions were very poor and many directors, myself included, were unable to make the journey south. Five rural directors braved the treacherous roads and managed to attend in Victoria. A conference call was organized so all director's were able to speak on behalf of their communities. Minister Chong listened to the discussion and stated she would give careful consideration to all the positive suggestions that were expressed. I have just received her promised response. Below is a brief synopsis of the ten points addressed in her letter.

1. The Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) and Strathcona Regional

District (SRD) will be incorporated on Feb. 15, 2008.

2. Regional Water Supply—Letters Patent for the CVRD will create a water supply commission with political representation to mirror the new regional board excepting Area K. The commission will review existing CV water supply services by December 31, 2008. I will also develop a regional water supply service plan focused on coordinated management of water supply service, including demand management and watershed protection by Dec. 31, 2009

3. Regional Growth Strategy (RGS)—RGS for the CVRD is to be initiated by March 2008 and completed by Dec. 31, 2010.

4. Providing Water and Sewer Services to Rural Areas--member municipalities of both new regional districts are expected to relax their policies on provision of water and sewer to properties outside their boundaries. Further direction will be provided early 2008.

5. Harmonized Development Cost Charges (DCC)—Minister Chong will be seeking legislation at Spring 2008 session to further this CVRD objective. This requires development of a common capital plan and would reflect Official Community Plans and ultimately the RGS. Each jurisdiction will continue to levy its own charges but will use a common information base and will reflect all costs of development.

6. Community Planning in Unincorporated Areas--CVRD must provide SRD planning service for

2008-2009. There will be no major changes to the planning budget or staffing for two years. Arrangements for 2010 and beyond are outlined in #7. Minister Chong expects that, with the new regional governance framework in place, there will be more collaboration between municipal council and EAD's on planning matters!

7. Managing Transition and Mitigating Potential Cost increases--Transitional years--Administrative responsibility stays the same for 2008 & 2009--unless there is an agreement by both Boards. Strathcona Gardens is the only exception, which will have CVRD administration for 2008 only, unless parties agree otherwise. The Ministry will pay the costs of an Administrator for the SRD for 2008, which will ensure early discussions between the two new regional districts on service delivery approaches. Other administrative costs will be covered by the Ministry's with ongoing unconditional grants. The ministry will also pay for a service facilitator to assist both regional districts in designing service delivery beyond transitional years. This facilitator will be mandated to assist with the creation of an EAD services committee in each RD, municipal participation in EA planning, including possible partial participation agreements; and potential for CVRD to continue delivering services to SRD beyond transitional years. The ministry will monitor discussions and provide additional financial assistance (if appropriate) or assistance to implement the new service delivery arrangements. Ongoing Financial Assistance for CVRD will be \$776,000 over five years, and \$922,000

for the SRD over five years which represents \$1.1 million more than the CSRD would have received if it had not been divided.

8. Oyster Bay-Buttle Lake (Area D) will remain in the SRD.

9. Governance Structure—The voting unit for both regional districts will be lowered to 1,500, which will entitle Courtenay and Comox 1 new director each and Campbell River 2 new directors effective Feb. 15, 2008. Meanwhile, in the CVRD, Baynes Sound (Area A) and Denman-Hornby (Area K) will be amalgamated as will Kyuquot-Nootka (Area G) and Sayward-Blodel (Area H) in the SRD. These amalgamations are effective November 2008. These amalgamations and altering of the voting unit favor municipalities and penalize rural areas. After the 2008 election the CVRD will have 6 municipal and 3 rural directors. The SRD will have 9 municipal and 4 rural directors.

10. Infrastructure Projects for Areas A & D will be addressed by Dale Wall under separate letter

It is quite clear that Minister Chong did not give any real consideration to any of the thoughtful arguments opposing division, the creative alternatives to division, or concerns rural directors and constituents expressed. Clearly the only democratic process acknowledged by the current provincial government is during an election. Quite frankly, rural governance issues have been worsened in both new regional districts. The ramifications of the outlined changes will echo for many years to come.

Meg's Island



Thanks to everyone that took the time to write a letter opposing this restructuring by division. Letters of protest are now in order.

Regional Chair and Vice Chair Elections

The Comox-Strathcona Regional District (CSRD) board and Regional Hospital Board are made up of elected rural electoral area directors and municipal directors appointed by their councils. Directors serve for three years and elect a chair and vice-chair for each Board every December. The newly elected executive offices reflect a good balance between rural/municipal and north/south interests.

At the recent inaugural regional board meeting Craig Anderson, Mayor of Gold River, was elected Chair and Barbara Price, Director for Lazo North (Area B), was elected vice-chair. They will serve in these positions until the CSRD is dissolved into two new regional districts on February 15, 2008. I hope to see the return of respectful procedure and debate during board meetings. Inaugural elections for the new regional districts will take place on February 15, 2008.

The Regional Hospital Board elected Fred Bates, Mayor of Cumberland to serve as Chair and Brenda Leigh, Oyster Bay/Buttle Lake (Area D) as Vice Chair. The hospital board will continue to examine the regional hospital concept as well as dealing with existing remote health facilities, including the Cortes Medical Clinic.

Advisory Planning Commission Appointments

At the December Board meeting Paul Brewer, Joe Cliffe, Bruce Ellingsen, Frances Guthrie, Julia Rendall, Kristin Scholfield-Sweet, and Doug Weyler were appointed to the Cortes Advisory Planning Commission. I truly appreciate the thoughtful ideas and comments these individuals bring to the planning issues facing our island community. Thanks for the interest and willingness to serve as a commission member.

Skate Park Vault Toilet

By now many of you have noticed the new road next to the Skate Board Park. This is the access needed for the manufactured single vault toilet delivery truck, which was scheduled to be installed last week. Ian Disney was been working with the SCCA to prepare the site and was waiting to finish the excavation needed to install the concrete vault (holding tank) on the date of delivery and everyone was looking forward to completing this project. Unfortunately, that day the crank truck needed to deliver the unit "blew" its engine. We are awaiting confirmation of the new arrival date from the Nanaimo manufacturer McKay Precast.

The division of the regional district has made this year particularly very challenging and stressful. The

www.discoveryislander.ca

holiday offers a much-needed break from all things remotely related to regional district business. I look forward to spending the next two weeks enjoying family and friends in a relaxed holiday atmosphere. Anyone having questions regarding regional district matters should contact the Courtenay office at 1-800-334-6007. Regional district staff will be pleased to assist you. I will once again be available after January 2.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season and a delightful new year.

Respectfully Submitted by Jenny Hiebert—
Regional Director

Honey Sun Massage
specializing in the beautiful experience of
**Traditional
Hawaiian
Lomi Lomi
Massage** 

Sunday Dennis
Phone: 285-3197
certified by Aunty Margaret & Nancy Kahalewai

NEW TICKET SALES & LOADING CUT-OFF TIMES

Effective Monday, January 7, 2008 All Minor & Intermediate Terminals

Dear Valued Customer;

In order to allow sufficient time for safe, consistent and clear Shore Closure Procedures, BC Ferries will be implementing new ticket sales and loading cut-off times effective Monday, January 7, 2008 at our minor and intermediate terminals. Similar procedures are already in effect at our major terminals.

This policy will allow for an accurate passenger count prior to departure, allow safe on-time vessel departures resulting in more efficient fuel consumption and show respect to our customers who arrive on time.

The new cut-off times for minor and intermediate routes are as follows:

VEHICLES

- **5 Minutes** prior to scheduled sailing time at the following terminals:
Little River, Westview, Saltery Bay, Earls Cove and Snug Cove
- **3 Minutes** prior to scheduled sailing time at all other minor terminals

FOOT PASSENGERS

- **5 Minutes** prior to scheduled sailing time at all minor terminals

All traffic that is ticketed or in line at the pre-ticket area prior to the cut-off time will be loaded if there is deck space available. If the vessel's arrival is delayed, the cut-off time will be the vessel's arrival time.

Complete schedule information is available at www.bcferries.com or by calling 1 888 BCFERRY (888 223 3779) between 7:00 am and 10:00 pm daily.





Area J Regional Director's Report

December 21, 2007

by Jim Abram

A very merry Christmas, happy holiday season and wonderful new year to all of you! The timing of this issue is near perfect for sending holiday greetings. I hope that all of you will have time to spend this season with friends and family and forget about some of the other things that clutter our lives throughout the rest of the year. Everyone needs a break once in awhile! After I finish this report, I will be concentrating on seasonal activities as much as I can. I know I am dreaming to think that the time will be mine, but I intend to try to limit my local government work over the next two weeks and spend time with my family. That is the plan, anyway!

Regional District (CSRD) Restructure

I would like to thank all of the people that have taken the time to write letters to the Minister, the Premier and the CSRD regarding the ridiculous initiative to split the CSRD into two regional districts. We now have the cost estimates, in the public domain, for the very basic costs that cannot be avoided and they are outrageous. To think that this entire issue and the associated costs are being driven by the egocentric needs of a couple of politicians at the local and provincial level is thoroughly disgusting in my mind.

I risked my life driving to Victoria on Dec. 2nd in the worst snow storm of the year so as to make an early morning meeting with the Minister on Dec. 3rd. That is how strongly I feel about this misguided venture. And that trip did have an effect. The minister has softened her wording around the timelines and has allowed more input into the consideration of the issues. Today (17th) we are to receive her letter letting us know what her decision is on our board motion, asking for a one year extension. I am hopeful that she will actually listen to all of the input that she has received from the public. The government knows that they have made a bad decision and I think that they are now just trying to figure out how to best manage that bad decision without "losing face".

In the meantime, I hope that, you the public, will keep the pressure up and continue writing

to the premier and the Minister and copy the CSRD and me (at my usual address, below). The email addresses are as follows: Premier@gov.bc.ca CS.minister@gov.bc.ca administration@rdcs.bc.ca

I'll let you know in the January issue what happens with the whole issue.

Sewer News!

I know, it seems like a strange title. However, I do have some news on a number of issues that I have been working on for the past year and a half and longer on one issue.

I just had a very good meeting with our General Manager of Operations, Graeme Faris, to discuss the feasibility of a sewer in the Heriot Bay core area, an extension to the Quathiaski Cove sewer boundaries, and the installation of pump out stations at both Quathiaski Cove and Heriot Bay wharves. We have received some grant money to look at all of the above and I am actively pursuing all three.

I intend to hold a public meeting in the third week in January to present the findings of the engineers / consultants regarding the Heriot Bay project. A great deal of detailed information will be available at that time so that the public will be able to make informed decisions as to whether or not they wish to proceed to a referendum on the topic.

With regard to Quathiaski Cove, there have been numerous requests from residents living on the current boundary of the service area, to be included in the service area. This is being researched and the process that needs to be followed is underway.

The pump out station issue for the two major wharves has been something that I have been pushing for at the CSRD for many years. It was never a simple solution, but could possibly be now that we have a functioning sewer in Q. Cove and the Harbour Authority and the BC Ferries building will be hooked up to it within the year, and now that we are looking at sewer options in Heriot Bay. I intend to work closely with the Harbour Authority on this issue in the coming months.

I will keep you posted on these issues in future reports.

Official Community Plan (OCP) follow up

After an intense year of meetings and deliberations in the community, we did manage to come to an agreement on an update to our 1996 OCP. Already, we are starting to have positive consequences from the passing of the OCP. Meetings have been ongoing with regard to the prospect of some very innovative planning for seniors housing / care, affordable housing, commercial / residential mixed housing and sustainable energy planning. I have had one meeting with the group working on ideas and have initiated meetings with the CSRD to try and secure a planning consultant (of our choice) to help solidify some of the great ideas that are being discussed. So far I have met three times with the major players at the CSRD to try to get this in stream very early in the new year. This could not have happened without the revisions that we put into the OCP around Village Containment Boundaries in Quathiaski Cove. I am pleased that all of our work on the OCP is leading us to creative solutions to some of the problems that we are facing as a community and that the OCP process was a productive (though painful) exercise.

I am looking forward to a very productive and creative new year working with the community in realizing some of our dreams. Many positive initiatives have been started and finished in this past year and some are still ongoing. The next year will be even better! Once again, Merry Christmas and happy holidays to everyone!

Feel free to call me between the hours of 8:30 am and 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday (not on weekends, folks!) at 285-3355, or you can fax me at 285-3533 or you can email me anytime at abramfam@oberon.ark.com, or by mail at Box 278 in the Cove, V0P 1N0... Lots of choices!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Abram

Director, Discovery Islands - Mainland Inlets (Area J), CSRD

www.discoveryislander.ca



News and Events

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

Studio Tour '08

Quadra Island artists are invited to register for the annual Quadra Island Studio Tour '08 which will take place June 7th and 8th. Serious artists working in any medium can display their work at their own studio, another artists studio or at the community centre. Artists can also be part of the "Year-Round" self-guided studio tour brochure. Application forms and more information for both events can be picked up at Hummingbird Office Supply or phone 285-2628 to have them e-mailed. The deadline for applications is November 30th.

Time for Lunch

Quadra Island's Community Lunch has started up again. Mark every Wednesday on your calendar and come to the Community Centre at noon to meet your neighbours and eat a delicious meal.

The lunch will happen weekly on Wednesdays through to next spring. If you already know how special this occasion is, bring a friend who doesn't know about it yet. The more the merrier. The lunch is supported by a donation box, and is made possible by many generous volunteers.

Aerobics

Enjoy a refreshing, well rounded body workout with Marion.

Low impact cardio, strength training upper and lower body, core conditioning and stretching to the beat of great music. Improve your fitness. Get more energy and be part of a fun group class.

Everyone welcome. Suitable for beginners. Classes are Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00- 7:30pm at the Community Centre.

7:00- 7:30pm will be focused on stretching and relaxation. Drop in \$ 7 incl. stretching. For more information call Marion at 285 2895

www.discoveryislander.ca

Quadra Island Runners

Sundays at 8 am. Meet at the junction of Heriot Bay Road and Rebecca Spit Road. Anyone welcome!

Quadra Legion

Quadra Legion Lounge open Friday and Saturday at 4:00pm. Complimentary pool tables, darts and shuffleboard. Meat draws support Quadra Island based nonprofit organizations every Saturday 5:00pm to 6:30pm. New and established members with guests welcome. See you at the Legion!

Boxing Day Casino Night

An annual tradition at the Quadra Legion with Black Jack tables and more. Pick your dealer and let the fun begin. Mark your calendar for Wednesday December 26th, 7pm to 1am. See you the Legion!

Duffy Live New Year's Eve

Look no farther than the Quadra Legion to dance your way into the New Year. Tickets at the Bar open Friday and Saturday at 4pm. \$15/ person Dec 31, includes party favours and late night buffet.

Thank You

The Quadra Island Trails Committee would like to thank Dick Whittington from Quadra Island Forest Products and Barry Hatelt from Quadra Island Builders for their recent donation of building materials. We would also like to thank all of the volunteers who have helped with bridge construction and trail maintenance over this past year. A very Merry Christmas to you all.

Free Wood

Free wood is available by appointment. Call Steve Moore at 285-3323 from now until December 18. Call Paul Bishop at 285-2766 from December 18 to January 12.





www.quadrabuilders.com





Out with the Old and In with the New!
Best wishes to Jill and Welcome to Barb.
Have a safe and happy holiday from all of us .

Store Hours: Mon-Sat 8:00 - 5:00 • Sun 10:00 - 4:00
Ph: 285-3221 Cortes Toll Free: 1-877-585-3221 Fax: 1-866-509-8928

635 Noble Rd

Delivery to Cortes 4 days a week.












HERIOT BAY



December 21 2007 - January 3, 2008 While Quantities Last

GROCERY

Mary's
Gourmet
Crackers

ORGANIC
\$4.48
184g

Kettle Brand
Potato
Chips

ORGANIC
2 for **\$5.00**
for 142g

Pamela's Gourmet
Rice
Cookies

\$2.98
150g

Que Pasa
Tortilla
Chips

Pacific
Chicken or Veggie
Broth

ORGANIC
\$2.98
1L

Crofter's Premium
Fruit
Spreads

ORGANIC
2 for **\$2.98**
235ml

Blue Diamond
Nut Thin
Crackers

2 for **\$5.00**
for 120g

Walkers
Short
Bread

Farmer's Market
Canned
Pumpkin

ORGANIC
2 for **\$5.00**
397g

Imagine Foods
Assorted
Soups

ORGANIC
\$3.98
1L

Udder Guys
Ice
Cream
Assorted

\$4.88
500ml

Coca
Cola
Assorted F

Nature's Path
Eco-Pack
Cereal

ORGANIC
\$5.98
907g

Fair Trade
Cocoa Camino
Chocolate
Bars

ORGANIC
\$3.98
100g

Aroma
Christmas Blend
Coffee

\$8.88
1lb

Knorr
Soup
Assorted F

PRODUCE

Large
California
Yams &
Sweet Potatoes

98¢
lb
\$2.16/kg

Jumbo
White
Mushrooms

\$2.68
lb
\$5.91/kg

California
Broccoli
Crowns

\$1.48
lb
\$3.26/kg

ORGANIC
Bunch
Carrots 2 for **\$3.00**

California
Celery

68¢
lb
\$1.50/kg

Crisp & Juicy
X-Large BC
Braeburn
Apples

98¢
lb
\$2.16/kg

BULK

Royal
Nut Mix
\$1.48
/100g

Salted or Unsalted

Almond
Bark
\$1.28
/100g

Milk, Dark or White

Unsalted
Almonds
\$1.48
/100g

Panda - Natural
Licorice
\$1.88
/100g

Wine
Gums
88¢
/100g

Roasted
Peanuts
28¢
/100g
Salted or Unsalted

Bottle Returns in December will be Donated to the Quadra Island Food Bank

Christmas Eve closed @ 6
New Year's Eve closed

www.discoveryislander.ca

The staff at Heriot Bay Tru-Value would like to wish everyone the best during the holiday season and a **Happy New Year!**

s Last

illa **\$2.48**
454g
OS Assorted

Motts **Clamato** **\$3.98**
1.89L
Original, Extra Spicy or The Works

\$2.48
150g

Kelloggs **Mini Wheats** **\$3.98**
725g
Original, Strawberry or Brown Sugar

4 **\$5.00**
for
flavours 2L

Philadelphia **Cream Cheeses** **\$3.28**
Assorted 250g

\$1.48
flavours 40-87g

Maple **Syrup Dressings** **\$2.98**
250ml

MEAT

Hot Deal!!
Farmer's Best **Boneless - Blade Roast** **\$2.48** / lb
\$5.47/kg

Antibiotic & Hormone Free **Bone-In Hams** **\$2.28** / lb
\$5.03/kg
Shank or Butt Portions

Antibiotic & Hormone Free **Pork Side Ribs** **\$2.88** / lb
\$6.35/kg

Rocky Mountain **Ribs** **\$7.48** 600g
Dry, Honey Garlic or Sweet & Sour

Antibiotic & Hormone Free **Pork Breakfast Sausages** **\$2.38** / lb
\$5.25/kg

Free Range
Whole - Frozen **Chicken** **\$2.98** / lb
\$6.57/kg

BAKERY

Two-Bite Holiday Collections **\$9.98**
690g
Tarts, Scones or Brownies

Seasonal Favourite
Mincemeat Tarts **\$3.98**
6 pack

Almond Cranberry **Macaroons** **\$7.98**
595g

Made In-Store
Garlic Bread in foil **\$2.98** Each

Mince Pies **\$8.88**
2 for 8" Mmmmm....

Cranberry Pecan **Crostata** **\$4.98**
450g

DELI

Warm & Serve
Oven Roasted **Turkey Breast** **\$2.48** / 100g

Natural Pastures **Comox Brie** **\$2.48** / 100g

Coleslaw Easy & Delicious Side Salad **88¢** / 100g

Boursin Spreadable **Cheeses** **\$4.98** 150g

Great for snacks
Freybe **Salamis** **\$1.88** / 100g


Freybe - **Patés** Great with Blue Diamond Crackers! **\$2.98** 200g

5 pm - Closed Christmas Day - Boxing Day Noon - 5 pm
Closed at 6 pm - Open New Year's Day Noon - 5 pm



285-2436

www.discoveryislander.ca



**Q-Beans
Coffee**

Only organically grown, fair-trade coffee. Kiosk opens at 6:00 a.m. daily at the Q-Cove ferry terminal.

**Robert Evans
Fine Woodworking**

202 - 9478

Experienced shipwright with expertise in fine woodworking looking for small home renovation projects

Book Bonanza at-the-Cove

Stay on top of your reading at **Book Bonanza at-the-Cove**



The book store for book lovers where the unusual is usual!

OVER 30 YEARS BOOKSELLING EXPERIENCE

Small Works

“SMALL WORKS” 1ST Annual Exhibition and Sale - Extended Holiday Hours Dec 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd & 24th 12 – 5pm. Drawing Room Art Works, DRAW Gallery. There are wonderful original art works large and small; each priced under \$100. The Gallery is located at Village Square in rear.

As the first Year for DRAW Gallery comes toward the end, I would like to express my most sincere appreciation to all the Artists, Visitors and Volunteers, who are working so hard every day to explore our World and share in the creation of inspiring works. Doing a myriad of unseen jobs behind the scenes, I would like to especially thank those people who have continuously supported the Gallery and our exhibits as volunteers: taking care of our Garden, building the Signs, promoting and collecting interest from new Artists and Collectors, working on the Web Site, writing Press Releases; supporting the children through Art Education, teaching new Artists the basics of Art Exhibitions, supporting our partners in the Arts Community; driving visiting Guests from the ferry, taking photos for our publications; designing posters; and many more important efforts, all being done on a daily basis by great-hearted individuals who seek no reward or recognition other than the pleasure of helping others. This is the compassionate and creative spirit of these Individuals who have a belief that an exploratory spirit which shines through artistic endeavors exists in each of us. Thank you so much and let's keep working together as we open the second year of DRAW Gallery in our community.

Astrid Johnston, Director
Drawing Room Art Works

Friday Flicks presents: The Wind That Shakes The Barley



France, Ireland, United Kingdom - 2007 Rated 14-A

February 29th, 2008.

Ireland, 1919. Workers are uniting to face the British squads being shipped in to block the country's bid for independence. THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY chronicles a key chapter in the “troubles” between Ireland and the United Kingdom. Irish workers have banded together to form a guerrilla resistance to the British “Black and Tan.” At the heart of the story are two brothers, Damien and Teddy. Damien has just become a Doctor, but feels compelled to join his brother in what will become a violent fight for rights and freedom.

Winner of the Palme d'Or at Cannes, a prize that has so far eluded Loach, THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY is driven by incandescent purpose and acted with passion. When the Irish Free State is declared and the compromises of the Anglo-Irish Treaty exposed, the film introduces an element of ambiguity. As the debate heats up, Damien and Teddy find themselves on opposite sides of the fence, the former arguing the cause of a genuinely autonomous Ireland, the latter accepting complicity with a British government in order to avoid “immediate and terrible war”.

The memory of an imperialist power intruding upon the affairs of a country and then leaving it mired in civil war has obvious contemporary parallels. He realises that the drama of brother bitterly at odds with brother has a pathos of its own, whether Ireland or Iraq is their homeland.

Many Thanks!

The board of directors and staff at Quadra Children's Centre would like to share a warm thank you to all those who participated in our Fred Penner Live evening at Quadra Elementary school Thursday November 29. The show was a hit, everyone loved Fred and the evening went off without a hitch thanks to all the support we received!

A special thanks to the following individuals and businesses for their wonderful support of our fundraising evening: Jack Mar, Quadra Island Elementary School, Jim Theiven, Chris Thompson at Castle Printing, Robyn Budd Graphics, Heriot Bay True Value, Hummingbird, Kidlets, Music Plant, Quadra Taxi and Quadra Credit Union.

And all of our volunteers from the around the community who as parents, friends etc. just stopped by to help.

Also a thanks to those business's who supported the Children's Centre by purchasing advertising in our official program: Claire Trevena MLA North Island, Quadra Credit Union, Quadra Taxi, Book Bonanza, Tsa-Kwa-Luten Lodge, Quadra Island Kayaks, Ross McPhee Contracting Ltd., Whiskey Point Lodge, Quadra Island Medical Centre, Quadra Foods, Quadra Island Builders, Isle Tech Auto Service, Forget-Me-Not Hair Studio, Discovery Islands Realty, Quadra Station and Fermentations.

All the best from us to you for a fabulous holiday Season.....again we applaud your time spent on such a worthy cause for such a wonderful show!!

Forgiveness - Accepting the Past Meditation Retreat with Robert Beatty

Forgiveness is an active process that requires intention, training and practice. The Buddha observed that we perpetuate suffering by clenching our fist around the burning coal of hatred. It is not helpful to forgive and forget. Instead we forgive and remember with wisdom and compassion, thus empowering skilful action and creating both inner and outer peace. This non-residential, silent retreat will offer instruction, sitting and walking meditation and Dharma talks. Robert Beatty has been a Vipassana practitioner since 1972. He has studied in Burma, India and North America and is the founder and guiding teacher of the Portland Insight Meditation Community. Registration is \$50.00 plus Dana. Fri. Feb. 01 - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Sat. Feb 02 ^ 9:00 to 5:00 & 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Sun. Feb. 03 ^ 9:00 to 4:30. at Quadra Community Centre.

Information/registration contact Don McEachern at 250 285 2193 or dmceach@telus.net

Firesign Christmas Gallery Show & Sale

Firesign Studio will be open 10 AM-4 PM, or by appointment, for the whole month of December with original paintings by Firesign artists, cards, prints, amber jewellery and other gifts! Give the gift that goes on giving-a gift certificate for a painting workshop!

Also available: Norwex Enviro Products for excellent cleaning without chemicals. Call Nanci Cook 285-3390, 730 Smiths Road, www.firesignartanddesign.com

Jazzy New Year Eve

Noelle Maffin is jazzing up New Years Eve in Herons at the Heriot Bay Inn! Listen to beautiful jazz and pop with Noelle Maffin and Ian Christopher while enjoying a tasty three course dinner prepared by chefs Gernot Arps and Bradley White.

Dinner and show \$39 per person. Jazz until midnight! (Brunch New Years Day 10 am - 2 pm).

Old Fashioned Christmas

December 22, 2007 at the Quadra
Island Bible Church on West Road.

10:00a.m.-4:00p.m.

Men, Women of all ages are you ready to step back in time? Slow down the pace a little?

Please join us at the church for an interactive walk through yesteryear.

Experience traditions of days gone by. Carol your favourite songs from the season. Take a hayride through Camp Homewood. Decorate cookies, make paper chains and snowflakes. Have a bowl of soup and cup of hot cider. Watch the toy makers. View the manger with the star hung above. Oh the list goes on. We hope you mark this day on your calendar and we will see you there. OPTIONAL: For even more fun...dress up old fashioned and join us in our day.

Two Boys Stone Masonry



Frank Doherty
ph. 250 285 3811

**Building In
Natural Stone**

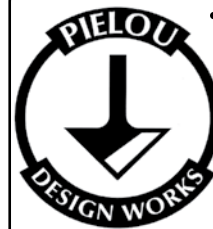
twoboysstonemasonry@hotmail.com
Box 254 Heriot Bay B.C. V0P1H0

G. ROY DAHLNAS EXCAVATING LTD.

- EXCAVATING • TRUCKING • SAND
- GRAVEL • TOP SOIL • DRAIN ROCK
- ROAD CRUSH • WELL CASINGS



1402 West Rd.
285-3229



- Handbuilt Guitars
- CNC Machining
- Carved Signs

Richard Pielou
285-2065
Fax: 285-2045
1-888-558-2065

1861 Hyacinthe Bay Rd
Box 47 • Heriot Bay BC V0P 1H0

rpielou@telus.net

HEDEFINE CONTRACTING

DISCOVERY ISLANDS ROOFING SPECIALISTS

INSTALLATION / REPAIR
& MAINTENANCE
FOR ALL TYPES OF ROOFING

Custom-Fabricated Sheet Metal

Call Shane Hedefine

285-2866

SORENSEN - MACDONALD ENTERPRISES LTD.

Erik Sorensen mini-excavator

*Need a little digging?
Give us a call*

285-3906

203-3906 (cell)

Blaine Smith Painting & Contracting

Serving all your residential and commercial needs.

- painting • finishing • tiling
- decks • drywall • flooring • renovations

You name it I do it!

20 years painting experience Seniors discount available

p. (250) 285-3045 c. (250) 202-6299



Internet Test Results

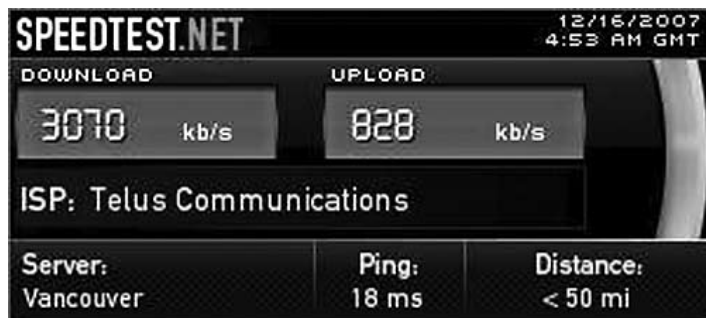
99% Quality Rating

My Internet connection bandwidth tests to a Telus Server in Vancouver, noted in the adjacent image, not only typically matches my Internet Service Provider's (ISP) "up to" marketing claims, they go beyond. I've provided this image of my 2007-12-15 result to show I'm not fabricating my experience. Note the Ping (latency) of only 18ms, a very desirable low reading.

A MySpeed test results from another website gives me a consistent Quality of Service level of 99%, with a generally consistent Maximum pause of only 6 milliseconds with a Round trip time average of 79 ms, important results for multimedia transmissions, such as Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) using a computer to call by telephone to anywhere in the world, or to enjoy any other multimedia service. I now can easily listen to Radio over the Internet, (streaming audio) or watch Internet TV and download large files at the same time without encumbrances. Even an occasional bit torrent file download is extremely fast.

I'll provide a follow-up submission to the Discovery Islander in the new year showing ISP comparisons, along with an explanation how I was easily able to optimize my Internet connectivity. Meantime, I would like to hear from anyone else who enjoys similar results for comparison.

Ted Conover.



VIRL Board Approves 2008 Budget with 3% Increase

The Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) Board approved the 2008 library budget at their fifth and last meeting of the year on December 1st at the Best Western Barclay Hotel in Port Alberni. The Board approved a 3% increase in the budget over 2007 bringing the entire 2008 VIRL budget to \$15,568,982. The VIRL Board is comprised of elected representatives from 28 municipalities and 9 regional districts.

Expenditures:

- Staff wages and benefits (56.2%)
- Leases and operating 37 library branches and Central Services Building (17.9%)
- Library materials such as books, magazines, DVDs, and online resources (13.5%)
- Miscellaneous administrative costs such as photocopiers, deliveries, mail, travel, board expenses, consulting, insurance, telecommunications, furniture (8%)
- Technology costs (3.6%)
- Appropriations (.8%)

Sources of funding:

- Local levies from property taxes (88.5%)
- Provincial Government Grants (7.7%)
- Library generated revenue (3.8%)

NDP Urges Campbell To Drop Hospital Plan As Doctor Complains Of Blackmail

VICTORIA – The New Democrats are again calling on the Campbell government to reconsider its hospital regionalization plans for North Island following news that a Campbell River doctor is calling the process "blackmail".

"This is more evidence that the hospital plan is being forced on the region despite widespread opposition," said Claire Trevena, MLA for North Island. Last month Trevena tabled a petition signed by 19,000 people who oppose the plan.

"It's time for the Campbell government to listen to the people of our communities and stop this plan. What people really want is to preserve and upgrade our existing hospitals in Comox and Campbell River," Trevena said. She also called on Comox Valley MLA Stan Hagen to intervene.

"In light of yesterday's news, I hope Mr. Hagen will set aside partisan politics and stand up for his community," Trevena said. "It's time for all of us to say enough is enough."

On Wednesday's news, Campbell River doctor Aref Tabarsi said that the Vancouver Island Health Authority is determined to ram the regional proposal through despite public feedback.

"Everybody is telling (VIHA) we don't want it but they are so persistent, persistent to the state that it is becoming blackmail – that if you don't want a regional hospital you're not getting anything," said Tabarsi, who sat on the doctor's committee that was unsuccessful in its efforts to reach a decision on a new location for the regional hospital.

NDP Health Critic Adrian Dix said he can't understand why the health authority is so determined to proceed with its plan that it has threatened both communities with withholding much-needed hospital investments if the plan is rejected.

"This whole mess just doesn't make sense," said Dix. "It's clear that the Campbell government is pursuing an agenda that has nothing to do with community needs or people's wishes."

Health Tips for the Holiday Season: Use Your ER Wisely!

VANCOUVER ISLAND – December can be a busy time in our Emergency Departments and Health Clinics. The Vancouver Island Health Authority reminds the public to take a few simple steps to avoid unnecessary trips to the hospital emergency room.

In regional and community hospitals emergency services are available 24 hours a day. In our remote hospitals and some of our community health centres, we also offer 24-hour emergency services, part of which may be on an on-call basis. The triage system gives priority to emergencies and urgent care requirements. High volumes do result in increased delays for people who do not need urgent care. Triage nurses will try to provide patients with estimated wait times, but even these can change at a moment's notice.

While emergencies are unavoidable, there are some things people can do to avoid unnecessary visits to the hospital:

- If you need non-urgent care, first contact your family doctor or the doctor on call for their clinic or practice.
- If individuals are unsure about what services they require, call the BC Nurse Line at 1-866-215-4700. The toll-free line provides 24-hour, confidential health information and advice from a registered nurse.
- See your doctor before the weekend and/or holidays, if necessary, to avoid long wait-times in the Emergency Department.
- Note the weekend and holiday hours of your local pharmacy/drug store, and ensure your prescriptions are up to date. Make sure you have basic pharmaceuticals on hand to control children's fever and pain.
- Familiarize yourself with the locations and opening hours of area walk-in clinics.
- Get a flu shot - and wash your hands frequently to avoid spreading and contracting viruses and bacteria.
- Holidays can be stressful for many of us, so make sure you take time for yourself, and for those people and activities that will keep you feeling your best.
- Take some basic safety precautions: Buckle up, don't drink and drive, don't leave open flames unattended, keep your Christmas tree watered, keep alcohol and potential poisonous substances out of reach from children.
- If however you feel that you do require urgent medical attention do not hesitate to come to the Emergency Department or call 911.

www.discoveryislander.ca

The End of Last-Minute Loading

by John Sprungman,
Chair, Ferry Advisory Committee

On January 7, BC Ferries will implement a policy at all of its minor terminals stopping ticket sales to foot passengers five minutes and to vehicles three minutes before the scheduled sailing time.

At the Nov. 30 FAC meeting on Quadra, the new policy was announced with safety as its primary purpose. This, we were told, was a direct result of the accident last January at the Gabriola ferry's Nanaimo terminal. The ferry pulled away from the dock with a pickup truck on the loading ramp. The driver got out safely but his truck slid into the water and sank.

One of the Gabriola inquiry report's recommendations was that "all BCFS minor terminal ticket sales cut-off times should be established and enforced" and that "procedures for shore clearance should be reviewed to ensure adequacy and clarity."

In Campbell River, which is the primarily "point of sale" for roundtrips to Quadra and to Cortes, vehicles which are in the lineup to the ticket booth within three minutes of the scheduled sailing time will be allowed to board if there is space. It will not be the ticket agent but the master on the bridge of the ferry who will advise the ticket agent which vehicle was the last to arrive before the cut-off time.

Foot passengers who arrive at the ticket booth less than five minutes before the scheduled departure time will not be given a boarding pass until after the vessel has departed.

The cut-off time at the Quathiaski, Heriot Bay and Whaletown terminals will be determined by the master of the vessel. As is the current practice, the captains of the Quadra and Cortes ferries will let each other know when they are behind schedule. If either vessel is late, the cut-off times will be in relation to when the vessel arrives.

BC Ferries says, "The benefits of having our ships sail on time include more efficient fuel consumption, avoidance of overtime and fairness to customers who do arrive on time. To enable consistent on-time departures, we need a cut-off to allow for proper, safe shore closure procedures."

Holiday Changes:

Because Christmas is on Tuesday, dangerous cargo runs will be moved to Thursday, Dec. 27. On Christmas Day and New Year's Day, the first sailing from Quadra will be at 8 a.m. and from Cortes at 9:50 a.m.

Seasons Greetings from Viken Waste Management.



To all our valued customers.

Please note the changes to our schedule for residential curbside pickup during the holiday season:

Tuesday Dec 25 will be performed on Thursday Dec 27

Tuesday Jan 1 will be performed on Wednesday January 2

Friday pickups will not change.

www.discoveryislander.ca

VITALIS

Quadra Gym and Wellness Centre

- affordable membership rates

Get your
gift certificates now
call 285 2896

.... opening February 2008

in the Cove Centre next to the pharmacy, Quathiaski Cove

Excavating Services

Specializing in Building Construction Projects

a division of

Jtoelle Construction Ltd.



Midsize Kubota with thumb and blade
11 ton Cat for larger projects



Operated By Dave Hodge
285 2964

www.jtoelle.com

Quadra Island Seniors Bulletin

SENIORS FED UP

Seventy-six sat down to eat at Discovery Inn for the Quadra Island Seniors' annual Christmas Luncheon. As usual the Inn presented us with a scrumptious array of salmon, mussels, clams, prawns, turkey and ham with all the complementary accompanying vegetables and condiments. The dessert table ranged from fresh fruit to spectacular lemon meringue pie, all with the heart healthy and weight conscious in mind. (Lemons are good for you, aren't they?)

Lil Melton and her choir of Wobbly Warblers did an excellent job of leading us in Christmas songs before and after lunch. Joan Smith provided the instrumental accompaniment to encourage us to stay together and more or less on key. Martin Amiabel gave us his always popular renditions of Yuletide standards sung in his native Dutch. President Bob Brown, in his native English, did a proper champion job of keeping the programme running smoothly. He then initiated a whip-around for contributions for the Quadra Food Bank and SPCA and squeezed almost four hundred dollars out of the revelers. The hotel staff joined in the singing and the carver was the first to contribute to our collection.

Somehow Bob contrived with Win Goldstraw to have her draw his ticket for the 50/50 draw. A devious pair we will have to watch!

We sorely missed Ken and Shirley Duncan who are in hospital and Judy Hagen who is now out of hospital and recuperating at home. Kurt took her a doggy bag.

Our sympathy was felt for Annie Strong when it was announced that her husband, "Turvey", had passed away earlier that day.

FOR THE RECORD

It was in 1988 that we decided that "Olde Age Pensioners" is an inappropriate name for our club and we decided to be known as "Quadra Island Seniors". "Pensioners" suggested that one must be sixty-five to belong but we have always welcomed younger people to the club. "Olde" is, of course, a four letter word and we discourage the use of that kind of talk.

Our stated policy is that you must be a senior or aspire to be one some day.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

For the rest of the year we are having a hiatus. In January we will resume our carpet bowling, choir practice, aerobics, walking, and computer meetings.

Our first club meeting of 2008 will be called to order on January the 9th at the Legion at 1030 hours precisely.

The Quadra Island Seniors wish all of you a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Frank Smirfitt.

CSRSD Elects New Board Chair And Vice Chair

The Comox Strathcona Regional District (CSRSD) board of directors has elected Craig Anderson as its chair. Barbara Price was elected vice-chair. They will serve in these positions until the CSRSD is officially dissolved and replaced by two new regional districts, one in the Comox Valley and one north of the Oyster River, as directed by the Ministry of Community Services to happen in February 2008.

This will be the first term as chair for Anderson, who was elected at the inaugural board meeting today. The chair, along with the other 19 directors, oversees the activities and services that the regional district delivers to its nearly 102,000 residents.

"In the past year in my position as vice chair of the CSRSD board I have had the opportunity to work with all the directors on a variety of issues," said Anderson, who has been a board director since 2005. "I have an open mind and am willing to think outside the box, and believe that the best local government is one that is responsible and responsive. I want to refocus the board on a collaborative approach to effectively deliver service for the time we have left."

Directors serve for a three-year term, and the directors elect the chair and vice-chair position each year. Municipal mayors and councillors appoint directors from their areas to sit on the CSRSD board, and the elected representatives from the electoral areas make up the other CSRSD board members. Anderson is also the mayor of the Village of Gold River and vice chair Price represents Lazo North (Area 'B') as electoral area director.

Quadra Sustainable Energy Fair

On Saturday, January 26 from 10 am to 6 pm the Community Centre will be filled with exhibits and presentations. Amongst the exhibits on grey water systems, geothermal, home energy audits, rainwater collection, solar systems, wind energy, micro hydro, electric bikes and scooters look for a special display. Locals who have been living with alternative energy for years will be displaying their systems with pictures and write-ups. These islanders will be available with the display to answer your questions. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn first hand from your neighbors what works or doesn't.

And talking about great opportunities, BC Hydro has agreed to give a presentation on net metering and independent power production. So if you already have an alternative system or are thinking about building one and have questions about connecting to the grid be sure to attend this talk.

On Friday, January 25 at 7:30 the keynote speaker is Joe Van Belleghem, the green developer of Dockside Green, Victoria's harbourside development which is setting new standards for green building technologies and design in North America.

There is no admission charge for this event, which is being sponsored and organized by Sierra Quadra. Watch upcoming articles and www.thegumboot.ca for the times for each presentation.

BEARD CONSTRUCTION

Complete Construction Services

Serving North Island & Discovery Islands



Gov't Certified Journeyman Carpenters
Renovations, Additions, Residential
Commercial, Project Management

Matt Knoedler 285-2754

email: heatherknoedler@telus.net

New Study Says Conservation Can Supply Electricity For A Million Homes

VANCOUVER – BC Hydro has completed a Conservation Potential Review (CPR) study that identifies more than 10,000 GWh/yr – enough to power one million homes – that could be achieved through conservation by the year 2020.

The findings of the Conservation Potential Review support the BC Energy Plan target released earlier this year, which sets an ambitious conservation target to acquire 50 per cent of BC Hydro's incremental resource needs through conservation by 2020.

"Energy efficiency and conservation must become a way of life and a way of doing business in our communities," said Richard Neufeld, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. "This review clearly shows that by incorporating new energy efficient technologies, and changing our behaviour to reduce our own personal energy consumption, we can meet much of our future need for electricity through conservation."

"Our goal is to develop and foster a conservation culture in BC that leads to customers choosing to make a dramatic and permanent reduction in electricity usage," said Bob Elton, BC Hydro's President and CEO. "We strongly believe that we can lead a change such that by 2027 we would return to 2007 electricity consumption levels while allowing for growth and economic prosperity. In the short term, consumption will go up, but with concerted action we can bring it back down to the levels of 2007."

The 2007 Conservation Potential Review was carried out with information and advice provided by a panel of representatives from community groups and sectors from across B.C. Members of the External Review Panel provided advice and input into the study and ensured a broad-range of local perspectives were included in the outcome.

This study investigated some of the ways for B.C.'s industries, businesses and households to save energy as provincial electricity demand continues to grow. It noted the following examples where efficiencies could be gained.

At Home:

- Replacing incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent lights (CFLs)

- Turning down the thermostat and wearing sweaters in the home
 - Turning down the thermostat when not at home
 - Turning off computers and monitors when not in use
 - Using a fan instead of an air conditioner
- At Work:
- Replacing 65 watt incandescent flood lights with 20 watt reflector CFLs
 - Using Energy Star personal computers
 - Unplugging chargers when not in use
 - Turning off computers and monitors when not in use

BC Hydro's Power Smart program has already achieved significant savings since its inception in 1989. The current level of savings is approximately 4,300 GWh/y or enough to power 430,000 homes.

The CPR study is the most comprehensive of its type carried out in North America and examined the benefits and feasibility of energy efficient technologies, alternative energies and fuel switching, as well as behaviour and lifestyle choices customers can make to demonstrate a personal commitment to conservation.

BC Hydro Seeking Input into Site C Consultation Process

BC Hydro is commencing a pre-consultation process to seek input from local, regional, and provincial communities and stakeholders on the potential for an additional hydroelectric facility on the Peace River – Site C. As directed in the BC Energy Plan and announced by the Premier in September 2007 at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities convention, the project is one of several options available to help meet the growing gap between the supply and demand of electricity in BC.

NOLE CREEK SAWMILLS

Portable Bandsaw Mill

We buy logs or standing timber
On-site custom milling
Kiln dried interior panelling & flooring

For a free estimate, call today
Greg Hewitt 285-2762



Niko's Fusion
Sushi Bar & Grill
Fully Licensed

Village Square Q. Cove
Reservations / Take-Out

Call today and make a reservation!
285-2355



CASTLE PRINTING

Fax: 285-2679 ctom@castleprinting.ca

Business Cards • Letterhead
Envelopes • Continuous Forms
Cheques • Invoices • Brochures

Phone 285-3695

"Caring for children for community's sake"



QUADRA CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Preschool Program
For 2.5 to 5 years
(Toilet training not required)

Quadra Kids
school age program
For 6 to 11 years
Cost \$3/hour (3 hour min.)

7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Monday – Friday
285-3511
www.quadraisland.ca/qcc



Rob Wood Design
Design for Healthy Living

Helping to build dreams in the Discovery Islands since 1978

- Site analysis
- Design assistance
- Energy conservation
- Handcrafted drawings

287-1945 or 287-6313
quintano@island.net

view my portfolio online
www.island.net/~robwood



One Tough Loonie

For such a relatively puny country, in economic terms, Canada's dollar earns a seemingly outsized amount of respect around the globe. After all, we are considered one of eight "benchmark currencies", together with the US, Australian and Hong Kong dollars, UK pound, Swiss franc, Japanese yen, and the Euro. The reason they are benchmarks is that these 8 at one point represented the world's best-managed economies. Some of these countries still retain that distinction.

It has been interesting to note over the course of my life how we react to the fate of the Canadian dollar versus its US counterpart. For most of my early life the Canadian dollar had a seemingly permanent status as 2nd cousin to the global monetary patriarch - the US dollar, which had only recently attained its pinnacle status by knocking over the British pound, which had suffered a languishing descent as a global currency since the end of the Second World War. From 1962 until 1970 the Canadian dollar was pegged at US.925 under a fixed exchange rate policy, and consequently was of little interest to anyone... that is, until the changing economic landscape of the early 1970's saw the dollar de-linked, and immediately return to its "pre-pegged" level of par or slightly better. In the meantime, we had a global oil crisis, a domestic political crisis, and Canada's economy was in major deficit mode - but still our dollar was generally equivalent to the greenback.

The early 1970's was an economic wake-up call in many respects, and was also the beginning of Canada's accelerated shift to a much closer trade relationship with the USA; previously, our primary allegiance in all things, other than cars and television programming, was to the Queen. For our dollar times were good, and in 1976 the Canadian and US dollar were at parity - for the last time for many years to come. From that point forward, the loonie has swung in a primarily downward direction (reaching a historic low of \$.62 in January 2002), regaining its 2nd cousin status, and never reached parity again until 31 years later, just 3 months ago, on September 20, 2007. Since then, we have touched \$1.10 to the US dollar, though the loonie has been hovering around \$.99 lately. What has caused our dollar to suddenly appreciate so strongly against the Yankee buck? Or a better question would be the obverse - why has the greenback depreciated so quickly? And, has it stopped?

Speculation about the collapse of the US currency, and subsequent impact on global trade, has been rampant lately. The cover of the December 1, 2007 The Economist features a cartoon of Washington's greenback visage as an aviator going down in flames, white scarf trailing under the headline "The panic about the dollar". Elsewhere, Gwynne Dyer wrote on November 23rd (The US Dollar: The Long Farewell?) that earlier that month, the Vice-Director of a Chinese Central Bank (a country that holds some \$1.4 trillion in US dollar reserves) stated flatly the US dollar "is losing its status as the world currency". Dyer also noted "Three of the world's biggest oil exporters, Iran, Venezuela and Russia, are now demanding payment in Euros rather than US dollars". Since 2002 the dollar has lost 25% of its value against other global currencies, while foreign holdings of it has tripled to \$5.7 trillion. It's asking rather a lot to expect these countries to keep absorbing exchange losses of this magnitude, but most - like China, and Japan - have a lot to lose should the weakening US economy sink into deep recession, so some patience can be expected. But if the successor administration to the disastrous Bush presidency fails to take immediate steps to rein in their bulging trade and fiscal deficits that patience will run out. As The Economist notes, "Those [Central Banks] that get out first have more chance of saving their capital."

"...the weaker US economy and dollar spells out a prescription for rethinking any business dependant upon US volumes."

The Economist also points out that the US dollar is still by far the pre-eminent currency of trade - about 70% of the total. But the pound peaked at 60% in the 1950's before starting its slow and ignominious decline in concert with British global dominance as deficit finance and foreign entanglements dragged them down. It took about 40 years for the pound to diminish in stature, and it's been around 40 years that greenback has reigned supreme, not that this is anything but coincidence. The world is a far different place than it was in the 60's, and America is a far different country. But it is entirely likely that American foreign mis-adventures will be the precipitator of the dollar's fall, exactly as it was in Britain's case. It is an almost certain bet that in the near future and for the foreseeable future a weaker US dollar is in the cards.

Murray Langdon, writing in the December 3, 2007 Business Examiner, looked at how the higher Canadian dollar has negatively impacted four areas of the Vancouver Island economy; high tech exports, forest products, construction and tourism. The only benefit of a higher loonie reported was cheaper acquisition of foreign made capital equipment by contractors, and travel agents selling Canadian's foreign vacations. Unfortunately, neither of these type of transactions have much of a positive impact on our GDP. Carmanah Technologies, a leading high tech exporter in Victoria, has seen its 2006 3rd quarter earnings of \$337,000 change to loss of \$4.3 million in 2007. BC's construction industry head noted while times are good now due to prior contracts, they are certainly casting a nervous eye forward, and I'm sure no comment is required with respect to our ailing forest industry. On a more local note, the business with which I am associated has seen a 50% decline in volumes denominated in US dollars, which has had a corresponding negative impact on our revenues. The weaker US economy and dollar spells out a prescription for rethinking any business dependant upon US volumes.

The Economist seems to think that the other global players will continue to act aggressively (or passively, if necessary) in propping up the US dollar - their editors argue that global trade inter-dependence

demands it. But Dyer disagrees, as do I. Central bankers, ultimately, have little patience in times of crisis, and because the underlying problems have become so large, and no branch of the US government seems willing to take any steps to correct their fiscal imbalances, that patience will be exhausted. As if living in an alternate universe, President Bush appeared

before a small town Chamber of Commerce meeting on December 16th and announced, "The economy is just fine". The reporters present noted the applause was far from enthusiastic and that his renewed promise to "veto any tax increases proposed by Congress" was, tellingly, met with stony silence. Apparently the good merchants of that particular Smalltown, USA, have a much better grasp of reality than either their President, or the editors of The Economist. Maybe, just maybe, economic common-sense will become a leading platform in the 2008 US Elections, but I'm not optimistic anything can be done to reverse the situation without the global economy first adjusting to a lower valuation of US dollars in the medium term future. It'll take some getting used to.

Business Profile

by Tanya Storr

DRAW Gallery

Outside the weather may be wild and stormy, but inside DRAW Gallery you will find a peaceful oasis of creativity. And if you are searching for last minute Christmas presents, you won't want to miss the gallery's current show. The 1st Annual Small Works Exhibition & Sale features a wide variety of pieces by local artists, all priced under \$100.

DRAW Gallery is located behind Village Square on the second floor. Astrid Johnston, DRAW Gallery's director, began offering art workshops and life drawing classes here in 1997. DRAW, an acronym for Drawing Room Art Works, has been a venue for artistic endeavours ever since.

This year Astrid decided to convert the space into a small gallery. DRAW Gallery's first show was a group exhibition to start the season in May. DRAW continued with monthly solo shows, and is now wrapping up the year with the current group Small Works Exhibition & Sale.

"The gallery is about inspiration. People come in and see the work, and they get excited and maybe take a piece home that resonates with them," said Astrid.

With south facing windows and a large cherry tree just outside, the gallery has the feel of a lofty aerie. Birds busy themselves at a feeder Astrid has hung in the tree branches, and wind chimes and Christmas lights make a welcoming entrance at the top of the stairs.

Astrid is a graduate of the Emily Carr College of Art & Design in painting and inter-disciplinary studies, and has a passion for helping others discover and release their creative spirit. She is excited about providing a venue for local artists to share their creative works with the public and "inspired collectors."

Astrid believes art should be accessible to people who would like to enjoy it in their homes. The current Small Works show, with prices ranging from \$1 to \$100, fits the bill perfectly.

"Sometimes people feel original artwork is too expensive. I let the artists set their own prices and at the same time I like to have pieces that are comfortably, affordably priced. Artwork should be inspiring first and also accessible."

The Small Works Exhibition is a testament to the creative talents of island artists. The show features more than 70 pieces in a wide range of media, from intricately painted goose and ostrich eggs featuring kayaking scenes to felted fruit and doll creations, paintings, ceramics, mosaics, prints, collages, pen and ink drawings, photographs, calendars, and art cards.

Islanders viewing the exhibition will spot many familiar names, as well as some emerging artists. Astrid enjoys helping those new to exhibiting by sharing tips on how to present their work.

www.discoveryislander.ca



Astrid Johnston, director of DRAW Gallery, with some of the pieces in the 1st Annual Small Works Exhibition & Sale.

Photo by Tanya Storr.

"Presentation gives substance to a piece. It's a balance between concept and medium. I try to keep things simple," she noted.

There is a story behind each piece of art, Astrid went on to say, and she encourages artists to share the history of the piece with the viewer.

"Art 'provenance' is the place of origin or history of that piece. A created work has a historical footprint, a reflection of the artist's life. Viewers want to know the story of the work, how it evolved," Astrid explained.

Often the story of the piece is enmeshed in a person's daily life. It could be about collecting stones on a beach, buying a train ticket, or who they were with the day they created it.

"At openings, the artists and their friends often talk about the stories behind the art. I go on to share the stories with visitors throughout the rest of the show," said Astrid.

Denise Johnson's 'Quathiaski Cove Mosaic', a centrepiece of the exhibition and the only piece that isn't for sale, has a story interwoven with the history of the Cove. Joy Inglis' eloquently written tribute to this piece was published in a recent *Discovery Islander* and is on the wall beside the mosaic.

"Denise's mosaic defines a time in Quadra's history. You can imagine all the lives that touched the shards of porcelain she used in the piece," Astrid said.

A little girl from London, England, who visited with her family, was particularly impressed with the collages in the show. She went away inspired to collect items from her trip to Quadra that she can use in a collage on her return home.

Entries in the guestbook reveal that people from many places have found their way to DRAW Gallery. Visitors from throughout BC, as well as Ontario, Oregon, California, North Carolina, England, Switzerland, and even Nigeria have taken the time to offer appreciative comments.

Editor Notes

Openings have also been well supported, with people spilling out of the gallery onto the porch and steps. Neighbouring businesses Niko's Sushi and Café Aroma report that people often stop in before and after attending the openings. Aroma usually hosts live music on gallery opening nights.

Astrid is grateful to the volunteers who have helped her since the gallery opened. She has a full line-up of shows booked for the 2008 season, starting in May. Future plans include finishing construction of DRAW Gallery's website and the possibility of an art rental program.

"The gallery operates on many levels," said Astrid. "It's an opportunity to share ideas and present new and renowned artists. I get very excited when new works come in."

DRAW Gallery is open Thursday – Saturday from 12 noon – 6 pm, and for extended hours on Sunday December 23 and Monday December 24 from 12 – 5. The gallery will be closed from December 25 until the group show in May 2008.

For more information, call DRAW Gallery at 285-2008 or e-mail info@drawgallery.com

ALL CLEAR SEPTIC SERVICE

Have you thought about your septic tank in the last 3 or 4 years?



SAVE costly drain field repairs by having your septic tank pumped out before trouble attacks!

Call Mel Doak **285-3561**

EMCO Resources Ltd.

Electrical Contracting

Service and Maintenance

Emery A. Savage
Campbell River
Tel: (250) 923-5577
Fax: (250) 923-7707

Bob Turner
Quadra Island
Tel: (250) 285-3926
Fax: (250) 285-3928

Electrical Contracting • Design
Service • Maintenance • Repairs

24 Hour Service

Just enough time and room to squeeze in a festive end of year greeting and thanks from me to everyone in the community and a special thanks to all those who support the Discovery Islander throughout the year(s).

First a big thank you to all the contributors who send their notices, letters, articles and other correspondence to the DI to keep us all informed on everything from yoga workshops to global warming. A special thank you to Steven Halliday for his unwavering diligence to deadlines - if there's a DI 'Ironman' award it surely goes to Steve who has contributed (I believe) to a whopping 268 consecutive editions. Also thanks to Tanya Storr who is our long-serving roving reporter, still keeping us informed despite the demands of her 'day' job - thank you Tanya.

Amongst the true unsung heroes of the DI are Chris Thompson and Ruth Powell at Castle Printing who make sure that ink hits paper, paper gets folded, flyers stuffed and everything boxed and ready for mailing out to you the reader. Chris of course steps in from time to time to fill the editor's shoes.

Thanks to all our advertisers who choose the Discovery Islander to get their message out to their customers on the Discovery Islands. It is an excellent relationship whereby advertisers fulfil their marketing needs and at the same time support a publication that is locally and independently owned and published, a rarity in these days of global media consolidation.

Which of course brings me to offer thanks and best wishes to all of the readers and community members throughout the Discovery Islands. I hope the coming year brings the best it can to one and all and I look forward to bringing you more of our local news and views in 2008

- Philip Stone

Heidi Ridgway
Your Resident Quadra Island Realtor

ROYAL LePAGE
Advance Realty

For professionalism and integrity Call me!
285-2217



Lovely home on low bank walk on Waterfront with detached workshop and surrounded by beautiful gardens. You'll love the oak cabinets and "river" rock fireplace.
Only \$595,000!

www.QuadraIslandRealEstate.com

FOR SALE

TRUCK FOR SALE 1980 Chev 5 ton steel flatdeck, on propane. NEW brakes, drums, tires, rebuilt engine, over \$10,000 spent last 2 years. Sacrifice at \$4,000 Call 285-3756.

FORKLIFT 1970 Pettibone Forklift 6000 capacity. Oveal tires, NEW Carb, Starter, brakes, brake lines, mmaster cyl., wheel cyl. wheel bearings. All new electrical. 6 cyl continental gas engine. Must sell \$3,000 o.b. o Call 285-3756.

MARINE DIESEL PACKAGE:

Yanmar Model #6LPAM - STZPI (315hp) / Bravo IIXX package, including gauges, controls, steering & stainless steel propellers. Low engine hours 430, under 100 hours on leg! Factory Warranty remaining, 24 months or 2000 hours. \$ 24,000 CDN or best offer.

Call 287-7577

SERVICES

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Physiotherapist Jason Kowalchuk is continuing monthly physiotherapy service on Quadra Island in the New Year. To book an appointment or for more information call 250-830-7197. Email: ptbc@physiobase.com

Peace of Mind

property management

Custom Designed
Inspections & Service

Indoor & outdoor
maintenance

Small repairs & contracting

We look after boats too!

Paul Ryan
250-285-3896

pryan@island.net

Classifieds

Island Tides

VACATIONS

YOGA HOLIDAY IN MEXICO

Take a Yoga Holiday in Mexico this winter with Brenda Dempsey. Yoga, Meditation & Qi Kung will inspire your days followed by beach & town excursions in sunny La Manzanilla, Jalisco, a quiet little fishing village about 3 hours south of Puerto Vallarta on the west coast of Mexico. Phone 285-3054 or www.brendadempsey.com.

HELP WANTED

RECEPTIONIST/ OFFICE ASSISTANT - Quadra Island Medical Clinic is seeking another staff member to join our team.

Requirements: Clerical/office experience with basic computer skills including MS Word and Excel. Ability to interact with clientele and to organize a busy office setting, including fielding patient inquiries, booking appointments and filing. Confidentiality and discretion are a must.

Desire a well organized person with excellent communication skills. Medical office experience and familiarity with medical terminology an asset.

Please submit your written application and/or resume to: Linda Elias, Office Manager, Quadra Island Medical Clinic, P.O. Box 340, Quathiaski Cove, B.C. V0P 1N0

SERVICES

Q-COVE APPLIANCE REPAIR
We are now a full service appliance repair facility for all of your domestic appliance needs at affordable rates. We are a new and used parts depot for all appliances and carry a good selection of quality rebuilt appliances. All come with one-year warranty on parts and labour. Free delivery for most of Quadra. Call 285-3425 or cell 202-3425

AT MOTIF DESIGN we provide decorating and sewing services. We sew curtains, bedspreads, pillow cases and do upholstery projects. Hours are 11-5 Tuesday to Saturday. Call 285-2626 or visit us at The Upper Realm in Quathiaski Cove.

STORES

SIDELINES - Quathiaski Cove Dock open everyday till Christmas 10am to 5pm 285-3299. We carry Desirable Gifts and Wild Seafood F.A.S. Free parking. We always, Love helping you spend your loot!

AMPED ON NUTRITION - Quadra Island's Health Food Store and Deli. We carry vitamins, supplements, alternative groceries and more. Energize yourself with our delicious, organic vegetarian deli delights. Combining what you need with what you want. Open 10:00 am - 6 pm every day except closed Sundays and Mondays 285-3142

ACCOMMODATION

COMPANY COMING? Firesign B&B has Tourism BC approved accommodations for your family and friends in our cozy and comfortable 3-bedroom B&B with separate guest entrance, kitchenette, living room, Internet and cable TV: your friendly home away from home 285-3390. www.firesignbandb.com

NEW SERVICES

FERNBANK SAWMILL
Custom cutting at your place or mine on a state-of-the-art Woodmizer mill. We cut everything from beams to siding. Call Gerry Cote: 285-3651

FOR RENT

FOR RENT furnished cabin - no pets, no smoking, until end of May Rent negotiable.
ALSO FOR RENT large home, furnished, for 3-6 months, great rent to right tenants. Close to beach and Rebecca Spit.

Rent the two houses and property, fully furnished and ready to run a vacation rental business, (or retreat) I already have customers and both houses are fully renovated. Long term lease available. Call 285-2054 for details

M&W Custom Tile

Quality with Integrity

- Ceramic • Porcelain •
- Marble • Slate Tiles •

Commercial and residential installation
Floors, showers, back splashes
steam rooms, tub surrounds.

Waterproof shower systems available

Free estimates call Michael
at 203-9810 or 285-2904

Yellow Dog Trading Company

Bulk Foods & Baking Supplies

Open Mon. - Fri.
10 am - 5 pm
Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Buy as much as you want,
or as little as you need.

Gerry & Barbara

285-2867

In Q-Cove's 'Old Yellow Dog' Plaza



- ♦ design & installation of irrigation systems
- ♦ service and repair
- ♦ drip systems
- ♦ winterizing & spring start ups

call allan @ 850-4773

The Paint Lady

Colour Consultation
Interior Painting
Homes and offices large & small
Faux Finish Professional
Italian plaster to non-toxic glazes
for walls and furniture
Murals Large & Small
For homes, nurseries, cafés

285-3896
tidy • friendly • fast

www.faux.ca

ACUPUNCTURE

Herbs & Nutrition.
Free consultation.
Sliding scale for treatment
(\$50 > \$20)

Dr. Eileen Sowerby
M.B. Ch.B. M.A. D.T.C.M.
Phone/Fax: 285-2434

Pacific Standard Time (+8)

For Quathiaski Cove

December 21 - January 4

21	03:33	3.9	12.8
Friday	06:51	3.6	11.8
	13:02	4.5	14.8
	21:30	0.6	2.0
22	04:27	4.2	13.8
Saturday	07:54	3.8	12.5
	13:47	4.5	14.8
	22:13	0.4	1.3
23	05:14	4.4	14.4
Sunday	08:53	3.9	12.8
	14:37	4.5	14.8
	22:57	0.3	1.0
24	05:57	4.5	14.8
Monday	09:51	3.9	12.8
	15:30	4.4	14.4
	23:39	0.3	1.0
25	06:39	4.5	14.8
Tuesday	10:55	3.8	12.5
	12:17	3.8	12.5
	13:03	3.8	12.5
	16:23	4.2	13.8
26	00:18	0.5	1.6
Wednesday	07:19	4.5	14.8
	14:12	3.6	11.8
	17:18	4.0	13.1
27	00:52	0.7	2.3
Thursday	07:59	4.5	14.8
	15:16	3.3	10.8
	18:15	3.7	12.1
28	01:22	1.1	3.6
Friday	08:38	4.5	14.8
	16:17	3.0	9.8
	19:19	3.4	11.2
29	01:51	1.5	4.9
Saturday	09:16	4.5	14.8
	17:14	2.7	8.9
	20:38	3.1	10.2
30	02:22	2.0	6.6
Sunday	09:51	4.4	14.4
	18:05	2.3	7.5
	22:23	2.9	9.5
31	02:54	2.5	8.2
Monday	10:24	4.3	14.1
	18:50	2.0	6.6
01	00:37	3.1	10.2
Tuesday	03:29	3.0	9.8
	10:55	4.2	13.8
	19:30	1.7	5.6
02	03:16	3.4	11.2
Wednesday	04:28	3.4	11.2
	11:23	4.2	13.8
	20:08	1.5	4.9
03	04:04	3.7	12.1
Thursday	05:57	3.7	12.1
	11:48	4.1	13.5
	20:44	1.3	4.3
04	04:33	4.0	13.1
Friday	07:17	3.8	12.5
	12:10	4.0	13.1

Contact us
for your
2008 projects

- John Toelle
285 3783
- Matt Griswold
285 2820
- Guy Holmes
285 2781

JT Seasons Greetings from Toelle Construction Ltd.

Serving Quadra Island for 25 years



www.jtoelle.com

Tsa·Kwa·Luten

The Oceanfront Resort



at Cape Mudge



Merry Christmas

**to all - from
Tsa-Kwa-Luten Lodge**



Lunch 11:30 am to 3:00 pm,
Lounge 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Dinner 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

We will close Dec 28th at noon until April 5th, 2008.

www.capemudgeresort.com

Reservations Recommended 285-2042