



Discovery *Islander*.ca

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



*Breanne Quesnel catching up on news at home
under the mountain spires of Patagonia
photo: Rick Snowdon*

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Discovery Islander

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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, April 7th

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Island Calendar

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

The Regulars

- **Quadra Legion** - Now open Fridays and Saturdays at 4:00pm
- **Every Monday** - Parent and Tots 9:30 am - noon Q.C.C.
 - Badminton, 7:30 pm Cape Mudge Hall
 - Quadra Circle Social Dancing, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
- **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.
 - Al-anon meeting, 7.30 pm at the Children's Centre
- **Every Wednesday** - Moms and Babes 11 am - noon Q.C.C.
 - Life Drawing Sessions with model at Firesign Studio 7-9:30 pm
Call Nanci 285-3390
- **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
 - Badminton, 7:30 pm Cape Mudge Hall
- **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 11:00 am (Sept.-June)
 - 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, April 7th 2008

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.

Fri	Sat	Sun
7°C	8°C	9°C
2°C	2°C	1°C
	70%	40%

For links to the latest weather, tides, currents and marine weather forecast log on to www.Quadraland.ca

Day by day

- Friday, March 28th**
- Friday Flicks presents: The Flying Scotsman Q.C.C.
Doors 7:30 - Showtime 7:45 pm
- Saturday, March 29**
- Writers' Workshop Q.C.C.
with Brian Brett and Harold Rhenisch 10 am - 4 pm
- Sunday, March 30**
- Pioneer Hockey League Final Strathcona Gardens
Come out and cheer for the Quadra Old Growth 8:30 pm
- Monday, March 31**
- Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce AGM Taku Resort
R.S.V.P. chamber@discoveryislands.ca 7 pm
- Wednesday, April 2**
- Free Money distribution Q.C.C.
11:30 a.m to noon
- Saturday & Sunday, April 5 - 6**
- "Mainly Seascapes" weekend watercolour workshop with Grant Fuller.
285-3390 Firesign Studio
- Saturday, April 5**
- Harvesting Rainwater Q.C.C.
Presented by Sierra Quadra 7:00 pm
- Sunday, April 6**
- Harvesting Rainwater Workshop Q.C.C.
by 'Rainwater Connection' pre-registration required 9:00 to 12:30
- Wednesday, April 9**
- Quadra Island Conservancy and Stewardship Society AGM
QCC 7:30 pm
- Saturday, April 12**
- Steak Dinner (\$10) Quadra Legion
Ensure your ticket(s) by calling Len Lamb at 285-3354 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Shane Philip CD Launch and Gumboot Dance Q.C.C.
7 pm
- Monday, April 14**
- Garden Club presents Carolyn Jones Q.C.C.
speaking about Moorish Gardens of Spain & annual giant plant sale. 6:30 pm
- Sunday, April 20th**
- Annual Earth Day Beach Cleanup HQ at Rebecca Spit
10 am to 3 pm
- Tuesday, April 22**
- Cortes Film Night "How to Save the World with 1 Man, 1 Cow, 1 Planet"

Island Calendar online: www.discoveryislander.ca

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A Unified Voice for the Islands' Business Community

Annual General Meeting
all members welcome

Monday, March 31st, 7:00pm
at Taku Resort

www.discoveryislands.ca/chamber



Area J Regional Director's Report

March 28, 2008

by Jim Abram

Tying up loose ends

I will be away for the month of April and have been doing my best to deal with all of the projects that I have started at the Regional District (RD) and all of the issues that have arisen in the past months. I will give you a quick update on what those projects and issues are.

Heriot Bay sewer

The engineering firm has completed the study and are compiling the results for the final report on the options and the feasibility of a community sewer system in Heriot Bay. They will be able to plan to meet with the community in May to present the report and we can then see where to go from there. At the same time a \$10,000.00 grant has been applied for to deal with treatment plant options / disposal options. Public notice will be given for the meeting in May.

Quathiaski Cove sewer, expansion of boundaries

A study grant is being applied for and will go to the April board meeting. A full report will go to the board at that time explaining the concept. Basically, there have been many enquiries from residents who are adjacent to the existing boundaries and that want to join the system rather than try to install new septic systems to replace old ones. So the feasibility and logical extensions are being looked at and will be reported on to the board. If there is a desire to go ahead then there will need to be a petition process, much like the one that established the sewer service in the first place, to either approve or deny the expansion. That will not happen until at least May.

Pump out stations at Q. Cove and Heriot Bay Wharves

I have been promoting this to the RD for years and it is finally getting closer to being a possible reality. Discussions will still need to take place with the Harbour Authority. I had our Chief Administration Officer (CAO) write to the Harbour Authority last week to set up meetings. The one in Q. Cove would be a part of the expansion of the system if it goes ahead

and the one at Heriot Bay would be included in the plans for the new system if it goes ahead. Still lots of "ifs" but in the end a real bonus for the boating public, the commercial fleet and the environment.

School District 72 property at Heriot Bay

The property that the pre-school has occupied for years is owned by School District 72 and has recently been slated for divestiture. I am proposing that the RD purchase the property to keep it in public hands for the public benefit. The building is also being sold and I would like to see it remain where it is for public use, rather than being sold and moved. I have received numerous wonderful ideas from islanders for the use of the property and the building and all uses will be discussed. I have once again asked our CAO to write to the School District staff to arrange the appropriate meetings to discuss the details of this proposal. I have also spoken briefly to our School District Trustee, Helen Moats, to let her know of the interest.

I look forward to working with Helen to make this work for us as an island. My main reason for acquiring the property was to do with the Heriot Bay sewer proposal and the desire expressed by many to not have the effluent pumped to the marine environment. There are so many good examples of constructed wetlands that deal with treated effluent in an environmentally conscious manner that it seemed logical to at least explore this option due to its proximity to the proposed treatment plant. This would eliminate the need for and the cost of a marine outfall.

There will undoubtedly be many more discussions that will need to take place before this goes anywhere, but we must start by getting a "right of first refusal" for the property. So, in the interests of the community, I am exploring all options with the RD. I will not go into the many uses that we could have for the building on its existing site at this time. First things first. More to follow.

Granite Bay wharf upgrade

As I have reported many times before, we are in the process of trying to replace the sinking floats at the Granite Bay wharf. I have all of the new floats donated by Marine

Harvest, the trucking donated by TTL trucking of Campbell River (CR) and the terminal fees donated by CR Marine Terminals. The towing will be done by local vessel owners and the welding and other miscellaneous labour will be donated by our incredible volunteers in this community. However, we are still waiting for the final word from the engineer who must certify the structures before I can have everything moved into place. A meeting was to take place with our CAO and the engineer last week in CR. I will find out tomorrow if we are still on track.

Budget

The annual budget bylaw will be before the board this Thursday for approval. As I told all of you when the Regional District split was being discussed and fought over, costs will go up for the Strathcona Regional District (SRD). That's us, folks! And sure enough, they have, due to a provincially mandated, unnecessary division of our previous RD. Although costs have gone up, our financial staff have done their level best to try to mitigate the impact to taxpayers and I think they have done a really good job. We will see the result when we get our tax notices in June. More on this after the final budget is passed and we know the exact figures that we will be dealing with.

These are only the main topics that I am dealing with this week. There are many, many more and always will be. I just wanted to highlight a few of the most current issues and let you know where we are at with them.

Since I will be away for the month of April, I would ask that you send any non-urgent requests to me by email at abramfam@oberon.ark.com

Please do not phone and leave messages since no one will be checking them. I will not have a cell phone nor a laptop with me, so email will be best since it will be here upon my return. Any RD issues that you need answers to can be directed to the planners or administration at

1-800-331-6007. My alternate director will be attending meetings on my behalf in April, so we will be well represented at the board table.

I look forward to getting on with all of the above projects upon my return.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Abram

Director, Discovery Islands - Mainland Inlets, (Area J), Strathcona RD



Area I Regional Director's Report

March 28, 2008

by Jenny Hiebert

Spring is upon us, hours of daylight increase, and sun gradually warms the days. Mid-March is time to remove the winter insulation from the banana tree and as always the plant has been growing inside it's snug, hay blanket. The primroses, crocuses, and snowdrops are in full bloom and other bulbs display leaves promising colour in a few weeks. Most of the pruning has been completed, and onion and brassica seed is germinating indoors. Sunny warm days offer a pleasant opportunity to escape from the computer and spend some time outdoors observing the season of regeneration.

High Speed Internet

& the Connecting Community Agreement

Since last fall I have had a series of conversations with Telus regarding high-speed Internet service to the island. More recently these conversations have expanded beyond Telus to include a representative from NetworkBC. Representatives from both organizations will attend a community meeting scheduled to be held April 21 at Manson's Hall, commencing at 7pm. This will give island residents an opportunity to hear first hand about the possibilities of high-speed service for the island. A representative from the Community and External Initiatives Branch of the Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services (NetworkBC) will give a presentation about the Connecting Community Agreement (CCA). Telus representatives will also be present to discuss the CCA, the challenges Cortes presents and what can be done. Gathering information on this particular issue has been a bit like assembling a jigsaw puzzle, however outlined below is a synopsis of what I have been able to piece together. It should also serve as background for the April meeting.

In 2005, NetworkBC negotiated the Connecting Community

Agreement with Telus. This agreement ensures rural and remote communities having a publicly funded school, library or healthcare facility throughout BC have access to broadband service. The agreement called upon Telus to upgrade facilities to make low-cost broadband service available to a local Internet service provider (ISP). ISP's had to qualify through a selection process overseen by NetworkBC and Telus. Local ISP's had to produce a viable business plan, demonstrate community support and be willing to enter into a three-year contract. Telus is prevented from competing in a community where a local ISP is offering service as a result of the CCA. Twincomm met the ISP criteria to establish broadband service on Cortes Island. Service was initially to the Manson's Landing area, but has been expanding service to other areas.

The goals of the CCA were to provide a minimum of 10 mbps service at affordable prices to rural and remote communities throughout BC. The goals of this service were to enhance prosperity and quality of life of local residents by giving them access to innovative new health care, high quality education, knowledge and information, and by stimulating economic development. Pricing was established through an affordable price model based upon the population of the community regardless of its location. This is known as Provincial Uniform Pricing (PUP).

Lots of island folk would like Telus to provide DSL service to the island. As far as I can determine, Telus has had no plans to supply this service to the island because viability requires a minimum number of customer's concentrated in a small area. DSL technology has to be in a central office—the maximum range the service can be provided is via an approx. 4-5 kilometer length of cable—the farther from the central office the slower the service. To make DSL service viable Telus requires a minimum of 150 customers in the set cable length. The only part of the island

that might meet these criteria is the Manson's Landing area, the same area that Twincomm services. It is doubtful Manson's Landing could support 2 ISP's and the chances of Telus expanding service beyond the "downtown core" are very slim. The DSL delivery system consists of more than fiber optic cable...and is very expensive. A booster station must be installed at the end of each 4-5 kilometer section of cable to supply the next 150 residents. Density of population is one of the primary challenges of bringing DSL service to remote areas. To learn more and have the opportunity to ask questions please attend the April 21 meeting.

Moon Road Beach Access

The Moon Road Beach Access is nearly completed! Thanks to Richard and Kalaya Sanfedele for supplying electrical power during the four work bees. Being able to utilize electrical tools definitely helped move the project along. Thanks to Bruce Ellingsen and Henry Verschuur for donating the cedar needed to build the floating boardwalk, to David Shipway for donating the 5/8 inch rebar to pin the steps, and Hollyhock and Ryan Harvey for donating the 1/2 inch rebar to pin the boardwalk.

Special thanks for the gravel that appeared at the site, courtesy of an anonymous donor.

A small group of volunteers dedicated time and energy to the trail building. They are: Frances Guthrie, Lamme, Richard Andrews, Brian & Jenny Hiebert, and Mark Appleyard. The dedication and diligence of Ryan Harvey and David Shipway deserve special recognition. Ryan and David attended every work bee adapting their work schedules to ensure the trail work continued to move forward. Without the sustained dedication and diligence of these two individuals the trail would still be in the construction stage. If this were a theatrical performance a standing ovation would be in order! A couple minor things need to be completed but the trail is now useable.

If you have any questions about these or any other issues feel free to contact me at 935-6488 Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4 pm. (No early morning, late night or weekend calls, please.) If you get the answering machine try my cell phone--202-6488. You can also email me at brijen@oberon.ark.com anytime.

Respectfully Submitted by Jenny Hiebert—Regional Director

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Are You “Experienced”?

If Not, You Will Be Soon

by John Sprungman, Chair, Ferry Advisory Committee

This week BC Ferries began to sell the new “Experience Card” which will replace ticket books on the 16 minor routes, including Quadra and Cortes. After two years of consultation with the 12 Ferry Advisory Committees, BC Ferries has come up with a package that pretty well addresses all of the issues which were raised.

Most importantly, individual users will not have to put up as much money in advance to get the pre-paid fares. Paying in \$75 increments will allow the cardholder to get the ticket book prices for drivers, vehicles and passengers. For those who only travel as foot passengers, \$40 is the required amount .

Instead of buying a specific number of trips, as we do with ticket books, the cost of each trip will be deducted from the balance on the card’s account. We will receive a receipt showing the cost of the trip and the balance remaining.

Once you have a card, you simply pay another \$75 or \$40 at the ticket booth whenever the balance drops too low to cover the trip you are about to take. The card, used this way, protects your privacy. Although the card number is linked to an account, there is no name on it. But if you lose it, you’ve lost whatever remaining value it had.

BC Ferries is also offering the option of registering cards to an account that has your name and address on it. This provides loss protection. If you lose your card, you can cancel it and get a new card without losing the money in your account.

And registration allows more than one card holder to draw down on the funds in the same account so family members, friends or business associates can have individual cards without having to put out \$40 or \$75 for each card.

A card or cards registered to an account also allows cardholders to access the account online or by calling BC Ferries’ customer service centre to add funds and to obtain a printable travel record which may be used for tax purposes. It will be possible to set up your account so funds are automatically added from a credit card when the balance drops to a specified amount.

For more details, go to www.bcferries.com and click on the link: New! BCF Experience/Coast Card. At the bottom of that page, clicking on the link “Go to BC Ferries Experience Card & Coast Card Customer Area” allows you to register your card or log in to your account if you are already registered.

prepaid rate on any BC Ferries’ route that currently has prepaid fares. This is a big advantage for those who occasionally travel to other gulf islands and have been faced with paying the full cash fare or buying ticket books, hoping they would eventually use them.

A special note to those traveling to Cortes: It will be a while before the Heriot Bay terminal is equipped to deal with the new cards. If you use your card to pay for a trip from Campbell River to Cortes, you will get a thru-fare receipt like you do now. But if you are only coming back from Quadra, you will need paper tickets or have to pay the cash fare until a card reader is installed.

BC Ferries will continue to accept paper tickets but, after April 16, those presenting paper tickets will have to pay the difference between the cost of prepaid tickets bought before March 31 and the new prepaid fare that goes into effect April 1.

The difference is approximately 4 % across the board.

That means a foot passenger from Campbell River to Quadra will have to cough up two dimes along with an old paper ticket. A driver with a car will need to pay 65 cents more.

Going to Cortes? Add 45 cents to your two passenger tickets. Driving a car? Hand over \$1.45 with your two vehicle and driver prepaids.

This sounds like penny pinching, but BC Ferries’ CFO Rob Clarke says that, across the system, not collecting the difference on a 4 % fare hike amounts to as much as \$100,000 a month in revenue.

BC Ferries is determined that no one is going to benefit from buying up multitudes of ticket books just before a fare hike.

At some point in April, BC Ferries plans to offer an opportunity to turn in your remaining paper tickets for credit on your card.

I was one of the FAC members who was outraged in December 2005 when BC Ferries suddenly announced, without any consultation, that in February 2006, they were going to replace our ticket books with plastic commuter cards which would require us to buy 10 trips and use them within 90 days.

Our protests led to BC Ferries backing off that plan and agreeing to consult. There has never been any question that printing and handling all those paper tickets has been an inefficient means of handling prepaid fares in

this electronic age, but the system to replace them needed to replicate the benefits of the prepaids to the users. I believe they have achieved this, and if there are problems, they will be responsive to making adjustments.

“Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better”

Do you think you could manage the operation of the Quadra and/or Cortes ferries better and more cost effectively than BC Ferries does?

Well, thanks to Section 69 of the Coastal Ferry Act, you are about to have an opportunity to submit proposals to do just that.

Section 69 says:

(1) The ferry operator must, on an ongoing basis, seek additional or alternative service providers to provide, under contract, franchise agreement or otherwise, ferry services on the designated ferry routes serviced by the ferry operator in an effort to reduce the costs of providing those services on those designated ferry routes.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the ferry operator must from time to time, issue requests for proposals and take any other reasonable action to seek additional or alternative service providers, and if, as a result of those activities or as a result of unsolicited proposals provided to the ferry operator, it appears that an additional or alternative service provider is willing and able, on reasonable terms and conditions, to provide ferry services that meet existing service standards on one or more designated ferry routes at a reduced cost, the ferry operator must take any reasonable action that may be required to secure that provision of service.

At a meeting of the FAC Chairs with BCF management in Nanaimo Tuesday, we were informed that Route 23 (Quadra), Route 24 (Cortes) and Route 25 (Tri-Islands: Port McNeill, Alert Bay, Sointula) have been targeted for this year’s “requests for proposals from alternative service providers” in order to comply with the government’s legislation.

This government is fond of privatization and of what they called P3s (public-private partnerships). Driven by corporate think, they have the questionable belief that the private sector can do anything better than the public bureaucracy, even if they are running the latter.

News and Events

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

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!

Quadra Climbing Wall Open

The Quadra Vertical Climbing wall will be open January thru April every Sunday from 3 - 5 pm, except for March 16 and 30.

The drop in fee is \$5 and gets you a harness, belay instruction and lots of encouragement! If you are interested in volunteering or otherwise becoming involved (or donating used climbing shoes) Contact Matthew at 285-2543 for more info.

Simple Pleasure of Conversational French

There is an interest identified by the Circle for some French conversational activities drop in. All levels are welcome including those who have French as their first language. The idea is to group people in such a way that we can help each other from the top down. Activities of around 60 minutes will be discussed with the participants at the first meeting. Please contact Irène Dicaire preferably at dici@shaw.ca or at 285-2111.

Steak Dinner At Quadra Legion \$10

The Quadra Legion Executive is hosting a \$10 Steak Dinner on Saturday April 12th, 2008 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Ensure your ticket(s) by calling Len Lamb at 285-3354.

QUADRA CONSERVANCY AGM

Wednesday,
April 9, 2008
7:30 pm

Quadra Community Hall

- On the agenda
- Minutes 2007 A.G.M.
 - Financial report
 - Chairman's Annual Report
 - Election of four or more Stewards

Since the Coastal Ferry Act was legislated in 2003, they have offered up the northern routes and the Powell River-Comox and Powell River-Texada runs to alternative service providers. So far no one has come forward with a viable offer to maintain the same or a better service for less money than BC Ferries spends on any route.

Since it is already apparent that traffic volumes are dropping as fares go up on Routes 23, 24 and 25, and the Province clearly does not want to increase its service fee for any of them, it is hard to imagine how any entrepreneur could make money taking over any one of these ferries.

It is unfortunate that our ferry workers have to endure any anxiety over the consequences to them of such a change. The fact is, it would be extremely difficult for any other company not to honor the provisions of the existing union contract that runs through 2012. The last thing the Liberals want is any labor disruption in BC between now and the Olympics, especially one affecting transportation. So it will be very surprising if this legally required exercise does more than waste the time of BC Ferries' management.

Oh, Captain, My Captain!

The new senior master on the Quadra route is Capt. Lynn Hagen who comes to us from the Brentwood-Mill Bay route near Victoria. She will be present at the next Ferry Advisory Committee meeting which will be held at the Cape Mudge Community Hall, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Monday, May 5th.

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March 28 - April 10, 2008 While Quantities Last

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DELI

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Dan-D-Pak
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/100g

Bottle Returns in April will be Donated to the Quadra Island Volunteer Fire Department

Spring Hours - Fri

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Maclaren's Imperial Cheese \$4.88 250g

Hunt's Tomato Sauces Assorted Varieties 98¢ 398ml

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Fresh Chicken Drumettes \$3.88 / lb \$8.55/kg

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285-2436

Call For More Gardeners

A plan to link those who would love to grow vegetables but have no suitable space with those who have gardens but lack the time, energy or mobility.

Several owners of gardens and some gardeners have already been teamed up.

There are still some owners of gardens waiting for a gardener to be referred to them.

So gardeners without garden, jump on this great opportunity and call Irene Dicaire at 285 2111 or Email dici@shaw.ca

This is a joint Quadra Circle/ICAN (Island Climate Action Network) initiative .

Help with Quadra's Trails

The Quadra Island Trails Committee would like to thank all the volunteers that have worked on the trails over the past year. Your dedication keeps our trails safe and enjoyable. During the next few weeks, committee members will be conducting their annual spring trail inspections. Work parties will then be organized to prepare the trails for summer use by islanders and visitors. As well we will be completing the Surge Narrows Trail and replacing a few bridges.

Volunteers are needed for both weekdays and weekends. It's a wonderful way to enjoy the outdoors, meet new people, get some exercise and help keep Quadra's trails so great! If you would like to help, please call 285-2922 to place your name on our volunteer list.

Need To Raise Funds For Your Organization?

Host a dinner in the Quadra Legion Hall! You promote the event and design the menu while we provide the facility, the starch and the salad. Invest your Heriot Bay Store Spirit Board Points and get a big Return on your Investment. No Spirit Board points? No problem. To book a date or get more info, call Len Lamb at 285-3354.

Volunteer Opportunity

Retired with management experience and looking for challenge? The Quadra Legion would welcome your energy and assistance. For more information contact our President by telephone at 285-3116.

April Painting Workshops in Firesign Studio

Painters (and aspiring painters) don't have to leave Quadra Island for great workshops this year! Grant Fuller will come up from Comox to teach a weekend workshop "Mainly Seascapes" on the beach and in the studio. April 5 and 6, 9 AM-4 PM \$195 includes lunches. Then Victoria artist Brian Simons returns to Firesign to teach his popular "Seven Step to a Successful Painting" April 14-18 for all skill levels. Kristen Scholfield-Sweet will teach "A Master Class" for intermediate to advanced artists wanting help in their chosen media April 28-May 2. Sign up now! See www.firesignartanddesign.com for details or call Nanci 285-3390

West Road Yoga

Wednesday Evening Drop In Class.

Last class Wednesday evening April 2 at 5:30.

I will be away attending the Iyengar Yoga Association of Canada's Annual Convention in Penticton, B.C. with guest teacher Geeta S. Iyengar. As well, my Teacher Training course continues in Seattle.

Wednesday evening Drop In classes and Tuesday/Thursday morning sessions to resume in late May or early June. Keep up your practice and see you then!

- Ann

Quadra Runners

Quadra Runners is a no pressure running group; whose objective is enjoying jogging and running together. Participation is free. For more information contact Tara Kaye at 285-3843.

Beginners Jog/Walk: Thursdays at 3:00 at the Rebecca Spit Park Field.

This jog is designed for new runners or runners reintroducing jogging into their fitness program. This group runs from the Rebecca Spit Field Parking Lot to the Spit's End and then back again. This group jogs at a light pace and stops running to walk frequently

Intermediate Jog/Run: Sundays at 8am at the junction of Heriot Bay Rd and Rebecca Spit Rd. This group is great for the intermediate runner. The group runs from the junction point to the end of the spit then back again. We run at a moderate pace and stop running to walk occasionally.

We Run Rain or Shine!

Balinese Music and Dance

at Quadra Community Centre

Quadra Island Cultural Committee presents "An Evening in Bali" on Saturday, April 26th at the Community Centre. There will be a community potluck dinner at 6:30 to which all are invited to meet and help feed the 30 members of Vancouver's Gamelan Gita Asmara, who will perform at 8. What are Balinese gamelan and dance? A gamelan is a large traditional Indonesian percussion ensemble of gongs, flutes, drums, and metallophones. While it is still used for ceremonial purposes in Bali, it has evolved into a brilliantly virtuoso orchestral tradition that remains hugely popular throughout Bali to this very day and is played by people all over the world. Much gamelan music is used to accompany the intricate, highly stylized, exquisite movements of the traditional dance of Bali, which will also be part of this performance.

On Sunday, April 27th, at 10:30am, Gamelan Gita Asmara will be offering a workshop sponsored by Quadra Rec to anyone wanting to experience being a musician in a gamelan. The gamelan members will be using their authentic set of imported Balinese gamelan instruments for this workshop. No prior music or dance experience is necessary and it is free of charge. Please register ahead by calling 285 3458.

Tickets to the Saturday 8PM performance will be available at Hummingbird and Quadra Crafts: Advance: Single - \$17, Family - \$40, Student - \$12; at the door: single - \$20, family - \$45, student - \$12.

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Logo Contest for Strathcona Regional District

The Campbell River Arts Council, in partnership with the Strathcona Regional District, is seeking submissions for a new logo that will represent the newly formed Strathcona Regional District (SRD). The SRD was established on February 15, 2008, making it one of the two newest regional districts in BC. The District is a partnership of five electoral areas and five municipalities providing nearly 43,000 residents with 77 services - from parks to a full-service sports facility to solid & liquid waste systems. The geography of the SRD ranges from forested hills to remote inlets to picturesque villages to vibrant urban landscapes. The borders extend from the Oyster River in the south to Gold River, Sayward, Tahsis, Zeballos and Kyuquot in the north and west, and then east to take in Cortes, Quadra and the Discovery Islands, and a portion of the mainland north of Powell River.

The Arts Council is assisting the Regional District in a search for a new logo. A contest has been established, inviting submissions from all residents of the District. The winning logo will receive \$3000.00, with four semi-finalists each receiving \$750. Details and submission guidelines for the contest can be found on the Arts Council's website at www.crarts.ca or by emailing admin@crarts.ca or by phoning the Arts Council at 923-0213. Entry Forms and Rules can also be picked up at the Arts Council's office, located in the Sybil Andrews Cottage at 2131 South Island Highway in Willow Point. The name 'Strathcona Regional District' must be included in the design. The deadline for submissions is April 22nd. Final judging will be done by the Strathcona Regional District. This is a great opportunity to have a lasting impact on our Region!

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

Theatre Sports for Kids

(Ages 6-12)

In this fun-filled class, children learn theatre games, theatre skill development and basic acting skills. The first half of the class includes warm-up followed by theatre and improv skill development: in the final half of the class the children will play various theatre games designed for stage performances.

Quadra Island Community Centre Every Wednesday 2:45 to 4:15 pm Cost is \$2:00 drop in. For more information call Tara Kaye @ 285-3843 Children snack-time is 2:45- 3:00, kids bring own snack



Q-Beans Coffee

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

Get on the Ball: Core Stability

Only a few seats left !

The body ball challenges your muscles in new ways helping to strengthen and built up the deep " core " muscles in the body.

These muscles are involved in almost every movement in every day life, work and sport. They work together in spinal movement, weight bearing and trunk support.

They also stabilize and play a major role in maintaining good posture, which is so important if we are spending much of our working life in a sitting position.

Your core is the center of power. It needs to be solid and strong

Aerobic ball classes are an excellent workout and an perfect way to train core stability, strength and balance.

You will also learn proper technique on the swiss ball you may incorporate into your daily fitness routine.

Get on the Ball and join a Ball Class at the Quadra Community Center

Wednesday nights 7pm-8pm. March 19th till May 7th

Beginner Class / No impact

8 classes \$ 50 . Preregistering required, only limited amount of balls available.

Drop in with your own ball \$ 8

Please contact Marion Eberlein at 285 2895 for questions and registration.

I CAN and you can too!

A group of Quadra Islanders, interested in encouraging sustainable lifestyle choices for a healthy environment, has joined together as Island Climate Action Network (ICAN). I CAN initially formed following the fall workshop presented by Guy Dauncey. Since then, the group has been meeting to discuss ideas for promoting a healthy future. ICAN is dedicated to increasing awareness about climate change and supporting projects promoting sustainability on Quadra.

Currently, ICAN is developing initiatives to address several issues that effect the environment. Project plans involve the area of food sustainability, communication to encourage "green living", and advocacy for climate-healthy policies. With a small membership, ICAN looks for ways to coordinate with existing organizations and others in our community who may be interested in specific projects.

If you are interested in providing active support or learning more about our project plans, call ICAN through Lisa at 285-2480. Let's join together in our love for Quadra, and support her growth into a healthy future.

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Thank You

Flying Fox Circus was a soaring success with people of all ages showing off their talents in a swirl of colour and enthusiasm. A big thank you to everyone who came out to volunteer for the performance: Mary Jane Crawley, Garnet Kehn, Caitlin Alsager, Jane Townley, Elena Mason, Debbie Hawkins, Marnie Younger, Sioux Hartle, Silvie Loiseau, Robert Thurston, Lisa Marie & Deb Cowper, Christi Edwards and Heriot Bay Tru – Value. Not to be forgotten, a big thank to all the people who came out to support this Q.C.C. playground fundraiser.

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Shane Philip CD Release Party and Gumboot Dance



Photo: Ben Friday

Shane Philip is kicking off the spring season with an evening of music and dancing at the Quadra Community Centre on Saturday April 12. The buds are blossoming, the Equinox has arrived. It's time to put away the scarves and mitts and put on your dancing boots!

That's right, boots. Gumboots are as much a part of spring as nettles and blossoms. So not only will this be an unforgettable evening of music we will also be hosting a gumboot decorating contest (see www.thegumboot.ca for details). And as spring is a time of new beginnings it's fitting that this show is also a launch for Shane's new disc "In the Moment".

You may have heard Shane Philip on CBC radio or seen him sipping mochas at Aroma Café. Since the release of his new album "In the Moment" Shane Philip has been topping independent radio charts all around Canada! He has reached # 1 in places like London Ontario, Kamloops BC, Lethbridge Alberta and Trois-Rivieres Quebec. This February Shane reached #35 on Canada's Earshot Charts. This is no small feat considering Earshot charts are the National Campus and Community Radio reports for all of Canada. Way to go Shane!

Here's what Mark Weber from the Red Deer Express has to say about Shane's new album...

"For something completely different, but completely compelling at the same time, music fans ought to give In the Moment by Shane Philip a serious listen.

He cleverly melds touches of reggae, ska, folk, funk, blues and rock in his tapestry of music, and also injects the sonic wonders of the hauntingly melodic didgeridoo throughout. For those unfamiliar with the fascinating instrument, it originated with indigenous Australians hailing from the northern regions of that continent.

Based on the west coast, Philips' approach to crafting terrific tunes is abundantly refreshing – from the beautifully rhythmic disc opener Strange Noises to the bright, pleasant nature of Good Morning.

Same Road courses along with a light, engaging reggae sensibility. His vocals – rich, smooth and expressive – match his musical style perfectly as well.

It's not often artists today are daring enough to truly follow their raw creative impulses to the core, but Philips obviously has. In the Moment reflects a stark individuality that is remarkable and constantly entertaining."

Mark your calendar for The Shane Philip Gumboot Dance and CD Launch on Saturday April 12 at the Quadra Island Community Centre. Family Fun 7-9pm. Bar opens at 9pm. \$12 advance and \$15 at the door. Tickets are available at Aroma Café, Hummingbird & Quadra Crafts. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Sierra Club. For details call 285.2480 or visit www.shanephilip.com

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Harvesting Rainwater

Bob Burgess of Rainwater Connection will use a series of slides from recent projects to show how rainwater is collected from roofs, cleaned and transported to a cistern to be distributed to the home and sanitized for potable water. Or if you are a gardener and want an extra supply of water to keep your plants growing and happy, rainwater can be a great solution to your water needs.

Bob was one of the presenters at the Quadra Sustainable Energy Fair that participants asked Sierra Quadra to invite back to Quadra for another appearance. He specializes in designing, installing and servicing rainwater-harvesting systems in the Gulf Islands, Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland. Over the past five years the company has demonstrated that rainwater can be an alternative source of high quality potable water for single-family dwellings. Rainwater Connection has been involved with hundreds of rainwater projects – from small garden water systems to large scale storage for nurseries; from small cottages to large integrated rainwater and well water systems providing up to 100,000 gallons of potable water per year.

Mr. Burgess was involved with a study on Mayne Island for the Islands Trust, which studied the potential amount of rainwater available for collection and typical household demand, both potable and non-potable and prepared projections about usage and rainfall potential for the next 25 years. Recently he has been involved with helping to develop Rainwater Harvesting Building Code Guidelines for single-family dwellings for the Islands Trust Board and the CRD. He was honoured in 2006 with a Stewardship Award from the Islands Trust for his ongoing work in designing and installing rain harvesting systems and his public education courses designed to make us all good stewards of our resources.

The Harvesting Rainwater presentation will be on Saturday, April 5 at the Community Centre. Doors will open at 7:00 pm and the presentation will start at 7:30 pm.

A hands-on workshop will be held on Sunday April 6 from 9am to 12:30pm. The cost of the Workshop is \$80 and enrollment is limited to 8 persons to ensure sufficient one-on-one time to complete preliminary designs of each participant's water system. If required a second workshop will be held in the afternoon. To pre-register phone Bob at 1 877 777 2155 or email bob@rainwaterconnection.com.

www.discoveryislander.ca

Musical Theatre Workshop

"There is perhaps no more powerful tool than theatre to reach children. It taps into the instinct with which they are born, the instinct to explore by pretending—the instinct that, unfortunately, all too often is attacked by a world that pushes them to focus more on how they measure up than on who they truly are and can be.

Through theatre, all children are equal and free to explore. There are no wrong answers to fear and no competition to fall short of—only the chance to try on being someone else and, by doing so, to discover a little more of themselves." Anonymous

Joey Clarkson has been under the spell of music and the theatre since she was eight, amassing hundreds of hours on stage as well as behind the curtain and in instructor positions. She has been musical director for many classes and productions with TheatreWorks Centre for Performing Arts and has a strong and loyal following in the Comox Valley where she bases her own musical theatre education company.

"I have known Joey for a number of years and have been very impressed with her considerable talents. Joey is a gifted performer (acting and singing) as well as a very capable director. As a drama teacher, I especially appreciate her attention to detail as well as her excellent organizational skills." - Brad Smith, Lake Trail Jr Secondary Drama Dept.

Come, join the fun and get a taste of musical theatre! A workshop on Quadra is tentatively set for the last Saturday of April and would run from 12 to 4. These workshops are available for any of the islands as long as there is an attendance of a minimum of 10 students.

The 4 hour workshop covering script, choreography and vocal work set to popular show tunes concludes with an informal presentation for family and friends. Students work on activities that focus on developing skills in the student/actor. Joey stresses that while the final presentation is important, success is ultimately measured through the learning/self development that comes from the rehearsal process. Empathy, sensitivity and concern for others are emphasized throughout the program.

Workshop fee \$25. Call Joey at 334 2208 or email trclarkson@telus.net for times and dates www.joeyclarkson.com

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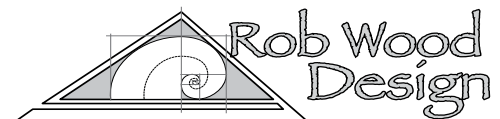
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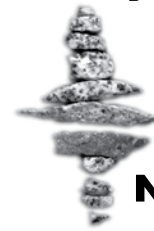
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Qigong Workshop

Come and experience this ancient and powerful Chinese system with this workshop - Balancing the Heart Qigong.

This workshop will focus on eight simple exercises to strengthen the heart and pericardium and are practised in China for the prevention and treatment of hypertension and coronary disease.

Workshop is at the Quadra Community Centre in Room 3. Please use the south entrance. Saturday April 5 between 10 am and 3 pm. Cost is \$50. To pre-register or more info call Denise at 285-3743.

Old-Growth - Playoff Finalists!

The Quadra Old Growth hockey team are playoff finalists and ALL Quadra hockey fans are invited to the Old Growth's final playoff game of the year!

We lead our six team division in points and have qualified for the cross-over final versus the other six team division. Sunday, March 30, 8:30 pm is the game for first place for the 'Coveted Covered Wagon' trophy signifying the winner of the pioneer League. Come and cheer us on at Strathcona Gardens in Campbell River this Sunday.

Free Wood

The Free Wood program lasted from November 1 to the end of February before we ran out of wood. Many thanks to all who helped in this experimental effort. It would not have been possible without the help of Marie Sutherland at the Q. Cove gardening centre who gave us some shelter for the wood. And, of course, the human beings who worked up a sweat cutting and hauling the wood, which includes Grant Hayden, Casey Guldmond, Paul Bishop,

Bruce Bjornson, Steve Moore and Urwin Harden and the folks from Camp Homewood.

Whether or not we can do it next year depends not only on the above mentioned folks, but future volunteers like yourself. If you would like to help out, give a call to Steve at 285-3323. If enough folks call, we can organize a planning meeting in the late Spring and see what's possible. This year's generous wood donations were not able to last the entire winter because of unexpected high demand and cold weather. So if there is a wood supplier out there who can give us a deal on multiple cords of wood, we should be able to come up with some money to pay for it by a fund-raising effort. Just call the above number.

Tonight!

The Flying Scotsman and Bikes By Sam

March 28th, Q.C.C.

Doors 7:30 – Showtime 7:45

Adm: \$5.00, Stu/Snr - \$4.00

THE FLYING SCOTSMAN is based on the remarkable, true story of Scottish cycling legend, Graeme Obree, who smashed the world one-hour cycling record on a homemade bicycle he constructed using old washing machine parts. In addition to the feel-good, triumph-over-adversity sporting drama, the film also examines Graeme's lifelong battle with depression due to bi-polar disorder.

Obree makes it his mission to beat the one-hour world record for biking, but he meets with skepticism and resistance from the old guard. It's an uphill battle all the way. His unshakable supporters are his wife, his best friend and his clergyman. Each one plays their part with the utmost humanity, never defaulting to sports movie clichés. The Scottish landscape also plays its part. And the cycling scenes are excellent. Obree himself doubles for the actor in some of the film's lycra-clad moments.



In addition to the movie, you'll see some of Sam Whittingham's own designed and built bikes. Bikes have long been Sam's passion, so it seemed fitting to invite him and some /naked bikes/ to Friday Flicks. Sam has won awards for his bikes and is also the undefeated champ for setting the human-powered cycling record. He'll be on hand before the movie to chat bikes and show some off his wheels.

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Really - the Last Flick of the Season

ENCORE FRIDAY FLICKS - BALI BY HEART

with animated short Madame Tutli-Putli

April 11th, Q.C.C.

Doors 7:30 - Showtime 7:45

In a joint presentation with Quadra Cultural Committee, Friday Flicks will follow their winter/spring series with a special showing. BALI BY HEART records the process of two musical traditions coming together to perform a brilliant new composition by the Canadian composer Michael Tenzer. Eleven musicians join twenty-seven members of the gamelan Çudamani in the small village of Pengekosan, Bali, and prepare to perform the new work. Over the course of a month they adjust to a totally new physical and cultural environment, learn social and protocol obligations, and perform music never before attempted. The amazing Gamelan ensemble, Cudamani, brilliantly incorporates Western instrumentation into its practice and performance. The result is exquisite, the performance, spellbinding.

Beyond showing the process of musical hybridization, BALI BY HEART is an intimate postcard for anyone who has ever visited Bali or longed to. The film aptly captures the culture, music and dance preserved on the island. Any lover of music; anyone fascinated by musical inspiration and performance or intrigued by Balinese culture will be captivated by BALI BY HEART. Those familiar with Bali will feel immediately transported to their experience of sensual, vibrant colours and mesmerizing sounds. BALI BY HEART explores beyond the world of music. It is also the story of friendships formed and difficulties surmounted. It is testimony of how Balinese have understood that their culture is their most precious survival tool.

The feature will be preceded by the N.F.B. short, MADAME TUTLI-PUTLI. Madame boards the night train, weighed down with all earthly possessions and ghosts of her past. She travels alone, facing both the kindness and menace of strangers. As day descends into dark, she finds herself caught up in a desperate metaphysical adventure. Adrift between real and imagined worlds, Madame Tutli-Putli confronts her demons and is drawn into an undertow of mystery and suspense. Jungian thriller? Hitchcockian suspense? Artistic tour de force? The night train awaits you...

Quadra Island Seniors

We had a very interesting trip to the regional meeting of the BCOAPO, held at Black Creek, the subject of the ferries was very prominent on the agenda with Martin Amiabel and myself emphasizing the unfairness of the subsidies given to other forms of public transport compared to ferries and the effect that the increases in fares are going to have on all Islanders not just the people that live on the smaller Islands.

After an excellent lunch, provided by members of the Black Creek branch #126 BCOAPO, a Constable from the RCMP auxiliary detachment at Courtney gave a very interesting talk on crime prevention and safety for seniors, prompting a lot of questions from the floor. After the talk we were each given a booklet on the subject, it contains some very good suggestions, well worth taking note of, (I will be attempting to acquire more of these booklets)

Did you manage to get to the "Garage Sale" at the Legion Hall? If you did you would have noticed how well stocked with donated items the Senior Housing table was, again, it was a fine display of the generosity of our community and of the hard work that some people are willing to do for a good cause, THANK YOU, because of your endeavors the Senior Housing Society raised another \$505 well done!!

Thank You also to the Ladies Auxiliary, Canadian Legion Br#154 for organizing the event and making it all possible

Congratulations to Versal & Jack Hales who celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Saturday March 22nd with a reception at Steve & Sue Swanson's home

Sorry to say the firewood distribution was not a success due to the weather, we are hoping to try again Friday 28th March, weather permitting, the grounds are very wet and boggy, so we do need to have a dry day or two, which will allow vehicles to access the log piles. Those seniors interested call me at 285 2907

Just a Reminder

1) Don't forget your hats for the Easter Parade at the General Meeting Wednesday 2nd April 10:30am

2) The Annual General Meeting of the Senior Housing Society is being held at the community Hall, 7:00pm Monday April 21st.

If you are not a member, why not come along and join in the fun, you never know, you might want to come again. For information and membership contact Membership Director Marshall Toelle @295 3228

Bob Brown - (President) Br #91 BCOAPO

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Free Money

Free Money distribution will happen just before the Community Lunch on Wednesday, April 2 from 11:30 a.m to noon. This is also a food bank day. Many thanks to the generous donor who placed some money in the Free Money Association account at the Quadra Credit Union. The program could not continue without the help that comes from people putting money in that account. Again, every cent is then distributed to those in temporary need. For more info, call Steve at 285-3323.

April Painting Workshops

Painters (and aspiring painters) don't have to leave Quadra Island for great workshops this year! Still room in Grant Fuller's weekend workshop "Mainly Seascapes" April 5-6, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. \$195 plus GST includes lunches. Victoria artist Brian Simons teaches his popular "Seven Steps to a Successful Painting" 5 days, April 14-18 for all skill levels. Kristen Scholfield-Sweet will lead "A Master Class" for experienced artists wanting help in their chosen media April 28-May 2. Sign up now! See www.firesignartanddesign.com for details or call Nanci 285-3390

Green Party to Discuss "Canada and Community"

The Vancouver Island North Green Party Electoral District Association is sponsoring an information event in Courtenay on Saturday, April 5, 2008 to which all members (current and past) are invited. You are also welcome to bring your friends and other folks interested in a greener Canada.

It will be held at the Tsolum Building in Lewis Park beginning at 7PM. The topic is "Canada and Community" - What are the Issues for Canada Today.

Refreshments will be provided.



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Halliday's Viewpoint

by Steven Halliday

A Return to Reality

The US economy took another serious blow on March 25th with the release of the new housing data that reports an average decline in real estate prices since January 2007 of almost 11%. Had you bought a home in Seattle a year ago, you would have seen the value of your investment decline by some 1.8%; should you have chosen the sunnier climes of Miami you would have lost almost 20% in the same time frame. Similar declines are being experienced in Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Phoenix, but had you chosen to invest in Charlotte, North Carolina you would have yielded a 1.8% gain on your investment in the same time frame. To those of us who have been following the unwinding of the massive bubble that is bulging out of most major US markets this represents validation of what has been long forecast, and strengthens the predictions that we have just started to see the beginning of a major reversal in the fortunes of those who have banked all on the presumption of an ever-ascending real estate market. This is happening today in the USA and the UK, and some now speculate that we here in Lotusland ought not to get too complacent about our real estate situation. Though a significant reversal in values is unlikely, it is certain a slowdown in local property appreciation has arrived.

What happened? Surely the world's largest economy is capable of addressing a situation that is in fact a creation of their own economic stewards in Washington, DC, who stood blithely by as all accepted standards of lending, underwriting and investment prudence was cast aside somewhere in the late 1980's - or are they? In a word, no. The situation has gone on unchecked for far too long, and already the blame game is in full swing. The March 23, 2008 edition of the New York Times featured an article by Nelson Schwartz and Julie Cresswell titled "What Created this Monster?" puts things in the proper perspective - "As Congress and Republican and Democratic presidential administrations pushed for financial deregulation over the last decade, the biggest banks and brokerage firms created a dizzying array of innovative products that experts now acknowledge are hard to understand and even harder to value. On Wall Street, of course, what you don't see can't hurt you. In the past decade, there has been an explosion in complex

derivative instruments, such as collateralized debt obligations [most common in the news are ABCP's - Asset Backed Commercial Paper] and credit default swaps, which were intended primarily to transfer risk. Those products are virtually hidden from investors, analysts and regulators, even though they have emerged as one of Wall Street's most outsized profit engines. They don't trade openly on public exchanges, and financial service firms disclose few details about them. Used judiciously, derivatives can limit the damage from financial miscues and uncertainty, greasing the wheels of commerce. Used unwisely - when greed and urge to gamble with borrowed money overtake sensible risk-taking - derivatives can become Wall Street's version of nitro-glycerine."

Further in the same article, the authors note the growth in the use of these instruments, in spite of the near miss experienced a decade ago with the bailout of Long Term Capital Management that required significant governmental financial intervention - "Nevertheless the market's growth has exploded exponentially since Long Term Capital almost went under. Today, the outstanding value of the swaps stands at more than \$45.5 trillion, up from \$900 billion in 2001." Jeffrey D. Sachs, a former Harvard University economics professor now teaching Columbia University, wrote an opinion in the March 21, 2008 Guardian titled The Roots of Crisis in which he stated "Today's financial crisis has its immediate roots in 2001, amid the end of the Internet boom and the shock of the September 11 terrorist attacks. It was at that point that the Fed [US Federal Reserve Bank] turned on the monetary spigot to try to combat an economic slowdown. The Fed pumped money into the US economy and slashed its main interest rate - the Federal Funds rate - from 3.5% in August 2001 to a mere 1% by mid-2003. The Fed held this rate for too long. Monetary expansion generally makes it easier to borrow, and lowers the cost of doing so, throughout the economy. It also tends to weaken the currency and increase inflation. All of this began to happen in the US." One of the scariest aspects of today's meltdown in the USA is its similarity to the Japanese economic woes of the early 1990's, which saw them drop interest rates steadily from 6% in June 1991 to .10% in September 2001. Today that rate is .50%, though it is widely expected to drop back

to .25% next month, and today values in the real estate and stock markets have yet to return to their peaks of some 20 years ago.

This space has often been devoted to warnings of trouble on the horizon, which is unsurprising, as the underlying problems have been evident - and intensifying - for years. The US Federal Reserve and the Bush administration have had their head in the sand for over 7 years, and feel that increased spending, tax cuts and lower interest rates will allow Americans to spend their way out of the mess. They saw, but chose to ignore, the unsustainable and artificial growth in asset values, and they saw, but chose to ignore, the ridiculously high levels of consumer borrowing that was keeping the economy above water. Their hands are now tied by the fact that taxes cannot be cut further, domestic GDP is slipping into recession and Uncle Sam's bank account is seriously overdrawn, so they are resorting to the only tool left in the box - cutting interest rates even further.

Canada, on the other hand, is showing no sign of any significant change in real property values, and in BC the market remains the hottest in the country. Credit Union Central of BC's Chief Economist Helmut Pastrick issued his most recent Economic Analysis of BC with the headline "Best five-year outlook since 1985" and opened it with the comment "Despite current weakness in US housing and mortgage derivative markets, economic growth in British Columbia is forecast to remain above the long-term historical annual average throughout the next five years." His forecast is for GDP to rise from 2008's 3.0% growth to 4.6% by 2012, while unemployment will shrink from today's 4.2% to 3.7% by 2012. Housing starts are forecast to drop from the 2007 peak of 38,300 to 34,600 next year, then recovering to 37,700 in 2012. His interest rate forecast is somewhat at odds with others in that he sees an early end to the decline in our key rates, with Government of Canada 10 year Bonds rising from 4.3% at year end 2007 to 5% by the end of 2012. Pastrick is clearly bullish on BC going forward, and sees us as well positioned to benefit from rising exports overseas, but I personally feel he may be somewhat optimistic in his view of how the USA will weather its coming economic typhoon.

continued to right...

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QUADRA: Island for Discovery- Tourism Survey Results

Background

In 2006, the provincial government set the goal of doubling tax revenues generated from tourism operations from 1 Billion to over 2 Billion dollars by 2015. Funding assistance for tourism development programs became available through "Community Tourism Foundations" Tourism British Columbia. The Discovery Island Chamber of Commerce, before making any plans felt it critically important to hear first and foremost from the people of Quadra, the islands businesses and associations. They felt it critical to listen to and document opinions about the tourism industry and where Tourism fits into the future of Quadra, socially and economically. The Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce felt that it was critical to gather input on many aspects of life on Quadra, including values, visions, challenges and suggestions for changes. Several meetings were called and held in various locations including at Tsa Kwa Luten Resort and Taku Resort. January, 2008, stake holders were invited to attend the formal presentation of the survey's results and recommendations.

Haliday's Viewpoint continued...

And when it comes to local real estate values, Pastrick predicts continuing price appreciation in all regions of the province, with the Okanagan and Vancouver Island seeing the fastest rise in values, albeit at a much slower pace than in the past, due to our desirability to retiring baby-boomers and affluent foreign buyers. Sales are expected to slow somewhat, with MLS residential sales on the Island dropping from 9,807 in 2007 to 9,100 in 2008, and 9,400 in 2009. New housing starts should remain constant, at about 5,000 per year. Olympics related economic activity is clearly at play in this rosy forecast, but it also recognizes the undeniable fact that we live in the best place on earth, as the government is so fond of telling us, and there will be no slackening of demand for a piece of paradise. Certainly there will be bumps along the way, with resource-based businesses suffering reduced demand and prices, and economic activity sourced out of the USA is bound to slow as does their economy, but here in BC we can be quite confident that we will have a significantly more comfortable ride to the future than many of our cousins to the south.

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The key Values expressed by Quadra Islander's were identified as:

1. Retain the natural environment
2. Pride in the Community
3. Safety and Security
4. Livelihood based on individual enterprise vs. big box corporations.

The overall Mission Statement has become:

"Raise awareness among tourists about Quadra Island's high values and motivate these visitors to respect and adhere to them"

Predicated on the values held by most Quadra Islanders, participants worked through a Vision for the Future exercise which has resulted in the following 3 views:

- Quadra Island is the place to escape, reconnect and discover.
- Quadra Island is rich in First Nations history and culture, breathtaking mountain vistas, island and ocean experiences and diverse outdoor recreation opportunities
- Explore wellness, arts and learning opportunities.

With the values identified, mission statements made and visions for the future identified, the Tourism Group of the Chamber has taken on a series of actions. Individuals have taken responsibilities for each action and will be reporting back in early Spring 2008.

A full copy of the Quadra Island Tourism Planning Review will be available at the Quadra Island Library. Should you wish an electronic PDF copy, please send an email request to bpc@connected.bc.ca

Appreciation is extended to Community Tourism Foundations Tourism B.C., Richard Hudson, facilitator. Appreciations are extended to all the un-named Tourism Operators who volunteered dozens of hours in various tasks to move the project ahead. Most Important – Thank you Quadra Islanders: representatives of local business interests, associations and individuals, all of you for offering your experiences and perspectives in this Tourism Survey and Vision Project.

Please email any comments, questions to bpc@connected.bc.ca

Submitted by: Rod Burns

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28	00:52	4.1	13.5
Friday	04:44	3.9	12.8
	08:24	4.1	13.5
	17:08	1.4	4.6
29	02:15	4.2	13.8
Saturday	06:31	4.0	13.1
	08:30	4.0	13.1
	18:05	1.5	4.9
30	03:11	4.3	14.1
Sunday	19:10	1.6	5.2
31	03:45	4.3	14.1
Monday	09:56	3.5	11.5
	11:58	3.6	11.8
	20:16	1.7	5.6
01	04:08	4.3	14.1
Tuesday	10:11	3.2	10.5
	14:16	3.5	11.5
	21:15	1.8	5.9
02	04:29	4.4	14.4
Wednesday	10:37	2.7	8.9
	15:43	3.7	12.1
	22:07	1.9	6.2
03	04:50	4.4	14.4
Thursday	11:06	2.3	7.5
	16:49	3.9	12.8
	22:54	2.0	6.6
04	05:12	4.5	14.8
Friday	11:39	1.9	6.2
	17:45	4.2	13.8
	23:38	2.2	7.2
05	05:37	4.6	15.1
Saturday	12:14	1.5	4.9
	18:37	4.4	14.4
06	00:20	2.4	7.9
Sunday	06:04	4.6	15.1
	12:50	1.1	3.6
	19:29	4.5	14.8
07	01:02	2.6	8.5
Monday	06:32	4.7	15.4
	13:29	0.9	3.0
	20:21	4.6	15.1
08	01:46	2.9	9.5
Tuesday	07:03	4.6	15.1
	14:10	0.7	2.3
	21:16	4.6	15.1
09	02:33	3.1	10.2
Wednesday	07:36	4.5	14.8
	14:53	0.7	2.3
	22:16	4.6	15.1
10	03:26	3.3	10.8
Thursday	08:12	4.4	14.4
	15:41	0.7	2.3
	23:20	4.6	15.1
11	04:31	3.5	11.5
Friday	08:53	4.2	13.8
	16:33	0.9	3.0
12	00:28	4.6	15.1
Saturday	05:55	3.5	11.5
	09:45	3.9	12.8

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Other jobs for June - August include housekeeping, landscaping & maintenance.

If interested please fax resume to 250-285-2101, email: info@seascapewaterfrontresort.com, or drop off resume.

HELP WANTED

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Spirit of the West Adventures is looking for a food and gear manager for the 2008 season. This is a full-time summer position from June to September. The main responsibility will be to prepare and pack food for multi-day kayak trips. We are looking for someone who has strong organizational skills, as well as some baking and cooking skills and an understanding of dietary restrictions. Being able to work both independently as well as part of a team is an asset.

To apply please call John or Breanne at 285-2121 or email your resume to jdinafrica@hotmail.com

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