

DI

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



Happy Canada Day!!!

Tuesday July 1st

Celebrations at Rebecca Spit starting at 5:30 pm,

Fireworks at 10:30 pm

www.discoveryislander.ca

Discovery Islander

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All editorial items of a news or non-profit nature run free of charge. Display ad rates and digital specifications available online:
www.discoveryislander.ca

Next Deadline: June 30, 7pm

Paddle under the Stars
Celebrate Canada Day!
Join us on the water
for the best seat
KAYAKS in the house
July 1st, 8-11pm
Book Ahead Call 285-3400

Ferry Schedules

Campbell River - Quadra Island

Crossing Time: 10 minutes

Leave Quadra Island		Leave Campbell River	
6:15 am	3:05 pm	6:40 am	3:30 pm
†7:05 am	**4:00 pm	†7:30 am	4:30 pm
8:00 am	5:00 pm	8:30 am	5:25 pm
9:00 am	5:50 pm	9:30 am	6:15 pm
10:00 am	7:00 pm	**10:30 am	7:30 pm
11:00 am	8:00 pm	11:30 am	8:30 pm
12:00 pm	9:00 pm	12:30 pm	9:30 pm
1:00 pm	10:00 pm	1:30 pm	10:30 pm
2:00 pm	*11:00 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.

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Cortes Island branch
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Serving the Discovery Islands since 1941



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.
- Quadra Circle Social Dancing, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
- **Every Tuesday** - Live Jazz at April Point 7 pm
- 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.
- Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm at Quadra Island Bible Church
- Jam Session Quadra Legion 8 pm
- **Every Friday** - Free Pool, Darts and Shuffleboard at the Legion 4 pm to 1am
- **Every Saturday** - Farmers' Market 10 am - 2 pm behind Quadra Credit Union
- 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
- Live Jazz at HBI 6:30 pm
- **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, June 30th 2008



Tattoos
Quadra Ink
Contact - Lenny
285-2217
xangolenny@hotmail.com

Party!!!

July 5th 8 pm - 12 am
with '2 Johns and a Jig'

A celebration of life for John Obzera and Vaughn Bannister. Admission by donation. Call for moorage information & further info 250-202-DOCK

Day by day

Until June 28th

- 'STUDIES FROM THE MODEL STAND' - PERRIN SPARKS at DRAW Gallery

Friday, June 20

- Quathiaski Cove Ferry Terminal Opening at 1 pm
Coffee and desserts will be served.

Saturday-Sunday, June 21-22

- Quadra Island Garden Tour Various Locations

Saturday, June 21

- Fiona Sings The Lovin Oven
6-7:30 pm

Tuesday, July 1

- Canada Day Celebration Rebecca Spit
Children's Festival 5:30 pm, Fireworks 10:30 pm

Friday, July 4

- Hal Douglas Blues Band HBI
9 pm

Saturday, July 5

- Hal Douglas Blues Band Landing Pub
8 pm

Date and Time to be announced

- Public Meeting re: Scallop Farm off IR #9 Cape Mudge Hall

Island Calendar online: www.discoveryislander.ca





QUADRA CREDIT UNION

CURLY EASTLAND BURSARY

Scholarship funds are available to members and to the children of members of Quadra Credit Union. Applicants must be grade 12 graduates or mature students planning post-secondary education.

Application forms are available at the Quadra and Cortes Offices.

Completed applications will be accepted via mail, drop off, or fax (250-285-2225) and must be received at the Quadra Credit Union by July 31, 2008 at 5:00 PM.

Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
			
20°C 14°C	18°C 12°C 70%	21°C 12°C	21°C 10°C



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On the cover




Canada Day fireworks from
Chinese Mountains
photo: Brent Henry



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Submission Guidelines

Items for publication are welcomed on subjects of interest to the Discovery Islands community. Please help us by following these guidelines:

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

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

Next Deadline

7 pm. Monday, June 30th



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

Local Property Taxes

\$552/day increase

Pending is the July 2nd deadline to pay property taxes imposed local governments'. While most other local administrations remain silent, much blame this year for increased taxes is attributed to the split up of the Comox Strathcona Regional District (CSRD).

Could Planning and Electoral & Administration be the "essential District services" Jim Abram fought to keep from the failed budget cutting efforts of the Campbell River Directors? The new Stathcona Regional District's (SRD) increase of \$291/day to \$1,490/day includes \$115/day increase for "surprise, surprise" Planning ... who can forget the debacle of the recent Community Plan changes ... and \$82/day for Electoral & Administration. The E&A increase is despite the \$55,565 cutback in Abram's expenses and remuneration from his \$98,327 in 2006 to just \$42,762 in 2007. Notwithstanding but noteworthy, Abram managed a creative 95 % increase for his "Area J related expenses from \$6,945 (2006) to \$13,543 in 2007.

While this year's SRD increase of 24.33 % over last years CSRD requisition, readers should keep in mind other similar CSRD increases, 26.99 % (2006) and 24.01 % (2001) as well as the double-digit increases of other years. Yet there has never been any evidenced and documented correlation between tax requisitions and real services, if any, provided to Area J taxpayers, notwithstanding Abram's expenses.

The Comox-Strathcona Regional Hospital increase of \$184/day to \$1,309/day, a 16.40 % increase, has not yet resulted in a new hospital, nor is it the largest percentage increased compared to the 111.86 % (2006), and 24.05 % (2002).

Trustees of the South Quadra Fire Protection District tax increase of 9.99 %, or \$52/day to \$576/day, represents a significant financial change in that firefighters no longer are unpaid volunteers. Noteworthy is the process that Trustees have implemented for paying their members to attend practice nights.

With the more modest increase for the Vancouver Island Regional Library of \$18/day to \$355/day, or the \$129,601 imposed for 2008, readers might justifiably wonder if it would be less cost to taxpayers to close the library and simply ship new books directly to readers from Amazon.

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation have said that local governments are the last bastions of financial unaccountability, with undoubtedly Regional Districts at the top of the list, but still the majority of Area J property owners pay their taxes without complaint. Why?

Ted Conover.

[For an indepth comparison of tax increases see Ted Conover's analysis online at www.discoveryislander.ca]

Saint Stephen Lewis

So Saint Stephen Lewis, heralded as a statesman and adored like a rock star, is coming to a town near me. His famous devotion to Africa, his heart rendering tales of grandmothers burying daughters and raising their babies only to leave them as orphans—his cause célèbre—will no doubt fill the papers as they always do.

But Lewis is wrong. The AIDS epidemic is not the worst disaster to have hit Africa. The worst disaster, as documented by the Canadian Senate report of 2007, was over four decades of development aid that did nothing but encourage a population boom that bred poverty, misery, starvation, resource exhaustion and war. In 55 years Africa's population has increased 107 % and in the next 40 years it is projected to increase by 233 % in Burundi, 274 % in Niger, 310 % in Uganda, 198 % in the Congo, 173 % in Chad, and the list goes on. No, the theory that economic development is a contraceptive is a proven falsehood and a tired cliché. Only aid that is conditional on determined family planning is effective.

The problem here is not stopping people from dying, it is preventing people from being born---born into an environment that cannot sustain them. If people like Lewis, Bill Gates and Bob Geldoff had spent their prodigious energies promoting birth control rather than death control, the people of that unhappy continent would have been much, much better off today.

The road to hell is paved with sanctimonious intentions and applauded by politically correct myopia. True compassion comes with a hard edge.

Tim Murray,

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 June 30th



Area J Regional Director's Report

June 20, 2008

by Jim Abram

I will try to keep to five items this issue, so here goes!

Plutonic Power proposals

It seems that "green energy" is the buzz phrase of the year in Area J and other parts of the world. The question in my mind is when does a project change colours - from "green" to something else. Right now there is a huge proposal out there to tap into a few dozen of the rivers in Area J in Bute Inlet and Toba Inlet. These are to be "run-of-the-river" projects, not your mega-projects like the dams of earlier decades. As one author put it though, ".... what these new projects don't have in size, they make up for in sheer numbers. They are making it up in intrusions into hundreds of undeveloped areas with roads, dams, pipelines, temporary construction camps, and a permanent spider-work of transmission lines."

In the case of Bute and Toba Inlets, we are talking about 375 kilometers of transmission lines. We are talking about around 3 dozen rivers in these wilderness areas that are heavily used by our first nation and non-first nation communities for tourism and recreation opportunities. And then there are the forest dwellers. Will they be impacted? How could they not be?

At the July 16th Strathcona Regional District Committee of the Whole meeting (12:30 pm), we will have a presentation from Plutonic Power on their proposal. I am also trying to get a speaker from the "other green power side" to also present at the same meeting so that we get a more balanced view of the project and any possible pitfalls. The meeting is being held at the Maritime Heritage Centre in Campbell River.

For more info on this project and others like it visit www.watershedsentinel.ca and read "Rivers of Riches" (Jan. 2007)

Scallop farm proposal (south of Rebecca Spit Park)

The Cape Mudge band has applied to the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) for an investigative permit to see if they can raise scallops in a long-line operation on approximately 63.8 hectares of water area in front of Indian Reserve #9, which is adjacent

to Rebecca Spit Provincial Park on the north side and to the private lands directly to the south of the Reserve. The SRD has advised ILMB of the need for the Band to apply for a Temporary Industrial Use Permit or to apply for a rezoning in order for the use to be allowed. According to the community calendar in the last Discovery Islander, the Band is having a public information meeting on Monday June 23rd at 7:00 pm at the Cape Mudge hall. I have not confirmed this information. You should call the Band office to confirm.

I am meeting with the Chief and other representatives of the Band on June 20th at 11:00 am along with the Chair of our SRD board and our interim Chief Administrative Officer to discuss their proposal and the process that needs to be followed under the Local Government Act. I will report back to you on that meeting in my next report.

Gravel pit / mine application

There has also been an application for a gravel pit to be operated in the area of Copper Cliffs. The applicants are holding their own public meeting on Monday, June 23rd, along with the Ministry of Energy and Mines. It will be at the Quadra Community Centre starting at 6:30 pm. As you will see under the previous item, there will be a conflict in meetings on that night.

I have received numerous letters and calls about this particular application, due to its proximity to residences. I am sure that the applicants will be able to answer questions and concerns at the meeting.

Quathiaski Cove terminal

I just received a notice by email, that the grand opening of the Q. Cove terminal will be on Friday, June 20th at 1:00 pm.

This terminal building project has been the result of a lot of hard work on the part of many of us in the community as part of the ongoing BC Ferries Advisory Committee discussions. The plans started out as an unacceptable proposal by BCFS and was re-worked by

numerous members of the community as a first draft and then it went back and forth for, literally, years. With the help of Rob Wood (of Rob Wood Designs) BCFS finally came back with an acceptable proposal that was then approved by their executive and eventually built. I did insist throughout the process that local contractors be used wherever possible and I think that BCFS did that as much as possible. So at least some of our ferry fares came back to re-circulate on the island! Coffee and desserts will be served after the ribbon cutting.

I am sure that the chair of the Ferry Advisory Committee will give a more detailed account in his next report, but since I just got this notice, I wanted to make sure that you knew about it.

Quadra Island Salmon Enhancement Society (QISES)

I attended the first annual QISES fund raising dinner and auction, held at Tsa Kwa Lutén Lodge on Saturday, June 14th. It was a wonderful affair and was an outstanding example of the generosity of the people of Quadra Island and the surrounding area. The food was delicious and the items for auction were worth bidding on! And the salmon resource of this area will continue to be supported! The regional district has also supported salmon enhancement not only on Quadra, but in the outer islands and the inlets as long as I have been the director for Area J through grants-in-aid.

Well, I said five items and I believe we are there. As always, there are many other issues and activities that deserve mention, but I only get so much space and don't want to test your patience with lengthy reports. So, that is it for now. 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), SRD

Ferry Users Over a Pricy Big Barrel

by John Sprungman, Chair, Ferry Advisory Committee

"So I think this August if we can talk to the Ferry Commissioner and get a positive ruling out of him, we'd see on the majors and (Horseshoe Bay to) Langdale probably a surcharge in the range of 8 to 9 per cent and on the minor routes about 20 per cent so it's a very significant cost increase."

---BC Ferries' President & CEO David Hahn on the Bill Good Show July 17. Quoted from the CKNW Radio web site.

Last September, when Ferry Commissioner Martin Crilly determined the price caps for fare increases for the next four years, he built in a separate formula to deal with expected volatility in fuel prices.

The formula included a "set price" for light diesel fuel of 79.48 cents a litre. That's what it cost BC Ferries eight months ago. The complex formula essentially allows BC Ferries to add surcharges to fares if their cost overrun for fuel exceeds certain parameters. In May, BC Ferries says it was paying \$1.20 a litre.

Since April 1, the average price of a "barrel of oil" has been about \$120 Cdn., according to Rob Clarke, BC Ferries' Chief Financial Officer.

"Assuming we experience \$130 Cdn. for the balance of the year, refining premiums remain as they are and taking into account the carbon tax, I would expect fuel surcharges to be applied in the Minor Route Group by November 1, 2008," Clarke wrote in an email. "I think there is a very real possibility that the surcharges could be increased each quarter thereafter."

BC Ferries' March 31 quarterly report states:

"High levels of fuel pricing could translate in significant fuel surcharges and result in unprecedented total tariff levels. Although our traffic levels have not shown any significant effect from higher tariff costs, there is uncertainty about the future if total tariff charges rise significantly."

Over the last three years, the Ferry Commissioner authorized

three fuel surcharges, totaling 18.6%, which he ultimately rolled into the regular fares April 1, because BC Ferries still had more than \$20 million in extra fuel costs. Incorporating those surcharges was calculated to repay BC Ferries for those losses by 2012.

To cover other expected cost increases, he also approved 7% fare hikes on April 1, 2009, 2020 and 2011, assuming Vancouver's Consumer Price Index will go up by 2% each year, as it has every year since 2003. If CPI is more than 2%, then 3/4 of that amount will be added to the price cap for each year.

In April alone, Vancouver's CPI went up almost one percent. A 4.3% jump in energy costs in that one month is largely responsible for the increase so higher fuel prices are beginning to significantly affect the cost of all goods and services which involve transportation.

Carbon Tax Hits BCF Too

The carbon tax is the Provincial Government's initiative to encourage us all to use less gas. It takes effect July 1st with an initial levy of 2.4 cents per litre. Just like the rest of us at the pump, BC Ferries has to pay it.

The tax will gradually rise to 7.24 cents a litre by July 1, 2012. Vancouver Sun columnist Vaughn Palmer pointed out that BC Ferries' tab over the next four years will be almost \$32 million, based on current rates of fuel consumption, and "most, if not all, of those millions will be recovered from ferry travelers through fuel surcharges."

"Ferry riders will pay more for all kinds of fossil fuel-including gasoline, natural gas and home heating oil-as well as their ferry fares," Palmer wrote. He should, of course, have said propane instead of natural gas, but he's right about the higher cost of all fuels on our islands. Last weekend, regular gas at Squirrel Cove on Cortes was \$1.489 per litre.

The government says their tax will be revenue neutral, meaning they won't wind up with any extra loonies in the treasury, but their

means of returning it to the citizens of BC is a \$100 per person cheque, soon to be in your mailbox, and reductions over the coming years to the provincial personal and business income tax rates.

Most island incomes are not at urban levels so it is questionable how much an income tax cut will return to the average islander. They say there will also be an annual rebate to low income people. It remains to be seen how this will all balance out.

No Help From Victoria

After meeting with Ministry of Transportation officials in May, the FAC Chairs came home with little hope that there will be any change to government funding for BC Ferries' Minor Route Group.

However, in the North, on the routes between Prince Rupert and the Queen Charlotte Islands and between Rupert and Port Hardy, the government has decided to pay for the North's new ships and to protect those ferry users from fuel surcharges. Why? Because they recognize that BC Ferries cannot extract any more revenue from fare increases on those routes. The local and tourist traffic there has hit, shall we say, a point of no return.

While the government refuses to recognize the negative impact of their ferry policies on more southerly coastal communities, BC Ferries acknowledges the potential "risk" of declining tariff revenue due to decreasing traffic.

"We believe," the quarterly report says, "that demographics are changing on many of the small coastal islands that we serve. Individuals appear to be purchasing properties on these islands as vacation rather than primary residences. These individuals visit their island properties less frequently. This appears to have caused a decrease in the number of commuters on these routes. The continuation of this trend may result in a more significant decline in traffic."

They don't seem to have any idea how much year-round residents have cut back on town trips, walked on or car pooled instead of taking

their cars, and reduced trips for recreational purposes.

"We believe that a significant number of our customers travel for leisure purposes," the report says. "Traffic on our vessels may decline, or fail to increase as expected, if world or local events have a negative effect on tourism or other leisure travel."

I think they also fail to recognize that a significant number of islanders travel to see family elsewhere, and many of our "tourists" are family members or friends coming to the islands to visit. The high cost of this travel is affecting many of us.

There are even larger issues looming. The carbon tax will seem inconsequential if fuel prices keep jumping like they have in recent months and the news about the impact of carbon emissions keeps getting worse.

If you have been reading or hearing about peak oil and about the accelerating rate of climate change, you may have different thoughts about a ferry system that burns 118 million litres of diesel a year. How sustainable is it? If oil goes to \$200 a barrel, what will it cost to keep the ferries running on their current schedules? If emissions have to be restricted radically, are we faced with changes that will severely limit our travel options?

Change of Queens Delayed

The Powell River Queen was scheduled to return from refit today, but on Monday, Marine Superintendent Gordon Nettleton said it won't be back until June 30. He said the passenger deck shelter may be removed from the Bowen Queen a few days before the PRQ returns to facilitate the change. The Bowen Queen was scheduled to begin its usual summer service in the Southern Gulf Islands next week. It will be rushed down there as soon as the PRQ returns.

Capt. Nettleton said the shipyard in Vancouver has been working "flat out" to finish the \$14 million replacement of the



News and Events

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car deck with a structure that will allow the PRQ to carry highway legal weight loads across all five lanes. He said this was a Transport Canada requirement to keep the ship in service.

The deck was replaced with the vessel in the water, cutting the old deck apart and using cranes to lift out the pieces and replace them with prefabbed sections with the superstructure built in. It's been a four-month project.

The new Quathiaski Cove terminal building will be officially opened at 1 p.m. today (June 20) with a brief ceremony and refreshments for those who stop by.

Calling all Quadra Fruit and Veggie Gardeners!!

Do you have extra veggies, fruits, or nuts in your garden?? Would you like to sell, trade, or donate this food (eg. to the Food Bank, Community Kitchen, etc), but need help getting the word out or finding pickers and people to help you?? Then: Sign up on the Quadra Food Registry!!

The Quadra Food Registry is a new project, organized and updated by I-CAN (Island Climate Action Network). It basically is a list from people who have surplus food that they are wanting to share with others – for people to buy, or do some work trade for, or just for free. Islanders can keep checking the lists – either to add their names and available food, or to find out where they can get some local produce.

The list will be available at I-CAN's Farmers' Market Table on Saturdays through the summer, and kept at On-Root Greenhouse during the week. An updated copy of the list will be available as well, on the Gumboot. Contact I-CAN at quadraican@gmail.com or through Lisa (285-2480) with any questions or submissions.

www.discoveryislander.ca

Fiona Sings!

Fiona Girard-Henry is a real Quadra girl. She sang herself (and everybody else!) awake. She's fifteen and loves blues, jazz and pop. We'll add Gord's sax, Steve's drum and Judy's keyboard. When? Saturday, June 21st, 6 to 7:30 pm. Where? The Lovin'Oven. Come hear this talented local singer. See you there!



photo: Brent Henry

Thursday Jam Sessions with "Shake A Leg" At Quadra Legion

Everyone is welcome to our weekly jam sessions in the Branch Hall every Thursday starting at 9:00pm. Any questions, call Mark Whittington at 285-3579. See you at the Legion!

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!

Music is the Art of Sound

Sound is music to the ears. Come and join us and play music of the spheres, Monday, July 7 from 1 to 4 pm at Vitalis Wellness Centre in Cove Centre, Quathiaski Cove.

Terese Dale Kunnickey will give a discussion on sound vibration using crystal bowls, gongs and Tibetan bowls. She'll be accompanied by special guest Birgit Kuit, singer, song-writer.

Bring your instruments and we will all join in sound. Admission \$10 or by donation. Funds raised will contribute to the Community Choir Leadership Program for Mary Dennison, (singing in the oral/aural tradition, ie: without written music)

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Hal Douglas Blues Band

Quadra Island gets a shot of the blues in the first week of July. The Hal Douglas Blues Band is part of the July 1 Canada Day celebrations at Rebecca Spit (see other articles in this issue for a full schedule of events).

The band is also rocking away at the Heriot Bay Inn on Friday, July 4th from 9 p.m. to closing. Finally, the Landing Pub, under new management, is now beginning to feature live music as well. The Hal Douglas Blues Band

will be playing the Landing Pub on Saturday night, July 5 from 8 p.m. to midnight.

The band features Hal Douglas, a local songwriter & music teacher, on lead guitar & vocals, David Blinzinger Jr., another local music teacher, on piano & vocals, Adam McGuffie on bass guitar, Steve Moore, poet & songwriter, on drums and the wonderful saxophone musings of Don Doolittle.

Senior Housing News

A very successful Steak Dinner at the Legion on June 7! Many thanks to all board the members Ken & Shirley Duncan, Carol Woods, Muriel Krook, Rolf Kellerhals, Kurt Hagen, & Riki Vogt, as well as Marg Lasby. All worked hard to make it a success.

Thanks also to expert cooks Bill Bradshaw & Billy DuBois.

We're happy to announce that eight members have joined the "1000 Club" by donating one thousand dollars to the effort to build the first 2 units in 2009. We're obviously looking forward to many more members of this club – tax receipts will be issued, reducing the actual cost of membership.

Speaking of membership in the Society, it now stands at 64, doubling in the past 2 weeks! It is very important to have a large membership base when applying for grants – for example Cortez with 140 members just received a grant from BC Housing of \$380,000! You can join for only \$5 at the booth each Saturday at the Farmer's Market, or contact any of our directors. We are in the process of applying to BC Housing, and every extra member increases our chances of consideration for a grant.

We welcome Debra Gilliland of 4 Corners Bookkeeping as our new Treasurer, freeing Bob Lasby to concentrate on publicity & fundraising. If you know of any philanthropists or you wish to be one – contact Bob at 3501.

LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Campbell River Art Gallery Members' Exhibition

The 26th Annual Members' Exhibition at the Campbell River Art Gallery makes residents feel proud and it is garnering lots of enthusiasm from visitors. The exhibition, which opened on May 23 and continues to June 27, is co-hosted by the CR Art Gallery and CR Arts Council and is sponsored by CR Lawyers; Shook, Wickham, Bishop & Field. This is one of the best shows and by far the largest exhibition with 82 participants.

Awards were presented to 20 artists of varying mediums on opening night by Acting mayor Morgan Ostler and MLA Claire Travena. Multi-media artist Ed Varney and North Island College art instructor Elizabeth Russell selected the awarded work. There were 153 people on hand on opening night to share in the excitement of the awards and kick off the start of a successful exhibition.

Among the awards presented, four Honourable Mentions were awarded to Quadra and Cortes Islanders. Christina Munck's acrylic painting "Understorey" conveys the layered density of the coastal forest. Perrin Spark's command of portraiture is impressive in her pastel "Proud to be Here". Donna Naven's intricate stonework "Not All of Us" is a beautiful sculptural piece. Janet Veitch's "Break and Flow" rendered intricate drawings in thread.

Quadra Island Salmon Enhancement

Says THANKS!!

QISES' Dinner Auction on June 14 at Tsa-Kwa-Luten Resort was a resounding success!

The food was wonderful, the weather was perfect and the bidders went wild! Included in the fund raising efforts was \$720 toward providing the local school kids with funds for joint school/QISES environmental projects.

QISES Directors would like to thank the many volunteers and auction item donors that helped make the evening what it was. Thanks also to Tsa-Kwa-Luten for a great buffet and fine service. Finally thank-you to all that attended and bought so generously.

The profits from the evening will go toward the many worthwhile environmental programs that QISES will be carry out over the coming year. If you would like to see more, please come to the Extension Centre over the summer. We will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday through July and August.

Jazz on Quadra

Quadra Island is very fortunate to have live jazz music twice a week during the entire summer season. April Point has live jazz every Tuesday night from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Heriot Bay Inn has live jazz every Sunday night from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The HBI features the "Wire Choir" on Sunday, June 22, the "Blue Monks" on Sunday, June 29 and "Jazz Berry Jam" on Sunday July 6.

April Point has booked the "Blue Monks" for Tuesday, June 24 and July 1. "From the Heart" plays on Tuesday, July 8.

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Quilts Galore

Quadra Island Quilt and Garden Tour:

Sew and Sow. June 21 & 22

This year marks the first time that the Quadra Quilters Guild will have over 100 quilts on display during the annual Quilt and Garden Tour. Completed during the past year, the quilts will range from queen sized to wall hangings. Some are the products of workshops attended this past year while others were produced for special events like a new grandchild or family wedding. Other quilts were made because we could not resist the fabric or the urge to sew. We have so many quilts to hang, that they will be in seven of the ten gardens. Some members have moved beyond making traditional quilts into the realm of fabric art using hand dyed cotton, thread, beads and other embellishments to produce true fabric works of art. Even if the weather does not co-operate, the quilts will be on display in an envelope of thin plastic or under cover.

In the spirit of the Hundred Mile Garden and the desire to eat your own produce, we also have gardens where food production is an integral part of the landscape. These are organic gardens and the gardeners definitely know an awful lot about growing vegetables organically. This is an opportunity to see various ways of growing vegetables and fruits and find out how it is done. Perhaps more importantly, you can find out how they deal with the various pests waiting to eat their crop.

Last but not least, the island is looking beautiful. The cool, wet weather means vivid green vegetation with wildflowers blooming along the roadsides and the odd deer appearing with fawns in tow. The gardeners may be having a struggle to keep the weeds under control but the plants are lush. All that remains is to find some like-minded friends, load up the vehicle and experience a soul satisfying day or two on our own beautiful island. The tour route is well signposted and many local eateries will provide you with a delicious lunch.

A \$12 ticket per person allows you to visit the gardens over two days. Money raised from this event will be divided between the Quadra Island Recreation Society and the Quadra Quilters' Marathon. Each year the quilters have a quilting "marathon" weekend when they make quilts for children in B.C. Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald House.

Tickets are available, on tour days at the Tourist Information booth beside the Credit Union at the top of the ferry road. Earlier tickets purchases can be made at the following Campbell River outlets: Serendipity in the Garden, Willows Farm Market and Garden Centre, Ladybug Greenhouse and the Campbell River Tourist Centre. On Quadra, tour tickets can be purchased at the Heriot Bay Tru Value, Quadra Crafts, Hummingbird Office Supply, On Route Greenhouse, Book Bonanza, Heriot Bay Inn, April Point and Tsa Kwa Luten resorts.

At DRAW Gallery in June

'Studies from the Model Stand' Perrin Sparks featured artist for the month of June at DRAW Gallery. An array of current sketches in oil, charcoal and pastel, an image begins to occur that transcends or goes beyond the features or personality of Perrin's models. Haunting and beautiful, these sketches capture a breath in time which is so fleeting. Perrin is a Quadra Island local artist. For the past 25 years, she had prepared surgical illustrations for a variety of medical schools and publishers. Today, she finds herself moving from commission portraits, which have been a sideline to her medical art career, to full time fine art paintings. As Perrin says, "I guess after years of 'blue for the veins, red for the arteries,' I want to break out and tell my own story."

Coming in July, 'An Island Life' new works by Louise Lavalée. Artist's reception first Fridays will be on July 4th from 6-8pm. Gallery is open Thurs thru Sat 12-6pm. DRAW Gallery is located at Village Square, in rear - follow the signs. Drop by and see the show next time you are at the Square. Everyone is welcome.

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100g

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Discovery Islander #424 June 20th, 2008

Free Wood

Thanks for the numerous offers of wood. Sources of wood are not a problem. The problem, in this labour intensive process, is a shortage of labour. We need young bodies who can work with chain saws and axes to cut and stack the wood. Right now we're just a couple of old guys doing what they can. We need volunteers.

We plan on stocking up on wood, with or without a shelter. Although the Quadra Community Centre has provided us space for a shelter which can be built when enough funds are raised. So far we have \$180. Further donations can be made by placing money in the Free Money Association Account at the Quadra Credit Union.

Free Money & Free Wood are common & mutually related causes. All the money received this summer goes for wood. In the Fall, there will be a 50/50 split for each program.

The shelter may or not happen this summer depending on funding, but the urgent need is for a big pile of drying wood, cut & stacked behind the Community Centre. Wood cut to wood stove size can be delivered to the new site. We will show you where to unload and help stack the wood.

Donated wood on the ground but uncut will be attended to as soon as possible, especially if this appeal for more

wood cutters works!!

If you can help in any way, please phone Steve Moore at 285-3323 or Paul Bishop at 285-2766

James Launches Campaign To Axe The Gas Tax NDP Leader Says B.C. Needs Real Climate Change Solutions

KELOWNA – New Democrat leader Carole James today launched a campaign to "Axe the Gas Tax" and called on Gordon Campbell to recall the legislature to implement real climate change solutions.

"At a time when average families are struggling with record high gas prices Gordon Campbell is hitting consumers with a gas tax that is unfair and won't work," said James. "New Democrats are joining British Columbians to fight back, visiting communities across B.C. to call on the Campbell government to axe the tax."

An online petition is posted at www.AxeTheGasTax.ca.

"Campbell's gas tax hits ordinary consumers but lets big polluters off the hook," said James. "If Campbell was serious about climate change he would implement a cap-and-trade system that reduces emissions at source, roll back transit fares, and provide families with more options to reduce their emissions."

"Instead, Campbell is increasing gas prices at a time when families' budgets are stretched and oil companies are making record profits. Even Campbell's own advisors admit that the gas tax might not work, and if it does, the impact will be minimal."

James said that high gas prices are already hurting important public services. In Victoria, Meals on Wheels has announced that it will be ending its service because of high gas costs. And municipalities, school boards and health authorities will be forced to pass through the extra costs with cuts to services and programs.

"It's time for Gordon Campbell to get serious about climate change with a real plan that goes after big polluters. It's time for Gordon Campbell to listen to the concerns of ordinary people. It's time for Gordon Campbell to axe the tax."

Canada Day Entertainment

Canada Day at Rebecca Spit is not just the fantastic fireworks display at 10:30 p.m. sharp. There's also lots of food & cake & hands on activities and entertainment for kids starting at 5:30 p.m.

Main stage entertainment starts at 7:30 p.m. with Sidney Williams, a local songwriter who's new CD will be coming out very soon. Sidney plays piano and will sing five of her own original songs. Quadra's famous belly dancers will also grace us with performances after each main stage event.

Next up is Noelle Maffin, Quadra's own premier jazz vocalist. Noelle will be accompanied by Ian Christopher on the piano.

The Hal Douglas Blues band rocks the stage with home

grown Quadra Island blues. The band features Don Doolittle on sax, Adam McGuffie on bass, Steve Moore on drums, David Blinzinger Jr. on piano & vocals and Hal Douglas on lead guitar & vocals.

Last, but not least, Shane Phillips, Quadra's own one man band, will get us up and dancing just before the fireworks. It is impossible to remain seated when Shane is in his groove.

All the organizers & volunteers & performers are donating their time & talents for this very special day. Come and enjoy the food & games & cakes & music & fireworks on Canada's national holiday.

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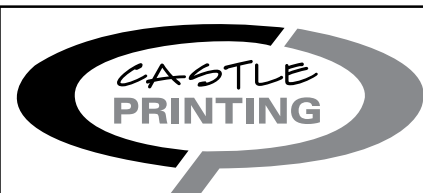
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Recycling Primer

There is no question that recycling is not only important but necessary. Thanks to the efforts of a number of forward thinking local people and the regional district we are lucky to have a household recycling depot on Quadra. Given the volume we generate each week, a large segment of our population faithfully recycles, but if we are to keep this depot we must remember a few important things. First and most importantly, there is a difference between household recyclables and trash. While we might wish to recycle everything, the system is set up to handle a very limited variety of items. Second, due to limited pickup schedules, the depot is for household use only. Finally, the depot is not a garbage dump. Any material left outside the bins is considered to be litter and subject to the same fines as if tossed from a vehicle into the ditch. The depot is not an outdoor swap meet, so if you have a unique little item which is too unique to keep but too nice to throw out, please donate it to your favorite second hand store or save it for your next garage sale.

There are five kinds of recyclables which are collected. They are cans, glass, printed paper, plastic and cardboard. An explanation of each follows.

Cans which are acceptable are those which come from a household. The bin is intended for only those containers which contain dry goods, alcohol or food products. It does not include paint cans, disposable propane bottles, cookie sheets, ancient electronic hardware, auto parts, old pots and pans, broken cell phones or cameras, aluminum containers or trays or any other sundry metal objects. The can bin is for CANS only. All other metal objects must be taken to a metal recycling depot or put in the trash. If possible, cans should be rinsed and crushed to save space in the bin.

Glass is self-explanatory. It includes clear and colored liquor bottles, food jars, tableware (such as wine glasses) and sheet glass. It does not include automobile safety glass, pyrex cookware, ugly teapots and cups (or any other ceramic item) or old TVs. Metal tops and corks should be removed before recycling.

Printed paper includes any lightweight paper product including newspaper, junk mail, used printer paper, old bills, magazines and any other white or colored lightweight paper or newsprint. Not acceptable in this bin are mixed paper items such as hardcover books or gift wrap. If recycling shredded paper, please bag it first so it does not end up on the ground and blow everywhere.

Plastic seems to be the most difficult recyclable to understand. It need not be. The bin is labeled to indicate which plastics are acceptable. Only household plastic containers which are embossed with the recycling logo

(a triangle _ with a number between 1 and 7 inside it) are acceptable. This is clearly explained on the yellow label which is prominently situated on the plastics bin. All other plastics are unacceptable for recycling. Plastic bags of any sort (from sandwich bags to garbage bags and everything in between) are not currently recyclable. Also unacceptable are items such as broken auto taillights, cracked flower pots, old lawn furniture, broken children's toys, old coolers, milk crates, torn tarpaulins, incomplete canister sets, poly rope, hoses, toothbrushes, plastic strapping, CD cases and plastic packaging which seals many, many small and medium sized purchases. If it is not a container and does not have the recycling triangle on it, it is currently not recyclable and must go in the garbage at home.

Cardboard of any sort is recyclable but plastic windows and styrofoam inserts need to be removed and disposed of in the garbage at home. Please open and flatten boxes as even with our small population and three bins, we often run out of space.

It would be great if everything could be recycled but sadly that is just not possible at this point in time. What we can return is in fact very limited. We must realize that when the cost of hiring staff to sort recycled material from garbage exceeds the value of that recycled material, we stand to lose the privilege of recycling or pay more in taxes to support it. So, continue to recycle everything you can but support your local waste removal firm with the rest.

- Mike Windram



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Power Lab: A fun time for kids!

Quadra Island Bible Church is calling all kids to join them in the "POWER LAB", as we discover Jesus' miraculous power together!

"This year our church will be transformed into a science lab," says pastor Roy Zimmerman. "Our VBS Power Lab program will provide fun, memorable Bible-learning activities for kids aged 5 to 12. Each day kids will sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, snack on interesting experiments and take on a Daily Challenge to let God's love grow into their homes. They will experience electrifying Bible adventures and create crafts they'll take home and play with all summer long."

Power Lab begins on July 21 and continues through July 25. We will meet at Quadra Island Bible Church, 1281 West Road, each day from 9:30 a.m. until noon. There is no charge for this event. For more information and to pre-register call 285-2020.

Quadra Farmers' Market

The Quadra Island Farmers' Market welcomes everyone to this year's community market. The market is located behind the Credit Union in Quathiaski Cove and takes place every Saturday (rain or shine) between 10 am and 2 pm from May 3rd to September 13th.

We would like to welcome back all our regular vendors as well as any new ones who would like to join in. We would especially like to see more locally grown produce for sure and maybe more locally made crafts as well. We will continue with a first come first serve basis and the gate will open at 8 am for your setup.

The vendor setup fee is \$5 each while children under 16 will be charged \$1 per setup. Local community and charitable organizations are not charged a setup fee for their participation.

Market parking is accessed from Green Road. PLEASE use it and encourage others to do the same as the main Credit Union parking lot needs to be kept available for the Credit Union's customers.

If you are a visitor to Quadra Island please feel welcome to come and visit our market between 10 am and 2 pm and perhaps you'll find a great souvenir of Quadra Island to take back home.

We strongly discourage dogs at the market so if you have no choice and must bring your dog it will have to be on a leash at all times (no exceptions please) and PLEASE pickup after them. Thank you all for your cooperation.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Alma at 285-3521 or Carmen at 286-9808 See you all at the market

International Choirs at Tidemark



Lovers of choral music can kick off their summer season of song by attending the showcasing of two remarkable international choirs, Estonia's Ellerhein Girls' Choir, and the "stateside" California Redwood Chorale on Sunday, July 6th, at 8PM at the Tidemark Theatre. After an intense week of choral competitions at Kathaumixw, Powell River's biennial international gathering of juried choirs, the groups will tour to a few fortunate Vancouver Island cities to perform their musical magic. With Joanne Preston at the helm, local chamber choir Island Voices will participate in Kathaumixw from July 1-5th, and return to present two of their fellow competitors in an evening of thrilling choral performance.

Ellerhein's Girls' Choir was founded in 1951 in Tallinn, Estonia, when that country was still part of the Soviet Union. The list of Ellerhein's international achievements is imposing, with many European competition wins in the 1990's, recent gold medals in choral hotspots Estonia and Turkey, and most impressively, a European Grand Prix in Spain in 1997. Conductor Mrs. Tiia-Ester Loitme began to work as the assistant in 1970 and since 1989, has continued as the chief musical director of "Ellerhein", guiding her choir through a formidable list of travel and triumph.

Their broad repertoire consists of works by both Estonian and international composers of world renown. Ellerhein has made many outstanding recordings, including "Peer Gynt" (Virgin Classics) with the Estonian National

Male Choir, Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and conductor Paavo Järvi; the New York Times declared it "the greatest surprise of the year 2005" in the category of classical music. This is the second time they have attended Kathaumixw, their first visit being in 1988.

By contrast, California Redwood Chorale is a relative newcomer to the choral scene, having begun in 2006 with a small group of singers with a specific purpose - to go to Hungary in June 2007 for a wondrous singing adventure. Daniel Canosa, a gifted and deeply experienced Argentinian conductor, agreed to be at the helm of this exciting new group.

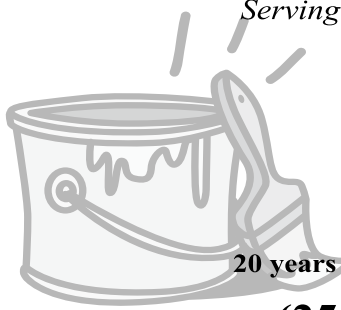
Their Hungarian experience inspired the choir to prepare two special projects for 2008-2009: to sing in Canada at the 2008 International Choral Kathaumixw with new repertoire directed by Daniel Canosa and to prepare and perform Zoltan Kodaly's "Missa Brevis" for chorus and organ in the San Francisco Bay Area. California Redwood Chorale's commitment and leadership have brought them to a place of excellence in two short years, demonstrating the power of a clear vision and powerful musicianship.

Members of Campbell River's large choral community, singers and audience alike, will want to hear this unique and inspiring performance. Tickets are available at the Tidemark Theatre, at 1220 Shoppers' Row, Campbell River at a cost of adults-\$15, seniors/students-\$12. Phone 287- pink.

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Trout Derby Success

Thanks to everyone who came out to support the 43rd annual trout derby this past Father's Day weekend.

With close to 100 entries, Mike Sumner once again took the top prize with a 2lb 5oz trout, winning this year's derby and the Garnet Patten memorial trophy for the men's largest fish. The Howard Richards Memorial trophy for women's largest fish went to Val McGuffie, with a 1lb 5oz trout.

Congratulations to all the winners!

Youth 15 & Under

- 1st Eamon McKirgan
- 2nd Kyle Barker
- 3rd Derek Clandening

Women's

- 1st Val McGuffie
- 2nd Lou Richards
- 3rd Lulu Tingle

Men's

- 1st Mike Sumner
- 2nd Graeme Binnersley
- 3rd Ian Mowat

The adult entry prizewinners this year were Sharon Craddock, Rick Milne and Len Sumner. The children's entry prizewinners were Kai White, Dallas Huffman and Quinn Flick. Ryan Peers and Kyle Barker split this year's hidden weight prize. Adult skunk prize went to Glen Nutting and the Youth skunk prize went to Tyler Stevens. Celebrating the special weekend Norm Barker won the Father's Day draw. Karen Sumner won the 50/50 draw while Krista Hughes won the \$200 raffle.

This year's proceeds of approximately \$400 will be donated to the Seniors Housing project. Special thank-you goes out to our local businesses that helped make the event such a success: Quadra Foods, Heriot Bay Tru Value, Hummingbird Office & Art Supply, Sidelines Gift Shop, Hungry Eye.

A special thank you to Terry Binnersley who prepared our campsite so nicely for us, Tyler Vananrooy for his generous donation of three fishing rods, Sarah Bradshaw who quickly provided a new scale and the Department of Highways for giving their permission to allow the opportunity to continue enjoying our annual trout derby tradition.

Looking forward to seeing you at next year's event.

Darlene, Laurel and Sally

Broadway at Farmhouse

On Friday the thirteenth I had a stroke of good luck. I attended a play presented by the children of farmhouse, "The Wizard of Oz," at the Quadra Community Centre. This very special group of young people have a lot to be proud of because they literally created this play from the ground up.

After seeing a play over at the Linnaea School on Cortes, they were determined that they too need to do a musical. So started a six month process in which they sketched and tailored their own costumes, memorized countless lines and songs, and created and painted all the sets.

To anyone this project could pose daunting but this group did it all within a fun learning environment guided by Mary Turner, Amanda Stewart-Webb, Dayna Davis and Marnie Andrews. The lessons learned here go far beyond arts and crafts, they are learning to discover new skills, seek resources when needed, and most importantly see a project through to the end.

Congratulations to all of you, your play was fantastic.

Encore! Encore!

Sarah Puddy

Thanks

The Charbonneau family would like to express our profound gratitude to Quadra RCMP officers James Jesom and Rick Fraser for their efforts on a late night boat transport to get a daughter to the side of her dying Dad.

Though we didn't make it quite in time I was able to be with my family in this time of great sadness. Throughout, the officers showed the utmost care and compassion.

I know that some of our police officers have received some bad press in the past - but gentlemen, you definitely went above and beyond on this occasion.

My family and I cannot express how grateful we are to you and your fellow officers in Powell River for helping our family be together.

A huge heartfelt thanks from Linda, Melissa and Alia Charbonneau and family.

Also thanks to Blake Dixie at the HBI for tracking me down when my sister couldn't find me.

I truly feel blessed to be part of this small but incredible community, never more so than on May Day, such a wonderful way to celebrate everything great about our community.

Melissa Yates

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Home Alone

Babysitting Know How and First Aid for Babysitters Promotes 3R's for Kids

Home alone is a safety awareness program that gives children the tools they need to feel resourceful, responsible and resilient when faced with unexpected safety situations at home. The City of Campbell River Parks, Recreation and Culture Department is offering five consecutive sessions starting Monday, July 7 to Friday, July 11 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am at the Community Centre for \$40.

Pre-teens & teens in Grade 4-6 get prepared with instructor Jaime Gibson; on what it takes to be resourceful while 'Home Alone.' Throughout her workshop Jaime shares excellent safety habits and how these good decisions may prevent injuries. This 'safety first' awareness focuses on dealing with home and personal safety, emergency situations and strangers. We suggest you send a snack and drink with your child.

Learn to be a responsible with 'Babysitting Know How' and demonstrate your independence. Join Jan Slater for these informative sessions that include information about baby care, feeding children, age appropriate games and household safety. These five classes run from Monday, July 7 to Friday, July 11 at 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm for \$38. Classes encourage participation which helps to promote self-esteem and independent thinking.

A great follow up for resilient and independent thinkers is 'First Aid for Babysitters'. We highly recommend that youth complete this first aid program that teaches how to treat emergency situations, which are often encountered when caring for young children. First Aid for Babysitters is instructed by St. John's Ambulance certified leaders at 170 South Dogwood Street on Tuesday & Wednesday July 15 & 16 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm for \$30.

For more information please call the Sportsplex at 923-7911 or the Community Centre at 286-1161.

CR Garden Tour

A self-guided tour through 14 gardens throughout the CR area; 8 new gardens this year. Many of the gardeners will be on-hand to answer your questions. As well, artists/musicians will be at work in some of the gardens.

July 5 & 6 from 11am - 4pm (both days) Tickets are \$15 at the CR Art Gallery, the Visitor Centre, Willows Farm Market & Garden Centre, Serendipity in the Garden, and the Comox Valley Art Gallery

Event sponsored by Royal LePage Advanced Realty

CR Art Gallery 287-2261 or 1235 Shoppers Row

July Painting Workshops at Firesign Studio

Exciting painting workshops are scheduled at Firesign Studio in July for beginners as well as more experienced painters this season.

Perrin Sparks will be at Firesign July 7-11 to teach her successful "Steps to a Likeness" portrait workshop. Perri shows how to achieve a likeness in portraits with comprehensive step-by-step instructions in measuring, color mapping, warm and cool toning, and using 'lost' and 'found' edges. This workshop helps demystify the process of working from a live model.

Then Vancouver artist Gerry Thompson will teach her techniques for "Painting Light" July 21-25. Here is an opportunity to fast track the process of learning to paint! Each day a topic will be covered, accompanied by a demo and detailed notes on that theme. Gerry will demonstrate her step-by-step method of glazing techniques. Subjects that will be covered are: water and reflections, florals, shadow colours, and greens found in nature. Any media may be used.

Please visit www.firesignartanddesign.com for more workshops or call Nanci 285-3390.

From our School Board Trustee

by Helen Moats

As our schools wind down toward summer holidays, I want to reflect on some of my experiences and observations of the 2007-2008 school year.

Trustee Liaison. There was a shifting of school responsibilities this year, and although I maintained my liaison role with Cortes, Surge Narrows, and Quadra Schools, I lost Phoenix and Carihi, and picked up Ripple Rock instead. I like this system, as it rejuvenates one through change. I visited all four schools at least once this year, but as a trustee whose role is governance, not everyday operation, I strive to maintain a low profile in schools. I do, however, enjoy being invited to events and meeting children, parents, and staffs as they go about their challenging school lives, and I appreciate hearing from people when they have concerns or questions.

SD 72 Hyacinthe Bay Road Property. There has been a snag in the smooth rollover of this property to the Strathcona Regional District. Further research by Lyle Boyce, our secretary-treasurer, has uncovered that dreaded "in trust" clause, which means that the district held the property only for the purpose of siting a school, and has no further control over it. Our choices: hold onto the title or return it to the Crown. Returning it will give the regional district a crack at acquiring it, and we will proceed to relinquish it with the hope that this will happen. Cynics would say this is impossible, but I think there's a good chance the SRD will end up with the property.

Policy Committee. Part of my reservation about becoming a

trustee centred around two areas that I worried might put me to sleep at the wrong time: budget and policy. To my surprise, I've found them both interesting and rewarding: after all, our choices around "rules and regulations" and expenditures express our values as a district. I sit on the policy committee which meets every three weeks, and this year, with the addition of a director of instruction who has taken on the task of the "big red book", we have refreshed policies that haven't been touched in ten to twenty years, including the first two years of my three year term. These updated policies reflect new government initiatives such as providing epipens for victims of anaphylactic shock, and booster seats for small children, as well as transportation guidelines and processes for addressing parental concerns.

Budget. There is a lot to be said about a \$48 M. budget, but essentially, the money is designated before it ever hits our coffers: for salaries, operations and maintenance of buildings and grounds, and resources to support many programs. The Board of Education has some limited discretion and I've paid particular interest to staffing levels, green initiatives, and music. The ship of education moves slowly, but I think some progress has been or is being made in each of these areas, through growing awareness as well as budget. If you have questions about any of the above items, or any other concerns, please feel free to call me at 285 3560. Meanwhile, happy summer to everyone.

Until next time,
Helen Moats

A black and white illustration of a man in a hard hat and safety vest, holding a chainsaw, standing next to a large tree trunk. The tree has a jagged top, suggesting it has been cut down or is being cut.

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Start a GOOD Habit: Developing the Routine of Regular Riding

By Mike Redican

You can have the largest panniers, brightest lights, shiniest helmet and fanciest bike on the road, but they will all be worthless unless you develop a habit of riding regularly. Oh, it's easy enough in the first flush of your new passion to cycle here, there and everywhere. But then one day it rains and you think "Maybe today I'll take the car." Or you wake up late and don't want to rush. "Just this once," you tell yourself. Or you walk outside and can see your breath. "By tomorrow it'll warm up again."

Brrmmm, brrmmm and away you go.

It is so easy to do. Having a vehicle parked in the driveway when you're first riding is like having a box of chocolates sitting in the middle of the kitchen table when you're trying to lose those love handles. A constant temptation. Cars are convenient, comfortable and capable of carrying a virtually infinite amount of stuff. It may be true that they are also nothing but bad news for the environment but "if I only drive to the store this once..." Of course, the danger for your goal of riding regularly, is that it isn't just this once. Once becomes twice, becomes three times. The weather stays cold; you need to pick up twelve rolls of toilet paper; Fred needs a ride to soccer practise. Soon, the biking resolution is consigned to the scrap heap of abandoned good intentions.

But it doesn't need to be.

Developing a habit of riding involves no magic. It requires a moderate dose of self discipline combined with the setting of realistic goals.

A neighbor got himself a new bike last Christmas and decided that beginning in April he was going to ride daily to his job in Campbell River. It all started out well. Yet by June he was once again a regular in the summer ferry lineups. What happened? Well the trip from our road to the ferry was only fifteen minutes, but he had to go another twenty on the other

side. That meant seventy minutes of riding each day. It may not sound like much, but that is a lot of time and energy to commit all at once. He simply burned out as the weeks went by. His goal was not realistic.

Many years ago I came across a book called *Divorce your Car* by Katie Alvord. The author, an avid transportation cyclist, proposed the idea of easing oneself into the habit of riding by going "bike light". Bike light is a way of using your bike as one part of your transportation solution. Here is how it worked for me:

At the time, my wife Helen and I were living in Merville in the Comox Valley. We worked in Campbell River during the week and did our town trip every Saturday in Courtenay, about fifteen kilometers away. We began going "bike light" by popping our rickety bikes on the car's roof rack when we drove to town. After parking the car we used our bikes to get to stores, pool, library etc. Next we decided to try riding into town on nice days. We used back roads that we never would have taken in our car. We loved it. Soon our Saturday trips were by bike in virtually all types of weather. I began to take my bike with me to Campbell River. My work place was about four kilometers north of Helen's so we parked the car at hers and I cycled on from there. There were some nasty hills which meant I got in shape, but even in bad weather the trip was short enough that it was never exhausting. We worked out the kinks and upgraded our bikes, got decent raingear and panniers. Eventually we moved to Quadra. One of the biggest attractions about the move (besides the wonderful people and beauty of the place) was that we could leave the car in the driveway and bike all the way to work in Campbell River.

But enough about me. How can biking light apply to you?

Try it in the good weather first. Rather than going all out in November, begin your real commitment in the spring or summer when the weather is better (okay, I'm an

optimist) and the days are longer. Make a short term achievable goal – say riding to work or the store two or three days a week. At the end of the month evaluate how you did. Would you like to ride more or was it too much? Adjust accordingly. You can even have a temperature rule. I know a cyclist who begins her day by checking the thermometer outside her front door. She only rides if it registers at ten degrees centigrade or more.

Whatever your commitment, stick with it. Resist the urge to make an exception. Because one exception becomes another and so on. Plus the opposite is also true. The more you bike, the more you'll enjoy it. Soon riding will be the natural way to get around. You'll have to convince yourself to take the car. "I've got to buy groceries, get the kids and pick up two sheets of plywood. I wonder if I can do it all on the bike?"

Of course the line between being committed and a fanatic are somewhat blurry. There are times when you will need to take the car. That's fine. That's why you still have one. But when you find yourself getting behind the wheel somewhat reluctantly as you cast a longing glance back over your shoulder at your bike, then you know you really have developed the habit of riding.



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Halliday's Viewpoint

by Steven Halliday

Lots of Lots

Once again, the real estate market on the Islands has become the subject of many a conversation; not that it wasn't always so, but present circumstances coupled with the meltdown of markets in the US and UK have made the subject the "gossip de jour" 'round the coffee klatches. One thing that has not escaped anyone's notice is the apparent surge in properties for sale, with resulting pressure on the market potentially creating a buyers market due to a glut in supply. This may be so, and there is undoubtedly downward pressure on asking prices, but has the real estate market locally peaked? Will the economic downturn we have entered force a correction in the market? Are off-island buyers still in the market for island properties?

Indisputably, other areas are experiencing significant negative changes in market conditions. In the USA, sales of new and existing homes are plunging wildly, while the number of homes going into foreclosure has skyrocketed, adding significant fuel to an already blazing fire. According to a June 13/08 AP story, residential foreclosures in the US surged 48% higher in May 2008 over the number in May 2007. The report quotes a report by European banking giant Credit Suisse that predicts "6.5 million loans will fall into foreclosure over the next 5 years, reaching more than 8% of all US homes". Pressure on prices is getting intense – "As foreclosed properties pile up, they add to the inventory of homes on the market and drag down prices...In some neighbourhoods, lenders are slashing prices dramatically to rid themselves of an unprecedented number of foreclosed properties, sparking bidding wars and multiple offers". News stories abound of how the downturn is affecting everyone, rich and poor, though certainly the poor are taking the brunt of the hits.

Even Ed McMahon, the former Johnny Carson sidekick and TV pitchman extraordinaire, has hit the skids and faces foreclosure on his home of 18 years in swank Beverley Hills, over a \$4.8 million mortgage. Apparently ill health has prevented the octogenarian from working (he admits "Well, if you spend more money than you make...a couple of divorces thrown in...and you know,

things happen") and he has fallen \$650,000 behind on his payments. Jose Canseco, former star baseball player, recently walked away from his home because he could not afford the payments on his \$2.5 million mortgage. In May 2008, 261,255 homes went into foreclosure in the US, and 99% of them were ordinary working folk, not lavish-living celebrities, and most have little hope of keeping their homes. There is no doubt there will be increasing downward pressure on home prices as the US economy continues to slow.

Here in BC, things are far more stable insofar as our economy and real estate markets. Canadian lending practises are far more stringent than in the US, and while there are strains in the health of our economy it remains far more robust than is the case south of the 49th parallel. Provincially, sales of residential properties fell 13.9% in March 2008 versus prior year, though paradoxically the average price rose by exactly the same percentage, according to the BC Real Estate Association (BCREA). The Vancouver Island Real Estate Board reports that as at May 2008, unit MLS sales fell to 451 from 685 in May 2007, a 34% drop in volume. Prices rose, on average, about 9% in that same period, to an average \$359,000. Campbell River MLS sales fell 25% on a year over year basis, though average selling prices were 20% higher, the highest price gains on the Island. Surprising to me, every region in the BCREA data reports lower year over year unit sales except the far north, which showed a 2.7% increase, albeit on a very small volume of sales. Clearly, the party is over for those who expected property values to climb steadily, as it has done every time market expectations have gotten out of hand.

There are no specific statistics available regarding the Discovery Islands property markets, but anecdotal evidence certainly points to a sharp increase in supply. At the time of writing I counted a total of 60 listings on our local realtor's websites, and in my drive around the main roads of Quadra I counted 4 "For Sale By Owner" signs – there could be many more I missed. To this count one would have to add the listings of non-Island based realtors, plus the newly subdivided properties that are not listed. Suffice to say there is plenty of supply, and rumours of 75 or more properties for sale is

likely not far off the mark. The price range for locally listed, detached residential homes range from a low of about \$280,000 to around \$1.5 million, with the majority priced in spitting range of half a million dollars. Conversations with sellers indicate a slowdown in sales, with listing times growing longer and price pressure steadily increasing. Provincially, sales as a percentage of listings for March has fallen from 28.7% to 17.9% in the last year, unit sales declined 22.4%, and one must conclude our local market has seen some decline as well, though undoubtedly not so severe.

While Canada, and BC in particular, is expected to avoid the economic storm engulfing many US markets, it must be remembered that of the people buying real estate in BC, a good portion come from outside the province. Landcor Data of Vancouver reports that out of province buyers in 2007, who buy a good portion of BC's rural and recreational properties, were sourced mainly from 2 regions – Alberta and the USA. 19% of foreign buyers came from the USA, buying primarily on the Coast, while 62% came from Edmonton's environs. Alberta buyers are big in the Kootenays, which saw BC's highest increase in average selling prices in the past year at 21.7% average increase, versus Vancouver Island's 12% in the same period. However, year to date unit sales have fallen 28.6% in the same period, the 2nd biggest drop in the province after Powell River. If flush Alberta buyers are pulling in their horns, beleaguered American buyers must surely be expected to do the same, which does not bode well for our local market in which they are so active.

Basic economic theory states that an increase in supply is inevitably followed by a drop in prices, unless there is a corresponding increase in demand. In our present case, the rapid rise in supply of local real estate will not be immediately absorbed by current demand, so it is logical to conclude that we will see some softening in prices. How much? Nobody can predict, but after several years of back to back double digit annual increases in property values the best case scenario would see our values level out for a period, but a slight drop is certainly not out of the realm of possibility in the near term, which is good news for buyers if not for sellers.

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June 20 - July 4

Date	Time	m	ft.
20	02:15	3.9	12.8
Friday	05:19	4.1	13.5
	13:29	0.5	1.6
	21:34	4.8	15.7
21	02:55	3.7	12.1
Saturday	06:07	4.0	13.1
	14:04	0.7	2.3
	21:58	4.8	15.7
22	03:37	3.5	11.5
Sunday	07:02	3.8	12.5
	14:39	1.0	3.3
	22:21	4.7	15.4
23	04:21	3.2	10.5
Monday	08:07	3.6	11.8
	15:16	1.3	4.3
	22:45	4.7	15.4
24	05:10	2.8	9.2
Tuesday	09:24	3.4	11.2
	15:55	1.7	5.6
	23:11	4.7	15.4
25	06:01	2.4	7.9
Wednesday	10:59	3.2	10.5
	16:38	2.2	7.2
	23:41	4.7	15.4
26	06:55	2.0	6.6
Thursday	12:46	3.3	10.8
	17:28	2.6	8.5
27	00:15	4.7	15.4
Friday	07:47	1.6	5.2
	14:34	3.4	11.2
	18:32	3.1	10.2
28	00:53	4.7	15.4
Saturday	08:39	1.2	3.9
	16:05	3.8	12.5
	19:52	3.4	11.2
29	01:34	4.7	15.4
Sunday	09:28	0.8	2.6
	17:13	4.2	13.8
	21:18	3.7	12.1
30	02:20	4.7	15.4
Monday	10:16	0.5	1.6
	18:06	4.5	14.8
	22:36	3.8	12.5
01	03:09	4.6	15.1
Tuesday	11:01	0.2	0.7
	18:51	4.8	15.7
	23:42	3.7	12.1
02	04:00	4.5	14.8
Wednesday	11:46	0.1	0.3
	19:32	5.0	16.4
03	00:41	3.6	11.8
Thursday	04:53	4.4	14.4
	12:30	0.1	0.3
	20:11	5.1	16.7
04	01:35	3.5	11.5
Friday	05:46	4.3	14.1
	13:12	0.2	0.7
	20:49	5.2	17.1

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Organized by the Quadra Emergency Program

Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce
Canada Day Committee

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Susan Swanson 285-3795
Betty Doak 285-3590

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Bounce-a-rama | ESS |
| 2. Balloon Typhoon | ESS |
| 3. Scavenger Hunt | ESS |
| 4. Bubbles | ESS |
| 5. Balloon Animals | SPCA |
| 6. Ball Toss | BC Cancer Foundation |
| 7. Farmhouse Children's Animals | |
| 8. Nailing Contest | Quadra Builders |
| 9. Tattoos | ESS |
| 10. Basketball | ESS |
| 11. Soccer | ESS |
| 12. Car Smash | Quadra Island Fire Department |

Entertainment

5:30 - 6:00 Carrie Bridges
6:15 - 6:45 Magician
7:00 - 7:30 Incredible Canines



A community alcohol-free event organized by the Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce