

DISCOVERY ISLANDER

QUADRA ISLAND'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1992. SERVING QUADRA, CORTES & OUTER ISLANDS.



The Quadra Island Fire Department proudly introduces their new arrival "Tanker 10". 2010 marks the 50th anniversary for the Quadra Island Fire Department. The Fire Department will host an open house this fall, watch for coming news and date.

Quadra Fire Department's Tanker Pumper T-10

This year, Quadra Fire has a long awaited, brand new Tanker Pumper Fire Truck, (T-12) added to its fleet of vehicles.

Purchase of a new truck, which cost \$280,000.00 was anticipated several years ago, and budgeted for, by the FD planning staff and trustees, and thus no monies needed to be borrowed.

Current Insurance regulations require Fire Truck Pumpers to be replaced after 25 years, regardless of condition, or insurance costs go up considerably – both liability for fire department and homeowner insurance rates for residents in the fire district.

Currently Quadra Fire Department has two Tankers to carry water to a fire (Engine 12 and Engine 22) one Pumper to move water onto the fire (Engine 11), a foam application pumper (Engine 21) and a 4x4 with 2 inch hoses and foam pumping capabilities. The new Pumper Tanker (T 10) will greatly enhance fire-fighting capabilities with a second pumper and more water on scene. This addition to the fleet, will also allow QI fire department to apply for hydrant equivalency for some of the local water supplies, and if accepted, will reduce the cost of some homeowner insurance locally.

This new pumper tanker (T-10) is 31 feet long, 8.5 feet wide, packs 1500 gals of water, and requires an air brake ticket to drive. In comparison, the present pumper Engine 11 carries 800 gallons and the Tanker (Engine 22) carries 2000 gallons of water.

Long range planning is to replace the existing pumpers and tankers as necessary, to maintain necessary fire fighting standards. As Tanker 12 is both a tanker and a pumper, it is planned to be used as tanker only, after it is 25 years old.

For more information, feel free to contact Fire Chief Sharon Clandenning, any Fire Department member, or one of Fire Department trustees.

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Pet Photo Contest!



The winner of the \$50 Pet Dept
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Photo Contest is "Bozo Jack"
photo by Gloria Rolfsen

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your pet!!! Submit your photo today and win a \$50 gift certificate.



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ISLAND CALENDAR

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

DAY TO DAY

Sunday, August 29

- Joanna Finch Jazz & dinner Herons at the HBI 6-9 pm

Sunday, September 5

- Salmon Enhancement Society 30th Anniversary BBQ @ Eco-Center (hatchery), 1 to 4 pm. All welcome.

Monday, September 6

- Mamma Mia auditions round 2 at Quadra Community Centre

Sunday, September 12

- Living Life Large Festival gates open at 1 pm until 11 pm at the Heriot Bay Inn. Tix in advance 250-285-3322

Monday September 13,

-The Garden Club presents Your Backyard Pharmacy 7pm at the Community Centre






Saturday, September 18

- Quadra Island Golf Tournament, Story Creek start 10:15 am

Sunday, September 19

- Philippines Giant Garage Sale

NEXT DEADLINE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2010

Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
				
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THE REGULARS

MONDAY

Parent & Tots, QCC, 9:30am - 12pm

Sing for Pure Joy! Room 3, QCC, 3 - 4:30pm, All welcome.

Yoga with Josephine, Room 3, QCC, 7 - 9pm

1st Monday - Quadra writers group, 7 - 9pm 285-3656

TUESDAY

Pilates, QCC 285-2930 9:30 - 10:30am

Quadra Children's Song Circle, Room 3, QCC3 - 4pm

Al-Anon Meeting, Children's Centre, 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY

Hand-drum Circle, Upper Realm, 7:45 - 9:15pm

1st & 3rd Wednesday Food Bank, QCC 1 - 2pm

Lifedrawing sessions, Firesign Studio, 7 - 9:30pm Nancy, 285-3390

THURSDAY

Parents & Tots, QCC, 9:30am - 12pm

Pilates 9:30-10:30am, QCC from 22nd April

Prayer Meeting, Quadra Island Bible Church, 7pm

Drop in games and wing night, Legion, 7:00pm.

SATURDAY

Farmers' Market & Bazaar 10 am to 2 pm behind the Credit Union Q-Cove

Legion Meat Draw 5pm, Steak Dinner 6:30pm

Open Mic with Mo, HBI, 9pm

SUNDAY

Centre for Spiritual Living Celebration, Willow Point Hall, 10:30am

Family Service, Quadra Island Bible Church, 10:30am

Quadra Sunday Painters, 11am - 2pm, 285-3390

Service, Quadra United Church, 11 am.

1st Sunday at 12pm. Buddhist meditation, QCC, 10am.

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(* includes GST)

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.

Items sent by email do not need
to be an attached file. Just send
text in the body of the email.

Please spell check in Canadian
English.

Please use the title of the item as
email subject.

No MS Publisher, WordPerfect
files or graphics in Word files
please. Send imported graphics
separately.

Please don't send original
irreplaceable material.

Please remember to caption &
credit photos and artwork.

Don't write on the back of
photos, use labels or sticky notes.

While every effort is made to include
all items submitted, errors and
accidental omissions do occur.

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Next Deadline
Monday, Sept. 6th

ISLAND FORUM

Dear Editor

On August 14, the Friends of
Strathcona Park (FOSP) started
building a trail up the Bedwell Valley
in an effort to stop the government
from granting a park use permit to
a resort which wants to run a high
impact commercial horse operation
in the park. After a battle which
has lasted close to 6 years, the
government appears to be preparing
to grant the permit, despite the fact
that the overwhelming majority
of people who attended public
consultation meetings was against it.



The Bedwell River valley.

File photo

The Master Plan was created by
the public in 1993, and has worked
extremely well since then, until the
government decided to change it last
year to allow the application by the
resort. In a Freedom of Information
excerpt from Parks communications,
which was blanked out in the
original FOI package received by
FOSP, Nancy Wilkin, Assistant
Deputy Minister of Parks at the time,
wrote "I read the letter against this
and it was really against 'rich' versus
'poor'!! Please work with Clayoquot
resort to make this happen."

This excerpt, dated August
2006, implies strongly what the
government position was, before
they decided to ask for public input,
(which they then ignored) and it
also seems to strongly suggest that
Wilkin had little understanding
of the real question, which had
absolutely nothing to do with "rich"
or "poor", but everything to do with
the government opening the way
for highly intrusive commercial
activities in Strathcona Park.

The Strathcona Park Master Plan
stresses minimal human impact, and
a commercial horse operation is most
definitely not minimal human impact
by any definition, and particularly not
in a Pacific coast rain forest valley.

By building a low impact trail,
the Friends hope to show that

high impact, hugely expensive and
intrusive operations by commercial
concerns are not necessary in
Strathcona, and not wanted by the
thousands of people who love the
park and truly appreciate it for what
it is.

The first segment of the Bedwell
to Buttle Trail, which is part of
the FOSP "Take Back the Park"
campaign was built in 5 days, by
24 hard working volunteers. The
project was a resounding success.
A major part of the trail has been
completed, and it was an extremely

rewarding and fun experience for all.
Next year should see the trail ready
for use. It will cost the taxpayer
absolutely nothing.

If the resort gets its permit, (which
will almost certainly be soon) it will
probably be for something like 30
years. It will definitely harm the
park. Once the permit is granted,
the government will have legally
locked itself in, and if a future
government (or even the present
government) wants to change it,
they will likely face a lawsuit. The
best time to stop it is now, before the
permit is granted.

If you want to help, please get in
touch. For information, photos, etc.:
friendsofstrathcona.org

Karl Stevenson
Royston, BC

Note to Kayakers and their guides.

Please make yourself aware of public
and private lands along the coast
here before you decided to venture
out of your kayak with your roll of
toilet paper in hand. We private
land owners in the Discovery Islands
would greatly appreciate it.

Sincerely
Annoyed again this year.

Moral and legal exemption for all!

'Because the HST issue is 'before the
courts', I won't do anything. I won't even
follow the law.' That is, in effect, the
stated reason for the chief electoral
officer not forwarding the anti-HST
petition to the legislature. And I, for one,
thank him profusely. It affords me the
excuse NOT to pay the tax. The HST is
'before the courts', after all. Out of respect
for the legal system, I simply can't pay, can
I? I expect the merchant I am dealing
with to respect the courts, too, and not try
to collect the tax. We are both respectful
of the courts, after all.

And while we are at it, why not use
the 'before the courts' excuse for a great
deal more? 'Course, it would help to
have a blanket 'before the courts' lawsuit
pending so that I, too, was exempt from
everything.....hmmmm.....how
hard would that be?

Well, my wife could file a suit claiming all
sorts of things bad about my behaviour
and demanding redress in some form or
another. It is not like the thought hasn't
crossed her mind already many times.
She may even have a lawyer standing by
and a draft at the ready. So, the suit gets
filed. And that, it seems is all the chief
electoral officer needed to determine
the matter (anti-HST petition, not my
character) was 'before the courts'. Ergo,
all actions are frozen.

Using the same logic, I am now
'before the courts' (thanks to wife's
lawsuit) and therefore 'suspended' from
being accountable. This should help with
outstanding debts a great deal. "Sorry,
Harry. It turns out my spending habits
are 'before the courts' so all bill-paying has
been suspended. It's a respect thing, you
understand."

The best part: things can 'be before the
courts' forever. Look at BC Rail. Look
how long the Air India Case took. Or
Brian Mulroney's epic inquisition on
corrupting the Prime Minister's office?
I could be exempt from creditors for a
minimum of several years and, if BC Rail
is anything to go by, at least until hell
freezes over.

Now if only my wife could appoint
a Special prosecutor or strike a Royal
Commission looking into my
behaviour.....just think of the
possibilities. The public funding alone
is worth it. It's a great system once
you learn how to use it.

J. David Cox

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REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by Jim Abram Area C

There was a time in my life as a director when we actually could count on meetings not being as frequent during the summer months since many people took summer holidays and were not available. Gone are those days, unfortunately! It seems that we have more meetings and functions to attend this year than any previous year. The business of the SRD has increased significantly partly due to the fact that we had the restructuring taking place over the past year and as it happened we were not up to full staffing until late spring / summer. So to make a long and boring story short, I have been extremely busy and have not even had the time to write a report. I will now attempt to bring you up to speed on at least a few of the things that are going on.

Quathiaski Cove sewer property taxation

This was a topic that was not well advertised and caused some angst among some of the property owners within the sewer service area. It is unfortunate that public notices did not go out when they should have to all of the effected parties. During the past year there was a major breakdown of the sewer plant in the Cove. Repairs were made and since the budget did not include funds for that year to pay for the repairs, the funds had to be collected in this taxation year. This is required under the Local Government Act. I was not in favour of any property tax being added to the users of the service since they already pay an annual user fee for the service. It was explained to me by staff that they had no other option in order to collect the money in this fiscal year and that it must go ahead. I asked for a public meeting to be held and it was already too late to organize that. So I asked for a personal letter to go to each property owner to explain the

rationale for the increase. This was done, but once again it was after the fact. The tax notices had already gone out. Staff held a meeting with some of the concerned citizens to give a full explanation and I am told from staff that there seems to be general acceptance for the rationale.

I have told staff that I want to see the property tax portion eliminated in the next budget year. We will see how things transpire.

And while I have your attention on the sewer...

On the SRD board agenda for this Thursday, there is another item that proposes to raise the annual user fee for a residential customer by \$39.00 per year. I have expressed my opposition to this proposal due to the fact that it basically proposes to allocate \$5,000.00 for staff time to manage the contract that looks after the maintenance of the sewer plant and another \$5,000.00 for reserve. Both of these items seem reasonable on the one hand, but premature on the other. I will be voting against this increase on behalf of the present users of the service. I have done my best to deal with eliminating the need for this increase but staff have compelling reasons from their perspective to make the change. I still do not agree with it, with all due respect to staff. I cannot support the increase. Please read on to find out more about why!

More on sewer!

The expansion to the sewer area is finally on its way! It went through the committee and will go through the board on Thursday. There will be properties on the west and east boundaries that are being proposed to be added to the sewer area. This is for a number of reasons. Some have

requested to be brought in, some need to be brought in due to environmental concerns and some of the others, it just makes sense. So, with relation to the previous section on the user fees, I am confident that with the addition of the new properties and the additional user fees from those users, there will be enough to run the system and contribute to a reserve fund without raising the current user fees. Staff tell me that this will not happen soon enough. I respectfully disagree. I think the staff oversight of the contract and the contribution to reserve can wait another year at which time the present user fee rate will cover those costs. And if you are still with me.. Read on! There is more!

Gowlland Harbour Views (Shellinck) Development proposal

The Gowlland Harbour Views proposal has come to the committee and will proceed to the board this month for first and second readings. This is a large development out near April Point and has been in the planning stages for a couple of years. It has about 50 lots proposed (to be phased in) and significant (roughly 50% protected areas or parkland included) green space for the public along with other amenities. There have been two public meetings on Quadra put on by the proponent and many changes have been incorporated due to the public input. The reason I bring this up at this point in the report is, you guessed it, the Q. Cove sewer. There is the possibility of this development having its own on-site sewage treatment. However there is also the possibility of it joining up to the Q. Cove system and injecting significant funds into that system and also adding 50 users over time, thus reducing the cost of running the plant to the rest of the users. I realize that this is all getting very complex. Just try and imagine being on my end of this! It is like a juggler trying to keep 6 balls in the air at once.. no, make that flaming swords!

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And then!....

Now we come to the final part of this puzzle. There has been a study in the works for the past three years to look at putting in a sewer system in the Heriot Bay area. There have been two public meetings on this topic, consultants hired using provincial grants to pay for the studies and most recently engineers hired to actually cost it out and look at all feasible options. And guess what option they are favouring? The most recent study has the sewer being brought from Heriot Bay to the Quathiaski Cove plant, rather than a stand alone sewer plant in Heriot Bay with its own outfall beyond Rebecca Spit.

So the SRD is expending considerable effort to try and bring all of the initiatives that have been on the table for years to the forefront at this time. And I commend them for that. I have been hounding them to the point of distraction to get on with the studies so that we will know which direction we are going and when. And here we are.. all at once, of course! Area C is taking up considerable time at the SRD. Our entire Electoral Area Services Committee agenda for August was about Area C issues!

And the last Q. Cove item for now

The Quathiaski Cove Village Planning process has come to the end of its six month "guided" process with our excellent facilitator, David Rousseau. We have had four public meetings and countless steering committee meetings and more emails than I care to remember. It has now been handed off to the SRD planners to put it into some sort of an OCP amendment that we can call a Neighbourhood Plan for the Cove. That happened at the last committee meeting and will go to the board next. We will come back to the community in the fall with the first draft of that bylaw to get community feedback. This has been an incredible community effort and will lead to many amenities for this community, especially in the way of an increase in housing options for all ages, especially seniors. So stay tuned!

In the meantime...

I have been to Vancouver on two separate "lobby" trips in the past three weeks. Both were for light stations and keeping them staffed. This is a board policy and also a policy of the UBCM and the FCM. The first trip was a two day whirlwind schedule of meetings with all of the major shipping industry representatives: the Council of Marine Carriers, the BC Coastal Pilots, the International Ship-owners Alliance, and the Washington Group (owners of Seaplan International), and the second one was to attend a private function with the Prime Minister, along with many Ministers, MP's Senators and MLA's. I was able to get time with all of them, including the PM! My travel was sponsored by the light keepers.

And closer to home...

I have been appointed by our SRD board to sit on the Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area (how is that for a mouthful?). This initiative covers the marine areas from below Cape Mudge all the way to the Alaska boarder. It includes all of the water areas of Area C and the rest of our SRD marine areas. I have attended there first two day meeting in Campbell River on June 28 /29 and will attend the next one in Prince Rupert on Sept. 19 / 20 / 21. I will keep you up to date on any progress made. This process is the marine component follow up to the land planning exercise that I participated in for almost 5 years called the Central Coast Land and Resource Management Plan. This process has a two year sunset clause in it. So it will not go on forever!

And one more thing..

I am entering into a full court press to get high speed internet service for the entire island. The government promised this for ALL rural areas a few years ago. They have had enough time. I think it is unfair that some islanders have next to no service and I intend to do everything possible to improve all options.

So I think that brings me up to about 9 or 10 or more flaming swords all in the air at once. I hope at least some of you have stayed with me to this point. I realize this is a lot of information at one time, but that is the way I am dealing with it and I am trying to keep you informed as I go. There are more items to report on but I have probably taken up more space than I am allotted. More to follow.

And that is definitely it for this report! I am out of breath just recounting it let alone doing it all... Feel free to call me between the hours of 8:30 am and 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday (please, not on weekends, folks!) at 285-3355, or you can fax me at 285-3533 or you can email me anytime at jimabram@explornet.ca , or by mail at Box 278 in the Cove, V0P 1N0... Lots of choices.

Please note my new email address.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Abram

Director, Discovery Islands - Mainland Inlets
(Area C), SRD



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NEWS AND EVENTS

Newcomers Welcome

New to Quadra? The Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce and local businesses welcome you with a gift bag. Please contact Susan at 285-2556 or swilson@gicable.com

Happenings at the HBI

Joanna Finch Jazz and dinner too, 6-9 pm Sunday August 29 in Herons at the Heriot Bay Inn. Catch a summer sunset on the patio, and beautiful music floating on the breeze. Dinner reservations highly recommended: 250.285.3322.

Dine & Cruise

See Quadra's waterscapes aboard the Tenzing. Coastline tours and sunset cruises departing daily from the HBI Dock. Dine & Cruise! Enjoy dinner in Herons, take the scenic shorelines tour for 35.00pp (w/o dinner 44.00) Call 250.285.2007 to book.

Rock'n'Roll Bingo

Last Rock'n'Roll Bingo of the summer is August 30 at the HBI Pub: 9pm. This is not your grandma's bingo! Listen to song clips, be the first to get a BINGO and win HBI Bucks. See you at the HBI!

Yoga Flow

Yoga Flow in Heriot Bay: BYO mat, stretch and learn with certified instructors Marnie and Charlotte. Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 10 am in August, 9:30 in September. 1.5 hour class, \$10.00 in the Bay View Room at the HBI.

Important Notice Backyard Burning Ban

Until October 15, 2010 a backyard burning ban will be in effect on Quadra Island. Burning barrels, being medium sized fires, are included in this ban.

If you have any questions, please contact the Quadra Island Fire Department at 250 285 3262 or send us an email at quadrafd@gicable.com.

Quadra Farmers Market & Bazaar

Every Saturday from May.1st till Sept.11th. It's by the Credit Union in Quathiaski Cove.

We welcome local vendors from Quadra Island and outer islands to set up at only \$5.00 a table. Charitable organizations are free and children's tables are \$1.00. It goes from 10am to 2pm. and gates open at 8am for vendors. We have farmers, gardeners, art, crafts, musicians, food and surprises and are sure to please locals and visitors. We have a unique island and talents so lets show it off and make it the best year ever. This is where it is happening on Saturday. A great gathering place for all. Visit us on Facebook now too. Tell all your friends.

Contacts: Stella 285-3184, Suzanne 287-1871, or Naomi 285-2979quadramarket@gmail.com

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50+ Singles Group – Starting on Quadra

1st meeting: Wednesday, September 15, 12:45 to 1:30

QCC in the Board Room, by donation for room cost

A group to eat out and coffee with, take day trips, have a games night, etc All sorts of activities can be discussed.

Come out to this meeting and share your wants and needs for this social group.

29th Annual Quadra Island Golf Tournament

Please mark your calendars for this year's edition of the Quadra Island Golf Tournament. It will be held, as usual at Storey Creek Golf Club on Sept 18th starting at 10:15 am, with dinner and prize awards afterwards at the Landing Pub. It will be a scramble format and you can sign up at the Landing starting on Sept 4th. You can register for golf & dinner or just golf or dinner! We only have room for 16 foursomes so don't leave it too late. For further information, please contact Paul Ryan at 285-3896 or Rod Clark at 285-3849.

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Seniors Housing News

Quadra Islanders be proud of our community. So many wonderful donations from suppliers and trades people are allowing the Senior Housing Society to complete one duplex (two units) for occupancy by the end of 2010. The second duplex is being framed and we are getting ready to put the roof on. We are fundraising to continue work on the second duplex while the crew are on site. This construction crew are available to us until mid November, with the help of the Ministry of Housing and Social Development. Without that Job Creation Partnership we would still be at a fundraising stage.

The disappointing news is that the Society has been turned down for a grant through BC Housing. BC Housing is a corporation, not a provincial ministry, and administers a Housing Endowment Fund using the interest on invested capital to finance grants. They have simply run out of money for the current fiscal year. Seniors Housing will try again soon to obtain funding through BC Housing. We have no grant to help us complete the second duplex at this time, which leaves it up to our community to donate the funds needed to work towards completion of the second duplex.

We would like your help right now to take advantage of the construction crew. While you, the community, have been generously supportive of this project we are asking for more. Anyone who can make a cash donation we certainly do appreciate the dollars. If you have fundraising ideas to share with the Board please let one of the Directors know how you can help. If you know of or are connected to an agency that may have grant money available, please let us know. We do not want to tap out the community, but this is an important time in the construction phase and we definitely need the help. Watch for the first public walk through of the units under construction. In the next month, we will announce a community invitation to view the interior of the first units - before they are completed.

Several Directors are on their way to Hornby Island next month to study their elder village and how they have managed for twenty years to be so successful. This is not our Society's first trip to Hornby. With one third the population of Quadra, Hornby has 11 Seniors Housing rental units completed. They have built them as funds have become available within the community. The last four units were completed in 2008. We can learn from their experience and plan to ask many questions while visiting.

The Board of Directors of the Society are Jeanne Stoppard President, Tucker Dinnes Treasurer, Val Barr Secretary, Ruth Amiabel, Kurt Hagen, Bob Lasby and Riki Winter Vogt Directors. We are all working energetically and putting in many volunteer hours to make this long time dream for Seniors Housing a reality. John Toelle has volunteered so much to this project and has many more volunteer hours to go before we are finished. Thank you again John. We are also very proud of the Society's employees Marshall Toelle - Supervisor, Frank Charron - Carpenter, Bernie, Keith and Dan for all the extra effort they are giving to the project. They are all doing a great job.

Second Annual Music Festival Happening On Quadra Island

It's going to be a whole day of groove on Quadra Island at the Heriot Bay Inn's second annual Living Life Large festival Sunday September 12. The festival line-up features some amazing talent this year, with musical styles ranging from gypsy-circus-ragtime, to Patsy Cline tunes, reggae, and high-energy world rhythm.

The afternoon takes off with Blackberry Wood, a group that is not to be missed. They are winning the loyalty of many world-wide with their zany presence, incredible musicianship, and ability to get you up and dancing with their blend of old-time-country with ragtime & gypsy styles.

Sara-Jeanne Hosie is one of Vancouver's top musical theatre performers whose voice has been described as "one of the most powerful and beautiful instruments I have heard". She is performing a set of Patsy Cline tunes.

Ben Howell of the Naked Dj's excels at making peoples feet move with rhythmic abandon at parties and festivals big and small. Look forward to shaking it up on the dance floor to some funky reggae rhythms! The show line-up also includes some of Quadra's fantastic local talent: you'll see fabulous islanders sharing comedy, music, hoola hooping and fire-spinning.

Headliners for the evening are the very talented Tambura Rasa: this band will definitely get your feet moving with their highly rhythmic, passionate and powerful world beats!

Gates open at 1 pm, the music starts at 2, and it's non-stop fun from then till 11 pm (an outdoor beer garden has been added this year!). Tickets are \$40 (after 6 pm = \$30); 15 & under: pay your age. Get tickets at the Music Plant, Hummingbird Art Supply the Heriot Bay Inn, and charge by phone: 250.285.3322.

Wondering about where to stay? The Heriot Bay Inn has on-site camping and is offering a \$10 camping discount with every Living Life Large ticket. Cabins and cozy rooms in the historic hotel are available to rent, or visit www.quadraisland.ca for more options.

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Pledges for Paws for a Cause

I would appreciate all the pledges for the SPCA as I am trying to raise \$600.00 this year. All donations are appreciated, however, if it's not \$15 you do not get a receipt sent to you re: a donation. I am starting this early as every year a day before and many afterwards I am still trying to collect, and make up what I put in. You may safely put in an envelope and leave in my Loon Mailbox on the front porch or mail it to me direct - 531 Alexander Dr., Campbell River, BC V9H 1S5, checks are to be made payable to CR SPCA. As you know both Kenny and I will be walking the 3 mi. with Rosa, Milo and Calle and we hope the two girls and boy will win some prizes for their costumes. If your going to see me that's a good time or drop by the house or give me a call, I'll pick up. 250-923-8291 Tansy and her Baja Beauties

Quadra Island Salmon Enhancement Society 30th Anniversary BBQ

This year marks the 30th Anniversary of the Quadra Island Salmon Enhancement Society (QISES). While salmon enhancing activities on the island had started earlier, it wasn't until Jan. 1980 that the inaugural meeting forming the society was held, now making us one of the longest continuously functioning Salmon Enhancement Societies on the coast.

To celebrate this achievement, we will be hosting a 'Burger and Dogs' BBQ at the Eco-Center (the hatchery site) on the Hyacinthe Bay Rd. on Sept. 5, from 1 to 4 pm. See the Eco-Center, displays with old photos, and hopefully hear some stories of the old days. Everyone is welcome.

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MAMMA MIA

We are having a second MAMMA MIA audition and we are CALLING ALL MEN 14+years. There are 2 parts;

Firstly those who would like lead and chorus roles.

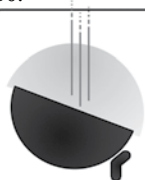
Secondly those who would like to be our STUNT CREW (stage stunts, acrobats, gymnasts and those who just like to run around or do flips) .

Auditions will be held on Monday, September 6, 2010 at the QI Community Centre

Any women who missed the first audition are also welcome.

Interested in back stage support? Come to the CC on Monday, September 13, 6:30

Many thanks to the 39 participant who came out to our first audition. What a talented island we live on. You have all been cast! Postings will be in after September 6. Your first practice will be Mon September 13, 6:30.



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Your Backyard Pharmacy -

medicinal uses for common garden herbs and flowers

Our first guest speaker for the fall session at the Garden Club will be a medical herbalist. Come out and learn about therapeutic applications for garden plants, their history and lore and safe ways to use them. As a certified Master Gardener and a certified Horticultural Therapist, Chanchal Cabrera MSc, is a hands on herbalist, with 25 years experience. On acreage in Courtenay, Chanchal and her husband grow food, fruit, nuts and 100 varieties of medicinal and culinary herbs. Stinging Nettle and Golden Rod for allergies, Dandelion and Burdock for blood cleansing, Horsetail for repairing the lungs and Yarrow for stopping bleeding... many common garden plants have a long tradition of therapeutic use. This is a great opportunity to ask for knowledgeable advice on herbal remedies which you can grow for yourself - to keep you healthy in a safe way.

Join us for an evening of good friends, great information and perhaps some bragging time for your produce on Monday September 13th 7pm at the community centre. Bring along your finest specimens of fruit and veggies produced from your own garden plots. Perhaps this is your first year gardening. We would love to see how much you have accomplished in your first year. Bring your favourite harvest recipe and we can swap ideas for what to do with that bountiful crop. Drop in \$2, annual membership \$10.

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Solace in Geography

Summer rain has been threatening to fall all day and finally this evening the clouds let go and gave the ground some sweet release. I went for a run along the spit and could almost hear the dirt sigh, gravel and greenery breathing deeply. Rain hissed on the glassy surface of Drew Harbour and through the ragged cloud break along Heriot Ridge, fiery hints of sunset reflected on the water. I had needed to run all day. I had needed to lose myself in the fresh air and oblivion of exercise and stunning beauty of this place.

Rebecca Spit has always been one of my favourite places on earth. I played there with my sisters and cousins when we were small and gangly, with scraped knees and bare feet and wind tangled hair. I have stood in the field to feel the furious power of a winter storm. In high school we burned our notebooks there at the end of every year, indulgent and ceremonial, watching the heart circled name of last semester's crush curl and turn black in the heat, crawling rather than bursting into flame. And every summer calls for phosphorescent skinny dipping, waking up the yacht dwellers with our delight over underwater starbursts along our naked limbs.

Whenever I come home for a visit, no matter what the time of year or time of day, I make a point of stopping at the spit, walking the length of it, and pausing at the very end to look out over the water toward Heriot Island, Open Bay and the Breton Islands. Take a moment to listen to the whispering ocean and let the salt air rest on my skin. I take solace in familiar geography and feel at once humbled and exalted by it.

Tonight while I ran I thought about the intricate weave of community. The way that as we grow together we blur at the edges so that although we exist independently of one another, we are always linked to one another. No matter how much time has passed we are still linked through history and memory and love. When we lose a friend it is as though we have lost a part of ourselves, a part of our rosy cheeked childhood. Tonight while I ran I thought about Little Joe. About his dark eyes and sweet smile. I ran, took comfort in the constancy of geography, and mourned the loss of a friend.

May he rest easy, may he find peace.

- Nora Bingham

Quadra Island Seniors- Branch 91-B.C.O.A.P.O.

Well summers coming to an end, I'm sorry to say. But Autumn can be nice too, the red, orange & yellow leaves in the trees, are very beautiful. We will, by the time this message is read, our members, have been to Macleans Mill Museum on the Steam Train at Port Alberni, 10 or 12 Seniors are going on the tour. How about a 21/2 hr. cruise around, the Briton Islands or vicinity, with supper at the Herons Dining Rm. \$35.00, otherwise \$44.00. call Ruth if interested 3801.

On Wed. Sept. 8th/10 our Senior Group are having our Annual Picnic, approx starting time, will be, 10:00 a.m to 10:30 a.m at the Rebecca Spit. The affair will be a Pot-Luck lunch after a short meeting, and games. Bring a chair, hat, dishes, utensils and your own beverage. If the weather is bad our picnic will be held indoors at the Royal Canadian Legion, in Heriot Bay. Aerobics with Ann Lawrence, 10:00 a.m, Carpet Bowling with Christine, 11:00 a.m, will start up again on Wed. Sept. 15th/10. Keep yourselves in shape by walking with Peter & Lloyd on Sundays 11:00 a.m, meet at the Rebecca Spit Launch Ramp. If you miss them catch up at the Big parking lot. Join our happy group call Chris @2207 or Win@3850

Circle of Love

The Centre for Spiritual Living in Campbell River will be hosting a 5 day (September 27th - October 1st) Fall retreat on Quadra Island at the beautiful Tsa.Kwa.Luten Resort.

It is called the Circle of Love Gathering.

There will be inspired presentations by:

Shaikh Kabir Helminski (from Rumi's Melevi Order of Sufism), Camile Helminski, Dr. David Tharp, Rev. David Leonard, Rev. Carol Carnes, Rev. Patrick Cameron, Dr. Kenn and Dr. Deborah Gordon.

We will be featuring the music of international recording artists Erika Luckett and Lisa Ferraro, Martin Kerr (From Canadian Idol) and many more!

If you yearn to connect to the heart, and move from a feeling of separateness to Oneness, then please join us for this life-changing experience!

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Moving with the Elements: Air, Water, Fire and Earth

Quadra Island Recreational Centre is offering this unique two session workshop this fall. Drawing on Indigenous and faith teachings about earth, air, fire and water, we will use movement, dance, art making and sensory awareness to explore the relationship between our bodies and the intricate world in which we live. This two-day expressive arts workshop is designed for those who want to deepen their connection to land and place. People of all ages and ability levels are welcome.

The facilitators are Denise Nadeau and Lorraine de la Morandière.

Denise Nadeau is of mixed French, Irish, Scottish and Mi'kmaq heritage from Quebec. She is a movement therapist, theologian and educator whose work combines expressive art therapies and spiritual practices in healing from racist, sexist and colonial violence. She is trained in Somatic Expression, BodyMind Psychotherapy, the Halprin Method of Dance Therapy, and Popular Theatre and has degrees in both ministry and Religious Studies. She has been teaching movement programs using expressive arts for 15 years and was recently the Director of the Interfaith Summer Institute for Justice, Peace and Social Movements at Simon Fraser University (2006 to 2010).

Lorraine de la Morandière is from Shebahonaning, a village on the shores of Georgian Bay, Ontario. She is an art therapist who engages individuals and groups in their healing process through a variety of art-making exercises. Lorraine values and works with fundamental connections between art, ritual and healing from her Ojibwa heritage. While she conducts art therapy with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, recent work (2009/10) has been with the Tlicho people in Northwest Territories as the Mental Health Addictions Counselor. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from U.B.C. and an Art Therapy Degree from the Vancouver Art Therapy Institute. She is the sole proprietor of Circle Art Therapy www.circlearttherapy.ca.

Dates: Saturday, November 13 and Saturday, November 27 from 9:30 to 4:30. Quadra Island Recreational Centre, Quadra Island

Cost: Sliding scale (pay by income) from \$50 to \$80 for the two sessions, \$25 to \$40 for one session. Preregistration by November 6th required. Phone 250-285-3243 or email quadrarec@gicable.com.

BLENKIN PARK TENNIS COURTS RESURFACING

Seven days of very hard work by many dedicated tennis players resulted in absolutely GREAT-looking tennis courts in Blenkin Park. The process started with hours of pressure washing, followed by filling cracks and birdbaths, then leveling and cleaning. Fence repairs and weeding completed the preparations. A base coat, two layers of green paint, and two layers of red paint were applied. On Sunday, everyone helped with painting the white lines as the final touch! It looks so professional and beautiful now, and we hope it will stay that way for many years to come. Anyone interested in getting involved in playing tennis on the new courts can call Rita (3678) or Ken (2580).



Pictured front row, left to right: Anne Doolittle, Doris Nyman, Meg Stewart, Ken Roxburgh and Louella Baker. Back row: Marlies Koj, Rita Vitranga, Mary Pirie, Gary Colter, Joni Diamond, Scott Low, Dennis Humes and Don Doolittle. Other volunteers, not pictured were: Murray Garland, Mornay Van Zyl, Didier Beranger, Nikolas Geoghegan, Nick Manders, Pat Lowes, Enid and Brian Cooper, Michael Mascall, Rosemary Nash, Julie Rigby, Shawn O'Connor and Mark Nighswander. Many thanks go to the following donors and supporters: Quadra Recreation Society, Walcan, Quadrate Ventures, Quadra Builders, Cape Mudge Boatworks, George Stuart, Quadra Fire Department, Doris Nyman and all of the Quadra Tennis Players.



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Parks Deteriorating Under B.C. Liberals Shows Report

VICTORIA— An explosive new report from B.C.'s Auditor General shows that the B.C. Liberal government is failing to protect the provinces parks, say New Democrats.

"This report shows how the B.C. Liberal government is failing to protect B.C.'s treasured Class A parks and ecological reserves," said New Democrat environment critic Rob Fleming. "This is just one more glaring example of the B.C. Liberal government's environmental hypocrisy."

The Auditor General's report set out to answer three key questions about the government's commitment to conserving ecological integrity in the park system. These questions were:

1. Does the ministry have a vision, plans and operational policies for conserving ecological integrity in the parks and protected areas system?
2. Is the ministry ensuring that ecological integrity is being conserved in the province's Class A parks and ecological reserves?
3. Is the ministry reporting on the state of ecological integrity within the parks and protected areas system?

In every case the Auditor General's answer was a resounding 'no,' noted Fleming.

"Just a few years ago, the B.C. Liberal premier promised to make our parks the best managed in the world. It's clear from this report that in ten years the B.C. Liberals haven't even done the basic scientific work necessary for informed parks planning and are failing to make and implement plans to stop the decline of species at risk of extinction," said Fleming.

"If we want to protect species and ensure that generations after us can enjoy the natural beauty of our province, we have to do better."

The report found that the B.C. Liberals have failed to offer significant protection for some of the most endangered ecosystems in the province, including coastal douglas-fir, and bunchgrass ecosystems. It also showed that while the B.C. Liberals like to talk about climate change impacting our parks, they have taken no action to help protect them from its negative impacts.

"According to the Auditor General's report, staff in the environment ministry are saying they don't have the resources to properly manage our parks and ecological reserves," said Fleming. "Given that between 2008 and 2010, the B.C. Liberals cut the budget for parks and protected areas by \$6.95 million, or 18.4 per cent, it's no wonder that our parks are deteriorating."

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Wood Stove Air Quality Survey Results Need to reduce smoke pollution continues

With 45 of Campbell River's old smoky belchers in the recycling heap, the City's Wood Stove Exchange program came to an end on June 30.

"Each replacement of an old, inefficient wood burning appliance with a new Environmental Protection Agency/Canadian Standards Association-certified unit brings a reduction in fine particulate air pollution, and we can all breathe a little easier," says Mayor Charlie Cornfield.

The City's wood stove exchange program also included a mobile air quality monitoring component. "With the preliminary results in, we are pleased to see that levels of fine particulate matter are generally very low," says Councillor Roy Grant, liaison to the City's Environmental Advisory Commission. "However, the results also confirm that there are a number of low-lying areas within the City that are 'hot spots' for wood smoke pollution, and we should continue to work toward achieving the best air quality possible for our residents."

The air quality monitoring surveys were conducted January through March, 2010 by staff using a mobile nephelometer or "Nephie." Air sampling occurred between 6 and 8 p.m. on clear, still evenings. Wood smoke tends to settle and may build over the evening hours under these weather conditions.

"Separate readings recorded at the Campbell River Dogwood Ambient Monitoring Station found average smoke levels peaked around midnight, sometimes more than twice the levels recorded by the nephelometer," says Earle Plain, an Air Quality Meteorologist with the Ministry of Environment. Real-time air quality readings for the Campbell River station can be found at <http://www.bcairquality.ca>.

Eleanor Setton, PhD Environmental Exposures with the University of Victoria's Spatial Sciences Research Lab, found the City's fine particulate data to be low at less than 15 micrograms. "In other areas when we monitor evening wood smoke, hot spot levels are more typically 20 to 40 ug/m3," she says. "It would be interesting to see nephelometer readings for later evening surveys."

Dr. Setton's advice has led the City's Environmental Advisory Commission to support continuing air quality surveys this coming winter and a commissioner has volunteered to conduct the surveys.

The Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) recognizes that fine particulate air pollution is a contributor to many types of diseases, especially lung and heart disease. "Fine particulates are considered the most important outdoor air pollutant from a public health perspective, says Dr. Charmaine Enns, VIHA's Medical Health Officer for North Island." To view the air quality survey results, please visit the What's New section on the City of Campbell River website, www.campbellriver.ca.

Fish farms operating without valid Crown Land tenures

Biologist applies for expired salmon feedlot licenses

(August 23, 2010, Broughton Archipelago) Salmon Feedlots in the Broughton Archipelago are operating on Crown Land tenures that have been expired for years. This week biologist Alexandra Morton has applied for these licences to return them to their natural state to grow wild fish to the much greater benefit of British Columbians and the BC economy.

Crown Land is public land that the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (MAL) leases to people and companies. MAL is also in charge of regulating the salmon feedlots.

"I don't know how these foreign companies can be in full production for years on expired tenures, but these sites are the fishiest places in the Broughton where we once found the highest concentrations of herring, salmon, prawns and other species," says biologist Alexandra Morton,

"I have made detailed application to MAL to use these sites for what they have done so well for 8,000 years - grow wild fish to the benefit of the people, the economy and future generations who might appreciate the food security in the years to come."

Morton's applications recognize how the natural architecture of the sites perform to produce upwellings, tide lines and back eddies that attract and feed valuable public fisheries, including prawns, rock cod, wild salmon, herring and other species. Some of the salmon feedlots violate provincial aquaculture-free zones. She writes in the applications:

"A disturbing lawlessness surrounds this industry, they post "no trespassing" signs on non-exclusive leases, that they let expire. On April 1, 2010 they slammed the door on government inspection for disease, while their pathogens free-flow into our richest fish habitat. This industry was unlawfully given to the province to manage who appears to let these companies do whatever they want. Privatizing ocean spaces and owning fish in the ocean is unconstitutional in Canada, is that why the leases have not been renewed," asks Morton? "It is time we find out what is the relationship between this Norwegian industry and all levels of our government."

Morton thinks people in Nootka Sound, Port Hardy, Discovery Islands and Clayoquot Sound should also look into whether those leases are expired. Contact "Front Counter BC."

"Bottom line is wild fish belong to us and if we don't take a stand and look after them ourselves no one else is going to," says Morton, "there are a lot of rotten politics around this. I hope this year's legendary sockeye return reminds people of just how valuable wild fish are to us."

In May 2010 5,000 people walked with Morton to the steps of the BC legislature to tell the government to get salmon feedlots out of the ocean. www.salmonaresacred.org

WE NEED YOUR STUFF!

Sunday, September 19th is this year's date for the Quadra/Philippines Connection's 16th annual fund-raising Giant Garage Sale to be held at Quadra Community Centre. All CLEAN, SALEABLE DONATIONS in good working order will be gladly accepted for this rewarding event. Once again we regret that we will NOT ACCEPT any skis, encyclopedias, computers or microwave ovens. Drop-off will be available beginning the first week of September and we thank owners of the following drop-off centres in advance for their participation once again!

Q. Cove Sharon & Harry Archibald
858 Prentice Pl. 285-3288

South End Ruth Powell & Chris Thompson
307 Sutil Rd. 285-3695

Heriot Bay Candace & Jackson Holmes
684 Cramer (leave items in carport)

Back Road Pauline Lansdall 1068 Milton
(Greenhouse) 285-2076

Ann & Don Doolittle 303 Smiths Road
285-3457

Direct drop-off to the community centre will also be available on Saturday, September 18th until 2:00 pm.

Anyone wishing to help out with the set-up on Saturday, September 18th or on the day of the sale on the 19th should contact Carol at 285-3035 or at cfoort@yahoo.com We will need truck-drivers and trucks, sorters, cashiers, bakers and volunteers for our concession. We also appreciate all those willing to lend a hand to pack up at the end of the sale as well as those willing to take remainders away to various thrift stores in their vehicles.

The following is a recent letter from Cherry Ann Dammay, teacher of the Dilag Basao preschool in the northern Philippines.

Dear Carol and Quadra Island Community,

How are you there in Canada? Blessed greetings and hopes that you are all in good health. Classes have started again and kids and parents were all very excited. Parents came to enrol their children ages 3-6 years of age. This year I have 36 students in all. Josie Killa came to assist and help me in my class.

Josie has come back to our village after her graduation since she really loves to teach and has a heart to help her own people.

Our classes began with excitement on the faces of all of the children. They were all eager to come together and learn new ideas. At first almost all of the parents of the nursery children came to bring their children and pick them up.

As the days went by, only a few were still coming with their parents since most live nearby and had gained confidence to come on their own.

The children have been adjusting nicely to the program. They are very excited when they sing a song, especially action songs. They easily catch the lyrics and words. They are learning to write their names, to color and to respect one another. Many of the children's parents work miles away from their homes and are really busy in their fields and gardens. However, most have been very cooperative in helping around the school - repairing damage and cleaning the surroundings. I am also grateful to the staff of International Association for Transformation for providing us with new school materials. And we are especially thankful to you for your contribution in helping our children. On behalf of the parents of the Basao Daycare Centre, I would like to express our warm gratitude for your ongoing support.

May you be blessed and guided always. More power to you!

Yours truly,
Cherry Ann Dammay

Historic Tours Continue!



Historic Photo early 20th Century of Nodales Channel at Thurston Bay

The summer keeps on rolling along with more Historic Boat Tours planned by the Museum at Campbell River. The only trip to the Thurlow Islands this summer takes place on Sunday, August 29, from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The cost is \$150.00 and includes a picnic lunch and on-board historic interpretation. This is an excellent chance to see an amazing area! Then on the holiday

weekend, Sunday, September 5, the Historic Tour will visit the waterways around Sonora Island. This tour includes a lunch stop at the fabulous Dent Island Lodge. The cost for this trip is \$175.00 including lunch at Dent Island and on-board historic interpretation. To register for either of these trips, please call the Museum at 287-3103.

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HALLIDAY'S VIEWPOINT

by Steven Halliday

LEMONS OR LEMONADE?

One of the more surprising hits in the "reality" television world is the The Learning Channel's program *Hoarding: Buried Alive*. According to the show's website – "*Hoarding: Buried Alive* goes inside the homes of extreme hoarders to explore the psychology behind their compulsion to accumulate and store large quantities of nonessential things. Each episode will tell the stories of two severe hoarders struggling with behaviour that has made every day existence unbearable for both them and their loved ones. With the help of expert therapists and organizers, the hoarders will attempt to unlock the key to their obsessions in the hope of reclaiming their lives."

The reason I call this success surprising is that hoarding is hardly an unusual preoccupation, though I'll grant the subjects of the TV show are extreme examples. Just about everyone is a hoarder to some extent...the problem normally surfaces more as a result of what is being hoarded rather than the act of hoarding itself. I, for example, am a hoarder of books...not to any extreme, mind you – no books clutter our floors or hallways. But it was only a couple of hundred years ago that a man with a collection of books was considered a wealthy man indeed. And had I saved every cent I spent on books in the past 40 years I would indeed be a wealthy man. But then I wouldn't have a great bunch of books, most of which have been read more than once and many of which will be read again, and several perhaps once more after that. A few years ago I was forced by a house downsizing to shed a few hundred pounds of books, an experience I don't intend to repeat and one which is easier to avoid nowadays as the price of books continue to rise, making further accumulation a matter of careful thought and selection.

My father hoarded partially used cans of paint, thinners, oil and a variety of other unidentifiable

substances, many of which presented a real difficulty in disposal when we cleaned out his workshop after the decision was made for my mom to move to town. In reality it wasn't very much stuff, but when you are confronted with an unpleasant task its difficulty often grows exponentially with your level of annoyance. Nor was it a compulsion – he was a child of the depression and found it impossible to throw away anything that might still be of use, and you never know when you might need that last 4 ounces of green trim paint. But when the object of one's compulsion becomes a financial drain it becomes another matter entirely.

Many years ago I had to do a home appraisal for a woman seeking refinancing to consolidate her debts. This woman had a well-paying full time government job and no obvious addictions other than to cigarettes, but had managed to run up enough credit card debt that she was having trouble meeting all of her minimum payments. When I first approached her home it offered no outward signs of anything unusual, but upon being invited in I was aware of the odour of mould. The next thing I noticed was an unusual amount of clutter in the kitchen, but when I passed through the kitchen to what should have been a dining area I was no longer able to discern the walls – they were invisible behind a solid layer of stacked boxes (resembling pizza boxes) that reached from the floor to about 6 foot high or so, the limit of this lady's reach, I presume. It turned out that every room in the home, with the exception of the kitchen and bathroom, was similarly lined and in some spots was more than one layer deep. The mould smell emanated from the bathroom, which was rotting away as the homeowner had neither the resources nor the inclination to repair the problem. This was because all of her money and all of her attention was absorbed by the contents of the boxes, which turned out to be "collector" plates – hundreds

and hundreds of them. In hindsight, I'd hazard a guess she had spent over \$30,000 on these objects that had a resale value of perhaps 1% of that amount. In the meantime she'd let the repairs fall behind on her home which probably ended up costing her another \$30,000 instead of the \$5,000 it would have cost to repair at the outset. I'm only one person, but she certainly was far from the first genuine "hoarder" I have met in my life and is probably far from the last.

While making the decision to purchase the business my wife and I now own, I purposely refused to let Norma see the premises until after negotiating the deal with the vendor. I doubt she would contradict me when I say that she would have dug in her heels against the purchase had she seen what we were buying. She knew from the financial statements what the numbers looked like, and she knew that the business had been around for a long time, but had no clue of what it physically looked like. What she didn't know was that it resembled an episode of *Hoarding: Buried Alive*...and I was paying some serious change to acquire the stuff acquired by former owners, most of which is in the back end of the shop. She was still somewhat dumbfounded when she first walked into the shop, even though I had done a bit of work preparing her for the shock, including showing her photos. Now, 4 months later, the place looks much better, even though I've only reduced the quantity of stuff by a fraction, but in our case the hoard we acquired is best described the saying "One man's garbage is another's treasure"...well, a lot of it anyway.

But to return to the TV show, I really don't fathom its popularity, particularly because every episode seems to resemble all the others...same old junk, different location. When they focus the show on people who hoard interesting stuff, something like Jay Leno's hoard of automobiles and memorabilia related to all things auto, that's when you'll have an interesting program. Or how about Jimmy Pattison's collection of companies? That's a hoard I'd like to have a look at. But no, we're stuck with endless shots of piles of everything K-Tel made and anything the Shopping Channel sells for our visual entertainment. *Hoarding: Buried Alive* is nothing but voyeurism into the lives of very disturbed people, which I guess helps to explain its popularity in a nutshell, since voyeurism is the new frontier of reality TV.



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Poli-Psy 101

by Claire Voyent

People keep asking me what it's like to be psychic. They're expecting me to either gush about my 'gift' or play the humble card, "with great gifts comes great responsibility". What it's like, however, is much more prosaic. Imagine your brain tuned into the worst radio station in the world and you can't turn it off. Here's a case in point, I'm sitting on my deck trying to entice a mother deer and her young doe into hand grenade range when all of a sudden I'm transported into the Prime Ministers office while he is reorganizing his cabinet. In the room, as far as I can tell as I only get audio, is the PM and three men I judge to be Americans.

PM. Good, that's done then. You got what you wanted so can I have that picture of Sarah Palin now.

A1 One more to go. We need someone for Indian and Northern Affairs.

PM Aw c'mon. Nobody cares about that. Put anybody in. We just take what we want and apologize later anyway.

A2 We need to send some kind of message. We're going to need their water soon, not to mention the oil.

A3 How about John Duncan

PM Who?

A3 Duncan. He's from BC. He's perfect.

Never had an original thought in his life and he'll be so pathetically grateful for the post he'll do anything.

PM I still can't picture him.

A1 Been around for years, never says anything. Looks like a muppet.

PM I'd have remembered somebody looking like Big Bird.

A2 Not as smart. Looks like Snuffle-upagus.

PM I got him now. Cripes! I thought he was a janitor. You mean I've been nice to him all these years for nothing. Do you know how long I have to practice smiling? I hate wasting them.

A3 We appreciate all the work you put in sir. It's almost looks sincere now.

A2 I like the idea of sending a message, but isn't this going to work against us? I mean, John Duncan, seriously? The contempt that shows for the Natives is so appalling I'm afraid it might cause another Oka.

A3 Sure, at first they're going to be seriously pissed but then they're going to think to themselves, "Hey, we should be able to pull a fast one...Hell, even a mediocre one."

PM Forgetting that Duncan is my Muppet.

A123 Don't get above yourself, Bert.

HERIOT BAY TIDES

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT M	FT.
27	02:18	2.3	7.5
Friday	08:07	4.2	13.8
	14:03	2.2	7.2
	20:30	4.6	15.1
28	02:53	2.1	6.9
Saturday	08:55	4.2	13.8
	14:37	2.5	8.2
	20:52	4.5	14.8
29	03:29	1.9	6.2
Sunday	09:47	4.1	13.5
	15:12	2.8	9.2
	21:13	4.4	14.4
30	04:08	1.7	5.6
	10:46	4.0	13.1
	15:50	3.1	10.2
	21:34	4.3	14.1
31	04:51	1.6	5.2
Tuesday	11:58	3.9	12.8
	16:34	3.4	11.2
	21:59	4.2	13.8
01	05:41	1.5	4.9
Wednesday	13:28	4.0	13.1
	17:32	3.6	11.8
	22:35	4.2	13.8
02	06:41	1.5	4.9
Thursday	14:57	4.1	13.5
	19:00	3.8	12.5
	23:31	4.1	13.5
03	07:50	1.4	4.6
Friday	15:57	4.3	14.1
	21:01	3.8	12.5
04	00:59	4.1	13.5
Saturday	08:54	1.3	4.3
	16:39	4.5	14.8
	22:09	3.6	11.8
05	02:27	4.2	13.8
Sunday	09:50	1.2	3.9
	17:13	4.7	15.4
	22:57	3.3	10.8
06	03:41	4.3	14.1
Monday	10:40	1.2	3.9
	17:45	4.8	15.7
	23:39	2.9	9.5
07	04:49	4.4	14.4
Tuesday	11:27	1.3	4.3
	18:15	4.9	16.1
08	00:20	2.4	7.9
Wednesday	05:54	4.5	14.8
	12:13	1.5	4.9
	18:46	5.0	16.4
09	01:00	2.0	6.6
Thursday	06:55	4.6	15.1
	12:58	1.9	6.2
	19:17	5.0	16.4
10	01:42	1.7	5.6
Friday	07:54	4.7	15.4
	13:44	2.3	7.5
	19:48	4.9	16.1

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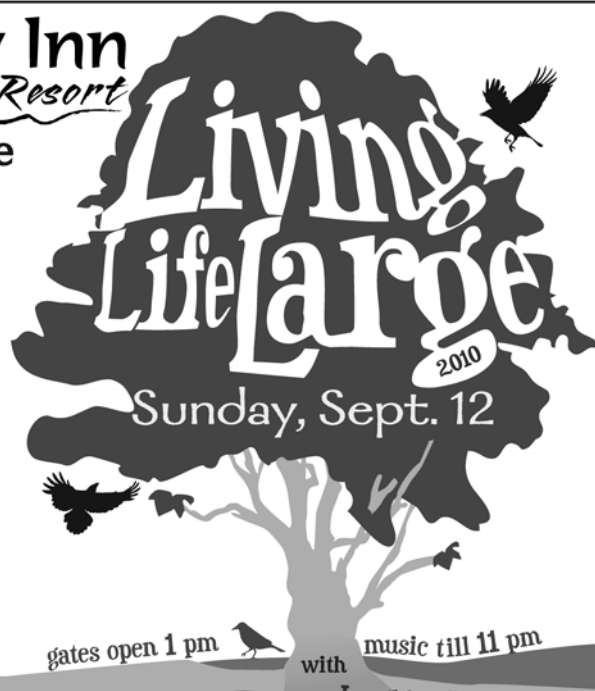
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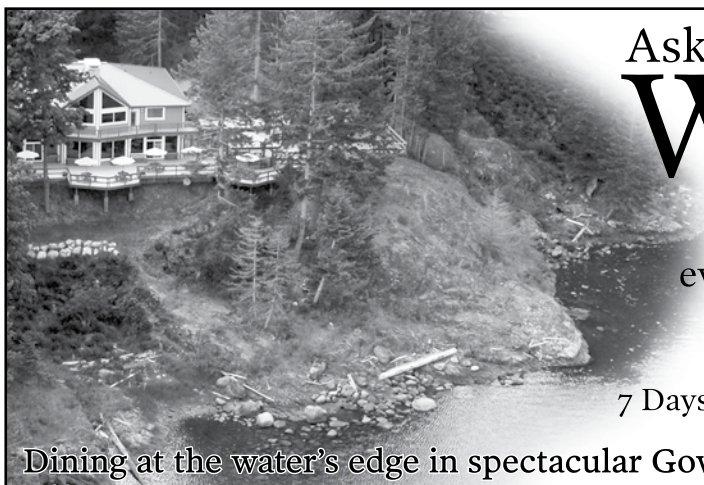
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