

ISSUE 753

APRIL 30, 2021 • SERVING QUADRA & DISCOVERY ISLANDS SINCE 1993

discovery

I S L A N D E R

Q: WHY ARE THESE PEOPLE DOING THIS?!?



PHOTO: BREANNE QUESNEL

A: BECAUSE THEY LOVE QUADRA BEACHES!

And because it's time to help get plastic and debris out of the ocean and off the shores of our Island! Thanks to Spirit of the West Adventures - who are hosting a collection bin from Comox Valley Waste Management on their premises at 1313 Cramer Road - and volunteers like Nevil and Heather who clearly Do.Not.Give.Up - our island beaches are feelin' the love these days. Want to pitch in? Read Breanne Quesnel's article on Page 3 and find out how you can be part of this amazing grassroots community initiative!

Tour De Plant Garden Club Plant Sale

Saturday May 1 from 10 to 3 pm

Sunday May 2 from 10 to 3 pm

Plant lovers, make sure to check out the Tour de Plant on Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2 from 10 am to 3 pm

You will find some veggie starts, herbs, dahlias, perennials including Astilbe, Hosta, Meadowsweet and more.

Six driveways with plants to be purchased by donation. This is a fundraiser to support the Quadra Garden Club. If you have plants to donate please message Jeanne Stoppard on Facebook, email jeannestoppard74@gmail.com or phone 250 285 2835.

Driveways from north to south

Karen Dunn	716 Endersby Road
Robin Beaton	1603 Hyacinthe Bay Road
Marian McMeekin	1544 Heriot Bay Road
Tara Young	1271 Heriot Bay Road
Katherine Wellard	428 Spruce Road
Marie Sheran	254 Jones Farm Road

Emergency Firewood

The Emergency Firewood program is still happening every Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at the Community Centre. If you run out of firewood and can't afford more, we have some available, however this is not going to supply your entire firewood needs for the rest of the winter. We do need volunteers to cut, split and stack wood. People with chainsaws are especially needed. Social distancing applies. For more info call or text Sandy 250-202 5928.



Community Vaccination Starts May 3

Island Health has scheduled COVID-19 vaccine clinics on Quadra Island starting May 3 for all adults age 18 and up (born in 2003 or earlier). To book, please visit gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated to register in three easy steps:

1. Register: First, register by clicking on the link above and scroll down to 'Register online'
 2. Book: Book a vaccine appointment when you receive an email, text or phone call
 3. Get vaccinated: Visit your vaccine clinic on Quadra Island to get your vaccine dose
- If you need help with this process, you may ask a friend, neighbour, or other support person to register for you. If you are unable to book online you may book by phone by calling 1-833-838-2323. You, or the person booking for you, will need to provide your:
1. Legal first and last name
 2. Date of birth
 3. Postal code
 4. Personal health number (aka: care card)
 5. Phone number (a direct line to you or your support person)

This whole community clinic is meant for permanent residents of Quadra Island. If you are a permanent resident of Quadra Island and you previously booked into another clinic, you are welcome to change your appointment to the Quadra Island clinic by calling to rebook.

People with properties or second homes on Quadra Island who would have to travel there to get a vaccination should not book into this whole community clinic.

If you have questions about the COVID-19 whole community approach, please visit islandhealth.ca/whole-community-vaccine.

More Water Tanks Available

The ICAN Water Team is proud to announce the arrival of a fourth shipment of water tanks to help Quadra save water!

Some tanks were pre-ordered, but we still have 13 for sale. The cost is \$200 each for 250 gallon (1000 litre) tanks that are 40x49 inches and 45.5 inches high. The tanks are food grade plastic with a metal base and frame, a large hole with lid on top and a spigot that includes a cap with attachment. There is one larger tank that holds 330 gallons (1250 litres) costing \$225 and is 40x49 and 54 inches high.

To get yours and start gathering rain water from your roof, contact Jude at 250-285-2302 or dunnjudy@hotmail.com

Quadra Island Food Guide

Have you checked out the Guide? It is a listing of the various food producers on the island and is a great resource to find local food. It is currently being updated for 2021, so check it out and expect new information and listings as we get into the growing season.

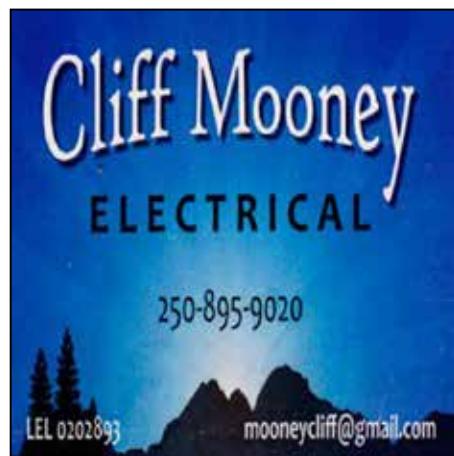
www.qifoodguide.ca

Are you a producer on the island who has not yet connected with the food guide? If you would like to be included, please contact Kathryn at 285-2103 or qifoodguide@gmail.com for more information. We want to support our producers and promote a local food culture!

Quadra Recreation Society AGM

Wednesday May 6th at 7pm.

Please register attendance via email to: info@quadrarec.bc.ca to receive a zoom link to the meeting.



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COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Bring Us Your Beach Garbage!

Story continues from front cover:

This is a volunteer initiative led by Spirit of the West Adventures, building on the years of clean-up work the community, its local organizations, and many volunteers have been doing over the years. Thanks to the Comox Valley Waste Management team for sponsoring the collection bin, Ocean Legacy Foundation for helping with the recyclable material, and Nevil Hand for helping mobilize volunteers.

We are accepting marine debris at 1313 Cramer Rd (at the corner of Hyacinthe Bay Rd) from 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week, for a limited time. Please come asap as the project goes until the bin is full. Read the signs for drop-off instructions, and record what you're dropping off and help sort it into various piles for recycling and disposal. Please wear a mask the entire time you're on the property, and be Covid-safe!

If you know of debris in need of collection and you're unable to bring it by, add it to our spreadsheet and we'll see what we can do! https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QuGFPEykFLG_J5AuCt8CxSVlbH_a313KVV3_IJ1k_U/edit?usp=sharing

Please also join the Quadra Island Beach Team Dream Team Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/916233379134262>) page for all the details on how to help and/or to alert us to materials in need of pick up. Thanks to Nevil Hand for organizing this Facebook group.

While Spirit of the West Adventures did not receive funds in this round of Provincial funding for Marine Debris removal, we are hopeful that the government will see the incredible need for continued clean-up efforts and that soon we will be able to expand our efforts. Thank you to all who helped in our application.

- Breanne Quesnel



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MAPLE MEADOWS
PAINTING AND CONTRACTING

Upcoming BC Ferries Cancellations

Sailing cancellations for berth work in Quathiaski Cove, May 8 to May 13:

- One round-trip per day for six days will be cancelled on Route 23.
- The sailing times are 11:30am from Campbell River and 12 noon from Quathiaski Cove, Saturday May 8 through to Thursday, May 13.
- The Dangerous Cargo sailing normally scheduled for 10:30am from Campbell River is rescheduled to 9:30am, thus allowing full customer service on that 10:30am sailing.
- These 11:30am/12 noon sailings do not connect smoothly with Route 24 sailings, so it's expected that few Cortes customers should be affected.

Community Garden Plots

The Old Farm Community Garden has plots available. If you are interested call Jan at 250-285-2588. As you all may know, the property where the garden is located has recently sold. One of the changes we will be instigating is no non-members visiting the garden. We have been under Covid No Visitor restrictions since last year but it will now become permanent. The garden and property where it is located will now only be open to garden members and residents of the property. This is in line with most community gardens in the Province. Thanks in advance for respecting the new rules.

Tsa Kwa Luten Lodge is hiring for the 2021 Season!

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Opinions expressed in this magazine
are those of the contributors and are
not the views of the publisher.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We welcome items for publication on subjects of interest to the Discovery Islands community. Here are a few guidelines:

- **300 words** is an ideal length for community announcements.
- Articles do not need to be sent as attachments. Simply **send the text in the body of your email**.
- **Canadian spelling** is preferred.
- Please use the title of your item in the email subject line. We get a lot of items called 'DI Article'.
- Remember to **include credits and captions** for photos & artwork.

WHILE EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO INCLUDE ALL ITEMS SUBMITTED, ERRORS AND ACCIDENTAL OMISSIONS MAY OCCUR.

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NEXT DEADLINE

7pm Monday, May 10
for publication on
Friday, May 14, 2021

ISLAND FORUM

Logging Plans for Hyacinthe Creek

Domenico Iannidinardo, Vice President and Chief Forester
Mosaic Forest Management Corp.
2000 – 1055 West Hastings St, Vancouver, BC V6E 2E9
domenico@mosaicforests.com

Dear Sir:

It has come to the attention of Sierra Quadra that Mosaic (TimberWest) has logging plans for the Hyacinthe Creek watershed on Quadra Island.

As you may or may not be aware, the Quadra Island Salmon Enhancement Society (QISES) has been diligently and conscientiously monitoring, restoring and enhancing the productivity of salmon streams on Quadra Island for decades, and one of their particular challenges has been Hyacinthe Creek and its watershed. Any meaningful engagement or consultation with QISES would have informed you of their concern. The challenges they face with Hyacinthe Creek have been exacerbated by the weather anomalies associated with global climate change, and QISES has employed great effort and ingenuity to regulate stream flow so that its species of wild salmon can survive drought-prone summers and excessive winter rainfall events. Understandably, both QISES and Sierra Quadra are very concerned about your logging plans within the Hyacinthe Creek watershed, its disruptive effect on the hydrology, and therefore the viability of the creek for salmon production. The experience, professionalism and altruism of QISES is sufficient that we, along with Mosaic, should unconditionally support their judgement, especially in this critical time when wild salmon face so many obstacles to their survival. The prudent and environmentally responsible course of action would be for Mosaic to cancel its plans to log in this critical Quadra watershed.

Your logging plans in the Hyacinthe Creek watershed are another example of the growing conflict between your practices on Quadra Island and the changing character of our Island's economy, demographics, recreation needs and environmental expectations. Mosaic's logging activities contribute only marginally to the economic wellbeing of Quadra, while the damage to our scenic, recreational and ecological assets is significant. Indeed, Mosaic's logging plans are frequently in conflict with Island interests, and your corporate activity in the Tree Farm Licence on much of our Island is now far more of

a liability than an asset. As recent activity in community organizations suggests, we are no longer an Island waiting to be logged but are concerned citizens on a beleaguered planet trying to create a model for how lifestyles can ameliorate and adjust to the climate and ecological disarray caused precisely by the exploitative attitudes and values represented by such corporations as Mosaic.

Standing, healthy forests on Quadra have far greater social, economic and environmental values than logs on the ground. More than ever, they are becoming instruments of climate mitigation, of carbon sequestration, of hydrological control, and of healthy environments for people to recreate and for wild creatures to thrive. Ecotourism is burgeoning on Quadra, the quality of life here is attracting both impressive professionals and knowledgeable retirees. Forthcoming broadband internet is promising lucrative employment in a wide range of ecologically benign jobs, and an organization like the Hakai Institute has become an inspiration for other research possibilities. Two new high-tech diesel-electric ferries to arrive in 2022 are symbols of the changing times on our Island. Meanwhile, land claim settlements with First Nations offer fresh, responsible and exciting conservation opportunities. Mosaic's present operations in their TFL 47 on Quadra Island are incompatible with this promising and prosperous future.

Additionally, the United Nations' Climate Adaptation Summit 21 (CAS21) of "Nature Based Solutions" and "Locally-Led Adaptation" recommends that communities take exceptional measures to protect aquifers, wetlands, watersheds, streams and lakes against the droughts, heatwaves and weather extremes caused by global climate change. This

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recommendation reinforces the UN's "Climate Action Goals" to restore wilderness and wetlands that will help to "green" the planet by drawing down and sequestering atmospheric carbon. Key to this strategy is the protection of old growth forests and mature second growth stands, together with all the species, microorganisms and refugia associated with them. Indeed, the unfolding climate change and ecological crisis precludes any neglect of these measures! At this critical time in history, visionary steps must be immediately taken by responsible governments, corporations, organizations and individuals.

Accordingly, because Mosaic's Hyacinthe Creek cutblocks are wholly incompatible with both global and local interests, perhaps you would be willing to meet with us to discuss options.

Sincerely,
The Executive Members of Sierra Quadra (The Sierra Club of BC, Quadra Island Group)

New to Quadra?
The Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce and local businesses welcome you with a gift bag.
Contact Judy at 285.2150

Salmon Farming and CR Council

April 23, 2021, Campbell River Mirror

Dear Editor,

I would like to draw your attention to the following letter by Bob Mackin in which Mr. Mackin reveals the overt collusion between the salmon farming lobby and Campbell River Mayor Andy Adams and his council: <https://thebreaker.news/news/north-island-mayors-salmon-farm-lobbyist/?fbclid=IwAR1TRjpt1jix-YAjtBNZjRaXLPKxeNvCo2EWsBHTluzfxRkTZ67jE6eVjA>

I used to think that a letter coming from the mayor's office was written by the mayor, an independent elected official, representing broad community interests. It is a very sad day for local government in BC, when the people of Campbell River (and beyond) are represented by the sole voice of a lobby group – in this case, the salmon farming lobby. Bob Mackin's article clearly demonstrates that letters signed by Mayor Andy Adams to provincial and federal elected officials were drafted, and further edited, by John Paul Fraser, of the BC Salmon Farmers' Association.

It was not until after I participated in the BC Salmon Farmers' Association's virtual Q & A session yesterday that I read Mackin's article. I was even more incensed when I did, as I realized what a virtual set-up that so-called "economic summit" was. Your readers should have been there! Ernest Alfred, of the Namgis Nation, literally had his microphone cut off followed by two minutes of silence as the salmon farming hosts regrouped. Mr. Alfred was simply asking for a response to Bob Mackin's scathing article.

Angela Koch asked how much more damage had to be done before the farms would move out altogether. She referenced sea lice load (average 9 per wild salmon) when there were active farms in the Okisollo Channel up until early 2021. This year, with those farms lying empty, there were only 9 sea lice observed on a total of 50 wild salmon sampled. That's the normal amount, occurring in nature and that wild salmon can cope with, survive and go on to thrive. John Paul Fraser said "no one on the call would disagree". What does that even mean? That wild salmon are better off without the farms? Of course they are; we all know that!

Then Mr. Fraser threw Angela's question out to the 46 people on the call, to see if anyone had any science information on sea lice. Seriously? It is a well-documented fact that sea lice infestation is an out-of-control problem that no open net-pen farming operation in the world has been able to manage successfully.

My question was about why the people who actually live in the Discovery Islands were never consulted when open net-pen farms moved into our area in the first place, thirty years or so ago. No one has ever asked us about the disastrous effect open net-pen farms have had on wild salmon, and on our ability to make a living based on the wild salmon economy. I also wondered about the numbers presented in the media and by the BCSFA press release inviting participation in the April 22 conference. "I don't believe 6500 fish farm jobs will be affected by the removal of the Discovery Islands' farms." John Paul Fraser replied, "We never said there were 6500 jobs at stake." Yet this is the figure that has been stated, multiple times.

I am attaching Bob Mackin's article in case your readers

continued next page

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COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

continued from previous page
missed it. Campbell River electors did not vote for John Paul Fraser; he doesn't get to pretend he's the mayor of that or any other North Island town. Neither does Mayor Adams get to pretend he's John Paul Fraser. Campbell River, the wild salmon capital of the world, and the beautiful Discovery Islands deserve much better than that. BC's wild salmon and the people of the North Island and surrounding islands who depend on them deserve the truth. Clearly the salmon farmers and the mayor simply don't care.

Sincerely,
Claudia Lake

THANKS!

Free the Seeds / Seedy Sunday distributed seeds to the community on March 28th, as well as (since then) to Wei Wai Kai's Elders/Community Garden program, Quadra Elementary, and Quadra Circle/Senior's Centre.

The organizers (Andrea, Lauren, Lea, Liz, and Lore) would like to thank the following sponsors: Campbell River Community Foundation, Quadra Community Centre, Inspirations on Quadra, Good Earth Farms, and the generous gardeners of Quadra who donated their own seeds.

Happy gardening, everybody!

Mill Felt Miracle Wanted for Seniors Housing Large Vegetable Garden
Donation/Tax Credit (Fair Market Value) or For Sale
Contact: Jeanne Stoppard at 250-285-2835

Health-care workers need our help

The third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic is here and like all of us, our health-care teams are ready to put the pandemic behind them. For more than a year, public health teams, medical staff, staff and care providers across Island Health have focused their energies on preventing and managing the spread of COVID-19 in our communities, and keeping you and your loved ones safe. This unprecedented effort continues, in addition to other important, everyday health-care needs beyond the pandemic. You can help by following public health orders and guidelines.

As the detailed April 16 presentation from the Province showed, COVID-19 cases remain high in our communities and we are seeing an increasing presence of the new Variants of Concern. Our Public Health teams are working long hours in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our communities through testing and collection, case and contact management, and vaccinations.

But our health-care teams are tired. Many are on the verge of exhaustion. We are immensely proud of all the people who work so tirelessly to keep our health system running. In recent days, there also has been discussion about acute care occupancy and available critical care beds. Island Health currently has the necessary infrastructure and capacity with respect to critical care beds and ventilators. But occupancy numbers and ventilator supply doesn't tell the full story. For every person in a critical care bed, whether they are being treated for COVID-19 or another serious medical condition, a team of dedicated professionals is required to deliver care. It is a system that relies on people. Our people are dedicated, diligent and resilient, and their commitment to providing excellent care is unwavering. But they are being stretched to their limit as this pandemic continues.

COVID-19 is swift. Right now, we are a third of the way to achieving community immunity and we need to adhere to public health orders and guidelines to prevent overloading our health-system.

We acknowledge the global pandemic continues to be an extremely challenging experience for so many. We appreciate everything the community has done to support us, and we look forward to the continued roll-out of vaccine. Until we have sufficient community immunity, help reduce the burden on the health-care system by not gathering indoors with people we don't live with, avoiding all non-essential travel by staying local, and staying home when sick. Your efforts to stick to these principles are a show of support for our frontline workers. And they need all that support more than ever right now.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Stanwick, Vice President Population Health and Chief Medical Health Officer, and
Dr. Ben Williams, Vice President, Medicine and Quality and Chief Medical Executive

Legion Plant Sale on May 9

Quadra Legion's Ladies Auxiliary is holding a COVID-safe outdoor plant sale in front of the Legion in Heriot Bay at 10am on Sunday, May 9. Any donations of plants gratefully received. Call Barb at 250-285-3714 or Daphne at 250-285-3998. Plants make a perfect Mother's Day gift.



We Have Wood!

The Emergency Firewood program has just received a new shipment of logs from Mosaic Forests! We need volunteers to cut, split and stack. We especially need people with chainsaws to cut up these logs. With two piles of logs, we can have four people cutting at once and still maintain social distancing. We are still happening every Wednesday afternoon from 12:30 to 2pm at the Community Centre. If you have run out of firewood and can't afford more, we have some available to keep you warm for a few more chilly nights. For more info call or text Sandy at 250-202-5928.

CR Genealogy Society Meeting

The Campbell River Genealogy Society will be hosting its regular monthly meeting on Thursday May 6, 2021.

This will be a Zoom Event, from 7 to 9pm. Guest Speaker Karen Inkster Vance presents 'Family Storytelling 101: How to write and share your family stories.'

The public is welcome! To receive your personal invite check out our webpage for an invite. The Zoom Room will be open at 6:30 for Social Time before the meeting.

Inspirations A stylized quill pen graphic is positioned next to the word "Inspirations".

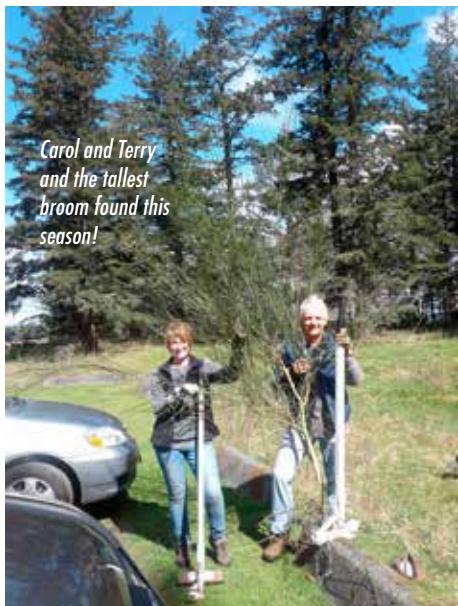
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Rebecca Spit Broom Pull 2021

With this being our second pandemic year we again kept our activities very small. However, there was a lot of broom to remove this year and in numerous areas so we had no difficulty staying distanced from each other. A small group came out about seven times before we could happily say we were done. That amounts to roughly fifty person hours.



Why was larger broom so prolific this spring? I think partly because last year the annual broom pull was cancelled due to pandemic closures and a few individuals just managed to deal with what was blooming but not with the myriad of younger plants. These grew on happily and turned into the strapping young adults we pulled this spring – so strapping that we had to use our broom pullers again.

As this is our 16th year of tackling the broom at the Spit it is very clear that a seedbed once laid down is viable for a long time, probably 20 to 40 years. This would be so even if no new annual seed drop occurs. If you don't want this invasive species to take hold, don't let it bloom.

To all you Spit walkers: If you see a stray broom plant flowering now, this spring, please pull it out. I know it looks so lovely, but don't feel sad or bad. There is plenty elsewhere on the island. Remember that our native butterflies and plants need those open spaces and that's what broom likes too.

Check those toolsheds please! We are missing two broom pullers. Both the Community Centre and our group have

each been missing broom pullers for some time now and would love to see them returned. These have been borrowed and likely forgotten about in someone's tool shed. So please have a look if you've participated in our annual Broom Bash in the past.

Once again, many thanks to the cheerful and energetic group of volunteers who came out this year and did an excellent job. You are the greatest!

– Riki and Carol

A Couple of Tips

If you want to remove old broom plants with thick brown stalks, don't bother pulling them unless you like hard work. Just cut them off about a foot above the ground at blossom time BEFORE seed pods form. At that stage all their strength is going into blooming and they will die (except for an odd one). The stumps rot and can be kicked over after a year or two.

Cutting younger broom is not a good idea as it just re-sprouts even if it's cut at ground level. It then becomes a very tough plant with a strong root system. It needs to be pulled.

Straitwatch on Quadra

Straitwatch is going into our fifth season on Quadra!

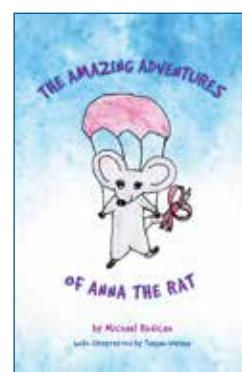
Straitwatch Quadra is the most recent program run by Cetus Research and Conservation Society. The organization's mandate is to minimize the disturbances to all marine mammals, with a focus on whales.

Straitwatch started operating from the Island in June 2017 and has been making waves since. For the entire summer the Straitwatch vessel patrols the Discovery Islands, monitoring disturbances to whales and at the same time conducting boater-based education on how to follow regulations regarding the operation of any vessel around marine mammals.

Straitwatch are also active marine mammal response participants. In July 2020, the Quadra team assisted the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in two separate whale entanglements. For all the readers that remember the two incidents, one humpback whale 'Checkmate' has been deemed free of gear! Due to hazardous conditions the other disentanglement was not completed. The team is cautiously optimistic for a good outcome.

The Amazing Adventures of Anna the Rat

When was the last time you met a rat who wears a pink ribbon, has a bath every week in an old shoe and loves maple syrup? Never you say? Well that sad state of affairs is about to change. Meet Anna. Quadra author Mike Redican has painstakingly documented the



extraordinary life of that extraordinary rat. Read about Anna's adventures as she does her laundry, climbs mountains, learns to swim, jumps out of planes and survives being swallowed by a giant squid. And that's just for starters.

With illustrations by teenage artist Teegan Walshe, this engaging chapter book is suitable for children ages four to ten (as well as rat lovers of all ages.) To order your copy of The Amazing Adventures of Anna the Rat, call 250-285-2788 or email mike.redican@gmail.com. Quadra residents take note: Mike provides free, covid-safe bike delivery right to your front door.

For more information about the author and his other children's books, check out his website at mikeredican.wordpress.com



Find out
when the DI is
posted online

With several staff and volunteers calling Quadra Island home, they know firsthand just how much Quadra Islanders care for the surrounding environment, and hope to be active in the community through future presentations and dock talks.

Straitwatch has recently become benefactors of the Tru Value Foods Spirit Points program, so please consider them on your future shops.

Feel free to follow them on Facebook @ Cetus Research and Conservation Society, Instagram @cetussociety. Their website is www.cetussociety.org

– Tristan Ray-Wilks

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT APRIL 25, 2021

Finally we are getting a couple of rainy days. I can almost hear the greenery giving a sigh of relief! The sunshine was wonderful and I will welcome its return. But this is a perfect day for sitting at my laptop trying to recall the events of the past weeks and pass them on to you.

No one has any idea how much activity takes place in any single day as the Director. With Zoom meetings being the flavour of the day, the workload just keeps going up since meetings can take place pretty much anytime on any day, along with the emails, phone calls and lobbying other Governments on issues of concern. I'm certainly not complaining. I love it! It is such a good feeling that I am actually being useful to my community and making some progress on a number of issues.

I am extremely pleased to see more Letters to the Editor going into the Discovery Islander on the big issues that face us. It is great for islanders to hear your thoughts and it is great for me to know how people feel about issues and what they are doing about it. I will get into some of these issues a little further on.

I am also very pleased and grateful that four of our islanders took the time out of their day to participate in an online Board meeting last week to present on a very important issue. Community participation is one of the reasons I wanted to be in this position as Director. We, the public, are the government! So let's start!

SCHELLINCK PROPOSAL

The delegation from Quadra that I mentioned above was all about the need for an in-person public hearing for this proposal due to the size of it and the perceived implications for the island. Virtual public hearings have been used for much smaller proposals and even they proved to limit participation. The Local Government Act encourages maximizing participation by anyone who feels their interests are effected. Our previous virtual meetings basically had next to no one attend except the applicant. Ridiculously poor internet coverage, difficulty in using the software and intimidation by the process itself keep people from participating. There is also the issue of a room full of people being able to hear what others have to say.

The Electoral Areas Committee voted to postpone all public hearings in Areas C and D until such time as it is safe to gather indoors after the COVID restrictions are removed. If people follow Provincial Health Officer Orders, that may be sooner than later.

CONNECTIVITY AND TELUS THE 'GRINCH'

We are so close to actually having the Connected Coast Initiative in place with cable being laid in June and the Quadra area ready for the hooking up process by October. We have faced significant frustrations due to Telus. They would not even consider helping us with better connectivity over the past 24 years and now that we are eligible for funding

that "might" compete with them they are all over us and Government. They have given information to the government that has caused us to do speed tests and screen shots to prove what speeds were in place on Quadra to see if we met the prescribed amounts, which we don't. But their initiative managed to cause us to lose about half of the Last Mile funding we were slated for. But we found a way around that and thwarted them in that attempt.

Now they are trying to do it again and put up cell towers that are supposed to deliver cell coverage but are telling people that they can also get internet from cell (which one can if you are extremely rich). The overage costs per month would break any household. This will further endanger our Connected Coast plans by taking customers away from our system. They are skirting the public process that is normally done in a community and are going to individuals to get permission for a tower (270' in this case.). They have gone to the We Wai Kai and proposed a tower for their Drew Harbour Reserve supposedly to provide service to the campground and some of the surrounding area. The Band has agreed to do that and I sure don't blame them. This is their right. But they were not given the facts of the bigger picture and Telus is pressing ahead with notification in local papers. In earlier conversations with me, 5G was also mentioned as a possibility for those of you who are concerned with that issue. I know we will be having further conversations with Telus and Chief Ronnie Chickite has assured me the topic will be on their Band Council agenda for Monday the 26th. The Connected Coast plans include a landing site at Cape Mudge Village. I think we can collaborate on many projects in the near future.

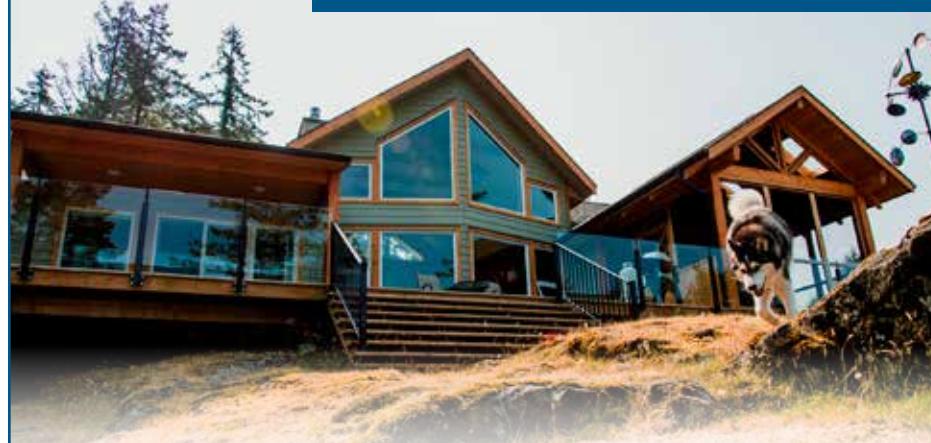
The following link will give you more details about the funding for Connected Coast: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021CITZ0022-000562>

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May 3rd. I hope that all of you have visited the websites and signed up for a spot. You must register ahead. This clinic is for first time doses only. It should be a great help to our community so that people will not need to travel to Campbell River or Comox. Please take advantage of this opportunity. We cannot tolerate any further spread of this pandemic. It is taking its toll on all of us.

FOLLOW UP COVID INFO

This was sent to us by the SRD to keep you informed about the new travel restrictions and the details that were announced this morning that are now in effect to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Please note the list for travel restrictions.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/travel/current>

BEACH CLEANUP

Unfortunately we were unable to have the annual beach clean up this year due to COVID. But that did not stop one business, Spirit of the West, in helping to coordinate the marine clean up and even provide space on their property to have 40 yard bins stored in order to collect the materials. My sincere appreciation to the owners and to the Comox Valley RD staff (CVRD), who have been working with them to make this happen. We have managed to provide free dumping at the landfill to keep the costs down.

This also ties into the work being done by the ICAN group on recycling options for the island. I have been working with them along with the CVRD staff and it has been a great collaborative experience.

COMMENTS

I would just like to throw in a comment here. I am extremely proud of this community for dealing with so many issues all at once.

We have COVID and all its related issues, vaccination clinics, beach clean ups, Connected Coast, Telus, Forestry issues and reviews, Visual Quality reviews for our inner waters, BC Ferry changes, pile driving ad nauseam, a Hydro truck, IPP's in the inlets, wild fishery issues, farmed fish issues, conflicts at the SRD staff level, and it goes on and on. I find each and every one of these issues pressing and I know that many of you participate in at least one or more of them and I truly appreciate it. We seem to be at a weird time in history with more issues than we know what to do with, yet all need attention. I hope that you will continue to help me out on some of them or all of them. I love my community and the area that I represent and will continue to do my best to look after all of it. Thanks to all of you.

I think I am going to stop there for today. I have more, but it would make this so long that no one would read it. I have provided two links to shorten up the length and give you the option to read them or not...

So, until next time, enjoy the changeable Spring weather and know that we will all come out of this crazy period on the other end.

While I am still recovering from my broken back injury, please continue to use email, jimabram@xplornet.ca, or my home phone of 250-285-3333 (for the time being). I post the occasional item on my Facebook page only for your information, but I will not be debating issues on that forum. Please DO NOT post items of an SRD nature on that Facebook forum. I will not respond. It can take as many hours as there are in a day to keep up on FB.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Abram
Director, Discovery Islands – Mainland Inlets,
Area C, Strathcona Regional District

Calling all Quadra young musicians age 18 and younger!

Would you like to be in a virtual concert this year? The Quadra Island Young Musicians Fund is inviting all young musicians on Quadra Island to participate in our 4th Annual Young Musicians Concert and Fundraiser. This is a wonderful chance to share your music with the community AND help us raise funds for our Anyone Can Play gift certificate program.

To be in the concert, all you have to do is make a video of yourself playing your best song (s). You may have friends or family members play with you in the video. It's okay to use your smartphone or video camera.

Here are a few tips on making a good video:

- Up close videos, not from across the room
- Good lighting on face, hands and instrument
- Volume not too high or too low
- Say your name and what song you are playing first
- Play best song (s) as best you can from beginning to end
- Have you and your instrument in the video
- 1 or 2 songs / 3 to 4 minute max per song

Once you have made a video of your performance, you can submit your video to us using wetransfer: <https://wetransfer.com/>. Upload your song and then direct wetransfer to send it to us at quadrayoungmusicians@gmail.com. DEADLINE Saturday May 15.

We will put together a concert and post it on the Quadra Island Young Musicians Fund Facebook page on Saturday May 29th. We will be asking for funding during the concert.

Save the date and plan to watch with your family and friends online.

Once it's posted, we encourage you to share the concert with other groups / web pages to help us raise funds for more music!

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"Gabbing About Gardening" Keeps On Growing with New Radio Show

Monday, May 3 marks the 18th consecutive week of Gabbing About Gardening's zoom gatherings for gardeners. Designed to bring together garden teachers and gardeners in a relaxed approach to learning and sharing, Gabbing About Gardening has extended its online reach well beyond the Discovery Islands.

"We have people from all around BC and Alberta, Eastern Canada, Europe and even Australia joining our zoom gatherings now," says Lucretia (Lu) Schanfarber, the originator and host of Gabbing About Gardening.

On April 13, Lu launched her weekly one-hour "Gabbing About Gardening Radio Show" broadcast live on CKTZ (89.5 FM) Cortes Community Radio.

The fast-paced radio show airs every Tuesday from 11:30am to 12:30pm and features experienced and expert gardeners, writers, teachers, farmers and chefs who 'gab' with Lu about a wide range of topics including permaculture, composting, cooking, seed-saving, soil health, community gardens, urban gardening, food security, medicinal plants, edible landscaping and much more.

Guests on Lu's show come from near and far, locally and globally. Lu plans for the show to evolve towards a call-in format where listeners join the conversation and gab on air with Lu and her guests.

ABOUT LU

Lu is a long-time organic gardener who grows and manages two "no-dig" demonstration gardens – one on Cortes Island and one on Quadra Island. She also writes a regular gardening column for Maple Magazine, a popular Canadian lifestyle magazine.

"I am more of an experimenter than an expert when it comes to gardening," admits Lu. "I am always trying new ways of doing things in the garden. I follow the principles of permaculture and practice a 'no-dig' style of gardening. I am a compost junkie with all kinds of compost piles and bins in various stages of decomposition. I'm always mucking about."

Lu served as president of Quadra Island Garden Club, helping to write and launch the club's first website. She is a founding member of the Cortes Island Garden Club. She also served on the executive team of the BC Council of Garden Clubs. Lu worked for 30 years in the Natural Health Products industry. She also was a regular contributor to Canadian

health magazines, a contributing editor to The Encyclopedia of Natural Healing (Alive Publishing) and was host of "Healthy Stuff Radio Show" in Vancouver.

Lu is currently writing a series of "how-to" gardening books called Our Garden Planet in cooperation with a team of gardeners and permaculturists from around the world.

"I'm doing what I love to do most – gardening and gabbing about gardening. It's a dream come true for me. We know of only one planet where we can grow a garden; that's Mother Earth. She is literally 'Our Garden Planet'. Let's learn how to tend her with respect and appreciation for all she provides," suggests Lu.

Gabbing About Gardening Zoom Gatherings for Gardeners are free and by donation. Campbell River Garden Club, Quadra Island Garden Club, Cortes Island Garden Club and Speedibin™ Composters help to sponsor Gabbing About Gardening zoom and radio events.

Here's the May Schedule for Gabbing About Gardening Zoom Gatherings. All zooms are on Mondays from 3:30 to 5pm.

MONDAY, MAY 3: Jane Squier is "Gabbing About Greenhouse Gardening". Jane and her extraordinary greenhouse gardens were recently featured in national news. Jane lives and gardens on Salt Spring Island where she grows over 35 varieties of cold-hardy citrus, 4 varieties of avocado and other subtropical fruit year-round in her 6,000 square foot greenhouse. Jane will share her amazing story and some greenhouse tips.

MONDAY, MAY 10: Marc Doll is "Gabbing About Soil Health & Fertility". Marc is a passionate soil health advocate who helps

people improve the quality and fertility of their soil. He'll share some of the lessons he is learning as he farms a 40-acre homestead on Quadra Island.

MONDAY, MAY 17: Arran Stephens is "Gabbing About the Soul of Gardening" with his live zoom video tour of his family garden. Arran is the co-founder of Nature's Path Organic Foods. He is also an avid and skilled organic gardener and compost guru who feeds his extended family year-round from his remarkably fertile organic garden in Vancouver.

MONDAY, MAY 24: Michael Ableman is "Gabbing About Growing Good Grub". This world-renowned, award-winning, best-selling author and photographer of numerous books about growing food and "street-farming" will present a riveting slide show featuring his multi-faceted life's work.

MONDAY, MAY 31: Dr. Lee Gass is "Gabbing About Art in the Garden." After 35 years as an award-winning UBC professor and humming bird researcher, Lee became a full-time stone and wood sculptor on North Quadra Island. Lee will deliver a visual feast of the symbiotic glory of art and gardens.

Go to the Gabbing About Gardening Facebook page for all the zoom links. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuadraIslandandCortesIslandGardens> or call Lu at 250-285-2213 and to make a donation, send via etransfer to: lucretia.schanfarber@gmail.com

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Quadra Island - Birding Big Day (Part of the Global Big Day) - May 8, 2021

A full day of spotting birds on Quadra Island!

Even in these times of social distancing we can still get pleasure from looking at birds! Maybe this is the very best time to be doing this!

The idea is to see and record as many species as possible within the 24 hour period. This is a part of a Global Big Day, when people will look for birds all around the globe. In 2019, more than 35,000 people around the world, and in 2020 more than 50,000 were out looking for birds! Last year we collectively spotted 108 species on Quadra (up from 96 the previous year)!

TO PARTICIPATE

- Get out and look for birds – in your yard or around the island (please follow all health recommendations for COVID-19 safety!)
- Keep a careful list of the species you seen (you don't need to count the number of individuals of each species for our Quadra event – but you can report that on ebird)
- Report your results (see below)
- There is more information about the Global event and ebird at: www.birdscanada.org/events/global-big-day/

CATEGORIES

There are prizes too! You can enter the event individually or as a family group, under the following categories:

- Backyard Birds: Birds spotted from a single location - that is, your movement is restricted to a moderate sized yard (1/2 acre-ish... you cannot wander all around the back 40) - keep it to those birds you can see from proximity to your home
- Unmotorized: Limited to foot, bike, horse....
- Open: Anywhere on Quadra, any form of transportation
- Youth: Birders 16 and under
- Judge's choice: Be surprised....

HOW IT WORKS: TO PARTICIPATE

- No need to pre-register – just get out and look for birds!
- Keep a list of the species you see (and correctly identify!)
- Binoculars and spotting scopes are okay; guidebooks are helpful
- Birds positively identified by sound may be counted
- No audio lures, please
- For unusual or rare species, please add a few notes of documentation: description of the bird, the location/habitat where it was

seen, who else saw it, photos, etc. If it seems really unlikely, we may be checking with you (and if it is a true rarity here, it is nice to know about!)

- This event relies on the honour system – so please be honourable....
- If you want a Quadra checklist of birds, drop an email request to kamanry@gmail.com

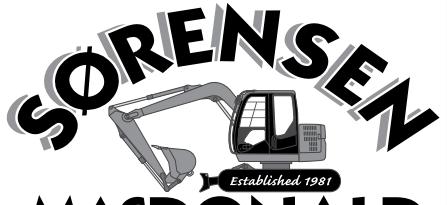
REPORTING RESULTS

For the Quadra event – at the end of May 8, send your final list of species and/or photographs to kamanry@gmail.com. Don't forget to mention which category you are entering. Deadline for entering is midnight, May 9.

For the Global event (optional, but fun!) post your results to an eBird account (easy and free to create). The eBird link is: www.ebird.org/news/global-big-day-8-may-2021

It would be great to have the results posted on the Quadra Birds FB group too....

Questions? Call Mark or Kathryn at 285-2103. HAVE FUN!



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Rachel Blaney
Member of Parliament
North Island-Powell River

Planning Retirement With Home Equity

"I am not available right now, but thank you for caring enough to call. I am making some changes in my life. Please leave a message after the beep. If I do not return your call, you are one of the changes."

I decided to start this article off with a bit of a retirement humour. To me, being in my mid 40s, retirement still seems like a distant future. Retirement is, however, not a joke at all and I am aware of that. I have watched my dad retire couple of years ago which turned out to be a very stressful time and a big struggle for him. Planning for retirement is a big business for the banks and financial planners but I think they can provide some valuable information to help you in that transition.

Couple of my recent clients have had questions for me I couldn't answer as it was outside of the scope of my expertise, so I made a call to a friend that deals with this type of topic on regular basis. I would like to share one of his ideas and suggestions in this article.

When retiring with a home equity in your home, it is important to see what options you have available. In case of an emergency or just a fun-fund to enjoy the fruit of your labour you may need some extra money quick and there is a solution for that.

You could borrow the money now and repay only the interest on it for now. As your home equity increases with the rising prices

of homes, you can access that money at much lower interest than other credit products such as credit cards or car loans. It is important to time it ahead of your retirement, securing a line of credit while you have a high income and your equity is in tact.

At today's record low interest rates, you can borrow \$100,000 and invest that money at a higher return. Your interest only payments will be about \$200/ month. For example, you could take that money and lend it out at 6 percent or higher to someone that needs a loan. You become the lender. Of course there are risks that need to be considered but credit is cheap and it can make you more money.

When you try to get your line of credit once your income drops (due to retirement), the banks may give you significantly less credit as it is calculated based on your income.

There are other different products available such as a "reverse mortgage" for example; however, they are all catered to specific individual needs and may cost a premium.

If you need help with figuring out your plan based on your needs, make sure to seek professional help from people doing it on regular basis. If you are getting close to that stage in life and you need some advice, please contact me and I can provide you with the right contacts to help you on your journey.

Quick market update for Campbell River: There are currently 71 active listings of detached homes with freehold title. The lowest priced detached home is listed

for \$350,000. The median price of all current active listings for under \$1 million is \$704,900. Average days on the market: 25.

If you're thinking of selling, give me a call.

- Roman Krzaczek

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Community Requests Public Avoid Non-Essential Travel to Quadra Island

April 24, 2021: Quadra Island is a tight knit community that has built a reputation for its hospitality and scenic beauty and rich First Nations Culture. Every year visitors from all over British Columbia and from around the world are drawn to the island for its warm welcome, outstanding recreational opportunities and rich First Nations culture. But in light of the growing crisis surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic community leaders are asking that visitors defer their travel plans to Quadra Island until further notice.

Electoral Area C Regional District Representative Jim Abram and We Wai Kai First Nation Chief Ronnie Chickite respectfully request that the public refrain from making non-essential visits to Quadra Island until the virus outbreak abates. The situation has worsened with numerous variants adding to the problem.

"Quadra Island is a small community with limited resources and its share of vulnerable residents" says the Director for the Discovery Islands- Mainland inlets, Jim Abram. "Like other small destinations we are at special risk of exposure from people who may unknowingly travel with the infection. We all know now that isolation and limiting travel are key strategies in fighting this pandemic while we continue to wait for the Provincial vaccination program to reach completion. Our community is asking anyone thinking of visiting Quadra, for discretionary reasons, to reconsider and make plans to come at a safer

time when we look forward to welcoming our visitors back." (The list of "Essential Travel" exceptions are listed on the BC Government site: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/travel/current#restrictions>)

Some of the largest provincial tourism organizations and many other small communities have issued similar requests and this should be a clear signal that it is time to put the brakes on tourism during this public health emergency. We have gone from bad to worse over the past year and it is time to do more to stop this deadly pandemic.

Our community encourages the public to stay home, stay safe and follow the clear guidelines issued by Health Canada and the British Columbia Public Health Officer in the past week.

"We offer our gratitude to our extended family of seasonal visitors in understanding our concerns and acknowledging that we want to be here safe and sound when it's the right time to return and enjoy Quadra Island with us," concluded Abram.

Ferry Schedule

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

† Daily except Sundays & Dec 25 & Jan 1.

†† Commuter sailings, expect overloads

* Fridays and Saturdays Only

** Tuesdays - Dangerous Cargo

No passengers or cars.

QUADRA ISLAND WHOLE COMMUNITY VACCINE CLINICS



gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated

OR



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ADULTS AGE 18+

Register online or by phone to book an appointment.
Clinics start on May 3.



islandhealth.ca/whole-community-vaccine

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Photographer Will Lavigne Welcomes a Rare Island Visitor

It's not every day that you get to be the official welcoming committee for a newcomer to the island – especially one that has travelled so far from its home range as this Northern Mockingbird that Will Lavigne was lucky enough to capture on camera.

"I saw the Nomo at 530 in the morning while I was taking pictures of the mountains behind Campbell River," he explained. "There was a blur of a bird flying off the ground with a flash of white on wings and tail. I was very fortunate to have it appear on a branch just moments later, and I was able to take a number of shots including this one. The mockingbird travelled up from the shore to West Road over a period of two hours."

The medium-sized Northern Mockingbird breeds from northern California, eastern Nebraska, southern Ontario, and Maritime Canada southward to southern Mexico and the West Indies. It spends winters in the southern part of its range, and is found in residential areas, city parks, farmlands, open country with thickets, and desert brush.

According to iBird, the Nomo is a relentless defender of its territory, capable of fighting off all manner of intruders from house pets to people. The flashing of its white wing patches – which alerted Will to this bird's presence – is largely unexplained but may be a tactic used to startle prey or to intimidate predators.

You can see more of Will's pictures at will-lavigne.pixels.com.



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What Would It Take to Get More People Growing and Eating Local Food on Quadra?

This is the BIG question Quadra Island Garden Club and Quadra ICAN (Island Climate Action Network) leaders have been pondering together this spring.

At this point in our work we would like to ask our members, and the wider Quadra community, to tell us what they need in order to start growing their own food, or to grow more of it. And for those people who are not keen to garden at this time, but would like to support and have better access to locally grown food, we need to hear from you too!

Have your say!

Please take a few minutes to complete our community survey which can be found at <https://www.quadraican.ca/survey> or <https://quadraislandgardenclub.com/survey>. If you could file your response by mid-May, we'd be grateful. If you are unable to complete the survey online please phone Leona at 604-789-2492 to complete it over the phone.

Everyone who completes our survey by May 15th will be entered to win a gift basket of local food!

Survey responses will be used to inform and develop practical projects that aim to get households eating, growing, and processing more local food right here on Quadra Island.

Ultimately we want to increase local food production in order to make Quadra more food secure and less dependent on food imported from elsewhere.

What is food security? We are working on defining what it means for Quadra, but meanwhile here is a definition that is inspiring

us right now: "Community food security is a condition in which all community residents obtain a safe, culturally appropriate, nutritionally sound diet through an economically and environmentally sustainable food system that promotes community self-reliance and social justice." (Based on a definition by Mike Hamm and Anne Bellows.)

Thank you for your time!

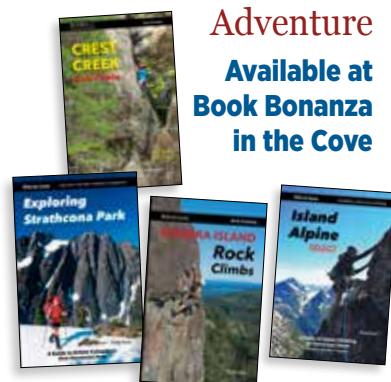
Brought to you by the Quadra Island Garden Club and ICAN (the Quadra Island Climate Action Network). To learn more or to contact us go to www.quadraislandgardenclub.com and www.quadraican.ca

The Third Wave

The third wave washed all doubt away.
Corona's contagion we cannot downplay.
A total lockdown may have stopped the spread,
We hesitated, now we count the dead.
Borders are closing in world communities
Attempting to create some form of immunity.
Too little too late we can't close the gate
The viral spread has sealed our fate.
Our consumer economies are broken and shattered.
What made us think money is all that mattered.
Our assets our income our affluence our wealth,
In the throws of a plague you can't buy health.
What lies in a future of social sterility,
Hostility, servility, debility, futility ?
How can we survive in this virtual reality,
When social contact threatens our mortality.
Our wealth is not stored in banks or investments
Our friends are the true value of our assessment.
In the dark lonely cell of our isolation
We dream of joy and jubilation,
When we can dance and sing once more
And the whole world will rejoice and throw open
its door.
Friendships will be renewed and families reunited,
When corona's mutant strains are forever blighted.

- Ann McLean

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	07:37	4.4	14.4
	14:59	0.6	2.0
	22:33	4.9	16.1
01 Saturday	04:04	3.6	11.8
	08:18	4.2	13.8
	15:49	0.7	2.3
	23:39	4.8	15.7
02 Sunday	05:28	3.6	11.8
	09:07	4.0	13.1
	16:42	0.9	3.0
03 Monday	00:45	4.8	15.7
	06:58	3.5	11.5
	10:12	3.7	12.1
	17:41	1.2	3.9
04 Tuesday	01:46	4.7	15.4
	08:16	3.2	10.5
	11:52	3.5	11.5
	18:46	1.5	4.9
05 Wed.	02:37	4.7	15.4
	09:16	2.9	9.5
	13:36	3.4	11.2
	19:56	1.8	5.9
06 Thursday	03:19	4.7	15.4
	10:03	2.5	8.2
	15:01	3.5	11.5
	21:01	2.1	6.9
07 Friday	03:54	4.6	15.1
	10:41	2.2	7.2
	16:14	3.7	12.1
	21:57	2.3	7.5
08 Saturday	04:24	4.6	15.1
	11:14	1.9	6.2
	17:18	3.9	12.8
	22:49	2.6	8.5
09 Sunday	04:50	4.5	14.8
	11:43	1.7	5.6
	18:13	4.2	13.8
	23:36	2.8	9.2
10 Monday	05:13	4.4	14.4
	12:11	1.4	4.6
	18:59	4.4	14.4
	00:20	3.1	10.2
11 Tuesday	05:34	4.3	14.1
	12:37	1.2	3.9
	19:42	4.6	15.1
	01:02	3.3	10.8
12 Wed.	05:54	4.3	14.1
	13:05	1.1	3.6
	20:22	4.7	15.4
	01:42	3.5	11.5
13 Thursday	06:14	4.2	13.8
	13:35	1.0	3.3
	21:02	4.7	15.4
	02:23	3.6	11.8
14 Friday	06:38	4.1	13.5
	14:09	0.9	3.0
	21:44	4.7	15.4
	03:09	3.7	12.1
Saturday	07:06	4.1	13.5

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NEXT DEADLINE

7pm Monday, May 10
for publication in DI 754
on May 14, 2021

Help Wanted

HEY FOLKS

The Clove is accepting applications for all kitchen positions as well as servers and bussers!
If you are interested in joining our crew, please get in touch with us via email at: thecloveinthecove@gmail.com

HERIOT BAY INN

We are looking for some strong team players for our Kitchen and Housekeeping department!
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