

Discovery Islander

SINCE 1993
AND BEYOND

ISSUE 888 • AUGUST 7, 2026 • COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS FROM QUADRA & THE DISCOVERY ISLANDS



NEWS & EVENTS

Quadra Island Farmers' Market and Bazaar



August is the best of the Quadra Market with the peak selection of artisans and farmers and great weather to hang out for some live music.

Saturdays 10-2 on the field behind Cafe Aroma, see you there!

Live music lineup:

- Aug 8 George Nickoloff
- Aug 15 Liz Hodgins

The Sourdough Whisperer a small batch artisan bakery and one of our artisan vendors from Campbell River. Find them in the north field with fresh breads, bagels, giant english muffins, cookies and more!

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BUSK & BBQ

Fundraiser



Live Music - Burgers - Smokies - Hot Dogs - Drinks

Friday August 14th
11am - 2pm

Q Cove
In front of the Tru Value

Day to Day

Friday, August 7

- Live Music with Salt Water Cowboys, HBI Pub 9 to midnight

Saturday, August 8

- Farmer's Market Q-Cove beside Credit Union, 10-2pm, Music: George Nickoloff

Sunday, August 9

- Live Music with Hal Douglas, HBI Pub, 3-5pm

Wednesday, August 12

- FunnyFest Comedy Tour, Quadra Legion, 7-8:30pm see page 4

Friday, August 14

- Busk & BBQ Young Musicians Fundraiser, Q-Cove Tru-Value, 11am - 2pm
- Live Music with Ryder Bachman Band, HBI Pub 9 to midnight

Saturday, August 15

- Farmer's Market Q-Cove beside Credit Union, 10-2pm, Music: Liz Hodgins
- Live Music with David Gogo, HBI Pub 9 to midnight

Sunday, August 16

- Live Music with Woger Weleased, HBI Pub 3-5pm

Friday, August 21

- Live Music with The Roses, Grateful Dead tribute, Quadra Legion 7:30-12, \$20
- Live Music with Go Dog Go, HBI Pub 9 to midnight

Sunday, August 23

- Live Music with AJ's Jazz, HBI Pub 3-5pm

Friday, August 28

- Live Music with Hal Douglas Blues Band, HBI Pub 9 to midnight

Come down, get involved and be part of YOUR community!



What's Happening at QCC August 7-21

THIS WEEKEND: July 7 - 9

FRIDAY: 9 Art IN Nature for Kids; 12 noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com; 1 Golf Camp

THIS WEEK: August 10 - 14

MONDAY: 10 Fish Prints for Teens; 10:30 Kayaking with QIK

TUESDAY: 3 Good Grief Support Group

WEDNESDAY: 10 Baby Clinic; 10 Climbing Wall - Youngsters; 10 Sensory Play Day; 7 Compassionate Community Movie Night

THURSDAY: 10 Fish Prints at the SPIT

FRIDAY: 10 Climbing Wall - Olders; 12 noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com; 5 Vision Lab for Teens

NEXT WEEK: August 17 - 21

MONDAY: 10 Fish Prints for Youth

WEDNESDAY: 10 Kites & Hot Air Balloons

THURSDAY: 11 BBQ Splash Party

FRIDAY: 12 noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com

Go to our website www.quadrarec.bc.ca to view the latest Rec Guide, OR navigate to REC DESK to register for kid's programs or see what's happening each day on the community calendar. <https://quadrarec.recdesk.com/Community/Calendar> Click on the calendar for more details! Phone the Community Centre at # 250-285-3243. Or E-mail: info@quadrarec.bc.ca

DI DEADLINE FOR ISSUE 889:
Monday, August 17 @ 7pm
In mailboxes on Friday, August 21

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Solar powered accommodation in our campground with the modern comforts of a vacation rental.



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HBI Pub: 11:30am-9pm
Breakfast: 8-11am Sat/Sun

Hérons: 11:30am-9pm
Elevated Menu: 5-9pm

Reservations/Takeout
250.285.3322

Heriot Bay Inn
Quadra Island · BC

The DI is published every two weeks. Our current edition and upcoming deadlines are available online: www.discoveryislander.ca

CONTACT US

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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.

- **250-300 words** is a good length for community announcements.
- Send articles in the body of an email.
- **Canadian spelling** please: *centre, colour, favourite etc...*
- **Please use the title of your item** in the email subject line.
- 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, August 17
for publication on
Friday, August 21, 2026

DI Submissions

The Discovery Islander welcomes written submissions of interest to the Discovery Islands community: news, events, opinion and musings are fair game.

In the interests of efficiency please email your text and or photos to:
news@discoveryislands.ca

NEWS & EVENTS

Quadra Island Cat Rescue

QUADRA CAT RESCUE offers a lower-cost spay-neuter program for people needing assistance to get cats or kittens fixed.

Please complete the form at: quadracatrescue.com/spay-neuter/

Discovery Islands Affordable Housing Society

DIAHS would like to encourage all to check out our new website at discoveryislandshousing.org. Its purpose is twofold. Primarily we want to provide people with the opportunity to either showcase their rental for those seeking accommodation, and provide a site for those looking to obtain housing. Our website contains information for both renters and landlords to help all be aware of their rights and obligations. Secondly the site contains articles and/or interesting housing ideas in an attempt to stimulate conversation regarding building affordable housing units on Quadra. DIAHS meets monthly. We are associates with a number of other societies on the island. If there is something you would like to see or develop please contact discoveryislandshousing.org

Roots & Neighbours: Quadra Seniors Housing News

Residents at Quadra Island Seniors Housing enjoyed two memorable evenings of music and potluck dinners this summer, bringing neighbours together to celebrate community, friendship, and the joy of live music.

The evenings featured wonderful performances by local musicians Howie Brown, Jules Frank, Dave Blitzinger, Duffy Frank, and Blaine Smith. Their generous gift of music created a warm and welcoming atmosphere, with residents singing along, sharing stories, and enjoying one another's company.

The potluck dinners were equally special, with residents contributing a delicious variety of homemade dishes that reflected the caring and generous spirit of the community. Sharing a meal together provided an opportunity to connect, welcome neighbours, and strengthen friendships. A special thank you to The Clove for their generous donation of pizza, which was enjoyed by everyone and added to the festive spirit of the evening.

These gatherings are about much more than entertainment. They help reduce social isolation, foster a sense of belonging, and contribute to the emotional well-being of our seniors. Music has a unique way of bringing people together, and these evenings were a wonderful reminder of the importance of community and connection.

A heartfelt thank you to the musicians for sharing their time and musical talents, to The Clove for their generous donation, and to everyone who helped organize the potlucks and contributed delicious food. Their generosity made these evenings a tremendous success, and we look forward to many more opportunities to gather, celebrate, and enjoy each other's company.

Dee McPhee
Executive Director

Upcoming Events At The Legion!

- **Wed. Aug. 12th 7-8:30pm, Funnyfest Comedy Tour!** Fundraiser for H.U.G.S.- Helping Ukraine Grassroots Society. 2 Headline Comedians, Joe King, an accomplished impressionist & Stu Hughes, creator and founder of Western Canada's largest & longest running comedy festival. Advance tickets \$15 regular \$20. Seniors & Veterans/Essential workers \$15. Advance tickets FunnyFest-Comedy-Tour-Quadra-Island-BC.eventbrite.ca
- **Friday Aug. 21st 7:30-12 The Roses, Grateful Dead tribute band** \$20 cover
- **Monday Nights/ Pool Tournaments** 8pm
- **Wednesday Nights/ Texas Hold'em Poker** 7:30pm
- **Friday Nights, 5-7pm the Quadra Cat Rescue hosts the Queen of Cats Lottery.** \$2per ticket for chance to win 40% of the pot & 30% going towards the progressive pot. The weekly winner then has a chance to select a card and when the Queen of Spades is chosen, they also win the progressive pot! Draw is at 7pm & must be present. Come play Music Trivia, or Name That Tune, raising funds for a wonderful cause while having a great time!
- **Saturday Nights/ Meat Draw's** 5-6:30pm
- **Sun. Aug. 16 & 30th 8pm, Open mic** to Singers, Slam poets, Rappers & Beatbox. Technautica's creative style brings a canvas that is a joy to collaborate with. August 9th & 23rd PJ is hosting Karaoke

Find your way
around online...

Quadralsland.ca

Busk and BBQ at the Q Cove Tru Value to Support Young Musicians Fund!

The Quadra Island Young Musicians Fund is hosting a second Busk and BBQ Fundraiser on Friday, August 14th, 11am - 2pm in front of the Q Cove Tru Value. There will be live music by young musicians on the grassy area between the Tru Value and the bookstore. Feel free to join in and jam! Burgers, smokies, hotdogs, drinks, and homemade treats for sale. All proceeds go to supporting musical education and experiences for kids on Quadra!

Watch Out for Kittens in the 'Hood

KITTEN SEASON is here—and itty bitty kitties are beginning to venture across island roads.

Please drive with extra caution, and contact Quadra Cat Rescue if you see stray cats or kittens in your island neighbourhood.

The sooner we get them fixed, the fewer we'll need to watch out for in future.

Email quadracatrescue@yahoo.com or telephone 250-285-CATS (2287)

Find out more about us at quadracatrescue.com

Thanks to Lara at Inspirations for creating these terrific signs!

Support Quadra Cat Rescue

Donated beverage containers help fix cats and kittens and prepare them for adoption.

Please drop off empties at the new recycling centre through to September or at 519 Cape Mudge Road. Also, True Value gift cards for both island stores are available at Inspirations. Donate points #280.

All funds raised help pay for fostering supplies and vet care.

Stray in your neighbourhood? Need help arranging a spay or neuter? Please contact us! Email quadracatrescue@yahoo.com or telephone 250-285-CATS 2287.

Find out more about us at quadracatrescue.ca

926 FERN HILL LANE *NEW LISTING!*
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- This 4.35 acre lot is situated in the Fir Crest Acres subdivision
- fronts Fairway 2 of the Quadra Island Golf Course
- driveway winds through the property & good producing drilled well is in place
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- great central location, a 5 minute drive from services in Quathias Cove



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Together Quadra Cat Rescue &
The Royal Canadian Legion
Branch #154 present:
The Queen of Cats Lottery



Fridays starting July 3, 2026



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Open AA Meetings

MONDAY AND FRIDAY nights, 7:30 to 8:30pm at Cape Mudge United Church at 29 Tekya, Cape Mudge. Everyone welcome!

Calling QI Creatives

Enter Quadra Cat Rescue's 2026 Cash Can Wrap Design Contest—a fundraiser to support cat and kitten rescue on our island.

Artists of all ages can enter to design new wraps for donation cans throughout the community. Two entries from each category will be selected for the 2026 season.

Contest Details

- Pick up an official entry form at: Inspirations, Quadra Branch of Vancouver Island Regional Library, We Wai Kai First Nation, Java Bay Cafe
- Create your design within the marked area

Free Books Mailed Monthly

DID YOU KNOW that children living on Quadra Island, Read Island, and surrounding areas served by postal codes V0P 1H0, V0P 1N0, and V0P 1W0 can receive a free, age-appropriate book every month through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library?

The program is available to all children from birth to age 5 and is designed to foster a love of reading and support early literacy. Books are mailed directly to each child's home at no cost to families.

By the time they start school, children enrolled from birth can have a library of up to 60 books of their own.

To learn more or to register your child, contact Quadra Literacy at quadraliteracynetwork@gmail.com or visit the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Canada website at <https://imaginationlibrary.com/ca/find-my-program/>. Please help us spread the word so that every eligible child on Quadra Island has the opportunity to receive free books and enjoy the lifelong benefits of reading.

Hal Douglas at the HBI

Hal Douglas and Dave Blinzinger will be performing at the HBI Sunday August 9 from 3-5 PM.

Come on down for great Music, Food and Drinks. No cover.

QI Pantry M.A.G. Memorial Bursary

In memory of our son Michael

QUADRA ISLAND Pantry is again offering a bursary of \$500, available to assist a Quadra Island student pursuing post-secondary education. Eligible applicants are Quadra Island students who have not received this bursary in the past.

Michael was a tradesman and always proud of his blue collar status, so this bursary is open to a student entering trade schools and art academies, etc, as well as academic institutes. The bursary is payable directly to the student to assist with travel, book fees, or any other expenses the student may incur.

Applications can be submitted by email to qipantry@gmail.com until August 31, 2026.

Please include the following:

- Student's name and contact information.
- Proof of enrolment in any post-secondary educational or training institution.
- Write a short letter telling us a little about yourself, how long you've lived on Quadra Island, and what the Quadra community has meant to you.
- Include your educational goals and how this bursary will help you pursue those goals.

Thank you to Island Pantry's customers for making this possible by contributing to QIP's ice cream and till jiggle buckets.



26th Annual FUNNYFest Comedy Tour

2 Headline Comedians

Stu Hughes - Completely Over - the - top. Every show is different, just like Stuey. Stu is Clever, eccentric and right - out - there awesome!



JOE KING - The "King of Comedy"

Joe is an accomplished impressionist with a keen eye for pop culture! Joe was the WINNER of 9th Annual FunnyFest Comedy Competition





SCAN ME

WEDNESDAY August 12 @ 7 PM

doors @ 6 PM

\$20
Advance
\$25
Door



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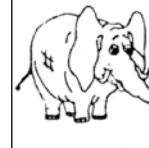
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At the CRAG

Join Miss Bumble, Fibre artist, Illustrator and Mycology enthusiast for a Sacred in All Forms exhibition closing tea party while you create your own needle felted mushroom in the gallery!

Saturday, August 8th, 10 am - 12 pm at the Campbell River Art Gallery, Main Gallery
Looking at references of mushroom illustrations made by women in mycology and exploring the study of the mycelium network you will make your own fibre sculpture using wool. All supplies included, beginner friendly. 14+ age recommendation as it is a more involved project.

Mushroom enthusiasts below age 14 are invited to a Mystical Mushroom Landscapes art making party facilitated by the CRAG team from 10AM-12PM in the CRAG studio.

Join us for the Opening Reception of the Campbell River Art Gallery Exhibition Super/Natural Creates on Thursday, August 20th from 3 PM - 5 PM. The show runs from August 20th to October 31st. Please RSVP on our events page. A Super/Natural Creates Artist Talk with James Kwaksistala, Thomas Whiteley and Nadine Bariteau will take place on Friday August 21st at 10 am. We hope to see you there!

Visit cartgallery.ca/events to see a complete list of upcoming public programs.

The Barra MacNeils an East Coast Christmas

Presented by Celtic Performing Arts

Nov 14, 2026, 7:30 pm

Canada's first family of Celtic music begins their 2026 cross-Canada tour of this internationally beloved festive musical event on Vancouver Island, which will include Toronto's Massey Hall before their final show in Cape Breton, their home turf.

Steeped in Cape Breton tradition with strong Celtic roots and musical artistry, this diversely talented family group of siblings sells out shows around the world, and is widely regarded as one of the greatest live acts in the Celtic world. Their captivating vocals, harmonies and extraordinary musicianship are famously featured in their Christmas TV specials which continue to be broadcast on CMT and PBS TV stations. Their numerous critically acclaimed recordings have included their own original songs as well as tried and true standards, both instrumental and vocal. They are 6-time East Coast Music Award winners, this year being honoured with the ECMA Lifetime Achievement Award. Among the many icons they have performed with, they have been the opening act for Celine Dion.

A traditional favourite, Barra MacNeils' East Coast Christmas is a treat for the whole

family. The five siblings are known for their brilliant instrumentals, ringing harmonies and delightful flair for storytelling. Their unique seasonal show is crafted each year to bring a special Celtic spin on traditional favourites and original east coast treasures with songs, stories and dance. Their stunning rendition of "O Holy Night" is just one of the many highlights that brings audiences to their feet. Fans can also look forward to gems like "Ave Maria", "Christmas in Killarney", and "Auld Lang Syne" among an array of originals and seasonal delights, and their own original works.

Appearing once more with the Barras will be BC's own master piper René Cusson, and the 2026 CeltFest Vancouver Island dance troupe.

Nothing says Christmas like this heartwarming family in concert! A skillfully performed collection of soulful seasonal favourites- and so much more - this show will be a hit with your family or work group. The Barra MacNeils live concert experience is family entertainment at its highest level, leaving memories that will last beyond the season for a lifetime.

Website: www.celticperformingarts.com

Tickets: \$65.00 Adult, \$60.00 Child 12 & under, \$60.00 Groups of 6+ (includes GST, + additional fees)

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A Taste of Palestine Celebrated!



Photo by Claire Heffernan.

"A Taste of Palestine" at the South End Winery in July with Izzeldin Bukhari of Sacred Cuisine was a wonderful celebration of food and connection and a huge success! Thanks to everyone's generous donations, we were able to raise \$2,100! This will go towards Izzeldin's travel expenses as well as his support of family and friends back in Palestine including 2 women in Gaza in need of medical evacuation to Egypt.

Thank-you to Jill and Ben for sharing their beautiful space and to Izzeldin for sharing love, food and stories. As well, gratitude is extended to Inspirations and

Coppercoast Gallery for ticket sales and to Vivian, Danielle, Claire and Jill for help with food prep. We also offer appreciation to Lynda and Calvin for graciously hosting Izzeldin and his travelling partner, MaryJane and for assisting Sanja and Pat with flower arrangements and table decorations.

Check out Izzeldin's website at Sacred Cuisine for future upcoming events. He will be in BC until mid August and then carry on to Ontario and Quebec. Further contributions are still welcome and appreciated by sending an e-transfer to cfoort@yahoo.com!

Quadra Island Health Society Update

Just over two months ago, Quadra residents turned their pocket inside out to help Quadra Island Health Society ensure continuity of care when Dr Steve Hughes retires. Our first goal was to find a doctor through a recruitment agency; if that failed, we were very clear that we were committed to trying to keep the clinic open other ways.

We did get to interview a couple of UK-based doctors but unfortunately neither worked out; one decided to go elsewhere in BC and the other was looking for aspects of life that Quadra could not cater to.

After working with the Victoria-based recruiter since May, we mutually agreed to end the relationship. He did not believe he would find a match for us and returned our deposit. (We had examined other recruitment firms but chose not to work with them as they stated in initial conversations that they would not be able to find a doctor for Quadra.)

We are still absolutely committed to making sure there is continuity of care on the island and, since we ended the contract with the recruiter, have been working hard on other paths.

These include:

- Using locums. These are doctors who work in various locations, often to fill in when a doctor is on vacation. We have applications in with the rural locum programme. We are also working with Island Health on a group locum plan similar to the service on Cortes where a team of locums rotate into the clinic.
- Establishing a Nurse Practitioner clinic. To have a stand-alone NP clinic we need at least two nurse practitioners. We have been advertising in BC and Alberta for NPs and have been reaching out to NP colleges. Cumberland has a NP clinic and we have been discussing with it best approaches;
- Finding a GP. This is still a key goal and we are working through word of mouth and advertising. We're trying to glean techniques from those communities who have been successful in finding doctors (and yes, we have been in touch with Tod Maffin who seems to have a golden touch).

People have commented about the fact that Harbourside Medical Clinic has been successful in attracting a foreign -trained doctor. This is through the government's International Medical Graduate Program and requires a doctor in place to oversee their work.

We know time is short before Dr Hughes departure but we are working hard to keep that continuity of care. The money donated will be used, with the approval of the Quadra Island Foundation and hopefully the understanding and support of Quadra residents to do just that.



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PAINTING AND CONTRACTING

Going Off Grid: A Dopamine Addict's Perspective

By David Tomblin

As a proponent of digital technology and digital literacy, I have relied on—and enjoyed—unfettered access to digital services. I have shared my concerns about data farms and their effect on the environment, as well as my concerns about how reliance on AI is negatively affecting our collective human intelligence (HI). My recent sojourn into the wild and woolly North to Whitehorse and beyond took us to places where digital service was almost non-existent.

Recently, I went to visit the Surge Narrows community to understand the challenges remote communities deal with and how they cope with limited or unreliable data services. It was very eye-opening, and I look forward to working with this community further.

The Obvious Solution

Around the turn of the 20th century and until the early 1920s, motor car production was spotty. Many companies, with many different approaches, produced a variety of wheeled contraptions for those who felt horse-and-buggy technology was nearing its end. Some early vehicles were brilliant in design, and some were even magnificent works of art, but one company overshadowed them all. The Ford Motor Company basically invented the mass-produced automobile, which meant production quality became consistent and parts and service were readily available. Henry Ford soon became a billionaire and giant of industry based on his automobile success. One trait of Henry Ford that was mostly overlooked by the motoring public was the fact that he became very cozy with an upcoming, megalomaniacal politician with extreme ambitions. This dictator became known to the world as one of the most evil men in modern history,

and Mr. Ford seemed to share much of his ideology.

How does this relate to the topic at hand, you may ask? Well, at many campsites we visited in the North, we noticed campers setting up plastic disks that looked much like cafeteria trays. They were, of course, antennas that allowed campers to access Starlink internet—those bright moving objects that pollute the night sky and beam all the information, AI dross, and conspiracy theories that we gobble up like a Hoover vacuum. This service is the exclusive domain of the world's richest individual. You won't need a road-map to see the similarities between Ford and this individual.

Doing Without

The internet these days is almost inescapable. Try booking a medical appointment, a ferry reservation, or in some cases even viewing a restaurant menu without relying on a device attached to a data connection. On our recent road trip along much of the Stewart-Cassiar Highway, there was no phone or data service available. At a restaurant in Watson Lake, they were selling internet data at \$5 per 15 minutes. I felt appalled at this exploitation, but when I opened my phone to get an idea of how far we had to go to our next stop, I was tempted to buy in. Luckily, my son had advised me to carry a paper map and use the odometer in my truck to navigate. I am of a generation that remembers how to do this, but I do wonder if this is one of the many skills lost to the digital generation.

The Addiction

I am not alone in admitting I am a dopamine addict. We all are. Our successes, our moments of joy, and all our happy thoughts cause dopamine to be released in our brains. It is completely natural and

highly addictive. When we engage on social media and someone likes our post, thoughts, or comments, we feel a release of dopamine. Our online interaction is an easy path to obtaining this drug we all seek. So what happens when we are deprived of this artificial rush? Much like a crack addict going crazy without a fix, deprived travelers can be seen gorging themselves on digital stimulation the moment they regain access to their drug of choice. Sitting in a restaurant for our first meal back in civilization, I found my eyes drawn to my screen, completely ignoring the sheer beauty of the mountains surrounding Tête Jaune Cache, BC.

In speaking with the people of Surge Narrows about what options they have to access digital media, I found many expressing their dislike for the politics behind the "obvious solution," yet conflicted by the necessity of accessing digital content. Although I may never fully kick the habit, I feel privileged to be living in Quathiaski Cove and to have access to an internet connection that is more aligned with my ethical values. Just as our society previously made us slaves to the automobile, the digital age

has enslaved us once again. Many businesses in the post-COVID-19 era found the online solution to be an easy alternative to relying on fragile human presence, and many have not looked back.

I hope that we, as a society, can remember days without digital devices with nostalgia, and try to retain some of the practical skills and habits we once took for granted.

As always, I welcome any feedback on my articles. I am happy to help anyone who wants to learn how to navigate the digital world. You can reach me at dave@quadraliteracy.com.

Quadra Literacy has gone into summer hiatus, but I remain available for any digital concerns and will do my best to answer any questions.

Inspirations 

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Quadra Cat Rescue



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True Value

#280

Q-Cove & Heriot Bay

THE DONATION OF YOUR SPIRIT POINTS SUPPORTS THE CARE OF OUR QUADRA CATS, INCLUDING FOOD, SHELTER, HEALTH CARE, ADOPTION AND MORE.

QUADRA CAT RESCUE IS A REGISTERED CHARITY

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Hello,

Warm summer greetings, with the scent of ripe salal berries and sweet summer in the air. This report shares updates for Area C, including news on wharf renovations and Bylaw 642, a potential Electoral Areas Grant-in-Aid Service.

Wharf renovations nearing completion & under budget

Wharves have been featured in several Director's Reports over the past few years. This time, I'm pleased to share some good news: work on the three Transport Canada-divested wharves is substantially complete and has used less than half of the allocated contingency funds.

The wharves project included a contingency allowance for drilled pile installation. However, these funds were not needed because all piles were successfully installed using a vibratory hammer. As a result, the \$120,000 of Community Works funds allocated to the Owen Bay wharf has been returned to the Area C Community Works fund for future priorities.

SRD staff report that the construction contract will be completed under budget, the overall project is expected to close under budget following final financial reconciliation, and no environmental incidents occurred during construction. Collaboration with the Homalco Guardians during wharf construction was welcome and helped strengthen relationships with the Homalco First Nation.

I'm grateful to the SRD staff for getting this Transport Canada-funded project across the finish line, and to the construction contractor, Pacific Industrial Marine, for the refinements made during the detailed design phase in response to specific operational concerns raised by community members.

The transfer of the Port Neville wharf to

the Tlowitsis First Nation is ongoing and will be completed before the November 2026 Transport Canada deadline. The Owen Bay and Surge Narrows wharves remain in the Parks service, continuing to serve as important transportation links for residents and visitors to these remote island communities. The Area C Parks Service has five wharves: Granite Bay, Hoskyn Landing, and Evans Bay along with the recent additions of Owen Bay and Surge Narrows.

Bylaw 642, Electoral Areas Grant-in-Aid Service

As mandated by the province, each of the SRD's four Electoral Areas has a Grant-in-Aid service that provides support to non-profit groups serving our communities. Currently, each Grant-in-Aid service is a 'single participant' service, meaning that when they come to the Board, all Directors vote on them. In recent years, it's become apparent that single-participant grant-in-aid services risk having broad Board policies imposed on them, potentially limiting recipients based on regional objectives rather than local community needs.

To address these concerns, the Electoral Areas are working together to create an Electoral Area Financial Assistance, or Grant-in-Aid, Service. Services with more than one participant are voted on by the participants in the service, which in this case would be the Directors representing the four Electoral Areas.

Seeking approval through AAP

As with the creation of most services, the shared Electoral Area Financial Assistance Service must be approved by the electors (you). The Electoral Area Financial Assistance Service won't increase property taxes. Instead, it will shift the requisition from the Area C service to the Electoral Areas service and allow decisions to be made by the Directors

that represent Electoral Areas. I'm aware of some folks' concerns about the AAP process, which is why support for a potential Wood-chipping & Climate Resilience Service for Areas B & C is being sought through a binding referendum/assent vote during the October local government election (more info on that once provincial approval to move forward has been received).

The AAP for the Electoral Area Financial Assistance Service opens August 10 and closes October 7. Electors who object to the Service can complete a dissent form and submit it to the SRD. If more than 10% of electors in the four electoral areas object, the Service cannot proceed without a binding referendum. I'm sharing this information for transparency, and I hope I've explained the benefits of the new approach. An SRD info webpage with FAQs and the AAP form will be available beginning August 10 at srd.ca/government/news. You're also welcome to reach out to me if you'd like to talk about it.

Chat with the Director

This is an opportunity to say 'hi' and discuss topics of interest. One morning each month you can find me at Aroma Cove Café ready to listen, learn, and discuss. I'll be there August 13, September 3 & October 1, 8:30am-10am... you're welcome to stop by and chat! Of course, you can connect by phone or email anytime.

Connect

You're welcome to contact me with questions or concerns: email RMawhinney@srd.ca, or call 250.203.2468. Visit RobynMawhinney.ca for links to helpful community resources and 'back issues' of Director Reports. Visit srd.ca/government/agendas-minutes to keep up to date on SRD governance matters.

Until next time,

Respectfully,

Robyn Mawhinney



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"What Does It Matter? I'll Be Dead."



People sometimes joke about end-of-life planning with comments such as, "What does it matter? I'll be dead!" They may be talking about why

they have never made a will, why they have not planned a funeral, or why they have left closets, paperwork, and possessions for others to sort through someday. Sometimes the sentiment is expressed with a laugh: "It won't be my mess anymore!"

Humour can make difficult subjects easier to approach, but those who work closely with death and grief know that the consequences of avoiding these conversations are often felt by the people left behind.

Those who accompany families through times of loss regularly witness the overwhelm that can arise when grief is compounded by confusion and urgency. Unorganized estates, unanswered questions, and a lack of clear instructions can leave loved ones scrambling to make decisions while they are still in shock. What could have been handled thoughtfully and calmly often becomes a source of stress, exhaustion, and regret.

Families may find themselves arguing over possessions or struggling to understand what their loved one would have wanted. Relationships can be strained, and old wounds reopened. In many cases, these painful conflicts could have been prevented with some simple planning and honest conversations.

Those who have experienced the challenge firsthand know how difficult it can be. Caring for an aging parent, managing a sudden decline, or sorting through a lifetime of belongings under pressure can bring out emotions that no one is prepared for. In the midst of exhaustion and grief, people may say or do things they later wish they could take back.

Yet it is unlikely that anyone truly intends to burden the people they love. When someone says, "It won't matter to me—I'll be dead," the words often mask something deeper. Beneath the humour may be fear, loneliness, uncertainty, or a reluctance to face mortality itself.

End-of-life planning is not really about death. It is about love. It is a final act of care for the people who will carry on without us.

Preparing a will, discussing wishes, organizing important documents, and simplifying possessions are not merely practical tasks. They are gifts that can ease the burden on family and friends during one of the most difficult times of their lives.

None of us can spare our loved ones from grief. But with some preparation, we can spare them unnecessary chaos and offer them the comfort of knowing they are carrying out our wishes with confidence and peace.

Way To Go supports our community in preparing for end-of-life through conversation and education. We help loved ones care for their own dying and deceased—offering guidance, empowerment, and assistance from diagnosis through death and after death—making home-based, holistic care more accessible. Visit our website, way2go.ca; view upcoming events, read previously written articles, and join our email list.

Summarized from an email by Christa Ovenell, submitted by Margaret Verschuur

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Biological Wonders - Part 4

- Hoverflies (*Eristalis tenax*) are not as busy a pollinator as bees, but they are busy. They are involved in the fertilization of about 52% of the world's crops and about 70% of animal-pollinated wildflowers. What is most interesting about them, however, is their flying. They travel back and forth across the English Channel by the billions. In 2019 Dr. Karl Wotton, of Exeter University in England, decided to do further studies. He visited an oil rig in the North Sea, half-way between Scotland and Norway, to intercept hoverflies to check what pollen they were carrying. Between 2021 and 2023, his team captured 121 insects. In 111 cases, hoverflies carried pollen from more than 100 plants identified as belonging in the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark. Because the hoverflies were on their way to either Scotland or Norway, this meant they were able to pollinate flowers hundreds of kilometres apart (The Economist, October 11, 2025).
- A single-celled, trumpet-shaped organism about 2 mm long with no brain, *Stentor coeruleus*, seems to be capable of an elementary form of "associative learning" by connecting two events. In an experiment known as "habituation", the little pond animal was tapped, which caused it to react by closing its feeding trumpet and withdrawing down into a holdfast sphere. When this tapping was done repeatedly at fixed intervals, the *S. coeruleus* began to recognize that no

damage was being done by the taps, so it stopped reacting. This suggests the animal was learning that it need not respond to the harmless stimulus. Next, the *S. coeruleus* was subjected to a weak tap that did not elicit a response, followed by a strong tap that did elicit a response. After a number of times the animal responded to the weak tap, suggesting it had learned that the weak tap was followed by a strong tap. It is the smallest animal ever to demonstrate "associative learning" ("Single-Celled Organism Shows Surprising Level of Intelligence", New Scientist, 21 March, 2026).

- The evidence is mounting that sperm whales "talk" to each other. Project Ceti, a study of sperm whales, has found that the series of vocalized clicks called "codas" that the whales emit when communicating with each other are structured very much like an "alphabet". The organization of the clicks have "close parallels in the phonetic and phonology of human language," the study concludes (The Guardian Weekly, 24 April, 2026).
- Kanzi, a bonobo who has been the subject of study for 44 years, completed a feat in 2024 that has again marvelled researchers. Besides having mastered about 300 symbols that Kanzi could manipulate into creative questions and answers, the bonobo could also understand spoken English. In 2024, he engaged in an imaginary tea party. When clear plastic cups were placed on a table and imaginary tea was poured into the cups. Kanzi took the nearest cup and pretended to drink, just as children do. Kanzi was born

in Atlanta, Georgia, on October 28, 1980, and died of natural causes on March 18, 2025, in Des Moines, Iowa. Amelia Bastos, a psychologist from the University of St. Andrews, Scotland, concluded that "animals, too, are capable of secondary representations or imagination." This follows other research that found a wild orangutan named Rakus had chewed and plastered an antibiotic plant on its facial wound to facilitate healing, and that chimpanzees have cultures—in one group, chewing a particular leaf meant "let's play", while in another the same practice meant "let's have sex" (The Guardian Weekly, 1 May 2026).

- Ants, particularly those that farm fungi for food, have a problem with the lethal accumulation of carbon dioxide in their nests. An ant species, *Acronymex echinatio* solves the problem by employing a symbiotic relationship with a bacteria, *Pseudonocardia*, to convert the CO2 into a carbonated biomineral that can be added to the ants' exoskeleton as armour.

Scientists do not yet know how this process works. And another ant species, *Sericomyrmex amabilis*, converts the excess CO2 into dolomite, a stone requiring the very careful alignment of the molecules of calcium, magnesium and carbonate that, as far as we know, only occurs in heated and pressurized geological processes. The ants do this by an unknown process (New Scientist, "Ants Capture Carbon Dioxide and Turn It Into Armour", 14 March, 2026).

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**NOTICE OF ADVANCE ELECTOR REGISTRATION
2026 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that, in accordance with section 71 of the Local Government Act, advance registration of electors will close at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2026 for voting in the 2026 general local elections for the following positions:

- Director, Electoral Area A (Kyuquot/Nootka-Sayward) – one position
- Director, Electoral Area B (Cortes Island) – one position
- Director, Electoral Area C (Discovery Islands-Mainland Inlets) – one position
- Director, Electoral Area D (Oyster Bay-Buttle Lake) – one position

RESIDENT ELECTORS

To register as a resident elector a person must meet the following qualifications:

- Canadian Citizen;
- 18 years of age or older on October 17, 2026;
- resident of the electoral area for which registration is being sought;
- resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months at the time of registration; and
- not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

Persons wishing to register in advance as resident electors for the 2026 General Local Elections may do so by contacting Elections BC toll-free at **1-800-661-8683** or by using the online voter registration system at www.elections.bc.ca/ovr.

Effective August 18, 2026, advance voter registration with Elections BC will no longer be available. From that date until the close of advance registration, persons wishing to register as resident electors must contact the Chief Election Officer or Deputy Chief Election Officer for the Strathcona Regional District.

After the close of advance registration, eligible persons who are not yet registered may apply to register at the time of voting.

NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS

To register as a non-resident property elector a person must meet the following qualifications:

- Canadian Citizen;
- 18 years of age or older on October 17, 2026;
- resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months at the time of registration;
- registered owner of real property within the relevant electoral area for at least 30 days immediately preceding registration;
- the only registered owners of the property, whether as joint tenants or tenants in common, are individuals and, none holds the property in trust for a corporation or another trust;
- not qualified to register as a resident elector of the electoral area;
- not otherwise disqualified by law from voting; and
- if there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

Persons wishing to register in advance as non-resident property electors must do so by contacting the Chief Election Officer or Deputy Chief Election Officer for the Strathcona Regional District.

After the close of advance registration, eligible non-resident property electors who are not yet registered may apply to register at the time of voting.

DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS

Persons wishing to register to vote as a resident elector or non-resident property elector must provide, at the time of registration, at least 2 documents as evidence of their identity and place of residence, at least one of which must contain the applicant's signature. Applicants will also be required to make a solemn declaration before an election official regarding their place of residence.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF LISTS OF ELECTORS

The list of registered electors for the 2026 General Local Elections will be available for public inspection during regular office hours from 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 1, 2026 until the close of voting on Saturday, October 17, 2026.

Persons wishing to inspect the list of registered electors must first sign a statement confirming that the information will be used only for purposes authorized under the Local Government Act in relation to the voting process.

REQUEST TO OMIT OR OBSCURE

An elector may request that their address or other personal information about them be omitted from or obscured on the list of electors. The elector must contact the Chief Election Officer or the Deputy Election Officer to make this request.

OBJECTIONS TO REGISTRATION OF ELECTOR

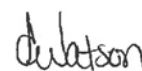
Objections to the registration of a person as an elector may be made by qualified electors until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2026. Objections may only be made on the basis that the elector has died or that the person is not qualified to be registered as an elector of the relevant electoral area.

SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTOR REGISTRATION

Persons who register to vote in a Regional District electoral area director election within the boundaries of School District 72 or School District 84 are automatically entitled to vote in elections for school trustee for the relevant area and do not need to register separately for those elections.

Further information concerning the elector registration process may be obtained by contacting Edith Watson, Chief Election Officer or Betty Wasyliv, Deputy Chief Election Officer for the Strathcona Regional District, or by visiting www.srd.ca.

Signed at Campbell River, BC this 27th day of July, 2026.



Edith Watson, Chief Election Officer

Island Health Receives \$1.3 Million to Support Seniors and Elders On North Vancouver Island

Island Health will receive \$1.3 million over three years to help seniors and Elders on North Vancouver Island stay safely in their homes and communities.

The funding, awarded by Health Research BC, will support Thriving in Community, a project focused on reducing social isolation, improving care coordination and addressing everyday practical needs that can otherwise lead to health crises and hospital visits.

The project will support seniors and Elders across North Vancouver Island and North Vancouver Island Nations, through partnerships with Indigenous communities, local organizations and health-care providers.

"Our Elders carry the knowledge, history, and strength of our communities. Supporting them to remain connected to home, family, and culture is deeply important," said Rosie Dugas, health director from the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations. "This project reflects a shared commitment to working together in ways that are respectful, community-centered, and responsive to the needs of seniors and Elders across the North Island."

Ian Wood, Island Health director of clinical services for North Vancouver Island and primary applicant for the project, said the initiative fills an important gap in care.

"Seniors and elders in our rural communities often face barriers that can turn small issues into health emergencies," said Wood. "This project will help us reach people earlier, coordinate their care more effectively and provide the supports they need to remain in the homes and communities where they want to be."

"Across Canada, about 25 per

cent of people aged 65 and older are considered clinically frail. This means their health and strength are declining, making daily activities more difficult. Frailty increases the risk of falls, hospitalization, social isolation, loneliness and depression. These challenges can be even greater for seniors living in rural and remote communities, where access to health-care services, transportation, and social supports may be limited," said Max Jajszczok, Island Health executive director and also a primary researcher on this project.

The Thriving in Community project connects seniors and elders with three layers of support.

An enhanced friendly visiting program will match trained visitors with seniors and elders to build relationships, reduce isolation, and help identify unmet needs early.

An integrated care team will bring together community partners to coordinate care and services for seniors with complex needs. This team is being developed in partnership with the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations, North Island Crisis & Counselling Centre and Island Health, with a strong focus on culturally responsive care for First Nations Elders. The team will also provide education about local health services and help seniors navigate the health services.

The project will also offer flexible funding through philanthropic partners to address practical needs—such as transportation or home supports—before they become barriers to staying healthy at home. This approach aims to prevent health complications and reduce avoidable hospital visits and readmissions.

"We know that coordinated, community-based care can prevent hospitalization and help seniors live well at home," said Dr. Amy Salmon, evaluation co-lead and clinical associate professor at the University of British Columbia's School of Population and Public Health. "Our evaluation will measure how effective this approach is in a rural and remote setting, and what we learn can inform seniors' care across the province."

Dr. Salmon is also the inaugural Conconi Family Foundation Distinguished Scholar in Seniors Care at UBC, a role co-funded by three foundations that support Island.

"Through our partnership with the Thriving in Community project, the North Island Crisis & Counselling Centre is able to provide better support to seniors to remain connected and confident in their own homes and in their own communities. Working alongside our other seniors' programs, this unique project is about more than just providing additional services – it is about empowering seniors to thrive with dignity, belonging and will enhance their ability to live well in the communities they call home," said Nicki Ranger, executive director of the North Island Crisis & Counselling Centre.

In addition to the Health Research BC funding, the Conconi Family Foundation and an anonymous donor have pledged \$500,000 to support friendly visitor positions throughout the project.

"We believe in supporting seniors to age well in their communities," said Sanja Simic, executive director of the Conconi Family Foundation. "This project reflects our commitment to improving the quality of life for older adults on Vancouver Island. We're

thrilled to support this innovative approach that is informed by lived experience of seniors and elders as well as the best evidence from research and practice."

Thriving in Community is one of five projects funded province-wide through Health Research BC's investment in seniors' health research, representing a total provincial investment of \$6.3 million.

Ferry Schedule	
Leave Quathiaski Cove	Leave Campbell River
6:05 am	6:30 am
†7:00 am	†7:30 am
††7:30 am	††8:00 am
8:00 am	8:30 am
8:30 am	9:00 am
9:00 am	**9:30 am
9:30 am	10:00 am
10:00 am	10:30 am
10:30 am	11:00 am
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** 4:30 pm	5:00 pm
5:00 pm	5:25 pm
5:25 pm	5:50 pm
5:50 pm	6:15 pm
6:15 pm	6:45 pm
7:10 pm	8:10 pm
8:40 pm	9:05 pm
9:30 pm	9:55 pm
10:20 pm	10:40 pm
* 11:05 pm	* 11:30 pm
† Daily Except Sundays	
†† Daily Except Saturdays and Sundays	
* Fridays & Saturdays only	
** Tuesdays: Dangerous Cargo, no passengers or cars	
Schedule in effect September 3, 2024 to March 31, 2025 last updated here 25 Sept, 2024	
Schedule may be subject to change check BCFerries.com for Service Notices	

Send a wake-up call to the Forest Practices Board

Hello folks,

The BC Forest Practices Board calls itself "BC's independent watchdog for sound forest and range practices".

The Board is the BC public's only avenue for holding logging companies and the government accountable when either transgress a narrow range of forest-related legislation and regulations.

But can the Board itself be held accountable when it puts its paw on the scale for industry?

In a 2021 investigation involving BC Timber Sales in the Nahmint Valley on Vancouver Island, the Board made a finding that we believe badly misinterpreted a legal order.

The impact of that blunder has now metastasized across the island: Places like the Walbran Valley, Quadra Island, Tsitika Valley, Klaskish Valley and many more of the ecological treasures given special management status by the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan will lose a total of 21,000 hectares of forest where logging had previously been constrained.

The Evergreen Alliance has written a complaint to the Board about its interpretation in this case. Since the Board is not mandated to investigate its own decisions, the complaint has been written in such a way that that the Board is required by its legislative mandate to investigate the underlying issues. We believe the lack of accountability in management of BC's forests is an issue that we should all be concerned about. Whether it's logging of old forest and the subsequent heightened risk of biodiversity loss or over-cutting across the province and the resultant increase in risk of fire, flooding, drought and job loss, forest mis-management in BC affects everyone.

That's why it's critical that the Forest Practices Board is a reliable watchdog that doesn't fall asleep on the job. Please help us wake it up. Co-sign our complaint and be a part of reawakening and reforming the BC Forest Practices Board. See links below.

Kind regards,

David Broadland
for the Evergreen Alliance

Peter Calverley 1942 - 2026

Long time resident of Quadra passed quietly in the hospital on July 3. He loved Quadra and had been very active in the community volunteering when he retired from his Forrestry Services Company. He employed many residents of Quadra in his business.

He was an avid fisherman, and looked forward to an annual Halibut Hunt with other like minded men from BC. They rented a house in Telegraph Cove, and went out to fish and enjoy companionship in the evenings. Peter Smith, also enjoyed these outings. He passed this spring also. One fellow, Glen Rudkin, liked to cook so they enjoyed homemade meals every night. At the end of their 6 days. They gave each other ugly Trophies, that you returned each year after adding your name. Pete was delighted to win Skipper of the Year in 2006. These yearly trips were a highlight in his life.

Pete also volunteered on the Harbour Board, and on the building of the golf course. He laid out the course, and helped with the clearing and seeding. He was elected to crawl into the pile of stumps and light the initial fire, before the blowers came on. He was the 'little' Guy who could do this.

His favourite work was volunteering for Salmon Enhancement and worked on many different projects. He spent hours with his trusty crowbar, moving rocks to create beds for the salmon to use for spawning. In his later years he counted the salmon (and otters) that came into Village Bay Lakes on the camera system.

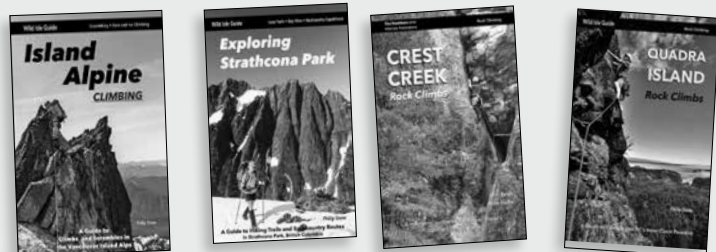


He was known as a good, loyal family man. When he first started his business, he worked in remote areas and had some scary adventures, including being stalked by a cougar and being in a light plane crash.

Pete was brave and I loved him for it. He came to see me in Nicaragua and when I suggested Equador, he was on board immediately. He showed me places, too, and we had many awesome trips together. I will miss him and so will his family. I look forward to seeing him again.

Pete's Celebration of life will be August 16 (Sunday) at 2 pm at the Quadra Bible Church Heather St John

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Heriot Bay Tides

DATE	TIME PDT	M.	FT.
07 Fri	07:38	1.096	3.6
	15:42	4.191	13.7
	19:28	3.885	12.7
08 Sat	00:21	4.429	14.5
	08:43	0.877	2.9
	16:57	4.472	14.7
	21:33	4.019	13.2
09 Sun	01:24	4.373	14.3
	09:42	0.692	2.3
	17:48	4.700	15.4
	22:54	3.945	12.9
10 Mon	02:37	4.352	14.3
	10:35	0.575	1.9
	18:28	4.857	15.9
	23:48	3.756	12.3
11 Tue	03:47	4.355	14.3
	11:23	0.560	1.8
	19:01	4.954	16.3
12 Wed	00:32	3.488	11.4
	04:55	4.358	14.3
	12:07	0.666	2.2
	19:31	5.002	16.4
13 Thu	01:13	3.166	10.4
	05:59	4.347	14.3
	12:49	0.893	2.9
	19:58	5.008	16.4
14 Fri	01:53	2.817	9.2
	07:00	4.309	14.1
	13:30	1.229	4.0
	20:25	4.970	16.3
15 Sat	02:34	2.476	8.1
	07:57	4.233	13.9
	14:10	1.645	5.4
	20:52	4.888	16.0
16 Sun	03:16	2.173	7.1
	08:55	4.122	13.5
	14:50	2.105	6.9
	21:19	4.764	15.6
17 Mon	03:59	1.935	6.3
	09:57	3.994	13.1
	15:30	2.571	8.4
	21:46	4.606	15.1
18 Tue	04:43	1.771	5.8
	11:09	3.887	12.8
	16:13	3.008	9.9
	22:13	4.428	14.5
19 Wed	05:30	1.675	5.5
	12:41	3.857	12.7
	17:03	3.390	11.1
	22:41	4.249	13.9
20 Thu	06:21	1.625	5.3
	14:29	3.952	13.0
	18:20	3.687	12.1
	23:11	4.089	13.4
21 Fri	07:19	1.587	5.2
	15:51	4.123	13.5
	20:41	3.822	12.5
	23:53	3.964	13.0

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