

Discovery **Islander.ca**

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



Remembrance Day Service **Saturday, November 11 at Quadra Legion 11 am**

Please be seated by 10:45 am sharp.
Luncheon follows, evening social 5 pm & potluck 6 pm



Important Notice to all our members and Customers

Due to a major change by another Credit Union
using the same banking system as Quadra Credit Union,
MemberDirect Computer Banking and MemberLink Telephone Banking
services will be unavailable from

Please note new dates.

**5PM Friday, November 24rd
until Monday November 27th, 2006.**

*While the root cause of recent transaction problems has been identified and corrected, there may
be some interruptions of service during this period.*

All backup systems are in place and ready to minimize disruptions.

We have been assured by all parties responsible that the conversion testing indicates a
trouble-free changover. Still, we urge all members to be prepared for possible service
interruptions with alternative forms of payment. We will be open for business as usual
during this period, but will not have access to our banking system.

Full service restoration is anticipated early November 6th.

Thinking about Canada Savings Bonds?

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Cortes Island branch
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Manson's Landing
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Banking on the Discovery Islands since 1941



Island Calendar

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

The Regulars

- **Quadra Legion** - Now Open Fridays & Saturdays at 3:30 pm until 1:00 am
- **Every Monday** - Badminton, 7:30 Cape Mudge Hall
- **Every Tuesday** - Kalina Folkdancers -QCC, 7:30 to 9:30 pm, Sept.to Apr.
 - Sketching group at Firesign Studio 10 am-12:00 pm
 - Al-anon meeting, 7.30 pm at the Childrens Centre
- **Every Wednesday** -Yoga 9:30 am and 7:00 pm Community Centre
 - Community Kitchen 12:00 noon Community Centre
 - Badminton, 7:30 pm Cape Mudge Hall
- **Every Thursday** - Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm at Quadra Island Bible Church
 - 7-9:30 PM: Life drawing sessions at Firesign Studio 285-3390
- **Every Friday** - Yoga 9:30 am and 4:00 pm Community Centre
- **Every Sunday** - Sunday Service QI United Church 10:30
 - Family Worship Service 10:30am Quadra Island Bible Church
 - Buddhist Meditation 10:00 am Upper Realm
 - Sunday Celebration, Centre for Positive Living - CRCC 10:20 - 11:20 am
- **1st and 3rd Wednesday** - Food Bank 1-2 Community Centre
- **3rd Sunday of Month** - Raw Food Pot Luck 5 - 7pm 285-3827
- **Last Saturday** - Bonus \$50 cash draw or gift certificate. Quadra Legion 6:30 pm

Next Deadline: Monday, November 20th 2006

5 Day Forecast from EWE Environment Canada

Thursday	Thursday night	Friday
High 9°C 	Low 4°C 	High 9°C
Sunny with cloudy periods	Rain	A few showers
Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 9°C Low 4°C 	High 9°C Low 4°C 	High 8°C Low 4°C
Showers	Showers	Periods of rain

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



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Day by day

Saturday & Sunday, November 11-12

- Elements of Magic Workshop (call Michael for more details 285-2330)

Saturday, November 11

- Remembrance Day Service Quadra Legion
Please be seated by 10:45 am sharp. luncheon, evening social & potluck
- Peaceful Warrior, the movie QCC
7 pm, 285-3224 tickets at Explore

Sunday, November 12

- Geshe Yongdong speaks on "Renunciation" Upper Realm
11 am
- Jazz Berry Jam HBI
6:30 to 9:30 pm

Monday, November 13

- Garden Club irrigation and water conservation QCC
7 pm

Friday, November 17

- Artist Reception Patti George Explore
7 - 9 pm
- Fall Fashion Show Quadra Legion
7:30 pm

Saturday and Sunday, November 18 - 19

- Quilters' Marathon QCC
9 am - 9 pm, Sat, 9 am-4 pm Sun.

Sunday November 19

- Raw Dessert Potluck Room 1 QCC
5 - 7 pm

Friday, November 24

- Christmas Craft Fair QCC
4 - 9 pm
- Banff Mountain Film Festival Tidemark Theatre CR
Doors open 6:45 pm show starts 7 pm sharp tickets 287-7465

Saturday, November 25

- Christmas Craft Fair QCC
10 am - 3 pm
- Collectibles and Rummage Sale Q.I. United Church
11am -1 pm
- Banff Mountain Film Festival QCC
Doors open 6:45 pm show starts 7 pm sharp tickets 287-7465

Thursday, November 30

- Christmas in the Cove Q Cove merchants individual store hours

Island Calendar online: www.discoveryislands.ca/news

Next deadline for the
Discovery
Islander

November 20th

701 Cape Mudge Rd
news@discoveryislands.ca

On the cover



Trumpeter Swans in flight
Photo by Philip Stone

discovery Islander

Issue 382 November 10th, 2006

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Submission Guidelines

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

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

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

Next Deadline

7 pm. Monday, November 20th



Dear Editor,

Len Lakeberg subdivision

I have seen a flurry of comments about the letter that was in the last Discovery Islander about the development that Len has been working on for the past year or so, along Green Road. The letter called into question Len's ability to develop his private lands and his ability to do quality work. I have known Len for many years and, as your director, being familiar with the subdivisions that have taken place on this island and in other areas of the CSRD, I can say that Len takes an incredible amount of care in developing his lands. His subdivisions have been creative and have produced quality lots that have preserved trees, special features and have even placed covenants on building envelopes to insure people will not be looking into each others lives. I commend him for the time and effort he puts into his life's work and know that there are a lot of happy homeowners out there that have purchased his lots and enjoy them thoroughly. With regard to the private use of Len's property in the past by third parties... that is a privilege, not a right.

Respectfully,
Jim Abram

Dear Editor,

I am not a person who normally would challenge someone's opinion publicly, but in the case of Burton Wohl's letter, I feel I must. It is my opinion that Mr Lakberg and his family have developed their properties in very tasteful manner. I view their developments as park like settings and hope that future developers on our island can learn from them. Mr Lakberg and his family have been great contributors to our daycares and school and are a highly respected family in our community. I have personally benefited, as most if not all contractors and business on this island have, from Mr Lakberg's hard work and care for keeping our island in a natural state while creating employment opportunities for others. I spoke with a highly respected excavation contractor here on the island, and he said that Mr Lakberg could have spent a lot less money on his projects had he not made them the park like setting that they are. I find it hard to believe that Mr Wohl wrote his letter, given that I understand he sold property on Read Island to a lumber company. I am sure that property right now does not look like one of Mr Lakberg's developments. In his reference to Mr Lakeberg being an old man, I doubt that he looks at himself in that manner, as he continues to do wonderful work in a young man's field. In closing, I feel that Mr Wohl came very close to publicly slandering Mr Lakberg and his family. I know that Mr Lakberg has someone very close to him highly trained in law.

Respectfully,
Bill Crighton

Dear Editor,

I reside at Open Bay on a property developed by Len Lakberg. Len did a superb, visionary enhancement of the landscape and provided an extraordinary place to live. The land and the forest were treated with caring thoughtfulness with obvious regard for the environment. Nobody could have done a more competent job. It is pretty much DITTO for Len's Whiskey Point development. If I didn't live here I would live there.

AND, I welcome the few American neighbours that live out our way.

Len deserves an apology from Mr. Wohl!

regards.

Cherie Hemmingsen.

Dear Editor,

Re Burton Wohl

Mr Wohl I will start this letter with I am sorry I didn't know who you were though I grew up here, my name is Linda Richards and I am very proud to be my Father's youngest daughter. So I will say thank you for :

1 trespassing on our private land.

2 Pooping your dog in someone else's backyard (did you scoop)

3 For saying viscous, and arguably liable things about my Father and not even the courtesy I am giving you with a Mr.

4 Old yes he is he turned 81 this September and is still working and supporting himself and others.

5 subdivisions actually dad has done three on Quadra Island not two and everyone of them are a shining example of how it should be done. He has proudly lived beside his neighbors and friends.

6 The American people moving to the island, close the gates I'm here is a feeling often expressed, when did you get here?

Soooo I say thank you for making me stand up and protest and say that my Father has lived and raised us to be honest, hardworking, support our community, stand up for what's right, and our Mom taught us to protest what's wrong!

My Father Len Lakberg has lived his life being an honest and giving man, supporting his community with both time and money, raising his family to be proud, good people I have been honored to be his daughter my whole life so I don't know you Mr Wohl but thank you for reminding me how lucky I am to have my Father in my life.

Linda Richards (Lakberg)

www.discoveryislander.ca

Dear Editor,

When I first moved to Quadra Island, almost 20 years ago, I was fortunate to make the acquaintance of a man who really is one of our island's finest citizens; a generous, knowledgeable, conscientious man who is one of the hardest working people I have ever known. Len Lakberg was at the time developing his land at Open Bay, and having in my professional life run across all manners of land developers and land development practices, I could not help but marvel at the careful way that Len went about doing his work: ensuring that he met all the rules in play; that lot boundaries were determined in a way sensitive to the topography and natural features; that roadways fit into the landscape rather than defining it; that public beach accesses were actually accessible, that watercourses were properly protected. I saw that Len would always put "doing it right" high above maximizing the profit in the business that was providing for him and his family.

Over the years my high opinion of Len has been continually reinforced as I saw him undertake other projects, as I saw how many Islanders have benefited from the land he developed or the employment he created, as I experienced the solid support that he provides to our community in his quiet and unassuming way. In my role in the fire department I have also frequently found strong support from Len. Hundreds of Quadra Islanders have benefited from Len and his endeavours directly or indirectly; working for him, selling to him, buying from him, living on land he developed, driving on roads he built. Hundreds of Quadra Islanders hold Len in very high regard, and many more would if they also had the good fortune to know him.

Len Lakberg is one of my heroes, and I am honoured to have the chance to know him. I like to think that I have learned much from him and that I am an asset to my community to

just a small fraction of the degree that Len is. So when a bitter little transplanted has-been journalist tries to assassinate Len's character in a vicious, mean-spirited letter to this publication; it really makes my blood boil. Burton Wohl is the epitome of the type of Quadra Island immigrant who, once he's here and has his piece of the rock, would slam the door in the face of anyone else who would come here, would prohibit development no matter how careful, and doesn't give a rat's ass for economic activity that provides a living to working Quadra Islanders. He is a hypocrite, living himself on a former clearcut while he rails at the careful, selective clearing of marginal forest and undergrowth as part of legitimate land development. The "sylvan glade" – gimme a break! The land that Len is developing is private land, not a bloody park put there for Wohl and his mutt. It is being developed in a way as careful, conscientious, and sound as any land on Quadra ever has been. It's providing work, it's improving the landscape, and it's providing places to live. The way in which Len is doing the work there is even increasing the interface fire safety for that part of the Island. And I can guarantee you that the amount of work that is going into that land is not making anybody rich!

Something like 99% of Quadra Island is still covered in trees, Wohl...lots of places for you to commune with nature. Even better, go back to "reach out and touch" Read Island – I'll gladly pay your one-way fare. Just leave Len Lakberg alone. He's done lots for the Quadra Island Community – while I can't think of a single thing that you have ever done for us.

Murray Johnson

Dear Editor:

This is in response to Burton Wohl's letter in the Oct 27 issue of the Islander. First I would like to compliment Len Lakeberg on the way he has subdivided the Whiskey Point area. He has not nuked the land of trees like most developers. He has left lots of them standing and the house sites have been situated in a way so everyone has a view. It doesn't look like the hillside of Horseshoe bay with all the tiny lots with the oversized mega-houses stand elbow to elbow vying for position.

Sure real people can't afford them, but now most real people can't afford to buy waterfront or view property anywhere. I am not in favor of micro development (any lot under one acre) and Len has kept in this compliance.

Judith MacMillan

Dear Editor,

In response to Mr. Burton Wohl's letter to the Editor in the October 27, 2006 edition of the Discovery Islander: I would like to thank Mr. Wohl for making his opinion of me known to the entire Island. Since the publication of Mr. Wohl's letter I have been overwhelmed by phone calls and people stopping by to offer me their personal support. I must confess I don't even know many of these folks, but the fact that they took time out of their busy day to make the effort to let me know that they approve of the work I am doing is very reassuring.

Obviously it is impossible to please everyone, but I must say that I never realized how many friends and supporters I actually had until Mr. Wohl's letter.

In closing, I trust Mr. Wohl will trespass no more.

Len Lakberg

Dear Editor,

We would like to comment on Burton Wohl's October 27/06 letter to the Editor.

We have also watched the new development on Green Road over the last several months and find it to be an attractive addition to an ongoing beautiful subdivision. Mr. Lakberg is a conscientious developer who goes to great lengths to preserve the beauty of the area. Progress and development are inevitable in the Cove area and we feel Len Lakberg and his family are doing a great job.

Gary Colter and Doris Nymann

Dear Editor,

I am writing to comment on the article written by Burton Wohl that was in the last issue.

This 'torn, burnt, crushed and chopped forest' referred to belongs to Mr. Lakberg. He bought and has been paying taxes on this land for years. I think it very gracious of Mr. Lakberg to allow people to walk through his property.

In my opinion Mr. Lakberg is developing his property beautifully. A recent conversation I enjoyed with Mr. Lakberg confirmed his conscientious opinion, he wanted to leave more standing timber but highways suggested differently.

Mr. Wohl called Mr. Lakberg "an old man" and questioned "does he need another fortune?". I have never heard such an ignorant comment. When is a person too old to make a fortune? This is certainly not Mr. Wohl's or anyone else's business.

I admire and respect Mr. Lakberg tremendously. He has what he has through years of hard work and I applaud his success.

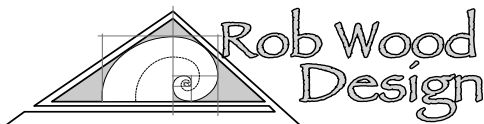
I would be shocked and very disappointed if very many people agreed with Mr. Wohl.

Thank you
Mava Stromquist

Articles, letters and artwork are all welcome for publication in 'Island Forum'

Opinions & endorsements expressed herein are those of the contributors and do not represent the views of the publisher.
If you would like

Next deadline 7pm November 20th



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B.C. Ferries Revises Approach to Coast Card

A Response

But first a disclaimer. The following is neither a non-disclosed press release on behalf of any third party, nor drafted or approved by anyone else, but rather it is my own personal review and opinion as a long time Island resident regarding John Sprungman's article published on behalf of B.C. Ferries.

In the last issue of the Discovery Islander, page 14, Sprungman, in his capacity as the designated chair for the B.C. Ferries' Advisory Committee (acronym "FAC"), solicited communication from local Islands ferry users on the proposed introduction of a "Coast Card" to replace the currently used paper ferry tickets. In euphemistically referring to the proposed "Coast Card" following the B.C. Ferries corporate public relations management vernacular, Sprungman didn't describe it in proper Information Technology terminology, that the proposed card would be a Radio Frequency Identity Card, or according to it's acronym, an RFID.

For those who keep up with changes in technology, this RFID "Coast Card" would most likely be designed to react to a radio signal on command from a transmitter/receiver computer terminal scanner, thus activating a relay of information from the card and thus it's holder to a B.C. Ferries mainframe computer database in real time, or to any other like central computer by whomever has the radio frequency code to activate response from the card. As such, there will be no anonymity by a user to B.C. Ferries, nor to any other user with legal access (police) or illegal access to such information (hackers, identity thieves, and whomever).

What Sprungman did say was (1) there would be an expiry (forfeiture?) of unused paid fares, (2) multiple "cards could be linked to an account with BC Ferries," and (3) the privacy of account data would be protected by provincial privacy legislation.

To the best of my information, there is not any provincial legislation to force any corporation or any other third party to report publicly any sales, breaches or losses of personal information as is required in some States in the United States. B.C. Ferries is in effect saying "trust me", using one of the three most told lies of all time, while the corporation has a history of not following it's own due process, nor being truthful when telling the news media one thing, but enacting the opposite at ferry terminals in the absence of the media.

Most importantly, what Sprungman did report was that B.C. Ferries "are saying no route will be forced to accept the card instead of paper tickets. That is for now anyway, if the reader trusts B.C. Ferries.

What Sprungman didn't say when he asked readers to communicate with "to the members of our FAC" is that the FAC is a group structured at the pleasure of, and for the sole benefit of B.C. Ferries, as a corporation and by construct, is "owned" by the corporation. By definition, local members

of this committee cannot serve the community at large. Having received gifts of gratitude from the corporation, their fiduciary duty is to B.C. Ferries, and they can only serve one master without conflict of interests.

He also did not say that when B.C. Ferries does not agree with what they hear from their Advisory Committee, their input is ignored. Nevertheless, readers should communicate concerns, at their own discretion to B.C. Ferries' FAC members, Jim Abram, Bob Brown, Connie Burns, Gerry Hornby and Terry Hooper. But readers should also take it upon themselves to be properly informed about proposed changes that will impact them, and to be wary of B.C. Ferries public relations management, or if you prefer, B.C. Ferries public relations manipulation.

Ted Conover

Thanks

I would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and messages during my dad's recent illness and subsequent death.

Your words of hope and encouragement continue to help me through a most difficult time.

Sincerely

Charleen Head

Thank You

The family of the late Bill Dubois SR. would like to thank all of the people who helped organize and attended the celebration of his life and those who were unable to be there but offered their support and condolences during this sad time. It was very comforting to see the love and respect that our father received from so many people. Your friendship and company helped to ease the loss of his wife and our mother Kay 12 years ago. A special thanks to the Quadra Island Ambulance Service, fire dept. and R.C.M.P. for their prompt attendance and assistance at the time of my fathers death. Also to the Quadra Home support group who were instrumental in keeping my father in his own home until the end, allowing him to end his days in peace and dignity.

A Huge thanks to the Heriot Bay Store and Bakery for their awesome help with preparations for the memorial dinner! We could not have done it with out you.

And finally we are deeply indebted and forever grateful for the exceptional care far beyond the call of duty provided my father over the last several years by Maggie Mc Callum. Father referred to Maggie as his Angel, a title she truly earned.

Thank-You

The family of Bill Dubois Sr.

Cpl Fraser Responds To Feedback

With regard to my news release concerning the arrests on Cortes Island for marihuana production and possession for the purpose of trafficking:

I now have quite a collection of letters posted to the editorial sections of our local media and also on bulletin boards around the area. Some are actually positive, in that they agree with the action police have taken and share the opinion of the majority of people, that grow ops are a major concern. The others I consider to have been written by a vocal minority, who are pro-marihuana, attempting to proliferate the myths about marihuana, portraying it as a harmless medicinal herb. However, some questions, such as why the police care about marihuana production and trafficking; and how the public can help, deserve some comment.

Before I do that, I should say that it was not my intent for anyone to mistake the news release of October 10th for an anonymous letter. In an effort to keep the release to one page (on RCMP letterhead), I left my name off. I apologize for any confusion this may have created and any heat the editors felt for their decision not to attribute it to me. I stand by everything I wrote in that news release.

So why does your RCMP Detachment care about marihuana grow ops? Well one reason is that this activity is illegal and when conducted on such a scale as reported in the news release of October 10, can only be considered Organized Crime. Our Commissioner has also identified Organized Crime (a large part of which is the illicit drug trade) as a National Priority.

However, possibly the most compelling reason, is because the residents of Quadra Detachment's area tell us that these issues matter to them. In 2002/03, as part of his strategic planning, my predecessor initiated a survey within our communities in order to determine what they thought the RCMP should be working on. The number one concern on peoples minds was Drugs. Number two was Traffic.

During my tenure as detachment commander, ongoing community consultation, in both formal and informal settings, reaffirms that Drugs and Traffic are still our communities top two priorities.

There are many unique things about the people of the Discovery Islands, but in this regard, we are like the majority of Canadians. Obviously not everyone in our detachment area believes the myth that marihuana is an innocuous substance, as our small group of editorialists would have us believe.

Speaking of these myths, after 25 years of police work, it never ceases to amaze me that people still come up with the same arguments to rationalize their drug use. For anyone who cares to look for it, there is reams of research that contradicts the myth that marihuana is harmless. This research is conducted scientifically and is not likely the sort of thing you're going to read in publications dedicated to the proliferation of the drug subculture.

Research shows that persons younger than 21 are not physically or emotionally prepared to experiment with any drugs, including alcohol. The younger they start experimenting, the greater the chances that they will develop a serious problem. The longer we can keep these substances out of the hands of our youth, the better chance they will have of getting through this vulnerable period without developing a dependency.

If you're a middle aged pot smoker, who feels that you are smoking "responsibly" and are happy with what you've accomplished in life, well good for you. That will be of little consolation to the parents who call me because their former "A" student is failing at school, has no motivation, is going nowhere fast, and the only drug they are currently doing is marihuana.

If you're a parent, grandparent, or just a person seeking reliable information on the topic of drugs and youth, then I recommend this website, www.theantidrug.com. You can also go to our RCMP Drug Awareness website, www.rcmpda.com and check the links to many more sites, with relevant, accurate information on this topic.

In my news release of October 10th, I encouraged people to make a difference by passing on information to the police. This is nothing new. It is seen in many police news releases. Why were so many editorialists so worked up about this? Is it because they fear that their neighbours may finally

be fed up with their illegal activity? How do they think the police solve crimes? Contrary to the drama we see on popular TV shows, almost every successful investigation starts with a tip from the public. When people know that they have viable options, it helps remove their fear of retribution from the criminal element and discourages those who may lean towards vigilantism.

I also said..."People often say that the problem is too large and that shutting down one branch of criminal activity just causes another to sprout up somewhere else. All I can say to that is that a small drop of contamination is easier to stamp out than a large drop, the point is to keep stomping." A number of the editorialists seem to be hung up on the word "stomping". It's a metaphor folks! One of the accused persons in this matter expressed some concern to me that this might advocate violence. I had a face to face meeting with him and assured him that this was not a personal reference. The contamination that needs stamping out is the criminal activity. This person was happy with this explanation.

Many of the pro-marihuana editorialists twisted those last two paragraphs around in an attempt to vilify the RCMP as NAZIS or some other similarly repressive and evil regime. If you were hoping to hurt my feelings, you're going to have to come up with something better than that. My drill instructor made me immune to such nonsense 25 years ago. The only ones you've managed to insult are the survivors of horrors such as the Holocaust and the memory of those who perished at the hands of evil. I'm sure that most readers are enlightened enough to recognize how outrageous and ridiculous those statements are and perhaps even some of the fence sitters are now questioning your credibility.

In conclusion, thank you again to those people who have provided me and my detachment members with words of support and encouragement and I remind everyone that my door is always open to people wishing to discuss any aspect of their police service.

Cpl Rick FRASER
NCO i/c Quadra Island RCMP Detachment
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November 10, 2006

Area J Regional Director's Report

Jim Abram

I missed the last issue due to my involvement in the annual Union of BC Municipalities Convention (UBCM) which was held in Victoria this year, from October 23rd through October 27th. More than 1900 delegates from all around the province sharing experiences, concerns and issues. Lots of opportunities for me to meet with Ministers, ministry staff and agencies to deal with issues, here in Area J and throughout our region. And now I am back! On with the news...

OCP meetings (Official Community Plan)

So far, two meetings have been held to discuss Rural and Residential policies in our OCP. The first was a general introductory meeting and the second was in more of a working session format, broken into four groups which coincide with the four areas of the island that are being looked at. The meetings went very well but could use more participation. I have heard comments from so many people, over the past year especially, that they want to address the issue of affordable housing, look at where subdivision of some existing lots might be appropriate and how to keep that subdivision into logical "nodes of development" (neighbourhoods), keeping in mind principles such as "smart growth", and allowing for the provision of lots for kids and family so that they can stay on the island and work and live where they grew up. So, now is the time for those people to come out and express their views on these topics. Policies could be developed to address these themes in general terms and, at some future time, zoning changes could be considered, as necessary. Participation is the key! Watch for upcoming meetings. If you are interested in joining one of the working groups, call Kate Cruickshank at the RD office at 334-6016, direct, or toll free at 1-800-331-6007 (and ask for Kate C.), or you can call me for more information also. I will be attending all of the meetings so that I can hear first hand what the island has to say.

Granite Bay Hydro update

I have talked about this item a number of times in the past and now have some definitive information to give you. I had a number of phone conversations with BC Hydro leading up to their decision and two in-person conversations with their community liaison person while at the UBCM. I asked for some specifics that I could share with the community and the following is what I was told:

As background, a number of home owners in the Granite Bay area applied to BC Hydro's Uneconomic Extension Assistance program (UEA). The program provides financial assistance towards the cost of overhead electrical extensions to the BC Hydro's distribution system. As most of you know, Granite Bay is located at the northern end of Quadra Island, and is without Hydro service at this time. The power line would run approximately 11 km from the existing BC Hydro distribution system.

The Granite Bay extension, as projected, will cost approximately \$500,000, and the UEA would cover approximately \$363,000 of those costs. BC Hydro approved the project the week of October 23 while I was at the UBCM. With about \$140,000 to be paid by the new customers, the more people that come on board the lower the cost will be per customer. You do the math... there are (I believe) at least 17 properties at Kanish View Estates alone. Add another 10 to 13 lots and there would be a sharing of cost by approximately 30 properties at around \$4600.00 each as a one time cost.

BC Hydro will be looking to meet with the new customers in the near future to go over the process and to make sure everyone is on the same page. Generally, it is anticipated by Hydro that the design process will begin now with construction beginning in spring/summer 2007, depending on the will of the community. Applications for funding a project are made semi-annually and reviewed in the spring (April) and fall (October).

Once an application is approved the project must commence within one year of approval or be cancelled and resubmitted. The Granite Bay line must be completed by October 2007.

The UEA program is for residential customers requesting electrical service, requiring more than one span of line, including transformation, and if required, a crossing pole. The line should be on a public road maintained by the Ministry of Transportation, and outside of a municipal boundary. Principal residences, principal residences on productive farms and productive farm irrigation loads may qualify when service revenue is not adequate to cover the cost of the required extension.

So, it looks like we will be having a meeting very soon to discuss this and then see where it goes! I am very pleased to have the project get this far. I appreciate the work done by Granite Bay community members and all of the staff at BC Hydro that have worked to get us this far. Now it is up to the community to decide.

Lucky Jim Mine update (since we are in the Granite Bay area!)

I have received a letter from Charlie Cornfield of the Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts informing me of some really good news regarding an issue I have been working on for more than a year and recently have received some very strategic help from Rory Annett of the Ministry of Forests! I think it is best to let you read the most important parts of the letter, as he wrote it. It is as follows:

"The Ministry of Tourism, Sport & the Arts, Discovery Coast Recreation District, is considering establishing the old Lucky Jim Mine site as a Recreation Site under Section 56 of the Forest and Range Practices

Act. Recreation site status would allow us to expend Ministry funds to resolve the public safety issues associated with the old mine shaft and surrounding area, as well as to protect the historical values. Site designation would also allow us to enter into partnership agreements, manage recreation use, post special recreation orders, and apply the forest recreation Regulation....

Site designation would be placed on top of the mineral tenure, without restricting the prior rights of the existing tenure holder. We are proposing, however, that the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources issue a "no staking reserve" over the recreation site portion to exclude any other claim staking in the event the current claim is dropped.

As you know, the plan to deal with the safety issues is a cooperative effort between the Regional District, the Ministry of Forests, and the Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts. We understand that you are working with a local engineer to develop a plan to safely seal off the exposed mine shaft, and that you are also trying to line up volunteer labour to do the installation work. The Quadra Island Recreation Society has agreed to operate and maintain the Lucky Jim site under its current Recreation Trail Agreement once the safety concerns have been alleviated. "

It doesn't get much better than this, folks, in the way of cooperative efforts! I will be on the site with Murray Johnson (the engineer) on November 7th to assess the situation and get info for the drawings that are required. Then it will be a matter of lining up some warm bodies to help with the installation. I have already had one generous offer from residents next to the area in question. Hopefully we can get this done before the snow settles in! More to follow as it happens...

Dry Land Log Sort

I have been in ongoing negotiations with Timber West (T-W) regarding the operation of the dry land log sort at the north end of Gowlland Harbour for the past 15 years. Very long story, short... part of the existing agreement makes the sort available to our local woodlot operators, private land owners and First Nations to ship their wood by water instead of ferry at a higher grade than if they just took it to town right off the woodlot. The T-W plan was to shut the sort down on October 31st when they had finished processing the wood from their cut-blocks. This left no time for the woodlot owners and others to ship their wood. I was asked to intercede on their behalf and did so with the general manager for T-W's north island operations. I had a very successful conversation with him and since he understood the dilemma, he has directed that the sort remain open for the woodlot owners and others as long as they need it, barring any very wet weather events (the rain causes mud and then environmental concerns). Hopefully this will allow them enough time to get their wood off of the island and to market in a reasonable time, keeping the wood off of the ferry and returning more dollars to the Quadra economy.



News & Events

BC Ferry Service (BCFS) plans for Q.Cove

You will be reading more detailed reporting from John Sprungman, chair of the Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC), but I wanted to mention this one item here, in my report. We have heard lots of talk about the plans to expand the holding area of the ferry up into the existing roadway leading to the ferry in Q. Cove. We were told at the FAC on Oct. 20th, that the plans have been approved to start the required expansion in November and that it will be completed in January. The plan is as reviewed by the public in the past, to add one lane on the north side of the road (hill) by culverting the ditch and paving the shoulder and ditch area to give the required width for the extra lane. This will then allow for about an extra 23 vehicles to line up without impacting the road from the Green Rd. intersection east and north to the curve in front of the shopping centre. Hopefully this will eliminate some of the terrible traffic jams in that area that were experienced this past summer season. BCFS will also be hooking up to the sewer system so that they can pump out the vessel at night, and also will be installing a well to enable supplying water to the washrooms.

That's about it for this issue. Feel free to call me between the hours of 8:30 am and 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday (not on weekends, folks!) at 285-3355, or you can fax me at 285-3533 or you can email me anytime at abramfam@oberon.ark.com, or by mail at Box 278 in the Cove, V0P 1N0... Lots of choices!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Abram

Director, Discovery Islands - Mainland Inlets (Area J), RDCS

Island Voices Chamber Choir

Tenth Anniversary Gala Concert-
8 pm Friday November 24 - Old Church Theatre, Courtenay & 8 pm Sat. November 25-Tidemark Theatre, Campbell River. Tickets at Laughing Oyster & Blue Heron Bookstores & Tidemark Box Office. Info 250-285-3298.

Peaceful Warrior

The movie: www.thepeacefulwarriormovie.com/

Friday, November 10th, 7:30 pm - Campbell River

Sunday, November 12nd, 1:30 pm - Campbell River

Saturday, November 11th, 7 pm Quadra Island Community Centre

Hosted by the Centre for Positive Living Campbell River Community Centre, upstairs More information call: 285-3224

Explore Presents:

Explore proudly presents Feature Artist Patti George. The multi media exhibit will run Nov 15th through Dec 24th. Please join us at the reception Friday Nov 17th 7-9pm everyone welcome! Store hours Tues.- Saturday 10-5pm adding Mondays through December.

Quadra Island Remembrance Day Service

Annual Remembrance Day Service at the Quadra Legion on **November 11, 2006. Please be seated by 10:45am sharp.** The Ladies Auxiliary will host the luncheon following the service. **Evening social 5:00pm, Potluck dinner at 6:00pm** with honours and awards to follow. Everyone welcome and families with children are encouraged to attend.

Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Craft and Bake Sale

O yea humble geniuses

Get your creations together for the Royal Canadian #154 Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Craft and Bake Sale **December 2, 10 to 2:00pm**

Call Amanda at 285-3612 or Deb 285-3200 to reserve a table \$10.00

Christmas in the Cove

You're invited to the 4th annual Christmas in the Cove **Thursday November 30th 2006.** Come down and enjoy some holiday cheer, raffles, treats, sales and specials. Hosted by your Q Cove merchants. Please note individual store hours and specials apply! Thank You for supporting your local retailers!



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Parents & Tots - Now on Mondays and Thursdays

Tots - Run around with your favorite big toys at the Community Centre every Thursday from 9:30 to 12:00 and for the winter months, starting November 13th, Mondays from 10:30 to 12:00. Look out for Hannah Rohan who will be visiting with her Magic Book Bag, art with your parents and music with some big kids you might already know!

Parents - This is a parent participatory program where you oversee your own children, participate in setting out the toys or art supplies, making tea or coffee, serving a shared snack, and tidying up afterwards - all while enjoying the company of other parents! Visiting families are welcome. All children must be under the age of five.

Water, water everywhere

Water, water everywhere and we can drink it - how lucky is that!! Hard to remember during the autumn rains how dry it was in August. Did your garden suffer in the dry season of 2006 (30% less summer rainfall than normal on Quadra*)? Domestic and native plants alike suffered this year from the abnormal heat, and lack of rain, with plants dying in the drought. If you were growing vegetables with success in 2006 you needed to irrigate your garden.

The Garden Club's guest speaker for November is Mark Miard, Irrigation Manager of The Pump House in Courtenay. He will speak specifically about irrigation systems that the home owner can self install. This will include underground systems with sprayers and rotors for watering large areas of your garden, or water conserving drip micro irrigation using 3/4" and 1/2" poly pipe to water individual plants. While underground sprinklers irrigate a whole area of the garden, the drip method supplies water to individual sites using less water delivered over a longer period of time. If you have a limited water supply, or need to save rainwater for use in the summer garden, Mark can help you design a water conserving system.

On Monday November 13th, 7 pm at the Community Centre, join us for an interesting discussion about maintaining a healthy garden environment during the drier summers of the future. New members welcome. Bring late fall blooms/berries or winter colour for the show and tell table. If you have a surplus of potted plants or are dividing perennials now is a great time to share. Annual membership is \$10 which gives a discount at many local nurseries. Drop Ins \$2. We share plants, magazines, and garden knowledge.

* Sharron Hatelt's weather statistics for Heriot Bay have recorded the rainfall from May to August inclusive at 105 mm, her average rainfall for those months during the last seventeen years is 217mm. September saved us with a higher than average rainfall of 99 mm, 23mm more than normal. Hello El Nino!

Jazz at the HBI

No cooking, no dishes for one night only. Treat your loved ones to supper and homegrown Quadra Island jazz with Jazz Berry Jam, featuring David Blinzinger Jr. playing wild and crazy sax, Hal Douglas on sassy rhythm guitar and Steve Moore jiving on soft spoken contemplative drums. Remember Jazz comes only once a month during the rainy season at the HBI and this Sunday, November 12 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. is the time. The HBI dining room is the place. Come on down. This is a no cover event. Jazz Berry Jam has played regular gigs for the Haig-Brown Festival, April Point, the July 1st celebrations in Campbell River, the Grotto in Courtenay and the Aroma Cafe. The band sometimes feature a female jazz singer and always plays both traditional and modern jazz. Call Steve for more information on the band at 285-3323. Jazz Berry Jam has a special on rainy season weddings i.e. 25% off, even if it doesn't rain because we believe in Love

Quadra Community Centre's Christmas Craft Fair

Quadra Rec. Society will be having this year's Christmas Craft Fair at 970 West Rd. on Friday, Nov. 24th. from 4 p.m. - 9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m..

This year we will be giving out raffle tickets at the door for many wonderful prizes donated by our artisans and we will gratefully accept donations for our Community Centre's Playground. Prizes will be given out every hour throughout both days and there are different crafters each day, so plan to visit us on both!

Friday evening join us for a light meal in our "cafe" and enjoy our pianist, Mary Ellen Wilkins's classical tunes. Enjoy the atmosphere of the Community Centre adorned with Cory's beautiful Quilts and the wonderfully decorated tables each with unique crafts.

On Saturday families can bring their camera's and take pictures of their child with Santa, at noon. The children love to see Santa arrive on Quadra Island's Fire Engine! Stay for lunch and shop for one of a kind, hand-crafted gifts!



www.discoveryislander.ca

Collectible and Rummage Sale

Quadra Island United Church will be holding a collectible and rummage sale on **Saturday, November 25**. Come and check out the great selection of collectible items just in time for Christmas shopping. The Sale will be held in the basement of the church. Doors open at exactly **11:00**. Call Mimi at **285-2626** for more information and to volunteer.

Geshe Yongdong

Gesh Yongdong, a Tibetan monk and teacher, is coming to Quadra Island. His topic this time is "Renunciation." This is Geshe Yongdong's only visit to Quadra until after the new year. Remember, renunciation is NOT only about giving up external things, like chocolate or alcohol, but genuine renunciation is giving up our thoughts, our hopes and dreams and our endless mental chatter. Renounce that and stay in the present moment—that is renunciation. Some folks say obsessions are wonderful, but if you have one that's currently giving you problems, skillful methods of renunciation can often be of some use.

Everyone is welcome to this talk at 11 a.m., Sunday, November 12 in the Upper Realm at Q. Cove. Cortes Islanders can catch the 9:50 a.m. ferry for pick up at Heriot Bay. Call Steve at 285-3323 if you need a ride. There is a suggested donation of \$10 but if you are currently short of cash, it's free. The donation covers transportation, ferry fare (which is now \$13.50 a ride, even with a book of tickets), room rental and support for Geshe's centre in Courtenay B.C. Maybe the new privately owned B.C. ferry CEO's should give some thought to "Renunciation" as well. Peace....

Too Hot Not To Handle

On **Friday, December 1st**, Sierra-Quadra will be showing the film "**Too Hot Not To Handle**" at **Quadra Community Centre, at 7:30 pm.**

This primer on Global Warming features leading scientists in the field. In addition to in-depth discussions of such subjects as greenhouse effect, hurricanes, snowpack, hybrid vehicles and alternative power sources, the film shows how businesses, local governments and citizens are taking positive action to reduce global warming emissions. The executive producer of the film says:

"My personal hope is that every viewer will be inspired to become part of the solution to reduce carbon emissions".

Talking about inspiring... our guest speaker is just that! Dorothy Cutting, a 75 year-old grandmother from Saltspring Island, is a vivacious speaker. For the sake of her grandchildren she decided to do something to help combat climate change.

Her courage and passion led her to start a journey to Canada's Arctic. While her journey was cut short, the story she tells should inspire and motivate all who hear her.

Admission is free, though donations will be appreciated. Remember to mark your calendar. You're welcome to join us for this interesting presentation.

Open House/ 2nds Sale, November 19, 10-4

Perrin Sparks and Cherie Hemmingsen are two artists with studios both "way up North" and subsequently, you may have missed on the spring Studio Tour. Now's your chance to enjoy the scenic drive, reward yourself with a warm drink and cookies, and get the jump on finding unique holiday gifts. Both studios will be open Sunday, 10 to 4, and Cherie and friends will be doing demos.

Lake Haven, Perri's Atelier and Art Retreat opened its doors for the first time in April, this year. It's located at Village Bay Lake, on the left, just after the bridge. Although Perri is best known in the States for her portraiture, she kept getting requests during the Spring Studio Tour "do you have any landscapes?" Since the scenery begs to be painted, that's what she did. Many of these are small watercolors or oil sketches. Some are framed and priced under \$100; others are matted studies and prints of her more popular images under \$50.

"i blew it", Cherie's glass blowing studio on Open Bay, at 2105 Redonda, is a popular destination of many of the tourists each year. Cherie took up the "obsession" of glass blowing after being diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. She decided to get on with the rest of her life and blow glass. Glass blowing is the best medicine of all. Cherie works hard to stay healthy and most of all to have fun in the Hot Shop.

For additional information on the Open House/2nds Sale, contact Perri at 258-2474, or Cherie at 258-2809.

QUADRA SENIORS

Our last meeting, on Nov. 1st/06, was well attended, even if it was very cold. Hilary Stewart, Joy Inglis, & Annie Strong, entertained us, about our past experiences. Such as Ghosts, catastrophes in our homes, and various experiences, which everyone enjoyed to discuss and chuckle about. Being "Crime Prevention Week", Judy Hagen gave us a talk about, "Emergency Preparedness." Thanks to you all for the lighthearted talk, and the education in preparedness.

Our Elections were run by Hilda Van Orden, and our new Executive will be sworn in at our Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 11th/06 by Past B.C.O.A.P.O. Prov. President Martin Amiel.

Make sure you are on the Christmas Luncheon list to be held at the Discovery Coast Inn at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 11th/06. Contact Ruth Amiel 285-3801.

Our next meeting will be held Wed. Dec. 6th/06 At 10:30 a.m.—We will be entertained by Joyce Baker, on Cello, and Helen Moats on piano, with a classical 30 min. concert.

On other Wednesdays Tai-chi at 10:00 a.m.—by Annie Strong and if Ann Lawrence or Chris Dyson are able—Carpet Bowling at 10:30 a.m. Walk on Sundays at the Rebecca spit 11:00 a.m. from the Launch Ramp— with Peter and Lloyd.

Welcome to all Seniors Young and Experienced. For Membership call Ruth Amiel 285-3801 or David McQuade 285-2627 or speak to Cliff Hand at our next meeting.

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Brother, can you s'paradigm?

When I was seven years old and living north of Camelot in the middle of an H-bomb rattling cold war I was completely behind the "Ask not what your country can do for you etc." speech. When I was twenty, and understood that such a paradigm was contiguous with Canada having a department of human resources, I was less enthused with the idea... not only because human resource is too close to cannon fodder but also because of where this type of thinking eventually leads.

How did we get to the place where people would accept thinking of themselves as a resource? The training starts early. When I was in school they called it school spirit. Your class against the other classes. Your school against the other schools. Your district against the other districts. A relatively harmless form of manipulation. Teenagers have a strong herd instinct why not manipulate it to keep them out of trouble. What could be wrong with that type of thinking? In sports and school spirit kinds of activity, the team and the individual have pretty much the same goal. In nations they don't. Individuals have different ideas of what winning is. If you are desperately poor, winning is getting enough food and some shelter. Some people think winning is protecting others or the environment. Many people think wealth is the way to keep score. Nations have traditionally been on the bully system. The more nations you can beat up the better you are. Complicating things further is that the leaders of countries, in a democracy at any rate, have different goals. A political party's goal is to get remain in power. It makes its decisions based not on what is best for the people or the nation but what is best for itself.

The misalignment of goals and the "take one for the team" paradigm lead directly to the invasion of Iraq. Since the government thinks of people as a resource, there is no moral dilemma about an invasion...it is an economic decision. And while it may not have been a good business decision for America, it was probably a fairly good decision for the Republicans. Conversely, you don't want to spend any money rescuing poor people in New Orleans because the poor don't vote. It's like throwing good money after bad.

Closer to home, Harper is against Kyoto, not because he doesn't understand the social ramification but because he doesn't understand the business ramifications. He is, like his conservative backers, more worried about the short term gain than he is about the long term pain. The same pecuniary interest will inform his decision about drilling off our coast, bringing in tankers and eventually selling our water. More local, Campbell is pimping for the forestry companies for the same reason.

So, time for a paradigm shift. I don't mean voting in an NDP or a Green federal government. The only difference in the parties is the colour of the ties they wear, or not wear in the Green's case. All parties campaign as if they need to be

financially respectable. How else can you explain Jack Layton. What we need is a populace that votes for politicians who are asking not what the people can do for them, but what they can do for the people. What we need is a party that can get the poor and the middle class to vote for them. The decisions you make in government are completely different if you depend on the poor for support.

Chris Thompson

Friday Flicks Presents; Souvenir of Canada

November 17th. Q.C.C.

Adm: \$5.00 - \$4.00 stu/snr

Doors 7:30 – Showtime 7:45

What does it mean to grow up Canadian? That's the central question pondered by Douglas Coupland, whose same-named books formed the basis for *SOUVENIR OF CANADA*. His other main concern is growing up Douglas Coupland, and the two areas of scrutiny turn out to have a lot in common. The resultant film is a national artifact of significance in itself as it captures the creation of Canada House, an installation project that saw Coupland furnish a post-war house in Vancouver entirely in Canadiana including goose decoys, hockey pictures and Kraft slices.

The West Vancouver-raised writer starts with the premise that you have to leave your childhood realm in order to recognize its true qualities. The mix of archival material (including grainy home movies and old CBC footage), his funny and poignant recreations of his early life, and current musings on art and Canadiana walk the viewer through a his process of re-identification. He even takes us hunting and fishing. Coupland's examination of his own parents becomes one of the loveliest notions of the Canadian identity; his mother and father come across as good and kind and polite, as well as sophisticated people. That's how we all like to see ourselves, isn't it? On the other hand, he refers to those old 35mm educational films as "Soviet-style torture."

You should see *SOUVENIR OF CANADA*, if not for the nostalgia, if not for the history, then for the laughs. It's the Canadian thing to do.

Film credits: Georgia Straight, Reel Views, Toronto Sun



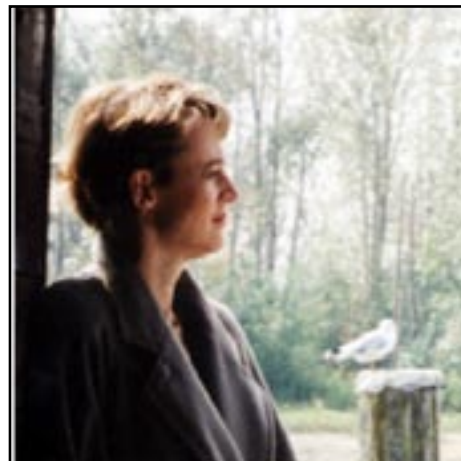
Pianist Jane Coop

Pianist Jane Coop to give recital on Quadra Saturday Dec 2nd

The Quadra Island Recreation Society is pleased to announce that on Saturday Dec 2nd 2006 we will host a return visit by pianist Jane Coop.

On the last appearance here she was joined by Andrew Dawes to give a memorable performance of Beethoven Violin and Piano sonatas, works which they have recorded on the Skylark label.

She will be playing a varied program of works by Haydn, Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, Brahms and Chopin.



Ms. Coop is one of Canada's most distinguished pianists, playing solo and chamber music recitals, as well performing as concerto soloist with conductors such as John Eliot Gardiner, Andrew Davis and Rudolph Barshai, and the Royal Philharmonic, Seattle and Oregon Symphonies, Hong Kong Philharmonic, National Taiwan Symphony, Bavarian Radio Orchestras, and has performed in such major cities as New York, London, St. Petersburg, Warsaw, Prague, Beijing and Tokyo, as well as every major venue in Canada.

She has made a number of recordings, including two Concerto discs with Mario Bernardi and the Calgary Philharmonic and the CBC Radio Orchestra, and her latest was a disc of French Chamber works recorded with the Satie String Quartet of Paris. Her recordings have received numerous JUNO nominations.

She is much in demand as a Chamber musician, playing with many of Canada's leading instrumentalists, and a frequent performer at chamber music festivals.

Ms. Coop lives in Vancouver, where she is Professor of Piano and Chamber music at the university of British Columbia. Her major teachers were Anton Kuerti and Leon Fleisher.

The recital is on Saturday December 2nd, at 8.00pm in the Quadra Island Community Centre. Tickets are available at the door for \$20, or in advance for \$17, at the usual outlets: The Music Plant in Campbell River, Hummingbird Office and Art Supplies in Quathiaski Cove, and Quadra Crafts in Heriot Bay.

www.discoveryislander.ca

Quadra Recreation Update

Halloween Fun Night and Fireworks was a great night at the Community Centre thanks to many volunteers. Please read the ad and support our supporters!

The next big Quadra Recreation Society event will be the Christmas Craft Fair, Friday November 24 from 4:00 to 9:00 and Saturday, November 25 from 10:00 to 3:00. Santa will arrive on his big red fire truck at noon Saturday. Thank you Sue Anderson for all your work master-minding this event. Check out the beautiful posters by Leslie Matthews.

Our big project for the Society, 'cuz we just love projects, is the fundraising for a new playground in Blenkin Park. We want exciting, dynamic imaginative structures that will bring kids flocking to the park for those memorable playtime adventures. And not the memories some of us have, you know, the teeter tawter crashing down to the cement when your brother gets off as you are on the up side. Such a great way to knock out those loose baby teeth. No, nowadays, we like to think we can put up interesting and safe play grounds that are C.S.A. approved. Of course, that means lots of bucks and lots of fundraising. Thanks to a \$5000 Success by Six grant, we are

"off the ground" and it is starting to happen. Parents, grandparents and general supporters are invited to take part in helping with the Christmas Craft Fair Concession on Nov 24 and 25. The concession money will go to the playground, but we need people to run it. The craft fair is a happy event that is a joy to be part of. Get your joy fix by phoning 285 3243 to volunteer on the concession and help make the playground a reality. Want to contribute but hate crowds? We will give you a nice shiny income tax receipt for your end of year "donation to a good cause". Just send a cheque to Q. Recreation Society Box 10 Q.Cove.

Planning for the Winter/Spring session is underway. If you have a fund raiser or an event please book it soon. Want to teach a class or workshop? Is there some activity you would like to see happen at the Community Centre? Call and let's create more happy times on Quadra.

Sandy Spearing
285 3243
Coordinator
Quadra Island Community Centre

Please Return...

Could the lady who borrowed my live trap please return it. Thank you - Daphne Young 285-3842

Fall Fashion Show

Local designers, hairstylists, burgeoning models are donating their time for a fundraising fashion show in support of the Pre-school and its building. Current fashion trends support many innovative styles and designers are ready to show Quadra their unique creations. This show will feature clothing made from various fabrics including the latest natural fibres made from bamboo supplied by Natural; Fibres clothing. There will also be creative designs made from recycled clothing. Diana from Rapture Hair Design, the new salon behind the main mall in the Cove will be donating her time to do the models' hair. Come and join in on the fun and support a good cause! Entrance is by donation at the door. Call Mimi at 285-2626 for more information.

Increase Your Energy, Boost Your Health

Join us for a full body workout on Monday and Thursday nights 6:00pm till 7:30pm at the Community Centre. Aerobics, floorwork and strength training to the beat of great music.

Suitable for beginners, everybody welcome. From 7:00 pm till 7:30pm we focus on stretching and relaxing. Drop in for Aerobics \$5. Drop in Aerobics and Stretching \$7 Hope to see you there For more questions call Marion at 285 2895



A Big Thank You

to all who made generous donations or volunteered for Halloween Fun Night at the Quadra Community Centre. Your generosity and time well-spent created another successful, memorable Halloween. (Apologies if any names left out.)

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Yummy Desserts

Gourmet Desserts without wheat, gluten, dairy and eggs, made with raw, unprocessed ingredients and most important - delicious!!

Sounds unbelievable? It isn't, the raw food potluck group invites anyone interested to come and taste and enjoy raw food dessert ideas. recipes will be available. we will also show a fun video about the preparation of many simple to make but fancy desserts (with recipes). This will give people who don't eat gluten, wheat, dairy or eggs a whole lot of new dessert ideas. Also recipe books will be available for you to look at.

Bring a raw salad or raw veggie dish (a raw salad dressing will be supplied) to round out the meal for the potluck.

This will take place Sunday November 19 in Room 1 at the Quadra Community Centre between 5 and 7 pm. For more information phone pat at 285-2377 or joyce at 285-3827

Poetry & Music at the Aroma

Mango, Quadra's own homegrown original folk singing group is playing its last gig ever at the Aroma Cafe. Sunday, Shea, Maureen, Jason & Steve are disbanding as a group after playing several gigs at Cape Mudge Church, the Aroma and the Grotto in Courtenay, B.C. So if your one of those folks who say, "Sorry, I missed you, catch you next time".....There is no next time and no recorded tracks. So come on down for these now or never sweet voicings by Shea & Sunday. In addition, there is a poetry book release party for Steve Moore's THE MEANING OF LIFE, VOLUME THREE, which completes the poetry trilogy after 26 years in the making. There will be readings from the book by Hilary Stewart, Burton Wohl, Sunday Dennis, Jason McMahon, Mimi Smienk, Elise Côté, and Steve Moore. The new volume three is available for \$15. All three books in the trilogy can be obtained for just \$30. This is a no cover event, but a hat will be passed to support the band. And a light supper & sweets & speciality drinks are also available.

Aroma has been wonderful in supporting local culture during this rainy season. A special thanks to Josée, Jeff, my man, and Peggy. Bring a friend and support our community based music and poetry. Where else will you hear a song about the Haskin Farm Trail or a poem about China Mountain? Certainly not on your Hollywood video rental. Call Steve at 285-3323 for more information.

Banff Film Fest

With the seasonal change from summer to winter leaving memories of warm weather adventures and the promise of winter escapes and sports around the corner there's no better time to celebrate the world of adventure and travel than by taking in the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour.

Campbell River and Quadra Island locals are fortunate to have not one but two entirely different shows which between them cover most of the films available on the North American world tour circuit.

Amongst the highlights to look forward to this year are: a documentary shot in Siberia; 'Conflict Tiger' the festival Grand prize winner, and 'Mother of All Waters' which portrays a journey down the Mekong River through dazzling culture and scenery.

The Banff Mountain Film Festival is playing at the **Campbell River Tidemark Theatre on Friday November 24** and at the **Quadra Island Community Centre on Saturday November 25**. Doors for both shows **open at 6:30 pm** with the films starting at 7 sharp. Tickets are available in advance from the Tidemark Theatre box office at 287-7465 or Explore Gallery on Quadra or try your luck at the door.

Quadra Quilters' Marathon

It is that time of year again. The weather is getting cold, wild and wet and it is time to turn to indoor pursuits. It is time to quilt. Once again the Quadra Quilters will be sewing up a storm in the **Community Centre on November 18 and 19**. This will be their fifth annual quilting marathon. Using donated fabrics obtained from all over North America, the quilters make comfort quilts for children undergoing cancer treatment in BC Childrens Hospital and Ronald MacDonald House. The staff match a quilt to a child and the child keeps the quilt. We try to make a variety of quilts for children of all ages, from babies to teenagers. Group leaders choose a pattern and materials suitable for a particular age range, and the quilters spend the two days piecing, quilting, talking, laughing and let us not forget the eating part. Everyone has a great time and we make some beautiful quilts with love sewn into every stitch, ready to be delivered to Vancouver. It is a great experience for everyone.

If you are a quilter but not a member of the guild and would like to participate, please contact Ruth Williamson (3006) for further information. If you would like to come and see some of the quilts we have made, visit on Sunday afternoon between 1.30 - 3.30 pm.

Oil Tanker Warning for BC's West Coast

Oil tankers are coming to BC's inside coastal waters. Despite a 1972 moratorium that bans them from being anywhere but offshore, two tankers have already arrived in Kitimat, each carrying 350,000 barrels of petroleum-based condensate, a volatile solvent used to dilute thick bitumen at the Alberta tar sands. One tanker arrived on June 24, the other two months earlier, after wending their way through Hecate Strait, Caamano Sound and then into the narrow, 230 km-long Douglas Channel that ends at Kitimat. The condensate was then loaded into tanker cars and shipped by rail to Alberta.

This is the beginning of BC's unwitting and ill-considered foray into the political tensions and environmental risks of international oil distribution.

At a Saturday, October 28th meeting at the QCC, hosted by Sierra Quadra, Oonagh O'Connor of The Living Oceans Society and Will Horter of the Dogwood Initiative gave an illustrated presentation of the high environmental hazards, small economic benefits and considerable geo-political complications BC can expect from regular oil tanker traffic through our ecologically rich and vulnerable inside waters. As many as 350 tankers per year could eventually be servicing as many as eight pipelines proposed to connect Kitimat and Prince Rupert to the tar sands and to the other pipeline networks that distribute natural gas and oil across North America.

O'Connor pointed out that the tankers will have to traverse Hecate Strait where sudden storms can raise winds of 200 km/hr and 30 m waves in the shallow waters. Hidden rocks and reefs litter the passage into Caamano Sound. Tankers in transit to Kitimat will pass Gil Island, where the Queen of the North recently sank. Locals are worried about the damage caused by a few thousand litres of diesel; they are petrified by the damage that could be caused by hundreds of thousands of barrels of crude experts consider as little as 15 percent recovery of a spill to be a successful clean-up.

Horter described the safety risks of a liquid natural gas terminal at Kitimat and Prince Rupert. In the US, incoming LNG tankers are considered as unexploded bombs and potential terrorist targets. In Boston harbour, such arriving tankers require the clearing of the harbour two miles ahead and a mile behind, escort by four coast guard ships and two destroyers, and the closure of all nearby bridges to all traffic. He also noted that no petroleum port in the world is without military protection.

Any pipeline to Kitimat, Horter explained, would have to travel about 1,100 km over two mountain ranges and over hundreds of wilderness rivers, an extreme engineering challenge all for the permanent employment of about 45 people per pipeline as many jobs as are supplied by one large hardware store. For taking innumerable environmental risks, for venturing into complex geopolitical entanglements, and for the possible militarization of our coast, we get to service Alberta's oil boom, America's insatiable demand for oil, and the growing needs of China and India. And all this could happen without public consultation or debate.

Special thanks to Oonagh and Will for making us aware of this serious matter. You can contact your provincial and federal politician at claire.trevena.mla@leg.bc.ca and Catherine Bell at 287-4902.

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Erik & Wendy Sorensen

It's been a couple of months since my last update and its been a busy time even though the Legislature not sitting this fall. The government claims it has nothing to do so there was no need to sit. What arrogance.

The decision on the location of the hospital has been a major preoccupation. VIHA's decision to site it outside Courtenay shows that they did not listen to the hundreds of people who came out to say they wanted to keep two hospitals.

It doesn't meet the needs of people who live in Campbell River and it will be even worse for those who live on the Islands or further north. It's not going to be easy to drop in and visit a family member or friend when you have to drive to the Mount Washington turn-off on Highway 19. The remote location with no amenities nearby will make life even more difficult for people whose home is some distance away and who want to stay close to a hospitalized, loved.

I've appealed to the Minister of Health, George Abbott, to get involved but I fear that it was always a done deal. VIHA wanted a regional hospital. It is now going to lobby for the funding and I fear this will raise even more problems. I suspect the funding from the province likely is going to be 3P – a public private partnership under the new rules the liberal government is bringing in. 3Ps have not proven to be any cheaper than public financing and are not as accountable.

I am absolutely committed to fighting to stop and to rollback the creeping privatization of our hospitals, indeed of all our whole health care system.

On the big picture I'm also dealing with issues arising from corporate concentration and the monopoly that Western Forest Products has in its control over our public crown lands.

There's a real concern about where our logs are going – mostly to mills far from the North Island – and what's going to be left for our communities.

I've been talking with the Ministry of Forests and its commercial division, BC Timber Sales (BCTS), over the plans for Maurelle Island. BCTS has assured me that there are no plans to log the Island, but that it needs to be mapped and included in the long term, regional plan. I am very pleased to hear that landowners on Maurelle are joining with others to form a community association and look forward to having regular updates about what's happening on the ground.

At time of writing, still no news on the geoduck decision for Quadra or Cortes. But those closely watching the work of the Special Legislative Committee on Sustainable Aquaculture will have seen that we have heard from a number of people working in or impacted by the shellfish industry and likely will be including a reference to that in our final report, due in May.

And finally, ferries. I attended part of a Ferries' Advisory Committee meeting last month and was heartened by the continued feistiness of our community representatives. Fares have gone up yet again, but without the legislature sitting I am unable to question the Minister of Transportation about the logic for yet another rise.

However we've had a call at the office about the new policy for students having to complete a Travel Acknowledgement form if they are catching a late ferry home. Seems like more unnecessary bureaucracy to me so let me know if you're troubled by it.

I can always be contacted in my Campbell River office on 287 5100; at home on 285 2167; or by email at claire.trevena.mla@leg.bc.ca



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Fares Rise, Students Held Up But Summer Traffic Is History

November 1st saw another bump up in ferry fares, one more annual increase mandated by the government's 2003 contract with BC Ferries.

The Globe & Mail reported that Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon "said no one likes to pay more to take a ferry, but the increases are only about \$2 or less. He said the public will adjust, and the increase won't affect the economy in any dramatic way."

However, this is the seventh fare hike or fuel surcharge since 2003, and "\$2 or less" is starting to add up to a noticeable sum.

In December 2002, before the government restructured BC Ferries as quasi-private company, the roundtrip ticket book price for a car, driver and passenger to Quadra was \$10.65. Now it is \$17.30--a 62% increase.

In 2002, two Cortes Islanders with a car were paying the \$10.65 for Quadra tickets and another \$15.52 for the roundtrip between Heriot Bay and Whaletown--for a total of \$26.17. Today that trip costs \$40.20--a 53% increase.

To take advantage of these rates, one has to be able to plunk down sizeable sums for the ticket books. The foursome of books of 10 which Cortesians need now cost \$402.

Back in November of 1997, the whole coast erupted in protest when the NDP government of the day suddenly passed an order-in-council hiking all the ferry fares by about 50%. In response, the government rolled back the increases on the ticket book prices but not the cash fares.

So there has been a significant difference between the per trip cost using ticket books compared to cash ever since.

In 2002, the midweek cash fare for a visiting couple and their car to go to Quadra and back to Campbell River was \$20.50. The weekend price was \$22.50. The incremental increases since then have boosted the weekday price to \$28.85 (40% more) and the weekend fare to \$31.05 (37% more).

Our same cash-spending couple making the roundtrip from Campbell River to Cortes would have paid \$45.25 midweek and \$49.50 for weekend travel in 2002. Now it's \$62.35 midweek (37% more) and \$67.50 on weekends (up 36%).

Comparing the ticket book prices and cash fares, both government and BC Ferries officials like to suggest that ticket book users are getting a "huge discount." I'd suggest that the people who pay cash have been getting ripped off ever since 1997.

On Nov. 17, the chairs of the 12 coastal Ferry Advisory Committees will be in Victoria to have separate meetings with BC Ferries, the Ferry Commissioner and the Ministry of Transportation. The Coastal Ferry Act mandates moving toward user pay and reducing the government service fee that supports our routes. We think this has gone far enough.

New Student Boarding Policy

The government pays BC Ferries for transporting seniors on their "free" days, students to and from school and patients traveling on medical passes. Recently, they audited BC Ferries' method of keeping track of these numbers and didn't like what they saw.

Two weeks ago a new system was instituted requiring the ticket agent to collect information on students returning to Quadra or Cortes who do not take the 3:30 ferry which connects with the school bus.

Students walking on later ferries must go through the ticket booth and sign in. One person in each car claiming free student travel must write his or her name, the number of students in the car, activity that delayed their return, school they attend and provide a signature.

This procedure involves the ticket agent handing a clipboard and a pen into each car and waiting while the info is written down.

Last Friday, in Campbell River, there were more than 60 students who had to be accounted for in this manner on the busy 4:30, 5:25 and 6:15 sailings. This resulted in the vehicle lineup being backed out onto the highway because of the slowdown in ticketing, despite having a very experienced ticket agent working the window.

The fact that any student-aged person can walk aboard the ferry that connects with the school bus and is simply counted without providing any

by John Sprungman
Chair, Ferry Advisory Committee

identification seems entirely inconsistent with these requirements for students who come home later.

On Monday I emailed BC Ferries' President/CEO David Hahn and he referred me to Nancy Merston, Director of the Marine Branch at the Ministry of Transportation. She phoned back from Ottawa and promised she would meet with BC Ferries when she returns later this week to look for a better solution. In the meantime, please be patient with the terminal staff. This is a challenge for them too.

Summer Overloads

There were 198 overloads at Quathiaski Cove in August, and a total of 5,395 cars were left behind. The 11:00 was the worst, overloaded every day with an average of 40 cars left behind. Overloads at noon (29 days, 961 cars left) and 1:00 (26 days, 1,077 cars left) ranked second and third.

Predictably, the most overloads in Campbell River were on the 3:30, 4:30 and 5:25. July was not quite as bad in either direction, merely 136 overloads at Q. Cove and just 2,160 cars left.

Clearly, the best strategy for Quadrites is go to town early and stay late in July and August. The best strategy for Cortesians is to stock up in June and stay home unless you have the means to stay overnight. Cortes had 129 overloads in July (1,020 cars left behind) and 148 overloads in August (1,038 cars left).

A change that would help both communities would be to have a 16-hour day (instead of 12) for Cortes in the summer. This would allow more Cortes traffic to avoid the busiest Quadra sailings. The challenge will be in cost and crewing.

I made charts from BC Ferries' stats, showing every overloaded run with the number of vehicles left for July and August for both ferries. They take up too much space to print here, but you can view them at www.discoveryislander.ca. A

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Magical Mozart

with the Vancouver Island Symphony!

After a triumphant tour of "Magical Mozart" to sell-out audiences the Vancouver Island Symphony is pleased to announce the release of their CD of the same name.

Under the guiding baton of artistic director Marlin Wolfe, the VI Symphony has, in twelve years, reached full maturity and mastery and has become one of Canada's best regional professional orchestras. What better time then, than to release a CD of Mozart's works to commemorate not only the coming of age of the VI Symphony but also the 250th Birthday of the master composer!

Says Maestro Wolfe, "The recording Magical Mozart is the culmination of many successful concerts, and people loved the music. The program was picked because you don't hear the Bassoon Concerto very often. (Bassoonist) Anthony Averay performed wonderfully."

The textures, flavours, nuances and precision of sound of the recording make for a delightful presentation. From Divertimento for Strings in D Major, to Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, the Bassoon Concerto in B-Flat Major and the beautiful Symphony No. 40, the VI Symphony reaches to new heights of perfection - with Mozart!

It is definitely music to lift the spirits and relax to - drift away with - on a quiet afternoon or evening at home, or during a romantic and delicious gourmet dinner, or while stuck in rush-hour traffic after a hard day at work. It is music to calm the soul.

Maestro Wolfe has had an extensive conducting career with orchestras throughout Europe and on national tours of The Nutcracker with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. He founded the Edmonton Chamber Players Orchestra and has conducted the Calgary Philharmonic, CBC Vancouver Orchestra, Canadian Chamber Orchestra, the Vancouver, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Regina and Victoria Symphonies and the Vancouver Opera Orchestra. In 2001 Wolfe was awarded the Excellence in Culture Award by the City of Nanaimo for his contributions and accomplishments with the VI Symphony.

Soloist Anthony Averay, principal bassoon with the VI Symphony, began freelancing with the London Symphony Orchestra, Welsh Opera and the Royal Ballet while attending ARCM Royal College of Music. He also played with the BBC Symphony, Philharmonia Orchestra and Welsh Opera before immigrating to Canada. In Vancouver he taught at UBC, freelanced with the Vancouver Symphony, Vancouver Opera and CBC Orchestra and formed the highly successful Vancouver Wind Trio, which for twenty years toured throughout North America.

CDs are available in Nanaimo through the VI Symphony office at 150 Commercial St., by phone at (250) 754-0177, by fax (250) 754-0165, or through their web site <<http://www.viso.bc.ca/>>www.viso.bc.ca. Also at Turley's Florist, The Quilted Duck Gift

Cottage, Nanaimo Art Gallery (Downtown), La-Z-Boy, Chapters, and Bernard Callebaut Chocolates. Other Vancouver Island locations: Gallowglass Books, Duncan; Toadhall Emporium, Chemainus; Chapters, Victoria; Wildside Booksellers, Tofino; Mulberry Bush Bookstore, Parksville; Tim Buku Music, Qualicum; Something Special Gifts, Campbell River.

Rivercity Players present: Stepping Out'

For over 40 years **Rivercity Players** have been an active theatre group in Campbell River, and we are very proud to announce our first production of this season, a rib tickling comedy by Richard Harris & Samuel French. In **'Stepping Out'**, a group of women and one man meet weekly in a beginners tap-dance class, struggling to conquer their inhibitions and a preponderance of left feet!

This comedy, directed by **Jeff Hyslop**, concentrates on the group as they gradually move from stumbling, bumbling, awkwardness within their new environment & each other, to forging a team worthy of performing to an outside audience. Under the leadership of Mavis, this eccentric gathering of very mixed abilities and backgrounds tap their Thursday evenings away in a dingy North London church hall.

And what a bunch they are: snobby Vera, pushy Maxine, insecure Andy, and Sylvia. Dorothy, accomplished Lynne, Rose and shy widower Geoffrey all try their very best as a class. To add a serious and a less starry outlook, the irritable Mrs. Fraser accompanies on piano.

They all have reasons their for being in the class but it never fully develops, teasing with tidbits about their lives, hopes and anxieties. You strain to know more of their lives outside the hall but finally accept that the aim is the final performance. Will they ever have the ability to pass it off? The overriding factor is that they may not be great dancers, but unlike their feet, they are all heading enthusiastically in the right direction.

Growing old and staying young inside - oddly enough, this hilarious play reminds us about that important aspect of aging. This highly entertaining play deservedly won the *Evening Standard* Comedy of the Year award in 1984, and is well worth your entertainment time.

Performances of **'Stepping Out'** are November 9, 10, 11 at the Tidemark Theatre. Call 287-PINK to reserve your seats.

A very small portion of ticket sales actually goes back to Rivercity Players - we need all your bums in those big comfy seats and invite you to *re-discover live theatre* and support Rivercity Players. Last season, Rivercity Players came in second place in Theatre BC's Zone Festival with our entry of Neil Simon's comedy "Chapter Two." It is our pleasure to produce top quality plays for our community to enjoy, and we fully encourage you to "Come & Play with Us!"

ROMANZA

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It's entertaining, genuine and real! It's ROMANZA!

The Tidemark Theatre presents Maestro Marlin Wolfe and the Vancouver Island Symphony, back by popular demand, on Friday, November 17 along with ROMANZA - Philip Grant, Ken Lavigne and Frédéric Robert, three handsome, young, talented classically trained lyric tenors who have separately been delighting audiences across North America and Europe. Together they have a passionate, harmonious and enchanting sound that will win any audience. Says Grant, "We are trying to reach out to as wide an audience as we can - to stare down the elitism of opera. We are popularizing opera while maintaining the integrity of the music."

"We take melodies from the past and reinvent them," adds Robert. "We create a bridge between the operatic sound and the more modern feel. We are doing it with our own sound."

"We are trying to make the music we love more accessible," continues Lavigne. "We like to have fun and show that opera is not intimidating, that the music is very approachable."

Not only do these three young men have vocal talent, they have fun, and as the audience will easily see, they are great friends and enjoy performing together.

Opening this great evening of opera favourites Maestro Wolfe leads the VI Symphony with the William Tell Overture by Rossini, and the Triumphant March from Aida by Verdi. Then with a repertoire that includes the opera arias everyone loves to hear, musical theatre, popera, love ballads and Canadian folk tunes, ROMANZA is set to sweep the audience off it's feet.

Imagine a warm, friendly, humorous and relaxed atmosphere in the theatre, then these three marvellous voices, along with the magnificent sounds of the VI Symphony, caress you with La Donna è Mobile and O Sole Mio, The Prayer by David Foster, and the ultimate tear-jerker and spine-tingler - Danny Boy.

ROMANZA is not only creating a bridge in their music they are bridging their connection with the audience. Don't be surprised to find yourself shaking hands or having a chat with them during intermission or have them talking with you as they sign their latest CD "Genuine" after the concert.

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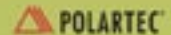


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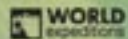
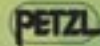
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by Steven Halliday

Checks and Balances

“President George Bush isn't on the ballot Tuesday. But this election, nonetheless, is all about him. The question is whether voters will pry his fingers loose from at least some of the levers of power, thereby limiting the damage he can inflict in his two remaining years in office”. So wrote Paul Krugman, a *New York Times* columnist and unstinting Bush critic, on 2006's US mid-term election eve. At the time of this writing on November 8th it appears the 36% of the US electorate that voted did just that. The Republican Party has definitely lost control of the US Congress for the first time in 12 years, and is within 1 seat of losing control of the Senate as well. While gaining control of the Senate would make it a home run for the Democratic Party (in addition to control of Congress they also gained 6 states with Democratic governors, with 2 as yet undecided), Congress is the big win, because with control comes the Chairs of the major committees such as Appropriations, Ways and Means, Intelligence and the Armed Services. The chequebook is now out of the Republican's hands, and oversight of the President is now in Democratic hands.

Two other events of note have come about as a result of the elections; the US now has its first female Speaker of the House, and Minnesota elected a Muslim to Congress. While the latter may represent a symbolic acknowledgement that America is indeed all embracing, the former is of considerable significance. Nancy Pelosi is a 10-term congresswoman representing the San Francisco based 8th district, and has been an outspoken adversary of George W. Bush, calling him “incompetent” and “in denial and dangerous”. She warned, prior to the election, that should the Democrats win the House, “the president will have to have a different attitude now that he won't have a rubber stamp Congress”.

Pelosi has set out an ambitious agenda for a Democratic House, including raising the minimum wage to \$7.25 an hour (from \$5.15), eliminating subsidies to oil companies, allowing government to negotiate Medicare drug prices and encouraging stem-cell research. She has also indicated that tax cuts approved under Republican leadership will be revisited, in order to rebalance the benefits away from high earners over to low and middle-income recipients. In the weeks leading up to the election the Republican media machine cranked out the warning that if Pelosi and the Democrats win, they will use their new subpoena power to launch endless and frivolous investigations of the Bush administration. I found this hilarious, considering the Republicans used their subpoena power to hamstring the Clinton administration at every possible opportunity, from Whitewater to Monica – while the Democrats have scores of serious abuses to review, from Halliburton to Abu Ghraib to the so-called Patriot Act. But it is certainly true that the Democrats must be cautious and prudent with their newfound power, and avoid any actions that could be viewed as vengeful. They should proceed methodically and thoroughly in their upcoming investigations - of which there need to be many - so that in the end the evidence will be so overwhelming and convincing as to permanently label this President's administration as what it is – the worst presidency ever.

One the harshest critics of the Bush administration – for at least the past few months – is a relatively new political commentator for MSNBC named Keith Olbermann. Olbermann, 47 years old, had made a career as a sportscaster prior to moving into political reporting for MSNBC in 2003. He has been called the Edward R. Murrow of the 21st century, and not just because he uses Morrow's signature “Good night and good luck” to close his commentaries. Since at least the spring of this year he has been

unrelenting in his pointed criticism of George Bush, his administration and his policies.

His November 6, 2006 commentary (*Where are the Checks, Balances?*) is well worth reading <www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15595139/>. Olbermann points out the reason the US government is structured the way it is, and how things have gone wrong. He describes Bush's misadventures of the last 3 years, then goes on...

“Mr. President, there is no other conclusion we can draw as we go to the polls tomorrow. Sir, you have been making this up as you went along. This country was founded to prevent anybody from making it up as they went along. Those vaunted Founding Fathers of ours have been so quoted up that they appear as marble statues: like the chiseled guards of China, or the faces of Mt. Rushmore. But in fact they were practical people and the thing they obviously feared was a government of men and not laws.

They provided the checks and balances for a reason. No man could run the government the way he saw fit – unless he, at the least, took into consideration what those governed saw. A House of Representatives would be the people's eyes. A Senate would be a corrective force on that House. An executive would do the work, and hold the Constitution to his chest like his child. A Supreme Court would oversee it all. Checks and balances. Where did that go, Mr. Bush? And what price did we pay because we have let it go?”

The voters have spoken, and they took away Mr. Bush's ability to make it up as he goes along. As breaking news this morning, I see that Donald Rumsfeld has resigned his post as Secretary of Defense – about 4 years too late – but as recently as last week Bush expressed his unwavering support of Rumsfeld. This, clearly, is a response to the message sent to the White House by American voters last night, and is Mr. Bush's first correct step in quite some time.

As Canadians I think we can heave a collective sigh of relief – the worst is likely over and our American cousins seem to be on a new path. A lame-duck presidency is about the best way of ending Bush's final term, and will provide some opportunity for he and his administration to try to fix what they have broken, under adult supervision of course. Paul Krugman ends his November 6th column thusly – “No matter how hard the Bush Administration may try to ignore the constitutional division of power, Bush's ability to make deadly mistakes has rested in part on Republican control of Congress. That's why many Americans, myself included, will breathe a lot easier if one-party rule ends Tuesday”. Breathe easy, Mr. Krugman.

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by Tanya Storr

Safe Community Day

Quadra and Cortes Islanders Learn About Local Safety Issues

If you were a kid attending Safe Community Day at QCC, it was hard to choose between all the exciting activities. You could visit the Burn House and pretend to escape a house fire, see inside the RCMP helicopter parked on the ball field, have your face painted, or learn about a police dog's daily work.

Both Quadra and Cortes hosted a Safe Community Day this past weekend, featuring many informative displays and demonstrations from a variety of groups involved in local safety issues.

The Burn House, set up outside the main entrance to QCC, was a popular attraction at Quadra's Safe Community Day on November 5. As simulated smoke drifted out its windows and doors, Quadra firefighters guided kids and adults through a safe exit from a house fire.

Deputy Chief Sharon Clandening said the Campbell River Fire Department generously loans the Burn House to the Quadra Island Volunteer Fire Department for such events. "It's a great demonstration tool and always generates a lot of interest," she said.

Inside the community centre the main hall was filled with people browsing the displays. At the Vancouver Island Insurance Centre table, Elaine McDonald was answering questions about car safety seats for children. She mentioned a new recommendation stating children up to 80 pounds should sit in a safety seat, and pointed out various seat styles on a poster.

Another topic that caught people's interest at Elaine's table was woodstove safety. She noted that house fires resulting from faulty woodstoves or improper use are a big safety concern.

Judith McFarlane of RCMP Victim Assistance wanted people to know that the service covers both the Campbell River and Quadra detachments. Victim Assistance provides support to victims of crime and trauma that has been reported to the police.

"Our work is interesting and challenging, with a never ending supply of clients, unfortunately," she said.

As well as offering emotional support, Victim Assistance representatives provide information and help with crime victim assistance forms. They also make referrals to other community agencies.



Graham Swanson and Brad Hallam of the QIVFD were on hand at Quadra Safety Day to demonstrate how to escape a house fire.
Photo by Tanya Storr.

RCMP Constable Gord Rutherford and his German shepherd, 'Pax', had everyone's attention when they gave a talk and demonstration about the daily life of a police dog. A vigorous seven-and-a-half year old with a commanding presence, Pax works alongside his human partner at all hours of the day and night.

"We are a team. Pax protects me and I protect him. It's automatic—I don't have to say anything to him," said Constable Rutherford.

In their partnership, it's important that Rutherford always has the upper hand. Police dogs tend to have dominant natures, he explained, so the human in the team must retain "top dog" status.

Pax's main job is tracking criminals. He also searches for drugs and looks for missing people in tandem with search and rescue volunteers.

"Each person has their own specific smell. Dogs can differentiate and track that scent until they can't follow it anymore. Their sense of smell is very powerful—like being able to differentiate between every spice on a pizza," Rutherford said.

Police dogs receive between three months-unlimited amounts of training, depending on the dog. They have a powerful prey drive and are trained to develop their keen tracking instincts.

Pax's reward when he finds someone or something at the end of a search is his toy ball. He gets very few dog treats and no human food. Rutherford demonstrated how Pax follows the ball with his eyes as he held it above the dog's reach.

Hand signals are used in situations when remaining silent is imperative. Pax knows and obeys hand signals for 'quiet', 'come', 'sit', and 'stay'.

Pax hails from Czechoslovakia. The RCMP doesn't use North American German shepherds due to their hip ailments. Rutherford noted that Pax needs strong hips and legs for the arduous work involved in tracking, often in wilderness locations.

Rutherford and one other dog handler cover an area from Qualicum Beach to the north end of Vancouver Island, west to Tofino and Ucluelet, and east to Powell River. It's a large territory, requiring quite a bit of helicopter travel. The other police dog specializes in tracking explosives.



Michael Windrim and Judy Hagen, coordinators of the Quadra Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program, display items for a family emergency kit.
Photo by Tanya Storr.

There were many questions from the crowd, including several from children who watched the large dog with quiet fascination. One small boy asked what happens when Pax is tired from chasing a "bad guy" and a second bad guy comes along.

Rutherford replied that Pax always has more energy when needed in situations like that, however he makes sure the dog gets plenty of rest between shifts.

In response to a question about success stories, Rutherford remembered an incident where Pax helped a search and rescue mission find some lost hikers who were ill equipped to deal with their predicament.

"They were wearing only jeans and sweatshirts and would have died if we hadn't found them," he said.

Over at the Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program (NEPP) table, coordinators Michael Windrim and Judy Hagen filled me in on the plans for Quadra. NEPP will operate under the umbrella of the Quadra Safety Council, and will develop a database of local resources in each Quadra neighbourhood.

That way, Michael explained,

the island will be better prepared to deal with a disaster such as an earthquake, large wildfire, or storm causing widespread damage. The fire department has offered the use of its computer system for the project.

"We plan to develop individual neighbourhood groups, with a captain in each area who can organize the neighbourhood in an emergency," he added.

Judy Hagen observed that it's very important to teach people how to be self-sufficient for 72 hours-one week in the event of a disaster.

NEPP is sponsored by the Northern Communities Emergency Program, which receives funding from the regional district and the provincial emergency program.

Michael commented that it's very exciting to work on the long awaited emergency plan for Quadra. "We now have the tools to really put it together, the funding, and the time," he said.

For more information on NEPP, contact Judy Hagen at 285-2150 or Michael Windrim at 285-2252. Watch for NEPP community meeting announcements in upcoming issues of the *Discovery Islander*.

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Island Tides

Pacific Daylight Time For Quathiaski Cove November 10 - 24

10	01:53	0.9	3.0
Friday	09:30	4.3	14.1
	17:04	3.5	11.5
	18:21	3.5	11.5
11	02:40	1.2	3.9
Saturday	10:25	4.2	13.8
12	03:31	1.5	4.9
Sunday	11:16	4.2	13.8
	19:46	3.0	9.8
	21:35	3.0	9.8
13	04:23	1.8	5.9
Monday	11:58	4.2	13.8
	20:16	2.7	8.9
	23:33	2.9	9.5
14	05:14	2.1	6.9
Tuesday	12:33	4.2	13.8
	20:45	2.4	7.9
15	01:07	3.0	9.8
Wednesday	06:04	2.4	7.9
	13:05	4.1	13.5
	21:12	2.1	6.9
16	02:20	3.3	10.8
Thursday	06:52	2.7	8.9
	13:33	4.1	13.5
	21:38	1.8	5.9
17	03:18	3.5	11.5
Friday	07:39	3.0	9.8
	13:59	4.1	13.5
	22:01	1.5	4.9
18	04:07	3.7	12.1
Saturday	08:23	3.2	10.5
	14:20	4.0	13.1
	22:20	1.3	4.3
19	04:51	3.9	12.8
Sunday	09:06	3.4	11.2
	14:38	4.0	13.1
	22:32	1.1	3.6
20	05:33	4.1	13.5
Monday	09:46	3.6	11.8
	14:56	4.1	13.5
	22:50	0.9	3.0
21	06:14	4.2	13.8
Tuesday	10:24	3.7	12.1
	15:21	4.1	13.5
	23:17	0.8	2.6
22	06:56	4.3	14.1
Wednesday	11:06	3.8	12.5
	15:51	4.1	13.5
	23:50	0.7	2.3
23	07:39	4.3	14.1
Thursday	12:10	3.8	12.5
	16:24	4.0	13.1
24	00:26	0.7	2.3
Friday	08:24	4.3	14.1
	14:02	3.8	12.5
	17:01	3.9	12.8

Link to tides & weather
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