

QUADRA CEDAR HILL Community Association NEWS



"Neighbours Building Community"

Volume 33

September - October 2004

GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, September 28, 2004 7:30 PM

Cedar Hill Recreation Centre

3220 Cedar Hill Road

Annual Community Appreciation Night

Refreshments

Everyone Welcome



**Speaker ~
Chris Goldburn**

Project Manager

Regional Housing Affordability Strategy

Topic: Affordable Housing

Saanich Sunfest "Fun In the Park Picnic"

From Margaret Bachmann

The QCHCA 5th Annual picnic was held July 4th at Playfair Park with over three hundred people attending. Feature performers Peter Bourne, The Great Stretchini and the soon to be famous group "Noiz in the Hall" all contributed to the wonderful array of entertainment.

The Burnside Tillicum Interactive water shed board and the Saanich Police Block Watch added public awareness and community information. Games face painting, a jumping castle and the grand finale "Tug of War" rounded out a perfect day. Oops! Almost forgot to mention the hot dogs, chips and pop that were in big demand.

We wish to thank the community for its support and participation. Also thanks to our generous business and local sponsors, listed on the back page, who made this event possible. To our many volunteers "Thank You".

We wish to give special acknowledgement to the Bank of Montreal (Cook/Quadra branch) staff and their families who have partners with the QCHCA from the beginning. Their support, commitment and dedication to this event are very much appreciative.

Wall of Kathleen Finally Complete! by Rock Mason

The Residents of Kathleen Street had a special reason to celebrate Canada day this year. Lorne Carnes had finally finished his epic stone fence. Initially designed to keep his three young toddlers, Duncan, Braeden and Scotty from wandering out onto a busy street, the stone edifice slowly evolved into a seven year run of performance art. Long suffering neighbours would give cheery, encouraging waves, all the while sighing that he'd never finish. Life stories were relayed and updated with each passing dog owner. Babies were born, long time residents died or moved away and the Carnes boys grew into teenagers... yet on he slogged. For long stretches nothing seemed to change... grass and weeds slowly engulfed the forlorn piles of rocks. Then, just when every one had assumed capitulation, Lorne would be back.... centre stage, updating everyone on the latest gossip and screaming at speeders.

Karen, his saintly wife, suspected it was all a ruse to spend time away from her and the children.... yet supported him all the while; putting off her own fantasies of much more pressing projects around the house. At least she knew where he was.

And so as the blessed completion day rolled near it was decided that those who shared the pain should also experience the joy. A block party was planned for Canada Day, and after two years of careful preparation the whole neighbourhood gathered in the Carnes carport to mark the occasion. (The final stone laid in place under the cover of darkness the night before).

Next door neighbours (and co-hosts) Greg and Sara pitched tents on the front lawn and wheeled their BBQ over. Don and Erica from the other side brought theirs too and happily flipped burgers and hotdogs all afternoon. Over 80 neighbours attended, bringing with them a terrific assortment of appy's, salads and desserts. Races were held for the kids and a rolling road hockey game filled the street. Finally, the highlight of the celebration featured Lorne being presented with a certificate for "Recognition of Accomplishment in Stonewalling".

Despite the hot sun the day was a huge success, rollicking on until darkness and mosquitoes drove the last partiers home. Many bravely exclaimed that it should become an annual event. In the end "Lorne's Folly" seemed to have developed into more of a bridge than wall... connecting neighbours in sharing a common, if not exasperating, experience..

Footnote; less than a week later Saanich decided to blast a trench for their new water main less than ten feet from the completed structure. Happily, no damage was done.... although a lot of very tempting rock was unearthed.



SEEN IN PASSING

Ainslie and Dayman Lowe's design and layout creating a successful final production, daughter Sydney. Sister Breanna thrilled to have a little sister. Michael Butterfield showing off photos of infant son. Anne Swannell designing the front page of the Saanich News Community Insert. Terry Little recuperating in Vancouver. Beanie bear left at Sunfest Picnic wanting to reunite with owner, please call.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Vicki Sanders

592-0865 vicki-sanders@telus.net

meetings, meeting with municipal staff and presenting to municipal council, have become well informed. Through this evolution residents have become confident that their community association is representing their vision. As people lead busy lives the formation of the community association has taken away the anxiety and pressure of having to be reactive, to organize and to lobby. However, this means that often when the community association is presenting an issue on your behalf no one from the neighbourhood is in attendance. Sometimes a comment will be made "where are the residents"? Although a small percentage of the populace elect the council we are confident that they represent the vision of the residents of Saanich. Likewise the QCHCA will continue to represent your vision for the community. But we cannot do it alone. You as a community are excellent at attending developer and community meetings and at voicing your opinion. We need and want to hear from you. We need to know your vision. When a development sign goes up on a property in your neighbourhood take the time to find out what it means. Make sure that your neighbourhood changes with the vision that you see. Get involved. Be proactive.

What's Happening in Our Neighbourhoods

BRAEFoot: Bob Trotter

477-4365 rctrotter@hotmail.com

S/W corner of McKenzie and Blenkinsop: Initial inquiries have been made regarding a Veterinary clinic coming to this location. This would be a full service facility providing surgeries. What is your opinion?

CEDAR HILL: Anne Bowen and Jim Moores

380-3955 ascotdr@shaw.ca

Cedar Hill X Road: The seven lot subdivision has been given conditional approval. Only one lot will access off Persimmon Drive with a covenant for no future access. A bouquet to the developer for the landscaping enhancements that have been made to the former Druce home. If this is the benchmark for quality we can only anticipate a subdivision that will be a positive feature in the neighbourhood.

Cedar Hill/Cedar Hill X Road and Cedar Hill/Church

A developer held a community meeting 14th July to present a development package of three proposals as follows:

Cedar Hill / Cedar Hill X - 14 townhouse project north/east corner Church/ Cedar Hill - 23 unit, 4 story Women's Transition House Residence

Church St. - adjacent to the property above, a 4 story 33 unit condo
Some of the issues raised by the area residents were traffic congestion, parking, inconsistency with local area plan, setbacks, variances and height of buildings. The developer stated he would be holding public meetings in the future.

CLOVERDALE/CORE: Laura Hliva

385-0880

Scotia/Rutledge: Proposed multi-family will soon be proceeding to public hearing. The traffic calming promised at the community meeting is not part of the plan. If this is important or any other issue is of concern to your neighbourhood this is your opportunity to tell municipal council. Plan to attend the public hearing.

3350 Quadra: Proposal for 8 storey 68 unit condominium. Several community meetings have been held. The foremost concern is the height of the proposed development. The neighbourhood does not contain a building greater, in height, than four storeys. Some properties face potential isolation. A "comprehensive plan" for development of the Glasgow/Inverness/Quadra area would be preferred to "one-off" developments. Access to the underground parking is proposed at 1016 Inverness. There would also be access off Quadra.

COOK/TATTERSALL: Mark Brown

386-1863 markbrown@shaw.ca

CRAIGMILLAR: Lorne Carnes

383-1978 lornecarnes@shaw.ca

COOK/LINWOOD: Art Pollard

361-3747 partpoll@shaw.ca

QUADRA/SWAN LAKE: Charlotte Woeckener

920-7666 tsare@shaw.ca

HELP - an Area Director is needed for Quadra/Swan Lake Area (Quadra-Tattersall-Saanich-Falmouth). Although still enthusiastic and still able to coordinate the area newsletter distribution, work schedules make it impossible to participate in the QCHCA meetings. This volunteer position is a wonderful opportunity to become involved in your neighbourhood.

REYNOLDS/QUADRA: Vicki Sanders

592-0865 vicki_sanders@telus.net

1121/1123 Reynolds Road: Finally it has happened! A year in the works, the application is now before the municipality to rezone the properties to C4 commercial use (dental office). Proposed are two floors of dental (main and third) with a third floor of rental residential in the middle. The entrance is adjacent to the shopping centre parking and exit adjacent to the Reynolds/Borden intersection. Under building surface parking will be provided at the rear.

The zone requested would allow for office, medical services, apartment, congregational care, assembly, accessory building and structure, cable hub site and attached housing.

This is the third proposal to rezone the property from single family residential to commercial. The neighbourhood opposed the previous plans for a three story and a two story commercial building. Opposition was due to the change from residential to commercial, the mass, height and density of the building, the parking and the traffic safety at the location. Presently over 10,000 vehicles a day use the Reynolds/Borden intersection. The same issues exist. A neighbourhood initiative in 1996 had the Quadra Local Area Plan changed to include policies that state that no new commercial sites will be considered outside the Quadra-McKenzie Development Permit Area. This was upheld on the current 2001 Local Area Plan. If you have concerns it is important to write to the Saanich Director of Planning, Russ Fuoco, 770 Vernon Avenue. Also contact the QCHCA for information.

1030 Greenridge: Townhouses - proposal changed from 3-lot subdivision. Your comments welcome.

Volunteer Needed - Newsletter Bulk Distribution

Thanks to Sharon MacDonald who for the past two years has done a sensational job distributing the newsletter to the Area Directors. It's time for Sharon to focus on her other volunteer commitments. The position involves picking up the newsletter from the printer and sorting it into and dropping it off to the eight areas. It involves a couple of hours, five times a year. Contact the QCHCA president Vicki Sanders.

Block Watch

Block Watch Area Coordinators: Patti and Art Pollard
361-3747 partpoll@shaw.ca. For more information contact
Saanich Volunteer Block Watch Coordinator - Karen Wallis
479-4365 blockwatchspd@gov.saanich.ca

A note from Trish Puckett. I would just like to tell the community that a nice children's wooden table and two chairs, that were left out too long from a lemonade stand, were taken from the curb at my house, 3926 Ascot Drive (and Cedar Hill Cross Road). This happened on about July 16, and a neighbor saw two women in an older black full size SUV (like a Bronco or Blazer) put them in the back. They were a gift from Gramma and Grampa. The six and eight year old kids they belong to really miss them and would love to get them back. No hard feelings - we understand it may have looked as though they were free items.

A child's car seat was taken on July 23 from behind a Reynolds Road home. This item was out of sight. This is a reminder that all movable items of value should be secured even if not on full view.

Environment

Ken Whitcroft 383-7567
enviro.man@telus.net

The Saanich 2004 Environmental Awards were presented at the June 7, 2004 Committee of the Whole. Congratulations all this years winners for their years of hard work and effort in looking after our environment. One special winner to note is QCHCA member Hal Gibbard. Hal won the Biodiversity award. We are all better off thanks to Hal for making us understand the importance of the Garry Oak environment. Hal is president of GOMPS (Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society). In the category of Volunteer Organizations the QCHCA won an honourable mention. All of us in the Quadra Cedar Hill community Association can be proud of this. Let's keep up the good work and remember the environment that we live in.

Paintbrush Crusaders

If you have been in the core area you may have noticed there are yellow fish symbol in front of the storm drain catch basins. This is the efforts of the Paintbrush Crusaders, a group of students from Quadra Elementary School, taking the steps to ensure that the future environment is healthy. The yellow fish is to remind us that pollutants running off our streets directly effect our streams and the foreshore which surrounds us. The mark of the yellow fish is a sign of better times for urban waterways - and for urban fish! Thanks to James Hendy and the students of Quadra School for their efforts.

Cloverdale Creek: Shopping carts and more shopping carts in the creek. Rather than tossing the cart in the creek once your groceries are unloaded please leave them in a visible location to be picked up. The stores are happy to come around and fetch them.

Sadly many dead raccoons have been found in the creek and on neighbouring properties. It is suspected that they have been poisoned. Please watch where poisonous materials are stored to prevent poisoning of innocent animals both wild and domestic.

Neighbourhood Notes

The Canadian Kennel Club, Canine Good Neighbour Program is an interactive twelve step testing developed to promote, recognize and reward responsible dog ownership. All well behaved dogs and their owners are invited to earn their CKC Canine Good Neighbour certificate or simply come out to learn more about this excellent program. Saturday September 25th, 2004 from 10am to 3pm in Beaver Lake Park at the large public picnic shelter. Cost is \$20.00; pre-registration is recommended. Visit www.citizencanine.org for more information, or telephone Nelda 721-2963.

Neighbourhood Notes

Trail walking in our neighbourhoods - Mark Brown

With the warm weather we have been experiencing this summer we are noticing lots of people enjoying our many walking paths and trails in the Quadra Cedar Hill area. We are privileged to have pleasant parks and footpaths so near to where we live. In order to maximize your enjoyment of your outing we offer a few points to keep in mind:

- Whether it is a hike along the West Coast Trail, or a walk around the block, it is a good habit to let somebody know where you are going and what time you expect to be back. This is as important to your family and neighbours as it is to you. Some of our trails have sections that are not well traveled, nor easily viewed should you twist your ankle or become unable to complete your walk. Remember to give an estimate of the time you plan to return "I should be back by 4:30" is better than "I'll be back in an hour".
- Plan your walk being aware of the shortening days at this time of year (unfortunately), in June and July it is quite light at 9:00 PM and later, now the days are darkening by 8:00. Plan to be back at least a half an hour before dark (more time is still better), should you be unable to complete your walk as planned, being caught on a darkening trail is not an enjoyable experience.
- Walking with a friend or walking partner is a good habit: you are more likely to continue this activity due to your mutual commitment to the walk; being able to keep a conversation going is a good indication that you are not becoming too tired or are overdoing it; you are less likely to surprise yourself or another walker by inadvertently encountering them. (Yes there are people out walking their dogs, and dogs get surprised too), and if either of you need help on your walk; there is someone who is there to provide or get that help.
- If you prefer to walk alone, do carry: identification, a quarter for a pay-phone to call home in case you are changing your plans (a cell phone is OK too), and a small bottle of water, not only will this help you reduce fatigue due to de-hydration, if you fall or other wise injure yourself, you can use the water to wash with.
- Finally, and as a citizen, we all are part of making and keeping our neighbourhoods safer places, whether it is fallen debris, overfilled garbage bins or individuals or groups being somewhere that concerns you take the initiative and report your concern to the appropriate agency. And those of us in Block Watch groups need to remember that we have a responsibility to report suspicious activity to the Police.

Greater Victoria Library Board - by Charlotte Woeckener, Saanich representative

On August 11th a delegation of 19 library board and staff members went to Seattle to tour its new central library - an 11 story, 41,200 sq. ft. \$165 million marvel designed by Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas. The latest technological advances, including an automated book sorting system, self-checking that could scan a whole stack of books at one time, and 400+ computers on site were awesome!

On a much smaller, more local note, the Friends of the Library will be holding a book sale at the Nellie MacClung Branch Nov. 13(Sat.) 6-8 p.m.-\$2 entrance charge, and Nov. 14(Sun)9a.m-3p.m.-no charge.

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY BUSINESSES.
The QCHCA is grateful to the following sponsors that contributed to the success of the "Fun in the Park Picnic" ~

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- The Corporation of the District of Saanich
- Friday's Sports Bar
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ilona@saanichvolunteers.org - www.saanichvolunteers.org

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Vice-President	Dean Murdock	658-4160
Secretary	Joy den Otter	361-3145
Treasurer	Cecilia Ivatts	475-1637
Membership	Dorothy Barton	477-3147

Thanks to everyone that renewed their membership during the membership drive. It was a huge success.

QCHCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

P/C _____ TEL _____

EMAIL _____

Membership is \$5 per person per year.
Please fill out this form and send along with payment to:
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I can help with newsletters - phone/fold/deliver - circle one



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