

The 2010 PIRA Annual General Meeting

Sunday 27 June at Beacon House

Registration 1:00 p.m.

Meeting 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Social & Welcome to New Islanders 4:00 p.m.

Protection Island residents are welcome to attend the AGM, however voting is restricted to members only. Any Protection Island property owner can join the Ratepayers' Association, membership is \$10/year/person. If you cannot attend the AGM, you may mail annual dues to the treasurer: Veronica Zehntner, 160 Pirates Lane, Nanaimo, B.C., Canada. V9R 6R1. PIRA members are invited to stand for election to the Board. The present Board will be changing and new thoughts and ideas are always welcome.

The AGM is an opportunity for all residents and property owners to discuss issues of importance to islanders. This year the Board would like to extend a special welcome to our many new islanders. Please join us at the Social for Refreshments following the meeting. We are hoping "long-time" residents will join us for this Welcome event.

Protection Island Ratepayers' Association Board of Directors

David Essig (President), Brenda Henderson, Thora Howell, Linda Irvine, Josephine Kenchenten, Michael MacColl, Fred Schloessinger (vice president), Cathy Tuominen, and Veronica Zehntner (treasurer).

The actions of the Board have been guided by the following Vision Statement, developed by the community.

"Our Vision is to continue to be a unique, quiet, friendly, beautiful and safe community, in which residents cooperate to maintain the natural setting, with its beaches, parks, trees, birds and wildflowers. In order to achieve this vision, we will work together to find the most acceptable and respectful ways of dealing with problems and points of difference (access, moorage, garbage disposal, cars, streetlights, dogs etc.,) while maintaining out informal, non-bureaucratic, easygoing Protection Island style of life."

President's Report

David Essig

President

PIRA Board of Directors

When your current PIRA Board of Directors came in to office, we saw our election as a mandate for change - both in our relationship with Protection Islanders and in the way we conduct our affairs. My first job as President has been to lead us in this process. We have carried out several initiatives to regenerate PIRA and to re-establish our role in the community.

The fundamental change has been to transform the culture of PIRA so that it is a positive force for the enhancement of our community and its unique environment and amenities. Historically in BC, ratepayers' associations have existed to serve as a voice for their members to the respective municipalities. Unfortunately over the years, in many communities, this role evolved into one of representing the municipality's regulatory interests within the community, with ratepayers' associations becoming quasi municipal governments-in-waiting – a sure recipe for public discord and frustration.

Your current PIRA Board has sought to recast PIRA with the positive mission of community enhancement. To this end, we have conducted a series of Community Open House Forums to provide islanders with opportunities to articulate their visions for the future of the island and to formulate positive and tangible programmes to achieve these goals. The best example is the new Protection Island Roads plan that you will read about in this newsletter.

Consistent with this cultural shift, we are proposing to change PIRA into the Protection Island Community Association and to broaden the membership of PIRA to include all residents and property owners of the island. The Board believes that the constituency and mission of our association has grown – that we need to become a more inclusive community group, representing all island residents and property owners. We would like to see membership based on interest in the community, rather than ownership of property.

In order to make this change, we would need to amend the Bylaws of our PIRA Constitution. You will find in this newsletter a Request for Decision (final page), asking the membership at the AGM to vote on a motion to make these changes. I ask you to support this new direction – I believe it is vital to the future of our community.

PIRA has also changed internally this year by strengthening the roles of the individual Directors to carry out programmes in their specific areas of responsibility. We believe this broadening of the decision-making has made PIRA more responsive to the needs of our community and more efficient in carrying out programmes to meet these needs. As President, I have worked to facilitate this enablement among our Directors; the positive results are quite evident in our new initiatives and programmes.

I would like to thank all of my fellow Directors for the vision, dedication and hard work they have brought to their positions. Likewise, we thank all of you - members of our Protection Island community – for the support you have given to this new direction.

With these positive and tangible changes, I believe we can better realize our hopes for this special place and continue, as I am fond of quoting from Slavoy Žižek, to *“actualize our Utopia.”*

Roads Committee Report

Veronica Zehntner

Since our Community Forum on Roads, the Roads Committee has had numerous discussions and onsite meetings with the City Roads Dept. to formulate a strategy for dealing with the 22 identified problem areas as well as the “mud” issue at the traffic circle. Work should commence late May/early June, followed by dust suppression.

At the time of writing, we do not have word as to whether the “ecogrid system” for the circle will be included in this year’s budget, but failing that we will at least have fresh gravel, including down to the Mud Bay dock head.

During the circle work period parking will be disrupted, with no vehicles allowed there. Watch for

bulletins as to the exact date so you can schedule your shopping and/or plan to leave home a few minutes earlier if you normally park there for the daily commute.

A reminder, summertime means more congestion at the circle, which is a 24 hour limit. So, if you are going to be away for more than two days, please drop off your bags and take your vehicle home again leaving the already limited parking for those remaining on the island. Also, the inside of the circle is for golf carts or very small cars (as signage indicates).

The “Clunker” removal will be scheduled to coincide with the arrival of the City work crews and equipment. Those on the list will be notified of the exact date.

Golf carts on P.I. are required by law to be equipped with lights, horn and **CURRENT INSURANCE** decal clearly displayed. The operator must also hold a valid driver’s license. MINORS are NOT permitted to drive. This also applies to motor vehicles. The police have been ticketing violators; no insurance is a \$595.00 fine (more than double the cost of insurance). Also be aware if they stop you, you will be asked to produce both registration and your driver’s license – so don’t leave home without them.

ACCESS - Emergency Access and Moorage

Michael MacColl

During the fall, the development potential of the Borrowman Property was considered with significant input coming from the City and the Port Authority as to what might be possible including possible expansion of the foreshore lease area. The Borrowman property is one of the very few marine access lots with deep water left on the island. Despite the property being zoned MA1, the existing wharf is about 225 feet long and is grandfathered. In addition the marine lease area can be extended further to the north east and out into the harbour by another 30 metres.

Of course there is the money issue. The property acquisition costs and wharf reconstruction to enable disability and a second emergency access would be significant, but far less than anything that would involve Leeshore (even if there was any movement on the owners part). Given budgets and the City’s

current finances, there is very little likelihood the City would be able to do much here in acquiring the land. As the Chinese say - you can't get feathers out of an iron rooster. However, if a group of islanders were willing to buy shares in a moorage co-op arrangement and offset the City's acquisition costs, financing by the City might not appear so onerous, - but enough people (40+) would be needed to buy into such a plan and get additional moorage attached to the main (disability/emergency) wharf.

At the end of March we held a meeting on access and moorage (tied into the Mud Bay Dock discussions). To summarise the discussion: it was pointed out that the Causeway has possibilities for kayaks and rowboats; Gallows Point would be a good spot for an additional small dock for moorage that might alleviate some of the pressure on Mud Bay. Other options were discussed that would require purchase of properties or acquiring foreshore leases from areas like Lot 2 & 12. There was discussion about emergency access at Gallows Point in inclement weather. Most times it is fine but there could be times that weather forbids landing at the dock. 911 dispatch would make the determination on dispatching a helicopter. There was further discussion on the response time to get off the island. It would appear that most of the delay is due to the mid-island having few ambulances available in the evening. Response time is an issue in town as well. Members of the public should address the shortfall of service to VIHA.

Dock News

Josephine Kenchenten

The dock is in the best shape ever thanks again to Larry and other dedicated folk. Please update your registration and fees owed to Cathy Pearson at #9 Pirates.

Bob Lawson is available to take your unused boats to your home for a fee. Call 2506199235. A reminder this is not a storage dock.

Unclaimed, unused, unregistered boats will soon be considered abandoned, salvageable wrecks available for auction or returned to known owners residence at a fee.

PIRA Community Relations Committee Report

Thora Howell

Committee: Heather Cooling, Nella Frewin, Margaret Harris, Brenda Henderson, Thora Howell, Linda Irvine
The Community Relations Committee has met several times this year to discuss the implementation of suggestions that have arisen from the 2009 Survey results. Chair of the Roads, Parks, Access and Moorage Committees have used information from the survey as a basis for community meetings.

The committee is presently working on a Protection Island phone book which will be put together over the summer. Please let us know if you would like to have your name and number listed. We will need to know the name(s) of people, the mailing address and phone number.

Please email Brenda Henderson:

ba_hender@yahoo.ca

Or Thora Howell: hwjit@telus.net

Or send the information to: T. Howell, 176 Captain Morgan's Blvd., Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 6R1

The survey supported that many people support having a Library. Before this can happen we will need to find a space to house it.

Some Protection Islanders are experiencing problems accessing nursing and home care. PIRA is asking for a meeting with VIHA Administrators and Community Care workers in Nanaimo to rectify this. Anyone on Protection Island needing nursing or home care should have the doctor order the care from VIHA. If it is not immediately forthcoming, call the doctor and ask him/her to reinforce the order.

Care for Our Parks

Brenda Henderson

V.I.P. - Volunteer in Parks. Help needed to remove invasive plants i.e. Scotch Broom, English Ivy, Daphne etc. Ideas needed for creative boulevard tree planting projects. Explore and identify access to our many parks. Contact Brenda Henderson @ ba_hender@yahoo.com or 754-7879.

Parks News

Cathy Tuominen

There has been some activity at the multi-use court in Smugglers Park. Thanks to the ongoing efforts of Jason Metz the city has now fenced the court, delivered a storage locker and tennis nets. Soon they will be resurfacing the court to make it non-slip and painting tennis court lines.

The city will be replenishing the pea gravel in the children's play area in Pirates Park in the next few weeks making it safer for the kids to have fun. Please keep in mind that smoking and kids play areas do not mix well.

PIRA hosted a Parks Forum May 8th and invited the community to share their concerns or ideas for uses in our green spaces. There was some good discussion on stewardship of our parks and ideas for future uses. One of the ideas that came out of the discussions was increasing public awareness of invasive plants and inviting volunteers to get involved in work parties and developing ideas for enhancing our boulevards. Stay tuned to hear more on that subject. Another area discussed was looking at establishing a Dog Off Leash Park. There will be an invitation for those interested in such a park to get together and discuss the probability and logistics of establishing such a park with the city's support. Access to beaches and inner green space is being looked at to determine how best to identify them and make them more user friendly. A plan will be put together and brought forward to the community prior to approaching the city. Some interpretive signage is also being looked to help educate the community on things like invasive plants and Garry Oak meadows. The question of public toilet facilities came up for high use areas like Pirates Park and Smugglers Park near the D.I.G.s gardens. There will be some investigation on what would be required for a proposal to go forward to the city.

The Lions Club has renewed it's contract with the city which involves mowing the major parks and keeping beach accesses open. They will begin mowing once the wildflowers have finished flowering so that we can ensure they continue to flourish in our parks. Thanks again to all the work the Lions do for our community.

There will be a Shore Clean Up Day on June 13th

1 pm to 4pm. We will be sending out a notice to invite anyone interested to join us at low tide to clean up our beaches. This will be a good opportunity to enjoy the beach and keep it pristine.

DRINKING AND DRIVING

Just a reminder – if you can't walk without weaving you won't be able to drive without weaving either. Our roads are our sidewalks. Please don't drink and drive. Remember that the speed limit is 20 K on ALL our island roads.

D.I.G.S NEWS (Douglas Island Garden Society)

Margaret Harris

1. MAY 23: 10:30 - 11:30 Plant swap and sale at the community garden. Bring a plant from your own garden and take a plant of equal value or come and buy a plant or two.
2. MAY 23 2:00 at the community garden - DIGS is hosting a family scavenger hunt. More details will follow.
3. The Little Diggers program runs every Sunday (10:30 - 11:30) through May until the end of August. Cost \$5:00 per child for the 4 month program. Call Cate Muir: 250-741-1211 to register.
4. If you are interested in joining DIGS contact Margaret Harris (250-740-0317) or meharris@telus.net \$10 for a single membership or \$15 for a family. Present your 2010 DIGS membership card at garden nurseries for a discount on purchases. Membership dues also provide revenue to maintain the community garden. A reminder to last year's DIGS members - it's time to renew your membership for 2010.
5. Produce from the garden will be placed on the Harvest Table in front of the garden Saturdays or Sundays as it is harvested for islanders. Free or by donation.
6. Keep in touch with community garden events and gardening tips on DIGS blog:
digsgarden.blogspot.com

Fire Department News

Jason Metz

On-call District Chief Veronica Zehntner retired in February after 18 years of amazing service to Nanaimo Fire Rescue and the Protection Island community. She managed Station 7 through major changes in personnel, operations and equipment over the past 10 years, training, advocating, and inspiring. The responsibility for running Station 7 has been assumed by On-call Captain Jason Metz and On-call Lieutenant Jodi Le Masurier.

In the past year 2 members of station 7 left Protection Island and our fire crew. Stefan Bjarnason moved to Nanaimo to focus on post and beam construction and Andrew Chapman has left the province to attend paramedic school. We miss them both!

Pam Murray joined Station 7 in January and is learning to be a firefighter while she completes her education degree. She is a great addition to our team!

Recruitment

Are you interested in contributing to your community? Mastering practical knowledge and skills in a fun environment? Station 7 is currently looking for a few healthy, level-headed recruits to join our team. On-call firefighters at Station 7 learn to fight fires, treat medical patients, get paid for their time, and provide a critical service to the community. For more information contact either Jason Metz 716-0355 or Jodi Le Masurier 754-7245 or stop by the station on a Tuesday evening at 7pm for a chat.

Preparation

Street addresses should be clearly visible from the road so the fire department can find you quickly in an emergency. We respond to all 911 fire and medical emergencies.

Check the expiry date on your fire extinguishers, if they need servicing or replacing drop them off at Mid Island Fire Equipment (MIFEL) 273 Selby St., Nanaimo. If you have a motor driven boat, you should also carry an extinguisher on board.

Replace the batteries in all your smoke alarms, they should be replaced every 6 months (an easy way to

remember is to do it when you change your clocks, spring & fall). Alarms should be tested every month, remember only working alarms save lives.

Have a fire escape plan for your home with a safe meeting place outside and make sure that all household members are familiar with the plan. Have a fun fire drill every 3 months, it only takes a few minutes and keeps the plan fresh in everyone's memory. Help your firefighters improve their emergency operations at your home by providing us a basic drawing of your floor plan. Drop it off to any firefighter or to the station on Tuesday nights.

Now is the perfect time to clean your chimney, so it's ready for that first chilly fall evening. Burning cardboard or paper in a stove with an uncleaned chimney is a major cause of chimney fires.

For major quake preparation have a contact person outside the local area who all household members can check in with by phone; know the location of your propane shut off, electrical panel and water valves; review where the safest spots are in a building, beneath sturdy furniture, beside a solid inside wall, in a corner or inside hallway. Change the water and replace any expired prescription medications in your earthquake survival kit, making sure you have at least a 10 day supply of medications. The document "52 Weeks to Emergency Preparedness" is posted on the PIRA website: www.pira.ca for those who have not put a kit together yet. Secure water tanks. Top heavy furniture, appliances, computers, televisions, speakers, etc. should all be secured in place with brackets or Velcro straps, they will become lethal missiles in the event of a big quake. Also, if you must hang pictures or mirrors on the wall above the bed (not a good idea) they should be permanently attached to the wall.

Prevention

Because of all the trees, brush and native plants that we share our island with, Protection Island is a wildland interface fire zone, which means that the risk of a fire spreading through the forest is higher than it is in most of Nanaimo. All our parks have substantial fire loads that in summer months can become extremely flammable. Large chip piles can self ignite. Please be vigilant. Watch for "extreme fire conditions" signs posted in the parks and on the bulletin boards. Report the location of all smoke

sightings not coming out of a chimney to Nanaimo Fire Rescue 753-7311.

There are sand buckets at the entrances to Smugglers Park and cans of sand on picnic tables in both parks for cigarette butts. Please use them to extinguish your cigarettes (they are NOT garbage cans). Cigarette butts are a fire hazard, unsightly, and the filters in factory made cigarette butts are lethal to wildlife. Every year birds and marine animals die from ingesting the non degradable filters from cigarette butts, mistaking them for food. Please do not throw butts on the boulevards, beaches, or in the ocean, and educate your guests and contractors. Help keep our island and its precious wildlife safe.

Please do not park your vehicles so they block fire department access around the traffic circle and down the fire lanes into Pirates' and Smugglers Parks. The fire department must have access with Engine 7 to the parks at all times. Please take it upon yourself to educate guests and contractors about this. Summertime puts additional pressure on parking at the traffic circle; remember that parking is limited to 24 hours and is not for weekly or monthly storage. If you are going away for more than 2 days drop off your bags and take the vehicle home, leaving the already limited parking available for those remaining on the island.

Emergencies

Fire:

Evacuate your house as quickly as possible and assemble at your designated meeting place. Call 911 to report the fire and make sure everyone at the house is out. Do not enter a burning building to retrieve personal belongings or valuables; during a fire people get excited and forget that this will put their life at risk. At the scene of a working fire, do not cross fire line tape or other access barriers and please give the fire fighters room to do their jobs.

Medical emergency:

Our on-call fire fighters are all licensed First Responders and will remain with you until BCAS paramedics arrive on scene, at which time you will be transported to the Harbour Patrol vessel at Gallows Point and then by ambulance to the hospital. We DO NOT however, give rides to or from the PI ferry. We may only transport the public when accompanied by the Paramedics or handing a patient over to them on the rescue boat at Gallows

Point. With the loss of the community car pool, if you find you are unable to walk the distance to or from the traffic circle, please make arrangements with a neighbour who has a vehicle.

Earthquake:

Hold onto heavy furniture you are sheltering under to keep it from moving around.

Remember, in the event of a major earthquake we will be on our own for at least 10 days. Assuming the fire hall is still standing, there will be electricity and heat at that location but you still need to be prepared. Keep your "OK/HELP" sign with your emergency kit so you can quickly display it prominently on your house for us to see when we are doing our damage assessment. It is very important to post the OK sign if you do not require our immediate assistance so we don't waste valuable time searching unnecessarily. If you do not have an OK/HELP sign, you can pick one up from Station 7 on Tuesday nights or ask a firefighter. If you are not safe in your home, proceed to the community garden area which is central to the island and safe from falling objects.

Power lines down:

Stay at least 30 feet away from downed power lines and anything that is in contact with a downed power line. The ground around trees is particularly dangerous, since trees conduct electricity. Contact with one while it is touching a power line, especially a primary line, can result in serious injury or death (a primary line carries from 4,000 to 25,000 volts). Always treat a downed wire as if it is live – it can reenergize at any time. If trapped in a location that is energized, wait for help. If trapped and there is a clear threat to your safety, jump clear or shuffle so your ankles are never more than six inches apart until clear.

Burning Regulations

Burning of organic yard waste and prunings is allowed during daylight hours on Fridays and Saturdays in

April and October only. A free verbal permit is required for each day you burn, so phone Nanaimo Fire Rescue 753-7311 in advance any time in the week that you wish to burn. Calling for permits is MANDATORY.

"Burn pile" fires may be a maximum diameter of 4 feet in daylight hours only. Start a small fire, burn as hot as possible and limit the amount of green

material you add at any time to reduce the amount of heavy smoke. Wood smoke contains toxic gases and is a probable cause of lung cancer. Keep a hose handy and don't leave your fire unattended until it is cold.

Burning wooden construction material, land clearing waste, stumps, plastics, and garbage is NOT allowed. Also check out burning alternatives, such as composting and chipping.

Cooking fires fuelled by clean seasoned wood are permitted on private property unless there is a posted Fire Ban because of extreme fire conditions. Cooking fires must be contained and no more than 2 feet in diameter for a maximum of 2 hours.

Burning regulations and Fire Bans are posted on community bulletin boards.

Have a safe and enjoyable year!

Neighbourhood Watch

Roger Gumbert – Coordinator

Protection Island has been a Neighbourhood Watch community for a number of years. Many residents participate in the program. Recent discussions involving myself, some residents, and the RCMP identified the need for a meeting where residents and the police can discuss policing issues and concerns and reporting and response procedures. This meeting will be held at **Beacon House at 7:30 pm on June 10th**. Please mark your calendars and attend to learn how we can address concerns and effectively work with the police.

Concerns have been expressed about under-age drivers and unlicensed drivers and vehicles. Speeding and boat thefts are also ongoing concerns. A party resulting in damage to a number of golf carts was another incident which required police involvement this year. If you witness these types of incidents, or are concerned about any suspicious or illegal activities you see, please contact the RCMP at their **Non Emergency Number 250-754-2345**. Remember that the police can't assist you if they are not aware of your concerns. The person answering the RCMP telephone will ask you for some personal information, which is required to ensure the call is legitimate and to enable them to dispatch an officer if necessary. For **Fire, Police and Medical Emergencies**, requiring immediate response, phone **911**.

All the Neighbourhood Watch block assistants we had have resigned or moved away over the years and I now require some volunteers to assist in looking after sections of the island. If you can help, please email me at roger_gumbert@telus.net or leave a message at 250-753-5343 giving me your name and address and contact information and I will get back to you in July, when I plan to arrange a Neighbourhood Watch coordination meeting. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Protection Island Lions

Shawne Wasilieff

The Protection Island Lions Club is a community service organization affiliated with the Lions Club International. Our primary goal is to support the local community. We have a major commitment to operate and maintain our community centre: Beacon House Community Hall, the museum building (in co-operation with T.P.I.C.H.S.) and the surrounding gardens. In addition, we provide scholarships or bursaries to graduating Protection Island students, activities for P.I. children at Christmas and Easter, support for the DIGS and when needed, support for Station 7 Fire Department. Beacon House is made available to a wide variety of activities for social and community

When we are able, we also support a wide variety of Nanaimo and Vancouver Island charities. Our primary fund raising activity is the collection and recycling of deposit cans and bottles. We appreciate the extra help of volunteers for the "barging off" days twice a year (next barging off to happen mid June). Also, we have an agreement with the City of Nanaimo to cut the grass in Smuggler's and Pirate's Park and maintain the beach access trails. This year was exceptional because of the fire that destroyed Keith McIntyre's home. The Lions Club was able to make a substantial donation from club funds as well as manage the very generous donations that came to Keith from the community at large.

The Lions Club welcomes new members. We meet the first Tuesday of each month. If you are able to volunteer some time for service to our community, contact Shawne Wasilieff, Jim Lawton or any Lions member.

PROTECTION ISLAND MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Heather Cooling

The PI Museum is operated at the Lightkeeper's Cottage at Gallows Point by The Protection Island Cultural Historical Society (TPICHS), a non-profit society incorporated in May 2001.

Current directors are: Wendy Chandler, Heather Cooling, Mike Gillespie, Jurgen Goering, Sandra Hedley, Brenda Henderson, Barb Neild, Rick Scott, and Tauno Tuominen. The Society's mandate is 'to nurture, foster, and develop community awareness of local history and culture through activities and events, and to maintain and develop the Museum collection'.

TPICHS also maintains the Protection Island Archives building at 33 Cutlass Lookout, housing historical documents, maps, research material, photographs, personal collections of former residents and administrative files. Resources are also available to anyone researching any aspect of our island's history from coal mining to current events. For information call Barb Neild at 755-1855.

Since the last PIRA AGM, a successful Toy Show was held, another Bathtub Day celebrated, and an impressive digital photo display created By Barb Neild, and enjoyed by many visitors to the Museum.

The PI Museum will be open Saturday and Sunday from July until Labour Day weekend. TPICHS has acquired a cannon from the City of Nanaimo and will be transporting it to PI, to arrive before or on July 1 to launch our 2010 season. Watch bulletin boards and Pro-Isle for details of this momentous occasion and other upcoming events.

You can support your museum and archives and the activities of TPICHS by taking out a membership. Call Heather Cooling, 753-8162.

Pro-Isle Forum

Barb LeBrasseur

Are you hearing all the island news? Do you want to share some news? Do you have something to sell? Do you have an opinion about an island issue and want to discuss it with others? Then what you need is to become a member of the Pro-Isle email group. To join, send an email to Barb LeBrasseur at barbith@telus.net and ask to be a member. This forum is restricted to property owners and residents

only and is not monitored -- so pretty much anything goes. This is NOT a PIRA initiative, although PIRA does use this medium to post notices and to discuss community issues.

GARDEN LENDING LIBRARY

Barb Neild

The Protection Island Archives* at 33 Cutlass Lookout is the current home of a Garden Lending Library, comprising some 350 volumes on a wide range of gardening topics.

All can be borrowed by Protection Island residents, children and adults.

How to access the library:

- Open and staffed Mondays 3 to 4 p.m.

- Closed daily from noon to 3 p.m.

- Drop by and *ring the bell* for service.

If Barb is at home, she'll let you in. Otherwise, keep trying and come again.

*The Protection Island Archives is operated by the Protection Island Cultural Historical Society.

Lantern Festival

Tanis Roberts

Once a year, on THE LAST SATURDAY EVENING IN APRIL, we have the opportunity to enjoy THE PROTECTION ISLAND LANTERN FESTIVAL! Everyone is invited to take some time to creatively construct a lantern and bring it down to Mud Bay Park. Some lanterns are hung in trees, some are placed on the ground, some float in water, some are carried around. Musicians and performers of any kind are encouraged to come down to the park and share their talents, be they big or small.

This year we were short on volunteers to construct and tend the craft table that we have enjoyed in the past. We were also short on fire fighters to hand out hot chocolate. But there was no shortage on creativity and the lanterns and folks that came together brought a warm glow to the park.

"This little light of mine...I'm gonna let it shine!"

Happy Spring Everyone...hope to see you, next year at THE LANTERN FESTIVAL in celebration of Earth Day, our community/friends/family and the growing daylight hours.

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Benefit

Ryoko MacColl

There are a number of events organized to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society coming up as Protection Island resident, Ryoko MacColl, has made a commitment to help find a cure. Different charity speaks to different people. LLS speaks to Ryoko. As a long-time teacher, Ryoko has encountered students with Leukemia -- Leukemia causes more deaths than any other cancer among children and young adults under the age of 20. We have residents on Protection Island who have fought or are currently fighting a blood cancer. Recent research has developed drugs to keep some blood cancer patients alive! This is very encouraging and Ryoko welcomes your participation in furthering such success. The following are events planned to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society:

Tentatively, Saturday, July 31, 2010: A Protection Island Progressive Dinner involving 3 delectable courses and 3 beautiful homes. Stay tuned for details.

Sunday, Sept 26, 2010: The Harbour City Chase, a Nanaimo version of the "Amazing Race", to be held in town. The start and finish will be at Country Club Mall, and the "course" will take you to the Harbour. You must use your own legs or take public transportation. The emphasis is pure fun, but there will be fabulous prizes. On-line registration with the Running Room will begin soon. Once again, stay tuned.

The following is a Lions Club event:

Sunday, Oct 31, 2010: The 2nd Annual Halloween Hustle, a Lions running/walking event... wear your costumes!

2010 Garden Tour

Heather Cooling

"What is one to say about June – the time of perfect young summer, the fulfillment of the promise of the earlier months, and with as yet no sign to remind one that its fresh young beauty will ever fade... June is here – June is here; thank God for lovely June!" The Gardener's Essential Gertrude Jekyll.

This quotation from the renowned English garden designer, horticulturist and writer, Gertrude Jekyll (1843-1932), may sound a bit gushy today. However, it does lead quite nicely into announcing the 2010 Garden Tour in June.

When: **Saturday, June 26, 10 am** to ? (depends on your speed)

Where: Gardens in the north end of Protection Island

Why: Well, just because islanders and their friends love gardens, and love to walk through them and admire them – and learn from some dedicated gardeners.

Route still being worked out. Participation by donation. Watch notice boards and pro-ise for final details.

For information and to help, contact Heather Cooling ([753-8162/jcooling@island.net](mailto:jcooling@island.net)) or Wendy Chandler ([753-6899/gsoanes@shaw.ca](mailto:gsoanes@shaw.ca)).

The garden tour is organized under the umbrella of D.I.G.S. Proceeds to The P.I. Cultural Historical Society and D.I.G.S.

Summer Solstice Celebration June 19th - 7:00 p.m.

The Summer Solstice Celebration will once again feature Island musicians and the popular "pie auction". Entry is free with a dessert (it doesn't have to be a pie) for auction or a small appetizer. All those bringing a dessert to auction will have their names entered into a draw for prizes. Those planning to bring a dessert please contact Margaret Harris (250-740-0317 or meharris@telus.net).

Musicians please contact Linda or Jim Irvine if you wish to take part (250-716-1761 or nanaimoirvines@telus.net)

All funds raised go to support programs and events planned by D.I.G.S. and House-to-House.

Music Event**John Gogo**

Singer/songwriter and Protection Islander John Gogo will celebrate the release of his new CD on Sunday evening, June 20th with a performance of his original songs. This is John's 4th CD and his first release in nearly 13 years.

He will be accompanied by very special guest David Essig.

More details will be announced closer to the date.

There will also be a CD release concert in Victoria on Thursday June 10th at the Belfry Arts Centre.

House-to-House Music & Art Festival

This year House-to-House will present a series of house concerts opening with the Delphinus Trio (Jennifer Cluff, Allannah Dow and Sharon Welzien) on Sunday 23 May, two summer concerts and the third annual Festival on Sunday 19 September featuring two afternoon concerts followed by dinner and music at the pub.

David Essig, Rick Scott and Shelley Brown in concert Sunday 4 July, 4:00 p.m. at the home of Jim and Linda Irvine. For tickets (\$15/person): 250-716-1761 or nanaimoirvines@telus.net

Artwork by Islanders will also be displayed at the September festival. Those wishing to contribute can contact Laurel Karjala, 250-753-5680 or lkarjala@telus.net, for more information.

Details will be announced at the Summer Solstice, and tickets will be available for purchase: \$30/person includes two house concerts and the finale at the pub (dinner not included).

For this wonderful event, we appreciate the support of islanders and their friends very much. If you know of off-islanders who would enjoy attending the concerts and receiving announcements and ticket information please give their contact information to Jim or Linda Irvine (250-716-1761 or nanaimoirvines@telus.net).

Island Information and News

Check out the PIRA website at www.pira.ca for helpful information about the island, minutes and notes from Board meetings and other news.

Thank you to Denise Bonin for maintaining this website.

In addition, minutes and notes from all PIRA Board meetings and Community Forums are posted on the bulletin boards and Pro-Isle Forum.

Thank you to Barb LeBrasseur for maintaining the Forum.

This newsletter is edited by Linda Irvine, who takes all responsibility for any errors in copying text. Thank you to all contributors.

IF YOU NEED TO CALL 911

- You will be asked whether you require Police, Fire Dept or Ambulance service.
- All 911 calls go to an operator who is NOT in Nanaimo.
- It is ESSENTIAL to identify your location as PROTECTION ISLAND IN THE HARBOUR OF NANAIMO.
- You MUST give your STREET ADDRESS which must be CLEARLY VISIBLE on your property so you can be found.

Our Fire Dept. will respond to all MEDICAL EMERGENCY calls. Each on- call fire fighter is trained in First Response First Aid and will stay on the scene until paramedics arrive.

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The Protection Island Website is at
www.pira.ca

P.I. CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010

Sunday 23 May: Plant Swap (10:30) & Family Scavenger Hunt (2:00 pm) Community Garden

Sunday 23 May: House-to-House presents the Delphinus Trio 4:00 p.m. (for tickets nanaimoirvines@telus.net)

Thursday 10 June: Neighbourhood Watch Meeting 7:30 pm Beacon House

Sunday 13 June: Shore Clean-Up 1:00 p.m. meeting places TBA

Saturday 19 June: Summer Solstice Celebration 7:00 pm Beacon House

Sunday 20 June: John Gogo CD launch at the pub

Saturday 26 June: Garden Tour 10:00 am

Sunday 27 June: PIRA AGM 1:00 p.m. Beacon House

Sunday 4 July: House-to-House Concert: David Essig, Rick Scott & Shelley Brown 4 pm

Sunday 25 July: Pro-Isle 360

Saturday 31 July: Protection Island Progressive Dinner

Sunday 19 Sept: House-to-House Music Festival & Art Show 2pm/4pm

Sunday 31 Oct 31: The 2nd Annual Halloween Hustle

Sunday 26 Sept: The Harbour City Chase

Sunday 5 December: Children's Christmas Party Beacon House

Saturday 30 April 2011: Lantern Festival

Request for Decision

By this Request for Decision I hereby give notice of my intention to introduce the following Motion at the Annual General Meeting of the Protection Island Ratepayers Association, to be held at 1:30 PM on Sunday, June 27, 2010 at Beacon House, Protection Island.

I MOVE that this Society adopt the following Extraordinary Resolution:

1. Article 1. of the Constitution is changed to:

1. The name of the Society is the THE PROTECTION ISLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION.

2. Article 2., Section a) of the Constitution is changed to:

a) To secure improvements in the best interest of the property owners and residents on Protection Island;

3. In the BY-LAWS, By-Law 1, Membership, Paragraph 2 is changed to:

Membership in the Society shall be open to those persons, owning property situate on Protection Island and to those persons residing on Protection Island, provided that their residence on Protection Island is their legal residence on the date of their membership in the Society.

4. In the BY-LAWS, By-law 3, Termination of Membership, Paragraph 1 is changed to:

Members cease to be members upon ceasing to own property or to reside on Protection Island; and cease to be members thirty (30) days after the due date for the payment of dues.

End of Motion.

For information: the following is By-law 9 of the PIRA Constitution

9. Alteration of By-laws: The by-laws of the Society shall not be altered or added to except by an extraordinary resolution of the Society. For the purposes of the Society, "extraordinary resolution" shall mean a resolution passed by a majority of such members entitled to vote as are present in person or by proxy at a general meeting of which notice specifying the intention to purchase the resolution as an extraordinary resolution has been duly given, such majority being seventy-five (75) percent.

David Essig
President
Protection Island Ratepayers Association