

The Pointer

Spring 2010

To The Point:

April 3, 2010

Well Spring must really be here now. Until last Friday, it seemed that we would actually have a full year where festive meals would not have to be cooked on wood stoves and enjoyed by candlelight. After finally leaving Willis Point in the late afternoon, I realized that for once we weren't hit nearly as hard as most other areas around Victoria.

It has been an amazing winter in terms of warmth and sunlight. When I thought it over, the lovely weather that we had for the Olympics made it possible for people to enjoy them to the MAX. Willis Point Daffodils kept up with the rest and have been a constant sunny enjoyment.

Since the last issue, there have been two social events. The amount of help that was available to set up and clean up for the Dart night shows that the Volunteer tradition continues to be the heart of the Willis Point Community. Please watch for your next opportunity to help when the Playground upgrading gets underway.

If you were one of those people who had a hard time choosing between the Jazz Jam afternoon and the Superbowl, you have another opportunity on Sunday April 11. It was a great time not to be missed. There is more information in this issue.

How about a Garage Sale Day on Sunday, May 23? See Garage Sale page for more information.

If you have any other ideas for a social event or fundraiser please contact the WPCA executive.

To my delivery team: I want to thank you for great effort with the last issue and in advance for this one. Thanks again: Ken Leighton, Trevor and Ian Espin, Pat Orr and Family, Ian and Trevor Espin, Joyce Menzies, Dawn Campbell, Helen Resnick, and Tessa Clayton. Ida von Schuckmann

Photo credits this issue: Ken Leighton, Ida von Schuckmann and the photographers for the wedding and baby pictures.

Advertising Rates

Business Listing FREE	Full Page \$ 25.00
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	Quarter Page \$ 6.50

Who's Who

WPC Chair	Bill Douglas	544-1042
Pointer Editor	Ida von Schuckmann	652-0050
Fire Chief	Greg Elvedahl	886-6635
Hall Custodian	Mariann Malvet	544-1681
Hall Sign	Don Gorling	652-6149
Saanich Inlet Protection	Patricia Sloan	652-0226
Fire & Recreation Chair	Vern McConnell	652-2996
Rural Observer Newspaper	Patricia Sloan	652-0226
Aerobics Instructor	Deanna Roozendaal	744-4891
Land Use Committee	Patricia Sloan	652-0226
Advisory Planning Comm.	Larry Resnick	652-8278
Fire Fighters Assn. Chair	Jim Potvin	544-6757
Parks Commission Rep.	Elizabeth Wynans	652-5898
CRD Advisory Committees: Environment & Solid Waste	Larry Resnick	652-8278



Welcome back Bill!

The good news is that Bill is well along the road to recovery, and in Melanie’s words doing “amazingly well.”

He will be back as chair at the next WPCA Executive meeting on Monday, April 12. Any items for the agenda can be sent to Bill or Art.

Bill mentioned that he is very grateful to Art for stepping into the role of Chair when he was not able to do his duties.

**Willis Point Community Association
WPCA Executive**

Chair	Bill Douglas	544-1042
Vice-Chair	Art Wynans	652-5898
Corresponding Secretary	J.C. Patchell	483-7056
Recording Secretary	Elizabeth Wynans	652-5898
Treasurer	Bob Scott	652-8522
Member-at-Large	David Lawrie	652-1286
Membership Secretary	Ken Leighton	652-2686
Member-at-Large	Laurel Nash	544-0907
Fire & Recreation Rep.	Jeff Irwin	652-6869

Full minutes of the WPCA meetings are posted on the notice boards or can be obtained by contacting the Recording Secretary.

WPCA meetings are held in the annex at the Hall on the second Monday of each month. To confirm when the next meeting is scheduled call any Executive member.

For information, or to have an item placed on the agenda, please call :

**Chair, Bill Douglas 250-544-1042 or
Vice-Chair Art Wynans 250-652-5898**



About the cover...

*This is the first year that this White Fawn Lily(Erythronium Oregonum) has bloomed. I scattered the seed 20 years ago on the mossy knoll in front of my house. It gives me new appreciation of our lovely native plants and how fragile their habitat is. They are truly nature’s gifts to us. Right now is the best time to enjoy those delicate carpets of colourful displays. If you are interested in learning more about our native plants this is an interesting link to the Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team Website.
www.goert.ca/at_home_garryoak_gardener.php*

Willis Point Fire & Recreation Facilities Commission Update

The Commission welcomes new commissioner Brian McCandless. Brian's Nomination was accepted by Director Hicks and is awaiting approval by the C.R.D. which is scheduled for April 14th, 2010.

Currently the commission is assessing what possibilities are available to us in replacing the building, which houses our rapid response vehicle #103. This project is being headed by Ken Illot .

We are waiting to hear about the plans for the upgrading of the playground that are being proposed by a committee of Willis Point Residents.

Other business which the commission has been involved in is the consultative process with the CRD in the development of a new comprehensive by-law governing all fire departments within the Juan de Fuca electoral area. Our thanks to Commissioner Pat O'Rourke for his time spent on the assessment of the new by-Law and making the commission members aware of its effects. Thanks also to Mike Hicks in supporting our wishes in keeping the relationship between the fire department and the commission as it has always been.

Also we have not heard from Telus yet with their proposal for a cellular broadcast facility adjacent to the hall.

The Fire & Recreation Commission endeavors to meet on the last Monday of the month. These meetings are held in the annex and are open to the public and are subject to having a quorum. The Willis Point Fire and Recreation Facilities Commission has a mandate to ensure that the Fire Department operates effectively. We oversee the budget process for both the Department and the Facilities.

Any questions with regards the Commission's business can be directed to myself.
Vernon McConnell Chair W.P.F.& R.F.C
PH 250-652-2996 avalon_4@telus.net

Sunday Afternoon Jazz Jam Session in January



Sunday April 11th - 1230 – 330pm

Jazz Jam Session at the Willis Point Hall

Hosted by the SJB Band

Come down to the Hall to listen to an informal session of musicians playing and jamming.

Are you asking: What is a Jazz Jam Session? Here's the answer from dictionary.com:
jam session - 2 dictionary results: –noun

1. a meeting of a group of musicians, esp. jazz musicians, to play for their own enjoyment.
2. an impromptu jazz performance or special performance by jazz musicians who do not regularly play together.

\$2 admission fee

Refreshments and Snacks available

Willis Point Hall - 6933 Willis Point Road.

Directions:

Traveling north just past the Red Barn Market at 5550 West Saanich Road, turn onto Wallace Drive. Turn onto Willis Point Road (clearly marked) and drive for approximately 8 kilometres and at the bottom of “the hill” you will find the Willis Point Community Centre and Fire Hall. There is plenty of parking.



Musicians or Vocalists that would like to sit in:

1. If you have the Real Book, bring it. There will be a few copies, and two musicians can usually share one book.
2. Pick some songs you'd like to perform with the band. Bring 5- 10 copies of the music from a book such as the Real Book, or the Fake Book.

Alternately, if you'd like to perform with your own group, that is welcome too.

3. Bring your own instrument. We have no drums, but there is room for a drummer to bring their own set at 12pm. Call us to let us know you are coming.
4. If you have questions contact Sonya Reuter at 250 652-9523, or email sonyar@telus.net

You can find the full minutes posted after each meeting at the Mailboxes or if you need a copy phone Elizabeth E-W..

WPCA Minutes Synopsis:

For the Pointer

January 2010 –

Playground Initiative:

- Existing playground is not compliant to current standards (CSA-Z614).
- Project manager and co-leads for playground initiative = A. Wynans/B. Scott/S. Campbell
- The playground plot will get surveyed, compliance standards assessed, and a piece of equipment purchased with the Kornelsons generous donation.
- Grant-in-aid applied for to the CRD by E. E-Wynans for playground project was successful. \$3000 towards the new playground!

Community Blockwatch / security issues:

- Time to review plan of action and engage the RCMP to come and talk about local crime statistics and what a neighbourhood watch entails.
- JC Patchell will investigate with RCMP. D. Lawrie will assist.

Advisory Planning Committee (APC):

- JC Patchell is a new member
- gravel from Hartland landfill is getting used on landfill site for now only. They are not able to sell to MOT at this time.

February 2010 –

Playground Update:

- using CRD aerial photos and a laser range, A. Wynans and S. Campbell will formulate a site plan.

Community Blockwatch Update:

- JC has left a message with the RCMP Community Liaison regarding Willis Point's interest in the Blockwatch program.

APC:

- some concern with proposal to have a 2nd cell tower at the Point (for Telus).

Fire & Recreation Commission:

- The Rescue One shed will be getting repaired to withstand this winter. Building replacement for this shed has been put on notice.
- There is a position opening for a new member on the Fire&Rec Commission as a resignation has been put forward. All Pointers are encouraged to apply.

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Commission:

- E. E.-Wynans will be representing Willis Point.

Reports/Business Arising:

- Darts Night March 13th - need volunteers for set-up Friday night, clean-up Sunday morning.
- This will be a fundraising event for revenue for WPCA.
- The SeaChange society would like to come and present at the next community meeting to discuss what their organization does and how they can benefit the shoreline at Willis Point.



Spring has
sprung
early even
Gofer is
intrigued

March 2010 –

Community playground update:

- Swing and slide need 8” gravel, about 50 yrds gravel needed in total.
- Merry-go-round - needs updating, welding needed to clear “entrapment” issue.
- Landscape ties need to be removed.
- Slide - spiral slide will be removed and will be replaced with a new slide.
- Tennis court – some maintenance is in need so silt can drain off, fencing needs some maintenance as well.
- Tire swing will be removed.

New items will be:

- Fire Truck slide/stationary play structure
- Rocking fawn
- Deep-dip slide
- Teeter-totter

All Pointers are invited to come and help out your community at a “Worker Bee” event for the new playground! Date and time TBD ☺

Calling All Pointers!

We will be looking for **volunteers** to help with the

PLAYGROUND UPGRADE.

Even though you can not see anything taking place, there has been many emails bouncing back and forth from the organizers to the company we are purchasing from. Also, Art has put in a lot of time into drawings etc, thanks Art, to try and fit everything in that we planned on. As well many emails and phone calls have gone to the CRD. We are now at the point where we can order the items to be installed. It will take approximately

4-6 weeks for us to be able to do some ground breaking, but I am putting the word out now. **We cannot do this with just a few people. Hopefully we can recruit as many as 20?** Not all of you will be doing gut wrenching work, heehee. This is, with any luck, only going to take a weekend or slightly longer.

We know in the past there has been a lot of team work here at the Point and we looking forward to seeing the changes to come that can come about this time with our combined effort. This is truly a great place to live and be. We want to keep this community as good or better than others. **Please call me to let me know if you can volunteer.** I will take your name and number, or email, and call you when we are ready.

Thanks again for your support.

**Sheryl Campbell
250-652-7189**



Fire Department Report

Call Summary

Dec. 24/09 - Medical call, Steamer Drive

Jan. 6/10 - Medical call Sea Aira Heights

Jan. 7/10 - Duty call for downed lines on Mark Lane

Mar. 12/10 - MVI on Willis Point Rd. over turned vehicle into ditch

Mar. 22/10 - Medical call on Mark Lane

Mar. 29/10 - Medical call on Mark Lane

Apr. 2/10 - Tree on fire, resting against power line. The department spent the day securing the area of downed power lines until BC Hydro arrived. A big thank you guys for spelling each member off throughout the day. Also a big thank you to Alicia Pine for putting some food together for the department.

Apr. 2/10 - Trees fallen across power lines, blocking off the north end of Mark Lane.

Safety

Just a safety reminder about downed power lines, no one but the professionals from BC Hydro can safely ensure that power lines have been disconnected. High voltage electricity can jump or arc, when a tree touches a power line it can travel down the tree and across the road, broken power lines can suddenly become re-energized and jump around like a loose garden hose "killing" everything in its path!! It is our job to protect every "Pointer" from harm therefore the fire department has no choice but to close the road. Everyone's safety must come first as there are no second chances when it comes to high voltage electricity.

Membership

It is with regret that I announce the retirement of Mark Roozendaal and Cathy Patchell from the department. We can't say enough about Cathy's dedication, devotion and keenness towards learning all aspects of firefighting and medical care so that she could better serve and protect our community with the outmost care. Thank you Cathy for all of your hard work and commitment, we wish you all the best.

Mark was instrumental and led the way in a number of key upgrades and improvements to the department. Mark worked very hard in upgrading our self contained breathing apparatus (scba) to the latest in technological standards to ensure firefighter safety while working in a smoke filled environment. Mark saved the community thousands of tax dollars through his work with government grants which helped to purchase the mentioned



upgrade. Mark was also involved with the purchase of our new extrication gear (jaws of life), which dramatically improves extrication times to enable firefighters easy access to any patient in a variety of situations. Mark made many administrative improvements by transferring a pile of forms, check lists, letters and other miscellaneous paperwork to computer, as well Mark led a successful recruitment drive to boost the membership to an all time high. We thank Mark for his countless hours of work, dedication and for stepping up to the plate to serve as fire chief. We wish you every success in the future.

We would like to again acknowledge Jim and Judy Rikley for their continual support to the fire department. We thank you very much for your generous donation of a portable electric suction unit. This outstanding unit is a necessity on medical calls where a patient's airway is compromised.

Recently the members have been working very hard towards renovating the interior of the annex. The room looks fantastic with new tile flooring, cabinets and a fresh coat of paint. The makeover looks truly amazing! It is so nice to have a clean and tidy work area as we spend a lot of time training and holding meetings. I hope the Fire and Recreation Commission and Willis Point Community Association also enjoy working out of this newly remodelled area. Our thanks go out to Knotty Pine Construction for their outstanding workmanship.

Does what we do sound interesting to you? If so, and if you're an able-bodied person of nineteen years or older, we'd like you to consider becoming a member of our department. You don't need any prior experience, just a great attitude and a willingness to work hard at practice once a week. I invite you to come up to the fire hall on Wednesday at 7pm to check us out.

Just a reminder that burning permits come into effect starting April 15th and typically (weather depending) there is no outside burning after May 15th

Please come up to the hall on any Wednesday night for a burning permit. Permits are valid for up to five days from date of issue.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Spring.

Sincerely,
Greg Elvedahl
Fire Chief



Thank you for helping keep us safe! We appreciate the hours that you put in.

Neighbourhood Notices:

Experienced Tutor available

- trained in primary and middle school
- tutors all primary subjects
- secondary subjects: Spanish, English, History
- weekly tutoring sessions or short term help for projects

Call: Kaily Stevens 652-0037

Willis Point Handyman

Brad Taylor-Gorling Cell 250-217-8785
Decks – Painting – Yardwork – Hauling

Discreet, Reliable Pointer available for security of Vacation Houses, watering plants, feeding fish, cats, etc.

On-site supervision of tradespeople while you are at work or on vacation, emergency rides or pick-up for kids to sports, appointments or school, and vet appointments. If you can't do it, maybe I can!

Pat Sloan 652-0226

LEARN COMPUTER BASICS PRIVATELY AT HOME

Learn to email, exchange photos, twitter, pay bills, surf the net, keep in touch with family and friends. I'm a computer-savvy senior with patience. Get connected with the world and stimulate your brain. I use a mac mostly, but am comfortable with Microsoft. \$30.00 per hour

Ph. 250-516-5980 k7harwood@gmail.com



Debbie Cridge

Account Manager

Island Savings Credit Union, Brentwood Branch

E: dcridge@iscu.com

T: 250-544-4041

1-7103 West Saanich Road
Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1R1

A resident of Willis Point for 15 years, Debbie Cridge knows the local business and economic landscape and has the skills to help you reach your financial goals. Debbie joined Island Savings in January 2005 and is now an account manager at the Brentwood Bay branch. She's proud to work for an organization that provides valuable services to the people who live and work here, creates new employment opportunities, and improves our community.

Call Debbie Cridge at 250-544-4041 to learn more about the advantages of being an Island Savings member. Or visit us online at www.iscu.com.

Congratulations:

Births:



Sion Nicholas Keane

Jan 08/2010

7lbs 2 oz

Proud Mama and Papa:
Antoinette and Alex Keane

Proud Grandparents:
Bob and Gaybrielle Halsey

Bill and Joan Wright
welcomed their new
grandaughter
Isabelle Joan Neva O'Dell
January 11, 2010.
Congratulations to Big
brother Austin,
Mom and Dad
Melanie and Brett O'Dell



Wedding:



Amanda Glasser
and
Russell Haley

Jan.22, 2010

The ceremony took place at the
little church on West Saanich Rd.,
Our Lady of Assumption.

It was built by
Russell's Great Grandfather,
Mr. Mike Lawless.

Nick brings up a great point that we should remember to take care of all of the members of our household when making those important disaster preparedness plans. Thank you Nick.



Dear Willis Point Neighbors,

OMG. I have two red balls – Kongs, really – and I love them dearly. That being said, even the temptation to play ball all day long with any human who comes along is not enough to stop my need to run. This has been dramatically curtailed lately. What's with all the fence repair, anyway.

Thank you, Kathy for bringing me home. And thank you to the nice folks on Mark Lane who phoned for my ride to pick me up. You rats!

We've had chickens in the greenhouse lately. I love being able to make them crazy barking at them through the glass. You should see them hop to the top of the shelving. Then those rotten people, those killjoys, make me get away from there.

Well, the big conversation around our place has been disaster preparedness, and the US healthcare plan (please, no more on that). Let me tell you about the disaster preparedness thing first.

You'd think having the generator would be enough. No, not for my folks. They've talked non-stop since the Haiti quake, then picked up the volume after Chile but I have to say that talk is not as good as action. They are much better at fixing fences.

I know they have supplies in the shed. But have they checked them lately? Is there enough food and water for ME for a week or two? I don't think so. And then there is Jordan. She's old, takes medication and eats. Is there stuff set aside for her in an emergency? Not yet. Oh and the cat. Doesn't eat much, but jeez, even she should have something. Shall we even talk about the chickens and the llama? No. They usually have a couple of weeks of feed on hand – and that's accessible for them.

They better get to it. Now's as good a time as any to replenish supplies!

Oh, something else to watch out for. I had a tick on my head the other day. They got it off really quick, but it was icky. I've had them before so I know they look for them, but it had been over a year since the last one.

Have you heard the frogs? I'm itching to get close to one. Maybe they'll lead me to some good stuff to roll in.

Nick

As dictated by Nick to Judy Estrin and Peter Gary of 842 Sea Aira Heights.

New Members:



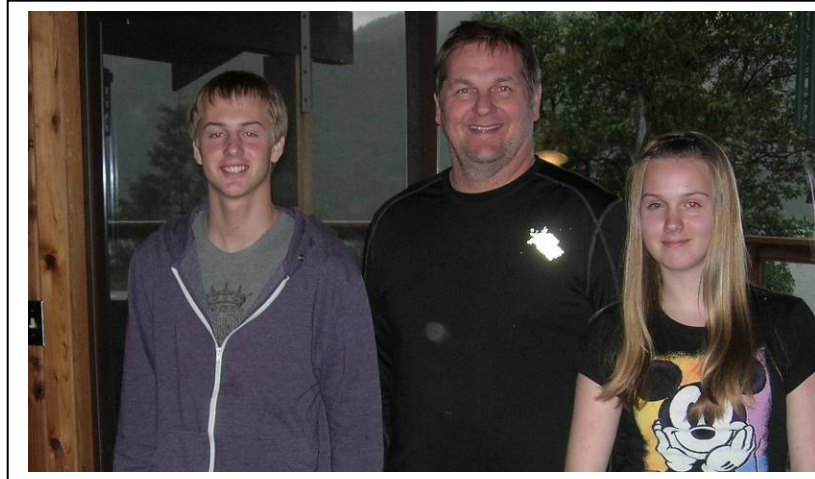
7578 Mark Lane (formerly Young Thompson)

Jason and Midori Hillis plus Anika, age 4, who is entering kindergarten at Prospect Lake School in September.

Midori and Jason are happy to be back at Willis Point. Midori is the daughter of Bob and Sue Ryan. Jason had lived at Willis Point some years before. They lived at Prospect Lake before settling here at Willis Point.

They both own and work at Investment Planning Counsel which is located in the Royal Oak Shopping Center.

Hobbies are boating and fishing.



6671 Mark Lane (formerly Pete and Laura Veasey`s)

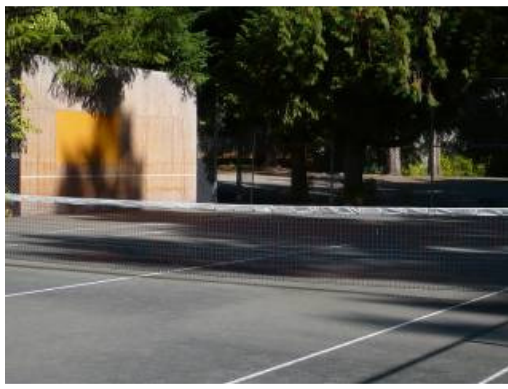
Devin Young with his son Ethan and daughter Anna

Devin Young lived in Oak Bay before coming to Willis Point. He discovered Willis while walking from Mackenzie Bay. Also, his business partners told him that they frequently scuba dive here.

Devin`s business, Inlight Entertainment, produce video games and electric toys.

Son Ethan is in Grade 12 at Oak Bay High School. Daughter Anna is in Grade Eight at Monteray Middle School.

Ken Leighton
WPCA Membership



Tennis at Willis Point

If you interested in playing tennis at the Willis Point courts this year, contact **Sonya at 250 652-9523**. You should be a level 2 or higher player (you know how to serve, return forehands, backhands, and understand the basics of the game - go to tenniscanada.com for details). Let me know the best days/times for you to play and we'll see if we can get some tennis going at the Point



DEBBY BRANSON R.TCMP., B.A. **Registered Acupuncturist and Herbalist**

To book a consultation or for any inquiries about Traditional Chinese Medicine please contact me at:

Royal Oak Chiropractic Natural Health
Royal Oak Shopping Centre
207-4480 West Saanich Rd.
250-704-1178

(\$15 off initial assessment for Willis Pointers)

Hello Willis Pointers,

Our names are **Chantelle and Jessica Elvedahl** and we are currently in our first year with the Saanich Peninsula 4H Beef club. We started raising two Angus steers in December and will have them fully grown by September. Their breeds are a black and red angus delivered from Alberta and they are 100% grain and hay fed with absolutely no steroids, hormones or any other unnatural additives. We would love to sell them locally to fellow Willis Pointers. Our goal is to achieve a Certified Triple A standard and reach a market weight of 1200 pounds for each steer. The price will include all services and delivery of this full, rich flavoured and delicious tasting product right to your front door. If you and or a group of friends would like to get together and purchase some locally grown Angus beef please give us a call at **250-652-4077**.

Sincerely,

Chantelle and Jessica Elvedahl

FRESH BREAD at Willis Point **By Shelley Klassen**

THURSDAYS @ LOWER MAILBOX
after 11:00 am, look for the blue cooler!

VARIETY of BREADS EVERY WEEK

The types and prices of the bread will be
on the cooler box.

Bridge Anyone?

The **Willis Point Bridge Club** is meeting most Thursdays. We have enough for two tables and everyone seems to be happy with the level of play. We are mostly beginner to intermediate and our focus is more social than serious. If anyone else wishes to come out and participate you would be most welcome.

Contact

Vern McConnell 250-652-2996

or

Gaybrielle Halsey 250-652-4195



Dusty 2002-2010

**Carmen, all of Willis Point misses Dusty.
Love Gofer and Johnny**



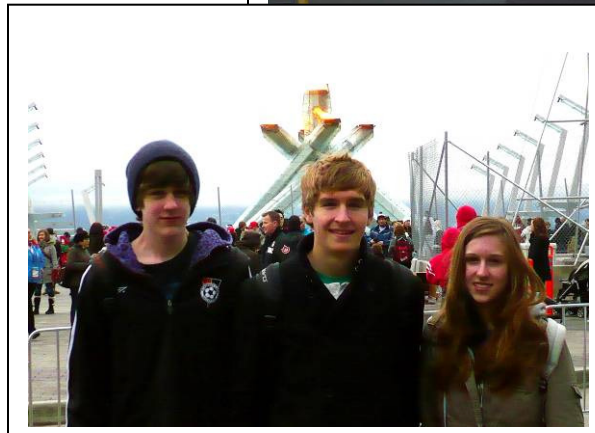
In this Olympic year snow finally came to Willis Point when it was all over.

Denise Tregear who was working for VANOC with computers on Cypress Mt. may have liked to see it snow in February instead.

Thank You

I'd like to express sincere thanks to the **Willis Point Volunteer Fire Department** for their speedy and professional response to my 911 call March 22nd . Turned out the problem was a reaction to codeine, and not really an emergency, but their help was much appreciated. Not only did they look after me until the ambulance arrived, but they also contacted my neighbour, **Judy Ross**, who took it upon herself to pick me up and bring me home from the hospital. Thanks to Judy, too, and to all of you who sent cards, called or dropped by later to see how I was doing – all much appreciated. **What a great community we have at Willis Point!**

Sally McMillan



Many of us enjoyed the Olympics in all kinds of ways. Carolyn, Andy, and Jason loved the amazing, awesome atmosphere in Vancouver.

Do you have an Olympic Tale the write for the Pointer?

Garage / Yard Sale Day at Willis Point: Sunday May 23 – 10am to 2pm

submitted by Sonya R

Do you have all sorts of "treasures" that you would like to get out of your house? Household items that you have been meaning to give away or sell, but you just haven't got to it?

With the date set for Sunday May 23rd, you can prepare for your Garage or Yard Sale. The idea is that more buyers will come to Willis Point if there are a number of households to buy from on the same day. You can host the sale at your own home, or households could combine to make management of each sale easier. Households can put up their own sign or balloons at their house.

You can also place your own free ads into Craigslist (www.victoria.craigslist.ca) and Used Victoria (www.usedvictoria.com), or pay to place an ad into the Times Colonist. I'll be happy to place a few signs up along West Saanich Road and Willis Point Road to ensure that buyers find their way here.

Here are some tips from the net:

Pricing Your Items

- Take the time to clearly mark every item that you will be putting into your sale.
- For similar items, such as paperback books, it is acceptable to put up a sign with one price-point. Example - All Paperback Books - 50 cents each!
- Use quarter-dollar pricing increments to simplify calculating the payment process.
- Generally, figure around one-fifth of the retail price for items that are working and in good shape.
- For items only used once or twice, or those that were never used, you could get one-third of the retail value, depending on the item.

People Love BOGO Sales

A BOGO stands for "Buy One Get One" and it is used in retail stores to entice customers to purchase multiple items. It works the same in garage sales. Books, videos, baby clothing and records are good items to include in this type of pricing structure and people love getting something for free.

Clean and Fix It

Not many people want to buy dirty things. You will want to clean and fix the items you place in your sale.

- Load the dishwasher with all the glassware you plan to sell and you will be amazed at how much more appealing it becomes when it sparkles.
- If something is in need of a minor repair, go ahead and repair it; or price it accordingly
- For leather items like handbags and shoes, buff them with leather cleaner.
- Run your clothing through the wash then neatly hand press or briefly iron over them to make them crisp and appealing.
- Dust furniture, vacuum upholstery, clean spots, clean and freshen drawers.
- It may sound like a big job, but it is worth it. In fact, often after we clean or fix something, we decide to keep it.

Merchandising Your Items

Garage-sale hunters like to feel like there is a lot of nice stuff for them to choose from, so take the time to think out how and where you will place things.

- Avoid putting items in boxes on the ground. Not too many people will bend over or kneel down to dig through it.
- Hang clothing like dresses, suits, skirts, blazers, coats and jackets.
- Designate a table for folded clothing. Include sweaters, t-shirts, jeans, and select baby clothing.
- Sheets, draperies, blankets, and bedspreads should be neatly folded. Use a pretty ribbon to tie grouped items together and price as a set.
- Place your most appealing items within eyeshot of the street so people driving by can see them.
- If you have sets of dishes, display all of them out. Avoid putting one plate with a note telling the visitor that there are more. Seeing is believing, and they will want to inspect each piece.
- Tools, lawn equipment, workout benches, etc., will appeal to both men and women, so place them in a high-visible area.
- Group your items - toys with toys, clothes with clothes. Think about the setup of your nearest Wal-mart and section things similarly.

The Day of Your Garage Sale

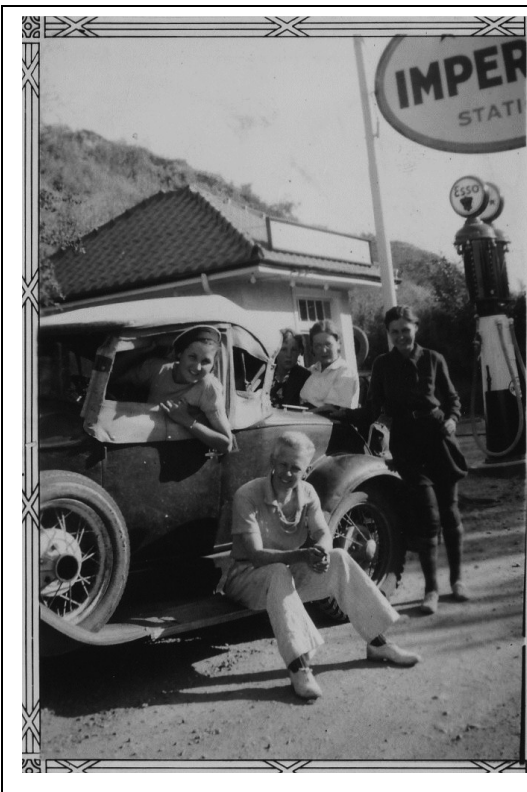
- Don't attempt to run the sale by yourself; you can't watch the buyers, answer questions, and make sales alone.
- Early-birds, or garage sailors often show up 1 or 1 1/2 hours before posted times. Either be prepared for the early birds if you want to make the sales, or post a sign that tells them no early birds allowed.
- Have calculators, pens, newspaper to wrap breakables, boxes, and bags handy.
- Have plenty of change and one dollar bills on hand.
- Set up a secure area for your sales transactions to enable you to keep a close eye on your money box.
- If you start to get a lot of cash, locking it in your car is an option if you can not leave the crowds to go into your house.
- Inform your direct neighbors that you are having a garage sale; if they are not participating in the sale, they might want to block off their driveway so they are able to get in and out.
- Have extension cords plugged into outlets so that electrical items can be tested.
- Plan to set an inviting mood by playing soft, easy-listening music.
- If you are short on help, consider wearing a 3-pocket apron or a fanny-wrapper purse, so that you can keep your money near you while you mingle with your shoppers.
- Early birds or garage sailors are often looking for a good deal, so decide beforehand which items your price is firm on.
- If people ask to use your restroom, be prepared to politely tell them no. No one should go inside your home or to an area of your house that is not opened to the public.
- Don't allow unsupervised people into your home.

Clean Up

Remove all of your signs as soon as the sale has ended. Your neighbors will appreciate it and latecomers will not be endlessly ringing your door bell.

Road Trip Picnics

By Carmen Moore



On a recent trip up Island, while watching a friend prepare a snack in the backseat as a time saving effort, I recalled my very first road trip when I was ten years old.

Three adult sisters and a brother-in-law were planning a trip to Calgary, Banff and Lake Louise from our Saskatchewan farm. When they announced that I would be allowed to accompany them it was almost too good to be true.

My sister had just purchased a Model A Canvas Top Roadster, circa 1928 and was eager to test it out. As it was during the depression, the whole venture had to be on the cheap. With blankets, pillows, clothes, borrowed tent and sundry equipment stuffed in every conceivable spot, we set out. Sister Jean and I were in the rumble seat scarcely able to move for all the gear surrounding us. To us fell the task of preparing lunch as we hurtled over gravel and sometimes dirt roads at what I expect was a maximum 30 miles per hour. From a makeshift cooler wedged between us, we had the makings of sandwiches- Mothers homemade bread, butter, peanut butter, egg salad, etc. As it was no mean feat to slice bread and spread it, we liberally buttered ourselves as we endeavoured to build lunch. More lettuce took off in the wind than we managed to encapture between the crude hunks of bread. Most challenging of all was reaching forward encumbered as we were to pass the finished products through the canvas flaps to the front seat.

Quite a contrast this to the crunchy and fresh rolls laden with butter, mayo, lettuce, ham and cheese, doled out in a dainty napkin to us in the front seat on this recent jaunt.



“Help is just a phone call away so who needs to live in town.”

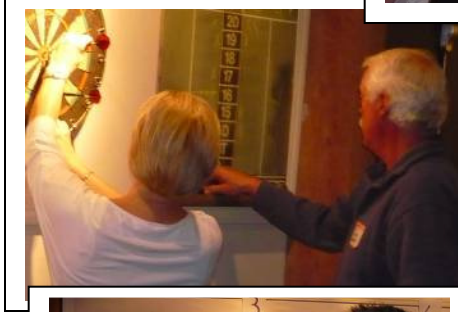
Our Community was built up by many VOLUNTEER HOURS it is great to see that it still continues.



... and everything beautiful and ready to role!



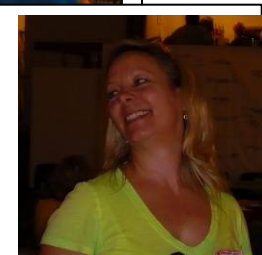
DART NIGHT



Winners:
Denise Tregear and Fuss Cracknell

Runners up:
Selina Funnell and Robert West

The **Dart Tournament** was a huge success. We made \$ 732. for the Community Association.



Big Thanks to all who **helped** with the set up, the event and clean up

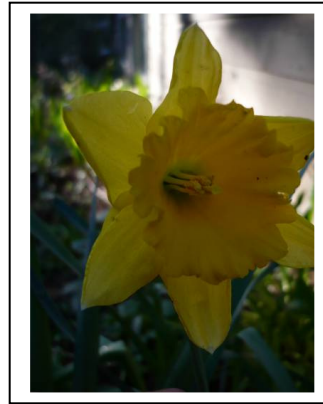


*Does anyone have any other suggestions for a Deer Proof Garden?
The following is a combination of a contribution by Pat Williams
some of my own list of plants after many years of unfenced gardening
at Willis Point.*

Deer Proof Gardens

Is there really such a thing as a plant a deer won't eat? When ever I am in friends' fenced in gardens I look longingly at the beautiful showy flowers that they have. Then I remind my self that I have purchased this "Deer Candy" before and swore that I had learned my lesson. It is as though Deer have their own gardening calendar and if there is something in your garden that they would like, they know exactly when it is at its prime for flavour. The following is a list of "deer-proof plants." With the qualifying comment that nothing is really safe from deer, here is a list of deer-resistant plants for our gardens:

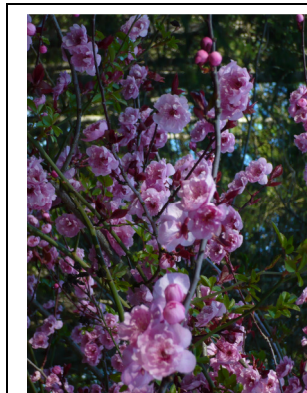
- Most Perennials that you would find in an English Country Garden such as Shasta Daisy, Lambs Ear, Periwinkle, Iris and Poppies.
- Herbs such as Rosemarie, Thyme, Oregano, Marjoram, Sage, Lavendar
- Garlic (allium sativum)
- Onions (allium alliaceae)
- Anemones
- Daffodils and Narcissus
- Bluebells (Mertensia)
- Snowdrops (Galanthus Nivalis)
- Forget-Me-Nots (Myosotis)
- Bleeding Heart (Dicentra)
- Trilliums
- Christmas Rose (Helleborus)
- Rhododendrons
- Portuguese Laurels.



An update about my soccer team.

This year, I'm playing with U17 Lake Hill Gold. Most of the players that I went to Sweden with are on my team. At a game in Campbell River, we qualified for the Provincials "B" Cup which will be played in Aldergrove, B.C. in July.

Jason Connor



With spring comes the excitement for many young people of graduating and with that celebrations like parties. Please take care to make good choices and be safe driving and otherwise.

Business Directory

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Photos by Suzanne 544-0166 www.cameraworkbysuzanne.com 544-0166 Suzanne Fitzpatrick	Dave Phillips Willis Point Specialist, Holmes Realty 656-0911
	WP Handy Man Brad Taylor-Gorling Cell 250-217-8785 Decks, Painting, Yard work, Hauling
Debora L. Branson Traditional Chinese Medicine 250-704-1178	<i>Email to be added to the business directory: idavs4@yahoo.ca</i>

The Willis Point Real Estate Report

I'm going to depart from my regular format in this issue. Instead of a local real estate listings & sales review, I am going to update you on some important changes that will soon begin to affect our market.

Harmonized Sales Tax

Currently, most new properties are subject to a 5% GST the first time that they are sold by the builder. As of July 1, a 12% HST will apply. There are significant rebates in place that remove most of the HST for properties valued at \$525,000 or less. For properties over \$525,000, the rebates are still in place but are capped. The end result is that the amount of tax payable on new homes is higher under HST than it was under GST. For a new property that sells at \$525,000, the HST will increase the purchase cost by around \$10,000. A million dollar property will cost over \$43,000 more. There are a couple of important points to keep in mind. The HST only applies to properties where GST would apply now. Therefore, the vast majority of resale homes are not affected by the HST. You should also know that some buyers are not eligible for the rebates and so would pay the full 12% HST. Consult your lawyer or accountant for details. If you are planning to purchase a property that is HST applicable, you should try to complete your purchase on or before June 30, 2010 to reduce the amount of tax payable.

CMHC Mortgage Insurance

Effective April 19, 2010, CMHC will tighten up the rules for the mortgages that they insure. You can still purchase a home with a 5% down payment as long as it is going to be your principal residence, but you must be able to qualify at the higher five year interest rate, not the lower variable rate. In effect, you need to be able to handle a larger payment if necessary. As well, if you are buying a home with a suite, a lower percentage of the rental revenue will be factored into your income. Finally, if you are buying a revenue property and not planning to live in it, you will need at least 20% for a down payment. This is just a summary of the key changes that are coming. Consult your mortgage broker or bank for complete details.

Mortgage Rates May Increase

For months now, our government has been warning us that interest rates are likely to increase starting this Summer, or sooner. Borrowing rates are now at record lows and you should do your best to take advantage of them. However, at the same time, it is prudent to be prepared for rates to increase in the coming months. How much they will increase is anybody's guess. Some home owners prefer to choose a lower, variable rate mortgage, take their chances, and pocket the savings. Others prefer a fixed-rate mortgage at a slightly higher interest rate to ensure that their payments will be stable. Whatever your preference, make sure that you consult with your lender to ensure that you have the right type of mortgage, and the right level of risk, for you.

I hope that you find this information helpful. If you have any questions, please feel free to give our office a call. We would be happy to help, or to direct you to other experts for further information.



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