



The Beachcomber



HMC Newsletter

September 2009



<http://www.herronisland.org>

President's Message

The September HMC Board meeting went quite long as many issues were addressed. The fire chief from the Key Peninsula Fire Department gave a presentation on issues associated with their funding problems due to the recent failure of their levy. They will submit their levy again in November but if it does not pass they will have to take action to reduce costs. They have already had to let personnel go and may need to cut other costs. One option is to pull the fire engine and ambulance kept on the Island and surplus them. This would gain little revenue but save on maintenance and insurance. There was a lot of discussion on how the fire department would respond if the ferry were not available (due to tides or drydock) but the alternatives are not attractive. In the years that an engine and ambulance have been stored on the Island, they have only been used when we have had certified volunteers residing on the Island. With no resident volunteers currently trained and none anticipated, they are no longer active. Nevertheless, the department is looking at all options and will keep communications open with Herron Island. The fire chief did speak with the state insurance commissioner and several insurance companies and was told that existing fire insurance rates would not necessarily increase if they did pull the fire engine off the island but that new policies would most likely cost more due to the change in fire rating for the Island.

The county and fire district did lift the burn ban and HMC is following suit. We do, however, request that members be very careful with fires and make sure they are controlled and never left unattended.

There was discussion on HMC moving a road at the South end of the Island off a member's property. A recent survey indicated that about 12 feet of the road is on the member's property and a plan was put together to move it onto HMC right-of-way. Several members

were concerned that moving the road would change the drainage and adversely impact them with the winter rains. HMC agreed to have a professional engineer assess the situation and plan to insure that issues with drainage would not be worse. During the meeting it was brought up that members are responsible for the ditches along their property and keeping them clean. Also, since storm water drainage was not required when the Island was developed, members need to take responsibility for drainage onto their property.

A petition was brought to the board regarding removing a member from the rules committee. Many members who signed the petition were at the meeting and quite vocal on their desire to remove this member. The board did not want to take this action without hearing both sides of the matter and because of the ramifications of such an action. HMC does have a set of Island rules (including speed limits, use of Island facilities, noise, etc. in addition to county and state laws). HMC is not, however, in a position to act as a law enforcement or court system. HMC relies on member complaints and a rules committee to enforce our rules. This puts a real burden on any member who files a complaint and on the members of the rules committee that have to deal with the complaints. No matter what decision is made, somebody is going to be upset. If there is backlash and retaliation due to a member filing a complaint or voting on the rules committee, then our system cannot work. One option would be to eliminate any rules not enforceable by Pierce County law enforcement and for HMC to get out of the enforcement process altogether. Given that many of our rules are for the protection of Island members (like speed limits, use of facilities, noise restrictions, and the like) and not County laws, this might not be acceptable. The Board will have to deal with all these issues and does not take this lightly.

The water project committee is being formed and Steve Chapin has accepted the position to chair this committee. The committee is chartered to develop all options

(Continued on Page 3)

Important Phone Numbers**Island Manager**

Claudia Ellsworth (253) 884-9350

HMC Board of Trustees

Fred Fath, President (206) 246-7016

Kathy Deuster, Vice-President (253) 884-6898

Janet Podell, Secretary (253) 874-2452

Judy Greinke, Treasurer (253) 857-5463

Patrick Pitt, Member-at-Large (253) 884-2578

Additional Responsibilities

Mike Shettlesworth, Transportation Chair (253) 884-6919

Mike Davis, Water Operations (253) 884-1423

Dick Mowry, Water Field Examiner (253) 884-7663

Dick Zottman, Water Field Examiner (253) 884-9071

Scott Schultz, Water Repair (253) 884-3196

Eric Bergson, Rules Chair (253) 830-4413

Tracy Anspach, Parks Chair (253) 588-1921

Allen Moren, Roads Chair (253) 884-2721

Mike Davis, Emergency Prep. Chair (253) 884-1423

Kathy Deuster, Land Use Chair (253) 884-6898

Eric Bergson, Technology Chair (253) 830-4413

Carolyn Snyder, Office Manager (253) 884-9350

Ken Freeman, Beachcomber/Webmaster (231) 544-2456

**Herron Island Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9:30 am to 5:30 pm. The office is CLOSED Monday,
Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.**

Office Phone: (253) 884-9350

Office Fax: (253) 884-5047

Website: <http://www.herronisland.org>

Office Email: Office@herronisland.orgManager Email: HMCManager@herronisland.orgBeachcomber: beachcomber@herronisland.org

Emergency 911

Ferry Cell phone (253) 691-1457

(Cell phone to be used for scheduling heavy loads, big vehicles or having something in tow, and for information regarding ferry services.)

Delinquency List as of September 15, 2009

BALDWIN - DWYER - KENNISON - LAWRENCE -
MARCINKO - PARKER - TCHOCHIEV

Ferry Business

- **Call ahead if you are planning to use the ferry for a trailer, boat, or large vehicle!**
- **Only those guests with valid passes will be allowed on the ferry.**
- **Plan your arrival at the dock at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time of departure.**
- **Walks-ons are not to be on the dock or ramp when cars are being loaded. Watch crew for permission to board.**
- **Only service and delivery people may charge fares.**

WE HAVE EXPERIENCED GUESTS AND SERVICE PEOPLE EXPECTING TO COME OVER TO THE ISLAND WITHOUT GUEST PASSES. THIS VIOLATES THE ACCESS POLICY THAT WAS PUT IN PLACE FOR ALL OF OUR SECURITY. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR GUEST HAS A VALID GUEST PASS SIGNED BY YOU TO ENSURE THEY ARE ABLE TO RIDE THE FERRY. BLANK GUEST PASSES ARE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS AT THE OFFICE, BY MAIL, AND ON THE FERRY.

Beachcomber news items must be submitted by 5:00 PM on the Wednesday after the monthly Board meeting on the second Saturday of the month. Items **MUST** be emailed in electronic format to beachcomber@herronisland.org. Include your name and phone number in case any questions arise. Paid advertisements are to be arranged with the HMC office **PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.**

Online Beachcomber

If you wish to read your Beachcomber online at www.herronisland.org and save HMC the price of printing and postage, please notify the office.

President's Message
(Continued from Page 1)

for the upgrade, financing, and operation of our water system. The Water System Plan was completed and signed off at the September Board meeting and the water project committee is now working the next step that will be presented to the entire membership for a vote on which option to pursue.

There is a new ferry access policy starting on October 1st which states that all commercial and government access using the ferry must pay standard guest ferry fees. The exceptions to this are emergency access including fire, medical, law enforcement, and utility companies responding to major outages on the Island. Charging commercial access has been in force for quite awhile but not applied to utilities. Thus, members receiving services might see additional charges from the commercial and utility companies. This policy is meant to cover ferry costs more fairly by charging those who use or cause use of the ferry more. Ferry fees only cover about 35% of the cost attributed to the ferry and the rest are borne by all members in the semi-annual assessments.

A final note on Island park cleanup. As usual, volunteers are the main mechanism we have to keep our Island facilities and parks clean. Some volunteers have reported that this year has been better as members seem to be more responsible for their own trash. Thanks to all members that have taken care of their litter and to the volunteers who do the rest. Please do your part to keep our Island litter free.

Fred Fath, President
HMC Board of Directors

Orca Whales at Herron Island

Late Friday afternoon, September 11, 2009, residents sighted a pod of Orcas off the north end of Herron Island. The Orcas wandered about 20 feet off the small boat dock. The small pod slowly swam to Packard's Point on Herron Island, and then headed south down the west side of the Herron Island. Anita Bray called island residents along the west and south sides to alert neighbors about this wonderful event.

A second group of Orcas appeared on the West side of

Herron Island, the two pods of Orcas merged together off the sand spit on the southwest corner of Herron Island. Denny Dubeck thought 'it was a beautiful sight', as he stood on his deck overlooking the Orcas. Those members standing on the South Beach taking pictures said it was a spectacular, exciting, sight as they swam south in one pod. While in the smaller pod the whales swam very close together, however in the large group they swam further apart.

A distinctive feature of the Orca is its large triangular dorsal fin, which can reach up to a height of six feet in males. The female dorsal fin can reach three feet in height and is curved.

On Sunday the whales returned and were spotted at Johnson Point. Many islanders boated over and watched the Orcas before they continued on their journey south. The Herron Islanders who watched these wonderful creatures said they played, went down and then resurfaced. It was like a spectacular game of hide and seek. Images of the Orcas playing around Herron Island will soon be found on our island website.

Anita Bray

No October Beachcomber

The Beachcomber is published nine times per year. There is no issue in October, December, or February.

Fire Safety Burn Ban Cancelled

The summer fire safety burn ban declared by Pierce County and HMC has been cancelled effective September 12th.

Small Boat Storage

Members are reminded of Rule E-19, which states that small boats may not be left unattended on the beach area at North Beach Park, but may be stored in the designated area at the south end of the bulkhead. The designated area is south of the last bench.. Currently, there are boats violating the last bench boundary.

New Renter Fees

Effective October 1, 2009, there will be an initial renter contract fee of \$60.00 and an annual renter contract renewal fee of \$30.00. If a renter's primary domicile is on Herron Island, they are afforded member ferry rates. Whether the renter pays rent to the member is between the renter and the member. A non-domiciled renter receives a renter's auto decal and must pay guest ferry rates.

Labor Day Ball Game News

We finished up the last ball game on Saturday, September 5th. The junior game was a great success with boys and girls of all ages participating and again the kids had "FUN". The spectators were having just as much fun watching. I had the pleasure of pitching for both sides and Herron Island rules prevailed with everyone getting to hit, run bases and score runs. It may not be the official way of playing but officially everyone had fun. I want to thank the parent who was catching for both teams and assisting the batters. Sorry I didn't write down his name, but again many thanks for helping with the kids' game. The game wouldn't have been the same without him. There were a lot of special plays on both teams. The base running was especially good with runners in scoring position; fielders knowing where to throw the ball and trying to get the lead runners out. There were some outstanding catches. We have some great ball players coming out to play on the "Herron Island Little League". Never know we might be seeing some Jr. and Sr. high school scouts watching our games. Great Job Kids!

The second game with adults was also a great success. There were just a bunch of players getting together to play ball. Note, ladies we invite you to join in these games, its co-ed and lots of fun. Both Ellis and I played with Ellis catching and me pitching. The game went for seven innings. Some players had to leave to catch the ferry so may have to start games a little earlier in the future. We are going to plan all games in the future on Saturdays so everyone can plan ahead.

Again, many thanks to Paul the "Hot Dog Man", he spends a lot of his time getting the dogs ready and we really appreciate his effort. Paul thanks a bunch!

What a year for ball games on the Island, not only on our holiday weekends, but family night ball games were a great success with both adult parents and our special little ones all playing together. We will continue the family night ball games again next summer. I will put the schedule in the Beachcomber next April so watch for and plan a family night at the ball field.

Thanks to all who helped me. I really appreciate your time and efforts. We are looking forward to 2010 and our Island ball games. Have a great winter and see you on the ball field on 2010 Memorial Day weekend.

Dallas Amidon
Baseball Chairperson.

Debra Rae Neujahr (1950 - 2009) Harvey Hand (1921 -2009)

Islanders Debbie Neujahr and Harvey Hand passed away in August. HMC extends deepest sympathies to the families of Debbie and Harvey.

Winter Ferry Schedule

The winter schedule will begin October 1st. Runs will be identical with those of the summer schedule with the exception that the 2:30/3:00 runs on Mondays and Fridays and the 1:30/2:00 runs on Sundays are eliminated.

Flu Shots

Dr. Roes will be on the island to administer flu shots on Monday, October 12th. The time has not been scheduled yet, but will be announced on the website.

Ferry Reminders

- **Ferry Access Policy**
 - Maximum gross weight is 40,000 pounds and maximum vehicle length is 60 feet. Advanced scheduling is required.
- **Loading Procedures**
 - Cell phone use during ferry loading or unloading is prohibited.
 - During hours of darkness, there are to be no lights on a vehicle save for parking lights while on the ferry, ramp, or pier during loading or unloading. This is to prevent the crew from being blinded.
 - Foot passengers shall not board during loading/off-loading of vehicles and shall remain within the ferry cabin until directed by a crewmember.
- **Ferry Cell Phone**
 - 253-691-1457
 - Use the cell phone for information regarding ferry services, to schedule heavy loads or to make arrangements for any combination of vehicles (in tow) and any single vehicles longer than 25 feet. Advanced scheduling is required

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

"For Sale" Napoleon wood stove, 24 carat gold trim. Excellent condition. \$600 . Boat, 1989 Bayliner Capri, good shape. 1989 Force-motor, needs work: Make offer.(253-884-5565)

Non-commercial ads of 100 words or less will be accepted for inclusion in this section free of charge. Please email your ad to beachcomber@herronisland.org, Subject: Beachcomber Ad. The ad must be resubmitted for each issue in which it is to be printed.



PARKS COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELPING HANDS!

Join the 2009 Summer Season Wrap-up
8:00 am, Saturday, October 24th

Tasks:

- Small Boat Dock removal
- Finishing work on new storage area (painting, installing latches etc)
- Organize storage area
- Clean out fire pit
- Beach clean up

Bring your family. Join your friends and neighbors to make a difference in our community. Lunch will be provided to helpers. For information call Tracy (253) 380-8261.

Stormy Labor Day Sailboat Race

by Anita Bray

Congratulations to all the Herron Island sailors! You all demonstrated outstanding skills and courage. What a wind we had!!!

Winners:

First Place went to Dave Monette & Michel Sotura with 58 Minutes.

Second Place went to Paul & Curt Bray with 1 hour and 3 minutes.

Third Place went to Larry & Mike Carrario with 1 hour and 14 minutes.

Four boats entered. Joe Lausten, age 14, was the youngest. Joe sure did give everyone on the beach a show. There was just too much wind for Joe and his small boat. Thanks to Lee Forte and Pat McCassal who offered their boat as a chase boat. They had the best view following the race.

Paul and Curt Bray dumped their boat one second after crossing the finish line. Dana Postelwait jumped in his zodiac and rushed out to bring Paul Bray, now in his 70s, to shore. Kris Mulan was in his boat at the dock and went to assist Curt. There were attempts to upright the boat, only to have the wind blow it upside down again. Kris Mulan towed the Bray sailboat to the lea side of the island and Curt finally was successful in righting the boat and sailing to shore.

All our sailors were well-equipped with wet suits and safety gear. Many islanders were at the finish line to enjoy another exciting sailboat race, a tradition Herron Island has enjoyed for over 40 years.

SUMMER FERRY SCHEDULE (4/1 through 9/30)

MON		TUE		WED		THUR		FRI		SAT		SUN	
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Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day same as Sunday

WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE (10/1 through 3/31)

MON		TUE		WED		THUR		FRI		SAT		SUN	
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Thanksgiving and New Years: Lv. Island 8:30, 11:30, 6:30
Lv. Mainland 9:00, 12:00, 7:00

Christmas: Lv. Island 8:30, 6:30
Lv. Mainland 9:00, 7:00

www.DiscoverHerronIsland.com

Homes For Sale:

309 East Madrona: 2 beds/1 bath—new construction and Green Built, with bamboo floors, beautiful kitchen with Ice Stone Countertops—You have to see it to believe it! Priced at only \$179,500
Check it out: www.johnscott.com/61072

22115 Maple Drive: 3 beds/2.5 baths (2 bed septic), 1700+ sq ft home sitting on a huge .85 acre corner lot and with a view of the water. New roof, siding, exterior paint and deck! Sold furnished! Only \$379,000 Check it out at www.johnscott.com/55224

VIEW, VIEW, VIEW, VIEW!!!!

2 beds/1 bath home fully remodeled with a gorgeous kitchen and bathroom sitting on a shy half acre lot. Sit on the new— huge— deck and enjoy the spectacular western view of the Olympic Mountains and Case Inlet—the sunsets have to be seen to be believed! Contact me for more information!

Vacant Land For Sale:

1017 Yew Blvd: .42 acre lot with 27 FT Komfort 5th wheel included. New on the Market and Priced at \$19,500

730 Madrona Blvd: .36 acre lot with 2 bedroom approved septic design. Backs on to Goodpastor Park. Price reduced to \$22,950

1005 Yew Blvd: .41 acre lot. Build tall for an incredible water/mountain view! 2 bed approved septic design. Priced at \$44,950

826 East Herron Blvd: .32 acre lot with 2 bed approved septic design. Priced reduced to \$34,950

828 East Herron Blvd: .32 acre lot with 2 bed approved septic design. Priced reduced to \$29,950

807 West Herron Blvd: .45 acre lot with approved septic and partial view! Priced at \$42,500

Karen Dorans, Resident Island Realtor "HI RLTR" Karen@DiscoverHerronIsland.com
Island Residence: (253) 884-2578 Cell: (253) 219-4076 Office: (253) 858-7500



(Paid Advertisement)

Free Beachcomber Ads

Non-commercial ads of 100 words or less will be accepted for inclusion free of charge. Please email your ad to beachcomber@herronisland.org, Subject: Beachcomber Ad. The ad must be resubmitted for each issue in which it is to be printed.

Free Website Ads

Ads for sale of personal, non-commercial items are accepted from HMC members by email to webmaster@herronisland.org and will be run at no charge. The ads may contain photos. Please notify the webmaster when the item is sold so that the ad may be removed.

Tide Tables

Plots of the monthly tide tables are available on our website (herronisland.org). The plots are for nearby McMicken Island, which is the NOAA data point closest to Herron Island.

(Note: HMC Management neither endorses advertisers nor vouches for their being properly licensed.)

Herron Island Properties

New listing, 404 Yew Blvd. Listed at \$26,000, water on property, septic design ready. Seller will carry contract with 20% down 7% interest, 5-7 year C/O

Price reduced on 216 Fir Lane Home and Lot with view, only \$147,500—Excellent Price

Check these and all our listings at www.herronisland.com



Always listing and selling here on our special island.

DALLAS AMIDON, Island Resident Realtor

Cell: 253-606-0972 Home: 253-884-6166

Janette Wiester, Realtor

Cell: 253-355-0495

E-mail: HerronIsland@hotmail.com

Windermere Key Realty, Inc.

253-857-3304

Working hard for you & our community since 1994!

(Paid Advertisement)

We Invite You to Visit
and See What's New:

www.herronislandwater.org

A website created and maintained by volunteers dedicated to exploring all options toward a timely upgrade of our water distribution system.

(Please note: This is not an official HMC website.)

(Paid Advertisement)

HERRON ISLAND YARD MAINTENANCE

ALLEN MOREN
253-884-2721

ESTIMATES BY THE YARD

- *Also works with Tansy
- *Appliance Disposal
- *Deck Cleaning
- *Restaining

(Paid Advertisement)

May Mobile Marine Tech

Monty will be on the island to perform maintenance/tune-ups September 25 & 26, 2009

**Motors, Generators, Boats
Email or Call for appointment
Special parts, etc.**

360.621.1239

Email: mriley@wavecable.com

*Monty Riley, Owner, Licensed & Insured
Complete Service for Evinrude, Johnson, Mercury, Honda, Yamaha, Jet Skies
Mobile 360.621.1239*

(Paid Advertisement)

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WELCOME ALL NEWCOMERS!



HERRON ISLAND

The Beachcomber

HMC MANAGEMENT

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