



# CHUCKANUT NEWS

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Chuckanut Bay Community Association Quarterly Newsletter October 2010 Volume 20, No. 4

**The next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, in our newly-renovated Fire Hall -- Chief Ralston recently confirmed that the roof repairs are complete, and CBCA meetings scheduled through year-end can be held in the hall, as usual.**

## **President's Message**

**Election of Officers and Trustees** -- Three of the four current officers, and the one trustee whose current term is ending, are willing nominees for re-election. Those include myself as President, Ann Jones Richardson as Secretary, Karin Todd as Treasurer and Mary Anne Ruf as Trustee. However, David Franklin, current Vice-President and past President, has decided not to run for reelection. His service has been outstanding, beginning when the CCFA needed to focus on support and direction of our fire department, thru his recent hand-off of the President's baton to me and reorganization as the CBCA. Couldn't have done it without you, Dave!

The nominee for Vice-President is Chris Donaldson. Chris, along with his wife Lisa and children, resides on White Cap Road. He is engaged as New Business Developer for Hand Crank Films in Bellingham. I attended a meeting at which Chris presented the short film *Put the G in Bellingham*, which Hand Crank recently produced to promote Bellingham as a potential test city for Google's high-speed fiber optic project. If you haven't already seen it, take a look -- on Youtube under *Bellingham Google Fiber*, it's brilliant. Chris would bring a lot of energy and expertise to the VP position. Just as a reminder, all members present at the meeting are eligible to vote, and nominations can be taken from the floor.

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## President's Message continued

**Local Red Cross Presentation** -- From time-to-time, the involvement of our local Red Cross chapter in emergency preparedness planning has been discussed. Dave Franklin has lined up their representative as a presenter, so let's come to the meeting armed with questions about what the Red Cross can do for us, and what we should be doing to support the Red Cross.

**State Patrol Presentation** -- Dave has also scheduled a representative from the State Patrol to attend and discuss any issues surrounding management of Chuckanut Drive, the state highway that runs through the center of our community.

**Pod Update** -- Ken Kaliher will be prepared to give a brief update and answer questions regarding current status of the Pod system.

As I indicated when I first accepted the office of President, a prior long-scheduled commitment will take me out of Bellingham on October 6<sup>th</sup>, and I will not be able to attend. Dave Franklin, in his last official duty as V.P., has offered to chair the meeting.

The agenda is full, and I trust the meeting will be interesting and productive.  
J. Michael Newlight

### From Your Editor

This is still the **Chuckanut News**, but it is the first issue published by the **Chuckanut Bay Community Association**.

I need to give many thanks to Susan Brown, my computer guru, for formatting the new logo and incorporating it into the front page. Also to Joyce Gardner who did the original design.

Georgia Heald

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### Chuckanut Bay Community Signs

First of all, we'd like to acknowledge and thank **Wayne Caplinger** for making bronze caps for our signs. A beautiful job, Wayne!

Now, a question of sharing: can you help out with trimming the vegetation around the signs? You don't have to sign up for this job. But, if you drive past and notice the vegetation creeping up, maybe you can stop and snip, or at least make a mental note to return at a later day with shears in hand to do the job. Will Cady has been trying to maintain both sites, but it sure would be nice if community members would be willing to help out in this regard. With much appreciation for lending a hand in the coming months.

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## Community

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### Adopt a Highway

This is our semi-annual call for volunteers to clean our adopted two mile stretch of Chuckanut Drive. We did an excellent collection job in the spring, thanks to **Liz and Steve Wright** and **Joanne and Will Cady**. The fall pickup will be on Saturday, October 16, at 9:30. We'll meet at the Fire Hall. Why participate? Well, the reasons are many. You can:

- Get exercise
- Meet and chat with neighbors
- Exchange information
- Spend time in the outdoors
- Receive kudos from passing cyclists
- Find treasures and maybe even money (a donation for our association!)
- Step back and appreciate the cleanliness of our neighborhood
- Go home with a feel-good attitude

If you are interested in helping, please call Will Cady. 756-0511

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### Obituary

Dr. Viola K. Kleindienst (Vi), age 90 passed away peacefully with friends beside her on Wednesday August 11, 2010. Vi was born March 25<sup>th</sup>. She served her country in the USNR-Waves during WWII as a Lt. Senior Grade from 1943 to 1946. She then was in the Reserves from 1947 thru 1948. Vi earned her BA from Denison University in 1942. She then went on to get her BS from Cornell University in 1949. Vi's professional career included: public school teacher in Bath New York, instructor at Connecticut University, Assistant Professor at University of Montana, Associate Professor at the University of Missouri, and Dept. Chair of Physical Education at the University of Maine. In 1967 Vi and her best friend La Vere Schafer moved to Bellingham WA. Vi was a real estate broker for 15 years in Bellingham where she had lived for 43 years. She was a member of the Alpha Phi sorority, Bellingham Waves, Lake Padden Women's Golf Club, Mt. Baker Hiking Club, and a volunteer and EMT at the Chuckanut Fire Dept. She traveled all over the globe from England, to Uzbekistan. Vi's "fully charged" personality kept her in contact with friends all across the US and Canada. Celebration of Vi's 90 years of life was held in March where she was able to visit with and enjoy over 80 of her extended family and good friends. Her parting statement to her friends would be, "Always have fun and be good to yourself". She will be sorely missed by her cat, Noel and her neighbors and special friends Don, Carol, Braelan and Logan Barnett.

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### FIRST ANNUAL CHUCKANUT BAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PICNIC

The first annual C.B.C.A picnic was held on Thursday September 9 at 5pm at Larrabee State Park's south shelter. The weather was sunny and bright with a hint of pink at sunset. Neighbors shared a vast array of savory salads, lasagnas, casseroles, specialty ethnic dishes and treasured family recipes. The desert table groaned under an abundance of chocolate cakes, pecan pies, cookies and all manner of tempting sweets. Those of you who didn't make it, missed a fantastic gathering of people enjoying delicious food and interesting conversations.

Thank you Moiree Landgren for all your work!

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## HISTORY by Lynette Berry

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### The Chuckanut Quarry

Formerly located near the South end of Teddy Bear Cove, the Chuckanut Quarry was founded in 1856 by Henry Roeder, acquiring 93 acres at the price of a dollar-and-a-half an acre. Roeder, originally from Ohio, recognized the value and use of the sandstone for construction purposes and quarried the first stone in 1856 for a lighthouse at New Dungeness, outside Sequim. Roeder used Chuckanut Bay to transport the stone via schooner, but didn't put much effort into the quarry early on. It wasn't until later, with the help of his son-in-law, Charles Roth, the quarry became a successful business.

With the beginnings of Railroad construction underway in the 1880's, a building boom occurred in the Northwest. The Chuckanut quarry soon began filling orders destined for Seattle, Tacoma, Port Townsend, Olympia and Portland. With the destruction of Seattle's business district in June of 1889 the demand for Chuckanut sandstone grew. That same summer Roeder reorganized the quarry implementing the latest stone cutting equipment. Chuckanut sandstone can be found today in buildings around Seattle's Pioneer Square. The Pioneer Building (1889-91) is one of the most famous.

- At its peak of production, the Chuckanut quarry employed 50 men to get the stone out of the mountain, finished, and onto barges and ships.
- During the 1890's this was done at a rate of 200 tons per day. Aiding in the endeavor was a huge derrick, made of old-growth beams, which hoisted and swung loads weighing up to 40 tons.
- Two sets of gang saws were used in cutting and trimming the stone.
- Blocks six feet wide and thirteen feet high could be extracted from the hillside.
- A rock-fall of 40,000 tons, the largest ever made at Chuckanut, was quarried in November, 1889.
- Over the next four frantic years, a section 200 feet wide and 60 feet deep was removed from the mountain.

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## History continued

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Three local business blocks were constructed in 1890-91 with the use of Chuckanut sandstone. These were the Bellingham Bay National Bank, the Lighthouse Block and the Lottie Roth Block. Of these three, only the Lottie Roth Block survives, located on Holly at G Street, and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

At the time it was rare to construct a building with a facade entirely of Chuckanut sandstone. Generally a foundation, basement or first story was made of stone, then brick, followed with stone for detailing of ledges, lintels, arches, etc. This was the strategy used in construction of the New Whatcom City Hall (1892) on Prospect Street, which up until most recently housed the Whatcom Museum of History and Art.

Unfortunately the nationwide financial panic of 1893 slowed the quarry's production pace. In addition, the year 1901 spurred a major lawsuit between the Chuckanut quarry and the Seattle & Montana Railway, a subsidiary of the Great Northern, with the need of right-of-way through the quarry property. On September 25, 1902, Henry Roeder passed away and Roth would run the quarry on his own for another decade. The development of cement slowly began to replace the use of stone because it was cheaper and simply more versatile. The final two noteworthy buildings that incorporated Chuckanut sandstone were the Victor Roeder home on Boadway, finished in 1910 and the National Guard Armory on Elk (State) Street, started in 1910. The quarry closed in 1913, the same year the Olympic Portland Cement Company's new plant opened on Marine Drive.

Sources:

Jewell, Jeff. "Cement doomed early Roeder quarry." [The Bellingham Business Journal](#). October, 1998.

### The National Guard Armory



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# Friends of Chuckanut

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## INFORMATION ON THE RURAL ELEMENT UPDATE

The current Whatcom County Council is re-reviewing the Rural Areas that the State Growth Management Hearings Board has found to be out of compliance with the two goals of preserving rural character and preventing Urban sprawl. The total land affected by this ruling in Whatcom County is approximately 121,000 acres total which amounts to 11.9% of all of our Rural Lands. The other 88% of rural lands are unaffected by the GMHB decision as they are zoned appropriately. That means the RR2, RR3, and R2A zoning is too dense and need to be changed.

Many residents have voiced their opinion and concerns to the Council in letters, by supporting the compromise worked out by the Planning and Development Services (PDS) staff and the Planning Commission. Those recommendations have been presented to the Council. For those interested, the PDS web site has been updated to show the draft amendments that were discussed by the County Council on September 14. This is the same information as was posted in the County Council agenda packet, but on the web site it is broken into smaller components and shown in color, making maps and text revisions easier to read. The draft is posted on the "Proposed" page at <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/pds/plan/long/projects/lamird/proposed.jsp> For those who want to compare it with the Planning Commission recommended version, the Planning Commission recommendation can be accessed on the "Public Process" page at <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/pds/plan/long/projects/lamird/updateprocess.jsp> Public comments are also posted on that page.

The Council has tentatively set a schedule to wrap up this review as follows;

Sept 28 - Public Comments due for the next Committee of the Whole meeting where they will give the PDS staff final direction

Oct 12 – Information and final versions returned to Council for review

Oct 26 – Date for a public hearing. All these dates could change but this was the schedule proposed by Sam Crawford at their last meeting.

You may take this opportunity to protect the unique Rural character of this area by sending comments to the County Council members at [council@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:council@co.whatcom.wa.us) on the desirability of bringing the Chuckanut area into compliance with the law.

For more information you can contact: [GDavis@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:GDavis@co.whatcom.wa.us). Gary Davis, AICP  
Senior Planner 360-676-6707 ext. 50246

Respectfully submitted by,      Laura Leigh Brakke

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## Blockwatch Program

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### Organizing a neighborhood meeting for the Blockwatch Program and Emergency preparedness

Some of the neighbors on Pleasant Bay Road, Beacon Road, and Cove Road gathered in mid July to meet each other and view an informative 45-minute DVD about emergency preparedness called "Map Your Neighborhood (MYN)". There is also an accompanying booklet titled "Building and Strengthening Disaster Readiness Among Neighbors." Both MYN materials are readily available through Bellingham Police Department Officer Katrin Dearborn, who spoke at an earlier CCFA general meeting, she can be reached at [KDearborn@cob.org](mailto:KDearborn@cob.org), or through the BPD switchboard at 778-8800. She can either mail the DVD and booklets, or leave them at the front desk of the police station or at Emergency Management for pick-up. The DVD is 45 min. but when you are organizing your event plan for at least 90 min. as the DVD has pauses built in to discuss, record and document different peices of information in the the booklet. Also, the state's website is very good. They have everything you need to know on there, including down-loadable booklets. The only thing they don't have is the DVD/video. <http://www.emd.wa.gov/myn/index.shtml>

Much thanks go to Carin and Sal Gurliaccio for hosting the event. In organizing a Pod/ Neighborhood meeting the primary goal is to make sure we know our neighbors and become aware of those neighbors that may need more care during an emergency as well as those neighbors that have special skills and equipment that are valuable during an emergency, such as generators, chain saws, and first aid / medical knowledge that can assist those neighbors in need. We also designated a general meeting area for each POD where we will meet and check in with each other to organize safety response and care during a time of emergency when the First Responders may not get to our community immediately.

The other goal of POD meetings may be to create a Block Watch Program or agreement. Below is the link for the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office block watch page. Deputy Ben Wood of the Crime Prevention Unit of the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office is the contact person, [bewood@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:bewood@co.whatcom.wa.us). He has also presented an overview of this information at a CCFA quarterly meeting. He suggests neighbors go to the website and review the information. If a group of neighbors wish to have an "Official" Block watch sign posted on their street, Ben Wood will come to a meeting and review the requirements then the neighbors chip in a nominal amount for the sign. For those receiving this newsletter electronically I have included the link; <http://whatcomcounty.us/sheriff/crimeprev/blockwatch.jsp>

The main pillars of both of these programs is knowing your neighbors. Gathering together in support of improved safety for our neighborhoods is not only a good idea but we all had fun.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Leigh Brakke (Pleasant Bay Rd POD person).

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# Community

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## Transition Southside and Chuckanut

Last February, a new grassroots movement began in our county called **Transition Whatcom**. For those of you unfamiliar with it, a little history first:

The **Transition Movement** actually took root in England in 2006 in a small town by the name of Totnes in Devon. The majority of the 7,000 folks in Totnes felt that given the future outlook of continuing climate change and diminishing oil reserves, it was time to take the bull by the horns and 'transition' the town's lifestyle to accommodate the consequences of these future events. They came together to create a community that was, in their words, 'intensely and inherently local'. To this end, they built community gardens to feed themselves, created wind and solar energy systems, and started education centers for reskilling and retraining the workforce. At the end of the day, over the course of three years, the town of Totnes looked and felt a lot different, much to the delight of its residents. <http://totnes.transitionnetwork.org/>

The success of Totnes spread, and before long the **Transition Movement** found its way into the hearts and souls of residents in the U.K, Ireland, Canada, Australia, Italy, Chile, and the U.S., in small cities such as Ashland, Oregon and Sandpoint, Idaho, as well as larger cities -- Los Angeles, Houston, Denver, Pittsburgh, and Portland, to name a few. [www.transitionus.org](http://www.transitionus.org) The way Transition has affected each of these communities is varied depending upon the needs, desires, motivation, and creativity of the folks who live there.

It took a few years, but the **Transition Movement** finally found its way to Whatcom County. In February of this year, over 700 people attended a weekend event at Bellingham High School. By the end of that weekend, over 700 people began to think of how Whatcom County could follow in the footsteps of Totnes and other like-minded Transition cities. <http://transitionwhatcom.ning.com/>

In response to this "unleashing" of Transition Whatcom, many groups have started in neighborhoods in our county, taking this initiative down to a smaller community level. So far, there are 12 neighborhood groups in which neighbors are working to make their local community more sustainable and self-reliant for the future. Our Chuckanut Bay Community is part of **Transition Southside and Chuckanut**, which was stated in June.

Now, the thing to know about this movement is that it is 'bottoms up'. Nothing gets done unless the people who live in an area make a change. The ideas for change may include waste disposal, energy conservation, transportation, food growing, or reskilling. If someone is interested, then they get involved, join a group, help out, or teach others. That's the way Transition works.

We are members of **Transition**, and we invite our Chuckanut neighbors to become a part of this movement of 'engaged optimism'. Anyone interested in getting involved or just learning more, please visit the websites noted above or contact us at 756-0511 or at [cadyjm@comcast.net](mailto:cadyjm@comcast.net)  
Joanne and Will Cady

<b>CBCA OFFICERS</b>	<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</b>
<b>President</b> Michael Newlight 734-5890	<b>Membership</b> Gale Gropp 733-3991
<b>Vice President</b> Dave Franklin 671-2957	<b>Publication /Sales</b> Pat & Mary Patterson 922-0049
<b>Treasurer</b> Karin Todd 676-5606	<b>Landscape/Grounds</b> Dick McClure 733-9291
<b>Secretary</b> Ann Jones Richardson 733-9140	<b>Archives</b> OPEN
<b>Trustees</b>	<b>Hospitality</b> Moiree Landgren 734-8084
Carlotta Vanderbilt 676-6044	Fire Protection Liaison
Mary Anne Ruf 676-9249	Delight Green 734-5890
Kathy Howell 738-0416	<b>Historian</b> Lynette Berry 676-8131
<b>Fire Commissioner</b> Lynn Trzynka 715-8038	<b>Newsletter</b> Georgia Heald 733-9358
	<b>Greet New Neighbors</b> Ralph & Joyce Gardner 738-4054
	<b>Memorial Garden</b> Susan Brown 650-9511 Frank Schultz 676-0115

**On-Going Fund Raisers:  
Call the Pattersons 922-0049**

**Books**

*Chuckanut Chronicles*  
*Chuckanut Memories*  
\$12 each

**Note Cards**

Chuckanut Memories  
Chuckanut Island  
six for \$5

**Reflective ID Driveway Posts**

Available at \$25 each. These will easily identify your house in an emergency.  
Call Dorothy Gonsalves  
734-4461

**CBCA Mission**

*The Association shall be maintained by the members as an administrative, fundraising, and social organization devoted to the safety and welfare of the Chuckanut community.*

**Bulletin Board**

**Pet Sitters Available**

Two responsible, animal-loving Chuckanut kids would like to help you and your pets. Evan and Hadley Frazier are experienced animal care-takers, and are available days and evenings to feed, walk, play, and give general care to your pets. Adult-supervised. References available. Phone: 733-4470

**Baby Sitter/Mother's Helper**

Hadley Frazier has taken the baby sitter/first aid course and is available as a baby sitter/Mother's helper. Phone: 733-4470

If you are looking for someone to provide a service or if you have a service you would like to offer community members like pet sitting, baby sitting, house sitting, lawn or yard care please provide the information to [chuckanutnews@yahoo.com](mailto:chuckanutnews@yahoo.com) with "Bulletin Board" in the subject box.

# Chuckanut News

Chuckanut Community & Firefighters Association  
PO Box 4403  
Bellingham, WA 98227-4403

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## ***CBCA Important Dates:***

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- Wednesday, October 6: General Meeting 7:30pm, Fire Hall
- Adopt a Highway Fall pick up: Saturday, October 16
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month: Fire Commissioners meeting, 3-5 pm, Geneva Fire Hall, public welcome
- Wednesday, November 3: Board Meeting, 7:30pm, Fire Hall
- Wednesday, December 1: Board Meeting, 7:30pm, Fire Hall
- December 10: Deadline for newsletter articles for the January issue

Please send all news, announcements, articles, photos, story ideas, artwork, or letters to:  
**[chuckanutnews@yahoo.com](mailto:chuckanutnews@yahoo.com)** or call Georgia Heald, Editor, 733-9358