

~ THE MILEPOST ~

A newsletter for the STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA
HWY

January 2005 Vol. 4
Winter Newsletter for SR112 Community

Winter 2005 edition of "The Milepost ... a newsletter for the Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway". The idea for the newsletter came from Corridor Action Team (CAT) meetings during discussions on how to communicate within the SR112 community. We welcome your comments and ideas for information for future publications.

On the Strait and Narrow ...

For current updates on the Hood Canal Bridge project go to www.hoodcanalbridge.com which will take you to the WSDOT project web site. Check www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic for weather or road conditions on state highways. For questions or comments on WSDOT projects, contact Lloyd Brown, Communications Manager, at 360.357.2789 or at his office email: brownl@wsdot.wa.gov.

Happenings ...

The **Victoria Express** passenger ferry will operate on weekends during Black Ball's shut-down February 28th through March 13th, 2005. March 4/5/6 and 11/12/13 the ferry will leave Port Angeles at 8:30 am and leave Victoria at 4 pm. www.victoriaexpress.com

Whale Tales and Flock Talk ...

The migrating bald eagles from British Columbia are in the neighborhood. The Chito Beach area is already enjoying this spectacular sight especially with the extreme high and low tides that make for a good dining experience for the shore birds. Don't forget to keep your bird feeders filled for many smaller birds that have wintered here.

What's In Bloom? ...

The daffodils are poking up through the soil, undoubtedly unsure what the weather will do next ... and not really caring. Spring flowers will follow soon with skunk cabbage ready at even a notion of warmer weather.

Watch for announcements of **spring classes in gardening** being taught by Andrew May at Peninsula College. A class to teach the techniques of pruning is currently in session. And congratulations to Andrew for receiving the PA Realtors award for "Citizen of the Year" for his "outstanding service to the community".

Strait Ramblings ...

"From 1970 to 1996, the mileage Americans drive has grown four times faster than the

population. Mileage has increased two times faster than the number of licensed drivers and 18 times faster than the number of new roads. “ (FHWA) And in 1904 there were only 8000 cars in the US, only 144 miles of paved roads, maximum speed in cities was 10mph. Welcome to the Highway ...

Joyce Fitness Center is new to town! The center is operating currently for women’s “circuit training” sessions and will have its grand opening in February. It is anticipated that the center will be open more days and for coed classes as memberships increase. Fay Bridgeforth, a certified personal trainer with international experience, is the director. Leonard and Mary Pierce are the proud owners. The Joyce Fitness Center is located on the south side of SR112 across from the Joyce General Store and is currently open M-W-F from 8am to 8pm. Annual and quarterly memberships are available (ask about corporate and group rates). There are no sign-up fees. Call for an appointment to enroll today ... Local 360.928.9502 (or toll free 866.928.9502).

CresCommNet is offering local internet access with “@joycewa.net” email addresses. A division of CresComm Services, Inc. (Bob Pensworth) is represented locally by Alex Stevens of the Joyce Café. For more information contact crescomm@cescomm.net.

CAT paws ... new non-profit association formed ...

The team is making progress in the organizational structuring arena. A non-profit corporation has been recently formed named the “Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway Association”. The Association is currently seeking federal tax exempt status. At the organizational meeting on January 24th bylaws were adopted, the following board of directors was formed and officers elected ...

Joe Murray (Merrill and Ring Pysht Tree Farm), President

Alex Stevens (Joyce Café), Vice President

Sande Balch (Sekiu, but soon to be Joyce, resident), Secretary

Bill Drath (Hoko State Park), Treasurer

Other Directors are Margaret Owens (Whiskey Creek artist), Loren Kreutner (Joyce resident), Jim McLeod (Salt Creek Market), Greig Arnold (Makah Nation Transportation), and Mark Mouzakis (Family Kitchen). Kristi Agren (North Olympic Peninsula Visitor and Convention Bureau) acts as the byway marketing contact.

The association will seek memberships from the byway community to work to promote and share the Strait of Juan de Fuca heritage and recreational opportunities, to promote safety along the byway and enhance communications along SR112, a National Scenic Byway. Watch for informational meeting dates to be announced.

The work done this past year has been supported with a federal highways grant to form a legal entity (non-profit organization with tax exempt status), develop a means of communication (newsletter and brochure) with stakeholders and travelers.

A second year grant has recently been approved to continue the byway organizational development. This grant will allow the group to develop a business and marketing plan. The “seed” grants are available for up to five years to assist groups, quite often made up of citizen volunteers, in working with byway communities to enhance the visitor experience while traveling America’s byways. In “telling the story” of the natural, scenic, recreational, cultural, archeological, historical qualities of the Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway, the whole community learns about itself and works together.

We welcome your participation in CAT or projects that may be developed from community input. Please contact Sande Balch at 360.963.2346 or email at herbs@centurytel.net if you would like to volunteer, need some information, or have questions or concerns.

This newsletter made possible by a National Scenic Byways Seed Grant. Artwork by Margaret Owens.

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A newsletter for the STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA
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April 2005 Vol. 5

Spring Newsletter for SR112 Community

Spring 2005 edition of "The Milepost ... a newsletter for the Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway". The idea for this newsletter came from highway meeting discussions about how to communicate within the SR112 community. We welcome your comments and ideas for information for future publications.

On the Strait and Narrow ...

For current updates on the Hood Canal Bridge project go to www.hoodcanalbridge.com which will take you to the WSDOT project web site. Check www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic for weather or road conditions on state highways. For questions or comments on WSDOT projects, contact Lloyd Brown, Communications Manager, at 360.357.2789 or at his office email: brownl@wsdot.wa.gov.

Happenings ...

Congratulations to **Rev. Mel Wilson**, senior pastor at Joyce Bible Church, **and his wife, Kathy Wilson** for being recognized for their volunteer work in Joyce with a 2005 Clallam County Community Service Award. Building a better world starts in the heart!

Time to clean up the boat, change the line on those fishing poles, and start making reservations for **fishing season**. Halibut opened in Area 6 east of Low Point on April 14th (May 26th in Area 5). The Sekiu halibut derby is June 18-19th. Salmon opens again on July 1 in Areas 4, 5 and 6. Check out the Department of Fish and Wildlife web site for the latest in rules changes and the new reg pamphlet (coming soon) at wdfw.wa.gov. While you are there you will notice that there are great education opportunities for kids and adults alike about the marine areas and wildlife in Washington State.

To keep current on **beach and shellfish closures** go to the Department of Health website at www.doh.wa.gov.

Whale Tales and Flock Talk ...

To see or report **whale sightings** check out the web site at www.orcanetwork.org or call 1.866.ORCANET (876.2638). If you would like to be on the whale sighting email list, contact susan@orcanetwork.org.

What's In Bloom? ...

Douglas Fir has a spring flower which appears in April. The flower winters over as a bud at the end of the branch and is indistinguishable from the buds which will produce new branches and leaves. The flower is pinkish purple when it emerges erect from the bud. As it matures it rotates about the twig metamorphosing into a pendent cone whose petals have developed into scales and bracts. It is a rare treat to find these flowers as the trees usually grow cones only every seven years.

Strait Ramblings ...

“A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.” unknown

Welcome to the Highway ...

Angel Crest Gardens is located just east of milepost 58 (58424 Hwy 112). Linda Moffitt has provided a nursery, mostly u-serve, with cut flowers, hanging baskets, and bedding plants. The gardens have no set hours and someone is usually on the premises if customers need assistance or prefer to pay by credit card. Linda and her mother, Doris Pimm, also do floral work for weddings, funerals, and special occasions. (Husband, David, does the fix-it jobs for the gardens.) Call the gardens at 360.457.8222 for questions or orders. If you need a place to relax, walk through the three acres of dahlias and lilies this summer ... with a spectacular view of Mount Angeles.

Triple Nickel Hen House is up and running in the Pysht neighborhood (on the former Louis Lee farm at 26153 Hwy 112). Valeria and Ronald Rieger have opened this hatchery and feed store business recently. A variety of breeds of chickens, ducks, geese, pheasants, and turkeys are available as well as a full line of quality feed. The Riegers came from Puyallup looking for a larger acreage farm for their business and conveniently close to good fishing grounds. Please call 360.963.0750 for questions on fowl chicks or feed orders.

Joyce Fitness Center has gone co-ed. Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday are co-ed days at the center from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday/Wednesday/Friday are still reserved for women only from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 360.928.9502 for an appointment.

The “Association”

News from the Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway Association

The Association is a non-profit corporation made up of citizen volunteers who will work with the local communities to address safety concerns and providing educational materials and interpretive opportunities about the history, culture and recreation of the area ... for the traveler as well as the local residents and businesses. Soon memberships will be available to the public to encourage partnerships in these efforts. Watch for informational meeting dates to be announced.

Contact any member of the Board of Directors for information:
Joe Murray (Pres.), Alex Stevens (Vice-Pres.), Bill Drath (Treas.), Sande Balch (Secy.), Margaret Owens, Loren Kreutner, Jim McLeod, Greig Arnold, Mark Mouzakis.

The work done this past year has been supported with a federal highways grant. A second year grant has recently been approved to continue the byway organizational development. The “seed” grants are available for up to five years to assist groups, quite often made up of citizen volunteers, in working with byway communities to enhance the visitor experience while traveling America’s byways. In “telling the story” of the natural, scenic, recreational, cultural, archeological, and historical qualities of the Strait, the whole community can learn about itself and have fun working together. Join us!

We welcome your participation in the Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway Association or projects that may be developed from community input. Please contact Sande Balch at 360.457.1424 or email at sandrabalch@olyphen.com if you would like to volunteer, need some information, or have questions or concerns.

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A newsletter for the STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA HWY

June 2005 Vol. 6

Summer Newsletter for SR112 Community

On the Strait and Narrow ...

According to our local WSDOT, the paving project from West Twin east to Highway 101 will not happen this year, but hopefully in 2006. Bank restoration, mowing, line painting and other maintenance projects will take place throughout the summer. Take the time to thank WSDOT workers once in awhile for their efforts in providing safe travel on SR112.

The current closure schedule for the Hood Canal Bridge as the east and west approach spans are replaced is ... closed 8 p.m. Thursday August 11 and reopen 4 a.m. Monday August 15 ... closed 8 p.m. Sunday August 21 and reopen 4 a.m. Thursday August 25. These dates are subject to change.

For updates on the Hood Canal Bridge project go to www.hoodcanalbridge.com which will take you to the WSDOT project web site. Check www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic for weather or road conditions on state highways. For questions or comments on WSDOT projects, contact Lloyd Brown, Communications Manager, at 360.357.2789 or at his office email: brownl@wsdot.wa.gov.

Happenings ...

It's celebration time for community cultures. You can shop, eat, play, learn and bid at auctions all through the summer at the many festivals and fairs ... 4th of July in Neah Bay, Clallam Bay-Sekiu Fun Days July 8-10, Joyce Blackberry Daze August 6, Elwha Paddle Journey August 1-6, Clallam County Fair August 18-21 and Makah Days in Neah Bay August 26-28. The next Sekiu derby is September 24th (www.sekiu.com).

It is also time for rv's, boats and trailers to be on the road. Be extra patient and courteous as visitors travel the roads at a slower pace than normal for the experienced SR112 driver. The road can be a challenge and the scenery a show-stopper.

Joyce Depot Museum hours are Thursday through Monday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum is closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Whale Tales and Flock Talk ... What's In Bloom? ...

The recently completed state recovery plan for sea otters off the Washington coast is available online at wdfw.wa.gov ... click on wildlife science/endangered species-status reports/recovery plans-sea otters. Sometimes hard to find, but lots on info on this site!

The many berries and the critters make connections this time of year ... bears enjoying the huckleberries, band-tailed pigeons feeding on red elderberries. Black cap raspberries and, of course, our prized wild blackberries are also in their hidden places. Mother Nature makes bouquets as big as fields with foxglove and tall daisies. Wild roses and fireweed make their own statements in the landscape.

Gardens are poppin' with delicious food for the table. If you don't have your own garden, fresh vegetables, herbs, and flowers are available at Salt Creek Farm, a Community Supported Agriculture enterprise. Call 360-928-3583 or check out the web site at saltcreekfarm.org for more information.

Strait Ramblings ...

"Don't drive as if you owned the road ... drive as if you owned the car." Anonymous

Welcome to the Highway ...

Thanx a Latte Espresso opened in Joyce in May. Barb Nelson and crew serve up hot and cold beverages, muffins, biscotti and Danish. Hours for the stand are Monday – Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 460-5498. Joyce is the last call for lattes (and gas and snacks) until you reach Clallam Bay on SR112.

Sue's Gallery, owned by Sue Kalokar, is now open in Clallam Bay next to the Clallam Bay Grocery. The gallery will showcase local artists and be open Tuesday thru' Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The small yellow building is shared with Lighthouse Therapeutic Massage and shares a telephone with that business at 360.963.2854.

Clallambroadband.com is now installing wireless hi-speed internet services in the greater Joyce/Freshwater Bay area, a "hot spot" for laptop users. The ISP is Leonard Pierce. Call 360.928.9620 for information or appointments for site surveys.

The "Association"

News from the Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway Association

The Association is a non-profit corporation made up of citizen volunteers who will work with the local communities to address safety concerns and to provide educational materials and interpretive opportunities about the history, culture and recreation of the area ... for the traveler as well as the local residents and businesses. Soon memberships will be available to the public to encourage partnerships in these efforts. Watch for future informational meeting dates. In "telling the story" of the natural, scenic, recreational, cultural, archeological, and historical qualities of highway 112, the whole community can learn about itself and have fun working together. Join us!

The first year grant from National Scenic Byways has been wrapped up and a report prepared reflecting the accomplishments including a financial summary. Volunteers at organizational meetings worked the process to write bylaws, qualify as a non-profit corporation and complete the application for tax exempt status with the IRS. A newly revised recreational brochure for SR112 has been produced as well as an oversized postcard for promotional use. This newsletter is published quarterly and printed for local distribution. Electronic copies are sent out with several other organizations. A coordinator was hired to act as staff to the organization, network with other agencies and byways, attend training sessions, and implement plans developed by the organization. Office space and phone/internet service was shared with the Clallam Bay-Seki Chamber of Commerce. Copies of the full report are available by contacting Sande Balch (see below).

Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway Association Board of Directors ...

Joe Murray (Pres.), Alex Stevens (Vice-Pres.), Bill Drath (Treas.), Sande Balch (Secry.), Margaret Owens, Loren Kreutner, Jim McLeod, Greig Arnold, Mark Mouzakis.

We welcome your participation in the Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway Association or projects that may be developed from community input. Please contact Sande Balch at 360.457.1424 or email at sandrabalch@olypen.com if you would like to volunteer, need some information, or have questions or concerns.

This newsletter made possible by a National Scenic Byways Seed Grant. Artwork by Margaret Owens.

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October 2005 Vol. 7

Fall Newsletter for SR112 Community

On the Strait and Narrow ...

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) will host two open houses to discuss the Pysht River Fish Barrier Removal Project and gather input from community members. The project will close SR112 for three days in late August or early September, 2006. Attend one of the open houses about this project ... November 15, 6-7 p.m. at Crescent School or November 16, 6-7 p.m. at the Sekiu Community Center. Flyers are available throughout the community with additional information and a survey form included or go to the web site: www.wsddot.wa.gov/projects/sr112/PyshtCulvertRemoval/.

Businesses along SR112 have commented that the summer closures for Hood Canal Bridge work did not have the negative impact on business that was feared, this due to the cooperation between WSDOT and the communities and the enormous amount of communication with the community as well as travelers.

Thank you to the WSDOT for those efforts. For updates on the Hood Canal Bridge project go to www.hoodcanalbridge.com which will take you to the WSDOT project web site. Check www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic for weather or road conditions on state highways. For questions or comments on WSDOT projects, contact Lloyd Brown, Communications Manager, at 360.357.2789 or at his office email: brownl@wsdot.wa.gov.

Happenings ...

Fall colors are everywhere ... and falling down ... all over the road. This combined with seasonal rains will make roads more unpredictable. Slow down for the weather conditions and the road workers and take those turns with a little more caution.

Hunting season is upon us. Know the rules and know the access procedures for properties owned by timber companies, government agencies, and private land owners. Merrill and Ring property is access by permit only. Call 1-800-998-2382 or 963-2378 or go to the M&R web site at www.merrillring.com for hunting information on the Pysht Tree Farm which has been designated a Private Lands Wildlife Management Area. For information on hunting Cascade Timberlands (formerly Crown Pacific) call the office at Olympic Resource Management 360) 457-5588. Green Crow timber lands have an open policy for non-motorized recreation. This is year-round except in times of extreme fire season. Call their office for further information at 360) 452-3325. Other property owners to check with might be Rayonier, DNR, US Forest/Parks, Clallam County/Washington State Parks. Always be respectful of private property. Remember: safety first!

Rosie the "running fish" recently moved into the overlook pullout at Sekiu ... and is fast making friends with travelers (and being included in their photos). Rosie was featured in a recent New York Times "road trip" article about salmon. Way to go, Rosie!

Whale Tales and Flock Talk ...

Migration is the key word for the season ... swans, turkey vultures, and so many more. Gray whales can still be seen in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

What's In Bloom? ...

Vine Maples are still making their statement in the colorful hill-scapes. Had you thought about mixing rose hips and snow berries (both have shed their leaves by now) with evergreens for holiday décor? And it's chanterelle mushroom time in those damp grounds under the trees. Thank goodness so much of the local greenery is "ever-greenery" ... ferns, salal, moss, cedar, and firs and their all-year color.

Strait Ramblings ...

"A single step begins every journey." Anonymous

Welcome to the Highway ...

Gary's Pay 'n Save Auto Center in Clallam Bay has opened a new building for auto body metal and frame work. The old building will continue to be used for prep and paint work. Gary Fernandes reports that they have hired a new certified technician, John Fink, to join the crew. The auto center can be reached at 360) 963-2485.

Winter schedules are in place for the **Depot Museum** in Joyce (Open Saturdays only 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. or contact Joyce General Store for other visits by appointment) and **Makah Museum** in Neah Bay (is now closed Mondays and Tuesdays).

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The Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway Association is seeking persons interested in serving on the Board of Directors. To submit your name for consideration, contact Alex Stevens at the Joyce Café (or via email to sandrabalch@olyphen.com).

Notification has been received recently that the Association application for tax-exempt status has been approved. This allows the Association to apply for foundation grants and to accept tax-deductible donations. Activities of this organization will emphasize natural and cultural awareness, community education and participation, highway safety, environmental stewardship, and exploration of funding and partnership opportunities.

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