



Issue Twenty **The Bloomin' News**  March 2013

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Thanks to all the kids and adults who came out and celebrated Iris' first birthday! We had a great time and it was so wonderful to share this special day with our community of neighbours who have watched Iris grow up over this past year.

Maria



Meet Larry and Lynn
Our names are Larry and Lynn Lowden and we are very happy to be joining the community here at Pacific Gardens. We have been living in North Vancouver and are a bit tired of the big city life and would like something much closer to nature and we sure have found it. We are looking forward to sharing our stories with others and hearing theirs, as well as sharing our love of books. We have many interests, Lynn has a keen interest in learning more about raw foods. Larry has an interest in relearning to garden after many years away from it. We were very impressed with how caring and sharing the community at Pacific Gardens is and look forward to being an active part of it.

So Long Geraldine + Troy
This month we said goodbye to Geraldine, Troy, and their children Ryan, Dylan + Kyra. We wish them well.

Community Contribution

If you are trying to find a way to contribute your 1 hour a week to our community please contact Kari. She has lots of opportunities for you to contribute any way that fits for you.

The Homey Cleaning Crew needs You! Please help us out by keeping the area outside your unit tidy. If you can clean any glass by your door that is helpful too. Would you like to become part of our CLEAN TEAM? The pay is \$15./ hr for the heavy cleaning in the building. To qualify you must be doing your community contribution hours. Contact Kari.

Rentals are available in our building. Contact Kari if you know of anyone who would like to join our community.

Hooray for our mystery gardeners who have been trimming and working on common gardens!



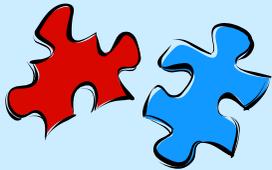
Magazine Share

I have subscriptions to three magazines. Would you like me to pass any of them on to you?

- Hockey News
- Watershed Sentinel environmental magazine
- Prairies North - about Saskatchewan, beautiful photography

Phone Gloria 250-591-6482

Building Community



A number of us were sitting around after the last community circle talking about spontaneous ways to build community. We came up with games after the potluck and setting up a table in the dining room to attract people to work on jigsaw puzzles together. We also talked about acquiring a couple of card tables. Encore was played after the potluck February 28th to the delight of all participants. I woke up the next morning thinking of a number of songs I forgot the night before. And Gloria provided a 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle that has been started in the dining room.

Bill

Recycle your Cycle



The Nanaimo Cycling cooperative is looking for unwanted bicycles, working or not. Please donate your unwanted bicycle and parts to a great cause.

Contact Hub City Cycles
250.591.2159

info@hubcitycycles.ca
www.hubcitycycles.ca

Kari

Free Reiki Treatment



Ever think about a Reiki treatment? Ever heard of it? It is the channeling and movement of the Universal Life Force (Rei) Energy (ki) to affect healing and can be an effective tool for relaxation and for removing blockages that keep us unwell.

I've just had my first attunement and am looking to develop a practice in this fascinating healing art. This is an excellent opportunity for you to experience the subtle yet profound effects of this modality.... For free!!!

If you're unfamiliar with Reiki and would like to learn more or are interested in a treatment, please don't hesitate to contact me either in person or by phone or email.

Looking forward to working with you toward health and Balance.

MyKL

Work Bee March 9th

Mark your calendars. The CLC committee and the Gardening committee are working together to host a community Work Bee on Saturday March 9th. Everyone is invited to join in the fun and get some community work done.

Potluck Community Breakfast starts at 10:00 A.M.

Work Bee to follow.

Our community relies on the contributions of time and talent from each of our residents. Please come and help out where you can. There will be people standing by to match residents with jobs, and free soup will be provided to participants.

Sharon

Community Circle

The next community circle will take place Friday March 22, at 7:00 P.M. Participants will jointly decide what the theme will be. All residents are welcome to participate and are encouraged to arrive on time. Starting on time is one of our agreements together and arriving late can disrupt the energy of the circle. If you arrive to find the "Circle in Progress Please do not Disturb" sign posted, please respect it.

Some things that happened at Pacific Gardens in the last month:

- 3 birthday parties, the youngest 1, the oldest 83
- 1 NVC workshop
- seeds have sprouted in cold frames
- Family Sing
- 2 residents got pneumonia
- at least one "Ladies Night" get together
- Nanaimo Green Party AGM
- a flood
- someone learned a new magic trick
- someone went nude bungee jumping
- one Qi Gong lesson
- 4 men's group sessions
- work progressed in "front yard" by pond
- a fun group game of Encore
- we successfully defended the community against Smart Meters for the 4th time
- 3 pairs of ducks nested
- a small walking club began
- we purchased 20 new chairs for the dining hall
- 8 yoga classes
- the floor seams were repaired
- the snowdrops and crocus bloomed
- 1500 plus people viewed one of our Facebook posts!
- 5 community meetings
- 4 meditation sessions
- a community circle
- a book club meeting
- 4 community potlucks
- 1 Council of Canadians meeting
- the garden was visited by several deer
- 2 residents were hospitalized
- the frogs began singing
- potholes were refilled
- neighbours enjoyed each other
- the community got stronger

EVERYONE MATTERS



Collecting everyone's input is the purpose of the visioning workshop to be held at

Pacific Gardens Cohousing Community.

At this facilitated workshop you will be asked for your vision of living in Co-housing. We will seek your input about what's working, what's not working, what you would like to see more of and what might get in the way of your vision for Pacific Gardens Co-housing.

Please mark your availability for this workshop on the poster on the Strata Office window. Place a check mark beside each of the dates and times that you would be willing and able to participate. We will choose the date for this important community activity based on the most popular day and time. Let's hope that we can get the whole community together to talk about what matters to everyone!

Here are the dates that Carol Keane, our facilitator is available:

Saturday March 23, 2013 10-3 pm or 1:00-5:30

Sunday, March 24, 2013 1:00-5:30

Friday April 26, 2013 10-3 pm or 1:00-5:30

Tuesday, April 30, 2013 4:00-9:00 pm

For David

I tried to catch some Fog. I mist.

When Chemists die, they barium.

I know a guy who is addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop anytime.

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me!

What does a clock do when it's hungry? It goes back four seconds.