



# The Beachcomber



HMC Newsletter

September-October 2013



## President's Message

Our ferry is now at the shipyard getting its new engines and transmissions installed. Claudia and I visited the yard on September 17 after they cut the hole in the deck to gain access to remove the old engines and install the new ones. Captain John and Donnie are busy working on the ferry also doing maintenance, repairs and helping with the engine replacement. Their assistance helps in avoiding additional costs that would be greater if the ship yard did the work. Keep your fingers crossed that all goes well and the shipyard finishes ahead of schedule so our ferry gets back home ahead of schedule. For those that are interested Captain John is taking photos of the work and they are now being put on the website.

Roads update: the Board has elected to order another barge of gravel to finish the roads. Some sections of the roads never received gravel from the first barge and they are still in need. We will not need to spread all the gravel this time so we will store the remaining gravel at the pump station until needed. The Board looked at various options of purchasing gravel and the barge per yard was by far the least costly and provided us with reserves to use as needed going into the future. Claudia is also collecting bids for road grading to eliminate the washboard that has developed on parts of the previous graveled roads and to push the gravel from the sides of these roads back into the center. This will help in smoothing the roads out while maximizing the use of the gravel that has already been put down. We were a little surprised at the price from one vendor to grade the roads so we are continuing the search. If anyone knows of someone that has a small grader and would like an opportunity to do some work then please have them get hold of Claudia.

For those that have small boats and kayaks tied to the area just east of the North Beach pavilion please remove them for the winter. Last winter the storms

and high tides damaged some boats and others floated off. I believe that we even gained one or two boats that floated in along with a pile of drift wood and other debris. Some of your neighbors tried to rescue as many boats/kayaks as they could but damage did occur to some from the drift wood and boats pounding against the seawall and benches. So please take care of your investment now so that you may enjoy its use next spring and summer.

And a few quick items:

- Rumor control; the rumor that HMC is planning on paving the roads is false. Sorry folks, but we will have to live with our gravel roads unless someone is nice enough to give HMC a very big pile of cash with lots of zeros behind the numbers.
- The Beachcomber will be going back to 9 publications per year now that the construction of the water project is finished. October, December and February are the three months that the Beachcomber will not published.
- Please remember to turn your water off when leaving for an extended time.
- Small boat docks will be coming out Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>. Please help our Parks Department if you are available. Removal and installation of the docks can be interesting. For those with boats tied to the docks please plan on removing them prior to the morning of October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Last, but most importantly, have a safe month.

**Gary Wanzong, President**  
**HMC Management Board of Directors**

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**BOOSTERS POTLUCK DINNER @ 6:00pm**

*Saturday October 12th at the Community Center*  
**Everyone is Welcome.**

**BOOSTERS meeting to follow dinner.**

**Package Delivery**

If you order packages to be delivered to the mainland terminal, please track their delivery so you can be available to pick them up or make other arrangements. It is not the responsibility of the ferry crew.

**No Beachcomber in October**

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





**Important Phone Numbers****Island Manager**

Claudia Ellsworth (253) 884-9350

**HMC Board of Directors**

Gary Wanzong, President/Co-Treasurer (253) 884-9350  
 Pat Zazzo, Vice-President (253) 884-6719  
 Sherri Anderson, Secretary/Co-Treasurer (253) 884-3505  
 Dianne DeGood, Member-at-Large (316) 794-8391(H)  
 (316) 641-4014(C)  
 Janet Podell, Member-at-Large (253) 884-9350

**Additional Contacts**

Charles Smith, Water Repair (206) 707-4645  
 Judy Greinke, Water Committee Chair (253) 857-5463  
 G. Wanzong/S. Anderson, Finance Comm. (253) 884-9350  
 Jack Wells, Roads Committee Chair (253) 884-0850  
 Alan DeGood, Rules Committee Chair (253) 884-9350  
 T. Anspach/T. Chilson, Parks Co-Chairs (253) 588-1921  
 Mike Shettlesworth, Emergency Prep. Chair (253) 884-6919  
 Merry Kogut, Land Use Chair (253) 884-9350  
 Fred Fath, Technology Chair (206) 246-7016  
 Carolyn Snyder, Office Manager (253) 884-9350  
 Ken Freeman, Beachcomber/Webmaster (231) 544-2456

**Herron Island Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The office is CLOSED Monday,  
 Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and after 2:00 PM on Fri-  
 days before Board meetings.**

Office Phone: (253) 884-9350  
 Office Fax: (253) 884-5047

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

Office email: [Office@herronisland.org](mailto:Office@herronisland.org)  
 HMC Water email: [HMCWater@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCWater@herronisland.org)  
 Manager email: [HMCManager@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCManager@herronisland.org)  
 Beachcomber email: [beachcomber@herronisland.org](mailto:beachcomber@herronisland.org)  
 Parks email: [HMCParks@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCParks@herronisland.org)  
 Member Input to Board: [MemberInput@herronisland.org](mailto:MemberInput@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.)*

**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.**

**Nondiscrimination Statement**

In accordance with Federal law this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-2372 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

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](mailto: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.**

## Island Manager Report September 14, 2013

### **Administration:**

**Volunteers Appreciated:** The BOOSTERS furnished a new storage shed, now at the back of the Community Building, to be used for much needed storage space. Thanks to those volunteer painters.....Vickie Drury, Dana Gruber, Sue Pottorff, Carla Vierra, Judy Greinke and Lisa and Mac McCormick.

**Volunteers Wanted:** BOOSTERS will donate the paint for anyone who would like to paint the south side, facing the parking lot, of the Community Building. Actually, it needs caulking as well as another coat of paint.

**Found:** A very nice Canon camera was found at North Beach and is being held at the office. If this belongs to you or one of your guests, please notify the office. Also, a multipurpose tool of the "Leatherman" variety (not brand) was found Thursday at the sport court. No one has appeared to claim it.

**Water Operations:** Water System policies, forms and contact information have been consolidated on the website under a new button, "Water System". The Water Manager has been investigating a number of requests regarding high pressure, generally along beachfront homes below street level. He is exploring how best to deal with these situations. Emails can be sent to the Water Department at [HMCWater@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCWater@herronisland.org).

So far we have been unable to dispose of the water parts inventory to WWSC, and are working on an alternative proposal. If anyone knows of a plumbing or construction company that might be interested in the inventory, please have them get in touch with HMC.

Look for a new HI Water newsletter with the Beachcomber this month. It will be full of news, tips and other information about the system.

**Water System Project:** Massana Construction sent Caseco to the island on Thursday to fill and compact trenches caused by water system excavation across roads. Some areas were omitted because other roads projects will be going on to address drainage and encroachment issues.

Bruce Whittle, of USDA, will come out to the island October 16<sup>th</sup> to conduct the first compliance audit, which should be quite straightforward, but it is a required visit.

**Fire Department Liaison:** The fire district has contracted with Anderson Island for emergency service to Herron Island while the "Charlie Wells" is out.

The district has also strongly recommended that the Board impose an outdoor burn ban while the ferry is out of service. Island Rules provide, at Rule F-2, that "Given the special conditions and inaccessibility of the island, the Board has authority to declare a burn ban that is stricter than the one imposed by the State or County." As of Thursday, the County Burn Ban was still in effect.

In response to a suggestion from the Fire District, we asked for a response from members who would be interested in forming a volunteer fire company. The Fire District is attempting to develop a modified training for a Herron Island company that would fight fire from the exterior, and make no interior attacks. So far we have had nine responses, not all of whom are fulltime Members, but then no one is available 100% of the time. Deputy Chief Guy Allen will meet with interested persons following the Board meeting October 19, in the Community Building. If others are interested, please let the HMC Office know.

(Continued on Page 5)

Island Manager Report  
(Continued from Page 4)

**Land Use:** Merry Kogut reports that the Land Use Committee has been joined by Janet Podell as board representative, but there is still room for additional members. The Committee's Charter and mission can be found on the website.

HMC has received a firm offer on the purchase of HMC owned property located at 1219 West Herron, and an escrow has been opened. The asking price of this property is \$3500.

**Emergency Preparedness:** Committee Report. Emergency Preparedness Committee will have walkie-talkies available to Members for use during the ferry service outage, following the meeting.

**Parks:** Docks will come out of the water October 12, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at North Beach. Volunteers needed! Plan to attend and help out. Contact Parks Committee at [hmcparcs@herronisland.org](mailto:hmcparcs@herronisland.org) if you need more info.

**Roads:** Work has begun on the drainage improvements to East Madrona, where a culvert will be installed to prevent washouts as have occurred in the past in that area. The next step in the South Herron/East Madrona road improvements will be the realignment of South Herron to remove it from approximately 12 feet of Members' property. This project will also include drainage improvements at the top of the hill. HMC roads will require periodic grading, and the Committee is seeking proposals for this service.

**Rules:** No outstanding complaints.

**Herron Island Ferry:** Seven candidates have been interviewed and two candidates have accepted offers for the standby deck hand positions. They will begin training when the ferry has returned. Both are residents of Lakebay and learned about the position from the HMC ad in the Key Peninsula News. In addition, Jim Davies has rejoined the crew as standby deck hand, which will fill all available positions.

**Legal Liaison:** We currently have 19 delinquencies, of which 6 are with the attorney for action. Delinquency rate of 4.8%. Last year at this time we had 11, with 8 at collections. Currently, HMC has 392 Assessable Units and 397 Water customers.

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### Assessment Reminder

The first half of the Assessment for 2013-2014 **(\$879.00)** will be billed and due on October 1st. The full amount must be **received by October 31st** to avoid any late fees.







### **Ferry Dry Dock For Engine and Transmission Replacement**

Our ferry has gone in for engine and transmission replacement. It left the island after the noon ferry run on September 15th and could be out as long as two to three weeks, depending on the extent of the work that needs to be completed. More information will be posted on the HMC website and in the Beachcomber in the coming weeks.

### **We need you! Volunteer! Lend a helping hand!**

**Boat Dock Removal & Parks Fall Work Party Saturday,  
October 12**

**Plan to meet at N. Beach at 9:30 am!**

**Lunch provided for all participants!**

**See you there!**



## **FREE CLASSIFIED ADS**

Waterfront cabin, one bedroom with double bed, double bed in loft and hide-a-bed couch. Large deck, stairs to beach. \$125/night-2 night minimum, \$700/week. Contact Jerry or Christine Palmer, 253 529 1378 or 253 797 9718.

*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](mailto:beachcomber@herronisland.org), Subject: Beachcomber Ad. The ad must be resubmitted for each issue in which it is to be printed.*

### Website Photos

If you have any photos from island activities that you would like to share on our website, please send them to [webmaster@herronisland.org](mailto:webmaster@herronisland.org).



### Board Member Email Addresses

[HMCGaryWanzong@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCGaryWanzong@herronisland.org)

[HMCPatZazzo@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCPatZazzo@herronisland.org)

[HMCSherriAnderson@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCSherriAnderson@herronisland.org)

[HMCDianneDeGood@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCDianneDeGood@herronisland.org)

[HMCJanetPodell@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCJanetPodell@herronisland.org)

Please use these email addresses for all future communications to Board Members. They can be accessed on our website ([herronisland.org](http://herronisland.org)) under the HMC Board tab.



### Reminder

Requests for reimbursement must be accompanied by a receipt and received by the office by the Thursday before the Board Meeting to be included in the list of bills to be approved by the Board. Failure to get your bill in on time will result in a delay in payment until the following month.



### Are You on the List?

HMC now has 318 Member email addresses on the notification list. If you want to receive updates about the water project, get notice of the online Beachcomber, or get the latest on windstorms, power outages, water line breakages, or other news, please send an email to [office@herronisland.org](mailto:office@herronisland.org) and request that your email address be added. To be used for HMC purposes only.



## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIP OF THE MONTH** **FIRE SAFETY**

It's that time again. We will soon be spending more time indoors as the season changes and the weather turns cold. During the cold weather months the risk of fire increases. We use our fireplaces and woodstoves, cook comfort foods, and light candles. This month's tip is encouraging you to *plan* for a fire...pre-planning is the key to your safety should a fire occur.

The first rule when it comes to fire is to be *smart*. If the fire is too big for you to handle, immediately get out of the house. Don't stop to gather anything or to do anything. Once you are outside, stay outside. Intense heat and toxic fumes can kill you.

### **Planning and practicing fire safety**

- Choose a reunion place outside your home. Regularly remind all household members where this place is.
- Draw the floor plan of your home and discuss two ways to exit each room.
- Hold a fire drill at least twice each year. Practice your exit routes. Crawl blindfolded to simulate getting out of a smoke filled house.

### **Fire extinguishers**

- Locate your fire extinguishers with care. Ready access to them is critical. Fire moves quickly – quick access can be the difference between putting out a small fire and suffering much damage.
- Several smaller extinguishers located throughout the house are better than one large one that may be difficult to get quickly.

#### **Key places for your extinguishers are:**

the kitchen, the garage, and one on every level of your home.

#### **A:B:C extinguishers are recommended:**

“A” fires – ordinary combustibles such as wood, paper, cloth, and many plastics.

“B” fires – flammable liquids such as gasoline, paints, kitchen grease, and oils.

“C” fires – electrical equipment, such as fires in wiring, motors, and appliances.

- Check your extinguishers on a regular basis to ensure they are properly charged.

### **Using a fire extinguisher & the PASS method**

- Try to keep calm.
- VITAL: Keep an escape route open between you and the *small fire* you are attempting to extinguish. If the fire is large or becomes too large, immediately get out of the house. Close the door on your way out to slow the spread of flames.

#### **The PASS method**

**P** – Pull the pin.

**A** – Aim at the base of the fire.

**S** – Squeeze the handle.

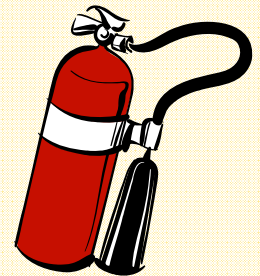
**S** – Sweep the hose side to side.

### **Possible fires following earthquakes**

- Natural gas/Propane fires - First, shut off the gas. Second, put the fire out by using an extinguisher, dirt, or water.
- Electrical fires – First, shut off the electricity. Second, put out the fire by using an extinguisher, dirt, or water. (CAUTION: If the electricity cannot be shut off, Do NOT put water on the fire.)
- Oil or grease fires – Use baking soda, a lid, a bread board, or a fire extinguisher to smother the flames. NEVER use water on oil or grease fires.

The **November 2012** issue of the Beachcomber has an article on fireplace and woodstove safety that is a good supplement to this article. You can find it at [herronisland.org](http://herronisland.org) under the Documents Tab - Archived Documents; Beachcombers.

**Contact Mike Shettlesworth 884-6919 or Pat Zazzo 884-6719 for more information.**





### **Burn Ban During Ferry Outage**

At the September 14th Board meeting, the Board voted to impose a burn ban on the island, limiting outdoor fires to the fire pit at North Beach, and to barbecues, until the ferry returns to service. The fire department on the mainland had strongly urged this ban as a safety measure while the ferry is out of service, as a fire response would entail dispatching the Anderson Island ferry to Herron Island, picking up the fire crews at Joemma Beach Park, and then landing the fire crew on the island at North Beach. Obviously, a pretty lengthy response time.

This means no outdoor or fire pit fires on private property or community property other than North Beach.

Although the County burn ban was lifted on September 18th, under Island Rules the Board can impose a burn ban on the island. Fire is the greatest threat to island safety, so please be careful!

Thanks for your help.



### **WINTER FERRY SCHEDULE**

The winter schedule will begin October 1st. The only change from the summer schedule is the elimination of the 7:30-8:00 am runs on Saturday and Sunday, and the 2:30-3:00 pm runs on Friday.

## Labor Day 2013 Sail Race Results

As part of an excellent Labor Day weekend the race was sailed under warm sun and light winds. The competitors elected to vary the routine and sail the race clockwise around the Island by starting up the East Channel. Four boats started the race (we lost one or two more due to a misunderstanding about the start time).

The order of finish:

### Multihull

Jonas and Gabby Ray

1hr:19:14

### Monohull

Dave Monette & Michel Sotura

1hr:21:30

Larry & Mike Carreiro

2hr:00:42

Jonathan Ross & Caleb Hess

DNF



Many thanks to Sandie Monette for manning the "pink umbrella" as registrar and timer, and to Terry Fletcher and Pam Garrison for shepherding the fleet as "rescue" boat.

### Concerns or Ideas

All Members are invited to voice their concerns or ideas by using the Member Input email address, contacting the Board Members or the HMC Office:

[MemberInput@herronisland.org](mailto:MemberInput@herronisland.org)



### Tide Tables

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



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

MON		TUE		WED		THUR		FRI		SAT		SUN	
IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.
6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00				
7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00				
8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00
9:30	10:00			9:30	10:00					9:30	10:00	9:30	10:00
										10:30	11:00	10:30	11:00
12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	11:30	12:00	11:30	12:00
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3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00
4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00
5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00						
6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00
								7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
								8:30	9:00				



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

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

MON		TUE		WED		THUR		FRI		SAT		SUN	
IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.	IS.	ML.
6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00	6:15	7:00				
7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00	8:30	9:00
9:30	10:00			9:30	10:00					9:30	10:00	9:30	10:00
										10:30	11:00	10:30	11:00
12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	12:00	12:30	11:30	12:00	11:30	12:00
								2:30	3:00	2:30	3:00	2:30	3:00
3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00	3:30	4:00
4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00	4:30	5:00
5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00	5:30	6:00						
6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00	6:30	7:00
								7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00	7:30	8:00
								8:30	9:00				

Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day same as Sunday



# TAPPED

HMC Water Department

16 September 2013

## A Little Wet

**Charles A Smith, PE, CESCL, WDM1**

Water Distribution Manager

Greetings All. A little introduction is in order. I am your Water Distribution Manager (WDM) – don't panic, it's not contagious. It just means that I am the one that you'll come to, be directed to or be referred to if you have an issue with the new HMC water service and distribution system.

Since we have a new water system in place, I thought it would be a good idea to have this portion of the newsletter to deal with issues and distribute information about the water system. If you have questions about the new water system, please use my email listed below and I will answer the questions the best I can.

## Terminology

*Words that we use in describing the water system*

### Meter Box

Your meter and shut off valve are located inside the box and the box is located near the road. Most of the boxes are a high strength plastic while some – located in traffic areas – are made of steel.

### Water Meter

The thing in the meter box with the flap cover and the dial showing you how much water has passed through in gallons.

### Water Meter Shut Off Valve

This is the valve located on the road-side of the meter and allows you to turn on or off your water service. As a reminder, this valve only turns 90° or ¼ of a turn. Do not "crank it on". This valve should operate smoothly with your hand. If you need assistance in turning this valve, you can use a valve key or a small wrench.

### Antenna

This is the small cylinder attached to your meter box lid or inside your meter box. This transmits your meter readings to the meter reader.

### Valve Key

These can be found at local hardware stores. In general, it is a rod about 3 feet long with a tee handle on one end and a U-shaped

## Upcoming Events

*A look ahead at what I'm working on*

### Painting

Some of you may have noticed that the Well No. 1 Building is now a bright blue. I will be continuing by painting the interior of Well No. 1 Building and the Emergency Generator Building September 15<sup>th</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup> to coincide with the ferry outage. During this time, I will need to take some of the water distribution equipment off-line to paint in and around the equipment. You may experience some water pressure fluctuations at this time, but they should be of short duration and temporary.

### Leak Hunt and Repair

I will be working at the North Beach after September 15<sup>th</sup> to repair a noted leak at the water service near the boat launch. After that, I'll be looking at the current Leak List to determine if there is more that I can do.

### "Other Things"

You may have already seen me running about the island. I will continue to check water pressures, identify issues and resolve as many as I can. Let your Water distribution Manager (WDM) know with an email if there is something that HMC can do for you or something we need to check. It helps to have many eyes on the lookout for issues.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### HMC Water Department

Charles Smith (WDM): (206) 707-4645

[HMCWater@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCWater@herronisland.org)

### Northwest Water Systems

Tony Norris: (360) 876-0958

[tony@nwwatersystems.com](mailto:tony@nwwatersystems.com)

Toll Free: 1 (888) 881-0958

### HMC Office (253) 884-9350

Claudia Ellsworth, Island Manager

[hmcmanager@herronisland.org](mailto:hmcmanager@herronisland.org)

Carolyn Snyder, Office Manager

[Office@herronisland.org](mailto:Office@herronisland.org)

*Continued next page*

adaptor or “key” on the other end to fit on and operate the shut off valve.

### **Isolation Valve**

For most of you, this is the valve between the meter and your residence or water service on your lot. This valve allows you to turn the water off in your residence without turning the water off at the meter.

### **Water Service**

This is the portion of the water system that goes from the meter to your residence or lot.

### **Meter Reading**

This is what HMC will be doing once a month to record the amount of water that you have used in the previous month. This information will be used in creating your water bill. The reading is in gallons.

### **Flushing**

This is an activity that we will do twice during the winter months to prevent stagnation of the water system when there are a minimum amount of residents on the island. This involves a controlled and metered opening of the fire hydrants at the dead end of the water mains.

### **Water Pressure**

The Pierce County Department of Health defines normal water pressure at between 40 to 60 PSI (pounds per square inch) in the water line. Low pressure is defined as below 30 PSI and high pressure as more than 70 PSI. Currently our water system is operating at 45 PSI at the Pump Station.

### **Water Flow**

This is a measure of the amount of water that can move through the system. This is known as GPM (gallons per minute).

### **The Leak List**

Some of you may have already heard this and have received emails or phone calls telling you that you’re “on the list” (dun-dun duuunnn dramatic music). Again, don’t panic. As we are getting the process for reading the meters and documenting water usage all set, one of the reports generated is the Leak List.

You get on the leak list in one of two ways:

1. The water meter has run continuously for more than 24 hours in between meter readings, and/or
2. The water meter registered excessive water volume relative to the others on the island.

This can mean a myriad of different things, but for you, it means that you should check out your water service on your lot. First, turn off all of your valves including the

isolation valve if you have one. Look at the dial on your meter. Is anything moving, even very slowly? If yes, then it is likely that there is a leak between the water meter and your water service. That’s when you call or email Charles to check it out. If nothing on the meter is moving, then it is likely that there could be a leak at your water service or in your house. First, turn on your isolation valve and see if the meter starts moving. If yes, then it’s time to check out some likely culprits.

- The Toilet Flapper: Notorious for the very slow leak. Turn off the isolation valve to the toilet and check to see if the meter has stopped moving. If the dial has stopped moving, it is likely that the flapper needs to be replaced.
- Drip Irrigation: With pretty flowers comes great responsibility... and often what will look like a leak. Turn off the outside spigot and see if the dial stops moving.
- The Ice Cube Maker: Usually turns on when there is a need for ice and can look like an intermittent leak.

It’s a good time – before there are costs for water usage – to make a report.

## **To Make a Report**

### **Information to Have At Hand**

If you want to report something, have this information ready to go:

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

On Island Address: \_\_\_\_\_

And a brief description of the problem or issue. This will go a long way in getting a speedy response. Report forms are available in the HMC Office or the website.

### **An Emergency**

Don’t panic and don’t wait. If there is an emergency on a lot - turn the water service off at the meter and call Charles Smith, WDM or Tony Norris at NWS.

If there is an emergency with the water main or meter – call Charles (206) 707-4645 or Tony (360) 876-0958 and let me know what is happening.

### **A Non-Emergency Repair or Service**

Send me an email ([HMCWater@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCWater@herronisland.org)) with the above information on who, where and what and I’ll get there as quickly as I can. You can also fill out the Water Service Request Form and drop it off at the HMC Office. The office will notify the Water Distribution Manager when there is a request in the office.

Requestor:	
Name:	
On-Island Address:	
Contact Number:	

Description of Issue:	
[Enter a brief description of the issue to be addressed.]	

Sketch of Issue:	
[Sketch the location of the issue to be resolved to add clarity to where the work is to be done.]	

<b>HMC Office Use Only</b>							
Issue Resolution:							
[Enter a brief description of how the issue was addressed.]							
Personnel:				Hours	Cost/Hour	Total	
Water Distribution Manager						\$0	
Office Administration						\$0	
Subtotal						\$0	
Materials:	Description	Amount	Unit	Cost/Unit	Tax	Total	
			EACH		\$0.00	\$0.00	
Subtotal						\$0.00	
						\$0.00	



## Frequently Asked Questions

*There is no such thing as a stupid question*

Question: Why is the antenna not screwed all the way up and tight to the meter box lid?

Answer: One word – exposure. The antenna profile was kept as low as possible so that the antenna would have minimum exposure to lawn mowers, trimmers, cars, and other such items that could damage the antenna. It is OK that the antenna is not tight to the lid. This allows some play when the meter box lid is removed.

Question: Why is the water pressure at 45 PSI, why not crank it all the way up?

Answer: This is a new water system and we want to see how it's going to perform before we try and break it – or “find the limitations”. While some of you have experienced low water pressure (just below 40 PSI) there are others that are experiencing high water pressure (above 90 PSI). We will continue to make adjustments until we reach a satisfactory balance. The next set of adjustments will be happening before the end of September.

Question: What's with the lock?

Answer: There are a couple of situations.

1. It's an HMC Lock – This has been added when there is an issue that needs resolution with the HMC Office.

This could be because of a delinquency or other financial issue. There could also be an HMC lock on the shut off valve because there is a physical issue such as no existing water service on a lot and we don't want the water service to be turned on accidentally or cause any damage.

2. It's a property owner's lock. When HMC starts billing for water usage, it will be a good idea to install a lock on the meter shut off valve to prevent unauthorized water usage.

Question: What if I forget and leave my water service on after I've left the island?

Answer: Send me an email and I will turn your water service off. If there is a lock, you'll need to let me know if you want it locked. It's also a good idea to let someone else on the island know how to work your lock just in case of an emergency.

Question: How do I know what my water pressure is?

Answer: Email me and let me know which outside spigot to check and I'll let you know. If you want to

check the pressure yourself, your local hardware store should carry a water pressure gauge (often under \$10) in their plumbing, irrigation or gardening section.

Remember your pressure should be within the range of 40 to 60 PSI.

Question: What is the size of the water pipe?

Answer: There are multiple sizes of pipe in the new system ranging from 8" and 6" diameter for the mains, 2" for mains to dead ends, and 1" and ¾" for services to residences.

If you have additional questions, please email or call.

## Inventory Reduction Sale

*I got stuff and it's gotta go*

### Got Galvanized?

Since we have transferred to the new water system consisting mostly of the plastics, we no longer have a need for galvanized pipe and fittings.



If you have a need for galvanized steel fittings send the WDM an email. We have fittings ranging in size from ½ inch to 3 inch. I have authorization from the Board to sell them at half retail cost.

### Got Stakes?

Planning on a garden or maybe a foundation or maybe you just need to do some lay out work. Some are old,



some are new, some are even written on and the color blue. I'm letting them go for 10¢ each or 12 for a \$1.00. First come, first served until they are gone.

All transactions will go through the HMC Office. Send the WDM an email listing what you need.



### ATTENTION ALL HERRON ISLANDERS

Remember the BOOSTERS Directory of days gone by? A BOOSTERS member has generously offered to head up a project to create a new Island directory. We must get written permission for each name listed in our directory, so if you would like to be listed please send the following information to Roberta Latimer at the email address shown below. Roberta will compile all the names and then the BOOSTERS will publish the information in a booklet format.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ISLAND ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS; \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE NUMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

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If you would like to advertise in our phone book directory, please send your information along with \$20 payable to HI BOOSTERS so it can be included in the directory.

SEND ALL INFORMATION TO: Roberta Latimer at: [candrlatimer@gmail.com](mailto:candrlatimer@gmail.com)

## HERRON ISLAND YARD MAINTENANCE

JIM DAVIES  
253-432-2365  
[jada40@att.net](mailto:jada40@att.net)

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- \*Lot Cleanup/Dump Runs
- \*Hauling Rock/Sand/Bark

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OWNER: STEVE KRAMER



RESIDENT/MEMBER SINCE 1959

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