

\$20M in Valley building

Permits, totaling just over \$20 Million were issued by the City of Courtenay and the Town of Comox recently and construction is expected to be underway shortly on all of the projects.

A few of the larger permits include the following: **Monterra Developments** received a permit in the amount of \$1.5 million for six duplexes in **Crown Isle**; **Diamond Park Enterprises Inc.** has been issued a permit for \$1.9 million for the new **Value Village Store** at 350 Old Island Highway; **PCRE GP Corp.** has received a building permit in the amount of \$10.8 million for a multi family project in Comox.

A development permit has been submitted to the City of Courtenay for the construction of a new **Thrifty Foods** store, at the intersection of Ryan and Lerwick Roads adjacent to Crown Isle. The new store will be 38,000 sq. ft. in size and will be complemented by a range of other commercial tenants.

It is expected that an additional five stand alone buildings will be built at the same location, alongside the new Thrifty's. The development permit has been approved and the retail centre is expected to be complete in 2012. Construction is expected to begin in the next few months.

The largest construction project in Oak Bay's history, the \$52-million **Oak Bay Beach**

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CLARICE COTY



Hotel in Victoria with 100 hotel rooms and 20 private residences - is scheduled to be complete in less than a year, with an opening for the May long weekend of 2012.

When completed, the hotel and luxury residences are expected to draw tourists to Vancouver Island and one of the country's leading environmental buildings.

Port Hardy District Council accepted a presentation on the **Cape Scott Wind Farm** from **Sea Breeze Power Corp.**

The map showed proposed changes to the access route and transmission-line route to a **BC Hydro** sub-station in Port Hardy. The new partnership group has submitted its application with the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office and expects a public review period between now and August of this year.

Construction could begin later this year, and the facility is expected to be commissioned in February 2014. During construction there will be between 150 and 170 workers on site.

The 99 MW wind farm is the first British Columbia wind project to receive an EA certificate under BC Hydro's Clean Power Call. In March 2010, it received a 20-year electricity purchase agreement with BC Hydro. An Impact Benefits Agreement with the three First Nations is progressing through negotiation.

This will be Sea Breeze's first operating power genera-

tion facility and the budget is \$3 million.

- Clarice Coty is the owner of Building Links & 1stView.ca. www.1stView.ca

New site for Valley hospital

Comox Valley Echo

COMOX VALLEY - A possible new site for the proposed North Island hospital is already being pitched, just days after the Department of National Defence nixed the previous site on Ryan Road.

The four-storey hospital planned for the original site was considered too high within controlled airspace, and federal authorities rejected the possibility of a height variance permit.

But it turns out the new site being eyed by VIHA is just a stone's throw away from the old site at **Crown Isle**.

The area currently being looked at is a 10-acre parcel of land on **North Island College's Comox Valley Campus**, nestled between the **Comox Valley Aquatic Centre** and the playing fields of **Queeneesh Elementary School**.

The land was also the second choice of consulting firm **Fletcher Pettis**, which eventually settled on the original Crown Isle location.

Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) CEO **Howard Waldner** sat down with NIC president **Jan Lindsay** to discuss the potential use.