# SANJUAN



# - In this Issue: -ARTICLE: Home Inspections and Their Role in

the Real Estate Transaction

# **REAL ESTATE FOR SALE:**

Henry Island Large Waterfront Parcel New Construction Modern Home in Town Rare Stand Alone Condominium Light and Bright Home Close to Town ~ and more ~



Monica Bennet

PHOTOGRAPHY

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# HOME INSPECTIONS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION

If you are a buyer or seller, I bet you thought just getting under contract was stressful for all parties; but, in reality, the home inspection and/or feasibility response and associated negotiations are often the more stressful event. Allowing a buyer to have a home inspection and hopefully a concurrent feasibility study is a very necessary part of the transaction.

### SELLER'S DISCLOSURE — FORM 17

As required by statue, the seller must provide a disclosure about the property. This is merely a disclosure, not a representation, guarantee or warranty. This disclosure should be given to your home inspector prior to their visit so they can focus on the seller's comments about defects and repairs made. Your agent should automatically do this but as a buyer you should insure it happens.

### **BUYER'S DUE DILIGENCE**

Washington is a buyer due diligent state, so basically, if the boilerplate language is used, the buyer gets a free ride to investigate whether the property is suitable or not. If they respond with notice to terminate within the deadline, their deposit is refundable unless the contract is written differently.

In some of the near-by metropolitan markets, some buyers elect to waive their rights in order to attract the seller's attention, but that is not the case on San Juan. In the long term, allowing this process will reduce the exposure to future disagreements about the condition of the home. The buyer needs the opportunity to research the property and condition of the improvements prior to closing. As a seller, if your buyer waives their rights to an inspection, be sure to obtain a copy of the waiver or a hold harmless agreement for the file.

In most transactions, the buyer shall have anywhere from 10-90 days to process their home inspection contingency and feasibility study, with 15 days being typical for a home purchase. The home inspection contingency addresses the condition of the improvements on the property. The feasibility study addresses the "what if-s", a buyer is considering i.e., may I have a dog run, can I park an RV, what will the kitchen remodel cost, can I obtain a vacation rental permit, etc.

The inspections must be processed by the buyer or a person licensed under chapter 18.280 RCW. Surprisingly, General Contractors are not qualified under this chapter RCW. Reports are at buyer's expense, ordered by them and performed by an inspector of their choice. If seller has already obtained a home inspection, the buyer should not rely upon it as there is no recourse against the inspector by a party not named in the report. The buyer can; however, hire that inspector for a new report in their name as it may save time.

The inspectors or contractors may not be invasive with their inspections or their evaluations of the cost of repairs, without seller's consent and without the agreement that buyer will restore to the pre-inspection condition.

Some buyers and their agents are of the opinion that it is best to just get the property under contract and then plan to be aggressive during the home inspection and feasibility period. Only time will tell with this approach, it can backfire. It is true that the seller may be emotionally attached to the transaction as it is the solution they are looking for, however; they also need to feel that the transaction is fair. It may be their plan to be aggressive as well and perhaps they are not attached to the outcome. These are just some of the uncertainties that surround the process. During the inspection process of a transaction, sometimes not everyone is happy and sometimes all parties are slightly unhappy. It can be a stressful time for all. On the other hand, I have had the process run very smooth; it is a case-by-case situation. The goal is for everyone to be happy.

Just because you are under contract, it is still a long way until closing with numerous contingencies that must be satisfied along the way. No one should be packing until the contract is non-contingent and preferably not until you have signed your closing documents and the monies are on deposit with escrow.

To continue reading HOME INSPECTIONS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION please visit our website:

https://www.sanjuanislandslifestyle.com/blog/categories/general



STUART ISLAND WATERFRONT CABIN \$645,000 - MLS #1758510



MINERAL POINT WATERFRONT HOME NEW \$2,450,000 - MLS #1746811 COLDWELL BANKER SAN JUAN ISLANDS. INC.



EAGLE COVE WATER VIEW LOT \$535.000 - MLS #1758562



NEW CONSTRUCTION MODERN HOME IN TOWN \$645,000 - MLS #1741380



BREATHTAKING VIEW ESTATE \$2,575,000 - MLS #1563904



BROWN ISLAND WATERFRONT LOT \$418,000 - MLS #1428542

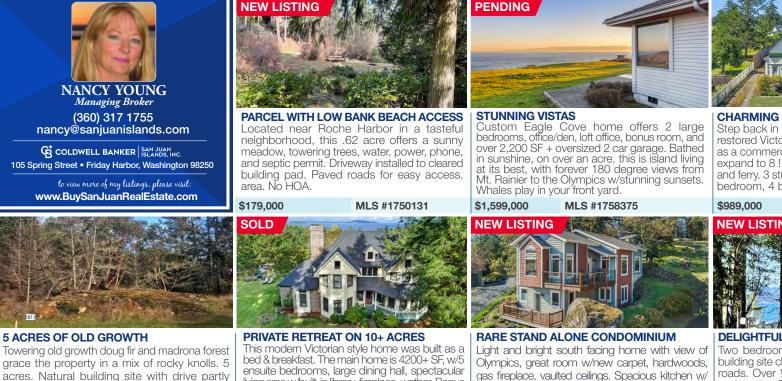


ROULAC LANE WATER VIEW HOME \$1,350,000 - MLS #1755462



HENRY ISLAND LARGE WATERFRONT PARCEL \$2,375,000 - MLS #1762905

105 Spring Street / PO Box 100, Friday Harbor, Washington 98250



MLS #1758452

grace the property in a mix of rocky knolls. 5 acres. Natural building site with drive partly in. Water power phone available in this new development of 80 acres total.

\$297,000

MLS #1380666



\$1,827,000

granite counters, gas cooktop, abundant storage, eating nook/office space. 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths.

MLS #1761777



Step back in time to this charming and lovingly restored Victorian home in town, currently used

as a commercial rental with 4 units and room to expand to 8 ! Walking distance to town, shops, and ferry. 3 studios w/kitchens, one large private bedroom, 4 baths. Attached garage.

MLS #1675846



**DELIGHTFUL FILTERED WATER VIEW LOT** Two bedroom septic included. Driveway and building site cleared. Water, power, phone. Paved roads. Over 1/2 acre, lightly treed with native fir and cedar. Fantastic walking neighborhood. Community amenities.

\$225,000

MLS #1765409



\$629,000

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105 Spring Street Friday Harbor, WA 98250

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### LIGHT AND BRIGHT HOME CLOSE TO TOWN Nice and sunny double-wide with 1060 sf, 2 bed/2 bath, a fenced

Nice and sunny double-wide with 1060 sf, 2 bed/2 bath, a fenced backyard, and a small back porch. No age restriction. Pets are limited to two dogs and no limit on cats. Space rent is \$500/month. Utilities are billed separately. **MLS #1779026 / \$215,000** 

### **CONDO IN TOWN**

Two story, upper-level end unit (best location) with 932 sf, 1 bed/1 bath, new appliances, plus a bonus room, and pastoral and water views. Situated on about an acre with large, private lawn and garden areas. Short walk (3 minutes) to town, community theater, and the middle and high schools. **MLS #1782812 / \$335,000** 

10 acres with views across San Juan Channel to Orcas Island. Community water, private community beach, an approved 4-bedroom septic design, utilities on site, and a nicely maintained road. Quick

drive to Friday Harbor. MLS #1737987 / \$395,000













## WATER VIEW LOT

WATER VIEW ACREAGE

Over 1.1 acres of southwest-facing lawn with installed septic, utilities, driveway, plus 4.75 acres of common area that includes a pond, a tennis court, and approximately 1600 feet of shoreline. Near Roche Harbor MLS #1537100 / \$895,000

### HOME NEAR TOWN

Updated home with  $3291\pm$  sf, 3 bed/3 bath, little view of Griffin Bay, privacy fencing, grass yard, landscaping, fruit trees, and a deer fenced garden on a sunny  $0.59\pm$  acre lot. Being sold turn-key with a vacation rental permit. **#1618262 / \$995,000** 

### **COMMERCIAL BUILDING**

Great location in town. Recently operated as a top-rated lunch Bistro serving wine and beer, with indoor and outdoor patio seating. Commercial kitchen. Commercial grade linoleum. Equipment, furniture, service ware, and more included. Office space and storage on 2nd floor. **#1764264 / \$525,000** 

### **HOME IN TOWN**

Classic 2-story Craftsman with 1712 sf, 3 bed/2 bath, gourmet kitchen, heated sun porch, high quality finishes and custom features including cherry cabinets, maple counter tops, solid cherry and mahogany doors, new roof, new exterior paint, and a spacious and private back yard with fruit trees. MLS #1748106 / \$745,000







