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From: leslie brennan <paperchase.sanjuan@gmail.com>
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To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: Vacation Rental - CAPS
Attachments: Hello County Council Members.docx

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Hello County Council Members,

This letter is in regards to the ongoing issue of CAPS. I hope our input is considered.

Thank you,

Scott and Leslie Brennan

To All County Council Members,

Vacation Rentals came about because of a demand for places for tourists and other island guests to stay. They didn't really exist when we moved here some 35 years ago, as Friday Harbor was mainly a fishing community and not a tourist destination.

When San Juan County decided to promote the islands, large numbers of people started coming to the islands and once here, they obviously needed a place to stay. As there aren't enough hotels to accommodate them, Vacation Rental alternatives became more popular.

Now people, who have chosen to provide tourist and others a place to stay while visiting for a short time, they are being blamed for a number of problems, including the lack of affordable housing.

Vacation Rentals are a benefit for the tourism that the county has created. As with most things, they are a "supply and demand" issue. If there wasn't the mass numbers of visitors coming to stay here, Vacation Rentals would not be desirable or necessary.

Placing CAPS on Vacation Rentals is wrong and not the solution. The County should have had better planning when transforming our community from a fishing town into a tourist location, and they did not. Placing CAPS on Vacation Rentals, as was done with ADUs, is not the right answer and should not be considered. Don't blame or punish the people who have chosen to try to be part of the solution to your continuing efforts to increase visitor's attraction.

If you stop inviting visitors to the island there will be fewer needs for Vacation Rentals. Problem solved.