



Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year!

~ from all of us at IGA Madeira Park

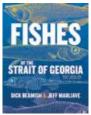
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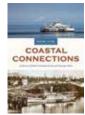


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mamata Goes Fishina Alan Haig-

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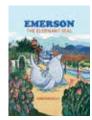


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EDITOR

Brian Lee

CIRCULATION (2,400)

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Past issues of the Harbour Spiel are available online at www.harbourspiel.com.

CONTRIBUTORS

This month we thank: Marlene Cymbalist, Chelsea Cotton, Darlene Fowlie, Leonard Lee, Robert Livingston, Shane McCune, Barb Nield, Susan Marlatt and Lois Randle.

COVER

North, up Sechelt Inlet, Nov. 9. (Darlene Fowlie photo)

ADVERTISING

Please reserve before the 15th of the month prior to publication. Advertisers make publication of the *Harbour Spiel* possible — please say thank you, and support our community, by supporting them.

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editorial

The perfect Christmas gift

Brian Lee

Unless you're one of those weirdo Christmas

fanatics who finish their gift shopping by Halloween, chances are you're still on the lookout for ideas.

If you're stuck, do what everyone else does — give them a thing to carry liquid in.

If you have a man, woman or child in your life, you have been exposed to the modern necessity of water bottles.

According to StatsCan, 91 per cent of all Canadian households have at least one member who uses their own refillable water bottle.

Their math supports the adage:

"You can never have too many friends or adult sippy cups."

The genius of this gift is that it snuffs the anxiety of being unsure if the recipient already has one.

They do.

And they want more.

London Drugs' website displays over 270 different bottles, making it possible for any gift giver to match the tastes of co-workers and in-laws as easily as intimate partners.

I understand many of these vessels excel at carrying liquor as well.

I first became aware of the water bottle phenomenon in university in the early '90s when everyone walked around in flannel with a Nalgene bottle carabinered to their backpack.

Though water fountains were still plentiful, the trend served as a fashionable rejection of single use plastic.

I was reminded of it by an ironic modern twist the other day when I was putting away some dishes.

On the shelf designated for drink containers, there was no room left to stow the recently washed ones.

Despite our small household, we



have collected enough flasks to serve a platoon.

There are fancy ones, metal ones, ones to fit bike holders and ones with measurements to mix athletic potions of protein and electrolytes.

One was tall, yellow and phallic.

Others, like a bamboo-lidded glass number, suggest a mood appropriate for yoga (plastic clogs chakras).

The shelf pays tribute to iconic brands like Yeti, Thermos and Brightside Organics.

And, while still ridiculous, our shelf is dwarfed by some of our friends' collections.

Right now, every hiker on Mt. Daniel is hauling up a clumsy extra pound of water just to have a sip at the top.

On a short hike, does our performance really suffer if we hydrate before leaving the car?

Of course not.

Water bottles rarely fulfil a genuine physiological need.

They are social media fashion accessories.

Instagram is built on the triumph of a glistening hiker taking a swig from a handsome flask while silhoutted by a lofty panorama.

And, nothing gives away the fact that someone is basic and low-born like posting different Instagram outings with the same water bottle.

Ewwww.

Don't let that happen to your loved ones this Christmas.





PHCC CHRISTMAS MARKET: Saturday, Dec. 13, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Don't miss the Pender Harbour Community Club's Christmas extravaganza at the P. H. Community Hall with dozens of vendors and artisans and Santa's kitchen serving delicious refreshments (serving lunch all day for \$5). There will also be a white elephant sale, jewelry table, door prizes, silent auction and more. Admission will be by donation at the door and all proceeds will support the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

Contact Lesley at: sunshinevillabc@gmail.com or (604) 883-2992.

STAYCATION?

How about a ...



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PENDER HARBOUR WINTER FESTIVAL: Saturday, Dec. 20, 3 to 9 p.m.

Come out to Millennium Park for the event of the season. There will be kids' crafts, food trucks, vendors, live music, mulled wine and carol ships!

Winterfest kicks off at 3 p.m. and the 61st annual Christmas boat parade starts at 6:30 p.m. — all at the government dock in Madeira Park.

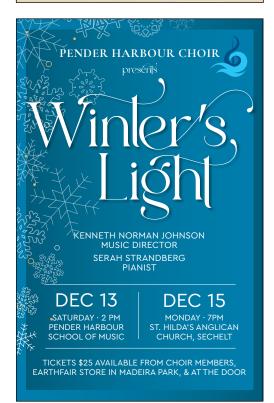
For the kids, Santa's Workshop includes photos with Santa, toy making, hot chocolate and cookie decorating. There will also be an artisans' market, licensed area for holiday spirits and mulled wine (bring your own mug), raffle and a bonfire. Santa Claus himself arrives at 4 p.m. So, you know it's going to be off the hook.

Winterfest runs from 3 to 9 p.m. and entry is by donation at the entrance.

NEW YEARS EVE AT THE LEGION: Wednesday, Dec. 31, doors at 6 p.m,

Say good bye to 2025 and ring in 2026 with friends, a full belly and smashing live music to dance to. The Royal Canadian Legion 112 will host a roast beef dinner (with Yorkshire pudding), followed by a decadently fitting tuxedo cake with live music by Raspberry Jam. Tickets are \$70 (at the Legion or e-transfer *rcl112@telus.net*).

photojournal





Marlene Cymbalist

Carole Logtenberg leads a spooky session of seniors' chair yoga on Oct. 31 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

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SCRD completes coastal flood mapping project

The water will continue to rise and now we know where.

New information about local flood hazards was recently released by the Sunshine Coast Regional District after completion of their "Coastal Flood Mapping" project.

The SCRD partnered with the town of Gibsons, district of Sechelt, and Islands Trust to investigate the impacts of sea level rise and coastal flooding across the Sunshine Coast and to help residents, governments and other agencies prepare.

With over 500 kilometres of coastline, flooding from sea level rise and increased storm wave action is a growing hazard facing the region.

The CFMP explored the chal-

lenges and risks for vulnerable areas and how residents can become more resilient to coastal flooding.

Fully funded through the Union of BC Municipalities' "disaster risk reduction — climate adaptation program," the project provides the first consistent, Coast-wide maps showing where and how coastal flooding and erosion could affect communities.

The maps (maps.scrd.ca/) identify areas at risk under various sea level rise and storm scenarios and also include detailed information about minimum safe elevation for new buildings and a coastal vulnerability index showing which shorelines are most exposed to erosion.

The project found that about

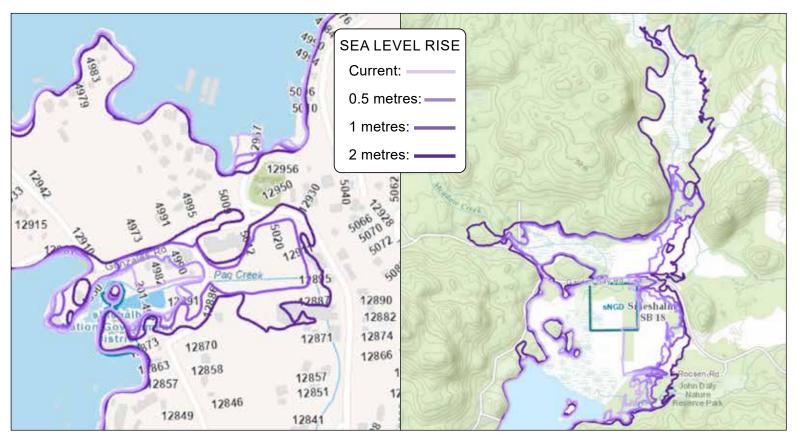
nine per cent of the Sunshine Coast's coastline was found to have high vulnerability to erosion and seven per cent of properties were found to have flooding hazards at current sea levels.

The project also delivered practical recommendations for how local governments can strengthen existing development regulations to better address coastal flooding hazards and reduce risk for future construction.

These insights will be used to inform SCRD projects like official community plan renewals, development permit area reviews, evacuation route planning and parks management.

Though Sunshine Coast local

(continued next page)



SCRD

According to the SCRD's online mapping tool, these areas, Madeira Park (I) and Kleindale/Oyster Bay (r), represent two of the most flood-vulnerable locations in Area A. The online digital tool *maps.scrd.ca/* allows you to view properties and where they are in relation to future high tide line scenarios. The mapping layers (under the 'Environment' menu) and will show four purple lines along the coastal parts of the Sunshine Coast. The lightest purple line is the 'current flood line' and each progressively darker line shows 0.5m, 1.0m and 2.0m projected sea level rise lines. The BC provincial government advises municialities to plan for one metre of sea level rise by 2100 and two metres by 2200.

SCRD completes coastal flood mapping project (cont.)

(continued from p. 5)

governments already regulate development in coastal areas, according to the SCRD's coastal flood mapping project FAQ, the project identified five key action areas for improvement:

- Prioritize coastal hazard development permit areas updates;
- Mainstream coastal flood adaptation, by linking and integrating adaptation, mitigation, and resilience across updated planning policy documents;
- Elevate coastal adaptation and resilience in updated official community plans by grounding updates in an adaptive management approach that is

flexible and responsive as new information emerges;

- Enhance awareness and education within OCPs by sharing, illustrating, and explaining key concepts and information, and
- Make consistent and clear policy — by seeking regionally consistent development permit areas guidance and definitions.

The online digital tool *maps.scrd*. *ca/* allows residents to view properties and where they are in relation to forecast future high tide lines.

One way to imagine potential impacts is to look at the king tide, an exceptionally high tide that occurs

when the gravitational forces of the sun and moon align

King tides occur three or four times a year during the winter months and are 50 centimetres to one metre higher than regular high tides.

According to the report, king tide levels of today are expected to be the regular high tide in 2050.

The mapping layers can be found under the "Environment" menu, Coastal Flood Mapping.

It will show four purple lines along the coastal parts of the Sunshine Coast.

The lightest purple line is the "current flood line" and each of the progressively darker lines indicate the projected coastal flood plain line for 0.5-metre, 1.0-metre, and 2.0-metre sea level rise scenarios.

The 0.5-metre inundation line shows the earliest forecast for sea level rise high waters.

Provincial guidelines are to prepare for one metre of sea level rise by 2100 but some home owners may find their properties show as flooded on the 0.5 metre inundation map.

For homeowners whose properties fall below the flood risk lines, there are ways to reduce potential flood impacts in the coming decades.

The Green Shores program helps landowners and construction professionals create more secure, nature-based shorelines that resist erosion and flooding while enhancing natural beauty and property value.

A public workshop is being planned for late 2025 in partnership with Green Shores to explore nature-based solutions for coastal resilience.

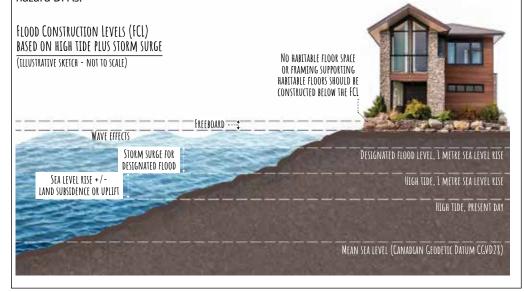
The maps and supporting resources are available at *letstalk.scrd. ca/coastal-flooding* and *scrd.ca/climate*.

Planning for Sea Level Rise – Coastal Development Management

The SCRD, Town of Gibsons, District of Sechelt, and Islands Trust already manage coastal development through land use planning (e.g., Official Community Plans, zoning) which establishes where building can occur and how far back buildings need to be set back from the ocean.

Along the lower Sunshine Coast and throughout the Salish Sea most municipalities and regional districts have updated their flood mapping and established coastal development permit areas (DPAs). DPAs designate hazardous areas (e.g., floodplains, steep slopes) and environmentally sensitive areas where a development permit is required to ensure the proposed development meets the construction and development guidelines outlined in the DPA.

Coastal DPAs typically include Flood Construction Levels (FCLs) which mark the lowest elevation that livable floor space can be constructed. Anything constructed below an FCL has the potential of being impacted by coastal flooding. The Coastal Flood Mapping project will develop specific FCLs for different areas along the lower Sunshine Coast that will be incorporated into updated coastal hazard DPAs.



SCRD

A graphic from the SCRD's 'Coastal Flood Mapping Project: Project Primer' showing one application of coastal flood mapping data.

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Despite announcement, community gardens' fate still unclear

The ongoing question about who will maintain the Madeira Park Community Gardens seemed to have taken a positive turn last month after the Pender Harbour and Area Residents Association announced that the gardens will be maintained.

In addition to the main garden area beside the P. H. Community Hall, the gardens include that surrounding the boat at Madeira Park's highway entrance, the garden at the entrance to Madeira Park's government wharf and at the Gonzales Road turnaround.

In their November newsletter, PHARA announced that the Pender Harbour Community Club, owner of the community hall property beside the Madeira Park Elementary School field, agreed to take over both maintenance and fundraising for the gardens on their property. PHARA made it clear that the PHCC wouldn't assume responsibility for them until after its major roof replacement construction project is completed, likely sometime in December of 2026.

Since that time, the PHCC has waffled on that commitment.

In an email to the *Harbour Spiel* Marlene Cymbalist, PHCC board member, said that since the gardens are on their property, it is likely they will take over the gardens but they can't commit right now.

"Nothing has been decided yet," said Cymbalist.

"We the community club are busy trying to get the hall project underway and we have not made a decision on the gardens as of yet."

PHARA also announced that Ron Badley, owner of the Harbour Spirit

Centre, "has generously stepped up to maintain the gardens beside his Harbour Spirit Centre, the triangle garden at the entrance to the public wharf, and the apple tree at the Gonzales Road turnaround."

Badley told the *Harbour Spiel* that he has agreed to take on this responsibility and plans to fundraise to help with the maintenance costs.

Badley said he is also in the process of replacing the the *Harbour Spirit*, the rotting wooden boat that adorns the entrance to Madeira Park with a boat donated by Sandy Hately.

The *Harbour Spirit II* was the late boatbuilder Barrie Farrell's last boat, previously named the *True North*.

Not only will the fibreglass boat hold up better than it's wooden predessor, Farrell was a well-known BC boat builder who started out in Pender Harbour in the 1970s.

It's estimated that there are over 600 boats carrying Farrell's distinctive design on the West Coast.

photojournal



Chelsea Cotton

Though he won't be eligibile to join the P. H. Volunteer Fire Department until 2036, five-year old Mason Cotton looks keen at the Halloween fireworks on Nov. 2. The PHVFD is currently recruiting and anyone over the age of 16 can apply by calling their administration office at (604) 883-9011 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



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PHARA pens letter to Eby regarding Aboriginal title uncertainty

The following letter (dated Oct. 14) from the Pender Harbour and Area Residents' Association was sent to Premier Eby and cc'ed to a number of political and industry leaders.

Dear Premier Eby,

On Aug. 7, 2025, the BC Supreme Court issued a landmark decision that raises profound issues for BC's land title regime.

In Cowichan Tribes v. Canada, the court held that the BC Land Title Act does not give private property owners certainty against Aboriginal title claims.

Your attorney general immediately stated:

"We disagree strongly with the decision.

"British Columbia will be filing an appeal..."

You yourself were reported to have said, "... let me be clear: owning private property with clear title is key to borrowing for a mortgage, economic certainty, and the real estate market."

Yet despite these words, your government quietly went to court several weeks later to seek a "consent order" judicially affirming Haida Nation Aboriginal title over private lands on Haida Gwaii.

It appears from media reports that your intention in seeking that consent court order was to prevent future governments from ever repealing your 2024 law recognizing Aboriginal title over private property on Haida Gwaii.

So how does one square these positions?

Are you opposed to Aboriginal title existing over private property?

Or are you in favour of it?

The judge in the *Cowichan Tribes* case might have also been confused by government's inconsistent position on these matters.

At paragraph 3564 she noted: "B.C. submits that... Aboriginal title and fee simple title conflict and cannot coexist because both include



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Victor Sladey 604-741-1031

harbourirrigation@gmail.com

photojournal



Lois Randle

'This owl has been hanging around my yard at Whiskey Slough for a couple of weeks,' said Lois Randle of this barred owl (*Strix varia*). 'He seems very unconcerned and only curious about my presence and hangs around all day.'

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the right to exclusive use and occupancy."

Yet at paragraph 2140, she noted that the Haida law you passed, "illustrate[s] how Aboriginal title and fee simple can coexist as legal interests through a negotiated agreement."

Why does this matter to us, and the average British Columbian?

Because in summer 2024, you publicly described the Haida deal as a "template" for BC.

And around that same time, your government signed an agreement to negotiate Aboriginal title over the Sunshine Coast (even though the deal was kept secret from the public and your own Sunshine Coast NDP candidate until well after the election).

So just like in the case of the Land Act debacle, the residents of our area now find themselves thrust into a most unenviable position.

And while we may be the first citizens (after Haida Gwaii) having our private property rights and Aboriginal title being negotiated in secret — we highly doubt we will be the last.

This is a matter of concern to every private property owner, lender and investor in British Columbia.

So, we urge you to immediately pause all negotiations related to the recognition of Aboriginal title (on the Sunshine Coast or anywhere) until after the appeals in the *Cowichan Tribes* case have run their course.

And we ask for your clear, immediate and unequivocal commitment that you will do so.

PHARA board (Peter Robson, Suzanne Yuile, Sage Robson, David Blaiklock, Bob Baker, Bill Charlton, Peter Jones, Eliza Kinley, Sean McAllister, Brent Mulhall and Scott Topham)



P. H. Volunteer Fire Department

Monty Rolston and the Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department celebrated his 50 years of service with the department on Nov. 5. What do you get after 50 years of dedicated service? A 50 year cake, a framed letter from BC's fire commissioner... and the gratitude of an entire community. Congratulations, Monty.

Discover Your New Home at

Campbell House

Now Open for Rent!

Welcome to Campbell House, a warm and inviting senior living community in the heart of beautiful Madeira Park. Starting at just \$1,450/month, our brand-new residences are designed for seniors with your comfort, independence, and joy in mind.

Why Choose Campbell House?

Cozy & Modern Living: Enjoy one of our 14 spacious apartments, each with stunning views and senior-friendly amenities tailored for ease and relaxation.

Vibrant Lifestyle: Stay active and connected with a variety of local events, social gatherings, and activities in Madeira Park's welcoming community.

Caring Support: Local community care services ensure you feel supported while living life on your terms.

Places to Unwind & Connect: Stroll through our serene gardens, explore scenic walking trails, get creative in our workshop, or relax in our cozy social lounges—perfect for making new friends or enjoying quiet moments.

Come See for Yourself!

We invite you to tour Campbell House and discover the perfect place to embrace a fulfilling, worry-free lifestyle. Whether you're ready to simplify, stay active, or build new friendships, we're here to make it happen.

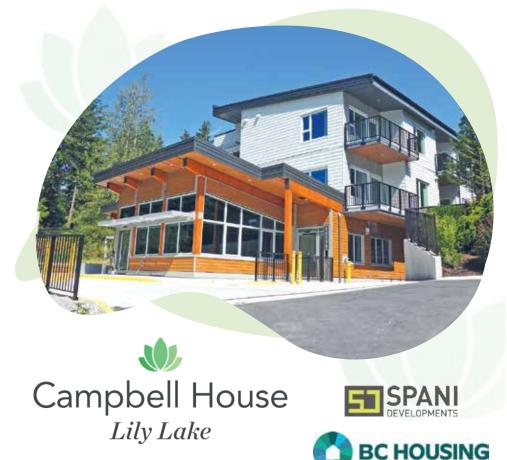
Schedule Your Visit Today!

Contact us at

info@campbell-house.org to book a tour, Monday through Friday, 9am to 12pm, or join us for our weekend open houses.

Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Society

We can't wait to welcome you home to Campbell House, a BC Housing financed project.



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www.campbell-house.org

Rothenbush: Kicks to the Harbour Spiel!

Editor,

Kicks to *Harbour Spiel*!
And before I elaborate, let me make one thing clear.

This is not about "instant gratification."

It's about the fact that I'm an old man with a bad heart; when I go to

bed in the evening, I'm never sure I'm going to wake up in the morning.

So, when I see a good story in the paper that's "continued tomorrow," I get more than a little bit upset.

But when I see a REALLY good story, like the one about the Duval brothers and find it to be continued "next month," I'm apoplectic! Frankly, not getting to read the second half of the story is almost a self-fulfilling prophescy, I get so red in the face.

All I can say is, I better still be around to read the second half.

Because if I'm not, you better hope there's no such thing as ghosts.

Alan Rothenbush

'The most brilliant Harbour Spiel trivia question ever'

Editor,

I would like to congratulate the editor on question No. 6 in November's *Spiel*.

My spouse and I moved to the Harbour nine years ago, so every month we compete to see who qualifies as a "local" as per the high standards set by the trivia questions.

So, the wife looks at question No. 6 and says, "What kind of goddamned question is that?"

I looked at, "What time did the main hatchway give in?" and immediately could hear Gordy Lightfoot singing.

"When suppertime came, the old cook came on deck sayin' 'Fellas, it's too rough to feed ya.' "At seven p.m., a main hatchway caved in, he said, 'Fellas, it's been good to know ya.""

I am happy to report that I have once more attained the status of "local," while my loyal, but decidedly competitive wife, has to make do with the reduced status of "newbie."

This is also a very helpful turn of events, for me, in the age old argument amongst couples about who is cognitively with it and who ain't.

Thanks for a great question!

Gavin Showler

photojournal



Brian Lee

This soggy truck was hauled out of Garden Bay lake after leaving the road on the morning of Oct. 12. The lone occupant was reportedly uninjured.



'Tis the season: Watch the roads



Leonard Lee Area A director, SCRD

MOSSY ROCK HOSPICE

The Sunshine Coast Hospice Society surprised the Sunshine

Coast Regional Hospital District and SCRD directors with news that we may have a hospice by early 2027.

Last year with the Vancouver Hospital District, the SCHS acquired a 1.48-acre Mossy Rock Road, Roberts Creek, property, now being renovated into eight, purpose-designed suites for live-in palliative care.

It would allow patients to spend their final days there instead of Sechelt Hospital, freeing up hospital beds for life-saving treatment.

Of the \$7.4 million project

cost, VCH committed \$3.32 million and community groups raised \$2.45 million, leaving a shortfall of \$1.63 million and a request to the SCRHD for a contribution of \$1.5 million, 20 per cent of the capital cost, towards completion of the project.

The SCRHD would have to request provincial approval to contribute to this non-hospital facility, and the board will consider options at the Jan. 15 meeting.

The SCRHD is governed by the Hospital District Act and, although a separate corporation from the SCRD, it has the same board members.

It provides tax-based funding to VCH for Sechelt Hospital and Totem Lodge, including about 40 per cent from local taxpayers, costing us about \$7.34 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

The SCHS offers support for

Sunshine Coast residents facing a terminal illness, and for those who love them, by providing grief support, volunteer training, and workshops and resources about end-of-life planning and services.

ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

The entire Sunshine Coast is a potential archeological site protected by the BC Heritage Conservation Act, which makes it illegal to disturb ground without a permit.

Archeological sites and artifacts provide valuable Indigenous historical and cultural information, so locations must be assessed to determine whether ground disturbance might destroy or compromise them.

Before breaking ground, the landowner or developer must meet all



Sunshine Coast Regional District





Egmont / Pender Harbour Area A Director Leonard Lee leonard.lee@scrd.ca 604-212-0406



Board and Committee Meetings

Budget Committee (Round 1) December 1 and 2 at 9:30 a.m.

Committee of the Whole December 11 at 9:30 a m.

Regular Board December 11 at 1:00 p.m. **Electoral Area Services** Committee

December 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Zoom and YouTube links are available on the agenda page of the SCRD website at www.scrd.ca/agendas.

Board and Board Committee meetings are held in person in the Sunshine Coast Regional District Boardroom at 1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC, online via Zoom, and live-streamed to the SCRD YouTube channel.

SAVE ON SNOW FUN AT DAKOTA RIDGE

Get 10% off your Dakota Ridge season pass before December 12! Enjoy unlimited skiing and snowshoeing all winter long. Buy online at www.scrd.ca/Dakota-Ridge or in person at the Gibsons and Area Community Centre or Sechelt Aquatic Centre.

HOLIDAY TRANSFER STATION HOURS OF OPERATION

Saturday, December 20 OPEN (9:00 am- 5:00 pm) Sunday, December 21 CLOSED Regular Closure Day

Monday, December 22 OPEN (9:00 am- 5:00 pm)

Tuesday, December 23 CLOSED Regular Closure Day

Wednesday, December 24 EARLY CLOSURE AT 3:30 pm

Thursday, December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED

Friday, December 26 BOXING DAY CLOSED

Saturday, December 27 OPEN (9:00 am- 5:00 pm)

Sunday, December 28, 2025. CLOSED

Monday, December 29, 2025. OPEN (9:00 am- 5:00 pm)

Tuesday, December 30, 2025. NEW YEARS EVE CLOSED Wednesday, December 31, 2025. NEW YEARS DAY CLOSED

Thursday, January 1, 2026. OPEN (9:00 am- 5:00 pm)

Friday, January 2, 2026. OPEN (9:00 am- 5:00 pm)

No loads accepted after 4:50 p.m.

More information here: www.scrd.ca/transfer-station

Page 12 Harbour Spiel HCA requirements, including permits and payment, to begin work.

Costs depend on the level of site assessments required, measures taken before, during or after the completion of work, the location and currently available data.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION ACT CHANGES

The province has proposed changes to the HCA, suggesting revamped permitting will reduce wait times, improve transparency, increase protection of Indigenous heritage, strengthen First Nations' heritagemanagement role and ensure quicker disaster recovery.

A reform of BC's archeological bureaucracy could ensure consistency, transparency and efficiency, and remove practices that undermine both heritage protection and project completion — if the province integrates changes proposed by local governments.

But the devil in the details makes many skeptical it will happen as touted.

HCA permits are issued only to registered consultants on behalf of applicants, often causing lengthy delays and increased costs, so we request that permits be issued directly and include a list of qualified archeologists available to conduct assessments.

We need clarity on our vaguely defined role, we want the new HCA framework integrated with the Local Government Act, and we want to partner with First Nations to develop a mapping and information system for accurate archeological information.

We respect Indigenous data sovereignty, but local governments must be granted information access to fulfil their permitting responsibilities.

Necessary, early engagement with First Nations often suffers a lack December 2025

of timely decisions, a lack of clarity, inconsistent processes and overlapping jurisdictional claims.

We support replacing today's three-permit structure to a single permit, but only if it reduces, not shifts, complexity and we recommend that agreements affecting land use be registered on land titles.

For more information about the proposed Heritage Conservation Act changes, see the Nov. 13 SCRD Board agenda at www.scrd.ca.

'TIS THE SEASON

Winter, and hazardous driving conditions, will likely be with us until March but winter tires, although recommended on the Sunshine Coast, are not mandatory.

Winter brings increased requests for filling potholes, repairing damaged roadbeds, clearing culverts and demands for snow removal.

The Ministry of Transportation and Transit contracts Capilano Highway Services to look after our roads, and snow removal is prioritized by traffic.

Class B roads, Hwy. 101 and Madeira Park Road, are Capilano's priority; they cannot have over six centimetres of snow in travelling lanes, accumulations must be removed every two hours and lanes must be bare within 36 hours.

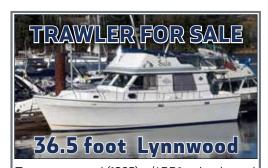
Class C roads, Egmont, Garden Bay, Francis Peninsula, and Irvine's

Landing Roads, cannot have over 10 centimetres of snow, accumulations must be removed every six hours and lanes must be bare within 48 hours.

Class D and Class E roads, e.g. Panorama, Bear Bay, Warnock, Dubois, don't require attention unless snowfall exceeds 25 centimetres, and we have no Class A highways on the Sunshine Coast.

Capilano workers maintain our roads well, usually exceeding their contract terms, but circumstances beyond their control can prevent it.

If you feel that escalation is required, call MOTT (604) 527-2221 or Capilano Highways (604) 983-2411).



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what's happening this christmas?

PENDER HARBOUR MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENTS COMPANY B JAZZ BAND

Sunday, Dec. 7 at 2 p.m.

Get your tickets for "Festive Swing, A Holiday Concert" at the Pender Harbour School of Music compliments of Company B Jazz Band, one of Canada's foremost vintage jazz ensembles. Featuring a harmonizing vocal trio, this concert promises vintage harmonies and infectious energy accompanied by a stellar rhythm section that will take you back to the dance halls of the swing era and Roaring '20s with a performance that radiates joy and nostalgia. Celebrate the season with toe-tapping fun and irresistible swing. Tickets are \$30 at penderharbourmusic.ca/concert-tickets/.

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sunday, Dec. 7 at 3:30 p.m. (crafts)/5:30 p.m. (dinner)

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Santa will be there to visit the kids, arts and crafts will be available — all before a delicious dinner. Doors open at 3:30 p.m. when the kids' crafts begin and dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. Food bank or dessert donations accepted.

PENDER HARBOUR WOMEN'S CONNECTION 'WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA'

Tuesday, Dec. 9, doors at 11:30 a.m.

The Pender Harbour Women's Connection's "Winter Extravaganza" will be held Dec. 9 at the Madeira Park Legion. It opens at 11:30 a.m. with a full seasonal lunch including dessert, tea and coffee served at 12 noon. Hot Java, an eight-woman vocal ensemble, along with its musical accompanist, will present a sparkling performance that is sure to warm hearts on a cool winter's day. Tickets must be purchased by Dec. 3. Contact any Women's Connection council member or Helga at (604) 883-0566 or Karen at (604) 883-0604 (leave your name and number of tickets required). Tickets are \$40 and include gratuities.

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND PENDER HARBOUR CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Thursday, Dec. 11 at 10:30 a.m. (lunch served at noon)

Organized by the Pender Harbour Seniors Initiative, Harbour Side Friendships hosts a \$10 Christmas turkey luncheon for seniors at the Pender Harbour Community





age 14 Harbour Spiel

Hall on Dec. 11. Lunch will include a performance by the Pender Harbour Choir. Tickets (\$10) will be sold ahead of time to plan for attendance.

COMMUNITY HALL CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday, Dec. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Don't miss the Pender Harbour Community Club's crafts, baking and artisan extravaganza at the P. H. Community Hall with dozens of vendors and artisans and Santa's kitchen serving delicious refreshments (serving lunch all day for \$5). There will also be a white elephant sale, jewelry table, door prizes, silent auction and more. Admission will be by donation at the door and all proceeds will support the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION 112 HAM, TURKEY, XMAS BASKET AND PIE AUCTION MEAT DRAW Saturday, Dec. 13 at 3 p.m.

If you like to yell "Yee-haw" at the meat draw, this is the biggest of the year. The Royal Canadian Legion No. 112 presents its annual Christmas fundraiser — a ham and turkey meat draw that also includes a basket and pie auction. It's your best bet to load up on meat (and good cheer) before the holidays. Don't miss the early bird draws starting at 3 p.m. with the main draw at 3:30 p.m.

SARAH WRAY HALL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE Saturday, Dec. 13, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Come out to the Sarah Wray Hall for a two-day Christmas open house featuring unique, heritage-inspired gifts and a variety of authentic, local, one-of-a-kind local items. Visit www.penderharbourheritage.ca/shop.html to view some the available items. All proceeds support projects of the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society.

PENDER HARBOUR CHOIR PRESENTS 'WINTER'S LIGHT'

Saturday, Dec. 13, 2 p.m.

Join the Pender Harbour Choir as they showcase new music and old to celebrate the festive year-end. The choir will perform "Winter's Light" at the Pender Harbour School of Music on Dec. 13 with musical director Ken Johnson and accompanied by pianist Serah Strandberg.

Tickets are \$25 and are available at the Earthfair Store, from choir members and at the door. The choir will also perform at the St. Hilda's Church in Sechelt on Monday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m.

(continued next page)



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Page 15 December 2025

what's happening this christmas?

(continued from p. 15)

PENDER HARBOUR LIBRARY FUNDRAISER: PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA!

Thursday, Dec. 18, Time - TBA

Come down to Mad Park Art (near the post office) to take part in a Christmas fundraiser for the Pender Harbour Library. Receive a digital portrait of Santa and your pet by a professional photographer (\$20 min. donation). Follow Pender Harbour Library on Facebook for updates





EGMONT CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER

Friday, Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.

A community dinner at the Egmont Community Hall. People from out of town with kids under 13 should bring a wrapped gift so Santa can hand it to their child.

PENDER HARBOUR WINTER FESTIVAL

Saturday, Dec. 20 from 3 to 9 p.m.

Come out to Millennium Park for the event of the season. There will be kids' crafts, food trucks, vendors, live music, mulled wine and carol ships!

Winterfest kicks off at 3 p.m. and the Christmas boat parade starts at 6:30 p.m. — all at the government dock in Madeira Park.

For the kids, Santa's Workshop includes photos with Santa, toy making, hot chocolate and cookie decorating. There will also be an artisans' market, licensed area for holiday spirits and mulled wine (bring your own mug), raffle and a bonfire. Santa Claus himself arrives at 4 p.m. So, you know it's going to be off the hook.

Winterfest runs from 3 to 9 p.m. and entry is by donation at the entrance.

61ST P. H. CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE

Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Continuing the 61-year tradition set by the late Wilma and Bill Thompson, the parade of lit boats, carolers and pipers gets underway at 6:30 p.m., leaving from Winterfest at the Madeira Park wharf. Boaters should meet off the government dock at 6 p.m. Participating boats should be decorated with Christmas lights. For more details: Charlie Park at (604) 883-0453.

NEW YEARS EVE AT THE LEGION

Wednesday, Dec. 31, Doors at 6 p.m, Dinner at 7 p.m.

Ring in 2026 with friends, a full belly and smashing live music to dance to. The Royal Canadian Legion 112 will host a roast beef dinner (with Yorkshire pudding), followed by a decadently fitting tuxedo cake with live music by Raspberry Jam. Tickets are \$70 (at the Legion or etransfer rcl112@telus.net).

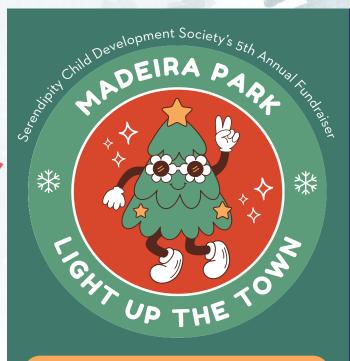
2ND ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S DAY PYJAMA PARTY Thursday, Jan. 1, 11 a.m.

Shake off the night before in your PJs with buffet brunch and a mimosa or a caesar at the Madeira Park Legion for only \$25. No prizes have been announced for the "naughtiest nightie," but if you've got it, flaunt it.

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Harbour Spiel Christmas calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
JONDAI	1	2	3	4	5	6		
PHMS PRESENTS THE COMPANY B JAZZ BAND	8	9	10	11	12	13 COMMUNITY HALL CHRISTMAS MARKET RCL 112 XMAS MEAT DRAW SARAH WRAY HALL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE		
P. H. COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER	15	P. H. WOMEN'S CONNECTION "WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA" 16	17	HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON	19	P. H. CHOIR PRESENTS "WINTER'S LIGHT"		
14	15	16	35/4	P. H. LIBRARY FUNDRAISER: PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA!	EGMONT CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER	PENDER HARBOUR WINTER FESTIVAL 61ST P. H. CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE		
21	22	23	24	SANTA!	26	27		
28	29	30	NEW YEARS EVE AT THE LEGION	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY PYJAMA PARTY ® THE LEGION	13	-		



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to the Pender Harbour Community Hall, 12905 Madeira Park Rd All children must be accompanied by an adult.

For info & event day schedule, please visit www.penderharbourcommunity.club

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December 2025

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- Sunshine Villa B&B.....(604) 883-2992

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• Crowe MacKay LLP.....(604) 697-9271

AUTO REPAIRS & SERVICE

• Kleindale Supply.....(604) 883-2616

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• Vortex Blasting and Breaking.....(604) 741-1031

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• Triple B's Burger Stand.....(604) 883-9655

DOCK & RAMP CONSTRUCTION

• Garden Bay Marine Services.....(604) 883-2722

• Remote Marine Solutions Inc.....(604) 223-8579

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• Malaspina Door And Gate(604) 590-4300

E.

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• Reid Electric.....(604) 883-9309

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G

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• Andrew Curtiss Contracting.....(604) 740-7775

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• Oak Tree Market.....(604) 883-2411

H

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HOT TUBS

• SunCoast Waterworks.....(604) 885-6127

L

LAWYER

• Coastal Law Corporation.....(604) 885-5831

M

MARINE SERVICES

• Desolation Dive Services Ltd.....(778) 678-0929

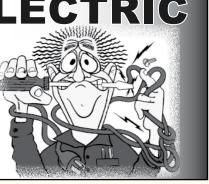
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- Dave Milligan, Re/Max Oceanview Realty.....(604) 741-7373
- Joel O'Reilly PREC, Royal LePage Sussex...(604) 741-1837

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Page 21 December 2025



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Haida Bolton – Program Co-ordinator

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Local health matters

PHHC attends Lobby Day at the BC Legislature

On Thursday, Oct. 30 the Pender Harbour Health Centre executive director Nick Gaskin, in his role as our ED and the treasurer for the British Columbia Association for Community Health Centres, was invited to Lobby Day at the BC Legislature as part of a BCACHC delegation.

The aim of the Lobby Day was to educate and inform ministers and MLAs around the community health centre model, the work being undertaken by the 38 CHCs in British Columbia and the need for recognition from the Ministry of Health and core stable funding to support the ongoing work of BC's CHC sector.

The day started with time in the Legislature where our ED was formally introduced by our MLA, Randene Neill, minister of water, land and resource stewardship, and welcomed by MLA Josie Osboune, minister of health.

The afternoon involved meetings with Minister Osbourne, Brittny Anderson, minister of state for local government and rural communities, and Ray Chouhan, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Further meetings were held with the Conservative Party caucus and the Green Party caucus, including their new leader, Emily Lowen.

During these meetings, solid advocacy was undertaken and thoughtful conversations were held. We hope that this representation at Lobby Day will bring forward recognition and funding for Pender Harbour Health Centre and the other BC CHCs.

If you would like to learn more about CHCs in BC, please visit www.bcachc.org.



Nick Gaskin, PHHC executive director, with B.C. Association for Community Health Centres staff and board members and Josie Osborne, BC's Minister of Health (third from right).



Nick Gaskin, BCACHC staff and board members and Brittny Anderson, BC's Minister of State for Local Government and Rural Communities (second from left).



Nick Gaskin, BCACHC staff and board members and Ray Chouhan, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly (m).



Nick Gaskin, BCACHC staff and board members and members of the Conservative caucus.



1. Which tee on the Pender Harbour Golf Course	4. Which pioneer is the former school in Irvines
faces a daunting uphill slope?	Landing named after?
\square a. One	\square a. Susan Gonsalves
□ b. Two	□ b. Sarah Wray
□ c. Three	□ c. Theresa Jeffries
□ d. Four	□ d. Martha Warnock
2. The Earls Cove ferry transits a passage	5. What is the former name of Kleindale's The
between Nelson Island and this island.	Stonewater.
□ a. Hardy Island	\square a. Pender Harbour Motel
☐ b. Sutton Island	□ b. Park Motel
□ c. Kelly Island	☐ c. Anderson Creek Campground
☐ d. Captain Island	☐ d. Mount Daniel Motel
3. What is the chemical symbol for gold?	6. What is a "blueback?"
□ a. Au	a. Coho salmon
□ b. Ag	□ b. Molting seagull
□ c. Gd	☐ c. Pacific white-sided dolphin
□ d. Gl	☐ d. Juvenile black bear

Answers: p. 34

Four-plus: Local Two-plus: Newbie Less than two: Townie

An amazing tale of survival up Jervis Inlet

Barb Nield

Sixty years ago, Pender Harbour resident John Nield was logging in Vancouver Bay, about one quarter of the way up Jervis Inlet.

He lived in the Harbour with his mother, Ruth Nield, in Duncan Cove and came home each weekend from Jervis in a small boat.

As he started home with a friend from the camp one Friday evening in late November, their boat hit something and began taking on water.

Nield yelled to his friend to start bailing hard as he headed for the steep shore.

They were barely able to scramble onto a very slim rocky ledge but before abandoning the boat, they were able to grab the gas tank and get a line from the boat to a small tree before it went straight down, running lights shining in the depths below them.

Their prospects were extremely grim.

It was a cold night in a remote, seldom-travelled area of the Coast.

Things seemed hopeless.

And then, incredibly, out of the dark, a hefty seine boat suddenly appeared whose occupants had been hunting mountain goat further up the inlet.

Nield splashed the gas along the rocks and threw a match from his little water-proof container.

The sudden flare in the dark caught the attention of the crew and they came over to pick up the two stranded loggers.

They were even able to haul the little boat up from the depths and onto the larger boat's deck.

Afterwards, the two men considered how lucky they were.

If they hadn't been able to get



Brian Lee

Vancouver Bay has long been a bustling spot in Jervis Inlet. Prior to contact, it was the shìshàlh village of Skwákwee-em. Since 1889, it has seen active logging operations come and go as successive generations hauled timber out of the valley beyond. By 1905 there was a narrow-gauge railroad running up the Vancouver River valley to haul out logs and between 1926 and 1930 more than 700 men with their wives and children were living in the Vancouver Bay logging camp.

to shore, if they hadn't found a small rocky ledge, if they hadn't managed to get the tank of gas on shore, if they hadn't had dry matches, if the seine boat hadn't come by.

If any one of those things hadn't

happened, they may not have survived.

It was an amazing story of a miraculous rescue and one Nield, now in his late 80s and still living in Duncan Cove, continues to tell to this day.



PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL

PENDER HARBOUR SECONDARY SCHOOL HOT LUNCH PROGRAM



Help Keep Hot Lunches Free At PHSS!



Once a week, every student at Pender Harbour Secondary enjoys a hot, nutritious lunch - completely free of charge. Its a simple act of care that fills stomachs, fuels learning and builds community.

We want to keep this program FREE for all students, but it truly takes a village. Each meal is made possible through donations and ongoing funraisina efforts.

How You Can Donate:



Drop spare change in the PHSS donations jars at the school office, Petro Can or CARS.



Send an etransfer to: penderharbourpac@gmail.com (add "Hot Lunch" in the memo)



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Every dollar counts - your genorosity ensures no student is left out. Together, let's keep shtis beautiful tradition alive!

With gratitude, PHSS PAC.

> For questions and more information, please contact us at penderharbourpac@gmail.com

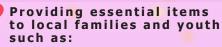
SPREADING KINDNESS

Each year our wonderful community allows us to provide much needed support to our local families all year round. Donations made to the Spreading Kindness fundraiser are used to help support local families by:



Supporting local youth to connect with:

- mental health
- ministry resources
- food supports



- basic hygiene items
- cold weather clothing
- food

Child and youth support Moliday support through the summer.



Ways to donate:

By Credit Card: https://square.link/u/NtXKKX6Q



By etransfer to: spreadingkindness@pendercommunity.ca

Mail: Pender Harbour Community School PO Box 232, Madeira Park BC VON 2HO (In person with cash at the same address.)

Cheque payable to Pender Harbour Community School Society ("Spreading Kindness" in memo)

Contact lyncharlton7@gmail.com for further information.

With gratitude and appreciation, the Madeira Park Elementary PAC. students and teachers would like to thank all of the sponsors to the silent auction and the following sponsors who made the Halloween Fun Night Fundraiser a success:





Pender Harbour **Community School**

Winter Break Closure

Willter Break Closure										
Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24								
Closed	Closed	Closed								
Dec 25	Dec 26									
Closed	Closed									
Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31								
Closed	Closed	Closed								
Jan 1	Jan 2									
Closed	Closed									
Jan 5	Jan 6	Back to regular								
Closed	Open! 9:00 - 3:00	hours Tues-Fri 9 - 3								

604.883.2826 phcs@dccnet.com

Page 26 Harbour Spiel



PENDER HARBOUR **AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE**

20m, 4-lane pool hot tub, sauna, gym & weight room

On lower level of P. H. Secondary School:

13639 S.C. Hwy. 604 885-6867

www.scrd.ca/recreation

PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE www.scrd.ca/pender-pool • 604-885-6867

HOLIDAY HOURS:

Dec. 24, 25, 26 - CLOSED Dec. 31 - 7:30am to 1pm

Jan. 1 - CLOSED



Winter programs take place between Jan. 1 and March 31.

Preview our winter programs starting Nov. 26. Registration starts on Dec. 3 at 7am.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

POOL AND WET AREAS:

Monday & Tuesday 7am to 1pm 3:30pm to 8pm

Wednesday 7am to 8:30am 3:30pm to 8pm

Thursday 7am to 1pm

Friday 7am to 8:30am Saturday & Sunday 10am to 4pm

WEIGHT ROOM:

Monday to Wednesday 7am to 1pm 3:30pm to 8pm

Thursday & Friday 7am to 1pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am to 4pm

MYPASS DROP-IN ACTIVITIES:

Admission is included with your MYPASS, or pay the drop-in rate when you come:

• Adult (18 – 59 years): \$7.35

• Senior (60+ years): \$6.30

MYPASS MIX IT UP Thursdays, 9am

MYPASS LAND MEETS WATER Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30am

MYPASS AQUAFIT Tuesday & Thursday, 9am

Applications for 2026 LIFE Financial Assistance can be submitted now. Learn more about this program: www.scrd.ca/financial-assistance/



PENDER HARBOUR **SENIORS INITIATIVE**

Sponsored by: **Smart Fund**



HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by:

P. H. Health Centre & P. H. Health Auxiliary

FOR INFORMATION OR TRANSPORTATION.

CALL MARLENE: (604) 883-9900

Merry Christmas! Seniors' activities for December!

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS: Thursday drop-in, 10:30am - 1pm In the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Lunch will be served at 12pm. Cost: \$10 pp.

Dec. 4: Food Demonstration - Quick and easy ideas for meal making.

Dec. 11: Christmas Turkey lunch with Music by the Pender Harbour Choir (\$10 tickets sold ahead of time, so we can plan for our attendance.)

CARPET BOWLING: Wednesdays, Dec. 3 & 10

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall, 1-3 pm. Cost \$3.

CHAIR YOGA: Mondays & Fridays, Dec. 1, 5, 8, & 12

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall 11am –12pm with Carole Logtenberg. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves. Cost: \$3.

CHAIR YOGA: Wednesdays, Dec. 3 & 10

At the Sarah Wray Hall from 11–12pm. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves with Carole Logtenberg. Cost: \$3.

No Polar Express Bus Tour this year.

Please, everyone who has a "Champion Sign" please remember to put it out.

Page 27

Cooler colour codes indicate lower tides. For kayaks and small boats accessing Canoe Pass (Beaver Island), these colour codes (right) indicate what should usually provide sufficient depth for passage. Note: variability occurs due to barometric pressure, wind conditions, etc.

Canoe Pass:



December	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	Noon	1PM	2PM	3РМ	4PM	5PM	6РМ	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM
Mon 01	11.2	12.2	12.3	11.9	11.1	10.2						14.3			14.3	12.5	10.1	7.7	5.5	4.1	3.6	4.2	5.6	7.7
Tue 02	9.9	11.9	13.2	13.6	13.3	12.5	11.5	10.8	10.6	11.2	12.3	13.7	14.8	15.3	14.9	13.4	11.1	8.3	5.6	3.4	2.2	2.0	3.0	5.0
Wed 03	7.6	10.3	12.7	14.3	14.8	14.5	13.6	12.5	11.7	11.5	12.0	13.1	14.2	15.1	15.3	14.3	12.3	9.6	6.6	3.8	1.7	0.7	0.9	2.4
Thu 04	4.8	7.8	10.9	13.5	15.2	15.7	15.3	14.3	13.1	12.3	12.1	12.6	13.5	14.6	15.2	15.0	13.6	11.2	8.2	5.1	2.4	0.5	-0.2	0.4
Fri 05	2.3	5.1	8.3	11.6	14.2	15.9	16.3	15.7	14.6	13.4	12.6	12.4	12.9	13.8	14.6	15.1	14.6	12.9	10.3	7.2	4.2	1.6	0.0	-0.4
Sat 06	0.5	2.7	5.7	9.0	12.2	14.8	16.3	16.5	15.8	14.7	13.4	12.6	12.4	12.9	13.7	14.5	14.7	14.0	12.2	9.5	6.6	3.7	1.4	0.2
Sun 07	0.0	1.2	3.5	6.5	9.9	12.9	15.2	16.4	16.4	15.6	14.4	13.2	12.4	12.2	12.7	13.4	14.0	14.1	13.3	11.5	9.0	6.3	3.8	1.8
Mon 08	0.9	1.0	2.3	4.7	7.6	10.8	13.5	15.5	16.4	16.2	15.3	14.0	12.8	12.0	11.8	12.2	12.8	13.3	13.3	12.6	10.9	8.7	6.3	4.2
Tue 09	2.7	2.0	2.4	3.8	6.1	8.9	11.7	14.1	15.7	16.2	15.8	14.9	13.6	12.3	11.4	11.2	11.4	11.9	12.4	12.5	11.9	10.5	8.7	6.8
Wed 10	5.1	3.9	3.5	4.0	5.5	7.7	10.2	12.7	14.6	15.8	16.0	15.4	14.3	13.0	11.6	10.7	10.3	10.4	10.9	11.4	11.6	11.3	10.4	9.0
Thu 11	7.6	6.3	5.4	5.2	5.9	7.3	9.3	11.4	13.5	15.0	15.7	15.6	14.9	13.6	12.1	10.7	9.7	9.2	9.3	9.8	10.4	10.9	10.9	10.5
Fri 12	9.7	8.6	7.7	7.1	7.0	7.7	8.9	10.7	12.5	14.1	15.1	15.5	15.1	14.1	12.6	11.0	9.5	8.4	7.9	8.1	8.7	9.6	10.4	10.9
Sat 13	10.9	10.5	9.9	9.2	8.8	8.7	9.3	10.4	11.8	13.3	14.4	[15.1]	15.1	14.3	13.0	11.3	9.5	8.0	7.0	6.7	7.0	7.8	9.0	10.1
Sun 14	11.1	11.6	11.7	11.3	10.7	10.3	10.2	10.6	11.5	12.6	13.7	14.5	14.8	14.4	13.3	11.6	9.7	7.9	6.4	5.6	5.6	6.2	7.4	8.9
Mon 15	10.4	11.7	12.6	12.8	12.5	12.0	11.5	11.2	11.5	12.1	13.0	13.8	14.3	14.3	13.5	12.0	10.1	8.0	6.3	5.0	4.5	4.8	5.8	7.4
Tue 16	9.3	11.1	12.6	13.6	13.8	13.5	12.9	12.2	11.9	12.0	12.5	13.2	13.8	14.0	13.6	12.4	10.5	8.4	6.4	4.8	3.8	3.7	4.4	5.9
Wed 17						=						12.7						=	6.9	5.0	3.6	3.0	3.3	4.5
Thu 18						=						12.4						=	7.8	5.6	3.9	2.8	2.6	3.3
Fri 19						=						12.2						=	8.8	6.6	4.6	3.1	2.4	2.6
Sat 20	3.7	5.7										12.1									5.7	3.8	2.6	2.2
Sun 21						=						12.3						=			7.0	4.9	3.3	2.4
Mon 22						=						12.6						=				6.3		3.2
Tue 23	2.6					=						13.2						=						
Wed 24						\equiv						13.8						\equiv						
Thu 25						=						14.4						=						
Fri 26						\equiv						15.0						\equiv						
Sat 27												15.3												
Sun 28						\equiv						15.5						=						
Mon 29						\equiv						15.6						=					8.0	
Tue 30						=						15.4						=				3.7		7.7
Wed 31	10.0	12.1	13.6	14.3	14.2	13.6	13.0	12.6	12./	13.2	14.1	[14.9]	15.3	15.1	13.8	11.7	9.0	6.3	3.9	2.2	1.4	1.8	3.1	5.3

harbour seals photojournal



Note your Harbour Seal of Approval or Disapproval. By email only: editor@harbourspiel.com. Include full name and telephone

number. (Editor will edit for length.)

Harbour Seals of Approval to the **IGA** for the donation of all the hot dogs and burgers for our welcome barbecue.

Dallis Daly MPES students, staff and PAC

Harbour Seals of Approval to our **local merchants** for their donations to the Royal Canadian Legion 112 ladies night. Also, Seals to **Lisa Borden** for all your hard work, we could not do it without you.

Sue McDonald Royal Canadian Legion 112

Poppy fields of Seals of Approval to all those who donated to the poppy campaign, volunteers who gave their time to canvass and our local businesses for their support.

Lyn and Bill Charlton Royal Canadian Legion 112

Seals of approval to our dedicated and enthusiastic Bargain Barn raffle ticket sellers.

Our annual raffle is sold out. Special mention to our "super sellers"

Lesley, Marlene and Kristi, your hard work and determination ensured a sell-out success. The raffle draw is Dec. 13 at the Community Hall's Christmas market.

Karen Wells Bargain Barn Harbour Seals of Approval to **Trevor and Alanna from the Skookumchuck Bakery** and **Dee Rosen** for their donations to our Little Beans Cafe. Our first cafe was a success. We appreciate the support.

> Dallis Daly Madeira Park Elementary PAC

Harbour Seals of Approval to the Royal Canadian Legion 112, Rotary Club of Pender Harbour, Amrize Earle's Creek for their generous hot lunch donations. Thank you from the parents and children of MPES.

Dallis Daly Madeira Park Elementary PAC

Wreaths full of Harbour Seals of Approval to all the dedicated volunteers, participants and attendees who helped make the Remembrance Day parade, ceremony and gathering such a memorable, heartfelt occasion.

Lyn and Bill Charlton Royal Canadian Legion 112

A spooky Seal of Approval to everyone who made the MPES Halloween Fun Night fundraiser a huge success. We continue to be amazed by the generosity of Madeira Park residents and businesses.

Dallis Daly MPES students, staff & PAC

Brian Lee

Due to weather, the Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department's annual Halloween fireworks was postponed to Nov. 2 this year. This shot is taken from the Garden Bay.



RECYCLING & BOTTLE DEPOT 883-1165

ONE-STOP CONVENIENCE

- Multi-material recycling
- Beverage container refund centre

Plus, recycling of:

- Small appliances and electronics
- Household batteries
- Light bulbs and paint

Hwy. 101 & Menacher Rd.

OPEN: 8:30am to 3:30pm

CLOSED: Sundays, Wednesdays & all holidays





Donations gratefully accepted. Tax receipts will be issued.

FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE:

Call Linda - 604.883.2819, Wendy - 604.883.2514 or Anky -604.883.0033

December 2025

SKOOKUMCHUCK **VIEWING TIMES**

DECEMBER

DATE-TIME-SIZE (small, medium, large, extra large)

EBB (-), FLOOD (+) - Standing wave is best on large flood (tide flowing into Sechelt Inlet).

- 1. 12:19 PM +L
- 2. 8:33 AM -S. 12:59 PM +L
- 3. 9:37 AM -S, 1:50 PM +M
- 4. 10:29 AM -S, 2:41 PM +M
- 5. 11:17 AM -S, 3:32 PM +M
- 6. 12:04 PM -M
- 7. 1:04 PM -M
- 8. 2:00 PM -M
- 9. 8:33 AM +XL. 3:00 PM -M
- 10. 9:13 AM +XL
- 11. 9:52 AM +XL
- 12. 10:28 AM +XL
- 13. 11:02 PM +L
- 14. 11:36 AM +L
- 15. 12:14 PM +M
- 16. 8:50 AM -S, 12:56 PM +M
- 17. 9:38 AM -S, 1:40 PM +S
- 18. 10:19 AM -S, 2:23 PM +S
- 19. 10:57 AM -S, 3:10 PM +S
- 20. 11:43 AM -S
- 21. 12:22 PM -M
- 22. 1:04 PM -M
- 23. 1:49 PM -M
- 24. 2:36 PM -M
- 25. 3:23 PM -M
- 26. 8:52 AM +XL
- 27. 9:21 AM +XL
- 28. 9:55 AM +XL
- 29. 10:35 AM +L
- 30. 11:22 AM +L
- 31. 12:27 PM +M

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.

harbour almanac



GOOD NEWS

1/2

Globally, extreme poverty has nearly halved in the last 20 years, while school enrollment has grown by 17% Percentage of girls in low income since 1970.

\$75,000

A famous study from Princeton University found that once your salary hits \$75,000, making more money day-to-day happiness.

2x

The average income per person has Percentage of adults globally who doubled in the last 20 years globally. report being happy.

85%

The global literacy rate today. In 1820, only 1 in 10 people worldwide could read and write.

5:1

Researchers found that couples that stay together versus those who divorce had a 5:1 ratio of good exchanges to bad.

60%

countries across the world who finish primary school.

80%

The installed capacity of renewable energy worldwide grew by 80% since won't have much of an effect on your year 2010. (But it still only constitutes 25% of all energy consumed.)

64%

~ various sources

DECEMBER WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (MERRY ISLAND)

Our average daily high temperature in December is 6.6 C and our average daily low is 3.3 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 5 C. The highest December temperature recorded is 13.3 C (Dec. 14, 1962) and the lowest was -11.7 C (Dec. 28, 1968).

PRECIPITATION (MERRY ISLAND)

December has an average of 54.9 hours of bright sunshine. It usually has 19 days with measurable precipitation, an average monthly rainfall of 135 mm and an average monthly snowfall of 10 cm. Our average month-end snowfall is 4 cm. December has the highest snowfall of the year (November has the most rain). The highest December daily rainfall recorded at Merry Island was 66 mm (Dec. 25, 1972). The record daily snowfall was 40.6 cm (Dec. 31, 1968).

DECEMBER ASTROLOGY



SAGITTARIUS: NOV. 23 - DEC. 21

Sagittarians love excitement and adventure. They are easily bored but often trendsetters. They are bold and impulsive, natural explorers who thrive on change

and mental stimulation. This month will bring transformative opportunities with regard to your social life, health and finance. As long as you're bold. Adversity is your clue that good things are near. It's your clue to push harder and take what is yours. It won't be a surprise when someone close to you dies on Dec. 17. Lotto numbers: 6 14 22 31.



CAPRICORN: DEC. 22 - JAN. 19

Capricorns often experience hardship early in life, but their resourcefulness makes them survivors. Sometimes hard to get to know, they are loyal, responsible

and down-to-earth. This month, the Sun, Mars and Venus will be in your eleventh house. While nobody truly knows what that means, it should not be ignored. Their presence may not cause upheaval but the spiritual vacuum left after they leave may work to turn around the positive steps you've taken in the past year. Focus on your health first, them second.

BC BESTSELLERS

For the week ending Nov. 15

The BC bestseller list uses sales data from over 80 independent bookstores in BC representing sales of BC published books released within the calendar year.

- 1. A Season for Spies by Iona Whishaw (Touchwood Editions)
- 2. John Horgan: In His Own Words by John Horgan, Rod Mickleburgh (Harbour Publishing)
- 3. The Eh Team: A Celebration 8. Decolonization and Me: of Canadianisms from Elbows **Up to Poutine** by Charles Demers, foreword by Dakota Ray Hebert (Greystone Books)
- 4. Inquisitive Raven by Richard Wagamese, illustrated by Bridget George (Douglas & McIntyre)
- 5. Unceded: Understanding BC's Colonial Past and Why It Matters Now by George M. Abbott (UBC Press)

- 6. Festive Season on Vancouver Island by Bill Arnott (Rocky Mountain Books)
- 7. **Trading Fate** by Graeme Menzies (Heritage House Publishing)
- Conversations about Healing a Nation and Ourselves by Phyllis Webstad, Kristy McLeod (Medicine Wheel Publishing)
- 9. War Resisters: Standing Against the Vietnam War by Joline Martin (Caitlin Press)
- 10. Indigenous Rights in One Minute: What You Need to Know to Talk Reconciliation by Bruce McIvor (Nightwood

~ Association of Book Publishers of BC

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Dec. 1 ~ Darren Morton and Beth Voutier.
- Dec. 2 ~ Diane Lee, Ray Phillips, James Wray and Al Wood.
- Dec. 3 ~ Paula Campbell, Mike Pickering, Joanne McQuaig and Ed Wray.
- Dec. 4 ~ Noel Lebrun and John Williams.
- Dec. 5 ~ Gaye Beardmore, Andrea Curtiss, Andy Curtiss and Logan McCormack.
- Dec. 6 ~ Ryan McDonald and Bill Reid.
- Dec. 7 ~ Dianne Rousseau, Dan Gifford and Jennifer Reid.
- Dec. 8 ~ Kim Bailey and Keenan Clerx.
- Dec. 9 ~ Michelle Beardmore and Robert Purdy.
- Dec. 10 ~ Trevor Jones and Cathy Thompson.
- Dec. 11 ~ Grace Donnahee, William Jans and Patti Reid.
- Dec. 12 ~ Malcolm Duncan and Pat Martin.
- Dec. 13 ~ Cody Edwardson-Zayshley
- Dec. 16 ~ Ginger Taylor and Cassandra Whelan.
- Dec. 17 ~ Ian Campbell, Shane Gudbranson, Kyle MacKenney, Joi Phillips and Doreen Willgoose.
- Dec. 18 ~ Tony Adamson and Niki Verzuh.
- Dec. 19 ~ Tyson Carswell, Helen Garrett and Jamie Bouvette.
- Dec. 20 ~ Nicole Fletcher, Ella Nya Goulette, Shea Lee and Tyler Silvey.
- Dec. 21 ~ Harvey Langton, Duncan McDougall and Josh Young.
- Dec. 22 ~ Gwyneth Bryant, Steven Fouts, Shane Hardie, Rob Nieuwenhuis, Dani Thompson and Christine West.
- Dec. 23 ~ Kate Thompson.
- Dec. 24 ~ Tatiana Phillips-Campbell, Chris Phillips and Clifford Silvey Jr.
- Dec. 25 ~ Peter Schmidt.
- Dec. 27 ~ Cameron McDougall.
- Dec. 28 ~ Jeff Girard.
- Dec. 29 ~ Diane Gamble.
- Dec. 30 ~ Dean Bosch, Bryan Edwardson, Andy Ross and Jean Minch.
- Dec. 31 ~ John Brimacomb, Nathaniel Johnson, Fara Priest and Scott Bruce.

That time the Duval brothers stole my car (part 2)

Susan Marlatt

Continued from Nov. 2025.

After spotting our enemy, Keray spun around and headed back out the door, gathered up the kids and pointed the running car out of the lot, waiting for me to follow.

But, I didn't follow.

The Duval brothers were playing pool and there was money on the table.

So, of course my 32-year old self marched up to one of them (I'm not sure what was I thinking), made eye contact with a man I hoped was a Duval, and said, "You stole my car from French Creek!"

"I have four little kids and live on the bottom end of Texada and you stole my car."

The poor guy I cornered looked at me and snorted something like, "So what?"

"So what? I'm going to tell your mother."

I didn't know if they still had a mother or if I was even speaking with one of the thieves, but it seemed to work.

There was a visible reaction from the crowd of young men at the pool table.

"Please don't tell Mom," was the pleading and surprisingly sincere response from one of them as he tried to corner me back.

"Well, I'm going to tell your mom," was my answer, somehow rising to the situation I had created.

There was no stopping now that I had started with the telling their mom thing.

It seemed to be working so I just stood there, staring them down.

It wasn't my wisest decision but these were decent enough looking Page 32



Susan Marlat

This 2024 photo shows the Rod and Gun Bar and Grill in downtown Parksville. It is one of the oldest establishments still in operation on Vancouver Island and has been an entertainment hub since 1898.

local guys and it's a public place, so how much could they do to me?

The brothers milled around in a huddle with their friends at the pool table, finally asking how much I had to pay for the replacement car.

They had become remarkably polite.

"Four hundred dollars," I snapped back.

After more shuffling, they started taking up a collection.

Even though their backs were to me, I could see this miracle taking plae before me as, eventually, one of them turned around and counted out the \$400 that I required to keep this our secret.

With complete amazement and relief at this outcome, I bolted out the

door with this fistful of cash and was met with cheers from my family in the still running vehicle.

We later traded that car, which was automatic, for the beautiful vintage Pontiac pictured because its owner couldn't drive standard.

Later, that Pontiac was traded for both a work truck and a lovely little Volvo sedan.

Later still, we sold the truck for \$500 and traded the sedan for a trusty Toyota that I drove for years and years until it was taken to the crusher by Dean Bosch when I was living in one of his cottages in Egmont.

I didn't do badly by the Duval boys, really.

Jumping ahead 40 years later, my husband Denny Bohmer and I had

moved from the Sunshine Coast to a house in Parksville.

We lived just uphill from French Creek and received the Parksville newspaper on a regular basis.

I often recalled the magical events of 1980 whenever I passed the Rod and Gun but, since I had promised not to tell, I never told details to anyone who wasn't there that day.

In early 2018, there was a huge announcement in the paper, taking up a whole page, informing the readers that there was an upcoming celebration of life for Ray Duval who had just died.

The notice went on to tell us about what a hard working, hard playing good old boy Duval was.

He was much beloved.

He was survived by his mother, Evelyn.

"So, that's mom's name," I thought.

"And she's still alive!"

I was relieved that I hadn't been telling this story all these years, after what they paid me what seemed like a lot of money not to tell their mom.

"Phew!"

I filled Denny in on the details of the French Creek car theft of 1980 a story he had never heard before.

A few years later I noticed a tiny death notice in the same paper, the smallest one a family can buy.

Evelyn Duval, long suffering mom to the good old boys, had passed to her reward.

It's why I can only now tell the story about how the Duval brothers stole my car.

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

I have changed the names in this story.

The Duval brothers were actually



Susan Marlatt

'We later traded that car, which was automatic, for the beautiful vintage Pontiac pictured because the owner couldn't drive standard.'

my uncles and Evelyn was my mother.

The real brothers in Parksville know who I'm talking about so it has

just occurred to me I might need to protect my Subaru, which is parked just a few blocks from French Creek.



Calendar listings are provided free of charge by the Harbour Spiel. Send information to editor@harbourspiel.com by the 15th of the month.

DECEMBER

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Mon. Dec. 1......Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10 a.m.
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Thu. Dec. 4........Harbourside Friendships (Food demonstration) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Fri. Dec. 5.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 6....Live music with Joe Stanton - Backeddy Pub, 5-8 p.m.

Sun. Dec. 7.......P. H. Music Society concert series "Company B Jazz Band" - P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.

Sun. Dec. 7.....Live music with the Steve Hinton Band - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.

Sun. Dec. 7......Pender Harbour Community Christmas Dinner - P. H. Community Hall, 3:30 p.m.

Tue. Dec. 9.......P. H. Womens' Connection "Winter Extravaganza" - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 11:30 a.m.

Thu. Dec. 11......Harbourside Friendships Christmas lunch and P. H. Choir - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Thu. Dec. 11......SCRD committee of the whole - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.

Thu. Dec. 11......SCRD regular board - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m.

Fri. Dec. 12.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 13......P. H. Community Club Christmas Market - P. H. Community Hall, 10 a.m.

Sat. Dec. 13......Sarah Wray Hall Christmas Open House - Sarah Wray Hall, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 13......P. H. Choir presents "Winter Light" - P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 13......Legion "Ham, turkey, Xmas basket and pie auction meat draw" - RCL 112, 3:30 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 13.....Live music with Joe Stanton - Backeddy Pub, 5-8 p.m.

Sun. Dec. 14.....Live music with Sofa Kings - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.

Mon. Dec. 15.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10 a.m.

Thu. Dec. 18......P. H. Library Fundraiser: Pet photos with Santa - Mad Park Art, Time TBA.

Thu. Dec. 18......SCRD electoral services committee - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.

Fri. Dec. 19......Egmont Christmas potluck dinner - Egmont Community Hall, 6 p.m.

Fri. Dec. 19.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 20.....Live music with Joe Stanton - Backeddy Pub, 5-8 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 20......Pender Harbour Winter Festival - Madeira Park government wharf, 3 - 9 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 20.......61st annual Pender Harbour Christmas boat parade - Pender Harbour, 6:30 p.m.

Thu. Dec. 25......Christmas

Fri. Dec. 26.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 27.....Live music with Joe Stanton - Backeddy Pub, 5-8 p.m.

Mon. Dec. 29......Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10 a.m.

Wed. Dec. 31.....New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6 p.m.

Thu. Jan. 1.....Second annual New Year's Day Pyjama Party - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 11 a.m.

Harbour Spiel Trivia Answers: 1. d 2. d 3. a 4. b 5. b 6. a

"Nobody realizes that some people expend tremendous energy merely to be normal."

Page 34 Harbour Spiel

~ Albert Camus

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DECEMBER 7 STEVE HINTON BAND

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 2 - 5 pm

SOFA KINGS



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31 Doors 6 pm NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY DINNER & DANCE



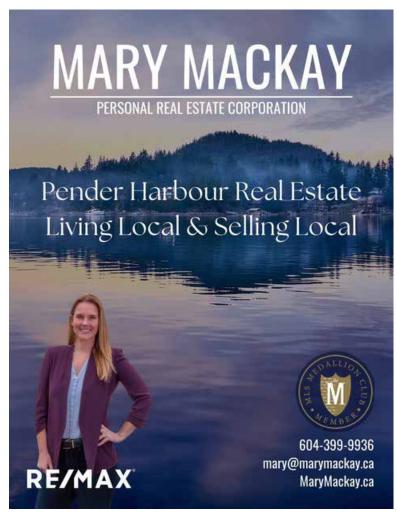
THURSDAY JANUARY 1 2nd ANNUAL NEW YEARS' DAY PAJAMA BRUNCH PARTY

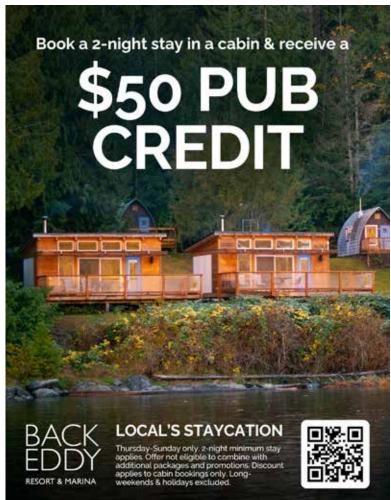
Eddy Edrik every Friday night 6:30





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