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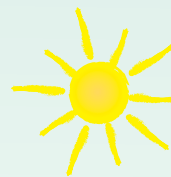
HARBOUR SPIEL

APRIL 2013
ISSUE 268

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- ◆ Seafarer Millennium Park, Saturday, April 27, 2013.
- ◆ New construction "twist" and materials revealed at 10:00 am.
- ◆ Construction between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.
- ◆ Youth race starts at 2:00 pm, adult race follows at about 2:45 pm.
- ◆ Concessions.
- ◆ Mini boat building, face painting, and more free crafts for kids.

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The Pender Harbour April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge is a project of the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society.

Visit our website: www.apriltools.ca

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Harbour Spiel



The Independent Voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990.

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Editor

Brian Lee

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- Sechelt Public Library

Contributors

This month we thank: Andy Cotton, Theresa Kishkan, Frank Mauro, Shane McCune, Susan Nattall, Jim Rutherford and Jan Watson.

Cover photo: Brian Lee.

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NEXT ISSUE MAILS MAY 2

editorial

BC Liberals: More information please

By Brian Lee



There will be plenty of political discussion as we approach May's provincial election but there's at least one critical issue on which we should hold both parties accountable.

It's the growing trend to restrict public access to information on how our government operates.

A report released last month by information and privacy commissioner Elizabeth Denham said that, while the Liberals are complying with Freedom of Information laws to assist the public, they have also shown "evidence of the practice of 'oral government.'"

The review found that 45 per cent of all requests to Premier Christy Clark's office last year failed to find a paper trail of any kind.

Across government, Denham found that no records turned up for 25 per cent of all requests last year, doubling from 13 per cent four years ago.

During a time of slippery "communications" specialists and politicians giving hockey player interviews, FOI is the last hope for a journalist or concerned citizen to access even the simplest details about government activity.

With the provincial Libs plagued by any number of shady deals and allegations of underhanded politicking, they have the gall to send Chilliwack MP John Les up to the mike to tell us that a "paper trail" isn't practical.

It seems the practice of hiding behind personal emails was fairly entrenched before the Liberals' "ethnic plan" exploded into view, giving us a glimpse into how they conduct business.

When Clark's caucus grew uncomfortable with auditor general John Doyle meddling in that business — he described a "culture of entitlement" in the BC legislature — they tried to get rid of him.

We have a right to learn what motivates a decision by government — or lack thereof.

You may wonder why the *Spiel* doesn't report more about the progress of local issues like the Pender Harbour foreshore lease moratorium.

For close to 10 years now, any question posed to the ministry in charge gets a polite:

"... the province is continuing to work with the Shishálh nation to resolve the various issues to the benefit of all parties."

And good luck speaking directly with a government employee these days. Questions are often first directed (via email) to a ministry communications officer and after they consult, you are left with a watered-down response that usually leaves more questions than what you started with.

The BC Libs didn't invent the formula for neutering access to information — they copied Stephen Harper's habits of restricting press conferences and muzzling government scientists.

But whether we're talking about a government that goes out of its way to hide its tracks or one that restricts the publication of research identifying the environmental costs of Canada's petroleum industry, it should be considered an abuse of power.

If Clark and the government she inherited from Gordon Campbell aren't corrupt, then their evasive communications policies surely makes it seem so.

But we don't know for certain either way and for that reason, they have to go. And if they do, it should be taken as a warning to the NDP to take solid steps in restoring the public's confidence in how government handles our business.

Because we aren't voting them in, we're voting the others out.

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if it's not in the Spiel.



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Will you help change a student's life?

Your local Rotary Club is once again participating in Rotary International's student exchange program for the 2013-2014 school year.

We are looking for one or two host families willing to host an incoming student from overseas. It has been a tremendously successful and rewarding program for both students and host families.

Last year one of our students went to Sweden for the year and we hosted a wonderful young lady from Taiwan. This coming year one of our students is destined for Denmark and we have yet to hear where our incoming student will come from.

If you are interested in a great experience and are willing to add another to your family for a short but great time, please give us a call to learn more details.



Glen Bonderud
604-883-2407

spiel picks

CANNERY ROW AT THE GARDEN BAY PUB: April 12, 8 p.m.

Cannery Row (Gary Comeau, Tim Hearsey and Chris Nordquist) has become the band of choice for local music lovers. After wowing crowds at the P. H. Blues Festival and other local shows, the band always draws a crowd when they appear and their swinging sound will keep it moving.

P. H LIONS PANCAKE BREAKFAST & EASTER EGG HUNT: March 31

Starting at 9 a.m., the annual P. H. Lions Pancake Breakfast has become an Easter tradition not to be missed. Breakfast is served until noon when the Easter Egg hunt begins. If you arrived at noon last year, you missed it — so get there early.

12TH ANNUAL APRIL TOOLS WOODEN BOAT BUILDING: April 27

For the 12th year, the April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge will be entertaining spectators and confounding participants. The fun starts at 10 a.m when the participants find out how they are supposed to craft a boat to make it through the race course — and win. There's food all day long, displays and events for the kids to make it a complete family fun day.

photojournal



Jean Curry photo

Scotland's foremost troubadour, Archie Fisher, poses with longtime fan Joan Baker after his March 10 performance at the P. H. School of Music. The Bakers first heard Fisher when he was starting out at the University Folk Club in Dundee, Scotland in the mid-'60s. They loved his music and purchased his first two albums. Archie was happy to sign the 50-year-old albums for Joan, who now lives on the Sunshine Coast.

Vandals shoot up BC Hydro power poles

Sunshine Coast RCMP are investigating an act of vandalism on a forest service road in Pender Harbour on Feb. 24.

RCMP received a report of mischief from BC Hydro crews after crews discovered several hydro poles on fire on a forest service road near Menacher Road while responding to a power disruption in the area.

The power disruption is said to have occurred between 6 and 7 p.m.

Soon after, hydro crews discovered hydro poles on fire forcing them to wait for the fires to burn down due to the possibility of electrocution.

Crews say the electrical current caused the ground around the affected area to turn to glass.

Police discovered several spent

shotgun and .22-calibre shells in the area and concluded that vandals had shot up the hydro poles which ultimately caused the fire.

A vehicle was located in the area, along with several discarded beer bottles.

The vehicle was towed and the registered owner contacted.

The cost of repairing the damage is estimated to exceed \$35,000.

The Sunshine Coast RCMP have identified a suspect and the file is currently under investigation.

Police are asking anyone with information on this matter to contact the Sunshine Coast RCMP at (604) 885-2266 or BC Crimestoppers at 1(800) 222-8477.



RCMP photo

The cost to repair several hydro poles damaged by gunfire is estimated to be \$35,000.

Kleindale becomes hub for local e-commerce

Watch out eBay.

Pender Harbour's newest business is an online auction site catering exclusively to the Sunshine Coast.

Myrtle Winchester and business partner Jane Reid went live with their website *auktionbay.ca* on March 13.

Winchester says she's only made pocket change from it so far but she hopes as traffic grows she might start to see a return on her investment.

The auction site is unique in that the software is designed so that only residents on the Sunshine Coast can register to list items or bid on them.

"The whole idea is to save shipping costs," says Winchester.

"We tried to figure out what you would actually pay by using eBay and they just nickel-and-dime you to death on shipping charges."

Winchester says her site takes a commission via PayPal on successful listings and bids.

April 2013

The site charges five per cent from both the buyer and seller on successful bids under \$100 going down to one per cent for items sold over \$10,001.

After a deal is struck, the site connects the buyer and seller who will then communicate on their own to conclude the transaction.

When asked how she came up

with the idea, Winchester said it was the economy.

"So many people are struggling financially.

"They can't afford to go out and buy the brand new stuff now and it's also a way for people to sell things they don't use anymore for a little bit of pocket money."

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What are the symptoms and treatment for a tooth abscess?

If you have continuous pain described as “extreme, gnawing, sharp, shooting or throbbing,” you more than likely have an abscess. Warmth or pressure on the tooth may induce extreme pain and there may also be swelling at the base of the tooth, the gum or the cheek.

Treatment often includes antibiotics and drainage. If the tooth can be restored, root canal therapy can be performed — if the tooth can’t be restored, it must be extracted.

If left untreated, a tooth abscess may become large enough to perforate the bone and extend into the soft tissue surrounding the tooth. From there, it will follow the path of least resistance,

spreading internally or externally. Severe complications requiring hospitalization may occur when the growing infection closes the airway leading to suffocation in extreme cases. Infection can also spread down the tissues posing significant consequences to vital organs like your heart.

The hallmarks of infection are: pain, fever and or swelling. If you experience one of these three complaints you visit the dentist.

The best prevention for infection? Practice good oral health including regular hygiene appointments and examinations.



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P. H. Blues Society Mardi Gras, March 9 (photos by Andy Cotton)



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Two films argue that there's still room for hope

Locals looking to take in a movie can save themselves a trip to Sechelt this month.

And they can do it twice.

Two film screenings are scheduled to take place in the Pender Harbour area this month.

Both are documentaries and both offer messages of hope for those who may be questioning humankind's capacity for good.

URBAN ROOTS

Urban Roots is the story of how Detroit's residents took control over the city's unused land and reclaimed it to produce food.

In doing so, they become more self-reliant, healthier and some become entrepreneurs.

"Now, where nature has reclaimed vast stretches of the abandoned rust belt, Detroiters are reclaiming their spirits," says director Mark MacInnis, who grew up in Detroit.

"Wherever there is grass, there is a chance."

A special screening of *Urban Roots* will take place at the Iris Griffith Centre on Saturday, April 6 at 2 p.m.

There are plans for a plant and produce sale afterward attended by local food sustainability activists and growers.

The film is part of the Sunshine Coast's Green Film series, a partner-

When everything collapses, plant your field of dreams.

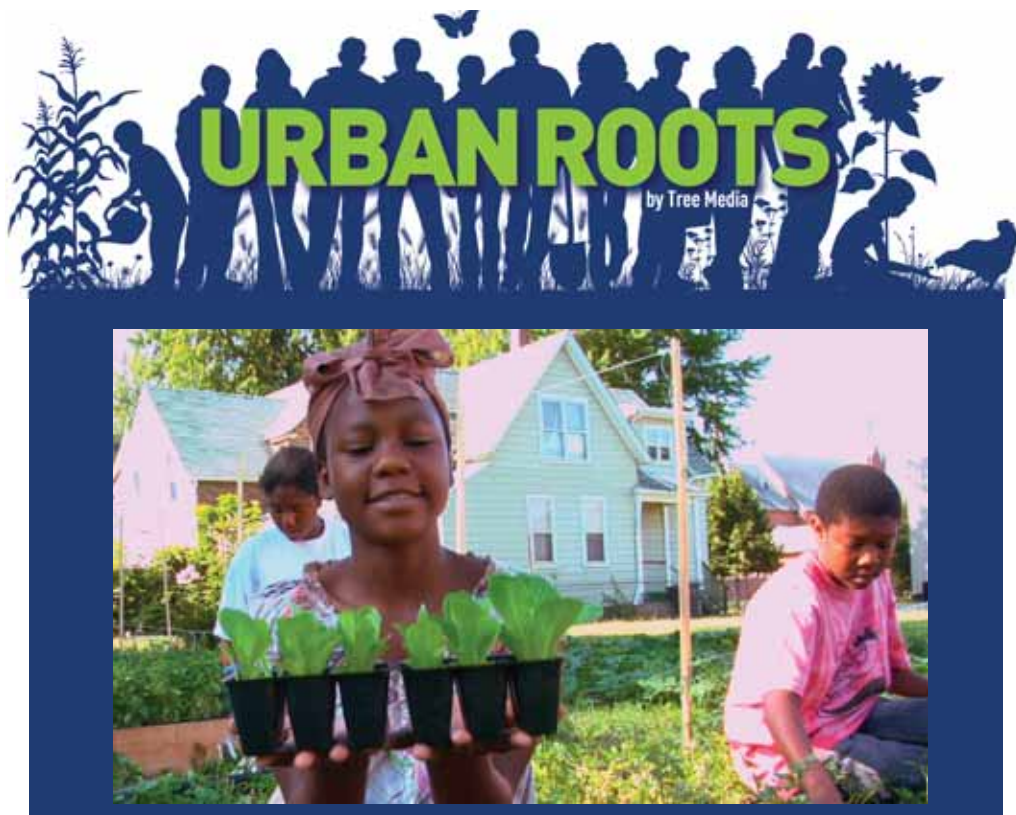


photo submitted

Urban Roots, a film about Detroit's urban farming phenomena, will be screened at the Iris Griffith Centre on April 6.

ship between the Sunshine Coast Film Society, *Sustainable Coast Magazine* and the Gibsons Green Team.

The Green Film series is dedicated to using film as a tool for community engagement on environmental and sustainability issues.

The screening events are meant to foster the role of film as a catalyst for dialogue, networking and action.

Admission for this special screening is by donation and no membership is required.

OCCUPY LOVE

The Pender Harbour Community School will be hosting a special screening of *Occupy Love* as part of a global community film launch.

The film screening will be held at the P. H. School of Music on Thurs-

day, April 11 at 7 p.m.

Occupy Love is a moving documentary that asks the question: Is it possible the current global economic and ecological crisis could become the world's greatest love story?

Director Velcrow Ripper is a former resident of Gibsons (and Elphinstone student) and he takes us on a journey deep inside a global revolution that is erupting around the planet.

From the Arab Spring to the European Summer, from the Occupy movement to the global climate justice and indigenous movements, the film asserts that a profound shift is taking place — humanity is waking up to the fact that the dominant system of power is failing to provide us with health, happiness or meaning.

The old paradigm that concen-

Harbour Spiel

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Monday - Friday

trates wealth, founded on the greed of the few, is collapsing.

The resulting crisis has become the catalyst for a profound transformation: Millions of people are deciding that enough is enough — the time has come to create a new world, a world that works for all life.

Woven throughout the moving, action-oriented backbone of the story is a deep exploration of the heart of the movement, the meaning of love, and concrete examples of just what “another world” could look like.

Occupy Love is a moving, transformative, heartfelt film, featuring stunning visuals and rich soundscapes.

A suggested donation of \$10 is appreciated with partial proceeds to the “Fierce Love” project.



photo submitted

Velcrow Ripper is a Canadian documentary filmmaker, writer and public speaker, who hails from Gibsons and is best known for his Genie award-winning 2006 film *Scared Sacred*. A Madeira Park screening of his latest project, *Occupy Love*, is on April 11.

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It is a most difficult thing to lose those we love:

Donald Stewart Penson passed Oct. 22, 2012.

This Harbour Spiel full of “thank-yous” would not suffice for all the kindness and care shown to Don and all the Pensions “through it all.”

To my dear families, friends, neighbours and health care professionals — you shine.

XOXO

Jeanette Penson

Wooden boats and cold water ensure spectator fun at April Tools

Submitted

Pender Harbour will once again gather at the Madeira Park government dock for the 12th annual April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge.

On April 27, boat-building teams will anxiously wait to see what materials they have to work with and what the “twist” in their design requirements will be.

Then, working with only hand tools and battery-powered screw guns, they will construct the boat they hope will carry them around the Harbour race course and into the victory circle.

Teams (up to four builders per team) have only an hour to set up and decide how to deal with the “twist” and then three hours of building time.

Why do they do it?

Cash prizes, of course.

But there is also the Spiffy Skiffy award, in which spectators get to vote for the best-looking boat.

Also, race marshals award the Broken Paddle trophy to the team that perseveres in the face of adversity.

But the real reason?

It's bragging rights.

Presented by the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society with the sup-



Brian Lee photo

April Tools competitor Ron Cymbalist of the Madeira Park Fire Hall team races to help finish his team's boat before the horn blows at last year's April Tools event.

port of local businesses, community organizations and generous sponsors, April Tools has something for everyone.

Teen teams build their boats beforehand and bring them (often crazily decorated) to the dock for their races, which take place in the early

afternoon before the adult teams take to the water.

They have a “serious” trophy race before a fun race which often involves plenty of swimming.

Thanks to local businesses, there are lots of prizes for the brave teens.

Of course, there will be food and lots of activities for the little kids.

After all, what would April Tools be without free mini-boatbuilding?

Handmade boats will be available to row or paddle around the Harbour for free.

To sign up your team of up to four builders, call Richard or Jackie at (604) 883-0539 or go to www.april-tools.ca.

The entry fee is \$160/team (early bird price of \$140 if registered by April 1).

You can even find us on Facebook.

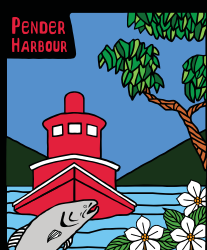


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Tracey Thompson photos

The 14-member P. H. Seals swim club attended a meet at the Sechelt Aquatic Centre on March 11 hosted by the Chinook swim club. The two teams split into even squads (the Chinooks have close to 50 swimmers) and freestyle heats were tallied to promote team competition. Photo (l): Jessica Massullo and Ali Girard explode from the starting blocks in the 25-metre freestyle in an early heat. Photo (r): Warner Endert (top) and Derek Ewen battle for 50-metre. freestyle supremacy as coach Robert Hynd looks on. Endert touched the wall at 42.40 seconds, nudging out Ewen by 23/100 of a second. Ewen still holds the club record of 42.12 for the event setting up an epic showdown for the next swim meet.

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Some 2013 SCRD budget details for Area A



By Frank Mauro,
Area A Director

The budget-setting process for this year is complete.

The summary change for 2013 is that taxation for Area A will increase by 3.58 per cent.

This is close to the average increase for the regional district of 3.14 per cent.

The good news is that the increase is about what I expected with the new initiatives that will be undertaken this year.

Priority for the budget has been to fund programs that encourage recreation and business activity.

A summary of the functions with

the largest budget changes are listed below.

WATER

North and south Pender water will see an increase in parcel tax/user fees of 10 per cent.

This was an expected increase and part of the Area A Water Master Plan of 2011.

It will pay for some water main upgrades, the south Pender water treatment plant, McNeill Lake dam stability analysis and upgrade and north and south Pender meter installations.

Egmont users on regional water will see an increase of four per cent due to water main and metering upgrades in the regional system.

RURAL PLANNING

Work will include finalizing the Area B and D official community plans and the start of a new OCP for Area A.

This will require significant community engagement toward the end of 2013 and throughout 2014.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This function has seen a large budget increase in our area for 2013.

The Pender Harbour and Egmont Chamber of Commerce has put forward some initiatives such as a "shop local" program aimed at enhancing the business climate.

Also, some budget funding has been earmarked for potential Coast-wide economic development initiatives.

We invite you to join the conversation
at the SCRD committee meetings below:

Special Infrastructure Services Committee

April 4 at 10:30 a.m.

Infrastructure Services Committee

April 4 at 1:30 p.m.

Community Services Committee

April 11 at 9:30 a.m.

Planning and Development Services Committee

April 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Corporate and Administrative Services Committee

April 25 at 1:30 p.m.

Regular Board

April 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Policing Committee

April 29 at 9:00 a.m.

Transportation Committee

April 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Our meetings are held at **1975 Field Road** in Wilson Creek at the SCRD **Board Room**. Agendas for these meetings are available at www.scrd.ca/Agendas-2013.



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the Sunshine Coast Regional District?

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"Sign up for our Newsletter" button to receive
Coast Current, our quarterly newsletter.

twitter : [sunshinecoastrd](https://twitter.com/sunshinecoastrd)

To find out more about **Area A Director Frank Mauro** go to: www.scrd.ca/Area-A---Pender-Harbour--Egmont.

Check out our **photo gallery** and contribute
your own photos of the Sunshine Coast:
www.scrd.ca/Photo-Gallery

For information on who we are, and what we do,
please visit www.scrd.ca, call 604-885-6800, or
email info@scrd.ca. To contact Area A Director,
Frank Mauro, please email frank.mauro@scrd.ca.



As well, funding has been allocated for the Sunshine Coast Tourism Society, a group that has been very successful in promoting and providing marketing exposure for the entire Sunshine Coast including Powell River.

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE

This function has seen an increase in costs due to regulatory requirements for lab analysis, environmental monitoring, geotechnical assessments, contributing to landfill closure reserves, handling contaminated waste such as asbestos and treated wood and a significant increase in the cost of handling “green” waste which is accepted free of charge at the solid waste facilities.

A modest tipping fee increase was expected this year.

However, in order to cover the increased cost of handling green waste, funding will need to come from both a larger tipping fee increase and from operations savings.

The tipping fee will increase by \$25 per tonne and the hours of operation for the landfills will be reduced.

Starting in September, the Pender Landfill will close all day on Tuesdays instead of the current half day and the Sechelt landfill will close all day Monday instead of the current full day operation.

These changes are expected to be permanent.

TRANSIT (FEASIBILITY)

Area A currently has no transit function but some funds have been budgeted in our feasibility function to do some analysis towards a potential pilot project for transit in the area.

RECREATION FACILITIES

Funds have been allocated for the

Pender Harbour Aquatic and Fitness Centre to extend operation into July and also to replace some of the exercise equipment.

PARKS AND RECREATION

A replacement park service vehicle such as a John Deere Gator will be purchased and some electrical supply upgrades will be performed at Katherine Lake Park.

The Area A bikeways/walkways function will get underway with some planning and work on the Lily Lake area to connect with the Madeira Park business core.

This was identified as a high priority project and will be the first to be worked on.

Also the community will be engaged to determine the next projects going forward.

OPEN DISCUSSION

I will be available between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 5 at the Garden Bay Pub to answer questions and to listen to your concerns.

I can be reached at (604) 740-1451 or by email at Frank.Mauro@scrd.ca

Re-Elect Nicholas Simons

CHANGE FOR THE BETTER: ONE PRACTICAL STEP AT A TIME

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1. Which team has the most victories at the annual April Tools Wooden Boat Building Challenge?

- ☐ a. Madeira Park's "Bug Zappers"
- ☐ b. Garden Bay's "Fireflies"
- ☐ c. Delta's "Bud 1"
- ☐ d. Vancouver's "Ship Happens"

2. Where is the infamous house known as the "Castle" located?

- ☐ a. Gulfview Road
- ☐ b. Sinclair Bay Road
- ☐ c. Narrows Road
- ☐ d. Francis Peninsula Road

3. Which of the following coastal fish is not regarded as a "flatfish."

- ☐ a. Petrale sole
- ☐ b. Arrowtooth flounder
- ☐ c. Bigeye poacher
- ☐ d. Speckled sanddab

4. Which local resident won two Junos for a song about a dying person's farewell to relatives and friends?

- ☐ a. Joni Mitchell
- ☐ b. Skinny Jimmy Dougan
- ☐ c. Joe Stanton
- ☐ d. Terry Jacks

5. What is "woman" in Chinook jargon?

- ☐ a. Kloodch-man
- ☐ b. Wau-wau
- ☐ c. Tum-tum
- ☐ d. Shu'-kwa

6. Where does the ghost named "Nelly" haunt?

- ☐ a. Marketplace IGA
- ☐ b. Madeira Park Elementary School
- ☐ c. Egmont Community Hall
- ☐ d. Sarah Wray Hall

Answers: p. 34

Four-plus: **Local**

Two-plus: **Newbie**

Less than two: **Townie**

Gertrude (Gertie) Gough

JULY 14, 1921 — MARCH 6, 2013



Gertie was born in Pender Harbour in 1921 to Robert and Dorothy Edwardson.

Mom, Granny, Grandma, Granny Great, skipped over the rainbow bridge on the afternoon of March 6, 2013 leaving her children to celebrate her long and happy life in gratitude.

We will miss the innate wisdom and wonderful sense of humour that carried Mom through the joys and trials of raising nine children from 1942

through the 1980s.

There is no doubt that her stamina and lighthearted approach to life taught us much about how we meet life's joys and challenges.

Predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Frank Gough, whom she missed dearly since his passing 11 years ago, she is survived by all nine of her children: Frank (Diane) Gough, Marlene Gough, Gord (Sue) Gough, Dorothy Johnson (Bruce), Carolyn Larson, Mike Gough, Sandy Muzyka (Mark), Doug Gough, Evan Gough (Sharon) plus her 11 beloved grandchildren: Nathan (Wendy), Danielle (Mike), Angeline (Richard), Rob (Delane), Tammy, Dwayne (Sarah), Darren, Kyla (Matthias), Matthew, Shaun (Alana) & Jaiden.

Also mourning her passing are her two sisters, Myrtle and Dolly (Doug) plus 13 great-grandchildren, many friends and extended family.

Our family remembers Mom for her love for her family without exception and without judgment.

We honour her for doing all she

had to do, every day of our growing up, without complaint.

We have warm memories of such things as berry picking, her exceptional pies, family picnics, and in later years, watching hockey with her as she was a most passionate fan.

Although her light was fading the last few years, family visits and a good hockey game could still bring her spark back and she will remain in our hearts with a bright twinkle in her eye and a ready giggle.

Our thanks go to Abbeyfield House for her happy years there until her move to Ocean View at St. Joseph's where she was treated with kindness, love and dignity to the end.

Thanks also to Dr. Musgrave for his care over the years and to Dr. Gee for his kindness and guidance from the time he met her until the sunshine left her face.

There was a celebration of Gertie's life on March 16 at her daughter Carolyn's house in Comox, BC.

4866 Sinclair Bay Rd \$949,000 View Home + Waterfront Cottage; shared Dock w/80 Ft. Deep Moorage. Two legal lots - full South Exposure!	5181 Summit Rd \$930,000 Over 200 ft. lowbank Shoreline & 50 ft. Boat-house. 2500+sq.ft. 3bdm home.	4660 Francis Peninsula \$519,000 Custom Log home on 1/2 Acre highbank WF with Beach in Bargain Harbour.	4709 Billy Goat Road - \$849,000 Executive Quality Ocean View Home on 3/4 Acre. Park with beach steps away. 13514 Godkin Way - \$519,000 Builder's Own Custom Home at Daniel Pt. Some Ocean View & S. Exposure 4716 Hotel Lake Crescent - \$359,000 Cape Cod design - 3bdm/3bath. Steps to trail access to Hotel Lake! 4508 Rondeview - \$299,500 Retirement Special! 3bdm Rancher, level lot, garage plus workshop. 4525 Rondeview Rd - \$289,000 Cedar Chalet - 3 bdrms, 3 Outbldgs., Private Setting Borders Park. #7 Lily Lake Village - \$229,000 55+ Townhome on Lakefront Acreage 1500 sq.ft. 3bdm/2bath #6, 12139 SC Hwy - \$219,000 Cosy View Home (freestanding) in Waterfront Strata. Boat Launch & Beach.
5641 East Oyster Bay \$429,000 Subdividable 10+Acres. Easy Waterfront Access. 1 bedroom, fully finished Carriage House with garage below.	4340 Coastview Drive \$329,000 Craftsman Cottage at Daniel Pt. Some Ocean View - Level 1/2 Acre Lot.	5081 Bear Bay Road \$325,000 Cottage Design on nearly 2 acres - Lakes Nearby. Gentle slope to land; full sun suits gardening.	
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• Men's Cancer Support Group.....	883-2393
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• P. H. Garden Club	883-2595
• P. H. Golf Club	883-9541
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• P. H. Volunteer Fire Dept (Wed. evening).....	883-9270
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:00 pm Tues).....	883-9749
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 10 a.m.).....	883-9762
• Reading Centre Society	883-2983
• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub).....	883-2544
• Royal Canadian Legion No. 112	883-2235
• Ruby Lake Lagoon Society	883-9201
• Skookumchuck Heritage Society.....	883-9994
• St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed., 1:30 p.m.).....	883-2563
• Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.)	883-0704
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• Sunshine Coast SHROOM.....	883-3678
• TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly).....	883-3639
• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
• Women's Cancer Support	883-9708
• Women's Connection (2nd & 4th Tue.)	883-3663
• Women's Outreach Services.....	741-5246

local organizations

P. H. WOMEN'S CONNECTION

On April 9 the Women's Connection presents Carol Krych, who will discuss the Pender Harbour Health Auxiliary and its fundraiser, the Bargain Barn. Hear about what happens at the Barn while it's closed and how it's readied to open on Wednesday.

On April 23, the PHWC presents "Genie in a bottle." Donate anything that fits in a bottle or jar, show it off or make it a mystery. Buy raffle tickets and get a great deal or not? Loads of fun to put together and participate in. This replaces our usual paper bag auction. The Transition House bags will be filled at this meeting as well.

P. H BANANAS OVER-30 MEN'S SOCCER

The Pender Harbour Bananas are looking for experienced players to bolster their roster in the Sunshine Coast Men's Over-30 soccer league. If you are between the ages of 30 and 50 (preferably closer to 30!) and want to play, contact Richard at (604) 212-0038.

P. H. FALL FAIRE SOCIETY

The P. H. Fall Faire Society is having its annual general meeting on Friday, April 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the P. H. Legion.

If you've ever enjoyed this intimate community celebration of the fall and harvest season, consider helping out. There are just a handful of dedicated volunteers that host this multi-faceted event on the first Saturday of October and the society desperately needs more help to keep this event going in the future.

P. H. GARDEN CLUB

On Monday, April 8, the P. H. Garden Club will host Martin Cook. Mr. Cook is a certified beemaster with 30 hives in the Roberts Creek area and will talk about backyard beekeeping and helpful tips to help us grow a bee-friendly garden. The presentation will be held at the Pender Harbour School of Music at 10 a.m. Admission for non-members will be by donation.

P. H. WILDLIFE SOCIETY

The next meeting is at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, at Pender Harbour Secondary School. Representatives from the Sunshine Coast SPCA will give a talk on the work of the SPCA — how they interact with wildlife and the requirements of a new program for SPCA certification of farms and ranches that practice ethical farming.

There is no charge. Refreshments will follow as will a short meeting of the society.

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Montreal's Trio Hochelaga crosses country for Pender performance

Submitted

For those who love the musical riches of the piano and string trio repertoire, performances by Trio Hochelaga are a rare treat.

Residents of Montreal, the trio takes their name from the 16th century French settlement situated on the island of Montreal near Mount Royal.

The name Hochelaga means “beaver dam” or “beaver lake” in the Iroquois language.

The Trio Hochelaga means violinist Anne Robert, cellist Carole Sirois and pianist Marie Fabi, three women who are recognized internationally for their deft ensemble work and their exceptional musicality.

Building on a friendship that goes back to their student days and following successful careers as individual performers, their collaboration in Trio Hochelaga allows them to create music that is all the more powerful and profoundly human.

Of particular interest are little-known and neglected musical treasures that they delight in presenting to a contemporary audience.

Over the past 12 years, the trio has combined extensive touring — including memorable concerts in Tokyo, London and Venice — with an outstanding reputation as recording artists.

Reviewers frequently use the terms “virtuosity,” “infectious enthusiasm” and “remarkable balance and technique” to describe their perfectly fused artistry.

Their recording of the Gabriel Pierné and Gabriel Fauré trios on the Atma-Classique label earned Trio Hochelaga a Choc prize — the highest accolade from the French magazine *Le Monde de la Musique*.



photo submitted

Trio Hochelaga are (l-r): Marie Fabi (piano), Anne Robert (violin) and Carole Sirois (cello). They will perform at the P. H. School of Music on April 14.

The trio will perform on Sunday April 14 at 2 p.m. in Madeira Park's Pender Harbour School of Music for what undoubtedly will be a highlight of the P. H. Music Society concert series.

Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at Gaia's Fair Trade in Gibsons, the Sechelt Visitors Centre, Harbour Insurance in Madeira Park and at John Henry's Marina in Garden Bay.

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Rhododendron: The king of shrubs

by Jim Rutherford

(This article originally appeared in the April 2009 issue of the *Harbour Spiel*.)

They're so regal but also so easy to grow and because of that they are a common sight on the Sunshine Coast.

The propagation of rhododendrons on the Coast is made easy by our usually temperate climate and acidic soil.

This time of year is a great time to go hunting for a rhodo that's just right for you in colour and height as you can plant in your borders, even when in bloom.

Let's not quibble here on nomenclature — whether hybrids or species, concentrate on “available.”

Gree's *Guidebook to Available Rhododendrons* is an industry standard reference book and your nursery may have a copy.

The plant label may also give you valuable information you need such as blooming period, height and fragrance.

The Pink Pearl variety can get to 18 feet.

PLANTING

Our best results for rhodos are in the transition between meadow (lawns) and woodlands.

That is, the foliage is in sun but the roots are in dappled shade.

Too deep a shade can prevent the



Brian Lee photo

rhodo from blooming.

Rhodos are tough and very resilient in transplanting/planting and pruning but evenly moist soil is the rule.

The roots are surprisingly shallow but dense and even large rhodos will take transplanting if you take care not to dry out the root ball.

Submerge the roots in a bucket of water while digging a new hole

to size. As a general guideline for all planting efforts, the hole should be twice as deep and wide as the root ball.

We're looking for an acidic soil with a pH of 4.5 to 6 that is rich and well-drained.

Peat moss and bark mulch are good additives to lighten the texture of heavy soils and provide aeration.

Tamp the soil in well but leave the fibrous root mass just below soil level.

Don't bank the soil on the stem, but cup it around the plant so water runs in.

CUTTING

March and April is a great time — if you have the heart to cut rhodos to bring inside.

The flower head should have a little blush of colour.



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Smash the woody cut end with a hammer for water absorption, add floral preservative and arrange in a tall vase.

Let the wild zen character of your cut branches show off with their twisted stems going every which way for the natural look.

PRUNING

Don't be afraid to hack away at branches because rhodos will take a severe and brutal pruning.

You may lose a season of bloom, but the plant will bounce back.

Pinching back encourages new growth, making the shrub fuller and thicker.

This is important for the first two or three years of growth so you can shape the plant to suit your space.

For leggy and bare-stemmed rhodos, there isn't much you can do but prune off the growing tips.

That restarts growth from the bottom.

Make you cut just above a leaf rosette and the new growth will appear from the dormant eye.

For major surgery and recovery time, look further down the branch to find small bumps (growth buds) under the bark.

Just above the bumps should be rings which mark ends of growth periods where once there were leaves.

Prune some every year, up to a third, then you'll still have blooms and new growth happening all the time.

DEADHEADING

Deadheading is not essential, but is helpful.

A question at one of Ron Knight's rhodo classes:

"Do I have to deadhead?"

"Mother Nature doesn't," Knight answered.

That said, removing the old blossom head does focus the strength of the shrub in producing buds.

FERTILIZING

All this pruning and shaping is best done after the rhodos bloom and offers a good chance to add a nitrogen/phosphorus-rich fertilizer (16 - 20 - 0) to encourage new growth.

Rhododendrons are not heavy feeders so if the plant is flowering well and producing new growth (six to eight inches per year) then they don't really need much help.

Perhaps a light application of a balanced (complete) fertilizer won't hurt.

A rhodo fertilizer with not too high a nitrogen count (4 -12 - 10) will keep the foliage that glossy green that you want but still encourage the plant to set buds.

Aluminum sulphate will reduce soil pH levels which is ideal for acid-loving plants like rhodos or other broad leaf evergreens like camelias and pieris but keep it away from lilacs and clematis.

Natural mulching is still the best but not all mulch materials are created equal.

For rhodos and other broadleaf evergreens, look for an acid mulch like bark mulch from acid-loving evergreens (fir, hemlock and cedar).

Sometimes you'll be offered bark mulch for free, which will be bark chips from alder or maple.

These chips and deciduous leaves decompose to be alkaline (pH +7) which makes a great mulch for perennials but not so much for acid-loving plants.

All hail the king of shrubs.

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Pender golf

Pender golf — desert style

By Jan Watson



Congratulations to Linda Klikach who had a hole-in-one while on holiday in Mexico.

Congratulations to Wendy Simmonds, Anita Caspersen, Kathy Needham and Cathy McEachern who represented Pender Harbour in the Desert Hot Springs ladies tournament in February.

They didn't win but were good ambassadors for the Pender club.

Congratulations to Lorraine Wareham shooting her best game while on holiday in Palm Desert.

Playing the Gary Player Signature course at the Westin Mission Hills Resort, Lorraine shot 93.

ST PATRICK'S SCRAMBLE

This annual event on March 16 saw 20 golfers in great form with the winning team of Lorne Campbell, Phyllis Register, Stuart Taylor and Al Wendland shooting 65.

Second place went to Don and Mary Ball, Merv and Roberta Oleksyn with 66.

KP for the ladies was Lori Wilson and, for the men, Merv Oleksyn.

The big winners of the "Irish Surprise" were Gary Park, Kathy Bergman, Gerry and Helen Krantz.

The golf was followed by a great

dinner and Irish beer.

LADIES CLUB

According to tradition, the ladies started the season off with coffee and muffins on March 14 before playing a nine-hole scramble.

Winners with a 39 were Helen Crabb, Kathy Bergman, Kryss Parranto and Heather Cranston.

Runners up with 43 were Lori Wilson, Helen Krantz and Phyllis Register.

WOMEN'S BEGINNER LESSONS

Introductory lessons for women will start on Tuesday evenings in April. There is a nominal cost, no experience is required and clubs can be provided.

Contact Cathy McEachern at cathm@telus.net or phone the pro shop for more information.



FROM THE 19TH HOLE...

Q. Are you a scratch player?

A. I sure am — every time I hit the ball I scratch my head and wonder where it went!

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- **Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.** Multiple family clearance extravaganza. Sporting goods, appliances, beds, books, art and other things. 6008 Dubois Rd.

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harbour seals



Air it with an approval or disapproval.

Send to: editor@harbourspiel.com. Include full name and telephone number for confirmation. (Editor reserves the right to edit for length.)

A great Harbour Seal of Approval to **Deb and Brian Nason, Priscilla and her grandfather Gary**. Locked out of my still running truck, these four Good Samaritans from Sechelt stopped and offered to drive me home and back, to pick up a spare key set.

Alex Pernat

Harbour Seals to **Troy's Paint and Body Shop** for doing the great repair and paint job on the side of my car.

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Skookumchuck viewing times April

DATE/TIME - SIZE (small, medium, large, extra large),
EBB (-), FLOOD (+) - Standing wave is best on large
flood (tide flowing into Sechart Inlet).

April 1	8:03 am +M, 2:45 pm -XL
April 2	9:03 am +M, 3:51 pm -XL
April 3	10:24 am +L, 4:58 pm -L
April 4	11:57 am +M, 6:06 pm -L
April 5	8:15 am -M, 1:14 pm +M
April 6	9:11 am -L, 2:16 pm +L
April 7	9:58 am -L, 3:24 pm +L
April 8	10:40 am -L, 4:18 pm +L
April 9	11:16 am -L, 5:08 pm +L
April 10	11:46 am -L, 5:55 pm +XL
April 11	12:18 pm -L, 6:40 pm +XL
April 12	12:33 pm -L, 7:24 pm +XL
April 13	12:57 pm -L, 8:07 pm +XL
April 14	1:21 pm -L
April 15	7:12 pm +M, 1:47 pm -M
April 16	7:53 am +S, 2:32 pm -L
April 17	8:45 am +S, 3:36 pm -L
April 18	4:44 pm -L,
April 19	12:22 pm +S, 5:40 pm -M
April 20	1:29 pm +M, 7:01 pm -M
April 21	8:26 am -L, 2:21 pm +M
April 22	9:04 am -L, 3:10 pm +L
April 23	9:40 am -L, 4:08 pm +L
April 24	10:14 am -XL, 4:57 pm +XL
April 25	10:48 am -XL, 5:46 pm +XL
April 26	11:05 am -XL, 6:35 pm +XL
April 27	11:49 am -XL, 7:24 pm +XL
April 28	12:39 pm -XL, 8:15 pm +XL
April 29	6:58 am +L, 1:35 pm -XL
April 30	7:53 am +M, 2:36 pm -XL

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.

BIRTHDAYS

April 2 ~ **Marty Lowe, Walter Higgins, Elizabeth Buhkert and Desiree Leech.**
 April 3 ~ **Jamison Warner and Sandi Whelan**
 April 4 ~ **Frank Roosen Jr., Doreen Lee, Mike Legge and Bev Thompson.**
 April 5 ~ **Doug Silvey and Breanna Clay.**
 April 6 ~ **Mike Bathgate and Ursula Dornbierer.**
 April 8 ~ **Andrea Clerx and Gloria Fritz.**
 April 10 ~ **April Charlton.**
 April 11 ~ **Joe Adams.**
 April 12 ~ **Matthew Phillips and Tilley Dougan.**
 April 13 ~ **Bonnie Lindsay, Geoff Warner, Billy Petraschuk and Don Priest.**
 April 14 ~ **Dan Leech and Ann Landry.**
 April 15 ~ **Teresa Sladey and Cathy Collins.**
 April 17 ~ **Sheila McCann and Carly Campbell.**
 April 18 ~ **Russ Foster, Talon Mclean,**

Howard White, David Brimacombe, Kalen Zayshley and Ron Calvert.
 April 19 ~ **John Field.**
 April 20 ~ **Sue Kammerle and Katie Tenbroek.**
 April 22 ~ **Dan Choquette and Lorrie Babcock.**
 April 23 ~ **Kathy Morant, Sue Richardson, Heidi Vaughan and Jordan Kammerle.**
 April 24 ~ **Len Silvey and Alex Dore.**
 April 25 ~ **Samantha Stewart and Dietta Edwardson.**
 April 26 ~ **Teyjah Xaveress and Blake Campbell.**
 April 28 ~ **Jeanette Penson.**
 April 29 ~ **Ruth Langton.**
 April 30 ~ **Kasey & Kelly Smith, Marie Reid, Hazel Higgins, "Prawntrap Patty" Jackson, Bill Sutherland and Jeff Wilbee.**

APRIL ASTROLOGY

ARIES: MARCH 20 - APRIL 20

The sign of the ram gives Arians loyalty, generosity, high energy and courage. They love adventure and often fiercely defend the underdog. Greater involvement in an organization or group you believe in will lead you to people who can alter your life in the future. Avoid dogs during the week of the new moon (April 10).

TAURUS: APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Taureans are seekers of peace and stability. Although unambitious, they are happy to be the powerhouse behind the scenes. Often sensible and blessed with a healthy dose of cynicism, Taureans will resist all that this month and open their minds (and chakras) to the metaphysical when a friend speaks of the healing power of crystals. Habits of ridiculing dippy flakes will resume in earnest by May.

*Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Society
Outreach Healthy Meal Program*



**Save your Canadian Tire dollars for us.
~ Drop off at the Legion. ~**

Linda Curtiss (604) 883-2819 or Anky Drost (604) 883-0033.

OF APRIL

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE INTERNET

1. One third of all Internet searches are specifically for pornography. It is estimated that 80 per cent of all images on the Internet are of naked women.

2. Of the 247 billion email messages sent every day, 81 per cent are pure spam.

3. Twenty hours of video from around the world is uploaded to YouTube every minute. The first ever YouTube video was uploaded on April 23, 2005 by Jawed Karim (one of the founders of the site) and was 18 seconds long, entitled "Me at the zoo."

4. Google estimates that the Internet today contains about five million terabytes of data (1TB = 1,000GB) and claims it has only indexed a paltry 0.04 per cent of it all. You could fit the whole Internet on 200 million Blu-Ray disks.

5. The technology behind the Internet began back in the 1960s at MIT. The first message ever to be transmitted was "LOG." Why? The user had attempted to

type "LOGIN" but the network crashed after the enormous load of data of the letter G.

6. The first ever banner ad invaded the Internet in 1994. The ad was part of AT&T's "You Will" campaign, and was placed on the HotWired homepage.



7. Although the MP3 standard was invented in 1991, it wouldn't be until 1998 that the first music file-sharing service, Napster, would go live and change the way the Internet was used forever.

8. The first webcam was deployed at Cambridge University computer lab. It monitored a particular coffee maker to avoid wasted trips to an empty pot.



Source: makeuseof.com

APRIL WEATHER

TEMPERATURES, MERRY ISLAND

Our average daily high temperature in April is 11.8 C and our average daily low is 6.2 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 9 C. The highest April temperature recorded is 20.7 C (April 27, 1972); the lowest is -1.1 C (April 3, 1975).

PRECIPITATION, MERRY ISLAND

April has an average of 190.8 hours of bright sunshine and 13 days with measurable rainfall. April averages a total monthly rainfall of 60.4 mm and a total monthly snowfall of 0.3 cm. The highest April daily rainfall on record is 31.8 mm (April 27, 1962); the highest April daily snowfall on record is 5.1 cm (April 3, 1975).

TRIO HOCHELAGA



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Please check the website for current hours and information.

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Darlene Fowlie – Hygienist

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- Women and Youth Health Services

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Sharon Gilchrist-Reed LPN

- Foot care nursing
- Reflexology/Kinesiology

COUNSELLING SERVICES

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Mary Lang – Drug and alcohol counsellor – 885-8678

Karl Enright – Psychiatrist – 883-2764

Tim Hayward – Adult Mental Health – 883-2764

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Alcoholics Anonymous meets Wednesdays at 8 p.m. – Everyone welcome.

LOAN CUPBOARD: Crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, commodes, raised toilet seats, respiratory nebulizers etc.

First-class health care for the people of the Pender Harbour area

Cocaine and crack cocaine

By Susan Nattall, RN

Cocaine is a drug extracted from the leaves of the coca plant.

It is a potent brain stimulant and one of the most powerfully addictive drugs.

Cocaine is distributed on the street in two main forms: cocaine hydrochloride and crack cocaine.

DESCRIPTION

Cocaine hydrochloride is a fine powder often diluted with sugar, cornstarch or talcum powder.

This form of the drug is usually snorted or dissolved in water and injected.

Crack, the chunk or rock form of cocaine, is a smokeable freebase form of cocaine which is made by adding baking soda to a cocaine solution and allowing the mixture to dry.

EFFECTS

The intensity of cocaine depends on the dose and rate of entry to the brain.

Cocaine reaches the brain through the snorting method in three to five minutes.

Intravenous injection of cocaine produces a rush in 15 to 30 seconds, and smoking produces an almost immediate intense experience.

However, the faster the absorption, the shorter the high lasts.

The high from snorting may last 15 to 30 minutes, while that from smoking may last five to 10 minutes.

Once the drug leaves the brain, the user experiences a "coke crash" that includes depression, irritability, and fatigue.

To avoid withdrawal, repeated frequent doses are taken.

Long term effects of high doses



of cocaine can trigger paranoia.

Smoking crack cocaine can produce particularly aggressive paranoid behaviour in users.

When addicted individuals stop using cocaine, they often become depressed.

Prolonged cocaine snorting can result in ulceration of the mucous membrane of the nose.

Injectable cocaine users are at risk for infections such as hepatitis and HIV.

There is some evidence that people who use cocaine may participate in HIV-related risky behaviours, such as sharing needles and unprotected sex, more often than people who inject other drugs.

Nasal blood found on straws used for inhaling cocaine can carry hepatitis C and be a source of infection.

DETOX

Cocaine detoxification usually involves the user suffering a crash which is marked by irritability, sleepiness and anxiety.

Typically, the detox involves plenty of rest and a return to a regular

meal schedule.

Clients are typically underweight and dehydrated due to neglect from an extended period of preoccupation with cocaine.

If you or someone in your family is suffering, please know that you are not alone and that there is help available on the Sunshine Coast.

Contact the Pender Harbour Health Centre or your family doctor for more information.

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS

APRIL 4: Bring a favourite painting or photograph to share.

APRIL 11: Armchair travel to India: Pia Sillem will talk about her India experiences and an East Indian style lunch will be served.

APRIL 18: Come out for some fun and test your knowledge with "International Trivial Pursuit."

APRIL 25: Diane Whalen will present photos and talk of her adventures to the Arctic and Everest base camp.

Fiction that searches for truth about grief and suffering



By Theresa
Kishkan

In local writer Patricia Morrison's first novel, *Shadow Girl* (Tundra Books, 2012), we're introduced to Jules, an 11-year old girl living a difficult life. In prose that is at once simple and direct, the author takes the reader into a troubling world of neglect and abandonment.

It's not just that Jules is poor and often doesn't have enough to eat. She is a child without a true home, though she does live in a run-down house with her alcoholic father (Jules's mother left when the girl was four). However her father is unreliable, often failing to return after drinking with friends. When he is around, he's

often violent. He doesn't provide food in a reliable way; nor does he provide emotional sustenance. There's no one to guide her through her girlhood, offering advice on personal hygiene or behaviour. Teachers miss the obvious signs of neglect and in any case Jules is good at covering up for her father's lack of care. She imagines that if she just says the right things and keeps the house tidy, everything will be fine.

In many respects, Jules hovers on the edge — in her school, where bullies find her an easy target for her messy uniform and meagre lunches; at the local plaza where she hangs around the Zellers toy department for its warmth and the kindness of one of the employees; and in her own father's consciousness where she is at best a burden, if occasionally "a goddam leech, a bloody stinking leech..."

When the inevitable happens and Jules enters the care of the Catholic Children's Aid Society, things improve only marginally. The foster home is not exactly welcoming, though Jules is given a room, regular meals and chores.

This novel, aimed at young readers, is bleak. Its setting is suburban Toronto — grey streets and strip malls. The school is a period piece, where kids are strapped for playing tag. Jules's foster mother is not completely unkind but she doesn't un-

derstand her ward's deep uncertainty and unhappiness. The ending offers a small glimmer of hope for Jules but the reader is left with anger at a system that offers society's most needy children so little.

Have things changed? If you've been following the reports coming out of Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond's office (she is B.C.'s representative for children and youth), you'll have to conclude that no, they haven't changed enough.

Every now and then, I read a novel that completely

captivates me from the first page.

Anakana Schofield's *Malarky* (Biblioasis, 2012) is one of those books.

The first page contains the key elements of this exhilarating book. Its accent is Irish but not stage Irish. The voice of the main character, a farmwife who is newly widowed and coming to terms with her loss, is as crisp and original as the scent of turf in the air as you drive out of Galway into the country. You've never smelled anything like it but it's intoxicating. In this passage, "Our Woman" is talking to "Grief," the counsellor woman, about the intrusive thoughts she is having.

*Tell me about these thoughts?
You're sure you want to know?
I've heard it all, she insisted,
there is nothing you can say that will
surprise me.*



BC Bestsellers:

(For the week of March 17, 2013)

1. **Eating Dirt** by Charlotte Gill
2. **The Book of Kale** by Sharon Hanna
3. **Liquor, Lust, and the Law** by Aaron Chapman
4. **Making Headlines** by Shelley Fralic
5. **Ginty's Ghost** by Chris Czajkowski
6. **Canada at War** by Paul Keery and Michael Wyatt
7. **Art of the Impossible** by Geoff Meggs and Rod Mickleburgh
8. **John Clarke** by Lisa Baile
9. **No Sailing Waits** by Adrian Raeside
10. **Escape to Gold Mountain** by David H.T. Wong

~ Assn. of Book Publishers of BC

*I disbelieving, asked again.
You're sure now?*

Absolutely.

Men, I said. Naked men. At each other all the time, all day long. I can't get it out of my head.

Well now, she said and fell silent.

Not only has Our Woman's husband recently died, but her beloved son has left under a cloud and so one grief compounds upon another until predictable chaos ensues. Half the time

we are in the present and half the time we're not sure where we are. But Schofield is never boring and her writing sparkles.

The novel not only explores emotional chaos but Schofield has found an elastic narrative form with which to do it. It moves from straight narration to first-person outbursts and wailings which directly echo the protagonist's state of mind. It might take a reader new to this kind

of story-telling some time to become accustomed to the verbal and technical

gymnastics of the book but it's worth it.

This is a wildly funny book. One of Our Woman's solutions to grief is sex, never an exciting activity with her husband:

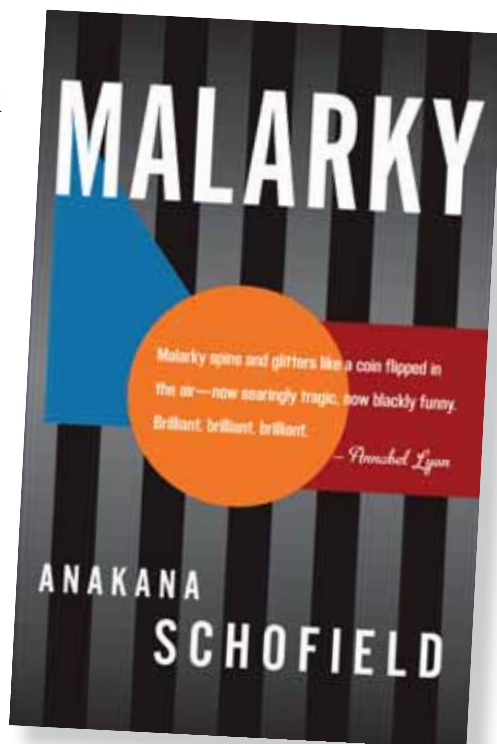
"Too much participation from her, unsettles Himself. Say she grabs for him, he'll readjust himself beyond her reach."

She finds a willing subject in a young Syrian she meets in a small-town library:

"Our Woman is reporting to you from Ballina, where she is walking boldly into the PJ section of Penneys with one thing in mind. I want to find the Syrian, if he is to be found. I want to make it clear today that I am officially looking for him..."

Malarky is one of five titles shortlisted for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize at this year's BC Book

Awards and I think it deserves all the attention that comes its way.



 **Spring Sale!**
Find great savings during April.

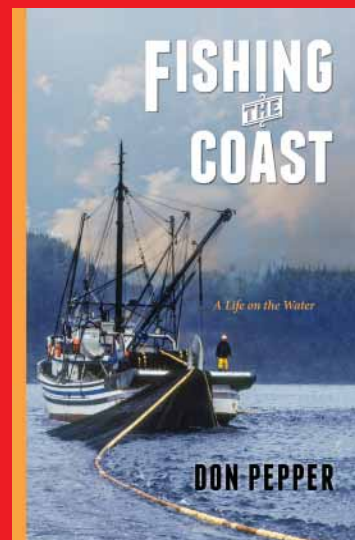
Meet Patricia Morrison Author of *Shadow Girl*
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DOWNTOWN MADEIRA PARK INFO@BLUEWATERS.CA 883-9006



reflections on the water

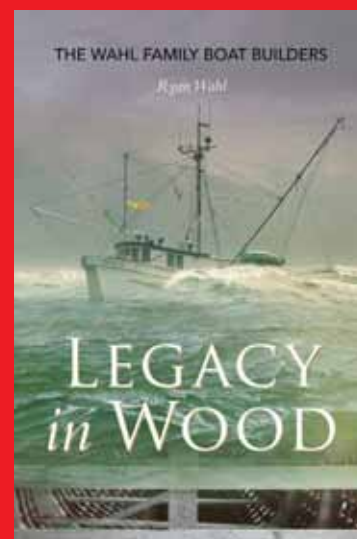
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it might have happened...

The continuing story of Wei Hsu, the first non-native resident of



Vague recollections have persisted for many years that the first non-native person to live in Pender Harbour was a Chinese man who operated a fish saltery in Irvines Landing.

Before Charles Irvine landed here and lent his name to the stretch of beach at the western entrance to Pender Harbour, a family named Hsu had settled there in 1873.

The historic events depicted here are loosely based on the author's own imagination and should not be interpreted as fact — unless it suits the reader to do so.

By Anne Crocker

PART XXXIII ~ SPRING 1884

(Continued from March 2013)

As the 1880s wore on, Charles Irvine's trips to Pender's Harbour became solely for purposes of delivering goods rather than returning with Wei Hsu's processed fish. The markets Irvine had established in Gastown and beyond for the Hsu's salted and smoked fish were overrun with product from local cannery processors.

The Fraser River area was producing well over 150,000 cases of salmon a year and still growing. With a massive fishery flowing under its pilings and fishermen who would work for next to nothing to catch them, the big cannery owners had advantages in scale that Wei Hsu and his family couldn't compete against.

But Wei Hsu had always maintained a reputation for being lucky and, as he liked to explain to his daughter, it wasn't by chance. Mary Hsu wrote that, according to her father, his luck was a direct result of adhering to strict principles of Chinese superstition. For instance, it was strictly forbidden to turn a fish over on the plate while eating. Mary understood from an early age that when eating fish, you must use your chopsticks to pull the flesh from beneath the fish in order to avoid a bad omen.

The value of Wei Hsu's commitment to practices like these was reconfirmed after his orders from Gastown slowed to a trickle but a growing supply business quietly replaced it. Small logging operations had sprung all over the area and many had come to rely on Pender's Harbour as an important supply stop. The Hsu operation was al-

ready well-known for their fish but quickly gained a reputation for stocking staples like flour, sugar, homemade jam or even rope and caulk boots.

It created an uneasy truce between the mostly white loggers and the "chinks and siwash" that ran the trading post. The men who stopped in for supplies would bite their tongue, not out of respect for Wei Hsu and his family, but out of an urgent need for the goods they provided. Still, there were often arguments over payment, or manners, and Wei Hsu was occasionally forced to lead a drunken logger back to his boat with a hunting rifle.

Arguments rarely reached the point of violence thanks to the charms of Wei Hsu's daughter, Mary, who had an uncanny ability to defuse potentially dangerous situations. At 18 she was taller than both her mother and father and by all accounts possessed a beauty that would have stood out on the streets of New York or San Francisco. Her mother would joke with her that the effect she had on some of the bachelor's who called in at Pender's Harbour was like that of opium on her father. An aggressive logger would often go limp and shy when she entered the storehouse. She wrote in her journal that she received six proposals of marriage before the age of 18. Not once did the scribbles imply that she'd ever taken an interest in any of the men who might have passed through her life and only once did she write in detail about a man.

Had she not, we may have never known that one of her most persistent suitors was none other than her father's friend and business acquaintance, Charles Irvine.

Charles Irvine recognized better than most the growing potential for commerce throughout the islands and bays of the BC coast. As the government

it might have happened...

Pender Harbour

encouraged people to move from the bustling centres of Gastown, New Westminster and Victoria, pockets of settlement began to appear throughout the Strait of Georgia. Irvine was in a perfect position to observe its development. He was a city merchant but had also built a steady business as a travelling salesman, stopping in wherever he found smoke to offer whatever he might be carrying in his 24-foot schooner, *Packer*.

When news reached him about the imminent development of a large mine on Texada Island, he surely must have realized then that Wei Hsu and his family sat on a very profitable enterprise.

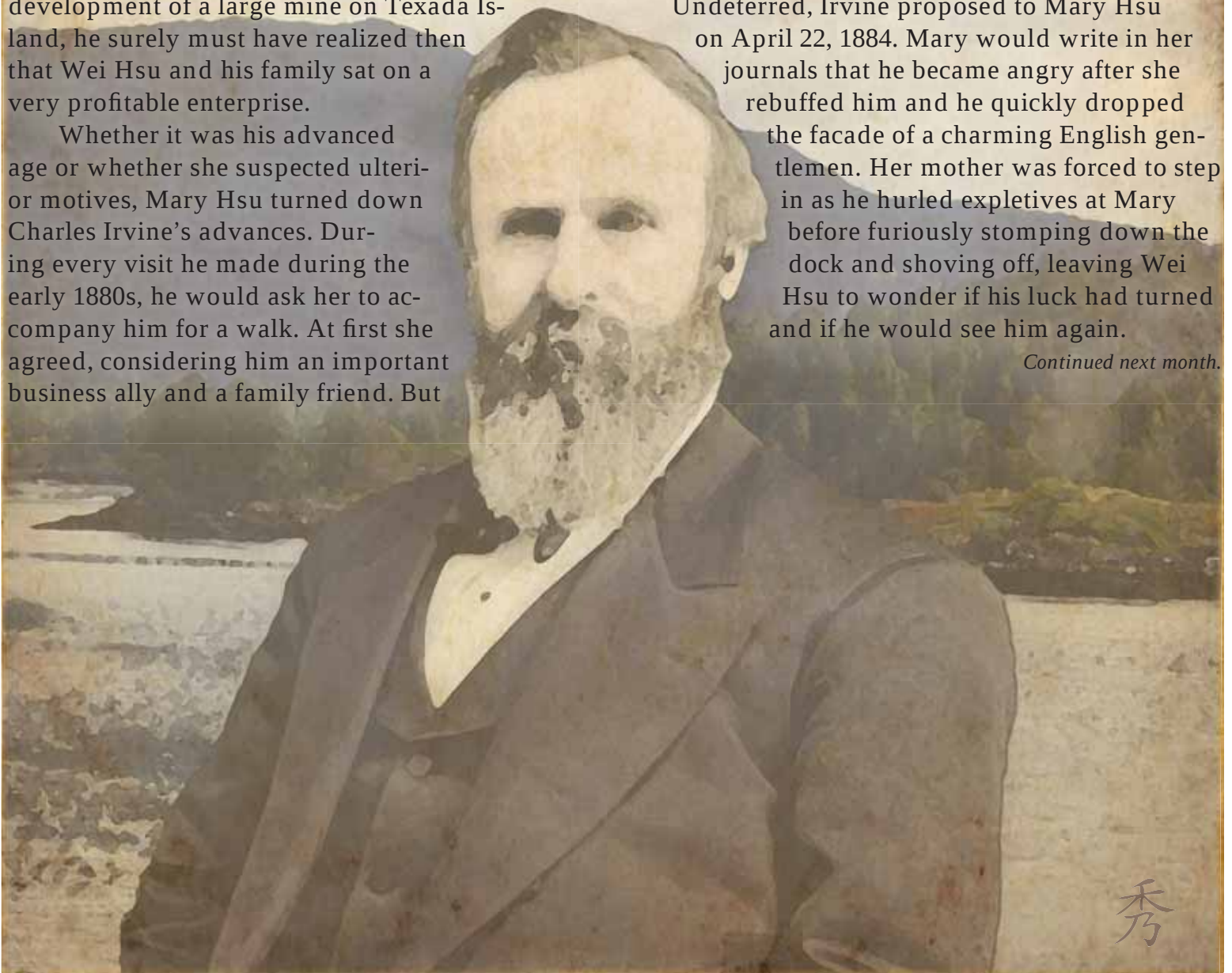
Whether it was his advanced age or whether she suspected ulterior motives, Mary Hsu turned down Charles Irvine's advances. During every visit he made during the early 1880s, he would ask her to accompany him for a walk. At first she agreed, considering him an important business ally and a family friend. But

when he made clear his intention to marry her, she was startled and found any excuse to avoid him. As the spring of 1884 wore on, Charles Irvine's visits to the Hsu family increased.

He began arriving up to three times a month for mostly legitimate reasons as business was also booming, but rarely caught sight of her. Her mother would tell him she had gone to forage for food plants or placate him with some other excuse but it quickly became obvious that she was avoiding him.

Undeterred, Irvine proposed to Mary Hsu on April 22, 1884. Mary would write in her journals that he became angry after she rebuffed him and he quickly dropped the facade of a charming English gentleman. Her mother was forced to step in as he hurled expletives at Mary before furiously stomping down the dock and shoving off, leaving Wei Hsu to wonder if his luck had turned and if he would see him again.

Continued next month.



Artwork courtesy of Hsu family archives

A portrait of Charles Irvine painted by Mary Hsu in the spring of 1884. Irvine sits in front of the Hsu home on land that would later take his name.

Editors Note: Last month's Jervis Inlet painting by Mary Hsu (March 2013 issue) was erroneously labelled as Deserted Bay when it was clearly Vancouver Bay. Thanks to Billy Griffith, Tom May, Fred Coulter and Robin Millar for their astute observation.

community calendar

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

APRIL

Sat. March 30.....Garden Bay Pub presents Joe Stanton - Garden Bay Pub, 8 p.m.
 Sun. March 31.....P. H. Lions Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt - Lions Park, 9 a.m.
 Sun. March 31.....Sunday Jam with Joe Stanton - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Wed. April 3.....Master's Par 3 tournament - P. H. Golf Club, 3 p.m.
 Fri. April 5.....P. H. Fall Faire Society AGM - P. H. Legion, 11:30 a.m.
 Sat. April 6.....Green Film series presents *Urban Roots* - Iris Griffith Centre, 2 p.m.
 Sun. April 7.....Sunday Jam with James Rogers - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Mon. April 8.....P. H. Garden Club hosts Martin Cook - P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m.
 Mon. April 8.....P. H. Food Bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, noon
 Tues. April 9.....Tyner Biodiversity Park work party - Tyner Park, 1 - 3 p.m.
 Thurs. April 11.....P. H. Community School presents *Occupy Love* - P. H. School of Music, 7 p.m.
 Fri. April 12.....School of Music Coffee House - P. H. School of Music, 7:30 p.m.
 Fri. April 12.....Garden Bay Pub presents Cannery Row - Garden Bay Pub, 8 p.m.
 Sat. April 13.....Bluewaters Books presents author Patricia Morrison - Bluewaters Books, 1 - 3 p.m.
 Sun. April 14.....P. H. Music Society presents Trio Hochelaga - P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.
 Sun. April 14.....Sunday Jam with Cannery Row - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Mon. April 15.....P. H. Reading Centre potluck lunch and AGM -P. H. School of Music, noon
 Tues. April 16.....P. H. Wildlife Society meeting - PHSS, 7:30 p.m.
 Tues. April 16.....Tyner Biodiversity Park work party - Tyner Park, 1 - 3 p.m.
 Sat. April 20.....Multiple family garage sale extravaganza - 6008 Dubois Rd., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Sat. April 20.....Tyner Biodiversity Park work party - Tyner Park, 1 - 3 p.m.
 Sun. April 21.....Sunday Jam with Larrie Cook - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Mon. April 22.....P. H. Food Bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, noon
 Mon. April 22.....BC Transit Futures Bus visits Madeira Park - IGA Parking Lot, 3 - 6 p.m.
 Fri. April 26.....Prime Rib night - Clubhouse Restaurant, 6 p.m.
 Sat. April 27.....April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge - Madeira Park, 10 a.m.
 Sun. April 28.....Sunday Jam with Peter B3 and Steve Hinton - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Mon. April 29.....P.H. Health Centre Auxiliary General Meeting-P.H. School of Music, 1 p.m.

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



FERRY DEPARTURES

~ Effective April 1 to May 15, 2013 ~

Crossing time: Langdale 40 min. / Earl's Cove 50 min. Ticket sales end 10 min. before sailing for foot passengers, 5 min. before for vehicles.
 See www.bcferrries.com for information on added sailings during peak periods.

Horseshoe Bay

7:20 a.m.
 9:20 a.m.
 11:20 a.m.
 1:20 p.m.
 3:30 p.m.
 4:00 p.m.
 5:30 p.m.
 7:25 p.m.
 9:15 p.m.

Langdale

6:20 a.m.
 8:20 a.m.
 10:20 a.m.
 12:20 p.m.
 2:30 p.m.
 4:30 p.m.
 6:30 p.m.
 8:20 p.m.

*Earl's Cove

6:30 a.m.
 8:25 a.m.
 10:25 a.m.
 12:20 p.m.
 4:25 p.m.
 6:25 p.m.
 8:20 p.m.
 10:05 p.m.

*Saltery Bay

5:35 a.m.
 7:25 a.m.
 9:25 a.m.
 11:20 a.m.
 3:20 p.m.
 5:25 p.m.
 7:20 p.m.
 9:15 p.m.

*Note: Alternate schedule for April 1 and May 20.
 Visit www.bcferrries.com for times.

"A slave is one who waits for someone to come and free him."

~Ezra Pound

WAKEFIELD HANSON

MARINE SERVICES

We're Your Guys!

Looking to transform your waterfront property? Meet Ryan Daley & Ryan Hanson of Wakefield Hanson Marine. They're your guys on the coast.

They are experts in marine consultation, design and construction services. With over 30 years of combined experience, there's no question they're the guys to deliver coastal solutions.



Wakefield and Hanson Marine join forces to build better on the coast

Lance Sparling, President and Chief Business Builder of Wakefield Construction Inc. is pleased to announce the consolidation of Wakefield Marine Services with Hanson Marine Services, forming the new company, Wakefield Hanson Marine Services, a subsidiary of Wakefield Construction Inc.

The new venture is led by Ryan Daley, General Manager, and Ryan Hanson, Operations Manager, and will perform key services related to Marine consultation, design and construction.

"We are very fortunate that within a short time frame both Ryans came to us with a shared vision of establishing a marine services company that shares Wakefield's values of providing professional quality craftsmanship, with deep green building practices," says Sparling. "It's a perfect fit for Wakefield and we look forward to growing this part of our business with these talented individuals leading the way."

Ryan Daley joined Wakefield in the spring of 2012 as a marine services specialist in building decks, ramps, floats

and boathouses. Originally from Burnaby, BC, Ryan moved to the Sunshine Coast over 10 years ago. He has worked in various fields throughout the years including construction, long-shoring at Howe Sound Pulp and Paper Corporation, and sales at Sunshine GM. Prior to joining Wakefield, Ryan worked as a general manager for a local marine construction and transportation company.

"I'm thrilled that both companies recognized the competitive advantage of joining forces so we can better serve our homeowners and clients," says Daley. "Ryan Hanson is truly a unique talent and we are lucky to have him."

As president of Hanson Marine Services, Ryan Hanson joins Wakefield after a 20-year legacy of working in the family business founded by his father Lex Hanson. Ryan's passion is in designing and installing high quality systems in coastal environments. Ryan brings his crew of highly trained equipment operators, welders and fabricators to the relationship.

"I'm excited about this enterprise and am confident that working with Wakefield will benefit our clients straightaway," says Hanson.

Through Wakefield Hanson Marine Services, Ryan and Ryan offer a unique one-stop solution for coastal and island waterfront residents and recreational homeowners. For more information, visit www.wakefieldinc.ca.

Call Ryan Daley today at 604.740.6720 to arrange a free consultation or email him at ryan@wakefieldinc.ca

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MENU SPECIALS - Families Welcome!

TUESDAYS: \$6 Wings (after 4 p.m.) & \$3.95 domestic beer.
FRIDAYS: Meat Draw (5 p.m.) & \$10 pasta special.
SATURDAYS: \$14.95 Prime Rib (while quantities last).
SUNDAYS: Breakfast Brunch & Caesars on special (until 4 p.m.)

JOE STANTON: Saturday, March 30

LIVE MUSIC SUNDAYS @ 2 PM

MARCH 31: Sunday Jam with Joe Stanton
APRIL 7: Sunday Jam with James Rogers
APRIL 14: Sunday Jam with Cannery Row
APRIL 21: Sunday Jam with Larrie Cook
APRIL 28: Sunday Jam with Peter B3 w/ Steve Hinton

CANNERY ROW: Friday, April 12



GARDEN BAY PUB

Open daily at 11:30 604.883.2674

7TH ANNUAL GARDEN BAY CLASSIC FISHING DERBY: MAY 3, 4 & 5

\$1000 Biggest Salmon • \$1000 Reverse Draw • \$???? Open boat auction/Calcutta Draw

FRIDAY, MAY 3: Derby Registration and Calcutta Draw, 5 p.m.

Anyone can take part in the live auction (Calcutta) to bid on whose boat will catch the biggest fish. If your skipper wins, you take the pot.

SATURDAY, MAY 4: Derby and Dinner

Fishing all day with dinner at 6 p.m. (included)

SUNDAY, MAY 5: Weigh In - 1 p.m.

Awards and prizes: \$1,000 reverse draw, Calcutta draw and \$1,000 for biggest salmon