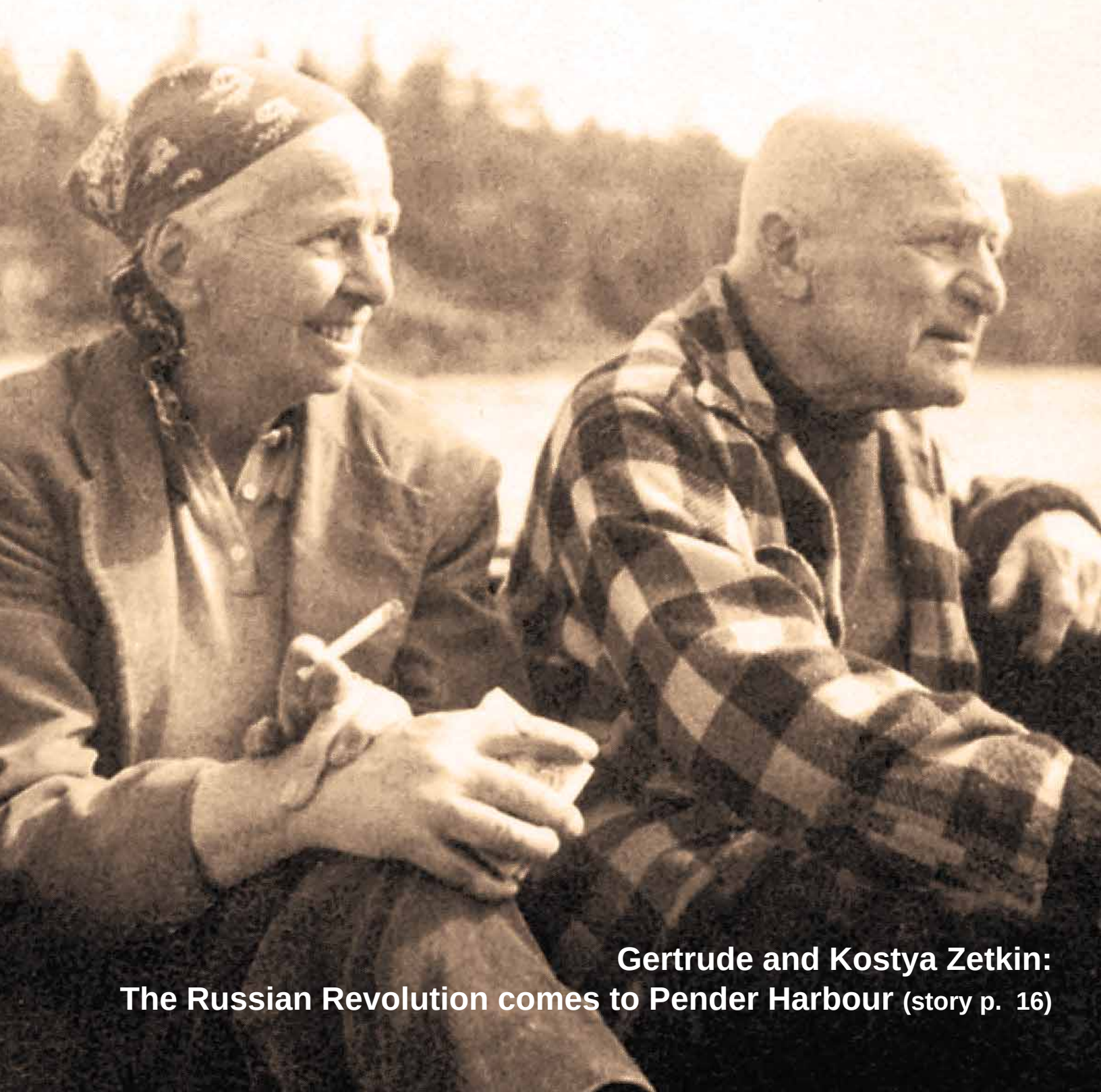


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HARBOUR SPIEL

JANUARY 2013
ISSUE 265



**Gertrude and Kostya Zetkin:
The Russian Revolution comes to Pender Harbour (story p. 16)**



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Editor

Brian Lee

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NEXT ISSUE MAILS JAN. 31

editorial

Is the answer to our economic woes, weed?



By Brian Lee

There's been plenty of discussion about economic development on the Coast lately.

Unfortunately, discussion is all it has been as local politicians debate how to move ahead.

Concurrently, we hear murmurs about the marijuana industry — its legalization in Washington State, municipal planning discussions to regulate medical marijuana growers and whether or not lifting prohibition here would be good or bad.

It's a pity the two topics rarely combine in the same conversation.

According to *BC Business Magazine*, the marijuana industry contributes \$7.5 billion annually to BC's economy.

That wealth doesn't only land in places where gangsters shoot each other like Abbotsford and Surrey.

The fact is, for the past 20 years, marijuana prohibition has been very good to small resource towns like ours.

As our local economy faltered, growing dope picked up the slack.

Even before the current medical marijuana rush where it seems every grower around here has suddenly found the legal means to cultivate, the plant has been responsible for more than a few local families making it through the lean times.

For obvious reasons, these contributions to Area A's economy have been kept quiet but there is a surprisingly large proportion of the community who understand how much illicit cash is regularly injected into local stores, restaurants, services and property taxes each year.

I've always thought it interesting how in such a small town, there's a clear divide between those who are privy to the trade and those who are not.

For the most part, those who are not are completely oblivious to its scale and the number of their acquaintances who take a cut from the marijuana industry.

Those acquaintances don't always fit the common stereotype of the "pot grower."

They might be a stay-at-home mom who hands off the kids for a few days a month to make \$20 or \$30 an hour trimming.

They might be an electrician who specializes in keeping his mouth shut when asked to supply power to hidden spaces.

They might be someone who flips a pound or two every year to pay for a trip to Mexico.

Recent estimates suggest that 5.6 per cent of BC's population is involved in growing marijuana.

I would guess our own percentage is higher but even at the provincial average, there are about 157 folks in Area A working the weed.

The point is, our economy already relies on the industry so why not capitalize on its strengths?

In a 2004 report, SFU economics professor Stephen Easton suggests that, for a modest operation with 100 plants, the return on investment is approximately 55 per cent.

The report goes on to say that figure drops to 40 per cent if you factor in the risk of getting busted.

Still, try finding a mutual fund with that record of performance.

So, we have people here with the skills to grow and we also have people here with the capital to support large-scale production.

Like Seagrams during alcohol prohibition, big fertilizer and seed companies are jostling to come out on top if and when marijuana is legalized.

It's time to consider the possibility that this type of agriculture may be a way to inject some vitality back into our anemic economy.

A first step might be to encourage elected officials to consider not only accepting the industry here on the Sunshine Coast, but actively promoting it.

That might be as simple as looking ahead to tackle zoning issues that might hinder its development.

A second step?
Get growing.

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spiel picks

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE HALL: Dec. 31, 9 p.m.

Ring in the New Year with DJ Moses playing Top 40 at the Pender Harbour Community Club's "Dress to Impress" New Year's Eve party. Tickets include a drink and are \$25 at the door. Doors open at 9 p.m. and all proceeds support the Pender Harbour Community Club.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE LEGION: DEC. 31, 6 P.M.

If you want a meal with your New Year's Eve party, head to the Pender Harbour Legion where, besides music, there'll also be a buffet dinner and a Secret Santa. All for \$22 (+ HST).

FRAME(LINES) PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS: JAN. 9, 6:30 P.M.

Frame(lines) is a film project that asks if there's anything that affects the way you view yourself as Canadian — and then asks you to film it. If you're curious how to get involved with the nationwide project by filmmakers Alexandra Caulfield and Ryder Thomas White, stop by the P. H. Community School on Jan. 9 at 6:30 p.m.

PH ROTARY HOPSCOTCH: JAN. 12, 7 P.M.

Hopscotch is an evening of great food, specialty beers and unique scotch- es at the P. H. Golf course. Tickets are \$90 at the Oak Tree Market, Madeira Park Vet or any Rotarian.

photojournal



Brian Lee photo

A newly installed outdoor gym at the Pender Harbour Secondary School sits quietly waiting for some decent weather for people to use it. In September 2011, Premier Christy Clark announced that the school would be one of 44 in BC to receive funding for playground upgrades. The secondary school received \$50,000 for playground upgrades because it also hosts Grade 7 students. Principal Mark Heidebrecht said the gym equipment was chosen because it would get more use than a playground for most of the school's students and benefit the community outside of school hours.

Muriel Cameron receives Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

One of Madeira Park's longtime volunteers, Muriel Cameron, received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for her many years of service to the community.

Cameron was presented the medal by MLA Nicholas Simons at her home on Dec. 4.

The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal commemorates the 2012 celebration of the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne.

It was created as a way for Canada to honour the monarch for her service to Canada while also honouring significant contributions and achievements by Canadians.

In addition to being a Canadian citizen, recipients of the medal must have "made a significant contribution to a particular province, territory, region or community within Canada, or an achievement abroad that brings credit to Canada."

For longer than Queen Elizabeth has held her throne, Cameron has tirelessly volunteered with the Pender Harbour Community Club.

The PHCC is a non-profit society that has sponsored countless events since 1950 but it is best known for managing the P. H. Community Hall.

Most days Cameron's car will be parked outside the hall and she is often seen coming out with a bag or two of garbage after tidying up.

But after 52 years of supporting her community, Cameron still isn't sure if she deserves the honour:

"It doesn't feel quite right," she said after being presented the award.

"But, oh well."

The P. H. Community Club will host a tea in recognition of Cameron and her award at the P. H. Community Hall on Saturday, Jan. 12 at 1 p.m.



Brian Lee photos

Muriel Cameron recently received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal (inset) for her ongoing volunteer contributions to her community. MLA Nicholas Simons presented it to her in her Madeira Park home on Dec. 6.

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Film project shoots for local input

“Do you have a story from your life that has affected the way you view yourself as Canadian?”

That’s a question two SFU film grads will ask when they arrive in Madeira Park this month to kick off a cross-Canada exploration into “Canadian cultural identity.”

Alexandra Caulfield and Ryder Thomas White are seeking participants for Canadian Frame(lines), an interactive film project that will weave the stories of Canadians from across the country.

The two are offering participants an opportunity to “learn to shoot, process and screen your own Super 8mm film.”

They aren’t sure what the final product will look like because they intend to let the project shape itself as it progresses.

Caulfield and White will spend the next year travelling by bus through each province but Madeira Park is their first stop.

A public information session for



photo submitted

Ryder Thomas White and Alexandra Caulfield will host an information session for prospective participants in their interactive film project on Jan. 9.

interested participants, aged 15 and up, will be held at the P. H. Community School on Jan. 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Workshops will begin later that

week on Jan. 12 and a screening of the films is set for Jan. 26.

For more information visit www.canadianframelines.com.

Thank you for your continued community support

Blessings to all for a bright and positive New Year!

Our 2013 winter session starts January 14

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Garden Bay Pub heist

On Nov. 23, a break and enter was reported at the Garden Bay Pub.

Sunshine Coast RCMP say the break-in occurred between 1:30 a.m. and 5 a.m. after entry had been gained

through a window.

A safe was opened and approximately \$1,800 in bills and rolled coins was stolen.

Police are investigating.

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PHSS term one honour roll

To be eligible for the honour roll, students must have a minimum 75 per cent average of all courses, with no mark lower than a C.

Honourable mention is between 70-75 per cent.

An "Incomplete" in any subject also disqualifies students from the honour roll.

GRADE 7

Cole Charlton, Julian Chiasson, Lilah Donnahee, Kimberly Fielding, Kaitlin Gross, Brandon Lamarche, Jessica Linnmann, Ian McDonald, Lexi Scoular, Emily Silvey, Saoirse Stephan, Hannah Stewart.

GRADE 8

Chiara Alps-Mocellin, Cypher Clerx, Jordan Haines, Maribeth Haines, Grace Mattson, Madeline Roach, Jesse Venalainen.

GRADE 9

Alex Dyck, Marena MacKenzie, Logan Nattall, Mitchell Silvey, Samantha Stewart, Angus Venalainen, Connor Whitworth, Brenna Young.

GRADE 10

Cameron Anderson, Keenan Clerx, Crystal Cook, Sawyer Cote, Teaguen Craig, Cassidy Craig-Waters, Nadine Jay-Reid, Jace Landry, Zena Lanteigne, Teal Loverock, Dani Pazur, Caleb Rouleau, Paul Wicks.

GRADE 11

Alex Christian, Autumn La France, Aaron Pazur, Emily Reid, Matthew Silvey, Wendy Snedden, Matthew Watts, Solveig van Wersch.

Honourable Mention: Chloe Campbell.

GRADE 12

Bryon Dyck, Brandon Ewen, Carly Fielding, Charlotte Gray, Ryleigh Lightbourn, Brianna Milligan, Paige Nattall, Brad Seabrook, Savannah Sosa, Shaylen Sosa.

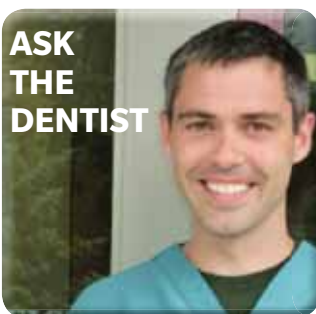
Honourable Mention: Nicholas Silvey.

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This is a very serious medical emergency which not only risks your own life but places the dentist and employees in a dangerous situation as well.

Please tell your dentist if you use cocaine. All information given to the dentist and employees of the dental office is strictly confidential.

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2012 harbour spiel retrospective



January: SCRD corporate officer, Angie Legault swears in newly elected Area A director Frank Mauro on Dec. 8, 2011.



January: Dr. Eric Paetkau reads from his book *The Doc's Side* at the book's launch at the P. H. School of Music.



July: The Pender Harbour branch of the St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary hosted a 75th anniversary tea at the P. H. Community Hall on June 16.



June: Everybody snickers when one of those smug fishermen goes up on the rocks. Seen here is David Reid's *Ocean Pioneer* unloading after a day of prawning. Fred Coulter photo



August: Ken Walters finally revealed the eight-year-old secret message contained in this Madeira Park mural.



August: Some residents flew into a tizzy when a float plane landed on Garden Bay Lake on July 7.



December: Provincial NDP leader Adrian Dix visited the P. H. Legion for a fundraising luncheon Nov. 25.



November: Here lies the 90-year-old *Lulu Island* after partially sinking beside its anchormate the *Kwatna* on Sept. 29.

2012 harbour spiel retrospective



April: Volunteers with the Ruby Lake Lagoon Society pitched in during the first half of 2012 to clean up Tyner Park.



May: Orca whales and Pacific white-sided dolphins provided a fantastic photo op in Bargain Harbour on April 20.



September: Over 50 Ranger Tugs moored in Pender Harbour on July 30 before departing for Cortes Island the next morning.



November: The winner of the 'Name Our Northern Neighbour' contest (to rename the area formerly known as the upper Sunshine Coast) was unveiled at the Fall Faire on Oct. 6.

January 2013



April: This bit of graffiti started tongues wagging after appearing on Garden Bay Road in March. The name is covered to protect the (not so?) innocent.



May: Sue Kammerle turned 84 on April 20 and was seen in Madeira Park celebrating with three 'boy toys.'

photo submitted



September: Local residents were upset over Capilano Highways 'resurfacing' of some local roads in the summer of 2012. Many still are.



October: Members of the newly formed P. H. Communities Association updated the community about recent progress at the community hall on Sept. 9.

Pender girls dominate but settle for 1-1 record in Chatelech games



Brian Lee photo

The Pender Harbour Sakinaw junior girls played two games when Pemberton Secondary arrived in Sechelt for a mini-tournament on Dec. 7. Here Samantha Stewart shoots a free throw against Pemberton.

The Pender Harbour Secondary junior girls basketball team finished with a split record at a mini-tournament at Chatelech Secondary School in Sechelt on Dec. 7.

Sea to Sky rivals Pemberton were in town to play the Pender team and Chatelech.

The Pemberton girls jumped out to a quick lead in the first quarter, showing no signs of lingering sea legs

from the ferry ride minutes before.

Pender couldn't get their range, bouncing shot after shot off the rim.

Luckily for them, Pemberton took very few shots thanks to the fast hands of the Pender defence resulting in a dozen or so Pemberton turnovers.

By the end of the first quarter, the Sakinaws were down 6 to 2.

Whatever it was coaches Earl Antilla and Hazel Jay told their team

to start the second quarter, it stuck because the girls rallied furiously.

Sparked by Nadine Jay-Reid's end to end rushes, Pender inflicted an offensive onslaught.

By the midpoint of the second quarter Pender had outscored their opponent 8 to 0 while stealing the ball virtually every time Pemberton crossed into their end.

Halftime ended with the Pender

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team leading 17-8.

A late rally by Pemberton in the third quarter brought them back into the game as the two teams entered the fourth quarter at 24-15.

But the Pender squad's defence ensured there would be no comebacks from Pemberton this day, ending the game 29-19.

High scorers for Pender were Jay-Reid who netted 16 points while Dani Pazur scored 8.

In the next game, Chatelech barely squeaked by Pemberton.

Chat tied it up with 20 seconds left to force overtime and then finished the visitors with two overtime three-pointers, ending the game 36-30.

As Pemberton hopped back in their vehicles to rush for the ferry, Pender faced off against Chatelech.

"We were winning pretty well all game," said coach Antilla.

"But they wore down our small bench — we had eight players and they had 18."

Chatelech executed their second come from behind victory of the day going ahead ahead of the Sakinaws by one point with 30 seconds left on the clock.

That's all they would need as the buzzer rang, the score stuck at 21-20.

Pazur was the team's offensive star of the day, scoring 16 points against Chatelech. Jay-Reid and Daisy Dixon each chipped in two points.



Brian Lee photo

Pemberton tried everything to get back in the game but each time they crossed over half, they ran into Pender's defence. Here Dani Pazur hands a rejection slip to a Pemberton forward.



Brian Lee photo

Coach Earl Antilla calms the team down during a late timeout during the game against Pemberton.

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Mauro offers up some FAQs



*By Frank Mauro,
Area A Director*

As I write this column I am reminded that I have now been representing Area A at the SCRD for a full year.

It has been an eventful one; we have made some significant accomplishments and have laid the groundwork and set the direction for going forward.

During the year I responded to many questions raised by constituents.

Here are my answers to some of the most “frequently asked questions.”

WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE PENDER HARBOUR BUS?

As I reported in last month’s article, the bus we bought and used for the trial is located at the Mason Road maintenance yard and has been available for rent on an hourly basis from the SCRD.

It has only been rented for a couple of events all year and none of the rentals were from this area.

I have requested proposals for acquiring “ownership” of the bus, at no cost, to manage rentals for group transportation.

Please contact me for more information.

WHICH BIKE AND WALKWAYS WILL BE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR THE NEW FUNCTION?

As I write this I do not have the results of the Alternate Approval Pro-

cess currently underway to establish this function but I am hopeful that it will be successful.

One project frequently identified as a priority is the Lily Lake loop/Madeira Park downtown connector.

Others have been safety related projects including paths along Francis Peninsula and Garden Bay Roads.

I expect to have guidance from the new Pender Harbour Communities Association in setting priorities.

If you are interested joining a group to provide input, please contact them at info_phca@telus.net.

WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE SOUTH PENDER WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM?

The project was tendered and some responses were received but

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

Policing Committee
January 7 at 9:00 a.m.

Transportation Committee
January 7 at 10:30 a.m.

Infrastructure Services Committee
January 10 at 9:30 a.m.

Community Services Committee
January 10 at 1:30 p.m.

Regular Board
January 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Special Corporate and Administrative Services Committee - Round 1 Budget Review
January 14, 15, 16 and 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Planning and Development Services Committee
January 17 at 9:30 a.m.

Corporate and Administrative Services Committee
January 24 at 1:30 p.m.

Regular Board
January 24 at 7:30 p.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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Go to www.scrd.ca and click on “Sign up for our Newsletter” button to receive *Coast Current*, our quarterly newsletter.

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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

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none met requirements.

The tender has been reworked and issued on Dec. 11. Responses will be received at the end of January and evaluated.

The revised estimated completion date has not changed and is still December 2013.

I am looking forward to that date marking the end of water advisories for this system.

WHEN WILL THE P. H. LANDFILL CLOSE AND WHERE WILL WE HAVE TO TAKE OUR WASTE?

The landfill was due to close before the end of 2012.

Due to increased settling of landfill material, lower volumes received and better efficiency, the life of the site has been extended for a few years.

It does not make financial sense to close the landfill before it is “full.”

The regional solid waste management plan, recently approved by the province, mandates that the landfill must be closed by the end of 2014.

The future (before the end of 2014) will include a recycling and waste transfer facility.

The current favoured site, mostly due to lowest cost, will be located at the existing landfill.

Work on the design of the facility was delayed due to a service review initiated by one of the municipalities.

A recent complication was introduced with the implementation in 2013 of a provincial stewardship program for packaging and printed paper to be managed by Multi-Materials BC.

Work is ongoing to determine the best course of action for the district since the program completely changes the funding model for recycling.

Since the budget setting cycle completes near the end of March 2013, the planning for managing recycling is being dealt with as the highest priority.

SUMMARY

There have been many other questions posed about issues which are not SCRD responsibility but that I have pursued, representing our constituents to the highest levels of the responsible agencies or governments.

I have reported about some in this column.

These include road surfacing and maintenance, the dock issue in Pender Harbour, phones and cell phone service in Egmont, illegal dumping, ferries, parking and many others I did not include as they would form another whole article.

I encourage people to come to me with questions as I feel it is my duty to represent this area’s concerns and lobby whichever level of government is responsible.

I have kept these answers brief but am happy to provide more detail. Please come to the open discussion or contact me.

OPEN DISCUSSION

I will be available between 8 and 10 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 7 at Java Docks in Madeira Park to answer questions and to listen to your concerns.

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

I wish everyone a safe and happy New Year.



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• Egmont & District Volunteer Fire Department	883-2555
• GRIPS (Recycling Society)	883-1165
• Garden Bay Sailing Club.....	883-2689
• Guides, Brownies, etc.	883-2819
• Harbour Artists	883-2807
• Harbourside Friendships (Thur. 10:30 -1 p.m.)	883-9766
• Health Centre Society	883-2764
• Health Centre Auxiliary (Last Monday, 1p.m.).....	883-9957
• InStitches (Last Thursday, 11 a.m., PHHC).....	883-0748
• Lions Club, Egmont.....	883-9463
• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Tues.).....	883-1361
• Men's Cancer Support Group.....	883-2393
• P. H. Aquatic Centre Society.....	885-6866
• P. H. Garden Club	883-9415
• P. H. Golf Club	883-9541
• P. H. Hiking Club (8:30 am, Mon. & Wed.).....	883-2054
• P. H. Living Heritage Society.....	883-0744
• P. H. Music Society (bookings)	883-9749
• P. H. Paddling Society	883-3678
• P. H. Pipe Band.....	883-0053
• P. H. Power & Sail Squadron (2nd Wed. 7:30 p.m.) ...	883-9313
• 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
• Serendipity Preschool	883-2316
• 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

PENDER HARBOUR LIONS CLUB

The Pender Harbour Lions Club thanks John Forward for his 20-plus years of service. His thoughtful guidance, hard work and leadership is greatly appreciated. John, along with other fine folks in our community, have built up the Lions Park and the Morrison Hall into what it is today.

Some past members include Don Kier, Lil Beharell, Peter Benjafield, Eric Antilla, Frank Roosen Sr., Ray Kraft, Dennis Gamble, Richard Hunsche, Ruth Kobus and many more. Hopefully more people will step up and continue the fine work and example they have provided for our wonderful community. R. F. Kennedy wrote:

"We must attempt to bring people back to the warmth of community, to the worth of individual effort and responsibility, and of individuals working together as a community, to better their lives and their children's future."

P. H. WILDLIFE SOCIETY

The Pender Harbour Wildlife Society invites everyone to their Jan. 15 meeting to enjoy a visit to Cuba with the Harrisons. Joe and Solveigh will give a slideshow presentation and talk about their visit to Cuba last year. The presentation will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Pender Harbour High School. The society will meet following a short break for refreshments. As this meeting is the annual general meeting of the wildlife society involving annual committee reports and the election of officers and directors, all members are urged to attend.



Solveigh Harrison photo

P. H. GARDENING CLUB

On Monday, Jan. 14, the Pender Harbour Garden Club will host Michelle Lewis. Lewis is a manager at Sunshine Coast Nursery and is a certified landscape designer. The topic of her presentation will be "tips for success in your garden, from soil amendments to planting maintenance."

The presentation will be held at the Pender Harbour School of Music at 10 a.m. Admission for non-members will be by donation.

Ivy Marie Pierce

APRIL 12, 1927 — DECEMBER 1, 2012

It is with great sorrow that we announce Ivy's passing.

She slipped away quietly on Dec. 1 after a 10-year stay in Shornecliffe Care Home.

Ivy loved her life on the Sunshine Coast where she worked for many years as a nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Sechelt.

Ivy and husband Rod were a fun-loving couple who loved to travel.

Ivy particularly enjoyed gambling and casinos in Reno and Las Vegas.

She is sadly missed by sister Isabel and daughter Jan, two grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, two nieces, one nephew as well as countless cousins, family and friends.

Ivy was predeceased by husband Rod, daughter Peg and son Ted.

After a long battle with illness, we celebrate Ivy's freedom from pain but will miss her always.

No service by request.



letters

Eckardt questions Mulcair's opposition to Bill C-27

Dear Editor,

What on earth makes Thomas Mulcair think that we, the taxpayers, would be OK with First Nations leaders robbing their communities blind?

The bill which he opposes does not even address the problem.

It merely requires chiefs and band councillors to disclose their salaries and other benefits.

It would, however, be a good first

step to get things rolling.

Just in case you missed it, 50 native politicians are currently earning more than \$317,000 annually (tax free) — the salary of our Prime Minister.

The average native community consists of 1,142 members.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is, of course, the head of 35 million people, (geographically) the second largest country on the planet.

There are 160 First Nations politicians who earn more than \$190,000 or the salary of the premier of BC.

Our two local MPs usually come to the rescue when it appears I have "misunderstood" something their leader said.

I can hardly wait for their "explanations."

I have not had a good laugh for a while.

Ziggy Eckardt
Burnaby, BC

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Neale Smith 883-3693

Kostya and Gertrude Zetkin: The Russian

By Joe Harrison

*We live without feeling the country beneath our feet,
Our words are inaudible from ten steps away.
Any conversation, however brief,
Gravitates gratingly, toward the Kremlin's mountain man.
His greasy fingers are thick as worms,
His words weighty hammers slamming their target.
His cockroach moustache seems to snicker,
And the shafts of his high-topped boots gleam . . . ”*

~ Beginning of *Epigram Against Stalin* by Osip Mandelstam, who was executed by Stalin in 1938 for this poem recited to Boris Pasternak in 1934 and recently translated by Esther Allen and Cuban poet, Jose Prieto. It was described by a critic from the New York Review in 2011 as “... the sixteen lines of a death sentence.”

Had you been on the Sunshine Coast in the 1960s or 1970s you might have encountered an elderly man, Kostya Zetkin, striding along the highway near Pender Harbour or perhaps sunbathing with his wife, Gertrude, on the rocks near Merry Island.

I have an enduring memory of his hawk-like Romanov nose and shiny head, wearing a dark woolen turtleneck sweater, gleaming high-topped Russian leather boots and carrying a rough-hewn walking staff. At his side, Gertrude, an elegant figure dressed in artful loose-fitting clothes with her shockingly vibrant white hair talking animatedly in French or sometimes Russian or German.

More often we saw them striding along among the drifting late summer alder leaves and slanting afternoon sun on the highway by Lily Lake. They evoked an incongruous image of European nobility magically set down in this place of ragged skylines and jig-saw coastlines.

Initially, I pieced together bits of their story from family friends and the local rumour mill.



Top: Clara Zetkin and Rosa Luxemburg in 1910.

Bottom: Rolf and Inge Bremer hosted European revolutionaries at their Oyster Bay home and oyster company in the '60s and '70s.

Ron Park photo

Revolution Comes to Pender Harbour

They were both educated as German medical doctors and had arrived as refugees in New York in 1945 with the help of Gertrude's sisters, Gertrude's son, Lucas Bardenhewer Bennett and the influence of other prominent German émigrés including Albert Einstein and Wilhelm Reich.

The American government officials immediately viewed them with suspicion because of Kostya's past connections to famous politicians of the Russian Revolution and the German Communist Party. Desperately unhappy in America, they could only find work as orderlies in psychiatric hospitals until 1957 when they retired to the West Coast and the cottage of Gertrude's sister, Thea Leuchte, opposite Merry Island near Halfmoon Bay.

Thea and her husband had immigrated from Germany to Canada to escape the rise of fascism in the '30s as had my mother-in-law, Inge Bremer, with whom Thea had much in common. Both shared a German heritage, both had two daughters and both families had secrets about the past.

Inge's daughter, my wife, Solveigh Bremer Harrison, was a teacher and had developed a friendship with Thea's daughter, Susanne Bolivar, who like Solveigh was also a teacher with two small children. Family get-togethers next door at Inge's table were a regular part of our lives in Oyster Bay while our children were small.

Suzie remembered that as a girl, she and her family had been sworn to secrecy as was Inge's family, of which we knew nothing to begin with. And both for good — if different — reasons. Slowly over the years the astonishing tales unfolded and remarkable they were.

To most local residents, Kostya Zetkin was an unknown. But as secretary to his famous mother, German politician Clara Zetkin, and as a lover and confidante of Rosa Luxemburg, Europe's most prominent feminist, Zetkin had been an eye witness to political events in both Germany and Russia involving Adolf Hitler, Vladimir Lenin and Josef Stalin during the most murderous century in human history.

By 1975, Kostya and wife Gertrude had been on the run for so long that secrecy was second nature. It is ironic that the fascinating history that brought the Zetkins to the Sunshine Coast is better known today in Europe than it is in Canada.

Recently there has been renewed interest in the writing of Rosa Luxemburg who, even before the First World War, presciently understood and wrote that Vladimir Lenin's vision of Communism would inevitably lead to tragedy. History has proven her correct.

Kostya was always more sympathetic to Rosa's brand of moderate democratic socialism than the hardline views
January 2013

of his mother, Lenin, and Stalin. He was also caught up in the idealism of the Russian Revolution with the rise of fascism in Germany. For many there seemed no strong alternative when appeasement and compromise were the only options offered.

During the 1970s, Gertrude, Thea and Kostya were regular guests next door at the Bremer round-table "kaffee klatch" in Oyster Bay where we shared wonderful open faced sandwiches. Inge often served oysters she had grown, shucked and prepared for these special gatherings.

Much of the fascinating talk would lapse into German or French if they had brought a friend from Berlin or Paris. I was as intrigued as were our two small children, Klisala and Rolf, who were always invited and spoiled by Gertrude with little German sweets known as dominoes and playful nursery rhymes sung in German.

I recall Kostya Zetkin's stiff reserve as he sat at the table with a more formal black cane, handling Inge's Dresden Meissen china with accustomed grace. He was beginning to sink into a fog of senility but he was conscientious to a fault in observing social nuances with dignity, particularly taking great care with women who intuitively sensed an intimacy unusual in men. Some may have thought him a ladies' man, but I think it was his great compassion that women seemed to recognize.

Outside in the sun, his pilot Gertude's hair and intellect shone brightly against the brilliant mounds of oyster shells left from a half century of cultivation and sales to local restaurants and hotels. Gertrude's sister, Thea, was seldom without a dog when they rolled into the driveway which was a great treat for the kids.



A 40th anniversary poster celebrating Clara Zetkin's role in the creation of International Women's Day.

Kostya Zetkin (cont.)

(cont. from p. 17)

When I once complimented Gertrude on her sense of style, she turned to me considering her reply for a moment, looked directly into my eyes and whispered,

“Our clothes wear us!”

Not one to preach and always uncomfortable with religion or dogma, she was a classy woman. Even in rags she would have been intellectual royalty and she knew it.

Other local residents were no less intrigued. John Daly and his son, Richard recalled seeing this mysterious duo hiking on remote logging roads in the local mountains. Anne Clemence and Sam Lamont ran across them while beachcombing for logs in their black tugboat, *The Vulture*. Anne especially remembers them as nut brown basking almost daily on warm granite beach boulders in the afternoon sun near Middlepoint.

An impenetrable formality ruled our meetings until Kostya died in 1980 at the age of 95. Then the lid came off. Gertrude would seek me out and settle down amongst the heavy dark furniture which Inge’s parents had brought from Germany during the Great Depression of the 1930’s.

Only much later was I told by Gertrude’s niece Suzie, that I was especially privileged to have heard about historical events, many of which she didn’t know.

THE ZETKIN HISTORY

I remember one New Year’s Eve, in Inge’s living room, sated with good food and wine, when Gertrude began to describe Vladimir Lenin’s house in Zurich in the years leading up to the famous “sealed train of 1917” that carried the leaders of the 1917 Russian Revolution from Switzerland to Russia.

Later she went on to describe all the main players in both Russia and Germany: Josef Stalin, the cleverest and most ruthless; Adolf Hitler, banal evil incarnate; Vladimir Illyich Lenin, pragmatic strategist who believed the end justified the means; Clara Zetkin and Rosa Luxemburg, spiritual leaders whose radical vision of social justice changed the modern world.

It is still unclear just when Kostya and Gertrude first met. Perhaps it was during her student days late in Second

World War Zurich at the Lenin house because she described both the house and the occupants to me. Many activist students were part of events there and she may well have been one of them.

In any event, she and Kostya became lovers in 1935 in



photographer unknown

Rosa Luxemburg and Kostya Zetkin.

Czechoslovakia after Kostya had escaped Stalin’s clutches in the Kremlin where he had lived after fleeing from Hitler in 1933.

I remember Gertrude proudly showing me a 1935 photo of “Kostya in his prime at 50” in Czechoslovakia. He was a famous man with an eye for classy women and she had an eye for quality as well.

Perhaps it was my interest in history and politics, or my rapt attention. Perhaps it was her realization that a thread not included with some of Kostya’s papers (recently sent to Columbia University) might be lost and something of their extraordinary lives forgotten. While

Gertrude usually focused on Kostya’s life, I learned very little about her own past. Much I have pieced together only much later by accessing material in the National Archives of Baden Wuerttemberg and other sources.

Kostya’s father Osip, an exiled Russian revolutionary, met Clara Josephine Eisner when she trained as a teacher in Leipzig from 1873-1878. After Osip was expelled from Germany for revolutionary activity in 1880, the couple moved to Paris where Maxim was born in 1883 and Kostya (Konstantin) two years later.

Both Clara and Osip were active in French labour issues. They were befriended by Laura Lafargue, the daughter of Karl Marx, and her husband Paul where Clara’s career as one of Europe’s foremost socialist politicians began.

After Osip died of tuberculosis in 1889, Clara moved her family to Stuttgart in Germany where she was a journalist for a Social Democratic magazine seeking equality for women. Among her political allies was Vladimir Lenin whom Kostya remembered as a regular visitor to their house in Stuttgart and with whom they lived from time to time in Zurich, Switzerland.

Both Maxim and Kostya graduated as medical doctors. Rosa Luxemburg acted as Kostya’s mentor and lover coaching him in political science studies beginning in 1908. Part way through his medical studies in 1915, Kostya was

Harbour Spiel

drafted into the German Army and served as a field surgeon on the Western Front at the battles of the Somme, Verdun and Reims.

CLARA ZETKIN

In the 1890s Clara had become the leader of the Women's Secretariat of the Socialist International and over the next 40 years she became a major figure as an elected member of the German Reichstag first as a Social Democrat until 1919, then later as leader of the Spartacus League and the German Communist Party opposing Adolf Hitler.

Clara Zetkin and Vladimir Lenin are today regarded as leaders and primary architects of the Russian Revolution of 1917. Acting as his mother's secretary throughout much of the period during and after, Kostya was an eyewitness to events in Germany leading up to the rise of Nazism that changed the world. Throughout the period after the First World War, Kostya was his aging mother's secretary and "technical medical support." Previous to and during the war, his brother Maxim had fulfilled this role.



Peter Bennett photo

Gertrude Zetkin and Klisala Harrison in the Bremer home circa 1978.

Clara Zetkin is also remembered for her partnership with Rosa Luxemburg as founders of the feminist movement in Europe. Both were active throughout Scandinavia, the Netherlands, France, Germany, England, Poland and Russia during the early 20th century. Today we take for granted a woman's right to vote and to exercise reproductive control, but it was they who led the fight. Rosa and Clara celebrated the very first International Women's Day on March 19, 1911.

ROSA LUXEMBURG

Clara Zetkin's closest friend and colleague, Rosa Luxemburg, was perhaps the most inspiring and popular female politician of her day. The political partnership of Clara and Rosa covered most of Europe until the pair became estranged over Lenin's belief in the need for a violent revolution against capitalism. Rosa correctly foresaw the danger of a new tyranny.

Clara Zetkin's partnership with Rosa Luxemburg in political endeavours is chronicled in a 1986 movie directed by Margarethe von Trotta, *Rosa Luxemburg*.

The film portrays the story surrounding Rosa's love affair with Clara's son, Kostya, her imprisonment, and her assassination in 1919 by German authorities.

Although 14 years younger, Kostya was Rosa's lover and confidante beginning in 1908 when he was 23 and she 37. According to the German newspaper *Die Zeit*, 600 of Rosa's recently published love letters (including many to and from Kostya) are of literary and political importance.

After Rosa's death in 1919, Kostya became a founding member of the Institute for Social Research at the University of Frankfurt/Main. As editor of working class German Marxist newspapers in 1923, he had frequent contact with Karl Korsch, Georg Lukaks, Richard Sorge, and other socialists who would go on to become political leaders in post-war West Germany.

By the time Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933, Clara Zetkin was the chair and convener of the German Reichstag. The burning of the Reichstag (some say intentional by Hitler's cohorts) provoked Hitler into ordering that all Communist leaders be executed immediately. This order was swiftly countermanded by the German president.

Clara and Kostya were forced to flee to Moscow where Maxim had an apartment in the Kremlin. Maxim had worked in Moscow from 1920 as a surgeon and lecturer at the Medical Institute when the Bolsheviks took control.

Clara, aged 76, died soon after arriving in Moscow in 1933. During the 25 years preceding the Russian Revolution

Kostya Zetkin (cont.)

(cont. from p. 19)

in 1917, Clara Zetkin had been a close associate of Stalin's rival and Russia's former leader, Vladimir Lenin. Indeed, Clara had been one of the architects of the 1917 revolution at Lenin's house in Zurich and Stalin plainly preferred a dead Clara to anyone with enough clout to question his judgement.

Some historians now believe there is evidence that Lenin (who died in 1924) was poisoned by Stalin's pharmacist, setting off a decades-long murderous campaign by Stalin to consolidate his power and eliminate all opposition to his tyranny. By 1933 it was clear that Stalin, having taken control of the Russian bureaucracy, was every bit as ruthless and paranoid as Adolf Hitler.

Following Clara's death later that same year, Kostya Zetkin fell afoul of Soviet bureaucrats over the control of Clara's literary estate. Realizing his precarious situation as a sympathizer to moderate democratic socialism, he applied to leave Russia but Stalin was hesitant.

Perhaps only because his brother Maxim had become a prominent figure in Russian medicine over the years since 1920, Kostya was reluctantly allowed to go to Czechoslovakia in 1935 to practice medicine.

The following year, in 1936, Stalin orchestrated the now famous show trials and purges that began a new round of executions, murders and imprisonments.

Kostya's brother, Maxim, managed to elude Stalin during the purges of 1936-37 by serving in the Spanish Civil War with the Republican forces and only returned to Moscow in 1939 as chief Soviet medical officer when Stalin was preoccupied with events in Germany.

Today the memory of Maxim Zetkin is celebrated

throughout the former Soviet Union. Maxim went on to serve heroically as chief Soviet medical officer in the Caucasus during the Second World War when millions of Russians were killed and many more wounded.

After the Second World War, Maxim had various political and medical posts in Soviet East Germany including a dozen years as professor at Berlin's Humboldt University from 1947 to 1960 where he taught and edited several medical reference books. Letters between the brothers, Kostya and Maxim, have been preserved in German archives.

HOW GERTRUDE SAVED KOSTYA FROM HITLER

The German invasion of Czechoslovakia by Hitler in 1938 forced Kostya to begin a 20-year odyssey that eventually brought him and Gertrude to the Sunshine Coast in 1957. The story is one of the Coast's fascinating connections with world events of the 20th century.

In 1938, the Zetkins fled from Prague to their old haunts in Zurich, but the Swiss authorities were unable to protect them from possible assassination by German or Russian agents.

Gertrude, with her social grace and skill, and knowing full well that they were in mortal danger from both Nazis and Russians, steered them on foot, mostly at night, over the mountains from Switzerland to France.

The Zetkins had old friends in Paris who hid them in the French countryside where Kostya worked as a masseur and labourer. After Hitler occupied France they were eventually caught and imprisoned for four months by the Vichy authorities. But luck was on their side and they were not recognized by the German authorities who would have immediately

N iunius,

It hurts me that I have brought you trouble, forgive me. It's all better again with me, my suffering was probably all my own imagination, and I feel again as I used to. I was really very ill, and it took all of my energy. But now I'm calm and well, and I feel alive again.

So, now all is quiet around me...

As I lie on the sofa, freezing, I cover myself with your blanket that looks so regal and makes me proud.

Calm and serene.

We kiss you both.

Rosa Luxemburg to her lover Kostya Zetkin
Friedenau, Berlin, Feb. 14, 1911



executed them.

It was Gertrude who spotted and secretly negotiated with a sympathetic prison commandant. When she nervously felt him out on his political leanings and she confessed to him their real identities, he paused and quietly said, "We cannot have the son of Clara Zetkin in a prison cell."

Even at the height of the war in Nazi-occupied France, the names of Clara Zetkin and Rosa Luxemburg could be passports to freedom. Such was the regard of ordinary people for these iconic heroes who had championed social justice in Europe for the previous half-century. On more than one occasion, people willingly risked everything to save Gertrude and Kostya.

Gertrude's astute judgment in assessing social realities allowed them to be quietly released and smuggled to safety in Spain and onward to Gertrude's son, Lucas Bennett in New York in 1945.

The American authorities did not welcome their arrival. They found it humiliating that, as doctors, the only work available to them was working on a dairy farm. Later they worked as medical orderlies in American psychiatric hospitals, often described as hell holes.

When the Russians tested a nuclear bomb in 1949, the distrust and overbearing political sensitivity of American authorities drove them to attempt to return to Germany. By this time, however, the political climate was impossible and worked against them.

Kostya's brother, Maxim, was by then a prominent medical figure in the Russian controlled sector of Berlin in East Germany as a professor of Medicine at Humboldt University. The historical prominence of the Zetkin name was just too awkward. Kostya was 64 years old and surrounded by an aura of past political baggage which might have upset the delicate balance between Russians and Americans.

The Cold War with the Soviet Union, the imminent threat of nuclear annihilation and the subsequent era of Communist witch hunts in America by Senator Joe McCarthy prevented their return to Germany while making their lives in America miserable.

Kostya fell into a chronic depression which only lifted in 1957 when they were able to retire to the Sunshine Coast with the help of highly placed friends and family in the United States. Over these stressful years Kostya had developed a bleeding ulcer that resulted in an emergency operation to save his life in 1963.

Their last 20-odd years were in a beautiful place but filled with nostalgic regrets of missed opportunities and the knowledge that much of their early idealism had turned to ashes. The great utopian battles among fascism, social-

ism and capitalism were unresolved and had left millions of corpses and a world at the brink of an abyss.

EPILOGUE

In 2009 the German news magazine, *Der Spiegel*, reported the possibility that someone else's remains had been mistakenly identified as Luxemburg's and buried as hers.

A researcher from the Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences in Berlin came to Sechelt and inquired at a local bookstore in hopes of finding a trace of Rosa Luxemburg's DNA from a postage stamp she might have licked on one of her love letters to Kostya.

Local publisher Howard White was contacted in hopes of locating the Zetkin papers which were tracked down to Columbia University in New York. In any event, it turned out that Luxemburg had never done this, preferring instead to moisten stamps with a moist cloth due to the volume of her correspondence.

In July 2009 the German newspaper, *Bild am Sonntag* reported that a great-niece of Rosa Luxemburg's had been located and that 79-year old Irene Borde had donated strands of her hair for DNA analysis. Tests confirmed that Rosa's corpse had lain in the basement of the Forensics Institute since 1919 after she was taken from her prison cell by German authorities, murdered and dumped in a canal. Today there is a prominent sign at this site in Berlin.

In December 2009, Berlin authorities took charge of the body of Rosa Luxemburg and performed an autopsy before burying it in Luxemburg's grave, a sacred memorial for Berliners, to commemorate her struggle for women's rights and social justice. The Berlin gravesites of Maxim and his wife are also publicly marked in remembrance of their heroism in defeating Hitler and rebuilding German civilization.

Although I had met Kostya and Gertrude at many family gatherings in the '70s and '80s, I only learned about their remarkable connection to world events in dribs and drabs over the years. Picking up the story nearly 30 years after their deaths, the Internet now provides a new window on many historical events largely unknown to Canadians.

Readers can explore their histories online or seek out one of the excellent biographies of Rosa Luxemburg or Clara Zetkin. For me Rosa Luxemburg is the greatest hero of this story. She is a shining star in the dark night of 20th-century history. And her connection to the Coast through the Zetkins is an interesting sidelight. 🐼

English bulldog breeding is animal cruelty and abuse



By John Wade

Dear John,

What do you think of the English bulldog as a family dog?

I've done some online research and learned a lot but I'd like to get your opinion.

Thanks,
Frank

Hi Frank,

The Internet makes it relatively easy to make informed decisions regarding many of our purchases.

However once you type the word "dog" into the search bar, all bets are off.

With respect to any particular dog breed, you've as much chance of getting an arm's length review from a breeder or a breed owner as you are going to get from a human mother about her newborn.

That baby may cause everyone else to gulp, step back and wonder if newborns usually require shaving but, for mothers, dog breeders and breed owners — love is blind.

British/English bulldogs are the poster dog for all that is wrong in the show-only world and a sore point for

anyone interested in animal welfare.

Regardless of breed, good breeders breed for strengths and avoid flaws. That means you don't breed retrievers that won't retrieve or dogs with bad hips or those which, in spite of socialization and training, are known biters.

Good breeders value function.

They research before they breed and they follow up after they breed.

These breeders can be very hard to find.

What's easy to find are dogs from "champion" show-only stock.

Ribbons on the wall but not necessarily anything in the dog's head or soundness in its body.

Bulldog breeders have taken it a step further and have bred for unsoundness on purpose.

At some point the majority of British/English bulldog show breeders became interested in fashion as opposed to function and decided that it was fashionable to have oversized heads and impossibly narrow hips, and squashed faces.

This wasn't accidental.

This was purposeful — they wanted a look and they bred for it in spite of the damage it caused.

They have long considered it normal for their dogs to require artificial insemination and C-sections to

reproduce.

The breed is plagued by breathing, heart, hip, eye, and skin problems and are twice as likely to die of heart attack or cancer than old age.

What has been done to the breed defies reason.

If someone were to take a dog off the street and order it to be surgically altered to recreate the issues afflicting bulldogs, dog lovers around the world would be in an uproar.

Somehow these bulldog breeders replaced the scalpel with "selective" breeding and have done so with impunity.

So, in my opinion, if you are set on this breed and until the current manifestation of the breed has died out and replaced with its original stalwartness of mind and body, rather than support a breeder, get one from a rescue.

To be fair, bulldog breeders aren't alone.

Far too few breeders perform even the most basic due diligence. If you own a dog now and the person you purchased the dog from has not annually contacted you to ask even basic questions about physical and behaviour traits, there is no way under the sun they can be breeding for function, health and temperament.

Knowing the difference between a male and female dog isn't breeding.

Pawsitively yours,
John Wade

e-mail John at: johnwade@johnwade.ca or visit his website at www.johnwade.ca

ADDENDUM TO THIS COLUMN

I've been asked by a few bulldog "breeders" to provide evidence.

Wishing you a Season of Inspiration and Joy

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Main Office: 5772 Cowrie Street, Sechelt, BC

(See link below — the contents of which are as accessible to any knowledgeable bulldog breeder as they are to me).

To a certain extent a request to provide proof of this pretty much proves my point.

If they do not know what is common knowledge to every companion animal veterinarian on the planet, they are either in denial or are aware and simply unethical.

I'm not saying bulldogs are bad dogs or bulldog breeders are bad people (outside of their denial or ignorance in what they have done and continue to do).

I've never met a bulldog I didn't like but I have felt bad for many of them and I have never met one that did not sooner or later suffer.

For more information on this topic, visit the web address below:

[www.askthedogguy.com/
bulldog-breeding-consequences](http://www.askthedogguy.com/bulldog-breeding-consequences)

There you'll find links to reputable animal scientists and researchers who have well-documented evidence to support what any breeder should already understand.

~ JW



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- Louise McKay Inc.....883-2622

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- Pender Harbour Diesel.....883-2616

B.....

BACKHOE

- Glenn's Backhoe Services883-2840

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- Freedom Spa - Mobile & Home Based Day Spa.....885-8368

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- RONA Sunshine Coast.....883-9551
- Gibsons Building Supplies885-7121

C.....

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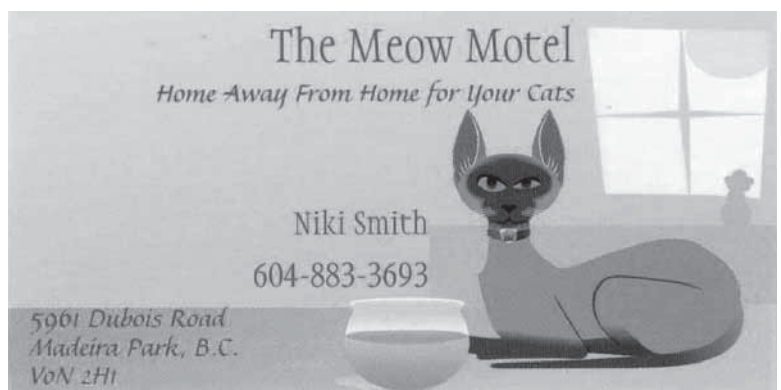
- The Brighterside Carpet Cleaning.....883-2060

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- Garden Bay Marine Services883-2722

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- Precise Painting & Plaster.....883-3693

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- BG Clerx Electric.....883-2684
- L.A. Electric.....883-9188
- Reid Electric.....883-9309

ESTATE SERVICES

- Montgomery Estate Services865-1202

F.....

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

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- Flowers by Patsy.....883-0295

G.....

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- Andrew Curtiss Contracting.....883-2221
- CC Rock Contracting.....741-3732

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- Bathgate General Store, Resort & Marina883-2222
- Oak Tree Market883-2411

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- RONA Sunshine Coast.....883-9551

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Skookumchuck viewing times ~ January ~

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

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

Jan. 1	2:00 pm -M,
Jan. 2	2:36 pm -M
Jan. 3	8:10 am +XL, 3:15 pm -M
Jan. 4	8:50 am +XL, 3:55 pm -M
Jan. 5	9:34 am +L, 4:38 pm -L
Jan. 6	10:24 am +M, 5:27 p.m. -L
Jan. 7	11:19 am +M
Jan. 8	12:19 pm +M
Jan. 9	1:20 pm +M
Jan. 10	10:24 am -S, 2:21 pm +M
Jan. 11	11:18 am -M, 3:19 pm +M
Jan. 12	10:16 am -M, 2:43 pm +L
Jan. 13	12:52 pm -M
Jan. 14	1:37 pm -L
Jan. 15	2:22 pm -L
Jan. 16	3:07 pm -L
Jan. 17	3:53 am -L
Jan. 18	8:40 am +L, 4:43 pm -L
Jan. 19	9:16 am +M
Jan. 20	9:59 am +M
Jan. 21	10:49 am +L
Jan. 22	11:47 am +S
Jan. 23	9:11 am -S, 12:47 pm +S
Jan. 24	10:02 am -S, 13:45 pm +S
Jan. 25	10:44 am -S, 2:38 pm +S
Jan. 26	11:20 am -M, 3:27 pm +S
Jan. 27	11:53 am -M, 4:13 pm +M
Jan. 28	12:23 pm -M, 4:59 pm +M
Jan. 29	12:53 pm -M
Jan. 30	1:24 pm -M
Jan. 31	1:56 pm -M

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.

BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 1 ~ **Dave Steppell, Paul Wharton** and **Cheryl Thompson**.
 Jan. 2 ~ **Bill Hunsche, Vince Perreca** and **Salem Taylor**
 Jan. 3 ~ **Colton Landry**.
 Jan. 4 ~ **Crystal White** and **Avril Maveety**.
 Jan. 5 ~ **Sue Lee, Betty Wenman** and **Taylor Phillips**.
 Jan. 7 ~ **Bryan Rousseau**.
 Jan. 8 ~ **Sue Natall, Jodi Godkin** and **Destiny Wallbaum**.
 Jan. 9 ~ **Arhea Howitt** and **Amanda Mayo**.
 Jan. 10 ~ **David Pease**.
 Jan. 11 ~ **Randy Cummings**.
 Jan. 12 ~ **Lisa Duncan** and **Mary Ebert**.
 Jan. 13 ~ **Tia Haase** and **Betty Wray**.
 Jan. 14 ~ **Dominic De La Canal, Norman Edwardson, Karlee Legge** and **Alannah Nichols**.
 Jan. 15 ~ **Curtis Sample** and **Ron Kushner**.

Jan. 16 ~ **Helen Palmer** and **Cody Angus**.
 Jan. 17 ~ **Tashina McLean** and **Brent Stoutenberg**.
 Jan. 19 ~ **Rita Zottoff** and **Arieanna Henderson**.
 Jan. 20 ~ **Gerald Mackie, Les Dornbierer** and **Hazel Jay**.
 Jan. 22 ~ **Starr Harding, Lil Higgs, Leanne Legge** and **Troy Brown**.
 Jan. 23 ~ **Taree Bathgate** and **Kelly Kammerle**.
 Jan. 24 ~ **Carolyn Ireland, Don Murray** and **Warren Dunaway**.
 Jan. 27 ~ **Leona Colebank**.
 Jan. 28 ~ **Vanessa Fielding** and **Ikuko Kishimoto**.
 Jan. 29 ~ **Jordan Field, Glen Scoular, Lorne Campbell, Alfie Lajlar, Sarah Beadle** and **Tanya Bernier**.
 Jan. 30 ~ **Lyle Forbes**.
 Jan. 31 ~ **Mary Jordison**.

JANUARY ASTROLOGY

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22 - JAN. 20):

You could be driven more by instinct than by reason now. This works in your favour. Your compulsive urges take many forms, but a particularly strong one is the need to rid yourself of limitations, restrictions and obstacles in a close relationship. Go with it. Alcohol will be found to be particularly helpful in driving these instincts. Consider your own feelings for once and be ruthless.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 18):

Relaxation, enjoyment and pleasure are emphasized for you now. This is not a time to push yourself or be involved in activities that require intense energy. Co-operative, harmonious relationships are more important to you at this time. You feel like socializing and being friendly. It is important to accept this joy because you will soon discover that 2013 will bring a terrific volume of stress. So, for now, try to relax.

JOEL FAFARD & JOEL SCHWARTZ



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Sunday, January 13
at 2 pm
School of Music
Madeira Park



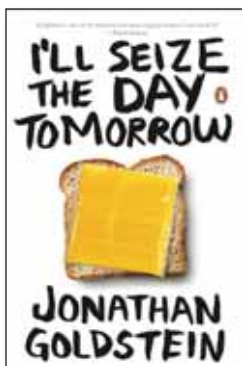
Tickets \$25 | Harbour Insurance, John Henry's Marina
Sechart Visitor Centre, Gaia's Fair Trade

Sponsored in part by an anonymous donor.

OF JANUARY

QUILL AND QUIRE FAVOURITE BOOK COVERS OF 2012

Canadian book industry magazine, the Quill and Quire, asked five book designers to pick their favourite covers of the year.



I'll Seize the Day Tomorrow
by Jonathan Goldstein (Penguin Canada) Designed by Michel Vrana

So many designs this year blended into one another or hid behind their bolder, more interesting American and British cousins, looking as if they were playing catch-up with visual trends. Michel Vrana's design is a simple, witty visual braced by bold, hand-lettered type that cleaves to a successful conceptual trend. One can take it in at a glance, but it has layers of meaning that

demand further investigation (why, for example, is the cheese slice still wrapped?).

– Ingrid Paulson, Ingrid Paulson Design

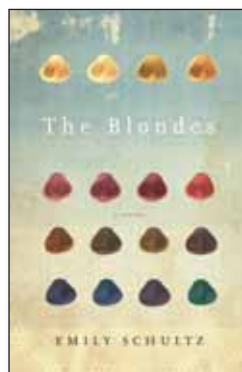


Carnival
By Rawi Hage (House of Anansi Press),
Designed by Brian Morgan
Illustration by Lorenzo Petrantoni

This cover's firing on all cylinders: it has striking symmetry, uses plenty of symbolism and imagery, and makes expert use of colour. The bold decision to use a stark white background practically barks across a room, and the images provide much to dissect: Who's the spider and who's the fly? And what's the carpet all about? Like so many covers I admire, all those

questions encourage me to pick up the book, examine it, and read the back cover copy. Then: sold.

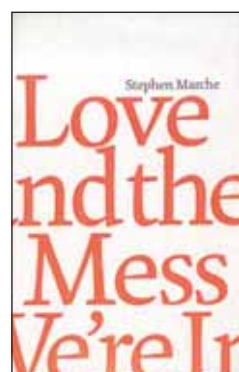
– Michel Vrana, freelance designer



The Blondes
By Emily Schultz (Doubleday Canada)
Designed by CS Richardson

I'm partial to book design that gets better when you actually encounter the physical object. This jacket's paper stock is heavy and textured and coated with a matte finish that has a nice feel to it. The hair locks have a spot gloss so they catch overhead bookstore lights nicely. If everyone in the industry didn't get so freaked out, I'm sure this would have been a great test case for leaving off the type.

– Jessica Sullivan, book designer



Love and the Mess We're In
By Stephen Marche (Gaspereau Press)
designed by Andrew Steeves

Maybe I'm tiring of speedy stock photo selections and laborious efforts to retrofit objects with book titles in new and witty ways. This typographic approach addresses the author's own experiments with letterforms, space, and pattern. The cropped and crowded letters speak to complex and ambivalent relationships.

– Natalie Olsen, Kisscut Design

JANUARY WEATHER

TEMPERATURES

January is normally our coldest month, with an average daily high temperature of 6 C and low of 2.6 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 4.3 C. The highest January temperature recorded at Merry Is. is 13.2 C (Jan. 30, 1989); the lowest is -7.2 C (Jan. 29, 1969).

PRECIPITATION

We have an average of 46.2 hours of bright sunshine, 17 days with rain, and three days with snow in January. Our average monthly rainfall is 116.3 mm; snowfall, 11.2 cm. The record daily rainfall recorded at the Merry Island weather station is 78.2 mm (Jan. 18, 1968).

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Dave Milligan
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Barry Krangle photo

Volleyball teams from Madeira Park Elementary School have sent notice to other schools in the district that they are a force. Two girls' teams attended the annual School District #46 girls volleyball championship placing first and fourth in the Grade 5, 6 & 7 division — that despite also needing to pull from Grades 3 and 4 to make a full squad. The boys have been doing equally well (with a team made up of Grades 3, 5 and 6) which narrowly lost to a Roberts Creek Grade 7 team 25-21 in the championship "B" final at Sechelt Elementary on Dec. 7. Coach/principal Barry Krangle said that, despite them being a much smaller school than many of the others attending, the Madeira Park teams were competitive with every team they they faced.

Make Us Part of Your Winter Line Up!

The Pender Harbour Aquatic and Fitness Centre (PHAFC) offers programs and services designed to build personal health and fun for all ages. **Registration for Winter 2013 programs is now open.**



Literacy Week and Teddy Bear Swim

January 21-27 is literacy week. Join us for swim lessons, fitness classes, public swims, games and activities to engage your brain and inspire fun and learning. On Sunday January 27 between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. bring your Teddy Bear along for a story time. Prizes for Best Dressed Bear, oldest bear, biggest and smallest. Special Family admission \$5.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JANUARY

Youth Night

If you are in Grades 4 to 9, join us on Friday, January 11 for Youth Night from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Pender Harbour pool and on January 25 at the Pender Harbour Community School. Admission is \$3.

Karate

Mondays from January 21 - March 4. Karate disciplines the mind and the body in the development of the human spirit.
6-11 years 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. \$66
12-18 years 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. \$66

Cardio Cabaret

Combining hot jazzy dance moves inspired by the Pussycat Dolls, African hip-hop funk, flamenco-tango, cool downs and stretches reminiscent of pilates and ballet. Beginning Thursdays, January 17-March 14, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Hip Hop Groove

Learn some funky moves and have time and space to do your own movement. Fridays from January 25 to March 4.
5/6 year olds 3:15 - 3:45 p.m. \$40
7-11 years 3:45 - 4:45 p.m. \$55
12+ years 4:45 - 5:45 p.m. \$55



Pool Zone

Swim lessons begin **January 7**. Invest in your healthy future by committing to regular physical activity.

Regain Your Health - Rehabilitation Programs

Happy Hearts (start date TBD), Gentle Waves (starts January 7), Aquatic Rehab (starts January 8), and Ease into Exercise (starts February 1).

Our schedules are available at:
www.scrd.ca/Pender-Harbour-Aquatic-Fitness-Centre.

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The Pender Harbour Aquatic and Fitness Centre will be closed December 31 and January 1. Regular hours of operation resume January 2, 2013.

class ads



The web is a fad. Sell it here.

Classified advertising must be prepaid. Cost: \$20 for 25 words maximum, second month free (space permitting) for non-commercial ads only. By mail or e-mail: editor@harbourspiel.com.

FOR RENT

- **3 bedroom-plus house** for rent in Madeira Park. Washer/dryer, fire places, basement. Prefer family. References required. \$1200 per month. (604) 322-0791.

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- **Folding treadmill.** Used by little old lady and in very good condition (both of us!) \$300 including Sony TV to watch while you walk. (604) 883-9959.
- **Quality 4' x 8' lattice made of 1" x 2" cedar.** \$40 each. Please call Dave at (604) 883-2132.

LOST AND FOUND

- **We found a cellphone** up past the Malaspina Substation on Sunday, Dec. 2. Call us at (604) 883-2377 to identify.
- **Lost Sunglasses.** Ladies purple framed prescription Adidas sunglasses. Lost near Madeira Park IGA in August. Reward if returned. Contact Kristin at okbaum@gmail.com. net or phone (250) 548-3488.

WANTED

- **Marine Charts.** BC mid-coast: Port Hardy to Ocean Falls. Beg, borrow or steal! Call Larry Curtiss @ (604) 883-2819 or (604) 883-2040.

WORK WANTED

- **Knees ripped** in your favourite jeans? Update that Chanel suit? For repairs, alterations, re-fashioning and custom sewing, call Billy. (604) 865-0640.
- **Lawn and garden care,** hedges, power washing, painting, gutters cleaned, dump runs etc. References. Rick Jones: (604) 740-9411.
- **Free scrap car removal.** Hiab crane service. Reasonable rates for large/heavy items brought from Lower Mainland. Curt (604) 740-7287.

harbour seals



Let it be heard 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.)

Harbour Seal of Approval for the **Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department** for generously donating their social fund money to the hot breakfast program at the Pender Harbour Secondary School. There has been an increased need for healthy, hot meals for the youth and this program will help support their learning.

Paola Stewart
P. H. Community School,
PHSS staff and students

A big Harbour Seal of approval to **Kerry Rand of KER Enterprises** for the excellent work getting the mobile home up that nasty driveway.

From the crew of Ab's Towing
(Rae, Zot, Buzz and Ab)

Many thanks to **Chrys and Clint Sample** for hosting the Reading Centre volunteers for tea.

It was fun to be in a welcoming setting, with fabulous food to complement the conversation.

Lori Rymes
P. H. Reading Centre

Harbour Seals of Approval to the **Pender Harbour Health Centre Auxiliary** for their generous donation of \$7,000 to provide ongoing program support to Harbourside Friendships. We are grateful for all of the support the auxiliary gives to this valuable community program.

Cathy Anderson
Harbourside Friendships

Serendipity would like to send out Harbour Seals of Approvals to **Bill Gilkes** and the **Madeira Park Fire Department** for hanging our Christmas Craft Fair banner and to **Tom of Tom's Signs** for the fabulous job he did creating the banner.

Also, a big thank you to **Santa Bob** for keeping the Christmas Spirit alive and, lastly, many big thanks to all of **our local businesses** for graciously supporting us in their many ways.

Mary Mackay
Serendipity Child Care Centre



PENDER HARBOUR HEALTH CENTRE



www.penderharbourhealth.com

Please check the website for current hours and information.

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- P. H. Clinic Tues. & Wed. afternoon
- Mental Health Assessments & Therapy: Children age 0-19
- For more information call: Child & Youth Mental Health Intake (604) 740-8900 or (604) 886-5525

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

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Alzheimer's disease and dementia

Submitted

If you or someone you know is concerned about memory problems, you're not alone.

But is what you're experiencing normal, or something more serious?

As you age, some forgetting is natural and inevitable but Alzheimer's disease is not part of normal aging.

Alzheimer's disease is more than forgetting where you put your keys.

Symptoms can include loss of memory that affects day to day function, difficulty with regular tasks and changes in mood and behaviour.

There are also other types of dementia although Alzheimer's disease is the most common form.

Some causes of dementia are very treatable, so it's important to find out what's at the root of your concerns.

The word dementia is an umbrella term that refers to many different diseases.

Different types of dementia are caused by different physical changes to the brain.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Alzheimer's disease is characterized by plaques and tangles.

Plaques are numerous tiny dense deposits scattered throughout the brain which become toxic to brain cells at excessive levels.

Tangles interfere with vital processes eventually choking the living cells.

As brain cells degenerate and die the brain markedly shrinks in some regions.

VASCULAR DEMENTIA

The second leading cause of dementia occurs when the cells in the

brain are deprived of oxygen.

It is often the result of a stroke which occurs when blood flow to the brain is blocked.

MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

MCI is a type of memory change that is different from both Alzheimer's disease and normal age-related memory change.

Some consider it an intermediary stage.

People with MCI have ongoing memory problems but do not experience the other symptoms of dementia like confusion or difficulty with language.

WARNING SIGNS

Sometimes symptoms of dementia can be caused by conditions that may be treatable, such as depression, thyroid disease, infections or drug interactions.

That's why it is important that any concerns you might have be discussed with your doctor.

Getting an early diagnosis is critical for you and your family, to ensure you and your care partners can get the support needed to maintain quality of life.

Some signs may be:

- Memory loss that affects day-to-day functioning.
- Difficulty performing familiar tasks.

- Problems with language.
- Disorientation of time and place.
- Poor or decreased judgment.
- Problems with abstract thinking.
- Misplacing things.
- Changes in mood and behaviour.
- Changes in personality.
- Loss of initiative.

PUT YOUR MIND TO BRAIN HEALTH

Research shows you can help maintain the health of your brain and reduce your risk of developing conditions like Alzheimer's disease as you get older.

Most Canadians think brain health is at least as important as physical health but aren't sure what it takes to keep their brain in good shape.

What's good for your heart is good for your head.

Choosing to eat well and exercise can help to reduce your risk for developing Alzheimer's.

For more information visit, www.alzheimerbc.org/in-my-community/vancouver-coastal.aspx.

There is a strong Alzheimer's support group here on the Sunshine Coast.

Call (604)741-0726 to connect.

Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Society Outreach Healthy Meal Program



Healthy meal service has now resumed.

Volunteer drivers for Egmont and Garden Bay needed. Please call:
Linda Curtiss (604) 883-2819 or Anky Drost (604) 883-0033.

Polar Express stops in Madeira Park

Students, teachers and parents at the Madeira Park Elementary School have been working hard on a stage adaptation of Chris Van Allsberg's story book, *The Polar Express*.

Featuring elaborate set and costume design, the performance may be one of the most sophisticated drama productions to come out of the school in many years.

Many from outside the school pitched in to help with set design, choral coaching and costume design and sewing.

"Not only is every kid in the play — a couple of times over — but the big thing for me is the involvement of the parents and the community in helping out," says Krangle.

"They've just been wonderful and just another example of how I'm just blown away by this community."

The Polar Express performance took place on Dec. 19 at the P. H. Community Hall (too late to make this issue).



Brian Lee photo

It's all coming together. Here Barry Krangle takes a group of MPES students through their part in *The Polar Express*. Note the quality of workmanship that went into building just the train. Not only does it move but is built sturdy enough to hold a couple of dozen budding thespians.



Barry Krangle photo

Though some in this photo may seem a bit weary from the endless rehearsals, the quality of the costumes and set design kept the students' excitement levels peaking throughout the lead up to their performance of *The Polar Express* on Dec.19.



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Harbour Spiel Trivia

1. Of the following, which project did *not* include Nelson Island granite in its construction?

- ☐ a. Washington State University (Thompson Hall)
- ☐ b. Port Orchard dry dock
- ☐ c. BC Parliament
- ☐ d. Vancouver Art Gallery

2. What happened to the remnants of the logging donkey landmark at the mouth of Sakinaw Creek?

- ☐ a. Slipped into the chuck.
- ☐ b. In storage with P. H. Living Heritage Society
- ☐ c. Displayed at S. C. Museum and Archives
- ☐ d. Sold for scrap by a local landing craft operator

3. Where is Pope's Landing?

- ☐ a. Francis Peninsula Prawn Plant
- ☐ b. South shore entrance to Pender Harbour
- ☐ c. Whiskey Slough Government wharf
- ☐ d. Bargain Harbour

4. How did Bertrand Sinclair's boat *The Hoo-Hoo* meet its end?

- ☐ a. Hit "Poor Man's Rock" (near Lasqueti Island).
- ☐ b. Burned up in a Beachcombers episode
- ☐ c. Displayed at Vancouver Maritime Museum.
- ☐ d. Lost in a gale trolling off Winter Harbour.

5. Of the following, which is *not* a commercial fishing superstition?

- ☐ a. Opening a can upside down
- ☐ b. Bringing a black bag onboard
- ☐ c. Frying pork in the galley
- ☐ d. Leaving port on a friday

6. What is the longest operating private business in Pender Harbour?

- ☐ a. Kleindale Nursery
- ☐ b. Harbour Publishing
- ☐ c. Miss Sunny's Hair Boutique
- ☐ d. Madeira Marina

Answers: p. 42

Four-plus: **Local**

Two-plus: **Newbie**

Less than two: **Townie**

Two books that dig up the dirt about modern food production



By Theresa Kishkan

I read Rhona McAdam's *Digging the City: An Urban Agriculture Manifesto*

(Rocky Mountain Books, 2012) at the same time as I was immersed in Beverley Gray's *The Boreal Herbal: Wild Food and Medicine Plants of the North* (Aroma Borealis Press, 2011). They are perfect companions. *Digging the City* asks us to wake up to the importance of food safety and sustainability and *The Boreal Herbal* shows us that with some effort and knowledge, we can harvest much of what we need at our very doorstep.

Digging the City is a small beautiful book, full of science, common sense and wisdom. McAdam was liv-

ing in England during the time of the foot-and-mouth disease horrors but she said she always assumed Canada's food was "safe." She spent a year in Italy doing a master's degree and became involved in slow food, "a global movement promoting food culture, tradition and biodiversity against the armies of industrial food production."

Returning to Canada was a revelation. Her assumptions about the safety of our food supply were disabused by the issues around water, sewage, monoculture and agribusiness as well as our reliance on cheap produce coming from vast distances.

Human beings are slow to acknowledge the need to change old habits. *Digging the City* challenges us to examine our food choices and our own assumptions of the safety of those. It's both a manifesto and a call to action. Rhona McAdam provides many useful templates for a local food ethic, encouraging city dwellers (and by extension anyone interested in participating in sustainable agriculture) to consider edible landscaping, using community allotments, supporting farmers' markets, food co-ops, swaps, gleaning, vertical gardens and much more.

I discovered *The Boreal Herbal* on a trip to the Yukon last summer. An obvious labour of love and experience, it celebrates the extraordinary botanical abundance of the boreal forests and urges readers to explore

this bounty.

The Boreal Herbal is a comprehensive guide to identification and habitat, with wonderful photographs and anecdotes, as well as ethnobotanical notes from First Nations elders. Entries for specific plants cover culinary, medicinal, and cosmetic uses; cautions are also included where applicable. You may never have imagined yourself making dandelion-petal pancakes (which look delicious) or a juniper-willow liniment but this book encourages us to open our eyes to the natural world around us.

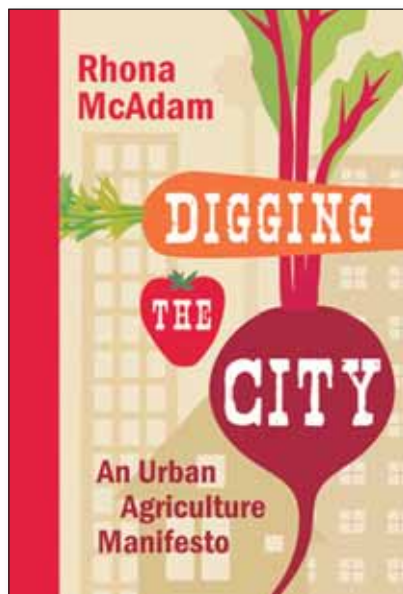
Both these books ask us to care about, and for, local food production.

"If food isn't worth making noise about," asks McAdam, "what is?"

The Coast Reporter's Jan DeGrass is well-known to all of us for her coverage of arts events up and down the Coast. She recently published her first novel, *Jazz with Ella* (Libros Libertad, 2012), set mostly during the summer of 1974.

Jennifer White is a young graduate student who is offered the opportunity to travel to the Soviet Union on a study tour. She will teach beginner's Russian to a group of students while her prickly professor, Dr. Chopyk, teaches the more advanced participants. The tour itinerary will take them all to Moscow, Leningrad and on a Volga River cruise.

This is the Soviet Union of the Brezhnev period, pre-glasnost. Hotel rooms and public dining rooms with



BC Bestsellers:

(For the week of Dec.9, 2012)

1. **Unlikely Love Stories** by Mike McCardell
2. **Making Headlines** by Shelley Fralic
3. **Art of the Impossible** by Geoff Meggs and Rod Mickleburgh
4. **Bruno and the Beach** by Jackson Davies and Marc Strange
5. **Liquor, Lust, and the Law** by Aaron Chapman
6. **Eating Dirt** by Charlotte Gill
7. **The Book of Kale** by Sharon Hanna
8. **British Columbia** by Derek Hayes
9. **Indian Horse** by Richard Wagamese
10. **Seasonings** by Andrea Spalding and David Spalding

~ Assn. of Book Publishers of BC

hidden microphones, a sinister *dezhurnaya* or clerk on each floor of the hotel, lineups outside grocery stores, tour guides who control every moment and movement and the military in evidence everywhere — these form the backdrop of the novel.

On her arrival in Moscow, Jennifer finds long-lost family (or does she?). When the group travels on to Leningrad, she finds romance with the jazz-loving Volodya who keeps a tattered magazine photograph of Ella Fitzgerald in his wallet. He shows her a city redolent with history.

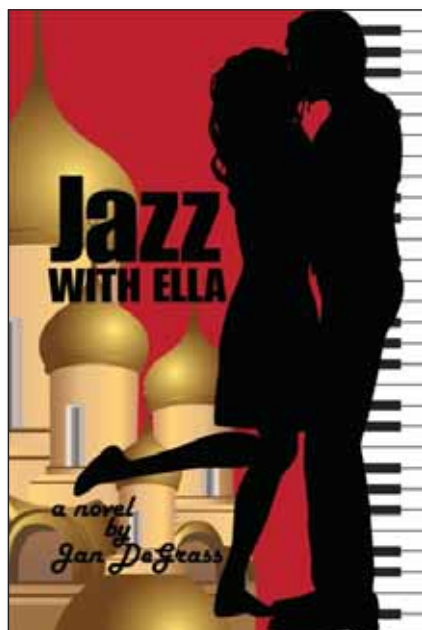
One of the most interesting scenes in the novel is when Volodya takes Jennifer to Piskaryovskaya Cemetery where mass graves of victims of the Siege of Leningrad are located. Half a million citizens perished during the 900-day siege, mostly from cold and starvation. It's in this cemetery, surrounded by dirge music emanating from loudspeakers mounted in trees, that Jennifer comes to understand what life in Leningrad means, then and in

the present tense of the novel. There is both pride and despair in its history. And the deprivations of the siege still exist, in a way, though they take different forms. No wonder Volodya wants Jennifer's help to leave the Soviet Union.

For this is the central tension of the novel, its essential core. Is it possible to help not just Volodya but also the couple who insist they are her relatives? Who can be trusted? Several members of the students on Jennifer's study tour have their own secrets and agendas. (Maybe they all do.) At times the

narrative is freighted a little too heavily with cloak-and-dagger subterfuge and a somewhat awkward back-story of marriage and family secrets. Rather than explaining Jennifer's motives and character, this material often detracts.

But the pace of *Jazz with Ella* is fast-moving, the story is intriguing, and the reader will come away with a vivid sense of what it was like to travel to the Soviet Union during the Cold War.



Happy
New
Year!

MEET JAN DEGRASS:
Local author of *Jazz with Ella*
Saturday, Jan. 26 from 1 – 3 p.m.

LITERACY WEEK SPECIAL:
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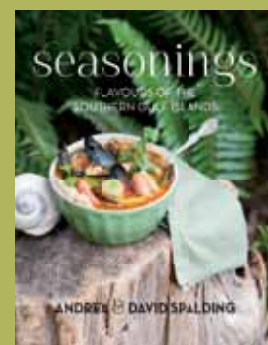
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it might have happened...

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 XXX **(Continued from December 2012)**

The copper given to Mary Hsu by her friend Qwuní became a source of deep pride for the young woman. Not only did it symbolize something of value and importance, it reinforced her connection to something bigger than the four walls of the salt shed where she spent much of her youth.

To her, the copper offered an historical connection to a part of her heritage she knew little about. Because she was of mixed race, the artifact became a symbolic anchor for the young woman who had many questions about her place in the world.

She kept it stored in a cedar box she made herself. A day didn't pass in which she didn't open the box and touch the smooth worked metal and trace with her fingers the patterns etched on its surface.

She wanted to uncover more about the coast and Pender Harbour's past. Sometimes, when she had an idle afternoon, she would row to the former village site at Séxwámin (Garden Bay). The beach fronting the mossy remnants of two longhouses had long grown over with blackberry and grasses but she knew a little digging would turn up secrets of the village's past inhabitants.

Qwuní would laugh at her interest in digging through the village's garbage. He would

tell her that all she would find would be soot, clam shells, and shit. For the most part, he was right. But every once in a while she would unearth something that refuelled her curiosity and she would continue on.

What Mary wouldn't have known is that shells have a high calcium carbonate content which tends to make midden deposits such as the one at Séxwámin alkaline. The alkalinity slows the normal rate of decay caused by soil acidity, leaving a relatively high proportion of organic material (food remnants, organic tools, clothing, human remains). This particular site had held the refuse from a large village and had been unoccupied for less than 30 years. Because of that, her new hobby was often unpleasant and smelly work.

She would sometimes find broken stone tools or pieces of cedar or animal bones mixed in with the shells and rich compost. Soon after she started digging, she unearthed random pieces of what must have been a large whale skeleton. The rotting bits of whale tissue and blubber that still remained made for a godawful smell that brought frowning criticism from the few families who still lived nearby.

She knew them well and they accepted her disturbance. A boy named Dominic lived at Séxwámin with his mother's aunt. She was elderly and like Qwuní and a handful of others, had refused to follow the Oblate Fathers

it might have happened...

Pender Harbour

to their new village at Sechelt.

As one of the few children that lived in Pender's Harbour in 1882, he would always come and watch her activity.

Dominic was 12 and was born in Sechelt. By the time he was 10, he'd run away so many times that his mother stopped sending people to look for him. Eventually he was allowed to return to live in Pender's Harbour and was taken in by his great-aunt.

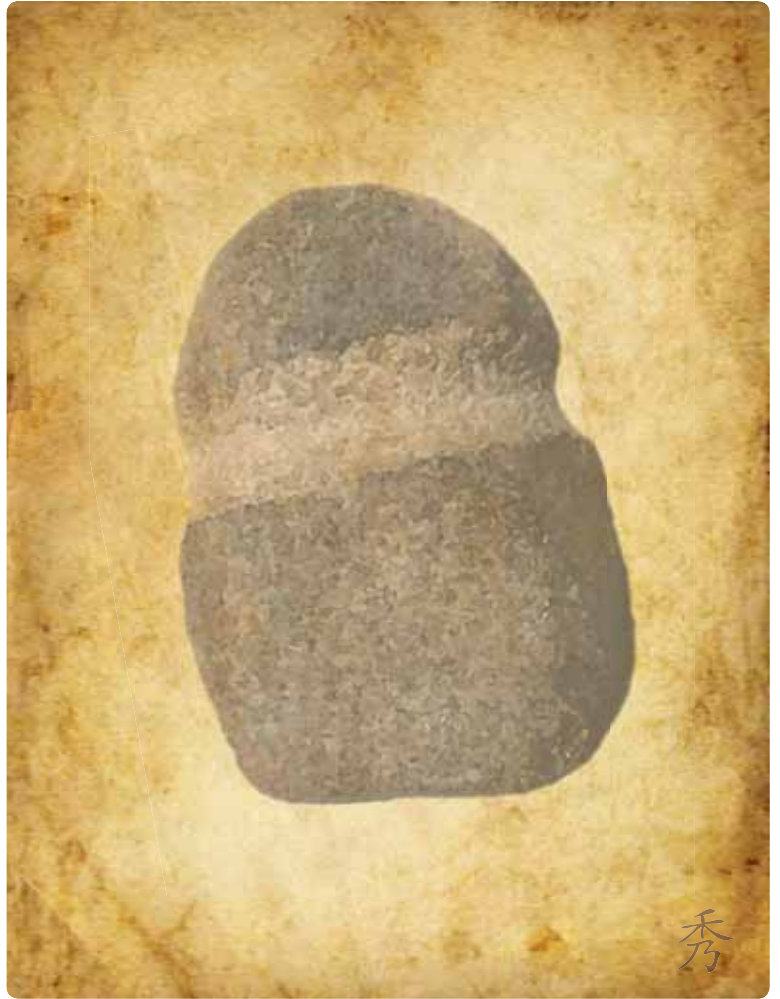
It wasn't long before Dominic's curiosity moved him from watching to helping Mary dig.

He took direction like an eager student, not wanting to do anything that might displease the older girl.

Qwuní felt sorry for the two of them and offered suggestions for other spots they might try that might be more fruitful. He cautioned against disturbing some of the burial sites that dotted the harbour's shores but suggested sites that might turn up more than just human waste and clam shells. Eventually the two amateur archaeologists spread out in search of artifacts.

They soon discovered there were few stretches of beach where they couldn't find remnants of some kind of human activity. Occasionally they would turn up intact bits of bone shaped into digging tools or arrowheads and Dominic came across a stone hammer that became his favourite possession.

Though they had known each other for a couple of years, the two became good friends despite the difference in their ages. Through the winter of 1882, the two would find any excuse to go off and explore new territory. Dominic's great-aunt saw a growing maturity in him after spending time with the older girl and readily encouraged his friendship with



Artwork courtesy of Hsu family archives

Mary Hsu's friend Dominic uncovered this stone hammer from a Pender Harbour midden in the early winter of 1882.

Mary.

Mary's mother Lucy, on the other hand, thought this time spent digging through shells could be better spent digging for clams or fishing.

She often made it clear to Mary that she thought it a waste of time and made sure she had plenty of work to keep her busy.

Still, she was able to find enough time to sneak away, feeling happier than she could recall. She finally had a friend with whom to explore and one who brought stories about life in Sechelt.

Continued next month.

and another thing . . .

And the newsmaker of the year is...



By Shane McCune

Yes, we're still here and the Mayans were wrong. But although the world didn't end in 2012, common sense and good taste might have. Here's a heapin' helping of journalistic gems and bureaucratic baffle-gab from last year.

CAN'T-ARGUE-WITH-THAT DEPT.

"It's very hard to prevent random acts of violence like this when we don't know they're going to occur."

— VPD Const. Lindsey Houghton, after gangster Sandip (Dip) Duhre was shot to death at Café One in the Wall Centre. Quoted in the *Vancouver Sun*.

"This year is another story, which will see either appreciation or depreciation of the US dollar against other currencies, shaping the regional currencies to move in two ways," the assistant governor of the Bank of Thailand said.

— *The Nation*, Bangkok.

"She [manager of a Bangkok hotel] found younger business travellers have needed something necessary."

— *The Nation* again.

BUT-YOU-CAN-ARGUE-WITH-THIS DEPT.

The Earth orbits the Sun, not the moon. Incorrect information appeared in a story on Page A1 in Wednesday's Citizen.

— *Ottawa Citizen*.

HALF AN HOUR LATER YOU'RE HUNGRY FOR WORK

Chink in the Armor

— ESPN online headline after the New York Knicks' winning streak, led by briefly phenomenal Jeremy Lin, came to an end. The headline came down after 35 minutes and the editor responsible was fired.

LINsulting

— *New York Observer* response to the ESPN headline.

FROM THE POLICE BLOTTER

RCMP confirm death of Jonathan Bacon at press conference

— *Vancouver Sun* website.

B.C. police appeal to possible child sex victims

— *cbc.ca*.

FOR WANT OF A NAIL . . .

Could Stephen Harper's hands-off approach to health care be the death nail of Canada's health care system?

— Andy Radia, *yahoo.ca* Canada Politics blogger. He probably meant "death knell."

. . . THE SHOE WAS LOST

Marvin shoes what he's capable of doing

— Headline on a *kitsapsun.com* story about Atlanta Hawks forward Marvin Williams, former high school star from Bremerton, Wash. They probably meant "shows."

FETAL ATTRACTION?

Withhold fetal sex to curb 'fetal feticides' in Canada, doctor says
— *ctv.ca* story on a doctor's call to withhold information on the sex of a fetus until 30 weeks of gestation to avoid sex-selective abortions.



and another thing...

GETTING BOTH SIDES OF THE STORY — FROM THE SAME PERSON

When Margaret Davies arrived home Wednesday, a Corix employee was about to replace her Hydro meter with a smart meter on the wall of her garage. The Courtenay resident, who had received an advance notice from BC Hydro, said the installation was completed in a matter of minutes. Davies does not speak favourably or negatively about the devices, which have caused a great deal of controversy throughout the province.

“I really don’t know what to think about the whole thing,” she said. “On the one hand they’re saying it’s good and then some people are saying it’s awful. How do you know, really?”

“You talk about supposedly bad vibes off of these things. Well, look at all the electronic stuff these days. What about that?”

“I guess you could say I really have no opinion.”
— *Comox Valley Record*.

HAVING SPOUBLE TREAKING?

“U.S. Secretary of Defence Leon Panetta announced unrarried in Afghanistan today.”

— *CBC newsreader Cecilia Walters*.

HAVING TROUBLE WRITING?

Companies need to re-examine their risk management strategies and introduce new methodologies to strengthen their operational and financial resilience following the exceptionally severe and prolific global catastrophes of 2011, says Marsh.

— “Lede” or opening sentence in *Thompson’s World Insurance News*.

NICE HEAD. TOO BAD ABOUT THE LEDE

Aw shucks: a simple technique for an elegant dinner party
Learn how to suck an oyster and impress your guests
— *Globe & Mail RSS feed*.

WE NEVER METAPHOR WE DIDN’T LIKE

“He knows from the ups and downs of scandal,” said Dee Dee Myers, the first Clinton White House press secretary — a job that Siewert was the last person to hold.

“This isn’t his first time at the rodeo,” Myers added, “and if there’s anybody who’s well positioned to see the blazing trees in the foreground and go what’s beyond it to see the whole forest, it’s Jake. He knows something about taking the long view and hanging in there.”

— *From a Daily Beast article about former Bill Clinton press secretary Jake Siewart*.

Insiders are saying that he’s (Justin Trudeau) really leaning towards throwing his name into the hat. Also Quebec MP Marc Garneau, we’re hearing that he is a serious contender and seriously considering throwing his name into the hat as well.

— *Hannah Thibedeau, CBC News*.

GO STRAIGHT HOME AND AVOID HUNTERS

Province Advises Two Bears Released in Remote Area of Manitoba

— *Province of Manitoba news release*.

SMELLING BEE

It’s time B.C. took a deep breath of pipeline issue

— *Headline on Barbara Yaffe column reprinted in Winnipeg Free Press*.

“I was a bit bummed out.”

— *James Skwarok, aka “Mr. Floatie,” upon being turned away from a Green Party event in Victoria. Skwarok wears a turd costume to protest the lack of a sewage treatment plant in Victoria. Canadian Press*.

AND THIS YEAR’S WINNER FOR GOOD TASTE...

Police confirm severed body parts all connected
— *Winnipeg Free Press*.

JANUARY

- Sun. Dec. 30.....Sunday Jam with Simon Paradis - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Dec. 31.....P. H. Food Bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, noon
- Mon. Dec. 31.....New Year's Eve "Dress To Impress" party featuring DJ Moses - P. H. Community Hall, 9 p.m.
- Mon. Dec. 31.....New Year's Eve at the Legion - P. H. Legion
- Thurs. Jan. 3.....Marketplace IGA Customer Appreciation Day - Madeira Park IGA, all day
- Sun. Jan. 6.....Sunday Jam with Mark Vance - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
- Wed. Jan. 9.....Frame(lines) film project public information session - P. H. Community School, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri. Jan. 11.....Coffee House at the School of Music - P. H. School of Music, 7:30 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 12.....15th anniversary celebration at the Oak Tree Market - Oak Tree Market, all day
- Sat. Jan. 12.....P. H. Community Club tea in honour of Muriel Cameron - P. H. Community Hall, 1 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 12.....P. H. Rotary Hop Scotch - P. H. Golf Course, 7 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 13.....P. H. Music Society presents Joel Fafard and Joel Schwartz - P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 13.....Sunday Jam with Joe Stanton - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Jan. 14.....P. H. Garden Club presents landscape designer Michelle Lewis - P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m.
- Tues. Jan. 15.....P. H. Wildlife Society presents Joe and Solveigh Harrison's Cuba slideshow presentation - PHSS, 7 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 20.....Sunday Jam with Larrie Cook - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 26.....Bluewaters Books presents Jan DeGrass author of *Jazz With Ella* - Bluewaters Books, 1 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 26.....Robbie Burns Night - P. H. Legion
- Sun. Jan. 27.....Sunday Jam with Peter B3 & guests - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Jan. 28.....P.H. Health Centre Auxiliary AGM - P. H. School of Music, 1 p.m.
- Tues. Jan. 29.....Literacy Week all-day Scrabble - Bluewaters Books

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

FERRY DEPARTURES

~ Effective Oct. 9 to March 31, 2012 ~

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.bcferries.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. (March 28 only)
- 5:30 p.m.
- 7:25 p.m.
- 9:15 p.m.

☉ Daily except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1

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.
- 5:00 p.m. (March 28 only)
- 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.

♠ Daily except Sun. and Dec. 25, and Jan. 1

*Note: There is an alternate schedule for Oct. 5 & 8, Dec. 22, 24, 26-29, 2012 and March 29, 2013.

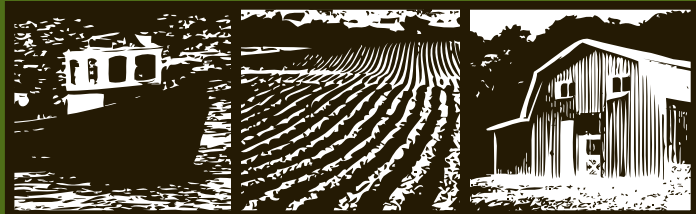
"Too many people overvalue what they are not and undervalue what they are."

~unknown



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JAN. 6: SUNDAY JAM: Mark Vance
JAN. 13: SUNDAY JAM: Joe Stanton
JAN. 20: SUNDAY JAM: Larrie Cook
JAN. 27: SUNDAY JAM: Peter B3 & guests



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SATURDAYS: \$14.95 Prime Rib (while quantities last)

SUNDAYS: Eggs Benny and Caesars on special (until 2 p.m.)