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HARBOUR SPIEL

APRIL 2011
ISSUE 244



Bergliot and Minnie Solberg, 1977

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~ NEXT ISSUE MAILS APRIL 29 ~

EDITORIAL

A 'refreshing' irony for local history

By Brian Lee



Once in a while I get accused of being overly nostalgic in this column about “the way things used to be.”

As one who appreciates where this place came from and misses some of the elements of its past, it's hard not to be sometimes.

If you take the time to learn about something — its past, its character and those qualities that make it unique — you automatically become protective.

Fostering an appreciation for what came before through the preservation of historical artifacts is not only a gift each generation can pass on to the next, it is a responsibility.

And so its significance is magnified when that history is personal, local.

So, right now, I'm sure there are some who could be accused of being overly nostalgic for their sadness in seeing the demolition of the Madeira Park Teacherage. It's hard to argue with the sentiment.

The building may have been the first home in Madeira Park, likely built in the first half of the 1930s.

It later became the first school in town, acquiring the persistent nickname of the “Teacherage” because it later became the home for arriving teachers in the late 1940s.

Since then it has been used for any number of uses: janitors' quarters, storage, community school — I even attended kindergarten there.

My first school memory was of Denise Mackay (who also happened

to be one of the first teachers who taught and lived there in 1948) administering a test in the small classroom to see if I was intellectually capable of undergoing the rigours of kindergarten.

The test consisted of making a bridge out of three blocks so a toy car could pass under.

It recall I aced it — blocks and toy cars were pretty much all I did back then.

But that's as far as my nostalgia for the Teacherage takes me — I'm happy it's gone.

I'm not really that callous — I just happen to know it was standing in the way of something that promises to be much better (see p. 5).

Sometimes an excessive reverence for history becomes impractical and obstructive.

It was an old, rotten shack with ferns growing through its roof.

Its demolition may pave the way for some exciting possibilities that will further the preservation of the area's heritage.

Hopefully, the site will become a cornerstone of the community, perhaps as a museum and archives.

There are many other possibilities but we'll have to wait and see.

In the meantime, I'm excited about the potential for what lies ahead.

I think of Peter C. Newman's quote:

“History is no more than memories refreshed.”

I look forward to helping build a place to keep them refreshed.

Cover: Faye McCourt sent in the cover photo of Bergliot and Minnie Solberg after reading the recent 'Spiel Archives' series on the Solberg sisters by J.M.J. The photo was taken in Tuwanek in 1977. 'The girls had come to the door to request use of our freezer for a cougar hide,' McCourt wrote. 'I suggested a photo of their new belt buckles was fair trade. I never saw them together again.'

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SPIEL PICKS

P. H. LIONS PANCAKE BREAKFAST & EASTER EGG HUNT — APRIL 17

Show up early to the Pender Harbour Lions' Hall for the Lions' famous pancake breakfast from 9 a.m. until noon. At noon the fun begins with a huge Easter egg hunt. Please leave your dogs at home.

'WE CARE' FUNDRAISER FOR JAPAN DISASTER RELIEF — APRIL 17

A dinner and auction fundraiser for Sunshine Coast Japan Disaster Relief will be held on Sunday April 17, 2011 at the Sechelt Seniors' Activity Centre. This gala event starts at 5:30 p.m. with all proceeds going to Japan disaster relief (80 per cent goes to Canadian Red Cross and 20 per cent to AMDA of Rose Charity). The Japanese inspired dinner will be prepared by three local chefs. Also included in the evening is a live auction, a silent auction and traditional Japanese entertainment. Tickets are \$100, available at Bluewaters Books and John Henry's Marina. For more information call (604) 883-2407.

ART WAVE IV — APRIL 22, 23 AND 24

Fast becoming a local tradition, Art Wave is back with more participating galleries than ever before. At its core it's a gallery tour with prizes, refreshments and a fun day to drive around, meet new people and take in the best our local art scene has to offer. It's held for three days on the Easter weekend from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

GARDEN BAY CLASSIC FISHING DERBY — APRIL 29 - MAY 1

With over \$3,000 in prizes in a variety of draws, there's money to be caught in the annual Garden Bay Classic fish off. You don't have to even fish, just bid on a boat in the Friday night live auction. If your skipper wins, you take the pot (past year's winners were all about \$1,000). If you do decide to fish, the biggest salmon also nets \$1,000 plus a chance for another grand in the reverse draw. Entrance fees include the Saturday night banquet. It's lots of fun and begins Friday at 5 p.m. at the Garden Bay Pub.

NINTH ANNUAL APRIL TOOLS WOODEN BOAT CHALLENGE — APRIL 30

Madeira Park's Millennium Park will once again come to life as regular folks create amazing vessels out of next to nothing and then race them around the Harbour for cash prizes. At 10 a.m. the construction "twist" is revealed and teams receive their materials. Races begin at 2 p.m. There's good food, games, crafts and face painting for the kids and all proceeds go to charity.

Proud sponsors of Abbeyfield House Dinners for Donors campaign: 142 bricks sold to date!



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Historic 'Teacherage' demolished while future plans considered

One of the oldest buildings in Madeira Park has been demolished, possibly clearing the way for a proposed heritage centre.

On March 21 demolition crews quickly took down the Madeira Park Teacherage.

The derelict school district building was probably more than 76 years old and hadn't been used for many years.

Discussions are now underway between the school district and a number of community organizations to come up with a plan to construct a multi-use historical centre.

The Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society and the Harbour Authority of Pender Harbour have joined in efforts to work with School District 46 to utilize the property where the Teacherage sat.

Claus Sjogren, vice-chair of the Harbour Authority of Pender Harbour, said they sent a letter last June proposing a lease for the property.

"In broad strokes, the concept for the property would be a heritage centre with the main focus on a museum and archives chronicling the history of our area," wrote Sjogren.

School board Chair Silas White said plans are well underway but there are still a number of important details to be worked out.

"We've successfully applied for a grant from the provincial government called a Community Connections grant," said White.

"It's basically to work on a community partnership... with the harbour authority and living heritage society to hopefully build some kind of museum and learning centre."

The PHLHS already has a small amount of money raised and the harbour authority has set aside some funding in their five-year plan for the project but a key issue that still needs April 2011



Ken Walters photo

Dilapidated and derelict, the Teacherage was demolished on March 21.

to be resolved is the form the lease would take.

Sjogren said there are a lot of details to be worked out but

"It really depends on how we can structure this lease," he said.

"If it starts once we're open for business, that's one thing, but if it starts April 1 then we need six to eight months to plan and raise funds before we build.

"It could be used up before we do anything."

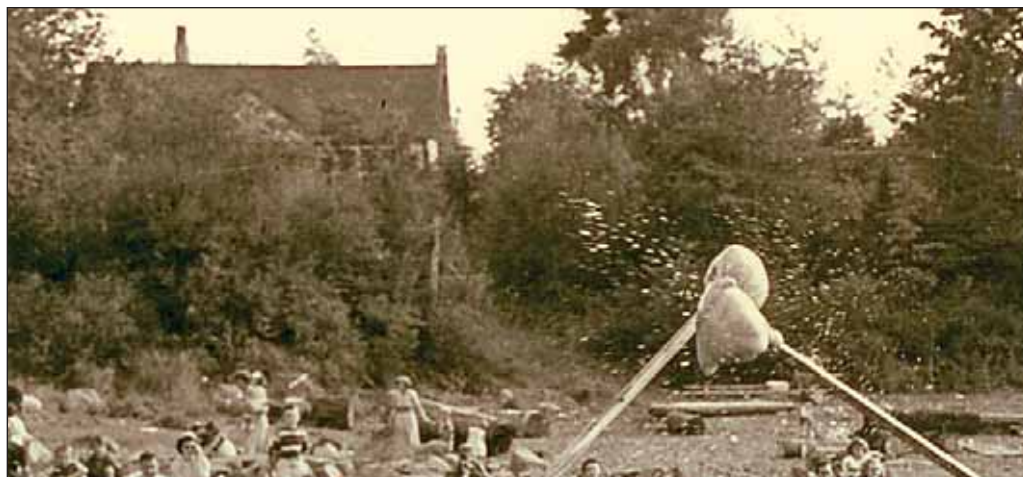
Sjogren said another hurdle to overcome is that any property the school district leases beyond a term of 10 years is considered a property

disposal requiring the approval of the Ministry of Education.

Even after those details are worked out, Sjogren said funding needs to be acquired and extensive planning and consultation undertaken before construction can move ahead.

It's unclear when the Teacherage was built but, according to land title information provided by members of the PHLHS, it seems likely that Joe Gonsalves' daughter Theresa and her husband Jim Imlach built and lived in it prior to 1935.

The building was later sold to Stanley Graham and purchased from him by the school district in 1948.



Sue Kammerle photo collection

The Madeira Park Teacherage sits quietly in the background in this photo taken from the water at the Pender Harbour Regatta in the 1950s.

North Lake forest service road upgrade necessary but irks some

Some residents living near North Lake are crying foul as the Ministry of Forests and Range works to complete upgrades to the North Lake forest service road.

The gravel road runs along the south side of North Lake and is becoming an increasingly popular access corridor for forestry activity, residents and the Klein Lake recreation area.

Derrick Harborne of the Ministry of Forests and Range said the \$380,000 project is intended to stabilize the road in order to make it safer and protect the lake.

Harborne said the project is funded by a combination of federal and provincial funds which stipulated work was to be completed before the end of the current fiscal year ended March 31.

Ron Fearn, who lives across the lake, said there was a lack of consultation with local residents.



Intended to fortify the embankment along the North Lake Forest Service Road, this concrete block wall has also restricted some residents' access to the lake frontage.

Fearn said some have lost access to the lake or had their driveways crumble as a result of the construction. He said the resulting work is just plain ugly.

"When you have a wall 12 feet high, with the reflection, now you have a wall 24 feet high," said Fearn.

Harborne confirmed the ministry has received "a litany of complaints"

about the project ranging from destruction of turtle habitat to reducing property values nearby.

"We're addressing all of their concerns to the best of our abilities," Harborne said.

He added that the ministry has increased funding to the project to repair some of the driveways that might have been impacted.

Global TV lavishes airtime on Egmont and Pender Harbour

Global TV has showcased Pender Harbour and Egmont at least twice in the last couple of months.

The Vancouver TV station ran a segment on a local couple, Rex and Motoko Baum, in February.

That story was featured in the

evening news and highlighted the couple's life in Garden Bay and Rex's encouragement for Motoko to follow her passion for art.

On March 27, Global TV showcased Egmont in their "Small Town BC" weekend news feature.

Small Town BC is a segment

introduced by weather person Kristi Gordon and gives a short description of the town while showcasing local photos of the area.

That segment can still be viewed online at www.globaltvbc.com/video/index.html?categoryid=1479075568.



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Kelly Kammerle photo

The Pender Harbour U11 girls soccer team at their year end soccer tournament March 6 in Sechelt. (l-r): Hanna Stewart, Kim Fielding, Lexi Scoular, Chiara Mocellin, Emily Silvey, Lauryn Young, Lilah Donnahee, Jessa Girard, Lu-Lu Kammerle and Michelle Fielding. Missing are: Jessica Cyr, Isla Silvey and Jessica Linnmann. To promote sportsmanship, all teams receive medals and there are no official placings but sources tell the Spiel that the girls did really well.

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 PROUD TO BE CARBONneutral

'Grit' pays off for Pender's under-18 girls soccer team

Pender Harbour's U18 girls topped off a roller coaster season with a convincing victory in the final of their year-end tournament held at Kin-nikinnick Field on March 13.

Halfway through the tournament, injuries started to take their toll. The team was short on players and had to pull from Pender's U15 team in order to continue.

Battling exhaustion with only two subs, the season came down to overtime in a game that saw their leading scorer hauled away by ambulance.

It was fitting for the storybook season of epics triumphs and agonizing failures but, as coach Brent Sheppard tells it, you first have to go back to the beginning.

Coach Sheppard says it is the first time in his eight years of coaching girls soccer that he's had a team where every athlete has played for him before.

"Each player had played a supporting role of some kind on one or another team of mine," says Sheppard.

"Now I had a collection of hard working, dedicated, gritty players all with the same goal — to go out on



Annette Sheppard photo

Pender's U18 championship team (l-r), back: Carley Fielding, Madison Williams-Rice, Rebecca Kelly, Mackenzie Stewart, Aurora Noble, Kari Scott, Brittany Sheppard, Brent Sheppard (coach). Front: Sarah Dybwad, Stephanie Nichols, Angie Goodwin, Natasha Jerema and Hayley Schroeder. Missing: Samantha Howitt, Brianna Milligan

top."

One defining game stands out for him.

"We played at Hackett Park. It was freezing rain — pretty much blowing sleet at 45 degrees. The game before ours was cancelled halfway through and we were asked if we wanted to shorten the game but my

girls wanted to play. And play they did," recalls Sheppard.

While the parents watched from their cars, Sheppard's team powered through it with only one sub.

They scored four goals and were winning handily when the other coach called the game and his team went running for their cars.

But instead of fleeing the field, the girls surprised Rebecca Kelly with a birthday cake and sang "Happy Birthday."

The cake was devoured quickly (without cutlery) and the team broke for the vehicles.

When Sheppard calls them "gritty," he should know — he's coached many of the girls since they were U11 pups.

He led the team up through the age group categories until they hit the ceiling — U18.

Now he has to say goodbye to six of his players (Brittany Sheppard, Rebecca Kelly, Hayley Schroeder, Aurora Noble, Natasha Jerema and



Annette Sheppard photo

Samantha Howitt (in green) was hauled away by ambulance after suffering an ankle injury in the championship game. Howitt required crutches but will play again.

Stephanie Nichols) who are leaving after this year — retiring, too old to go on.

Like a father seeing his children leave home, Sheppard wanted them to go out on a high note.

The season started out well with three wins and a tie before hitting a three game losing streak where they didn't score a single goal.

"But the character in this team shone," says Sheppard.

"The girls just kept at it. We talked about it in practice, made a few changes and kept trying."

The girls won all their remaining games and were ranked second going into the championship tournament.

They were one of the four top teams who advanced to the semi-finals but the Pender squad pulled the top team in the league, the Red Thunder from Gibsons, for their match.

By this point the weather was worsening and the team was missing two fullbacks: Madison Williams-Rice with an ankle injury and Aurora Noble with a back injury.

In order to even field a full team, the coach was forced to call up Mackenzie Stewart from the U15 league.

He was glad he did.

Stewart answered the Thunder's first goal with one of her own to tie the game at one apiece.

Goalie Brittany Sheppard rocketed a free kick between the pipes to lead them into halftime up 2-1.

Goalie Sheppard shut the door on a charging red team in the second half while the youngster Stewart knocked in her second goal of the game.

Pender won 3-1 and gained a spot in the final.

They were to meet the purple "Brigade" from Sechelt in the final who came into the game with the relative luxury of four subs.

"After the first half and a 0-0 April 2011

score, it was becoming clear to me we were creating some good chances but purple just kept attacking and maybe even getting the edge in play," recalls Sheppard.

"But my back line and keeper stopped everything coming in and another half goes by nil-nil.

Tragedy struck in overtime when their most aggressive player — and the team's top scorer — went down in a tremendous tackle.

Samantha Howitt's ankle injury looked serious and an ambulance was called. As the ambulance hauled their friend away, the team took count. They'd have to play one short.

After that, the rain and wind even seemed to pick up a bit.

"It just reminded me of that game the girls refused to give up," says their coach.

The girls survived overtime and were headed for a shootout to decide the winner.

Five shooters from each team were picked and Pender gave the purple team the first shot.

It was a blistering crack on net but Sheppard saved it.

It turned into a goalies' duel with the next four shots stopped by the keepers before Carley Fielding stepped up to "calmly crack a beauty" to the top left corner to put Pender up by one.

But then Purple scored on their next shot to make it 1-1 and after two more misses, the score was still tied.

Pender had the last shot and they gave it to the strongest boot — goalie Brittany Sheppard.

As goalie for eight seasons, Brittany had only scored twice in her career with her second ever goal coming earlier that day.

Coach Sheppard makes the call: "Brittany steps up to the penalty spot then pauses and points to the right side of the net,

"Then she points to the left side of the net. She lets a low, hard shot go to the bottom right corner. It's too fast for the keeper — Pender wins."

For all but the six veterans who won four years ago, it is their first championship win.

"Afterwards, they celebrated like it was the World Cup," says Sheppard. "I couldn't be prouder."



The team congratulates each other after a well-deserved victory.

Annette Sheppard photo

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7



A map of the Pender Harbour and Halfmoon Bay area. The land is shown in green, and the water in blue. A red line traces a route through the area. Numbered circles 1 through 7 are placed at various locations along this route. Labels on the map include: Earl's Cove, Egmont, Garden Bay, Irvin's Landing, Madeira Park, Secret Cove, and Redroofs Road. The title "Egmont, Pender Harbour & Halfmoon Bay Accommodation Guide" is written in large white text on the right side of the map.

PHOTOJOURNAL



Jon Paine photo

This photo taken of one of the experimental herring spawning curtains hung at the Garden Bay Pub dock show the herring are starting to spawn. A number of other locations where the curtains are hung also show promise.

LETTERS

Curtiss clarifies details about PHCIF

Dear Editor,

Thank you for profiling the revitalization of Madeira Park project in the February issue.

The many volunteers who have worked on the landscaping from the entrance of Madeira Park town to the crabapple tree at the end of Gonzales Road deserve a huge Harbour Seal of Approval.

One important detail was omitted however. A great deal of this work would not have happened without the \$50,000 donation from Stu Eggleton,

funding through the Pender Harbour Growth and Development Partnership and donations to the Pender Harbour Community Improvement Foundation.

Anyone who wishes to make a donation to continue the work can do so by sending a cheque to the Pender Harbour Community Improvement Foundation, Box 442, Madeira Park, B.C., V0N 2H0.

Tax receipts will be issued.

Thank you for your support, our little town is looking great.

Linda Curtiss
Chair, PHCIF



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Budget process makes it clear how important our volunteers are



By Eric Graham
SCRD Director,
Area A

At press time the SCRD's 2011 budget has not been finalized, so I will discuss that next month.

GRANTS IN AID

Each year rural areas budget an amount for non-profit societies and this year Area A has budgeted

\$17,600.

There are very strict rules and, if interested, one can check the SCRD website for the qualifications (just Google SCRD) and download the application.

The deadline to submit applications is April 15.

PENDER COMMUNITY SPRING CALENDAR

The Pender Harbour Community School and the Pender Harbour Aquat-

ic and Fitness Centre have worked hard to put together a joint calendar of events starting this month.

I encourage all residents to look through the program and register for courses that interest you.

Since reopening, the newly renovated pool and fitness centre has experienced close to a 50-per-cent increase in users.

Also because of a lot of requests, the pool and fitness centre will be open in July on a trial basis.



MEETINGS AT 1975 FIELD ROAD

Infrastructure Services Committee
April 7 at 1:30 p.m.

Planning and Development Services Committee
April 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Regular Board
April 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Community Services Committee
April 21 at 9:30 a.m.

Corporate and Administrative Services Committee
April 28 at 1:30 p.m.

Regular Board
April 28 at 7:30 p.m.

For more information:

1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A1
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Office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
www.scrd.ca

Sunshine Coast Regional District

AREA A - ADVISORY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Egmont/Pender Harbour Advisory Planning Commission is on Wednesday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Pender Harbour High School, Room 107.

PENDER HARBOUR LANDFILL WINTER HOURS

Monday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tuesday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Wednesday to Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Closed on Sundays and statutory holidays from Thanksgiving to Easter weekends.

EGMONT/PENDER HARBOUR TRANSIT

The Egmont/Pender Harbour Transit service operates on Wednesdays and Saturdays as a pilot project. Please go to www.scrd.ca, under "services" for details on routing, schedules and fares.

AREA A IMAGERY NOW AVAILABLE

Visit www.scrd.ca and click on WEB MAPPING under Quick Links.

Area A - Director Contact Information

Director Eric Graham is available to meet with residents to discuss local issues related to the Sunshine Coast Regional District. He can be reached at home at 604-883-9061 or by email at ericgraham@dccnet.com.

AREA A USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Sunshine Coast Regional District Main Number
604-885-6800

Egmont Fire Hall
604-883-2555

Pender Harbour Landfill
604-883-2954

Pender Harbour Aquatic & Fitness Centre
604-885-6866

Pender Harbour Water/Wastewater
604-885-6877

Handy Dart & Transit
604-885-6899

SUMMER HOCKEY SCHOOL 2011

From August 15 to 19 and from August 22 to 26, the Sunshine Coast Regional District is hosting a variety of summer hockey programs for residents and visitors of the Sunshine Coast. Visit www.scrd.ca (Recreation) for more information.

GRAHAM'S GROUNDWORK

SUNSHINE COAST EMERGENCY PROGRAM

Since the recent earthquakes in New Zealand and Japan, people on the West Coast are concerned about what would happen here in an earthquake.

The SCRD has a full-time certified emergency manager who co-ordinates volunteers and provincial agencies in case of a natural emergency.

Bill Elsner is available to talk to groups in our area and can be contacted at (604) 885-6887.

There are over 140 dedicated, highly skilled volunteers who in 2010 gave up 11,000 hours of their time to train for and respond to citizens in need

The Sunshine Coast Search and Rescue, to name one group, has 34 members coastwide and in 2010 spent 2,718 hours training and 357 hours rescuing five people.

They receive a grant from the SCRD for \$19,000.

In Area A another example is the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Unit 61 with 21 dedicated volunteers who spent 90 hours responding to calls.

They rescued 38 people in 2010.

They receive a \$5,000 grant from the SCRD.

PENDER HARBOUR AND DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRE

After St. Mary's Hospital in Gar-

den Bay (now known as the Sundowner) was closed and moved to Sechelt, the citizens in Area A got together in 1976 and, with the help of provincial funding, built our health centre to offer nursing and medical services for local residents.

After many additions, it now provides nursing services, medical consultation and dental and specialist services.

On top of that, the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority provides laboratory services, ambulatory care services and home care.

With your tax dollars the SCRD covered approximately 79 per cent of the operating budget.

This year SCRD budgeted an extra \$6,000 to take advantage of the BC Hydro Power Smart program to reduce the yearly utility bill (estimated in 2011 at \$14,708),

That should save enough in utility costs to make up that \$6,000 within three years.

DAKOTA RIDGE WINTER RECREATION AREA

I am very pleased to see that the revenue has increased over last ski season by about three times.

In my article last month, I asked people in Area A to let me know if they used the area on a regular basis.

Although the comments were en-

couraging there were only a few who contacted me.

I have to congratulate the Dakota Ridge volunteers for their efforts this year, including groomers, trail hosts, the advisory committee and the Jack-rabbits group.

The estimated volunteer hours worked this season was 3,056.

LILY LAKE TRAIL

A group of local people are working toward a plan to build a wheelchair, pedestrian and bicycle trail around Lily Lake.

It will require a great deal of consultation from engineers, biologists, First Nations, regulatory agencies and local residents plus a lot of grant funding to make it all possible.

Budget time makes it clear that if we did not have the volunteers and had to pay for the work they do, our budget would be unmanageable.

To our family and friends:

A celebration of Mike Godkin's life
will be held at the

Pender Harbour Legion,
April 16 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

~Doreen Godkin and family



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Snowbirds return, hawk driven to Gibsons



By Jan Watson

Spring is upon us and the snowbirds are returning in droves from their wintering down south.

I must confess I was down there for a month and thoroughly enjoyed it (mind you the temperature was about 10 F below what it should have been).

But it was perfect for golf and I hooked up with many friends from the Harbour for quite a few games.

SEASON OPENS

The Pender season began with Ladies Day on March 17 with a good turn out of ladies with most of them wearing green for St. Patrick's Day — except, ironically, for our one Irish

member.

The day started with the traditional coffee and muffins followed by a nine-hole scramble.

There were a few rusty swings but all the teams were very close with only a three-point spread.

Five teams played and two tied with 42.

After going to the first handicap hole the winners were Cathy McEachern, Liz Wood and Lori Wilson.

Runners-up were the team of Wendy Haddock, Krys Parranto, Shelley Stunell and Jan Watson.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SCRAMBLE

After a wet night and cloudy morning the sun came out for the scramble at 1 p.m.

There was a good turn out with six teams competing.

The winners were Merv Oleksyn, Helen Krantz and Elaine Park with 3 under par 69, second at 1 under 71 the team of Garry Noble, Connie McGill and Jan Watson.

The golf was followed by a great dinner of Irish stew and other choices.

HATS OFF TO THE GREENS STAFF

In spite of a very wet winter the golf course is in great shape, obviously a little wet in spots but the greens are amazingly good.

Please obey the signs and stay on cart paths until advised otherwise.

The Pro Shop is now open, call (604) 883-9541 to book tee times and sign up for men's day on Tuesdays and ladies day on Thursdays.

Be sure to phone the Pro Shop as there could be a frost delay some days.

Total Health for Life

Discover Scuba!

Monday April 4, 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. \$5
Join Suncoast Diving for an introduction to scuba diving. Participants must pre-register, fill in a waiver and medical form prior to activity. Space is limited so register early. Admission is \$5 or \$2 for swim only.

Intensive Stretch Therapy Mini-Workshop

Saturday April 9, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm
with Certified fitness instructor and Personal Trainer, Mokie Burnham.
Cost is \$30.

Belly Dancing

Join us for an amazing core workout with instructor Stacy Seabrook, learn the basics of belly dance and let your feminine energy shine.
Beginning Tuesday April 12, for 8 weeks
Cost is \$80.

First Year Anniversary Celebration

Help us celebrate our first year in the new facility on Sunday April 17, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Games, prizes, refreshments and a whole lot of fun for the whole family. FREE admission.

Easter Bonnet Aquafit

Wear your best and fanciest Easter bonnet and join in on the fun and games during both Aquafit classes on Wednesday, April 20. Refreshments and social will follow the class.

Easter Family Swim

Sunday April 24, 1:00 to 5:00 pm.
Games in the pool from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Special family rate is \$8.

Harbour Seals Swim Club meets every Thursday from 3:45 pm to 5:15 pm.
Coaches Bob Steele, Rob Hynd and Gwen Walwyn welcome new swimmers at any time!



Register for our programs online at www.scrd.ca, by phone at 604-885-6866 or in person at 13639 Sunshine Coast Highway, Madeira Park.



View the Pender Community Spring 2011 guide online at www.scrd.ca to find out what's happening this season.

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PENDER GOLF

WILDLIFE RESCUE

One Friday early in February, Dave West and Rick Bathgate were playing golf when they came upon a Red-tailed hawk beside the seventh tee box.

They assumed it was just resting but when they came around on the back nine it was still there.

The bird was obviously injured so they reported it when they got back to the clubhouse.

The wildlife people were not prepared to come up and get it but said they would take care of it if someone wanted to catch it and take it down.

Our waitress Heather Fike got Steve Baulne and Peter Kenny to go down with her to catch the hawk.

They couldn't find any gloves but went down armed with a box.

The bird had a badly damaged leg and seemed quite happy to be helped into the box.

Our other waitress Sabina took the hawk down to the vet in Sechelt who operated on the leg and then it was moved to the wildlife refuge in Gibsons where it is now recovering.

When ready we

understand it will be returned to the golf course area.

FROM THE 19TH HOLE:

I'm hitting the woods just great ... but having a terrible time getting out of them!

~ Author unknown

FUTURE EVENTS

On April 30, the Annual Masters Par Three Tournament will be held.



A Red-tailed hawk like this one (photograph taken on the McNeill Lake Forest Service Road) was found injured on the P. H. Golf Course and delivered to a veterinarian and eventually a wildlife refuge in Gibsons to heal. It isn't known how the bird was injured but with the golf season just getting underway, it's possible an errant ball strayed from the fairway into the trees.

April 2011

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Heading to the highlands: A winter trip to western Panama

By Joe Harrison

The seven-and-a-half hour flight on Air Transat direct from Vancouver brought us to steamy Panama City on January 25.

Panama is a tiny country not quite as long as Vancouver Island in a lazy "S" stretching east from Colombia to Costa Rica.

Cost is always a major consideration for retirees like ourselves so the \$750 return flight, a comfy night at the Milan Hotel at \$65 and the general feeling of safety and stability made this an attractive winter holiday destination.

Spanish is not essential in Panama because of the long American association with the Canal. Nearly half a million Americans live here and many locals have some English.

The currency is the American dollar and three to five dollars will get you a decent meal.

Classier restaurants will run \$20-\$40 for two with drinks. Mid-range accommodations in the countryside outside cities range from \$20-\$50.

Seafood on the coast is spectacu-



Panama is a country of almost 3.5 million and has one of the healthiest economies in Central America thanks to revenue from tolls generated by the Panama Canal.

larly tasty while the menu in the countryside is varied and nutritious with a range of unusual veggies and fruits but tending to be bland or overcooked.

At 8 degrees north of the equator, the mid-30- to forty-plus temperatures of the Lowlands are outside our comfort zone.

So, instead, we opted for the Western Highlands at 3,000 to 5,000 feet where a huge swath of undisturbed rainforest of Amistad Interna-

tional Park straddles the border with Costa Rica.

There are also fewer biting insects and tropical diseases.

Our special interest in birding and the natural world led us to choose the town of Boquete.

Boquete is nestled within the elliptical caldera of the 11,500 foot Volcan Baru.

The townsite sits alongside a rushing boulder strewn river not unlike the Capilano River in North Vancouver.

My impression is that good birding and wildlife viewing are more spotty than in Costa Rica where concern for all things environmental is a religion.

The Sechelt-sized town is a riot of bougainvillea and hibiscus.

On Saturdays Ngobe-Bugle women and girls in their long fluorescent pink, red, green, orange and mauve dresses (known as enaguas) with intricate embroidered borders swirl through the plazas and markets.

The image of one memorable young Indian woman with jet eyes and hair dressed all in black and carrying an impeccably attired infant in a pink



Joe Harrison photo

The author and his wife Solveigh (l) enjoying dinner at Sobrason, a restaurant in Boquete, Panama. The bill for three came to less than \$15.

sun bonnet will stay with me.

Nearly all these beautiful people have babies and toddlers, some with bare feet.

The men for the most part have modern dress although the younger men often wear a traditional scarlet tunic with a leather or woven pouch (characas) on a long cord hung from the neck.

Untouched by Latin machismo, they project a gentle confidence in contrast with the manner by which outsiders define masculinity.

It's a hard subsistence lifestyle and not all look healthy and happy.

There is plenty of grubby hair, dirty clothes and bare feet, but they are fiercely proud of their identity.

Smiles break out when they buy a 35-cent ice cream cone.

We seldom saw any drunkenness or public display of envy or resentment.

One afternoon while descending through a leafy canyon on a 12-kilometre hike from the volcano in a misty rain, we met a woman who smiled quizzically as she silently exchanged a greeting while pausing for breath on a steep climb.

My eyes drifted to her small son in gumboots bravely carrying a baby.

The baby's tiny wizened face peered out from what looked like a big, white bandaged thumb.

My gaze returned to her her immaculate hair and long brilliant yellow dress bordered in red.

Only then did I realize with a shock that the red border was fused with the scarlet wattles of a huge barred rock rooster she had clamped under her arm.

Her vitality and unity with the landscape were simply radiant — one of the striking eternal verities.

The local aboriginals are being courted by mining executives from 14 companies including a Canadian aboriginal from Manitoba.

Don and his Chilean wife, Loreto, are lobbying the Panamanian government to change laws to allow development.

Canadians have a well-deserved bad reputation in Latin America for leaving without cleaning up the environmental mess.

Indigenous youth have been vociferously opposed to mining with demonstrations supported by local residents, especially the gringos.

A Panamanian government minister ended up in hospital after a group of 5,000 angry natives got out of hand.

There have been organized street parades and blockades of the Pan-American Highway almost daily over a proposal which would see a massive open pit copper mine at Cerro Colorado, a few kilometres from Boquete.

One businessman told me confidentially that he expected a repeat of an earlier attempt when mining officials were taken hostage, blinded with red-hot poker, and released,

"They will force them to leave one way or another," he added.

After five centuries, these aboriginals have learned a thing or two from the colonial past when similar measures were used against them.

They are among the 200,000 Ngobe-Bugle who live a traditional lifestyle in these hills.

They have independent lands and governments called comarcas and they have managed to retain their own language and customs since the Spanish arrived here in 1500.

While in town, they remain aloof and unresponsive, do not communicate in Spanish, seldom make eye contact and avoid revealing their



Joe Harrison photo

One of many demonstrations by the indigenous Ngöble-buglé people voicing opposition to foreign-controlled mining operations.

emotions.

However, if you happen to come across one of their houses in the hills, they are universally warm and cheery.

Today the men often pick coffee berries for \$2 per five-gallon bucket amongst palms, small farm gardens and banana trees on the steep hillsides surrounding the area.

The landscape is as vivid as a bright childhood memory.

In the late afternoon light it is reminiscent of a misty, intimate and dreamy Asian landscape.

It seems to reflect the warm, welcoming mix of people who have arrived here during the past five centuries: a few thousand retired Americans, Canadians, Dutch, Norwegians, Germans, Belgians, French, backpackers from everywhere, Panamanians of every colour in the Caribbean as well as international business people involved with Panama Canal shipping.

(Continued next month.)

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HELP WANTED

• **The board of Area A Seniors Housing Project** is inviting applications to the paid position of recording secretary to take monthly board minutes. Please call Anky at (604) 883-0033.

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• **10' inflatable Zodiac dinghy.** White and blue. In Pender Harbour. Call (604) 741-7766.

WANTED

• **The P. H. Lions Club** hall renovation project needs a chainsaw, wheelbarrow, axes and flooring. To help, please call Neale (604) 883-3693.

WORK WANTED

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HARBOUR SEALS



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Harbour Seals of Approval to all **the volunteers involved with the Bargain Barn** who put in many hours raising funds for our community health centre. New volunteers are always welcome and appreciated.

Sharon Halford
Bargain Barn chair

A Harbour Seal of Approval to all **the businesses in Madeira Park who supported Anti-Bullying Pink Day.** Together we can make a difference.

Linda Curtiss
1st Pender Harbour Girl Guides

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **the kind people in Pender Harbour** that have helped, and are helping, me with my recovery. Thanks so much.

Neale Smith

Pender Harbour Music Society presents:

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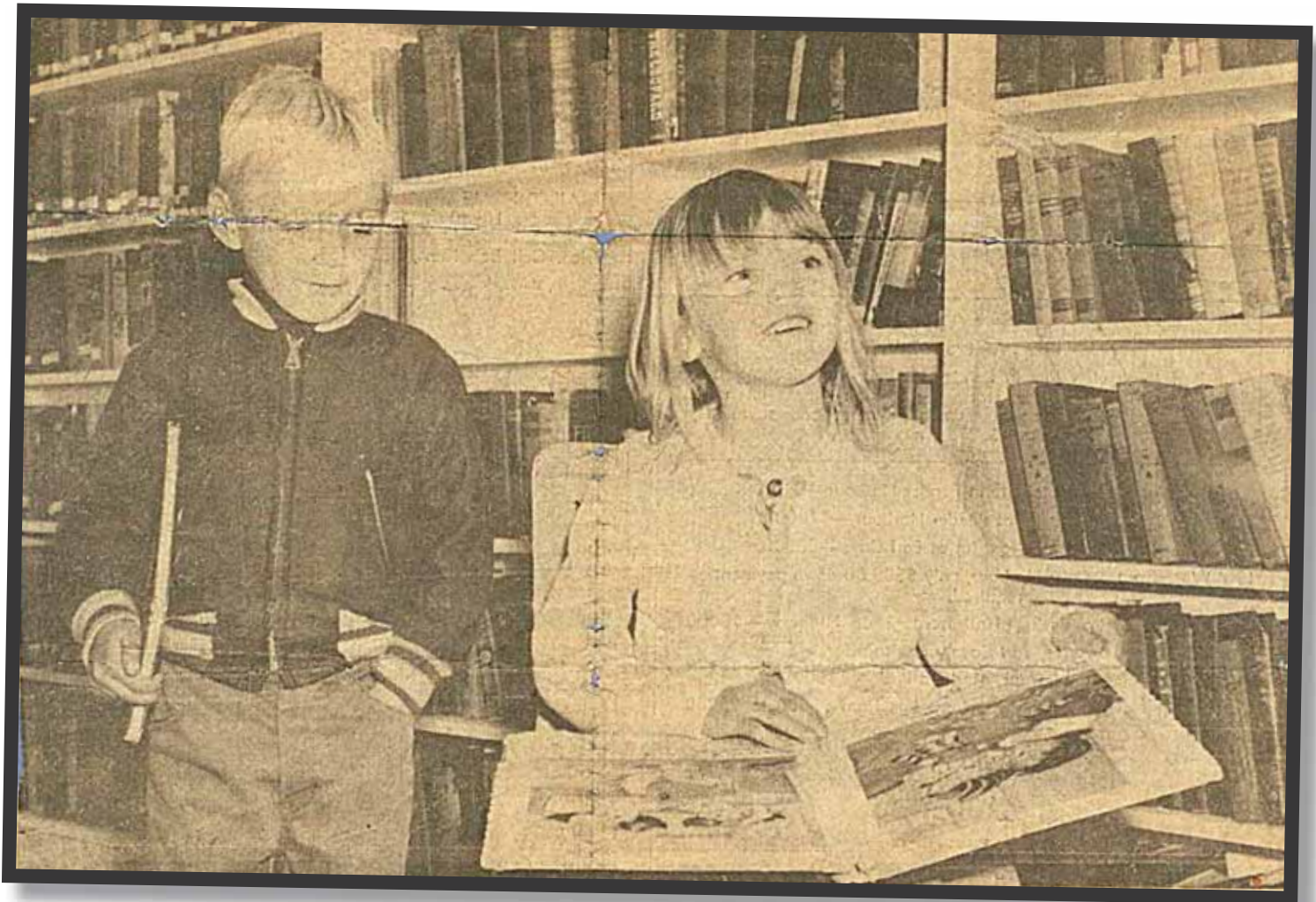
Pender Harbour School of Music

Tickets: \$20 at Harbour Insurance (Madeira Park), John Henry's (Garden Bay), Visitor Info Centre (Sechelt) and Gaia's Fair Trade (Gibsons).

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www.penderharbourmusic.ca





Robi Petraschuk collection

A copy of a local paper from about 1971 shows Troy Scoular and Mindy Peters, age 5, “taking advantage of extended open hours of Pender Harbour’s Public Library. Manned by volunteer staff, the library attached to the Community Hall in Madeira Park is open from 1 to 3 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday.”

(If you have photos to share memories of family or friends, call the Harbour Spiel and we’ll try to get them in.)

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Don't let the bedbugs bite

Excerpt from Health Canada website

Bedbugs are small, wingless insects that feed on the blood of people and animals while they sleep.

They are easily moved from room to room on infested objects.

Bedbugs cannot easily climb metal or polished surfaces and cannot fly or jump.

Adult bedbugs can be as long as 10 mm. They have an oval, broad, flat body and a short, broad head.

Adult bedbugs are brown but darken to a blood red colour after feeding.

Bedbug eggs are white, about one millimetre long, and are almost impossible to see on most surfaces.

The eggs have a sticky coating and are laid in cracks and crevices, behind woodwork and other hidden

locations.

Bedbugs come out at night to feed, attracted by the carbon dioxide we exhale. They will feed on both people and pets.

Bedbug bites may not be noticed right away because bedbugs typically feed at night when people are asleep.

Bedbugs prefer locations where they can hide easily and feed regularly, like sleeping areas.

Their flattened bodies allow bedbugs to hide in extremely small locations: under wallpaper, behind picture frames, in electrical outlets, inside box springs, in mattress pads and in night tables.

PREVENTION

First, be careful about what you bring into your house or buy.

Check every item you bring into

your home for the first time, including used books, new furniture, and garage sale or antique store furniture.

Be very cautious with second-hand or refurbished items.

New mattresses are often delivered in the same truck that carries away old mattresses, so be careful to check your new mattress before it enters your home.

Insist that your new mattress be sealed before it is delivered.

Check items before you put them in your vehicle and check your vehicle after helping a friend move.

When you return from a trip, follow the tips described on the Public Health Agency of Canada website.

For more information, visit:
www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthfiles/hfile95.stm

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Selling your home depends on many factors but pricing is key



By Alan Stewart

How long does it take to sell a house in Pender Harbour?

I'm always interested in the feedback we receive from buyers looking at homes that we have listed for sale and I often find myself questioning the reasons why they aren't interested.

The shag carpet isn't the right shade of orange?

Come on.

The reality is that, more often than not, a house simply "speaks" to a buyer. While many begin their search with a list of criteria for their dream home or cottage, at the end of the day they rarely buy what they set out looking for in the first place.

Why? Because there are so many factors involved.

These factors include, but aren't limited to, things like price, curb appeal, location, features of the home and property (waterfront, dock, views, acreage), pet friendliness, sun exposure accessibility, driveway finish, paint colour, carpet colours, roofing material, odours or vendor financing.

The combination of these factors directly affect the amount of time required to sell a home.



The Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver MLS statistics show that the average time on the market for a detached home in Pender Harbour over the past 12 months is approximately 112 days.

But is this an accurate reflection

of how long a person thinking of selling should expect to wait?

The MLS stats reflect the average number of days a house that actually sells is on the market during its current listing period.

They don't account for the num-



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ber of days a property may have been on the market before it expired for a length of time or was cancelled and relisted.

It certainly doesn't reflect the length of time houses which didn't sell at all were on the market.

I took a closer look back at the 47 home sales in Pender Harbour that were used to compile the MLS's 112 day average to compile my own statistics.

While many of the homes came off the market for extended periods of time during the worst of the economic recession, I simply calculated the number of days between the first time the house was listed on the market and the date of the eventual sale.

On average, of the 47 houses that sold, 32 sold in less than two years, with an average of 230 days on the market.

That's more than double the number reported by the real estate board.

For the remaining 15 houses (those which took more than two years to sell) the average days on the market from the time they were first listed to the time the actually sold was a whopping 1,180 days. That's a staggering 3.25 years.

Comparing the selling prices of these homes to the initial listing prices was also shocking.

While the average listing price of those homes was \$1,425,220, the average selling price was 40% lower at only \$851,393.

So what do we take from this?

First of all, if you want to effect a sale of your home, price it right to begin with.

The average selling price of a home in Pender Harbour over the past year was 91 per cent of its asking

price.

So, while you need to leave a little room for negotiation, now isn't the time to go fishing with a gigantic price tag.

Secondly, while well-priced houses can sell overnight, if you expect to get fair market value for your property you should brace yourself for the potential of a long wait.

Remember my shopkeeper analogy: If there is no one in the store, it doesn't matter how low you price something.

You simply have to have a buyer that's looking for what you have to offer.

If time is more important than money, the alternative is to sell wholesale and get on with things.

The question of what that wholesale price might be is something you'll need to discuss with your Realtor.

Please send any suggestions for future columns to alan@sunshine-coasthomes.com.

P. H. Lions Annual Pancake breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 24

sponsored by:
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Easter egg hunt: Starts at 12 noon

P. H. Lions Hall

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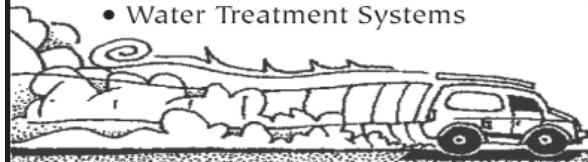
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When you're ready for a new puppy...



By John Wade

I've been dog-less for quite a while now.

The reason is I've been taking my own advice in that I believe just because someone wants a dog doesn't mean they're ready for one.

Because I often get invited to speak at conferences, I fly frequently and have been worrying about the time away.

I can't always bring a dog with me and have no immediate family to leave a dog with when I am away.

Though I've wanted one, I've resisted having a dog in my life.

But I'm fortunate because I work with dogs and it's been a decent bridge that has sustained me.

In recent months I've found that my time with other people's dogs has been acting less as a "fix" and more of a reminder that it's time.

As I get closer to taking the leap, I'm starting to look for logistical solutions.

Socialization is so important to creating temperament that I'm inclined toward starting from scratch with a puppy.

It got me thinking about making a to-do list of important things that

will best acclimatize a dog while still a puppy.

Socialization is a lot easier if a pup is taught to lighten up with the mouthing.

People think this is just teething and normal and usually let it go on

far too long when it comes to contact with people.

The pup is looking for a response.

Trust me the response it gets from its mother is "Don't do that again," and the pups learn to inhibit



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~ Jef I. Richards

their mouthing with her and can do the same with us.

I'm not a fanatic about fancy obedience when they're little but I do believe in teaching puppies to be "still" when they're being held or handled so that too is on my list.

Once they know how to be still I can teach them to be still while I'm simulating having their ears carefully examined.

I'll pretend to put eye drops in, simulating putting a pill down their throat, having teeth and gums examined or having their feet handled.

Speaking of which, a pup's feet, right down to individual toenails, should be handled multiple times daily, actually simulating nail clipping with real nail clippers in hand.

This can and should be done even if you have no intention of doing it yourself.

Taking it a step further, any breed requiring grooming should be exposed to hair dryers and electric clippers multiple times daily a little at a time before they are exposed to them at a groomer.

They should also go for multiple cookie runs to the groomers (and the vets) long before they actually go for the real thing.

Some breeds just don't have a natural coat for northern climates but even if they do I think getting them used to having something slipped over their heads and legs while they're young is a good idea.

For instance, my dogs enjoyed carrying their own backpacks on hikes.

I'm also going to get my next dog used to wearing boots because my dog will likely be a working dog and some of the terrain he might work

may have things that could cut his paws on or chemicals he might lick off them.

I think that in addition to getting a dog used to these sort of things it's important to add multiple handlers so the dog is just as relaxed in the hands

of a vet, a groomer or a friend performing these tasks.

I'm just thinking ahead.

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

Good oral hygiene is key to a healthy body

One of the most important things you can do for your total health is to take care of your teeth and gums.

There is a growing body of research that supports a link between oral diseases and diabetes, heart disease, stroke, lung diseases and pre-term, low-birth-weight babies.

In addition, periodontal (gum) disease is an infectious disease that may be transmitted from one person to another.

Women who are considering pregnancy or who are pregnant should see their dental hygienist as an important part of prenatal care.

Start by using a good brushing and flossing technique.

The basics: hold the toothbrush bristles at a 45-degree to the gums and "wiggle" the brush softly to work the bristles around the gums and then draw the bristles over each couple of teeth.

Repeat five to eight times per area covering two to three teeth.

Look into the mirror to make sure that you don't miss any areas.

Using dental floss after brushing is a very necessary part of oral hygiene.

Flossing not only removes food particles and plaque between the teeth but also introduces oxygen into the area.

Oxygen deactivates the disease-causing plaque and prevents them from invading the tissue.

To learn more about how your oral health contributes to your total well-being, make an appointment for cleaning and review of your dental health.

Call 604-883-2997 for an appointment with Darlene Fowlie, a registered dental hygienist at the dental office of Dr. Robert Hynd in the Pender Harbour & District Health Centre.



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BIRTHDAYS

April 2 ~ **Marty Lowe, Walter Higgins, Elizabeth Buhlert and Desiree Leech.**

April 3 - **Jamison Warner and Sandi Whelan**

April 4 ~ **Frank Roosen Jr., Doreen Lee, Mike Legge and Bev Thompson.**

April 5 ~ **Doug Silvey and Breanna Clay.**

April 6 ~ **Mike Bathgate and Ursula Dornbierer.**

April 8 ~ **Andrea Clerx and Gloria Fritz.**

April 10 ~ **April Charlton.**

April 11 ~ **Joe Adams.**

April 12 ~ **Matthew Phillips and Tilley Dougan.**

April 13 ~ **Bonnie Lindsay, Geoff Warner, Billy Petraschuk and Don Priest.**

April 14 ~ **Dan Leech and Ann Landry.**

April 15 ~ **Teresa Sladey and Cathy Collins.**

April 17 ~ **Sheila McCann and Carly Campbell.**

April 18 ~ **Russ Foster, Talon Mclean, Howard White, David Brimacomb, Kalen Zayshley and Ron Calvert.**

April 19 ~ **John Field.**

April 20 ~ **Sue Kammerle and Katie Tenbroek.**

April 22 ~ **Dan Choquette and Lorrie Babcock.**

April 23 ~ **Kathy Morant, Sue Richardson, Heidi Vaughan and Jordan Kammerle.**

April 24 ~ **Len Silvey and Alex Dore.**

April 25 ~ **Samantha Stewart and Dietta Edwardson.**

April 26 ~ **Teyjah Xaveress and Blake Campbell.**

April 28 ~ **Jeanette Penson.**

April 29 ~ **Ruth Langton.**

April 30 ~ **Kasey & Kelly Smith, Marie Reid, Hazel Higgins, "Prawntrap Patty" Jackson, Bill Sutherland and Jeff Wilbee.**

APRIL WEATHER

TEMPERATURES, MERRY ISLAND

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

PRECIPITATION, MERRY ISLAND

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

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OF APRIL

COUGAR SAFETY FOR KIDS

An adult male cougar weighs 63-90 kg (140-200 lbs), a female 40-50 kg (90-120 lbs).

The cougar's primary prey is deer but it will also feed on wild sheep, elk, rabbits, beaver, raccoons, grouse, and occasionally livestock.

Cougars also seem to be attracted to children, possibly because their high-pitched voices, small size, and erratic movements make it difficult for cougars to identify them as human and not prey.

- Talk to children and teach them what to do if they encounter a cougar.
- Encourage children to play outdoors in groups, and supervise children playing outdoors.
- Consider getting a dog for your children as an early-warning system. A dog can see, smell, and hear a cougar sooner than we can. Although dogs offer little value as a deterrent to cougars, they may distract a cougar from attacking a human.
- Consider erecting a fence around play areas.
- Keep a radio playing.
- Make sure children are home before dusk and stay inside until after dawn.
- If there have been cougar sightings, escort children to the bus stop in the early morning. Clear shrubs away around the bus stop, making an area with a nine-metre (30 foot) radius. Have a light installed as a general safety precaution.

~ Ministry of Environment

APRIL ASTROLOGY

ARIES (MARCH 20–APRIL 20)

The sign of the ram gives Arians loyalty, generosity, high energy and courage. They love adventure and often fiercely defend the underdog. Aries typically do not wash lettuce before eating or return borrowed books.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Taureans are seekers of peace and stability. Although unambitious, they are happy to be the powerhouse behind the scenes. They are sensible, healthy cynics and have pink gums.

Skookumchuck
viewing
times
~ April ~



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

April 1	10:55 am -L, 4:26 pm +L
April 2	11:20 am -L, 5:10 pm +L
April 3	11:36 am -L, 5:53 pm +XL
April 4	11:53 am -L, 6:34 pm +XL
April 5	11:50 am -XL, 7:16 pm +XL
April 6	11:56 am -XL, 7:58 pm +XL
April 7	12:18 pm -XL
April 8	7:02 am +M, 12:58 pm -XL
April 9	7:48 am +M, 1:59 pm -XL
April 10	8:43 am +M, 3:30 pm -L
April 11	9:59 am +S, 4:50 pm -L
April 12	11:53 am +S, 6:01 pm -L
April 13	1:16 pm +M, 7:09 pm -L
April 14	8:41 am -L, 2:17 pm +L
April 15	9:23 am -L, 3:22 pm +L
April 16	10:01 am -L, 4:19 pm +XL
April 17	10:38 am -XL, 5:15 pm +XL
April 18	11:15 am -XL, 6:09 pm +XL
April 19	11:40 am -XL, 7:02 pm +XL
April 20	12:30 pm -XL, 7:55 pm +XL
April 21	6:35 am +L, 1:22 pm -XL
April 22	7:25 am +M, 2:16 pm -XL
April 23	8:22 am +S, 3:11 pm -L
April 24	9:38 am +S, 4:08 pm -L
April 25	11:17 am +S, 5:05 pm -L
April 26	12:39 pm +S, 6:04 pm -M
April 27	1:40 pm +M, 7:07 pm -M
April 28	9:03 am -L, 2:44 pm +M
April 29	9:37 am -L, 3:34 pm +L
April 30	10:04 am -L, 4:20 pm +L

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.

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• Coast Guard Auxiliary, Unit 61	883-2572
• Community Club, Egmont	883-9206
• Community Club, Pender Harbour	741-5840
• Community Policing	883-2026
• Community School Society	883-2826
• Egmont & District Volunteer Fire Department	883-2555
• GRIPS (Recycling Society)	883-1165
• Garden Bay Sailing Club.....	883-2689
• Gardening Club	883-0295
• P. H. Golf Club.....	883-9541
• 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.....	883-0522
• InStitches (1st Monday, 11 a.m., PH Health Centre).....	883-0748
• Iris Griffith Centre	883-9201
• Lions Club, Egmont.....	883-9463
• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Tues.)	883-1361
• P. H. Garden Club	883-9415
• P. H. Hiking Club (8:30 am, Mon. & Wed.)	883-2930
• P. H. Living Heritage Society	883-0748
• P. H. Music Society (bookings).....	883-9749
• P. H. Paddling Society.....	883-3678
• P. H. Volunteer Fire Dept (Wed. evening)	883-9270
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:00 pm Tues).....	883-9749
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.).....	883-9209
• Power & Sail Squadron (2nd Wed. Legion).....	883-0444
• Red Balloon Parent & Tot drop-in.....	885-5881
• Reading Centre Society	883-2983
• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub)	883-2544
• Royal Cdn Legion 112.....	883-2235
• 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
• Suncoast Players	883-9277
• TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly).....	883-3639
• VITAL First Aid and Safety Training Centre.....	885-0804
• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
• Women's Cancer Support	883-9708
• Women's Connection (2nd & 4th Tue.)	883-9313
• Women's Outreach Services.....	741-5246

ORGANIZATIONS

PENDER HARBOUR MAY DAY

The Pender Harbour May Day committee is formed and planning is underway for Pender Harbour's 66th May Day celebration. This year's theme is "Into the Future" and it will take place, as always, on the Saturday of the May long weekend — May 21. Congratulations to May Queen Madeline Roach.

We urgently need your help to plan and co-ordinate this huge community event. The planning committee meets Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. in P. H. Community Hall. All interested in volunteering are invited to attend. For information call Marlene Cymbalist, (604) 883-9900.

P. H. COMMUNITY CLUB MARKET

The Pender Harbour Community Club holds their monthly market on Saturday, April 9 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall. It opens at 10 a.m. and runs all day.

Vendors interested in selling crafts, baked goods, art, garage sale items and just about anything else should contact Sunny at (604) 883-2715 for more information.

ARTWAVE

Art Wave IV washes through this Easter long weekend (April 22-24) from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Art Wave IV features new works, artists, workshops, and something "special" presented by the Pender Harbour Art Wave participants. A percentage of all sales will be donated to the Red Cross earthquake relief fund for Japan. Postcards and maps are available at Copper Sky Gallery, Fibreworks Gallery and the Flying Anvil Gallery.

P. H. WOMEN'S CONNECTION

On April 12, the P. H. Women's Connection will hold their annual Chinese auction. On April 26 they'll hold an informal gathering called Treasures and Tales. Both gatherings are held at the P. H. School of Music in Madeira Park from 10 a.m. to noon. Members, non-members, and drop-ins are always welcome.

P. H. WOMEN'S SOCCER

Efforts are underway way to revive a women's soccer team in the Pender Harbour area. It doesn't matter if you live in Pender Harbour or if you have played before, if you are interested in anyway, contact: Brent Sheppard (brent-sheppard@xplornet.com) or Annette Sheppard (sheppard-seafoods@gmail.com) at 604-883-9504.

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LOCAL MUSIC

Get ready to R-r-rumba!



Submitted

Called hot Latin jazz at its best, Raphael Geronimo's Rumba Calzada will move even the stillest of feet with its wicked rhythms and sexy beat.

A huge hit at the 2009 Pender Harbour Jazz Festival, we are thrilled to have the high energy and virtuoso playing of Rumba back in the Harbour to shake those winter blues right off.

This Vancouver band, led by Filipino-Canadian Raphael Geronimo, shares a common bond: a passion for Afro-Cuban rhythms.

Individually the players reflect Vancouver's cultural mosaic, sprouting from a diversity of cultural backgrounds.

Rumba Calzada's take on Latin music is also reflective of its locale.

The equatorial heat of their percussion-driven sound blends with the "cool" of West Coast jazz.

Rumba Calzada has been nominated for a Juno for world music album of the year, a Western Canadian Music Award for outstanding world recording of the year and for world

album of the year at the Canadian Independent Music Awards.

Rumba Calzada's third release, *Volume 3*, is a fantastic combination of Afro-Cuban rhythms and Latin grooves.

Nena Baila closes out the disc with a live performance at the Sounds Like Summer festival at Blue Mountain Park in Coquitlam.

If you are ready to rumba, jump at this opportunity to catch the amazing Rumba Calzada live in Pender Harbour on Saturday, April 16.

The show starts at 8 p.m. at the Pender Harbour School of Music with tickets available at: Harbour Insurance, John Henry's Marina, Sechelt Visitor Centre and Gaia's Fair Trade.

HARBOUR GALLERY FEATURE SHOWS 2011

Gallery hours: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

April 8 -16

Gloria Malaka and Vicki Halford present:
"Celebrate Spring—Two for the Show"

May 6 - 17

Solveigh Harrison, June Malaka and Wendy Simmonds present "Abstracted"

May 21

May Day Harbour Gallery
membership exhibit

May 27 - June 7

Pat Jobb and Fran Sevier present
"Songs of the Earth II"

June 10 - 21:

Diana Aulis, Pat Walsh and Nefri Lyske
present "Sea Things"

July 1:

Gallery membership Summer Show

MADEIRA PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS:

April 4: Professional day

April 7: PAC executive meeting

April 14: General PAC meeting

April 22: Good Friday

April 25: Easter Monday

Stay in the know:

www.sd46.bc.ca/mpesweb/

Area A Seniors' Housing Outreach Healthy Meal Program



Enjoy fun and friendship at Harbourside Friendships:
Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the P. H. School of Music.

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

LOCAL ARTISTS

Gibson Gallery set to unveil 'Yonel'

Submitted

Local artist Jack Gibson is will soon unveil his most recent piece of artwork later this month on the grounds of his Garden Bay gallery.

A bronze entitled "Yonel" will be installed as part of the landscaped entrance to his Elliott Road gallery.

"Yonel" is a mulatto contemporary dancer, larger than life-sized and seated in repose.

Gibson made the 16-hour drive to the foundry where the piece was cast in Utah early last month.

After completing its final patina finish, he then delivered the massive bronze statue back to his Garden Bay studio to await its unveiling.

Some might be familiar with Gibson from his years as an art gallery owner in downtown Vancouver.

Jack began his journey as a sculptor 25 years ago when began creating three-dimensional bronze wildlife pieces.

He eventually drifted toward the human form, particularly dance and figurative pieces.

More recently, Gibson has moved into landscape.

His limited edition sculptures reside in a variety of North American and overseas homes, businesses, galleries and gardens.

Past works include "Transformation Mask" and "Kwaguilth Dancer"



Jack Gibson is seen here in his studio last April while he was still in the process of sculpting 'Yonel.'

— both inspired by friendships with First Nations artists.

In addition to Yonel, the grounds will showcase newer bronze sculptures displayed in the indoor gallery where visitors can also view metal

relief pieces.

All are welcome to attend the celebration of this outdoor sculpture on Thursday, April 2 at 1 p.m.

The Gibson Gallery is located off Garden Bay Road on Elliott Road (entrance is opposite the "T dock" on Garden Bay Lake).

The gallery is up the road on the left hand side and can be distinguished by the bronze Yonel.

Parking on Elliot Rd. is recommended.

For more information, call (604)883-9010 or visit www.jackgibsongallery.com.

Celebrate Easter!

Family Worship Service
Easter Sunday, April 24th, 9:30am

Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church
(Next to the PH High School)
Call 604-865-0336 for more info

... followed by an
Easter egg hunt
and brunch
All welcome!

LOCAL MUSIC

Pender festival offers red hot blues

Submitted

Mark off the first weekend in June for the eighth annual Pender Harbour Blues Festival.

That's June 3-5 — a weekend full of the blues served up just the way you like it.

Rock and roll saxophone star Johnny Ferreira opens the weekend on Friday with the sensational Nadine States on June 3 at the Garden Bay Pub.

Johnny's ferocious "sax trax" combined with the Tina Turner-esque voice of Nadine States, gets the weekend off to a boisterous start.

Tickets are available for inside or outside seating.

Dance Saturday night away with Brickhouse at the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

Always a crowd pleaser, Brickhouse brings a high energy sound that delivers a infectious, toe-tapping blues that will have you up on your feet all night long.

Across the Harbour, Gary Co-meau and his Voodoo All-Stars will keep things jumping at the Garden Bay Pub, also on Saturday night.

Perennial fan favourites, Gary and the boys deliver the zydeco and Cajun style goods with a greasy serving of blues on top.

Sunday school was never this good.

Worship at the church of the blues with John Lee Sanders, gospel bluesman straight from New Orleans, Sunday morning at the Pender Harbour School of Music.

If you miss that, catch this great performer Sunday evening at the Garden Bay Pub.

Take in the fabulous free shows Saturday in Madeira Park and at John



John Lee Sanders photo

With roots in the deep south, John Lee Sanders (r) now calls Kelowna his home. He'll play two shows at the upcoming Pender Harbour Blues Festival.

Henry's from noon until 5 p.m.

Also at Madeira Park on Saturday is the arts and craft fair.

Come out and find that special something while listening to great music.

Or check out the Saturday jam at the Garden Bay Pub starting at 2 p.m.

On Sunday, catch Tim Hearsey

and Arsen Shomakhov in the All-Star Jam at the Garden Bay Pub.

The show starts at 2 p.m. and runs to dinner.

For more information including ticket prices, where to buy tickets and show times check out the Pender Harbour Blues Festival website: <http://penderharbourbluesfestival.com/>

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Wei Hsu: The first non-native Pender Harbourite (Part IX)



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 Charlie 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 years before 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 IX: (Continued from March 2011)

In 1874, Pender Harbour was a desolate place.

Other than the rare occasion when a transient timber prospector, fisherman or government surveyor stumbled upon the Harbour entrance by boat, the only visitors residents could expect were those from the Indian village in Sechelt.

For a long time after Father Paul Durieu persuaded the Shishalh to abandon Kálpilín in favour of relocating to Sechelt, return visits would often involve efforts to convince those like Qwuní to join them.

But during the years when what was left of his village decided to follow the Catholic missionary's advice, Qwuní suffered a profound depression brought on by the loss of his family.

He also looked bitterly on white men for bringing their disease. He wanted to be left alone and would often turn them away with threats of violence.

Later on he saw the change in his friends — the way they dressed, their peculiar habits and lack of freedom. Despite his loneliness, joining them was never an option.

After four or five years, Durieu gave up on those who remained in the seasonal villages. He considered the stragglers who decided to remain lazy and ignorant and a threat to the achievements he'd made in Sechelt.

When he did visit as an escort on hunting or fishing trips, he looked on Qwuní, Smqáma and Inix with disdain and frowned upon any interaction with his flock.

Because of that, those occasional reunions with family and friends were often bittersweet, tainted by fear of reprisal from Durieu and often by a hint of religious condescension by his old friends.

Qwuní likened Durieu to a chief who surrounded himself only with slaves. He'd witnessed Durieu stand watch in his billowing black robes while his old friends dug clams on the beach below him. Durieu also had a temper and refused to accept argument from any Sechelt villager, often lashing out at them with insult for disobeying him.

But even Qwuní had to admit their achievements were impressive. He'd visited Sechelt once while helping deliver a woman who had become seriously ill. The place was impressively clean, with orchards and orderly lodges lined up behind a bright church on the waterfront.

It was the first time in his life that he'd seen a church and the sight of it brought fear. A few years later he was told each family had been forced to pay the ungodly sum of six dollars for the construction of a new, much larger church. It confirmed his suspicions about the Catholics and he had little to do with those from Sechelt after that.

So, it was with little interest when Lucy called out that two rowboats were approaching as he, Wei Hsu and Lucy worked at preparing the last of the season's chum salmon.

Qwuní recognized Durieu immediately, sitting in the front of the first boat, facing forward while two others rowed.

He kept working as Wei Hsu and his wife walked down the the new dock to greet them.

While Hsu was as anti-religious as Qwuní,
Harbour Spiel

IT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED...

Lucy welcomed any visits by the holy man. She had been raised with a Bible and hoped Durieu could provide her daughter with some religious guidance.

She often attended church on Sundays while in New Westminster and the lack of a spiritual presence in Pender's Harbour was something she had not yet come to terms with.

But this time Durieu did not accept her invitation for tea and clearly had arrived with a purpose.

Qwuní also sensed this was more than a casual visit and reluctantly strolled down the dock to find out what they had come for.

Durieu seemed to forget about their previous hostilities and greeted Qwuní with a rare show of respect.

The missionary explained in his thick French accent how, a week before, a party of Sliammon were making their way back to their territory after a season working in the Fraser River canneries.

Travelling groups from other bands were usually welcome to camp on the Sechelt waterfront for the night but this large group of 20 or so had brought liquor.

When Durieu found out about the party going on in their camp, he was furious and attempted to evict them from the village.

A fight ensued and a fire was started that

took the lives of three people and wiped out their drying shed and their entire stock of winter fish.

Durieu had heard Hsu was stockpiling salted and smoked fish to sell through the winter and had come to ask for help on behalf of his Sechelt village.

Hsu and Qwuní knew the one thing Durieu's village did have was cash from their ongoing logging operation.

Durieu encouraged hard work and it was paying off with the village selling a sizable amount of timber to the Burrard Inlet mills.

For a fair price, Hsu and Qwuní agreed to supply Durieu and his village with as much dried, salted or smoked salmon as they could spare.

They hadn't prepared enough to feed a village of 150 people for an entire winter but it would be enough to prevent starvation and would ensure Hsu's Pender Harbour saltery and cannery operation had a successful first year.

(Continued next month)



Father Paul Durieu headed the Catholic mission here from 1862 to 1875. After the ravages of smallpox and measles decimated the Shishalh population, he persuaded most of them to abandon their seasonal villages to form a permanent Christian community in Sechelt.

BC Bestsellers:

(For the week of March 20)

1. ***Patriot Hearts***
by John Furlong
2. ***Quinoa 365***
by Patricia Green & Carolyn Hemming
3. ***Adventures in Solitude***
by Grant Lawrence
4. ***The Sentimentalists***
by Johanna Skibsrud
5. ***The Zero-Mile Diet***
by Carolyn Herriot
6. ***Trauma Farm***
by Brian Brett
7. ***How the West Was Lost***
by Dambisa Moyo
8. ***Vij's at Home***
by Meeru Dhalwala & Vikram Vij
9. ***In the Fabled East***
by Adam Schroeder
10. ***City of Love and Revolution***
by Lawrence Aronsen

~ Assn. of Book Publishers of BC



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BOOKS

In The Land of Long Fingernails not such a



Keith Shaw photo

By Theresa Kishkan

A couple of years ago, I heard an interview on the CBC's "Sunday Edition" show. Host Michael

Enright was talking to a guy who'd just published a memoir of a summer he'd spent working as a gravedigger. The interview was funny but also poignant. I made a mental note to look for the book.

I'd forgotten about both the interview and the book until a week or two ago when I found Charles Wilkins' *In the Land of Long Fingernails: A Gravedigger's Memoir* (Viking Canada, 2008). Better late than never. I read it and loved every word.

In 1969, Charles Wilkins took a summer job at a huge Toronto cemetery. His responsibilities included cutting grass, tidying floral arrangements, digging graves, pumping water out of them before funeral parties arrived, sometimes digging them again when the police reopened a murder investigation and needed to take tissue samples from a corpse, all under the supervision of an alcoholic foreman, Scotty.

Scotty's consumption of Cutty Sark was facilitated by annual gifts from the city's undertakers. Twenty-odd cases arrived each Christmas, ensuring that the details of funeral organization were taken care of by the foreman. Undertakers could be confident that someone would meet the hearse at the cemetery gates and guide them to the grave-site, that umbrellas would be provided to mourners, and care would be taken to ensure that

noise levels would be kept to a minimum while burial rites were being observed.

Wilkins' writing is very lively. Scotty is just one in a colourful cast of characters populating this book. There is also Luccio, a doctoral candidate from Italy who spends most of his time reading James Joyce under a shady tree, smoking prodigious amounts of marijuana. Fred, who served with the Polish Resistance in the Second World War, is the one-armed gardener. Al, the company manager, shows up in a black Buick, dressed in black, complete with python-skin cowboy boots.

A summer strike by gravediggers results in coffins being stockpiled in a shed, an industrial air-conditioning unit operating around the clock. The Quarry, a crater behind the cemetery where garden waste is tipped, is also the repository for remains from city burials — unidentified bodies given plots but no headstones — which were periodically unearthed to make room for new graves. Small vignettes provide both humour and pathos as the reader learns of the various strategies involved in the upkeep of a 20th-century burial ground.

Somehow this book is not particularly macabre. It's often very funny, but also enlightening, as the author muses about our culture's preoccupation with death and commemoration.

Caroline Woodward's wonderful novel, *Penny Loves Wade, Wade Loves Penny* (Oolichan Books, 2010), captured my attention from the first page when the two main characters meet at the Co-op gas pumps in a small town in the Peace district.



grave tale

"Everything slowed down, every noise in that noisy place faded away to a white buzz, and I stared back at the blue flannel shirt, the black mop of hair and long, lean blue-jeaned legs..."

The initial attraction between Penny and Wade becomes the sustaining bedrock of their marriage.

Think of the epic poem, the Odyssey, following the adventures of a Greek hero returning from the Trojan War to his faithful wife who fends off the attentions of persistent suitors and works on a weaving project while she waits.

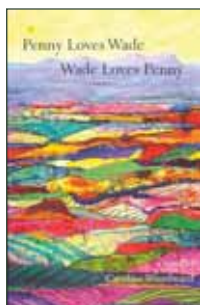
Now think of a long-distance trucker travelling the province with his cargo of honey, smoked fish and potatoes, coping with mechanical problems and an encounter with a motorcycle gang, making his way home to his wife who is running the family farm and trying to finish a quilt while worrying about finances.

The great pleasure of *Penny Loves Wade, Wade Loves Penny* is how that ancient story animates and suffuses Woodward's modern version while allowing for digressions and quirky twists of plot and fate.

Woodward's bright prose and attention to the telling details that delineate a marriage make this a novel which readers will remember and pass

on to others.

Talking at the Woodpile is a collection of short stories by David Thompson, just published by Caitlin Press in Halfmoon Bay.



The book is set in the Yukon; most of the narratives are from the perspective of Tobias Gandhi Godwit, a news reporter for a Whitehorse newspaper.

Sometimes Tobias actively seeks out stories, driving to Keno or Dawson to talk to old-timers. And sometimes the stories find him, arriving in the form of relatives from the other side of the country, or else new neighbours with strange habits that beg to be investigated.

The stories in this collection are linked, following characters and events through time and space, so that the end result is something like an episodic novel. Some of the stories suffer from a lack of dramatic tension but in the scheme of the book as a whole, they serve to highlight the crisp writing and well-wrought narrative drive of the best pieces.

This is a book which repays several readings and directs our attention to a part of the country unknown to many of us.

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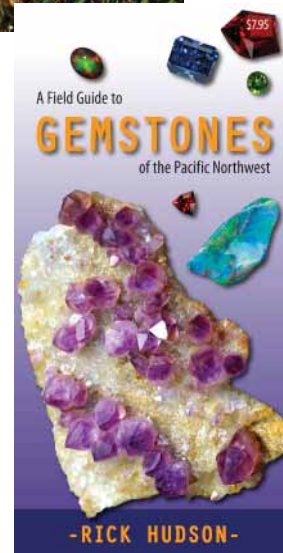
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Time flies like an arrow, fruit flies like a banana. (Groucho Marx)



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PM rules when Parliament says so — not the other way 'round



By Shane McCune

Next month's federal election has yet to settle on an overarching theme.

Over the next month tankers of ink and terabytes of computer memory will be consumed by those broadcasting, blogging and bloviating about “jets and jails,” “in-and-out,” “socialists and separatists” and so forth.

These are real issues to consider and there are many more. By voting day there may be a few that nobody's even thought of yet. But they're not so important that we will remember much about them 10 years from now.

Think of some of the issues MPs have wrestled with since the Second World War: Medicare, pensions, the flag, the Constitution, free trade. So far there's no sign of anything that big on Parliament's plate, and maybe that's not such a bad thing.

But when the next Big Thing comes along, we need a Parliament that can handle it. So the real question underlying this election is:

Which is more important, Parliament or the prime minister?

C'mon, it's not a trick question (unless you're the guy who ordered official government stationery to read *The Harper Government™*).

I've checked the instructions, and this is how you assemble a Canadian government:

1. Voters in each riding elect an MP.
2. When all the elected MPs show up in the Commons they shmooz and haggle and eventually congregate in like-minded groups.
3. The biggest like-minded group forms the government.

There's also a monarch involved, and an appointed Senate. But parties, prime ministers, cabinets, House leaders, whips — not one of these is mentioned in our Constitution Act, whether it's the 1867 version that used to be known as the British North America Act or the 1982 “patriated” edition.

They're parts of the parliamentary tradition we imported from Britain, but they are only conventions, ideas we agree to agree on.

One of the most audacious propaganda coups in modern Canadian politics was Stephen Harper's bombast about the possibility of a Liberal-NDP coalition after the last election.

Aided by the right-wing pundits of corporate media,

Harper actually managed to convince a lot of Canadians that there was something underhanded and even “un-democratic” about the idea of a government formed by the majority of MPs in the Commons thwarting the party that got the most votes.

To repeat, parties have no rights. They are private organizations, with remarkably few legal strings on the way they run themselves. When (or if) you go to the polling booth May 2, you will be voting for an individual. Candidates don't have to belong to a party.

In short, Canada is supposed to be ruled by Parliament, not partisans. Or to put it another way, we are supposed to be what early U.S. president John Adams called “a government of laws, and not of men.”

New laws are supposed to be developed with the aid of the civil service, drafted into bills, thrashed out by committees, then rejected or approved by the House of Commons before going to the Senate and eventually getting royal assent.

But in the last 40 years, beginning under Pierre Trudeau, policies have increasingly originated in the Prime Minister's Office and sent to Parliament to be rubber-stamped.

Harper has taken this attitude to extremes. Cabinet ministers aren't allowed to issue a press release until the PMO has vetted it. As for backbenchers . . . well, even if John Weston were the greatest Conservative parliamentarian since Sir John A., the highest status he could attain in Harper's House is sock puppet.

Worst of all, Harper has undermined the most fundamental role of the Commons, overseeing the spending of tax dollars. He refused to provide MPs information on the costs of his two biggest spending items, the purchase of F-35 fighter jets and the construction of a gulag of prisons.

That produced Harper's only historic achievement to date — leading the first government to be booted for contempt of Parliament.

And this is the guy who calls coalitions undemocratic.

If anything, coalitions are more democratic than majorities. When a minority government is forced to act in concert with at least one other party, committees suddenly gain power and real compromises take place.

Some say coalitions are invariably weak and ineffectual. Yet they are commonplace in European democracies. Even U.K. Conservatives lead a coalition and they seem to be doing fine.

AND ANOTHER THING...

It was a minority Liberal government, acting in loose coalition with the NDP, that gave us medicare and the Canada Pension Plan. Even Harper's party is a coalition cobbled together from earlier right-wing parties.

Here's a man who needs friends outside his party to get legislation passed. Yet how does he treat the Commons?

- The Conservatives not only refused to provide MPs information on the fate of Afghans detained by the Canadian Forces, they actually complained that the Commons was infringing on the power of "the executive." Of course, the Speaker ruled it was the other way around.

- When it looked like other parties would outvote Conservatives in committees, Harper simply had his MPs boycott the meetings so there was no quorum.

- He armed MPs with a 200-page book on tactics to disrupt or derail Commons committees.

- When it looked like other parties would outvote him in the Commons, he simply shut down the government — twice.

- And when the Speaker found strong evidence of two "breaches of privilege" (grounds for contempt) — withholding financial information and Bev Oda's lies to the House — Harper shrugged it off, saying, "You win some, you lose some."

And yet polls show many Canadians either don't know much about Harper's ethical breaches or are willing to overlook them as long as the economy is improving. Which sounds suspiciously like, "Well, he made the trains run on time."

They say nations get the governments they deserve. Don't we deserve better than this? The last election saw the lowest voter turnout in Canadian history. Please, get out and cast a vote for parliamentary democracy and against Stephen Harper.

This isn't about policy or partisanship. Even if you don't like Michael Ignatieff or Jack Layton, even if you're a lifelong Conservative and believe strongly in this government's agenda — if you can't bring yourself to vote against Harper, could you consider sitting this one out?

Ask yourself this: When does the end no longer justify the means? When the Liberals return to power — as they eventually will — how would

you feel if they showed this contempt for democracy? Would you have the right to object?

There will be other Conservative governments with other Conservative prime ministers. But there comes a time — think of the Tories' rout in the 1993 federal election or the provincial NDP's crash in 2001 — when even longtime supporters of a party accept that it's time to throw the rascals out.

It would be nice if Ignatieff would declare before the vote that he'll form a coalition with the NDP and even the Bloc if that's what it takes to defeat Harper. (Yes, the Bloc.

They are parliamentarians, too, duly elected by Canadians who pay taxes just like everybody else.)

But that would probably be as politically disastrous as Harper revealing what he'll do if he ever gets his majority.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

APRIL

- Sun. April 3.....“Using perennials in your garden” - S.C. Botanical Garden (5941 Mason Rd.), 11 a.m.
Mon. April 4.....MPES Professional Day
Sat. April 9.....P. H. Community Club Market - P. H. Community Hall, 10 a.m.
Sat. April 9.....Gloria Malaka and Vicki Halford artists’ reception - Harbour Gallery, 2 to 4 p.m.
Sun. April 10.....“Learn to compost” (panel discussion) - S.C. Botanical Garden (5941 Mason Rd.), 2 p.m.
Mon. April 11.....P. H. Food Bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, noon
Fri. April 15-16.....Niki Smith’s Beach Mosaic Workshop - 5961 Dubois Rd., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sat. April 16.....Bluewaters Books presents author Jo Hammond - Bluewaters Books, 1 p.m.
Sat. April 16.....Celebration of life for Mike Godkin - P. H. Legion, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Sat. April 16.....P. H. Music Society presents Rumba Calzada - P. H. School of Music, 8 p.m.
Sun. April 17.....Birding Walk with Tony Greenfield - S.C. Botanical Garden (5941 Mason Rd.), 8:30 a.m.
Sun. April 17.....P. H. Aquatic and Fitness Centre “First year anniversary celebration - PHAFC, 1 to 5 p.m.
Sun. April 17.....“We Care” fundraiser gala for Japan relief - Sechelt Senior Activity Centre, 5:30 - 10 p.m.
Fri. April 22-24.....Artwave IV (3 days) - various local galleries, 11 a.m.
Sun. April 24.....Easter family worship service - Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, 9:30 a.m.
Sun. April 24.....P. H. Lions Annual Pancake Breakfast - P. H. Lions Hall, 9 a.m. to noon
Sun. April 24.....P. H. Lions Annual Easter Egg Hunt - P. H. Lions Hall, noon
Wed. April 27.....P. H. Reading Centre potluck lunch (followed by AGM) - P. H. School of Music, noon
Fri. April 29- May 1.....Fifth annual Garden Bay Classic fishing derby - Garden Bay Pub, all weekend
Sat. April 30.....10th annual April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge - Millennium Park, races start at 2 p.m.

FERRY DEPARTURES

~ Effective to May 18, 2011 ~

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.



Langdale	Horseshoe Bay	Earl’s Cove	Saltery Bay
6:20 a.m.	7:20 a.m.	◆ 6:30 a.m.	◆ 5:35 a.m.
8:20 a.m.	9:20 a.m.	8:25 a.m.	7:25 a.m.
10:20 a.m.	10:00 a.m. (Apr. 22 only)	10:25 p.m.	9:25 a.m.
11:00 a.m. (Apr. 22 only)	11:20 a.m.	12:20 p.m.	11:20 a.m.
12:20 p.m.	1:20 p.m.	4:25 p.m.	3:20 a.m.
2:30 p.m.	2:00 p.m. (Apr. 25 only)	6:25 p.m.	5:25 p.m.
3:00 p.m. (Apr. 25 only)	3:30 p.m.	8:20 p.m.	7:20 p.m.
4:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m. (Apr. 21 only)	10:05 p.m.	9:15 p.m.
5:00 p.m. (Apr. 21 only)	5:30 p.m.		
6:30 p.m.	7:25 p.m.		
8:20 p.m.	9:15 p.m.		

♥ April 22 only

◆ April 25 only

◆ Daily except Sunday.

Deep Thoughts . . .

“Whenever I see an old lady slip and fall on a wet sidewalk, my first instinct is to laugh.
But then I think, what if I was an ant, and she fell on me. Then it wouldn’t seem quite so funny.”

— Jack Handey



Pender Harbour Studio & Gallery Tour

ArtWave IV

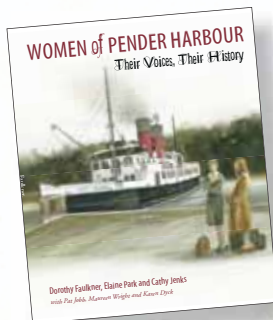
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11 am - 5 pm

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Harbour Gallery
Motoko's Original Art Studio & Gallery
Piecefull Glass Canvas
Windows Gallery



A percentage of gross sales at each gallery will be donated to the Pender Harbour Food Bank and the Red Cross for earthquake relief in Japan.



Have you bought
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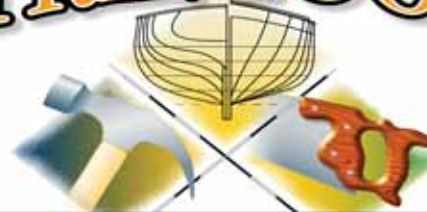
Available at local bookstores.

Proceeds from the sale of this book and prints of the cover painting will support the collection and preservation of historical materials in Pender Harbour.

PENDER HARBOUR, APRIL 30, 2011!

It's the 10th annual

APRIL TOOLS



WOODEN BOAT CHALLENGE

LOTS AND LOTS OF FREE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS!

Has your team got what it takes to build a boat in three hours with materials provided, race it round a short, marked course without sinking, and do it faster than anyone else? Then you could win \$700 (2nd place \$400, 3rd \$250). Get a 4-person team together and challenge your friends or co-workers to do the same. Entry fee is \$160 (or just \$140 if you register before April 1st!) for that you get a materials package and a t-shirt for each team member.

- ◆ Seafarer Millennium Park, Saturday, April 30, 2011.
- ◆ New construction "twist" and materials revealed at 10:00 am.
- ◆ Construction between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.
- ◆ Youth race starts at 2:00 pm, adult race follows at about 2:45 pm.
- ◆ Concessions.
- ◆ Mini boat building, face painting, and more free crafts for kids.

Try paddling or rowing a CLASSIC WOODEN BOAT in the Harbour for FREE!

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

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John and Bev Thompson have now made their summer panabode cottage on Cameron Road their permanent residence having sold their Walker Road residence in Halfmoon Bay/Secret Cove this winter. They have not only changed homes, they have changed real estate companies and moved back to Re/Max (John was one of the "original 9" who purchased the Re/Max Sechelt/Pender Harbour franchise back in 1997).

They say they are happy to now be so close to their Pender Harbour listings which feature mostly ocean view and waterfront properties. As was expected with their spectacular southern views, three of four Arbutus Landing waterfront lots have already sold. Farrington Cove is starting to mature as a closeknit waterfront community with 17 completed homes and several lot owners who visit the self-contained marina frequently on their boats to enjoy the sunsets and marina social scene.

John says one of his best values is a Claydon Road waterfront offering over an acre of ocean views, trails to the waterfront, old landing for small boats and total privacy for... what did you say? ... \$250,000! If you prefer South Pender Harbour, have a look at several properties with docks and/or homes or cottages from \$499,000 to \$799,000.

John and Bev say they're only minutes away and are happy to show you around with usually only minutes notice!

John & Bev Thompson

John's Cell: 604-740-2668

Bev's Cell: 604-740-2669

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Dinner and Auction Fundraiser
Sunshine Coast Japan Disaster Relief

Sunday, April 17

5:30 to 10 p.m.

Sechelt Seniors' Activity Centre

Tickets: \$100 (All proceeds to Japan disaster relief)

- Dinner inspired by Japanese cuisine and prepared by chefs from Sushi Bar 5517, The Restaurant at the Painted Boat and Sheer Bliss Bakery
- Live art auction: works by top Sunshine Coast artists
- Traditional Japanese entertainment
- Silent auction of exquisite Japanese arts and crafts

Tickets are available at Bluewaters Books in Madeira Park and at John Henry's Marina in Garden Bay.

For more information:

Rosemary (604.883.2407) or Motoko (604.883.9472)

5th Annual Garden Bay Classic Fishing Derby: April 29 - May 1

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

Friday, April 29: Derby Registration and Calcutta Draw, 5 p.m.

Anyone can take part in the live auction (Calcutta) to bid on whose boat will catch the biggest fish. If your skipper wins, you take the pot. (Past year's winners won close to \$1000.)

Saturday, April 30: Derby and Dinner

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

Sunday, May 1: Weigh In - 1 pm

Awards following 1 p.m. weigh-in:
Prizes, \$1000 reverse draw,
Calcutta Draw and \$1000 for biggest salmon.

\$100 Entry fee

Profits to salmon enhancement.

Live Music Sundays @ 2 pm

APRIL 3: Larrie Cook and the Bluesmasters

APRIL 10: Joe Stanton & the Precious Littles

APRIL 17: Gaetan & the French Connection

APRIL 24: Peter van Deursen

Pub Specials

FRIDAY: All u can eat fish and chips \$14 - (5-7 p.m.)

FRIDAY: Meat Draws - Proceeds to P. H. Blues Society

WEDNESDAY: Wing night (5-8 p.m.)

SATURDAY: Prime Rib

SUNDAY: Eggs Benny



GARDEN BAY PUB

OPEN DAILY AT 11... (604)883-2674