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since 1990.*

HARBOUR SPIEL

JANUARY 2010
Issue 229



Firefighters battle blaze at former highways yard



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The Independent Voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990

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NEXT ISSUE MAILES JAN. 29

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Brian Lee.

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This month we thank: Theresa Kishkan, Cheyenne Lightbourn, Shane McCune, Jim Rutherford, Nolan Sawatzky, Alan Stewart, John Wade and Jan Watson.

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EDITORIAL

Looking on the bright side...



By Brian Lee

The New Year brings a mixed bag of gratitude and anxiety.

This year is no exception.

On one hand, the world came together in Copenhagen in 2009 and solved the problem of climate change. So that was good.

On the other hand, I live across the road from waterfront fat cats.

I was looking forward to having beachfront after their homes washed into the rising ocean.

Now that our world leaders have fixed it, I have a hard time understanding what all the fuss was about. Global warming wasn't supposed to wipe us out for another 50 years or so.

It's now 2010. Do the math folks... Armageddon is only two years away.

You know, 2012? The end of the Mayan calendar? Doomsday? Hellooo?

The bright side is that it's not until late in 2012 that the earth is expected to implode so it's more like three years away.

But if you saw the movie, you'll wanna get right with your God.

In the meantime, you can be consoled with the promise that the '90s are making a comeback.

Yup, you heard it here first.

Just last month I saw a big glossy Billabong ad proclaiming "Flannel... not just for lumberjacks anymore."

Know who else said that?

Kurt Cobain. In 1991.

On a sombre note, if we're welcoming back the fashion trends of 1990, it means we'll also be bidding adieu to the fashion of the '80s ... for the second time.

Thankfully, the return of leg warmers and such never *really* got off

the ground in South Pender (did they ever leave?) but as anyone who's been to Toronto in the last five years knows, they were back. And it was tragic.

And speaking of decades, we can be thankful the embarrassing debacle of living through one without a name is behind us.

Seriously?

We had 10 years and our greatest litwits couldn't come up with something to call the most talked about decade since that one that came after 1899?

Wait. Do we know what we're calling the next 10 years yet? The Tens? The Twenty Tens? The Twenteens?

Uh-oh.

For a dwindling few, 2010 holds promise as the year we gleam with Olympic gold in the eyes of the world.

Our chance to stand up and show the world how much we can spend — a corporate potlatch, if you will.

I won't pass judgment here; I'm sure the old crank on page 37 will handle that.

I'll just say I'm looking forward to finding out how much we pocketed from hosting the games.

It's been debated and protested and cynicized for so long, I'm anxious to find out what my personal return will be from this investment.

Maybe it'll be enough to replace all the flannel I threw out in 2001.



**It ain't real
if it's not in the Spiel.**

**Feeling sore, tired, achy
or have the "winter blues"?**



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The Pender Harbour Branch of the St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary would like to thank the following businesses for their continued and generous support for our fundraising efforts:



- IGA Madeira Park
- Marina Pharmacy
- Mountainview Service

Happy New Year!



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SPIEL PICKS

BOREALIS STRING QUARTET - JAN. 17

One of the most dynamic and exciting ensembles of its generation will perform on Jan. 17 at 2 p.m. at the P. H. School of Music. The Borealis String Quartet has received critical acclaim for its fiery performances, passionate style, and refined musical interpretation. As String Quartet-in-Residence at the University of British Columbia, the Borealis presents a series of concerts and gives master classes and chamber music coaching each season at the UBC School of Music in addition to their international performances and regional outreach activities.

SCRD LANDFILL PUBLIC MEETING - JAN. 19

The Sunshine Coast Regional District is holding a town hall meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall to discuss the future of the Pender Harbour Landfill site and waste disposal options for the Pender Harbour/Egmont area.

The goal of this event is to inform residents about options being considered and solicit feedback from the community on its preferred course of action for the future of the Pender Harbour Landfill site.

MPES LIGHTNING STRIKE - JAN. 22

Madeira Park Elementary School has been successfully encouraging a girls only running club called the Madeira Park Lightning. The girls have been training for a long-distance run on Jan. 22 (with a back-up snow date of Jan. 29). This enthusiastic group has been learning how to increase fitness through running and healthy lifestyle choices, including nutrition and rest. It is our goal to empower young girls to become active, feel great about themselves and to encourage a lifetime of healthy choices. Come and cheer on the participants as they cross the finish line at the Madeira Park Elementary School field around 2 p.m.



Literacy Week

Sponsored in part by
Success By 6
Helping all children succeed for life.

Catch a ride on the
Pender Harbour and Egmont Family Literacy Bus!
Saturday, January 23

Bring your family on the bus for a half day of sponsored events in Sechelt including:

- *Public Library
- *Baby Birthday

For all babies born in 2009

*Family Swim at the Sechelt Aquatic Centre
Please register early as space is limited.

Registration Deadline is Jan. 18, 2010

**Watch for
flyers for
more events**

For more information please contact the Pender Harbour Community School
@ 604-883-2826 or Email us at phcs@dccnet.com or visit our website

Former highways building toast

There was nothing firefighters could do but contain a blaze that engulfed the former highways works building on Francis Peninsula Road.

The building was vacant when the fire broke out at around noon on Dec. 12.

Some members of the Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department were attending a training session in Middlepoint when they received a call for an unrelated incident.

Minutes later the call came in for the fire, which caused some initial confusion.

"We originally got paged out for some wires down on Pollock Road," says Madeira Park Fire Chief Bill Gilkes.

"As that truck was heading out for wires down, dispatch came on the radio and said we got a report of heavy smoke at this place here and asked if it was possible these were the same calls."

Gilkes says the guys on the truck told dispatch the calls were miles apart and turned around to check the former highways yard.

"So, they were presented with a fully engulfed building when they thought they were going to a wires-down call," said Gilkes.

"That gets the heart pumping a little bit."

The property is owned by brothers Don and Howard White who leased the building to Gordon Sanders.

Sanders operated the Memory Lane Thrift Store on the site until recently closing for the winter.

He says he had the stock bundled in the middle bay awaiting transport.

The building and contents are said to be insured.



12:55 p.m. Clouds of smoke could be seen from all over Pender Harbour.



1:09 p.m. Fire breaks through the roof.



1:17 p.m. Building is totally engulfed.



1:28 p.m. PHVFD members prevent the fire spreading to nearby storage containers.



1:40 p.m. PHVFD members work to douse spot fires and secure the site.

(continued next page)

Former highways building toast (cont.)

(continued from page 5)

An insurance investigator attended the site Dec. 14.

The fire is believed to have started in the middle bay but the cause of the blaze is unknown.

Sanders told the Harbour Spiel that he and Howard White were at the building minutes before the fire was reported where he'd just paid his next month's rent.

Sanders said he lit some scented candles to reduce odour before leaving to do some errands.

He first learned about the fire minutes later in Madeira Park and rushed back to find clouds of smoke billowing out of the building.

Members were already on the scene and acted quickly to contain the fire and to protect an adjacent propane tank and storage containers filled with books owned by Howard White.

The building was the former mechanical shop for the Department of Highways, which operated out of the property for many years.

One of the owners guessed the shop was likely built in the late 1960s.



If a positive can be taken from the fire, it was the fact that a lot of the young volunteers on the Pender Harbour fire department got a chance to practice skills on an actual incident with a variety of complications.



BOREALIS STRING QUARTET

P. H. School of Music: Sun. Jan. 17, 2 p.m.

\$20

One of the most dynamic and exciting world-class ensembles of its generation, the Borealis String Quartet has received critical acclaim as an ensemble praised for its fiery performances, passionate style, and refined, musical interpretation. As String Quartet-in-Residence at the University of British Columbia, the Borealis presents a series of concerts and gives master classes and chamber music coaching each season at the UBC School of Music in addition to their international performances and regional outreach activities.

Visit: www.borealisstringquartet.com



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Local lakes swimming with cutthroat

The Sunshine Coast Salmonid Enhancement Society had a busy year stocking four local lakes with over 1,700 cutthroat trout in 2009.

Waugh Lake (320), Hotel Lake (250), Crowston Lake (150) and Trout Lake (1,000) all received supplemental stocking as part of the SCSES' partnership with the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC.

A November 2009 report released by the FFSBC states that freshwater fishing contributes nearly half a billion dollars annually to the provincial economy.

About 20,000 Chapman Creek Hatchery raised coho were also released into Halfmoon Bay in 2009.



photo submitted

Bob Anstead, manager of the Chapman Creek Hatchery, with a few of the 250 cutthroat trout the Sunshine Coast Salmonid Enhancement Society released into Hotel Lake earlier this year.

PHOTOJOURNAL



photo submitted

This photo arrived at the Harbour Spiel office recently with an anonymous note attached: 'We wonder not only "when," but also why?'

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Eva 'Caroline' Watt JUNE 17, 1926 — NOVEMBER 23, 2009



With heavy hearts we announce the passing on Nov. 23, 2009 of Eva "Caroline" Watt (née Farrell).

She was born June 17, 1926 in Coquitlam, married and raised her family in Armstrong, retired to Madeira Park and finally Duncan.

She was predeceased by husband Ken and brother Glenn (Jenny). Survived by her children Allen (Jennifer), Jo, Kris (Les), Shannon (Jim), Kim (Bob) and son in Edmonton.

Precious grandchildren and great grandchildren, brother Jack (Lou), brother-in-law Jack (Bette), sister-in-

law Doreen, numerous nephews and nieces.

Her presence will be deeply missed and her wisdom and Irish laughter will be part of our cherished memories forever.

She lived life to the fullest.

Her love will never go away and she will stay beside us everyday.

Thanks to the staff at Dogwood House and Sunridge Place and to Dr. Tom Rimmer.

A celebration of life was held Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Best Western Coquitlam Inn Hotel in Coquitlam.



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

HEALTH IN MOTION

Active is what you make it!

Join up now for our winter session of fitness programs.

Most classes begin the week of Jan. 4 and end the week of Feb. 22. Register by phoning 604-885-6866 to leave your name and contact info. or email phaquatic@scrd.ca

Boot Camp:

PHSS gym, 6 - 7 p.m. (Co-ed.)

Beginner: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Intermediate: Mondays and Wednesdays

4 Week Blocks: Jan. 4 - 28, Feb 1 - 26

12 classes: \$99 8 classes: \$66 4 classes: \$33

This program will help you build self-confidence, sculpt lean muscle, improve cardiovascular endurance and provide nutritional information.

The group setting fosters encouragement, promotes teamwork and celebrates personal achievements.

Instructor: Tonya Stephan

FOR ALL THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

Drop In Adult: \$6.25 Senior: \$5.25

10 Tickets Adult: \$56.25 Senior: \$47.25

Mix It Up:

MPES, Mondays, 6:45 - 7:45 pm

Level: Beginner to Moderate; Instructor: Amy Perry

P. H. Community Hall, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:45 - 9:45 a.m.

Level: Moderate to Intermediate; Instructor: Deb Cole

Offering a variety of workouts featuring a different format each week including interval training, core conditioning, fitness kickboxing, boot camp etc.

Fitness Kickboxing:

MPES, Tuesdays, 6 - 7 p.m.

Instructor: Aurelia Grimpard

Increase your endurance, co-ordination, flexibility and strength. Learn kick-boxing punch and kick techniques and combinations sure to get your heart pumping and your whole body feeling strong!

Hip Hop Aerobics:

MPES, Wednesdays, 6 - 6:50pm

Instructor: Amy Perry

An aerobic workout hip hop style, followed with some core and resistance training.

Tone 'n' Tighten:

MPES, Fridays, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Instructor: Amy Perry

This class will include a warm-up followed by floor exercises to target specific muscle groups.



FAB (50+) Ladies only Fitness:

P. H. Community Hall, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 - 11am

Instructor: Deb Cole

A 60 minute class including warm-up, cardio, strength conditioning and stretching. Equipment such as weights, resistance bands, stability balls, medicine balls will be used for the strength portion.

Move Strong, Move Fit (Fitness for Seniors):

Christ the Redeemer Church hall (beside PHSS), Mondays and Fridays, 10 - 11 a.m.

Begins Jan. 22 - March 29 (no class Feb 5).

Instructor: Linda Goble.

Reap the benefits of living with greater mobility, balance and strength in your everyday activities by attending this gentle fitness class. This group session will include a warm-up, balance and agility games and exercises to strengthen the major muscles and core muscles. Ending with stretches and a quiet relaxation will not only help you relieve stress but will also help with pain management for those suffering with chronic pain. Must be able to get down on mats and be cleared by your physician before attending first class.

Visit www.scrd.ca under Services.

For more information and to register (required for all programs), please phone the pool

(604) 885-6866

Shopping centre expansion set for completion 'sometime in 2012'



H. Y. Louie illustration

A new building to be built on the eastern end of the Madeira Park Shopping Centre is planned to be completed by 2012.

A planned expansion of the Madeira Park Shopping Centre is expected to be finished "sometime in 2012," says Marketplace IGA owner Troy Callewaert.

Callewaert says planning for the relocation of his store into a new building located at the back of the property is in the preliminary stages of the development permit process.

To accommodate the building, the septic system will likely be moved to an adjacent property that is also owned by H. Y. Louie.

The grocery store will occupy a 16,000 to 18,000 square foot addition separated from its former location by a parking area and walkway.

Callewaert says his operation currently employs 43 employees and he expects he'll need at least four to eight more full-time positions when the new store opens.

The space where the IGA currently sits will be turned into new retail premises.

Phillip Locke, whose company Locke Property Management manages the H. Y. Louie owned shopping centre, says there have been discussions with current tenants including the Madeira Park Liquor Store and the Marina Pharmacy.

Locke says both have expressed interest in moving into a larger space.



H. Y. Louie illustration

This plan of the proposed layout sits on the western wall of the Marketplace IGA and shows the extent of H. Y. Louie's development plans.

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featuring

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Runs to Jan. 10

"Pareidolia"
by Shannon Wardroper
Jan. 16 to Feb. 28

MEET THE ARTIST: FEB. 12 TO 14 - TBA

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We're open Wednesday to Sunday 11a.m. to 5 p.m. & by appt.

2010 budget expected to be even tougher than 2009



By Eric Graham
SCRD Director,
Area A

I hope everybody had a good Christmas and want to wish everyone health

and happiness for 2010!

I have now been your regional director for a year and I am honoured with the responsibility you have entrusted to me.

The passing of the 2009 budget

was one of the most demanding and tough jobs for me in the pass year.

Unfortunately, I think the 2010 budget will even be tougher.

There are a lot of people out of work so we are trying to curb spending.

One of my biggest disappointments has been not having the bus on the highway yet.

I have had a lot of help from people that want to see the, bus service, but unfortunately it is going to take some more time.

Some good news is the success of grant money coming into Area A.

Over \$4 million to South Pender Water and over \$400,000 for 32 kilometres of walking trails and over \$200,000 each for the Pender Pool and North Pender Water.

PENDER HARBOUR LANDFILL (IMPORTANT POINTS):

The Pender landfill will not be closed — a new garbage containment area will be built or a transfer station will be built.

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT



1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A1

www.scrd.ca

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 - 4:30

(604) 885-6800 (tel)

(604) 885-7909 (fax)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Monday, January 4, 2010

- 9:00 a.m. Policing Committee
- 10:30 a.m. Transportation Committee

Thursday, January 7, 2010

- 1:00 p.m. Infrastructure Services Committee

Monday, January 11, 2010

- 9:30 a.m. Round 1 Budget

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

- 9:30 a.m. Round 1 Budget

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

- 9:30 a.m. Round 1 Budget

Thursday, January 14, 2010

- 1:00 p.m. Planning and Development Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Regular Board

Friday, January 15, 2010

- 9:30 a.m. Round 1 Budget

Thursday, January 21, 2010

- 1:00 p.m. Community Services Committee

Thursday, January 28, 2010

- 1:00 p.m. Corporate & Administrative Services Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Regular Board

DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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

AREA A ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

The next meeting of the Egmont/Pender Harbour Advisory Planning Commission is scheduled for 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2010 at the Pender Harbour High School, Room 107.

SATELLITE OFFICE - HOURS OF OPERATION

The SCRD Satellite Office located at 12828 Lagoon Road, Madeira Park is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm.

If a transfer station is built, all the garbage and recycled products will still be handled in the same way and the public will still put their garbage in the bins supplied.

The propane bottles and all other recycled products handled presently will be handled the same way.

All contractors picking up garbage or bush will take it to the Pender site as they have in the past.

The current staff will still be there but the landfill contractor's hours will be reduced.

To the best of our knowledge, no leachate from the landfill drains into drinking water as it lies outside the Garden Bay Lake Watershed and our drinking water is tested continuously.

There are groundwater monitoring wells on the landfill site.

Wells are sampled by the SCRD staff and reports are submitted annually to the BC Ministry of Environment.

There will be less environmental damage if garbage is taken to the Sechelt landfill, once the methane gas recovery system is installed at the Sechelt landfill.

There is a misconception that the two landfills are paid for by tax dollars (budget function 351 and 352).

This has not been the case in many years.

The two landfills are completely supported by the dollars paid when going over the scales.

Not only that, in 2008 \$190,757 of the tippage fees paid at the Sechelt landfill covered the shortfall in tippage revenues for the Pender landfill.

In 2008, Pender landfill tippage income was \$234,581 minus expenses of \$425,338 amounted to a loss of \$190,757.

The Sechelt landfill tippage income was \$1,608,456 minus expenses

of \$1,405,123 which amounted to a surplus of \$203,333.

Methane is a byproduct of buried garbage and is many times more dangerous to the environment than carbon dioxide.

The SCRD received a grant for \$1.08 million to install a methane gas collection burn system at the Sechelt landfill.

Because of the methane collection system, there will be less environmental damage if our garbage is trucked (compacted, it is estimated to require one truck approximately every six days) to the Sechelt landfill.

A recent report states that the Sechelt landfill requires a major upgrade.

There will be a cost at the Pender Harbour landfill to expand or to turn it into a transfer station and there will be a cost for reclamation of the currently used area.

If the garbage is taken to Sechelt the lifetime of the current Sechelt landfill is expected to decrease from 20 - 22 years, to about 18 - 20 years.

It is also expected that there will be a savings at the Pender site of about \$40,000 a year in landfill closure reserves.

Staff asked the Planned Monitor Advisory Committee (a volunteer solid waste group with representation from the whole Coast) to report on Pender landfill issues at their January meeting.

A report will be made on information gathered from three public meetings, petitions, letters, emails, the mailout and the recommendation from PMAC.

This will go to the infrastructure committee meeting in the first week of February when the directors decide where to go from there.

A decision has to be made before the end of February to be included in the 2010 budget.

Those wanting to ask more questions, clarify some points or dispute information I or staff has supplied, are urged to attend the public meeting at 7 p.m. on Jan. 19 at the P. H. Community Hall.

Proud Supporters of Abbeyfield House Dinners for Donors Campaign: 140 bricks sold!



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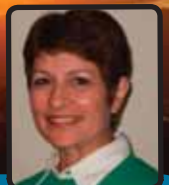
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Padgham defends pro-transfer motives

Dear Editor,

Joe Harrison contends that the pro-transfer station group has private reasons for wanting the landfill closed.

We can't possibly be "just concerned" about the environment.

Does he think we are looking for a contract to move the garbage?

Or we are a fifth-column of "southern" coast people trying for a tax grab?

No Joe, we include some of your neighbours who say hello when you walk by on your stroll along Barabash road.

Our only concern is to preserve our local "piece of paradise."

Closing the landfill and sealing it off from the local wetland environment will ultimately allow Meadow Creek to recover and allow the salmon to return.

Unlike Joe we believe the dam-

age can be arrested and 40 years of waste can be contained.

Consolidating the Coast's garbage to be able to afford to treat it in an environmentally sound manner makes economic and environmental sense.

Ascribing to us unspecified but sinister motives is unneighbourly, unkind and untruthful.

W. A. Padgham
Garden Bay (and Kleindale)

Mural artist dismisses editorial as 'esoteric ramble'

Dear Editor,

Bad timing on last month's editorial.

At a time when so many people opposed (and still do) the removal of the mural at the swimming pool and signed their names in good faith that what they were doing actually mattered, you decide to do an esoteric ramble on how the wording of petitions could affect the eventual outcome.

You were right about one thing, a petition does show there is another

side to a story and the petition and the signatures become a part of public record, and now, an editorial more concerned with language than intent, becomes part of that record.

It also shows that some people took the time to oppose something they didn't think was right.

The only quote I can think of that questions the legitimacy of petitions was that of Lyndon B. Johnson who included the right to petition, in with free speech, free religion and the right of assembly as being "radical ideas."

I can only thank the pseudo-rep-

resentatives that started petitions for:

- Abolishing the slave trade.
- Women's right to vote.
- Anti-apartheid.
- Making poverty history.

Along with protests (another form of petition) going on now in Copenhagen and around the world trying to embarrass world leaders to clean up this dirty planet.

God bless them all — damned radicals!

Ken Walters

'What can I say?'

Dear Editor,

What can I say?

When seemingly intelligent people take sides in a way that is reminiscent of grade school, I am forced to think that perhaps this is the small town-itis that so many fear.

Could it be that the unresponsiveness of the SCRD and the P. H. Aquatic Society to the wishes of the taxpayers is part of the same dilemma that is causing Area A folks to be cautious about letting go of their garbage?

Can the SCRD manage this one

any better?

While I realize that Steve Willgoose was just trying to comfort a "young artist" in his letter to the editor of last month, he was instead effectively approving the status quo.

Emily [Gray] was trying to strike a claim for the rights of artists.

If we do not respect artists and their art, if we continue to treat them as disposable, we will all be looking at blank cement walls in our public spaces for many years to come.

The petitions circulated regarding the Pender pool mural and the

P. H. landfill are not legally binding, but they do represent people's opinions.

Both those petitions provided, or made reference to, all the information that was available to the public.

However, we know that ordinary people are idiots who can't read and just take sides, so why should the authorities listen to them anyways.

As long as we pay our taxes...

Happy New Year.

Kathy Gray
Egmont

Organizers predict Lightning strike in Madeira Park on Jan. 22

Submitted

The Madeira Park Elementary School has been successfully encouraging a girls' running club called the Madeira Park Lightning.

The athletes range in age from six to 12 years old and have been training for a long distance run on Jan. 22 with a back-up snow date of Jan. 29.

This enthusiastic group has been learning how to increase their fitness by running but also through healthy lifestyle choices, including nutrition and rest.

The organizers' goal is to empower young girls to become active, feel great about themselves and to encourage a lifetime of healthy choices.

The P. H. Aquatic Centre under Deb Cole's leadership was the successful recipient of a girls-only grant put forward by Promotion Plus, BC Recreation and Parks Association and 2010 Legacies Now.

The program was also supported by local businesses like Marketplace IGA and the Sunshine Coast Credit Union.

Spectators are encouraged to come out and cheer on the participants as they cross the finish line at the Madeira Park Elementary School field around 2 p.m. on Jan. 22.



photo submitted

The athletes in the Madeira Park Lightning girls' running club proved from the first practice they could run fine. But the coaches soon realized their challenge would be to figure out a way to get them to do it in a straight line.



Want to Learn More About the Future of Pender Harbour Landfill?

The Sunshine Coast Regional District is holding a public town hall meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 19 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall to discuss the future of the Pender Harbour Landfill site and waste disposal options for the Pender Harbour/Egmont area.

The goal of this event is to inform residents about options being considered and solicit feedback from the community on its preferred course of action for the future of the Pender Harbour Landfill site.

Need to know more about the Pender Harbour Landfill options? This meeting will provide residents an opportunity to:

- Talk with SCRD staff and their Area Director,
- Hear and see a presentation summarizing options for the future of the Pender Harbour Landfill site, including the pros and cons of each option.
- Participate in a question & answer session designed to solicit input from residents regarding their preferred option.

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Thar she blows: Salty soil gardening

By By Jim Rutherford
(assisted by Nolan and Ellen)

As the sou'wester blows in, with it comes ocean spray.

For oceanside folks on exposed headlands, a good salt wash is death.

To others, it's just a part of where they live.

Salty soil pulls water from plants' roots, making it difficult for the plants to take up enough moisture and nutrients.

Symptoms include scorched and yellowed leaves or brown and withered leaf margins.

With the ocean spray come quantities of soluble salts such as compounds of calcium, sulfates, chloride or sodium.

You can improve the soil and

drainage by adding organic matter (compost) and leach the soil periodically with water to wash the salts out below the plants root zones.

The following web sites are excellent listings of suitable trees and shrubs for salty areas:

• www.cornhillnursery.com/tips/salttolerant

• www.rittenhouse.ca/hortmag/glynis/salty

ELLEN'S CASE STUDY

In my garden on the tidal mud-flats of Gunboat Bay, there is a section that gets completely submerged by the ocean two or three times a year and suffers salt seepage year-round.

The trees that seem to be thriving — though growing somewhat slower — are Leyland Cypress (*cypress leylandii*), Purple Robe Smoke Tree (*cotinus*) and a venerable old Harry Lauder's walking stick (*corylus contorta*).

GROUND COVERS

For ground covers, go native.

All of the sedums, any encrusted saxifrages, kinnikinnick, (*arctostaphyllis*), false box (*pachystema*), Creeping potentilla and armeria (sea thrift).

Herbaceous perennials that can cope with a high salt content are day-lilies, bearded iris, yarrow, goldenrod and many of the ornamental grasses.

Also, any type of bluebell (*campanula*).

Right down where the land meets high tide, I have a clump of asparagus that got away but is thriving and happily self-seeding.

As an ornamental surrounded by ox-eye daisies, asparagus is one of my favorites.

Being a big allium fan, I've introduced about a dozen types into my garden.

The best is our own native allium cernuum, but leeks (*allium bulgaricum*) and allium azureum are doing really well.

The garden chives growing along the shore bloom profusely but we don't eat those — too salty and bitter.

Here on the Coast, we also have to put up with desiccating winds to go with the desiccating salt so the rule of thumb is to stay away from broadleafed evergreens or plants with large fragile leaves.

Wind damage makes them look ratty and unkempt.

Surprisingly, Paul's scarlet hawthorn seems to be doing quite well at the ocean's edge though this variety gets summer blight and loses its leaves very early.

I have not yet decided to cut it down because the profusion of red flowers in the spring makes up for its summer scruffiness.

The white form of hawthorn is immune to this blight and seems to enjoy having its toes in the salty mud.

Many blessings to you and yours and all through the New Year.

*~ Jim, Nolan, Ellen,
Donna and Gary*

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We'll be fine in 2009 and, if not, then 2010



By Alan Stewart

"We'll be fine in 2009... and if not, then 2010!"

That was our real estate team's motto at the begin-

ning of 2009, part way through the most dramatic real estate body slam in memory.

The market was able to pick itself up off the mat much faster than anyone one expected, but not without suffering some cuts and bruises.

The good news is that the number of homes being sold is up dramatically from last year and we expect the trend to continue.

The primary driver of the recovery is consumer confidence.

Not only are many people moving more and more of their wealth into hard assets like real estate, but buyers are seeing good value being offered in our area and houses are becoming more affordable.

While the "average" sale price on the Sunshine Coast has returned to the record highs of early 2008, that really only means that people are spending the same amount of money now as they were then.

It doesn't reflect the impact of the downturn on the value of a particular home.

In researching this article, I examined over 1,500 detached home sales on the Sunshine Coast over the past three years, collecting data on properties which have sold more than once during that time period.

Surprisingly, 6.6 per cent of the transactions (100/1,500) involved the same home.



A 1,405-square-foot Gibsons' home sold once in each of the last three years.

It was described as a "tastefully renovated rancher... three bedrooms, 1.5 baths, big living room with wood stove, classy kitchen with higher end appliances, newer metal roof and a nice private back yard."

It sold for \$343,000 in May of 2007, \$360,000 in July of 2008 (just before the crash) and in August of 2009 for \$329,000.

The data from this home's history would corroborate the opinion of a certified real estate appraiser I recently had a discussion with, when we agreed that the value of a home in Gibsons and Sechelt has dropped in the area of seven to eight per cent since the peak.

The only home to sell more than once in Pender Harbour over the past three years is a 1,410-square-foot rancher located on Merrill Crescent in Madeira Park.

The home was sold in August of 2007 for \$354,000 and then listed and resold in August of 2008 for \$335,000.

If the same appraiser and I are correct in our estimations of a drop in values of 10 per cent for the Pender Harbour area, that same house would be worth approximately \$301,000 today.

That is precisely what I would consider to be its fair market value.

So, if you're considering selling, be sure to follow my advice in previous articles and take the steps necessary to maximize your selling price.

It's more important than ever to have your property present itself in its best light to help offset the reductions we've seen in real market values here on the Sunshine Coast.

Happy New Year everyone!

Please send any suggestions for story lines to alan@sunshinecoasthomes.com.

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The fall and rise of the BC's Steller sea lion

By Brian Lee

Spotting a head poking out of the water as they leave Pender Harbour, many boaters assume it's a seal.

The ubiquitous harbour seal can usually be seen a predictable length off your stern as soon as you've stowed your gear and cast an eye seaward.

In the water and from a distance, the Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*) can often be mistaken for a seal and it isn't until it hauls itself out of the water that most appreciate what an exceptionally different creature it is.

Though most range in size be-

tween 400 kilograms (880 pounds) and 800 kilograms (1,760 pounds), the male Steller Sea Lion can weigh up to 1,000 kilograms (2,200 pounds).

Cows are significantly smaller and usually weigh from 200 kilograms (440 pounds) to 300 kilograms (660 pounds).

Cows usually outlive males by five to ten years, often reaching the age of 30.

Its massive size makes it the largest of the otariids, or eared seals, and the fourth largest of all pinnipeds.

Pinniped, Latin for winged or fin-footed, is the order of aquatic carnivores that include all sea lions, seals

and walruses.

The Steller sea lion is named after George Wilhelm Steller, a German naturalist who accompanied explorer Vitus Bering on his second Alaskan expedition in 1741.

Steller was the first qualified observer to study and classify many animals on the west coast of the continent and many other species carry his name today: the Steller jay and Steller's sea cow are but two.

Steller also documented vast numbers of other marine mammals and is largely responsible for their subsequent demise.

The range of the Steller's sea cow was limited to a single population on the Commander Islands in the Bering Sea and hunted to extinction within 30 years of European discovery.

Other eared seals found in BC include the California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus*) and the northern fur seal (*Callorhinus ursinus*) and are distinguished from earless seals like the harbour seal (*Phoca vitulina*) and northern elephant seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*) by external earflaps and more dog-like snouts.

Fur seals and sea lions are believed to have evolved from the same ancestral line as bears, whereas harbour seals and elephant seals are more closely related to weasels.

Elephant seals breed on the beaches and islands of California but then disperse throughout the North Pacific.

They're not usually found in the Strait of Georgia but sightings have increased in recent years.

The northern fur seal is rarely seen near land in BC, preferring pelagic migration routes along the continental shelf from southern waters



Steller Sea Lions tend to be very gregarious out of the water, vocalizing displeasure with deep roars when approached and will hold their ground before slipping into the water when they feel threatened. The male in the middle had an especially dirty potty mouth.



This female Steller sea lion, branded 251F (left), was photographed near the entrance to Sabine Channel in January 2008. She was branded as a pup in 1994 on Forrester Island, a major Alaskan breeding site requiring a journey of over 1,000 km. It's less common for females to disperse long distances after breeding season ends. Resting comfortably beside her is a California sea lion. The two species commonly share haulouts. On the right is a male Steller.

to Alaska.

In the 1800s, the northern fur seal was hunted extensively for its luxurious fur and the populations were decimated until control measures were enforced.

According to a Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada report prepared in 2004 by Peter Olesiuk and Andrew Trites, the Steller sea lion's range extends throughout the North Pacific.

Although they are non-migratory, they concentrate their breeding and birthing to 61 rookeries from Japan to California.

Within that range there are two genetically distinct populations, the western (Russia to the Gulf of Alaska) and the eastern (S.E. Alaska to California) populations.

Peter Olesiuk is a biologist with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and heads up the Seal and Sea Lion Program at Nanaimo's Pacific Biological Station.

He says that, while the western population has seen a decline in recent years and is considered endangered, the eastern population, including BC's colonies, are thriving.

"The eastern population really is in good shape," says Olesiuk.

"There are more sea lions now than there ever have been."

Historically the eastern populations accounted for about 10 per cent of total abundance in the North Pacific.

With the precipitous decline of the western population, they now account for roughly half with an estimated population of 46,000 - 58,000 animals.

But their numbers weren't always so healthy.

Prior to 1970, if you were a Steller sea lion surfacing anywhere on the BC coast there was a good chance you'd be shot at.

The fact that they congregate in massive rookeries to breed at specific times of the year made them an easy

target for early visitors hungry for blubber that could be rendered into oil.

The blubber of three or four sea lions could yield a barrel of oil and their skins were sold for various uses.

Even the testicles were used in Chinese medicines.

(continued next page)



Sea lions can travel up to 27 km/h, dive to depths of 300m, stay down eight minutes and gobble up to 35 kg of fish every day.

Steller sea lions (cont.)

(continued from page 17)

As BC coastal fisheries developed, the Steller sea lion faced persecution as competition for bottom fish, herring and salmon.

The Canadian government conducted large scale culls of Steller sea lions at rookeries and even enlisted the Canadian Air Force and Navy which were responsible for substantial kills during practice bombings on

breeding populations.

It's estimated that between 1913 and 1969, an estimated 49,100 sea lions were destroyed in predator-control programs, and another 5,700 animals were taken in commercial harvests.

The population in BC dropped from an estimated 14,000 animals in 1913 to less than 3,400 by 1970.

In 1970 the species became protected in Canada under the Fisher-

ies Act and in 1972 the U.S. followed with protection under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

An unknown number of sea lions are still killed as a nuisance in many fisheries include salmon gill-netting but the largest known fishery related mortality involves predator control at fish farms.

Most salmon farms in BC hold permits to shoot sea lions and the number killed rose through the nineties peaking at 91 in 1999.

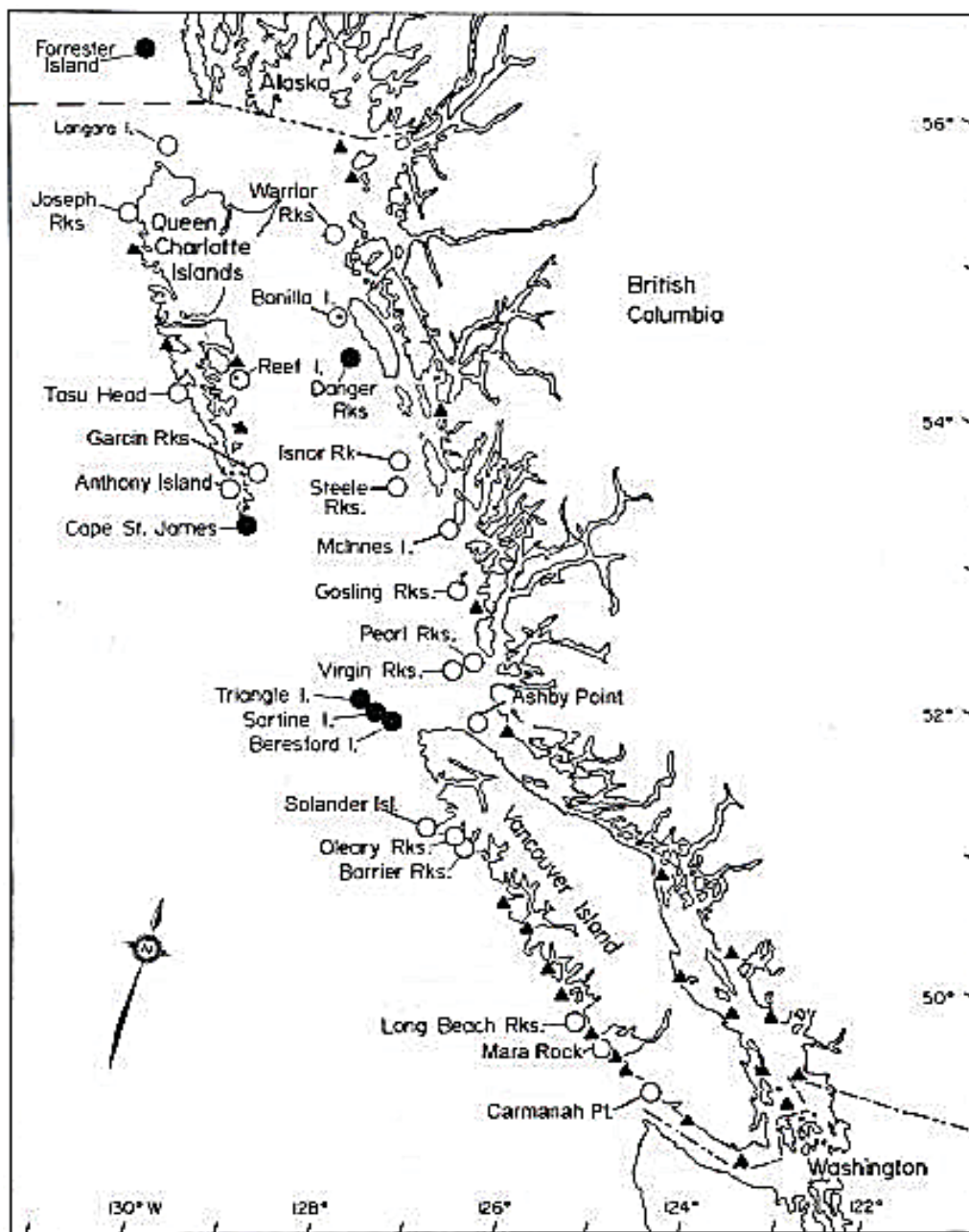
Research indicates that the BC population of Steller sea lions is still growing and by 2002 it was estimated that 45,000 individuals made up the entire eastern population with roughly one-third occurring in BC.

Despite that, the species is still listed as a "special concern" in Canada because of its concentration in a small number of breeding sites making the population vulnerable to environmental or human disturbance.

In BC, sexually mature Steller sea lions converge on four main breeding areas in the summer months (see map):

1. Scott Islands off the northwest tip of Vancouver Island with rookeries situated on Triangle, Beresford and Maggot Islands;
2. Cape St. James on the southern tip of Haida Gwaii;
3. Off Banks Island on the northern mainland coast;
4. A fourth breeding area was historically located off the central mainland coast in the Sea Otter Group with rookeries situated on Virgin, Pearl and possibly Watch Rocks.

Breeding populations here were extirpated by predator control programs during the 1920s and '30s. In 2006 it was reclassified as a breeding site because of a resurgence in the



map courtesy of DFO

Geographic locations of breeding rookeries (●), year-round haulout sites (○) and major winter haulout sites (▲).

number of pups born.

Bulls establish territories of 10 to 15 cows and return to the rookeries in early May, followed soon after by the females.

Breeding and bearing occur at the same time at the rookeries, a coincidence once thought possible because of the pinniped characteristic of a twin uterus.

The assumption that female Steller sea lions bore a pup every year like their close relative the Northern Fur Seal led early researchers to believe the breeding and bearing occurred simultaneously in females.

Closer observation revealed Stellers birth every other year.

The Steller sea lion cow maintains a gestation period of nine months, leading researchers to believe that some form of delayed impregnation exists which allows bearing to conform to the mating season.

During breeding season, herd bulls maintain a constant vigil over their females for three months, not even leaving to feed.

The harem structure dissolves in late July and the male sea lions disperse to feed and regain their strength.

Sea lions feed on a mixture of over 50 species of fish and invertebrates.

In BC, Steller sea lions seem to prefer small to medium schooling fishes like herring, eulachon, hake, salmon and dogfish and the ones we find wintering in the Strait of Georgia likely travelled a long distance to find them.

Olesiuk says that he and his fellow researchers at DFO don't brand marine mammals but their American counterparts do and says it's not uncommon to find sea lions in the Strait

of Georgia with large markings imprinted on their hides.

"These animals are dispersing widely. It's not like all of the animals are from local breeding rookeries," says Olesiuk.

"We see branded animals from Southeast Alaska and there's also branding in rookeries in California and Oregon.

"It's a dispersal. It's not really a directional migration and these animals tend to just travel a lot."

Both California and Steller sea lions are often found wintering together in large numbers basking on log booms near Nanaimo's Harmac pulp mill or taking advantage of the annual herring spawn near French Creek.

It's usually during the winter that we find Steller sea lions locally and

Olesiuk says their dispersal patterns are relatively easy to understand.

"Their strategy is to cruise around looking for big ticket prey items, especially the males. When there's a herring spawn taking place you get lots of sea lions congregating in the area.

"If there's eulachon running up the Fraser River you get them congregating there. They seem to have an uncanny ability to find these lucrative feeding opportunities."

Olesiuk points out that since sea lions tend to converge on large prey opportunities, they're more likely to target healthy populations of prey species.

On the other hand, harbour seals whose populations have also returned
(continued next page)

The northern fur seal

Though they are known to inhabit the same range and even share rookeries, Steller sea lions have fared much better than their distant cousins, the northern fur seal.

Like many other marine mammals before 1800, fur seals were slaughtered to render their blubber into oil to fuel European industrialization. Fur seals are named for their thick fur, which has 300,000 hairs per square inch. After a technique was discovered in the early 1800s to rid the pelts of the coarse outer hairs, the luxurious pelts became a focus of fur traders supplying hungry Chinese markets.

An intensive pelagic sealing industry based out of Victoria and San Francisco decimated populations in the latter half of the 1800s. Sealing schooners intercepted the fur seal colonies as they travelled to and from their main breeding rookeries in the Pribilof Islands in the Bering Sea.

According to *Raincoast Chronicles First Five* (Harbour Publishing, 1976), the sealing industry in Victoria supported 1,400 whites and 1,700 natives in 122 schooners. Fifteen thousand people depended on the industry which earned \$1.5 million a year for the port.

In the 1860s it was estimated there were more than five million northern fur seals in the North Pacific. By 1912 they numbered less than 216,000. The countries responsible for decimating the herds, the United States, Great Britain, Canada, Russia and Japan agreed to end pelagic sealing in 1911. The current world population for the northern fur seal is estimated to be approximately one million but the numbers have been in decline since the 1950s.

Sea lions (cont.)

(continued from page 19)
to historic levels, tend to forage within 10 kilometres of their haul out.

This characteristic makes it more likely for populations of harbour seals to come into conflict with localized fishery concerns like Courtenay's threatened Puntledge River chinook stocks.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans culled 52 harbour seals in 1997 and 1998 near the Puntledge River and fishermen are again calling for more predator control to protect the run that is now down to a few thousand fish.

In the Strait of Georgia it's been estimated that there are 31.1 seals per kilometre of shoreline.

Olesiuk says his role is one of research, not management, but says such a healthy sea lion population is a

concern.

So far though, culls have only been used to control nuisance populations.

He says more is known about the harbour seal and there are still a lot of questions remaining to be answered about the feeding habits of the Steller sea lion.

He has just returned from field research looking at the Steller's year-round diet in southern BC and northern Washington.

The research is being funded by the Pacific Salmon Commission which is interested in the importance of salmon to the Steller's overall diet.

The research isn't complete yet but Olesiuk says it's looking like their findings will show that salmon make up only about 10 per cent of the sea lions' diet.

In the Strait of Georgia, sea lions tend to congregate on the eastern side of Vancouver Island where the majority of herring stocks are situated.

But it's not uncommon to see a sea lion skulking around the mouth of Pender Harbour or the entrance to the Skookumchuck.

Olesiuk says that Steller sea lions spotted locally are likely foraging and probably don't maintain regular haulouts nearby.

He says that might not have been historically so and could change in the future depending on the abundance of large prey opportunities.

So, the next time one chomps the salmon off the end of your line, relax — he's probably not staying long.

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Christmas morning is a great time for sex or golf.



By Jan Watson

Wow, where has the year gone?

On behalf of all the members and staff at the Pender Harbour Golf Club,

I would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy 2010.

At time of writing this we have just had a couple of very cold weeks and Mother Nature is dropping snowflakes upon us.

Hopefully it will not be a repeat of last year.

Needless to say no golf is taking place.

But there have been some work parties by our faithful volunteers.

We are very grateful to those guys and gals who spend countless hours helping to keep everything in shape for us all to enjoy the course.

ANNUAL LOBSTER FEED

The eighth annual lobster fundraiser was held on Nov. 21 and was once again very successful.

Thanks again to Grant Hallborg for organizing the event and to Rusty Ellis and Glenn McCuaig for such a great job of cooking those delicious creatures.

GREY CUP PARTY

Lots of fun was had by ev-

eryone, especially those who had the right numbers in the football pool.

Most of us were wearing green and cheering on the west but, being from Montreal, Jamie had the last laugh plus the half-time numbers.

Watch out for the Super Bowl Party on Feb 7.

FROM THE 19TH HOLE

Four old timers were playing their weekly game of golf and one remarked how nice it would be to wake up on Christmas morning, roll out of bed and, without an argument, go directly to the golf course, meet his buddies and play a round.

His buddies all chimed in and said,

"Let's do it. We'll make it a priority — figure out a way and meet here early Christmas morning."

Months later that special morning arrives and there they are on the golf course.

The first guy says, "Boy this game cost me a fortune. I bought my wife such a diamond ring that she can't take her eyes off it."

The second guy says, "I spent a ton too. My wife is at home planning the cruise I gave her. She was up to her eyeballs in brochures."

The third guy says, "Well my wife is at home admiring her new car and reading the manual."

They all turned to the last guy in

the group who is staring at them like they have lost their minds.

"I can't believe you all went to such expense for this golf game. I nudged my wife in the side and said, Merry Christmas honey! It's a great morning for sex or golf," and she said, 'You'll need a sweater.'"

Don't forget to check with the golf course (604-883-9541) for any frost delays because even walking on frozen grass can kill it.

See the ad below for the new restaurant hours.



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The 228-hectare Ambrose Lake Ecological Reserve sits south of Earls Cove bordered by Agamemnon Channel and Ruby Lake.

The reserve consists of a small coastal lake with a maximum depth of 33 metres, adjacent bogland and surrounding forest.

To help reduce impact by visitors, recreational access is restricted more severely than regular parkland.

The ministry claims bog lands along the northern margin of Ambrose Lake and along its outlet stream are of particular importance.

It notes these bogs "are of limited extent outside of the ecological reserve and are relatively rare within the southwestern portion of the province."

Ongoing protection campaigns have been carried out under the stewardship of the Pender Harbour Wildlife Society and the Sunshine Coast Conservation Society to curb logging within the lake's watershed and in lands surrounding the reserve.

Because of its special status,



Ambrose Lake is as serene as it sounds.

Ambrose Lake is only open to the public for non-destructive pursuits like hiking, nature observation and photography.

All consumptive activities like hunting, freshwater fishing, camping, livestock grazing, removal of materials, plants or animals are prohibited by regulation.

Even research and educational activities may only be carried out with a permit and the use of motorized vehicles is strictly prohibited.

Ambrose Lake can be accessed via a 1/2 hour walk on a path that starts at the end of a Hydro access road near the end of Timberline Road in Earl's Cove.

Visitors are urged to stay on the pathway and respect the reserve's special status.

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Curbing submissive urination in dogs



By John Wade

Hi John,
I wondered if you had any tips on dealing with a dog that dribbles when he's excited?

He's only five months old but its starting to become a real problem as its happening five to 10 times a day even right after he was out for a long pee break. Thanks for your time. P.S. your column is awesome!

- Mike

Hi Mike,

The problem you're describing is called submissive urination but could easily be called, "I'm-so-happy-I-could-just-pee urination."

There's a heightened version that happens when fear is overwhelming and a terrified dog (or human) may void as well but in a much more impressive manner.

Your dog's version is a "Howdy-do, pleased to meet you, please don't eat/beat me."

It's given to the elders in a canine social group, particularly the upper echelon.

In our world it happens more often when strangers are met but can happen in the home when the owner is a type AAA personality or the dog is just a really submissive personality.

The traditional dog trainer advice is to "ignore the puppy."

As anyone who has ever owned a puppy knows, getting the average person to ignore it is as likely as my getting a dog trainer to ignore the smack in the head I'd give them for letting a dog training book do their thinking for them.



I have much better advice. Tell everyone your puppy has incurable worms easily transmitted and in humans they tend to settle into the reproductive organs.

Alternatively, I find it best to have the pup drag a leash around and to always approach the handle of the leash rather than the puppy.

Otherwise, when someone comes to the door you either let the pup go to the person — and pee — or you go to the pup to prevent it from approaching in its excited state — and it pees.

With the leash you can take the pressure off the pup and hold it back a leash length away until it starts to get more confident.

Same thing if the peeing is happening around you — go for the handle, not the pup.

Try faking a little submissiveness yourself (without the peeing part) by

slowing your approach, calming your voice and relaxing your body.

Lastly, start giving your pup something to focus on like staying on a mat, particularly at the door where your guests come in.

Just don't start when guests are actually coming in.

That would be too much too soon and might exacerbate your problem.

Instead, every trip out and back begins and ends on the mat, sitting far enough away to get people in and out but still keeping the pup in on the action.

If you're not seeing an improvement in a couple of weeks get someone in to assess the situation.

— John

If you have questions for John, send e-mail to: johnwade@johnwade.ca or visit his website at www.johnwade.ca

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Students take a trip down the yellow brick road



By Cheyenne
Lightbourn

Interest in drama class at Pender Harbour Secondary has always seemed minimal and it wasn't a permanent fixture in the available course roster.

But surprising enthusiasm from a bunch of the junior students this year may have changed that.

For as long as I've been in high school, "band" has been an offered class and one that only a select few students were interested in.

There were always enough students to make a class but numbers were never overwhelming and the

enthusiasm was always pretty low.

But the same students who showed such an interest in drama class have also joined the school band.

The dedication and hard work that these kids are putting in is truly inspiring and it shows in their performances.

On Dec. 16 and 17, the PHSS drama class entertained lucky community members, parents and students with their rendition of "Christmas in the Land Of Oz."

The band opened the evening with a few songs from The Wizard of Oz including Somewhere Over the Rainbow and Follow the Yellow Brick Road.

The band sounded professional and polished and the audience seemed

genuinely impressed.

The performance that followed was hilarious.

The kids' painted backdrops, do-it-yourself props and homemade costumes turned out beautifully, adding a hint of nostalgia to the play as a whole and to the atmosphere in the school gym.

The acting was phenomenal. Every single one of the characters was played extremely well with the kids even putting on accents when necessary.

The kids really stepped up to the plate.

I want to thank them for putting themselves out there and doing such an amazing job and I hope that there are more performances to come.

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A Harbour Seal of Approval to all those who keep supporting the Pender Harbour Branch of the St. Mary's Hospital/Healthcare Auxiliary. We really appreciate all of you.

Maureen Lee

St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (PH)

A big Harbour Seal of Approval to the person/persons who turned in my wallet to IGA. That truly shows the spirit of those who live in this area. Many thanks.

Rita Allen



Gini Zacharias photo

Gini Zacharias says she snapped this photo of Lloyd's (later Taylor's and now John Henry's) Store in the winter of 1973 or 1974 when they lived on Nelson Island.

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ORGANIZATIONS

P. H. POWER AND SAIL SQUADRON

The Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron urges anyone interested in taking their boating course to sign up before Jan. 8. The course covers 24 subjects from navigation to knots. Upon completion, boaters will receive their lifetime Pleasure Craft Operator's Card. The course takes place over 10 Monday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Pender Harbour High School.

MPES PARENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Madeira Park Parents Advisory Council is holding a brainstorming meeting on Jan. 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Madeira Park Elementary School library to come up with ideas that will make the elementary school exceptional. To further entice people to come, we will be offering refreshments and babysitting services. Anyone with ideas on the direction the elementary school should take or a passion for any of the above-mentioned ideas is urged to attend.

P. H. WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Pender Harbour & District Wildlife Society is very pleased to present "Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro: One Step at a Time" on Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Pender Harbour High School. This is an illustrated account of this climb by two extraordinary Roberts Creek residents. In January 2009, Sarah Doherty and Kerith Perreux-Lloyd climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. Sarah Doherty lost her right leg at age 13 when hit by a drunk driver.

P. H. WOMEN'S CONNECTION

The Women's Connection will start Tuesday, Jan. 26, when June Malchoff, Judy Summers and Eric Stodt from BMO Nesbitt Burns will offer a "Market Overview." This informative gathering will take place at the P. H. School of Music in Madeira Park. Doors open at 9:30 and the meeting runs from 10 a.m. until noon.



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GRADE 10

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Honourable Mention: Cody Ed-wardson.

GRADE 11

Chloe Christie, Mike Chrystall, Shelby Crawford-Wilson, Robert Edwardson, Shelby Foley, Eileen Glowacki, James Gray, Natasha Jer-

ema, Mitchell Jones, Rebecca Kelly, Taylor McKay, Aurora Noble, Travis Ramsey-Wall, Madison Shoemaker, Janine Snell, Rowan van Wersch, Mitchell Williams-Rice.

Honourable Mention: Timo Antilla, Breanna Clay, Morgan McLellan, Gavin Wicks.

GRADE 12

Alexa Dornbierer, Vanessa Lanteigne, Cheyenne Lightbourn, Lauren Paton, Dion Pickles-Teller, Nicole Polacek, Cooper Rancier, Trevor Thorpe, Katie Woods.



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The best defence to prevent unexpected dental emergencies throwing your life into turmoil is of course regular dental exams and cleaning.

If you have been avoiding the dentist, here are some things that do need immediate attention.

Dental Symptom #1: Changes in your gums

- Change in the colour from a normal pink colour to red or bluish-red.
- Swollen gums, with a spongy feel.
- Receding gums, making the teeth look larger, root exposure.
- Pus, odour or new spaces forming between the teeth.

Dental Symptom #2: White spots on teeth

Dental decay is essentially an infection which begins with the enamel dissolving in response to acid produced by bacteria.

The first signs are white spots that form in the very early stages when the process may be reversible so it is worth getting these spots checked out.

Dental Symptom #3: Hot or cold sensitivity

Sensitivity to temperature or to sweets may mean decay has eaten through the outer enamel and reached the tooth pulp containing the nerve and blood vessels.

If this happens you need a dental appointment to prevent infection.

Hot or cold sensitivity could also mean you are grinding your teeth or that an existing filling needs to be repaired.

It is always worth mentioning this to your dentist.

Dental Symptom #4: Tooth pain

Persistent or severe tooth pain indicates a serious problem, an infection or a cracked tooth.

Swelling in the surrounding tissue, cheek or jaw is an emergency.

See your dentist or medical doctor at once. Even if the pain subsides never ignore swelling — it is a symptom of an active infection.

Dental Symptom #5: Changes in mouth, cheek and tongue

If you notice changes of colour, such as white or red patches that aren't going away and are getting bigger, or lumps that have formed in places which previously were smooth, these all need further investigation by your dentist.

One of the most important things you can do is form a partnership with your dentist and hygienist to help keep your mouth healthy and to pick up problems at an early stage. Call us for an appointment with our friendly and informed staff.

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Jan. 6 ~ **Linda De La Canal.**

Jan. 7 ~ **Bryan Rousseau.**

Jan. 8 ~ **Sue Natall, Jodi Godkin and
Destiny Wallbaum.**

Jan. 9 ~ **Arhea Howitt and Amanda
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Jan. 10 ~ **David Pease.**

Jan. 11 ~ **Randy Cummings.**

Jan. 12 ~ **Lisa Duncan and Mary
Ebert.**

Jan. 13 ~ **Tia Haase and Betty Wray.**

Jan. 14 ~ **Dominic De La Canal,
Norman Edwardson, Karlee Legge
and Alannah Nichols.**

Jan. 15 ~ **Curtis Sample and**

Ron Kushner.

Jan. 16 ~ **Helen Palmer and Cody
Angus.**

Jan. 17 ~ **Tashina McLean and Brent
Stoutenberg.**

Jan. 19 ~ **Rita Zotoff.**

Jan. 20 ~ **Gerald Mackie, Les Dorn-
bierer and Hazel Jay.**

Jan. 21 ~ **Cathy Silvey**

Jan. 22 ~ **Starr Harding, Lil Higgs,
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Jan. 24 ~ **Carolyn Ireland, Don
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Jan. 27 ~ **Leona Colebank.**

Jan. 28 ~ **Vanessa Fielding and
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Jan. 29 ~ **Jordan Field, Glen Scou-
lar, Lorne Campbell, Alfie Lajlar,
Sarah Beadle and Tanya Bernier.**

Jan. 30 ~ **Lyle Forbes.**

Jan. 31 ~ **Mary Jordison.**

JANUARY ASTROLOGY

CAPRICORN: DEC. 22 - JAN. 20

Capricorns often experience hardship early in life, but their resourcefulness makes them survivors. Often hard to get to know, they are loyal, responsible, and down-to-earth but beware the baggage from those early life hardships.

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FICTION

- *The Year of the Flood*, Margaret Atwood
- *February*, Lisa Moore
- *The Golden Mean*, Annabel Lyon
- *The Heart Specialist*, Claire Holden Rothman
- *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*, Alan Bradley
- *Old City Hall*, Robert Rotenberg

NON-FICTION

- *Why Your World Is About to Get a Whole Lot Smaller: Oil and the End of Globalization*, Jeff Rubin
- *Grass, Sky, Song: Promise and Peril in the World of Grassland Birds*, Trevor Herriot
- *Slow Death by Robber Duck: How the Toxic Chemistry of Everyday Life Affects Our Health*, Rick Smith and Bruce Lourie, with Sarah Dopp
- *Corked*, Kathryn Borel, Jr.

BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- *Jacob Two-Two on the High Seas*, Cary Fagan; Dusan Petricic, illus.
- *Scaredy Squirrel at Night*, Melanie Watt
- *City Alphabet*, Joanne Schwartz; Matt Beam, photog.
- *Perfect Snow*, Barbara Reid
- *The Uninvited*, Tim Wynne-Jones

~ Quill and Quire magazine

JANUARY WEATHER

TEMPERATURES

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

PRECIPITATION

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



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Sunshine Coast choral groups join talents to Sing For Joy



The Suncoast Singers joined the Pender Harbour Choir for a performance at the Pender Harbour Community Hall entitled Sing For Joy.

By Brian Lee

The Sunshine Coast's longest running choral group, the Pender Harbour Choir, joined with the Suncoast Singers from Sechelt for two concerts in late November.

Sing For Joy featured selections by Mozart, Haydn, Fauré, Verdi, Vivaldi, Holst, Elgar and Gilbert and Sullivan.

The selections in the Sing for Joy concert drew upon the spiritual rapture celebrated by composers of the period and provided a fitting start to the holiday season.

The two concerts were the culmination of months of rehearsals requiring the two groups to travel and coordinate schedules in order to master the complicated harmonies presented in the set.

It required an enormous amount of work.

Musical director Joy Macleod joked before the performance, "If you

don't enjoy it, it's not because we didn't try."

She needn't have worried.

The 70-plus audience members were enthralled as much by the performers' harmonies as the stellar piano accompaniment of Sechelt's Paula Seward.

Choir risers were arranged lengthwise along the Pender Harbour Community Hall to fit the large group and made for an intimate room.

The show opened (and closed) with works by Joseph Haydn in honour of the 200th anniversary of the Austrian composer's death.

Next, the men of the bass section interpreted the wistful introduction to the popular English folk song *Greensleeves* before being joined by the rest of the group in a chorus of harmonies that surely was one of the highlights of the evening.

Macleod kept things interesting in her introductions to each piece by providing fascinating tidbits of trivia



Pianist Paula Seward did a magnificent job accompanying the combined choir on a piano borrowed from the Lutheran Church on the highway in Davis Bay.

about either the song or its composer.

She even included a little movie trivia in her introduction to the choir's undertaking of Mozart's *Lacrymosa*.

Macleod pointed out some of the liberties Hollywood took in the movie version of Mozart's life, *Amadeus*.

In the case of the *Lacrymosa*, the work was not completed by Salieri as the movie portrayed.

Instead, Mozart's composition, a work the composer was unable to finish before he died, was actually completed by a number of composers after Mozart's death.

Some of the arrangements required only a portion of the combined choir and those not involved with a piece would often take a break while their fellow choristers took the spotlight.

Not only did the variation in performers break up the program but it offered an opportunity to showcase some of the individual talents.

A number of selections featured members from the various sections perform solo in front of the choir.

The finale returned to Haydn and his *The Heavens Are Telling* that provided the two choirs a chance to show off the result of their work.

The various sections of the choir handled the seemingly difficult alternating harmonies that descended and ascended through the scales before



Joy Macleod (r) directs the choir as they perform *Christmas Day*, a work composed by Gustav Holst. Soloists (l-r): Nan Seward, Amanada Tyner, Edmund Arceo and Andre Boel.

joining together, flawlessly climaxing in an intense and triumphant end.

The choir received a well-deserved ovation and hopefully their next concert in Sechelt a couple of days later was as well received.

The Pender Harbour Choir is the longest running choral group on the Sunshine Coast.

Established in 1976, the choir meets every Tuesday evening at the Pender Harbour School of Music.

Joy Macleod assumed the role of music director in January 2008 after 20 years as a church organist and choir director in Victoria.



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Smith gets Erbanized in effort to repeat as world champ

After winning it all last year, local boy Scott "Scoot" Smith has found himself chasing world cup points leader Mischo Erban since the first race of the season.

But Smith's trademark consistency — and ability to avoid wipeouts in important races — kept him tantalizingly close in points with two key races left in the season.

With the father of Coast Longboarding, Garden Bay's Bricin Lyons, announcing the event, Smith took second place at the Newton's Cup in Bathurst, Australia on Nov. 29.

Smith battled through near collisions to make it to the final, where he was narrowly bested by Kitsilano nemesis Kevin Reimer.

After the race Smith trailed the world cup points leader by a margin of 1725.11 points to Erban's 1749.46.

Hoping to build on his momentum, Smith carried on to the Hot Heels Africa event in Kogelburg, South Africa on Dec. 11.

The 1.9 kilometre course is often windy, fast and narrow with a number of technical turns.

It's a course that demands respect.

In 2004 a crash on the upper part of the course cost South African racer Lloyd MacPherson his life.

As the last world cup event of the season, Hot Heels would decide the world champion.



Pierre van der Spuy/IGSA photo

Pender Harbour's Scott Smith qualifying at the Hot Heels Africa world cup series race in South Africa Dec. 12.

Smith was the only racer with a mathematical chance of beating Erban for world cup points.

To do it, he needed to win Hot Heels with Erban finishing third or worse.

Erban was coming off an ankle injury from the previous week but after initial concerns that he may not be able to race, he proved he was more than capable by finishing first in qualifying.

Smith qualified second setting up an epic final that also included South African Mike Zeitsman and Denmark's Oliver Nielsen.

Zeitsman was first off the start but braked hard into Lloyd's Corner allowing the other three riders to pass.

After a brush with a hay bale, Erban took over the lead.

Zeitsman drafted past Smith and Nielsen to move into second place.

But Erban had the day and as Smith and Zeitsman battled dangerous side winds down the stretch, Erban crossed the finish line and was crowned the 2009 World Cup series champ.

Smith finished third in the race and runner-up in the overall points standings for 2009.

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Thoughts about a 'cool sporting event that takes place in BC... '



By Shane McCune

If you want real power, don't waste your time running for office, recruiting an army or building a nuclear stockpile.

All you need is custody of the world's most powerful weapons of mass distraction, the multicoloured circles of the

Olympic games logo. Weapons wielded by the International Olympic Committee, a cabal elected by and answerable to absolutely no one.

It took years of negotiations to produce Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms, but we let the lords of the rings put their Olympic torch to it in the name of advertising agreements and "optics."

They demanded, and received, legislation to ban unauthorized signage anywhere within view of a TV camera or IOC limousine.

When this sparked outrage, the Vancouver Organizing Committee and civic authorities assured everybody that the search-and-seizure measures would apply only to unlicensed advertising, not political protest.

Is that supposed to make me feel better?

It's no secret that Olympic czars pressure host nations and cities to stifle any untoward words, images or demonstrations. Maybe that's why the IOC liked Beijing. It had horrendous traffic and lumpy air, but also soldiers on every street, ears in every wall, eyes on every keystroke. Post a rude remark or an unlicensed logo on your website and they shut you down faster than you can say unleaded milk.

Like many people, I cheered when Vancouver clothing company Lululemon rolled out its "Cool Sporting Event That Takes Place in British Columbia Between 2009 and 2011 Edition" line.

VANOC brand enforcer Bill Cooper huffed that he "expected better sportsmanship from a local Canadian company." I guess he saw no irony in a reference to "sportsmanship" by the gang that tried to bully family-run Olympia Pizza into removing its 15-year-old sign.

(If I ran the Hudson's Bay Company — the distinctly un-local American company licensed to stitch the Canadian Olympic brand on clothes — I would tell Cooper to shut his pie hole before he sends any more business to the competition.)

Now, I enjoy watching pompous twits making asses of themselves as much as the next fellow, but there's a limit to my entertainment budget. I wish Cooper and com-

pany could say the same.

In 2003, when Vancouver was "awarded" the games, the operating budget was set at \$1.3 billion. By early last year it was \$1.76 billion.

That's a difference of \$460 million, or about 30 brand new community centres or more than 100 MRI machines.

And that is just the operating budget. Construction costs for the main venues run anywhere from \$600 million (the official estimate) to \$2.5 billion (the former provincial auditor general's estimate).

Over-the-top paranoia has boosted the security budget from \$175 million in 2003 to \$900 million a year ago. Anybody care to bet it won't top \$1 billion?

(At least we can sleep soundly, knowing that top-quality barbed wire now sits atop the fences at that hotbed of international terrorism, the Langdale ferry terminal.)

Montreal didn't pay off its 1976 summer games debt until a couple of years ago, Calgary lost close to \$1 billion if you count construction, and any reasonable guess puts Vancouver deeper in that ditch.

"Don't be such a cynic," I hear an Olympics fan protest. "The games are really about the athletes."

Maybe that was so in ancient Greece, but not lately. These days it's all about Coca-Cola, McDonalds and chants of "U-S-A! U-S-A!"

I see two possible ways to return to the original spirit of the Olympics:

1. Ban flags and anthems and severely restrict corporate sponsorship. Let the contestants represent themselves, not nations or businesses.

Of course, once you curb the opportunities for jingoistic pomp or sales, there won't be as many cities or sponsors stepping forward. Good. Pick three to six sites scattered among geographically and politically diverse regions, and rotate the games among them. Not only would this eliminate the need to build a new synchronized-snowball-juggling dome every four years, it would also wean IOC members off their toxic diet of junkets and bribes.

2. Dispense with the Olympics altogether. Athletes would still vie for gold at the world championships of their various sports. They just wouldn't do it all at the same time and place. Does the Thursday marathon benefit from the Tuesday swimming relay?

No. The only reason to put them all together is to create a spectacle for the benefit of sponsors and advertisers.

And after all the doping, cheating, squandering and lying, the IOC has made a spectacle of itself long enough.



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Eating disorders — not to be confused with Christmas overeating

*Compiled by
P. H. Health Centre nursing staff*

We all tend to associate the holiday season with eating good food, rich desserts, scrumptious treats and big meals.

These traditions combined with complex family relationships cause increased stress especially for those who struggle with weight and self-esteem issues.

If you have concerns about family, friends or yourself and wonder if it's an eating disorder or just over-indulging, here is a summary of basic eating disorders.

Disordered eating includes a range of food- and weight-related beliefs and practices that negatively affect an individual's overall well-being.

It includes chronic dieting, compulsive eating and behaviours seen in anorexia and bulimia.

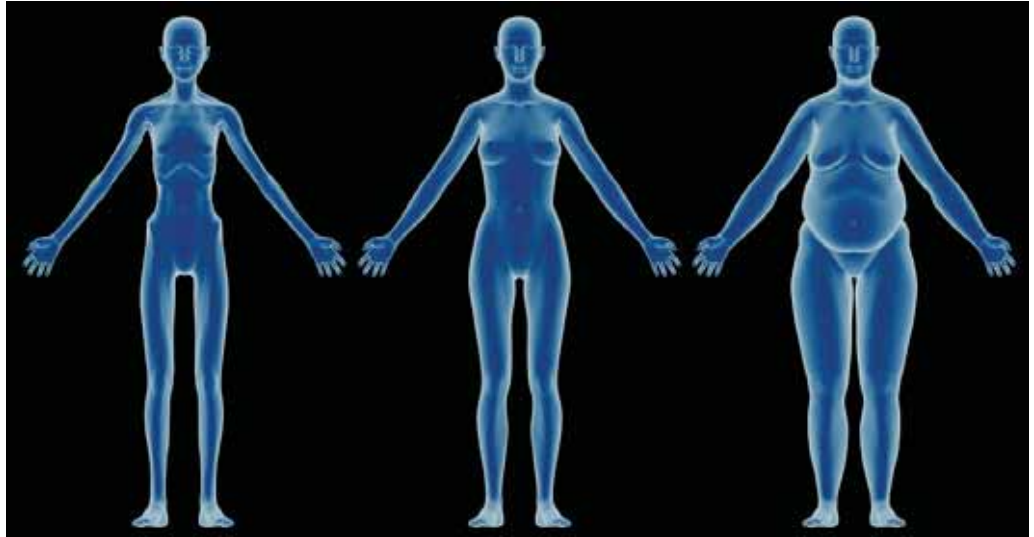
Feelings of ineffectiveness and low self-esteem are common.

Anorexia nervosa is identified by drastic weight-loss from excessive dieting.

Most individuals with anorexia don't recognize how underweight they are. Even when emaciated, these individuals may still feel fat making them difficult to convince to seek help.

Bulimia nervosa is identified by frequent fluctuations in weight and periods of uncontrollable binge eating followed by some form of purging to rid the body of the unwanted calories.

This can be through self-induced vomiting, laxative abuse, excessive exercising or fasting. All of which are harmful.



Disordered eating includes a range of food and weight related beliefs and practices that negatively affect an individual's overall well-being.

Binge eating is uncontrolled, impulsive, or continuous eating to the point of serious discomfort.

Purging is uncommon.

Significant distress and shame of binge eating is experienced.

Eating Disorder Awareness Week takes place Feb. 1 to 7.

By raising awareness of eating disorders and their associated issues, we decrease stigma and increase understanding.

We all know someone whose preoccupation with his or her physical size, shape or weight negatively impacts on their ability to have healthy relationships, go to school or work or to engage in community life.

The National Eating Disorder

Information Centre (NEDIC) is a Canadian non-profit organization, established in 1985 to provide information and resources on weight preoccupation.

Its goal is to promote healthy lifestyles that allow people to be fully engaged in their lives. It can be accessed at www.nedic.ca.

The Pender Harbour Health Centre has ordered resources through the National Eating Disorder Information Centre.

Please drop by and ask for these materials.

Also, the President's Learning Centre, AKA "library," has a large selection of VHS tapes, books and pamphlets on many health-related topics. Check us out.

Area A Seniors' Housing Outreach Healthy Meal Program



Meal service resumes Jan. 18.
(Call Linda or Anky with concerns or new orders.)

For info: Linda Curtiss 604-883-2819 or Anky Drost 604-883-0033

BC Bestsellers:

(For the week of Dec. 13)

1. ***Had a Glass 2010*** by James Nevison & Kenji Hodgson
2. ***The Expanded Reilly Method*** by Mike McCardell
3. ***A Life in the News*** by Tony Parsons
4. ***Whitewater Cooks at Home*** by Shelley Adams
5. ***Mountain Timber*** by Richard Mackie
6. ***Trauma Farm*** by Brian Brett
7. ***One More Time*** by Dal Richards & Jim Taylor
8. ***The Best of Chef at Home*** by Michael Smith
9. ***The Encyclopedia of Rain-coast Place Names*** by Andrew Scott
10. ***Everyday Indian*** by Bal Arneson

~ Assn. of Book Publishers of BC



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BOOKS

Roberts creates a wild and surreal portrait of

By Theresa Kishkan

Sarah Roberts is a young writer living on the Sunshine Coast. Her first book, *Wax Boats* (Caitlin Press), is a collection of stories centred in a small community on an island bearing a remarkable resemblance to her hometown of Gibsons.

Yet it's a Gibsons of almost surreal and certainly wilder proportions than the place we pass on our way to the Langdale ferry. Think of the Beachcombers, for instance — those larger-than-life characters involved in extravagant exploits. Or the flamboyant colour of Greta Guzek's paintings. There is something of this in *Wax Boats*.

The stories are told through a variety of voices and perspectives. Sometimes the story is Cat's — she appears as a newborn in "He Knows Where To Find Water," a wayward teen in "Devil Hunting" and a young woman awaiting the birth of her first child in "The Smoker."

In "Cougar Ladies," two elderly women live off the grid, running trawlers and shying away from company until one of them shows up in a local bar, looking for a man.

There are echoes of real coast characters in this story but it's what Roberts does with the material that makes it so lively and fresh. The women are accustomed to an out-house. In a government agency, one of them needs to use the toilet: "There were two doors, side by side, and each had a figure on the front. The figure on the right wore a triangular dress, and the one on the left stood stiffly in pants. Mabel understood the concept.

She was wearing pants. She chose the door on the left. Since then Mabel had always been sure to squat on the trail before she got to town."

The finest story in the collection is "Wild Birds." Told from the perspective of Wayne who follows birdsong into the woods and finds a family, it is funny and poignant. One

section takes place at a Father's Day dance at the Mason Hall. Two children sit under a table and share details of their "dads":

"There goes my old dad," Colwyn said. His chest sagged,

"Where's your new dad?"

"Probably with his old family. Where's Wayne?"

"I don't know. I

haven't seen him in a while, you know, since I come back from the city. Think he'll come tonight?"

"He might. But what if he's already got a new family?"

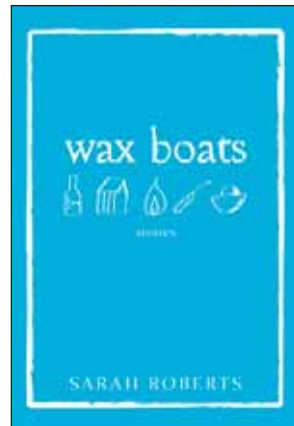
"Wayne wouldn't do that."

"Sure he would. That's what dads do."

Note-perfect, the story traces the disappearance of a woman on the mean streets of the mainland city and how this affects those left behind.

Wax Boats is a wonderful debut from a very talented writer. I recommend it for its quirky and particular writing, and look forward to what Sarah Roberts does next.

One of my favourite writers is the Irish novelist William Trevor. In book after book, he takes his readers to the heart of human experience. Two of his books, *Felicia's Journey* and *My House in Umbria*, have been made into films which are faithful to the



local characters

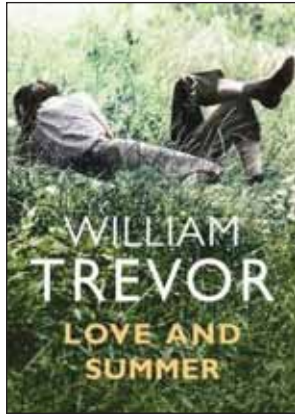
texts that inspired them.

His latest novel, *Love and Summer* (Knopf Canada), is set in familiar Trevor territory: mid-20th-century rural Ireland. Ellie is a young convent girl married to Dillehan, a hill farmer who lost his first wife and child in an accident. Her life is quietly satisfying: she helps her husband with farm chores; she manages a small flock of hens that lives in a crabapple orchard and whose eggs she takes to the nearby town to regular customers. When Florian Kilderry comes to the town on his bicycle to take photographs, he sets into motion a sequence of events which will ultimately change lives, cause heartbreak, anguish and even a sort of redemption.

This is a deceptively quiet novel. Among the hedges and fields fate, in the form of an old historian, Orpen Wren, keeps an eye on the comings and goings of the characters. As in Trevor's earlier books, an elegiac quality imbues everything that happens — the sale of Florian Kilderry's family home, the cutting of the hay, the last days of a faithful dog, even the final startling confrontation.

William Trevor was a sculptor

before he was a writer and this shows. One senses the careful hand of an artist considering each block of writing, removing anything in the way of the elegant form at its heart. He lets the language itself say what it has to say without a lot of authorial intrusion. Listen to this description of the hill farmer:



"He walked around the boundary, rabbit-burrowing everywhere, the worst year for rabbits he'd ever known. He would replace the old wooden gate with an iron one, and the trough while he was at it. There was a dead elm in the road hedge and he was sizing it up, wondering if he could fell it himself, when he heard a bicycle

beyond the bend and then Ellie went by. He thought she'd see him there, but she didn't. He called after her, wanting to show her the marshy corner, but she rode on, not hearing him."

What Dillehan doesn't know is that it's too late to replace the gate because his wife already loves someone else.

Love and Summer is a perfect winter read with its evocation of the long days of August, dry with heat, fireflies piercing the twilight.



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

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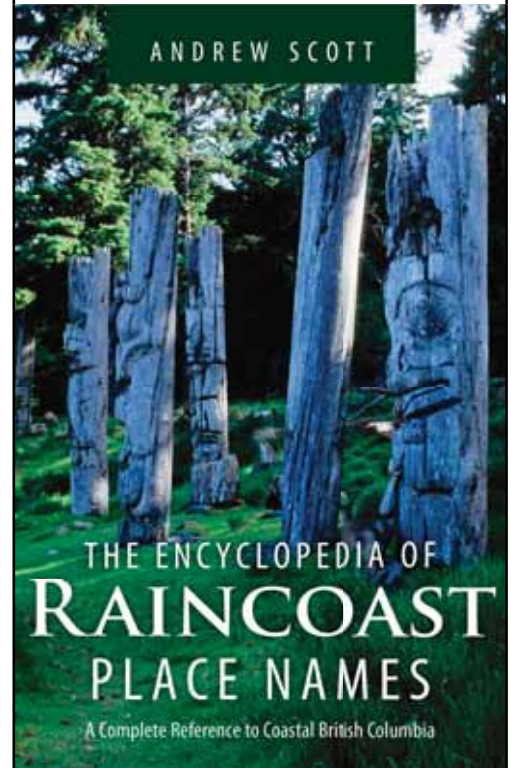
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—Howard White

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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.

JANUARY

- Thurs. Jan. 7.....Customer Appreciation Day - Marketplace IGA Madeira Park, 1 day only (See ad p. 2)
- Mon. Jan. 11.....P. H. Power and Sail Squadron Boating Course - PHSS, 7 p.m. (Register by Jan. 8)
- Thurs. Jan. 14.....MPES PAC brainstorming meeting - MPES Library, 6:30 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 17.....Borealis String Quartet - P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m. (See ad p. 6)
- Mon. Jan. 18.....Area A Seniors Housing Healthy Meals meal service resumes
- Tues. Jan. 19.....SCRD Public Meeting concerning P. H. Landfill, P. H. Community Hall, 7 p.m.
- Tues. Jan. 19.....P. H. Wildlife Society presents "Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro" - PHSS, 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs. Jan. 21.....Transformation Hatha Yoga starts- Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre (See ad p. 35)
- Fri. Jan. 22.....Madeira Park Lightening Girls' Running Club long distance run finish - MPES, @ 2 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 23.....P. H. Community School Literacy Bus (See ad p. 4)
- Tues. Jan. 26.....P. H. Women's Connection presents panel "Market Overview" - P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m.



FERRY DEPARTURES

Effective September 8 - February 11

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

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.	11:20 a.m.	10:25 a.m.	9:25 a.m.
12:20 p.m.	1:20 p.m.	12:20 p.m.	11:20 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	4:25 p.m.	3:20 p.m.
4:30 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	6:25 p.m.	5:25 p.m.
6:30 p.m.	7:25 p.m.	8:20 p.m.	7:20 p.m.
8:20 p.m.	9:15 p.m.	10:05 p.m.	9:15 p.m.
10:10 p.m. (Oct. 12 only)	11:00 p.m. (Oct. 12 only)		

See alternate schedule for Oct. 9, 12, Dec. 24, 26 2009 and Jan. 1, 2010

• Daily except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1

♣ Daily except Sundays and Dec. 25

OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

Starting Jan. 22, a variety of community events will be held to celebrate the arrival on Feb. 4 of the Olympic Torch Relay to our area.

Schools and community organizations are gearing up to help the "Harbour Spirit Shine" through local sports and performing arts activities that are being planned for January and February.

Our area has received funding to support "route community celebrations" at both of our local schools and then at the Pender Harbour Community Hall in Madeira Park on the morning of Feb. 4.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia and volunteer efforts of our community members.

Watch for more information on upcoming events and community participation on the Pender Harbour Chamber of Commerce website and in the February edition of the Harbour Spiel.

Don't forget to set aside the morning of Feb. 4 on your calendar to help the "Harbour Spirit Shine!"

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~ Ron & Marita, Joyce, Todd and all our staff.

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