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HARBOUR SPIEL

DECEMBER 2007
Issue 204

Devaney and
Howell square-off:
Who played the best
corpse?

Glamour
Issue!

10

hot tips to
DRIVE HIM WILD
on your
50th anniversary

**HAS
PENDER
GONE
HOLLYWOOD?**

**FISHERMEN'S
SEX
CONFESSIONS:**
*What the deckhand
said*

TARA REID
On acting and the
Garden Bay night life

How to tell
him his
MULLET
isn't
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HARBOUR SPIEL



The Independent Voice
of Pender Harbour &
Egmont since 1990

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Brian Lee.

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EDITORIAL

Is your power on yet?

By Brian Lee



"Power on yet?"

"Nope. They
said tomorrow at
eight."

So you wait 'til
eight and then revise

your gameplan when it's still not on.

Such is life when the power is off
for a more than a day at a time.

Those power outages used to be
satisfied to go out for a night but now
they need something stronger... like
three days. What happened?

By the third day I was starting to
get a little cranky — clearly the nov-
elty of candle light was over.

Not only do things in your fridge
start to smell but the routine elements
of your life that you put on hold until
the power comes back on suddenly
can't be left any longer.

And I think I cope better than
most.

I don't have a well or septic
system with a pump that needs power
to operate.

I don't take regular medication
where a missed prescription might
affect my health nor do I rely on a
wheelchair lift to get up my stairs.

The morning after the storm I
travelled back from Powell River to
find blow downs like I've never seen
before.

How much line has to be down
on the 10 kilometre section between
the ferry and the golf course before
you have to say the entire line is
down?

I'd guess a 100 or more trees
were crossing the road and I heard the
road to Egmont was even worse.

So when I passed line crews near

Sakinaw Lake I was impressed that
they'd even made it that far. Then I
passed more near Kleindale and still
more on Francis Peninsula Road.

There was a small army of hel-
met-clad, safety-vest-wearing guys
beaver away on the side of the
road.

Theirs is a dangerous and un-
pleasant job — standing 35 feet up
in a bucket, leaning out with a chain-
saw cutting off chunks of wood from
tensioned wires while semi-trailers
rumble underneath — in the rain.

Working double shifts through
the night for days at a time, you must
have a little respect for the precision
required just to come home without
injury.

So I can't fault the response and
think it's actually truly impressive the
power came back on when it did.

So what else could I blame?

Are the storms that much stron-
ger now than before? Are the trees
getting weaker?

Or, as a psychological botanist
might suggest, are they committing
mass tree suicide in a desperate bid to
end their own suffering?

It's a scientific fact that trees
that border hydro lines lead much
less fulfilling lives than their forested
cousins.

They're exposed to wind and car
exhaust and the pulsating electrical
currents must cause tumours — fur-
ther reducing a tree's quality of life.

Do we not have a moral obliga-
tion to end their suffering?

Clearly it's time we euthanized
those poor trees along our hydro lines
and put an end to their misery.

I'll even pitch in to help cremate
their lifeless tree bodies.

SPIEL PICKS

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY AND POTLUCK DINNER

On Sunday Dec. 9 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Bring your favorite Christmas dish to share — salad, casserole, dessert — or if you don't cook, bring a non-perishable food item for the food bank. There will be arts and crafts for all ages, the Community Christmas Tree will be lit, and maybe even the guy in the red suit might drop by. Call (604) 883-2826, the P. H. Community School, for more information.

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY CLUB MADEIRA MARKET AND BAKE SALE

The biggest Madeira Market of the year is on Dec. 15 at the P. H. Community Hall, all day long. Donations of home baking will be greatly appreciated. For more information, call Muriel (604) 883-2609.

WHITE CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN AND SWIM:

On Tuesday, Dec. 18, 6:30 - 9 pm. Bring the whole family up to the pool for some Christmas magic. There'll be fun, games and refreshments provided. The P.H. Aquatic Society will be drawing the grand prize winner of the trip to Disneyland for a family of 4. (Get your tickets soon.)

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• **WHITE CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN AND SWIM:**

Tuesday, Dec. 18, 6:30 - 9 pm. Fun and games will abound and refreshments will be provided. Bring the whole family up to the pool for some Christmas magic. The PH Aquatic Society will be drawing the grand prize winner of the Trip To Disneyland for a family of 4. Have you got your ticket?

• **HOLIDAY HOURS:**

Closed Dec. 23 - 26, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Dec. 27 - 30 and Jan. 2 - 6: 1-3 pm and 6:30 - 8 pm ----- Laps and Everyone Welcome Swim

Join us for a swim, hot tub and sauna to enjoy the holiday break. The weight room/fitness studio will also be open during these times.

The PHAFC staff wish everyone a very merry Christmas and best wishes for a new year.

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Temporary hole to fill at P. H. Health Centre

The sudden departure of Pender Harbour Health Centre Nurse Administrator Judi Georgetti has forced the centre's staff and volunteer board to step up their efforts in order to ensure there is no interruption of services.

Georgetti gave notice last month that she would be taking an indefinite leave effective immediately.

It comes at a critical time for the Health Centre.

It is in the midst of a fundraising campaign to pay off debt acquired from its recent expansion as well as administering to an increase in tenant health professionals.

Rick McDonald has been hired as temporary administrator to ease

some of the workload until Georgetti's return and the board themselves have been taking up much of the remaining duties.

"The board has been doing everything that it can to make sure that there's no lapse in the services because we appreciate and understand the work that Judi did and so does the staff," said Pender Harbour Health Centre Society president Evelyn McNee.

Since her departure, rumours have circulated that there may be a personality conflict creating tension between Georgetti and the board.

McNee couldn't comment on Georgetti's reasons for taking leave

but insisted that she doesn't think that is the case here.

"I wouldn't say it's a personality conflict. That's not my interpretation but you're going to get personality conflicts no matter who's on the board but we all have to rise above it," McNee said.

"What we have to remember is that whether we're board members or staff members or even members of the community that use the health centre, our first priority should be the health centre."

The board plans to hold a special public meeting to address concerns, with details to be announced after their Nov. 27 regular board meeting.

The current board members are: Eric Dodd, Julian Craddock, Bill Padgham, Doug Davies, Kathie Burega, Michael Cyr, John King and Jon Paine.

Judi Georgetti could not be reached for comment.

PHOTOJOURNAL



Egmont Road still had only one lane open five days after the storm on Nov. 11. There's really no excuse for running out of firewood this winter since the highway still hadn't been cleared five days after that - on Nov. 20.

December 2007

Season's greetings and a prosperous 2008 from

**MISS SUNNY'S
HAIR BOUTIQUE**

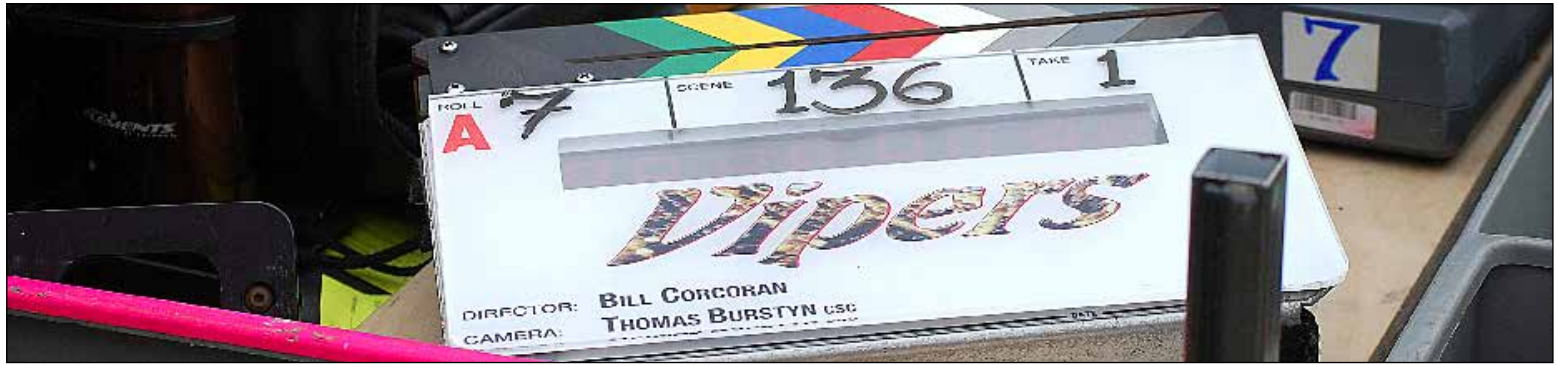
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(THE PURPLE HOUSE)

883-2715

Garden Bay attacked by man-eating Vipers



Pender Harbour was attacked by hordes of man-eating snakes last month and locals loved it.

Crews filming the Canadian indie flick *Vipers* literally transformed downtown Garden Bay into the picturesque island town of Eden Harbour.

VP Productions Inc. of North Vancouver brought 105 cast and crew to Pender Harbour for five days to film the \$3.2 million movie about genetically modified snakes that escape from an isolated research station and terrorize a small island resort town.

Fortunately for the extras, who often played the victims, the snakes will be computer generated and added to the scenes after filming ends.

The movie isn't intended for theatrical release but will be mostly funded by a core cable sale as well as a DVD release.

The economic impact was clearly felt throughout the community with the Pender Harbour Resort, Ruby Lake Resort, Sunshine Coast Resort and Rockwater Resort all housing the majority of the cast and crew plus a

number of other rental accommodations accepting the over-run.

Filming contracts were set up with owners of the Sundowner Inn, John Henry's Marina and Fisherman's Resort and LaVerne's Grill was rented to act as a makeshift production office.

Local boats like the Sea Otter and Beefeater as well as a sea plane from Tofino Air were contracted for backdrops to scenes.

Filming usually started early in the morning and often went well past 10 p.m.

Eighteen semi-trailer loads of equipment to be brought in. Interior filming will take place in studio, borrowing the set of the TV series *Hope Island*.

John Henry's Marina owner Lucy Archbold gushed with praise about how the production company treated the locals, especially the extras. "It's been great. They've been so accommodating," she said.

"They even timed filming scenes with make-up so the extras could keep it on for Halloween."

Archbold said that very few of her customers regarded the lack of parking near the store and post office as a nuisance and most were more interested in being able to watch the action.

Producer Mary Anne Waterhouse is a partner with Anagram Pictures and was contracted by Executive Producer Matthew Connors to put the whole project together.



OK. Look down at the ground and picture Hervé Villechaize in a speedo. Tara Reid and Jonathan Scarfe acting.

"I manage the operation. I start the hiring process and oversee the casting process with the director and oversee making sure that everything we need to make the movie is here and that it costs the amount of money it's supposed to cost to get here," she said in an on-set interview.

"And that we're honouring the script and the material so that the people that agreed to buy the movie are getting delivered to them what they're expecting."

Waterhouse and director Bill Corcoran have worked here before on cable movie *Desolation Sound* and TV show *Ritter's Cove* respectively.

"We both remembered having fabulous, beautiful looks in shooting here and also really, really great reception and a lot of support."

More than 60 local extras were paid \$10 per hour to be on hand when needed for background action or corpse duty.

"It's a matter of hurry up and wait," a blood-covered Dave Howell said between shoots that required him to wait, sometimes all day, until he was needed again.

"It's my favourite thing to do, watching other people work!"

Aside from the local talent pool, the film will also feature American Pie's Tara Reid in the leading female role of Nicky Swift.

"She's trying to protect everyone and just save a lot of lives and get everyone off the island," Reid says between takes in the warming tent. "She has to stay strong for everyone else but I think she's sensitive and there is fear inside of her but she tends to try to not show it too much."

When asked if she'd had a chance to sample the Garden Bay nightlife, Reid, a notorious Hollywood party



Some of the local extras, pre-bloodbath.

animal said "No, I don't go out on school nights. You know, you don't go out when you work at six o'clock in the morning. It's so cold you just want to go home."

Working 14-15 hour days, Reid says she hasn't been able to get out and see much of the area but her first impressions make her want to come

back again, preferably in the summer.

"It reminds me a lot of Cape Cod. It's a beautiful place and it's an amazing location and we're really lucky to have found it. There's something magical about this place."

Other cast members include Vancouver's Jonathan Scarfe who

continued next page

**BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM THE MARINA PHARMACY STAFF.**



**Guardian Marina
Pharmacy
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Vipers (cont.)

plays the male lead, Don Davis (better known as the general from Stargate SG-1) and Corbin Bernsen who has a cameo role.

Sechelt's Aaron Pearl plays Jack Martin, a self-centred local with a fragmented home life who, after killing a bunch of snakes, comes to realize the importance of family.

Pearl is a full-time actor who now lives in Vancouver and revealed he was just killed off CBC's *Intelligence*, a drama series set in Vancouver and one in which he'd worked on for the past year and a half.

His most recent project was a pilot for a new series called *Cowgirls* shot in Calgary.

Pearl is one of three professional actors from Sechelt who are all roughly the same age.

David Paetkau and Jennifer Copping also make their living in the industry and Pearl credits the artistic environment of the Sunshine Coast for producing this anomaly.

"I hope that other people up here, young or old or whatever, realize that there's a whole other industry that is available because, when I was young, nobody suggested you could go and do film," Pearl said.

"Nobody suggested you could be involved in any aspect of it which there's a multitude of jobs."



Sechelt's Aaron Pearl poses with the prop jeep that was on loan to the production company from Alan Stewart

*THE PENDER HARBOUR & DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRE SOCIETY &
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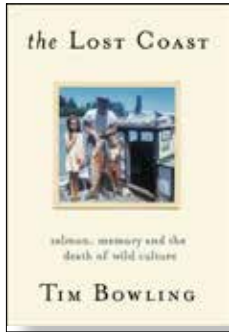
Tickets: \$25.00

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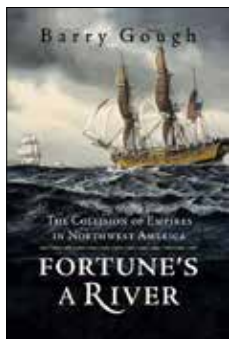


Part memoir, part environmental plea, *The Lost Coast: Salmon, Memory and the Death of Wild Culture* is Tim Bowling's beautifully written and

evocative account of the cherished fishing village of his upbringing.

Bowling applies his acclaimed writing talents to ask timely and challenging questions about where we've come from, where we're going and what we are sacrificing to get there.

The Lost Coast is a lyrical, impassioned lament for the home Bowling once knew and for the river that continues to haunt his imagination.



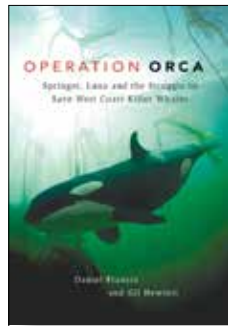
Fortune's a River: The Collision of Empires in Northwest America is the most authoritative and readable account to date of just how British Columbia became

British and how Oregon, Washington and Alaska became American.

By the closing years of the 18th century, the stage was set for a major international confrontation over the Northwest Coast.

Gough examines each of the players in this territorial drama, bringing them fully to life and vividly recounting their hardships and struggles.

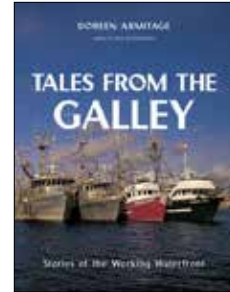
Fortune's a River is a major historical work that reads like a wild west adventure.



Through the story of Springer and Luna, the larger history of orcas is explored in the Pacific Northwest and the whale's transformation for killer to icon.

In *Operation Orca: Springer, Luna and the Struggle to Save West Coast Killer Whales*, award-winning author Daniel Francis gives breadth to the complications, contradictions and political posturing that twice engulfed the debate of whether to interfere or let nature take its course.

Through the amazing story of these two "orphan" whales, *Operation Orca* tells the larger story of orcas in the Pacific Northwest, the people who have studied them and the transformation of the whale's image from killer to icon.



In *Tales from the Galley: Stories of the Working Waterfront*, Doreen Armitage, author of the bestselling *From the Wheelhouse: Tugboat-ers Tell their own*

Stories, is back with a fresh collection of salty tales from a varied collection of men who earn their living in, on or beside the sea.

Some of these stories involve momentous events with sinking ships and loss of life, but most simply recount everyday happenings, from the humorous to the strange.

Together, they offer a captivating picture of life along B.C.'s working waterfront in all its variety.

St. Andrew's Anglican Church ADVENT

DECEMBER SERVICES

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Advent III	Dec 16	Eucharist 10:30 am
		Blue Christmas Service 3:00 pm
Advent IV	Dec 23	Eucharist 10:30 am

Christmas Eve

Dec 24 Lessons and Carols 7:00 pm

Christmas Day

Dec 25 Eucharist 10:30 am

Please bring a non-perishable food item to support the local food bank

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Pender Harbour's pioneering role in the live capture of orcas, Part I

By Brian Lee

In the 1960s, most considered a whale as just another fish.

So when a group of Pender Harbour fishermen started capturing whales for sale to various aquariums, few saw a problem with it.

At the time, orcas were considered vermin by much of the coastal B.C. population.

It was commonly thought that killer whales were dangerous to man, their numbers were greater than they were and they ate too many salmon.

In a province that relied heavily on salmon for income, it shouldn't

surprise anyone that even a whale would be disposed of if it got in the way of making a buck.

Navy planes used orcas for target practice and the department of fisheries even set up a large-calibre Browning machine-gun on the shore of Quadra Island to control, what they thought at the time, were growing numbers of these "blackfish."

Luckily for the whales, the Browning was deemed too dangerous for residents on the other side of Seymour Narrows so they scrapped that plan without firing a shot.

But that didn't mean the whales were left alone.

Killer whales were characterized as man-eaters and it was properly accepted to shoot at a whale if given the opportunity – especially if you were a fisherman.

As Bruce Obee wrote in his 1992 book *Guardian of the Whales*, one-quarter of the whales caught for aquariums in the 1960s and '70s bore bullet wounds.

In the summer of 1964 no one at the Vancouver Aquarium believed that a whale could be caught live.

In fact, they weren't even trying to catch one live the first time it happened.

The aquarium merely hoped to get their hands on an intact carcass so

sculptor/fisherman Sam Burich could produce an accurate model for display.

That first whale, Moby Doll, was harpooned off Saturna Island and shocked many when it turned out to be highly intelligent and gentle.

It was also resilient enough to survive getting towed back to Burrard Inlet with a harpoon in its back.

Moby Doll lived only three months but that was long enough for Burich to complete his sculpture, which hung in the foyer of the Vancouver Aquarium for many years.

More importantly, Moby Doll captured people's imagination.

In June of 1965 salmon fisherman Bill Lechkobit, with the help of friend Lonnie McGarvey,



Anne Clemence photo

A group of school kids from Madeira Park travelled across to Garden Bay to view "Pender" in Eddy Reid's *Defender I*. The black boat to the left is Sonny Reid's *Instigator One*.

unwittingly captured an orca in his net at Namu on the central coast.

Ted Griffin, owner of the Seattle Aquarium, paid \$8,000 for “Namu” and towed it all the way from Namu to Seattle in a triangular pen.

By the time the whale reached Deception Pass in Washington, the entire world was watching and Namu had become an international celebrity.

Namu only lived for a year but Griffin was hooked and immediately went into business catching whales himself.

Two years later in 1967, Griffin provided the Vancouver Aquarium with a female, Skana, its first resident killer whale, for \$22,000.

Suddenly there was a healthy market for killer whales and aquariums from all over the world were offering huge sums for a live capture.

Meanwhile, back in Pender Harbour, fisherman Cecil (Sonny) Reid had been following this story with mild interest when his dad mentioned he should go out and try to catch one.

In February of 1968, a pod of orcas came into Pender Harbour, probably following the schools of spring salmon who were themselves following the schools of herring.

“I just happened to have my San Juan net still on the drum — which is a lot deeper and touched bottom — so



Garden Bay Pub Collection photo

Onlookers are treated to one of the whales showing off. It was soon observed that the whales were extremely intelligent and as curious of people as we were of them.

when they came into Garden Bay the first time I just set my net across and cornered them,” Sonny says from his home overlooking Pender Harbour.

“So we stopped them there and who shows up, rowin’ around in his rowboat, but Bert Gooldrup. He was followin’ them in this old skiff he had.”

With the help of a couple more Reids, namely Wilfred (Tiffany) and Michael, and four Camerons — Bill, Bob, Donald and Jim, Sonny and Bert netted three whales that day.

The wind picked up a bit later that night, breaching the net and allowing two of the whales to escape.

But the capture sparked a me-

dia frenzy — locally and from afar — as TV, radio and print converged on Pender Harbour.

The whale could have broken through the nets at any point and it surprised many to discover that it didn’t try.

It seemed to exhibit a patient acceptance and wariness of the nets.

“Maybe it likes it here.” Reid told a Vancouver Sun reporter at the time.

The fishermen became instant celebrities and sold the whale, a 15-foot male nicknamed “Pender” by local residents, to the Vancouver aquarium for \$5,000.

continued next page

Killer Whales(cont.)

The group split the money evenly although the selling price was much less than what Griffin had paid earlier for a whale.

Bert Gooldrup told a reporter from a local paper at the time that the fishermen didn't want to make a profit as long as their time was covered and Vancouver had a local whale.

"Pender" became "Hyak" and was being groomed as a companion for Skana in the hope that they might produce offspring but aquarium officials decided to keep the whale in Pender Harbour until they could renovate the whale pool and make it suitable for two.

Vancouver Public Aquarium director, Murray Newman told a Vancouver daily:

"We're considering keeping the whale up there for some time and perhaps developing a research and collecting station in Pender Harbour."

Arrangements were made with the Columbia Coast Mission to set up pens in Hospital Bay and trainers Terry McLoud and Graeme Ellis were sent to Pender Harbour to train and study Hyak more closely in its "natural" environment.

After this first brush with success, Reid and Gooldrup rigged up

nets specifically for catching whales and purchased permits from the DoF, which was starting to realize it needed to regulate the killer whale fishery before it got out of control.

The timing was perfect because soon after it became next to impossible to acquire a whale fishing permit — which left Reid and Gooldrup the only two permits in Pender Harbour.

Two months later, Sonny recalls that he and Bert were off on an unsuccessful wild whale chase up the coast and eventually gave up to be home in time for a bowling banquet held at Lord Jim's Lodge in Secret Cove.

"Everyone knew we were coming

home for this bowling banquet so they had it rigged up that they were gonna pull a prank on us and they were gonna phone and say the whales were in Garden Bay," Sonny says.

"Little did they know that Sam Lamont had phoned my mother and my mother phoned and told me the whales were there. So I tell Bert and Marie and Isabel and the four of us all left the party early."

While the rest of the party reveled in their successful prank, the four of them raced to back to Pender Harbour, still in their dress clothes.

"I guess it was a



Garden Bay Pub Collection photo

Though they could have escaped at any point, the whales were wary of the flimsy gillnet and accepted their captivity. Bert Gooldrup's brand new *Bonavista*, pictured here, was sold many years later but landed back in the news in 1993 after it collided with a tug and barge near Active Pass, killing all six aboard.

hell of a big laughter because it ruined the party for us. We left there but the whales were really in Garden Bay — it was no prank!” Reid says.

“So we took Bert’s boat and we ran over and we set the net and we caught ’em.”

Bill and Muriel Cameron arrived to help the four haul nets as they worked through the night, still in their suits and evening gowns.

The seven whales caught that evening were most likely members of Hyak’s pod and, ironically, it was the captive whale that attracted the other family members in to allow their capture.

The media were there by morning and the whales created an international bidding war.

Aquariums like Marineland of the Pacific in Los Angeles, Sea World in San Diego, the Seattle Marine Aquarium and the Marine World Aquarium in Redwood City in California all sent representatives to take part in what the Vancouver Sun called “the biggest whale sale in the world.”

After four of the whales were sold to US aquariums, fetching up to \$25,000 a piece, the Vancouver Aquarium stepped in to purchase the remaining three, keeping Skookum Cecil, a male, and Natsidalia, a female, in Pender Harbour.

The third, a male calf named Peanuts, was shipped to Vancouver to become a companion for Skana.

Peanuts would later become Hyak II, one of the longest living Killer Whales in captivity, educating and performing for Vancouver Aquarium audiences until his death in 1991.

With three whales now stationed in Pender Harbour, the aquarium had a

major attraction on its hands.

The trainers not only were able to teach the whales to eat but in short time were able to get them to perform tricks on cue.

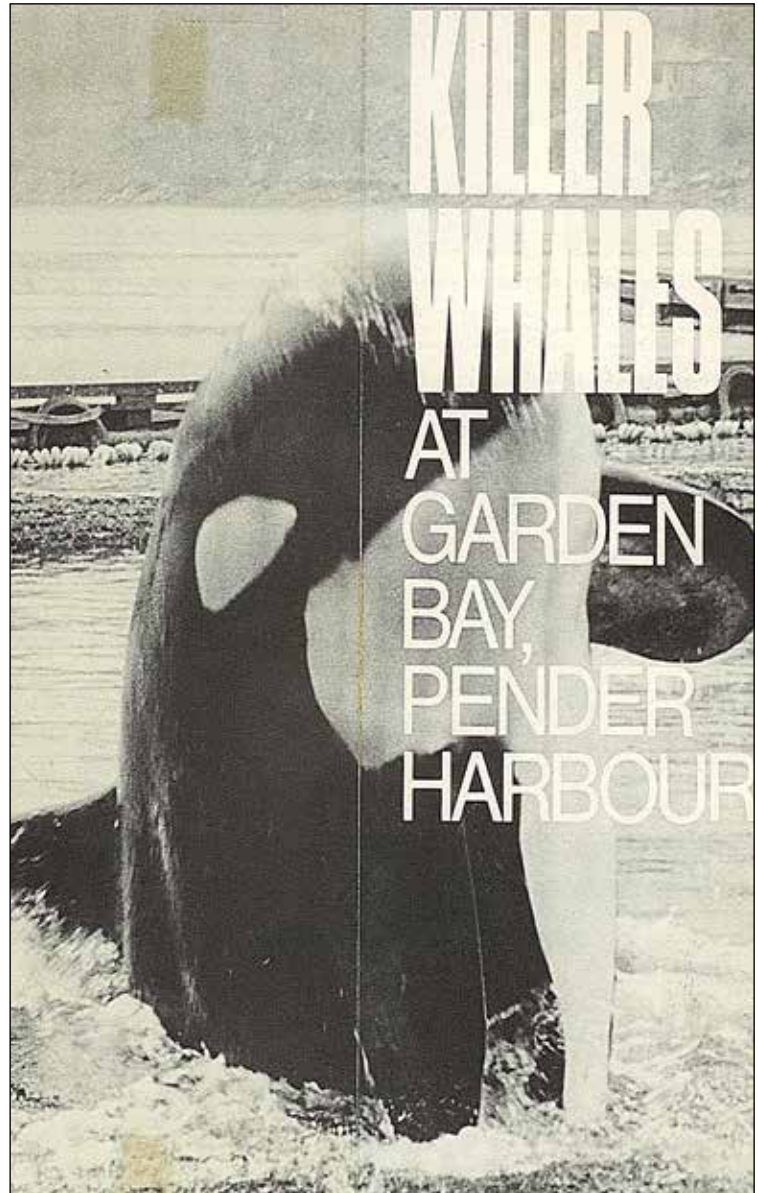
Soon they’d built three net pens, a viewing area for visitors and were actively promoting Pender Harbour’s whale facility through print brochures and advertising.

On August 1, 1968 the Pender Harbour Whale Station officially opened and reportedly attracted some 10,000 visitors that summer.

There was talk of expanding what promised to become a major tourist attraction.

Reid was honoured with the Captain Vancouver Award in recognition of the amount of publicity he helped to bring to Vancouver’s growing aquarium and the Financial Post even wrote an article on the promise of this new whale hunting industry.

But this period was to be the high point for the Pender Harbour fishermen and signalled the end of



The Vancouver Aquarium’s ‘Pender Harbour Whale Station’ brochure promised “At Pender Harbour you will see one large whale perform at intervals upon the command of its trainer. In adjoining pens, you will see scientists studying the behaviour, intelligence and sensory systems of other specimens.” For 40 days after its opening on August 1, 1968, the display reportedly attracted 10,000 visitors.

innocence for Pender Harbour’s whale hunting industry.

Soon afterward things took an ugly turn.

**To be continued in the January 2008 Harbour Spiel.*

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Mary Alice LaFave

APRIL 24, 1922 - OCTOBER 19, 2007

Our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Mary LaFave, nee Taylor, of Ladysmith, B.C. passed on after a short illness.

She was predeceased by her husband and life partner of 60 years, Jack, in January of this year.

Jack and Mary led an active

and adventuresome life flying float planes and operating resorts in the Kamloops area and in the Yukon.

Mary leaves her four children, Cheryl, Warren, Harold and Debra, as well as 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren who will treasure many wonderful memories of her.

Both Mary and Jack were born in Vancouver.

They are together once more in peace.

A memorial will be held on October 27, in Chilliwack, at Edenbank.

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www.scrd.bc.ca

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

(604) 885-6800 (tel)

(604) 885-7909 (fax)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, December 6, 2007

- 1:30 pm Community Services Committee

Monday, December 10, 2007

- 9:30 am Budget

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

- 9:30 am Budget

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

- 9:30 am Budget

Thursday, December 13, 2007

- 1:30 pm Planning and Development Committee
- 7:30 pm Regular Board

DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Director John Rees 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) 883-9033 or by e-mail, jarees@dccnet.com.

Alternate Director Barrie Wilbee is now assisting Director Rees with Policing and Transportation issues and can be reached at (604) 883-2243.

PENDER HARBOUR LANDFILL (604-883-2954)

Winter Operating Hours

- Monday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
- Tuesday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm
- Wednesday to Saturday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
- Sundays — CLOSED all day

CHRISTMAS OPERATING HOURS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| • Christmas Eve-Mon. Dec.24 | Close: 3:30 |
| • Christmas Day-Tues. Dec 25 | Closed all day |
| • Boxing Day-Wed. Dec. 26 | Closed all day |
| • New Year's Eve-Mon. Dec. 31 | Close: 3:30 |
| • New Year's Day-Tues. Jan 1 | Closed all day |

For more information, visit:

http://www.scrd.bc.ca/infrastructure_solidwaste.html

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

The SCR D has a telephone system that features an automated attendant. Our main number 604-885-6800 provides access to all of our services or you can direct dial as per the following list:

Recreation Dept:	885-6801	Gibsons Firehall:	885-6870
Building Dept:	885-6803	Roberts Creek Firehall:	885-6871
Planning Dept:	885-6804	Sechelt Landfill:	885-6889
Mapping Dept:	885-6805	Transit Department:	885-6899
Animal Control. Officer:	885-6817	(including schedules)	
Bylaw Enforcement Officer:	885-6819	Infrastructure Department:	885-6806
Sunshine Coast (Sechelt) Arena:	885-6864	(including toilet replace program)	
Sechelt Aquatic Centre:	885-6865	Parks Department:	885-6802
Pender Harbour Pool:	885-6866	(including cemetery inquiries)	
Gibsons Pool:	885-6867		

We are in the process of redeveloping our website – stay tuned for more information!

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE

The SCR D offices will be closed from Tues. Dec. 25, 2007 to Tues. Jan. 1, 2008. The office will re-open at 8:30 a.m on January 2, 2008.

Seasons Greetings from the SCR D Board and Staff



*By John Rees
SCRD Director,
Area A*

Another year gone by and a suitable opportunity for

me to thank all those volunteers who give their time, effort and monetary contributions to keep this community progressing — your efforts don't go unnoticed.

Since I have been at the SCRD the one thing that stands out in my mind is the difference we make here, in the Pender Harbour/Egmont area, by rolling up our sleeves, digging deep into our pockets and generally giving a lot of our time to help make things happen.

There are way too many groups, organizations, boards, clubs, committees and individuals to separately identify here but you all do wonderful work and deserve a big thank you from the community.

Normally almost all improvement initiatives come from these various groups.

They have the vision, the energy, they do all the leg work and look for very little government support.

Part of my job is to monitor these efforts and try to provide as much of that support as is logically, and financially available.

I become involved to some degree whenever organizations receive local taxation or support at any level.

We sometimes take for granted the dedicated volunteer service by our fire departments, the boards and trustees that steer our harbour authority, our aquatic society, our clinic, our community school, the Library, the water trustees, the Bargain Barn (support for the health centre, the Egmont Heritage Centre, community police,

the Iris Griffith Centre, seniors' housing society, and those wonderful people who organize Harbourside Friendships for Seniors, the legion and its support groups and the environmental monitoring community.

We also have so many special event organizers and teams who work almost the entire year to continue our community traditions, had enough of retirement yet Monty?

Don't forget all our hard-working coaches, out there in all kinds of weather, teaching our kids.

The Area Planning Committee (APC) has another dozen volunteers working continuously on land use planning and is always the busiest APC on the Coast.

This past year we have some great examples of volunteer achievement in our extended community.

The fundraising required for our new fast response vessel was a great effort by the Coast Guard members and their foundation.

The local PAC group raised funds and completed a new playground facility at Madeira Park Elementary School.

The Pender Harbour Clinic and its auxiliary have raised almost enough money to retire the mortgage

for the new addition.

The Pender Harbour Community Club has completed a new waste system and some major structural improvements.

Finally 2007 will go on record as an amazing year for the Egmont Fire Department.

This very small community has clearly demonstrated what volunteerism is all about.

With help from the PHVFD and others, they are completing their training and firefighting capabilities — and they have even built their own fire hall.

Now, complete to lock-up, this 3500 square-foot facility has been built entirely by volunteers who have accomplished this huge task for a cost of \$28 per square-foot.

Can anyone out there remember when we had construction costs that low?

On behalf of the rest of the community, thanks to all our volunteers — your efforts and generosity is most appreciated.

Marlene and I wish you a very special Merry Christmas and let's not forget all the families of volunteers who also give so much.

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Gallery Shop hours: Tuesday - Saturday 11- 4pm



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Lights alright

by Jim Rutherford

Don't you love all those glossy gardening magazines that no one's got the time, money or a warehouse of supplies to copy?

I love made-up words.

"Patioscape" is all the rage.

The word is meaningless, but regardless, the look is great.

Simply regrouping your landscape pots on a deck or patio can get you in the holiday mood.

Perhaps retrieve, or replant as necessary, the containers where the annuals are now done.

Osmanthus heterophyllus also known as false holly (verigated) would be my choice in a one gallon pot to liven up a container for Christmas.

It sure looks like holly, but with-

out the very prickly leaves.

An evergreen rounded shrub up to three metres flowering from October to December with white, sweetly-scented flowers and purplish-black fruit — any soil, sun or shade.

Parpureus is the hardiest variety.

Skimmia japonica, a broadleaf evergreen, is a shrub that's always worth having.

In order to get a good crop of red berries, both male and female plants are needed and should be planted side by side.

Hand pollination can be done by removing a male flower head which is releasing pollen and brushing it over the female flowers.

The male flower heads are a little more advanced on the stem, while the female inflorescences are tucked a little lower in the flossy foliage.

Skimmia is especially tolerant of shady sites, but prefers rich slightly acid soil like bark mulch.

Awhile ago Curtis/Rona had some bright red railway lamps on sale.

For the season, perhaps place several leading up to your front door and spaced to accent the deck containers.

To feature some of your pots, cut branches can be added for height which gives you definition and depth

right away.

As I've mentioned before, Alpine huck, with its fine graceful branching, looks great.

You'll see it growing along the dump road.

At Garden Bay Road and Oyster Bay Road, much of the scrub is covered in gray-white lichen.

Cut into a garden pot, it just says winter. Further along on dry rock outcrops you'll also see lichen growing in sheets. Used like sphagnum moss as a soil cover, it will really accent red berries and variegated foliage.

"Roadsidia" is always free!

Last year, I mentioned bringing indoors some type of tree or shrub to be planted outdoors later rather than having a cut Christmas tree.

Dick and Lise Aylmer tried this with a four-foot Oregon pine much to the consternation of the nursery where they purchased it.

Two weeks indoors and now a lovely foundation plant in their garden for about the same cost of a shaped cut one.

A cornus (dogwood) florida could make a nice break from tradition.

The bare branches curve gracefully with interesting breaks.

To attach lights use raffia or red yarn so as not to scrape the bark and not too heavy on the Christmas brambles.

Water is the most important thing for these outdoor/indoor shrubs.

Those plastic "terra cotta" containers with a little oversized saucer are fine.

Your own ceramic container with a saucer inside, is fine as well, but the watering is hard to gauge.

Gardening

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- Power washing
- Help for existing gardens
- New landscape designs

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Area A Seniors' Housing Outreach Healthy Meal Program



• New 3 day menu delivered on Mondays

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped Anky carry out the meal service during my vacation. You're the greatest! — Linda

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

Pet promises and New Year's resolutions

By Carole Logtenberg

DOG PROMISES AND RESOLUTIONS

I promise not to drink water from the Christmas tree dish.

I promise not to eat chocolate or poinsettias making my human have to call the vet on Christmas morning.

I promise not to eat my new bone until it is out of the stocking and unwrapped.

I promise not to eat every single morsel of food my human relatives offer me.

The Christmas tree is not like the outside trees and I promise not to pee on it.

I promise not to get tangled in the Christmas lights when my human is trying to string them on the tree.

Santa Claus is a jolly old man and I promise not to bite him when he comes down the chimney.

I promise to wag my tail with enthusiasm when my human puts fake antlers on my head even though I feel like tucking my tail and hiding under the chair.

I resolve not put my chewed up toys on my human's underwear when they are sitting on the toilet.

I resolve to stop eating from the garbage can and throwing up on the rug.

I resolve to not place my head on

my human's lap while he is eating and drool down his pants.

CAT PROMISES AND RESOLUTIONS

I promise not to climb up the Christmas tree and make it fall over.

I promise not to swat at the Christmas ornaments causing them to fall and shatter on the floor.

I promise not to drink Santa's milk even though I think I deserve it more than he does.

I promise not to eat tinsel.

I promise not to block the television screen by sitting in front of it during my human's favorite part of her favorite Christmas special.

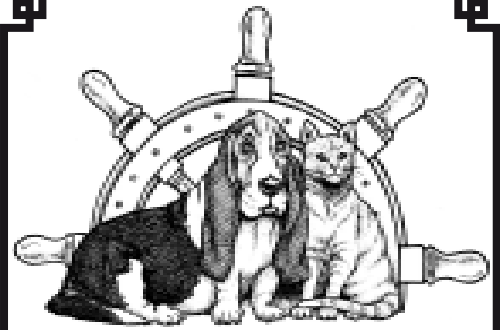
I promise not to hiss at my human's company and mischievously stare at them throughout the evening.

I resolve not to drink from the toilet.

I resolve not to lie on the keyboard when my human is trying to type.

I definitely resolve not to hit the delete key just when my human has finished her computer work.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Dr. Smalley, Kirsten, Doretta, Mardell, Carole, Alison and Hannah.



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SATURDAY

9 a.m. - Noon

Dr. Rick Smalley
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SOUND Pender Harbour & Waterworks District

**The board of trustees and staff
wish everyone a very
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

If a power outage results in no water at your home feel free to use our outside tap at the Water Board Office.

The tap is located on the right side of the building beside the Maintenance shop door.

Extreme weather conditions have been bringing us high winds, heavy rains and power outages.

As a safety precaution during these times, it is recommended that people with compromised immune systems, small children and the elderly boil their drinking water.

For more information contact the Water Board Office.

The Board of Trustees has been working closely with the Sunshine Coast Regional District to assure the amalgamation is finalized as soon as possible.

We thank you for your patience and understanding while the transfer is in progress.

**The Water Board Office is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
In case of emergency after hours please call 1-866-363-5949.
The Board generally meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.**

**The Water Board Office will be closed for
Christmas Holidays December 25th and will re-open December 31st.
If there is an emergency please call 1-866-363-5949.**

**9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mon-Fri. 12828 Lagoon Road
(604)883-2511 www.sphwd.ca**



Photo submitted

Marlayne Williams of the Medical Clinic accepts \$3,000 cheque from John Forward (r) of the Pender Harbour Lions and Rick Wagner of Lafarge - Earl Creek Division. Lafarge sponsored the Lions' Easter pancake breakfast allowing all money collected to go directly to the clinic.



Duane Burnett photo

Nell Boue (centre) is a Pender Harbour Credit Union member who won the \$5,000 prize from the coast wide VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP campaign that ran July 1 - September 30, 2007. She is flanked by Susan Knock (l), SCCU member service supervisor and Shelley McDade (r), SCCU chief operating officer.

Wishing All the Best During the Holiday Season.



– Staff & volunteers,
Pender Harbour &
District Health Centre

P. H. AQUATIC SOCIETY SPECIAL MEETING

TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 2007
7 P.M.
P.H.S.S, Room 107



John Rees (Area A SCRD Director),
Debbie Cole (PHA&FC Manager),
and the PHAS board members
will present plans, cost
estimates and funding options for
planned renovations to the P. H.
Aquatic & Fitness Centre.



The new soccer field at the Pender Harbour Lions' Park is starting to take shape. A rough grade is almost complete and soon crews will start applying sand and topsoil to make the field itself. The views of Mt. Daniel to the south and the Caren range to the north will ensure that the field will be one of the most scenic places to kick a ball around on the whole Coast.

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Here we go again!



By Barry Ashley

As I write, four days after the power lines came crashing down all over

the Harbour, things still aren't back to normal:

We've just had a call to a transformer on fire on Deller Road as the power came back on to parts of Garden Bay, so there's something wrong somewhere!

This freak weather could be coincidence, of course, or it could be the way things are increasingly going to be in the future — it all depends on your take on global warming.

Either way, after what we got tied up in when the lines came down, I make no apologies for writing again about the dangers of downed power lines.

A power line across the road might look harmless enough, but it's not safe unless the power has been disconnected and grounded — and ONLY Hydro can confirm that.

So the fire department's job when called out to downed power lines is to assume the wires are still live and keep everyone at least 30 feet away from them until Hydro appear and confirm they are disconnected and grounded.

Usually this will mean that we have to close the road. Sorry about that.

The reality is that, even if the wires are dead before Hydro appears, they can be re-energized by a homeowner's generator if it's incorrectly wired into his domestic circuit, starting up and back-feeding power into the lines.

That means that a line in contact

with the ground will immediately send out waves of electricity around the point of contact, up to a distance of 30 feet.

This is called "step potential."

If you happen to be standing within that circle, you get electrocuted.

In the recent storm, the number of downed lines was so big that we didn't get called to them all. So be aware that any downed power line that you may happen upon is potentially lethal and stay away from it until you hear from Hydro that it is safe — and impress this on the kids, please!

AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT

Now that winter is just around the corner, a few reminders of things to do to make sure that you're fire safe — think of it as "winterizing." if you like.

1. Make sure your smoke alarms are working.
2. Sweep your chimney.
3. Check your fire extinguisher, recharge/replace if necessary.
4. Clean the fluff out of your electric dryer vent pipe.
5. Make sure your house number is clearly visible from the road, in both directions.
6. Make sure access to your house is unobstructed - can a fire engine get down your track?
7. Does everyone in the house remember what to do in the event of a fire? Ask them!

TIME MARCHES ON

As the old saying goes, you can't keep a good man down.

That's certainly true in the case of Larry Curtiss.

In early 2003, I wrote that Larry had become the first Pender Harbour

firefighter to complete 30 years service, having joined the Madeira Park firehall on Nov. 7, 1972.

Well, five years have flown by and he's still serving his community as modestly as ever as an active firefighter!

In terms of the time, commitment and energy required, 35 years as an unpaid volunteer is a long time.

I'm sure Larry would agree that it brings its own rewards: Satisfaction in serving the community in a very special way, a special sense of camaraderie with your fellow firefighters and a sense of pride in some of the rescues you have been involved in, to name but a few.

He probably feels a bit lonely these days as all his contemporaries have long gone (except Monty, but that's another story!), but still he turns out, dedicated as ever, an inspiration to us all.

Long may he continue to do so!



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Mother nature on the run

Dear Editor,

They called it the “Last Gold Rush.”

All the other fisheries had been steadily declining by the late 60s or early 70s, as I recall.

Japan was now a supreme manufacturing giant — money!

They were nuts about herring eggs so we geared up.

At the height of it, the buyers paid with a ruler. A stack of 50s tightly squished down and inch thick was “X” dollars.

The largest set in West Coast history was made, I believe, by a large seiner netting over \$4 million.

One set!

But like all great orgies, it tapered out — fish stocks faded and so did the markets.

Around Jimmyville (south end, Texada Island area), things got stranger every year.

Where once 75 to 150 boats could be counted on a given day (Sporters), it became five and 15 and then one or two or never any.

My old Stellar seas lions vanished and starving packs of Californias showed up.

Every year there have been fewer and fewer gulls and ducks.

Now there’s almost none.

The once squawking, chattering racket of the shoreside is now silent.

There’s no otters around, I don’t see any mink and damn few goons.

And the water is deep, green and clear.

Clear.

No more herring excrement — red and greasy on the evening tide-wash.

Global warming the culprit?

Nope.

We’ve been on a big reckless pisser and the inevitable hangover is settling in.

Our farming policies of our once magnificent and bountiful oceans have bordered on negligence.

So says me.

Peace,
Jimmy Dougan



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Advertisement

TO IMPLANT OR NOT TO IMPLANT - THAT’S THE QUESTION

Implants have been used in dentistry since 1965.

Over the last 20 years, implants have become part of standard dental care and have offered new treatment planning options.

Teeth that have been removed due to advanced decay or breaking can now have the missing root replaced with metal screw-like structures that are permanently imbedded into the jawbone, the bone regrows around this screw to form a solid immovable unit that can then have a crown attached to the base completing the implant. Implants do not decay and do not need root canal treatment.

As a result, implant restorations have a higher long-term survival rate and have the highest success rate of all the prosthetic options available today.

Implant dentistry is becoming the primary method for replacing missing teeth, rather than a last resort.

This exciting treatment offers patients a permanent solution to replacing missing teeth, from a single tooth to the whole dentition of a person now using dentures.

Implants supported dentures are

far superior to dentures that rely on adhesives to keep them in place.

Your general dentist knows your teeth best, they see you on a regular basis and can evaluate your need for treatment.

A general dentist has undergone an advanced, extended supervised training program to qualify to place implants.

The Sunshine Coast Dental Group, Dr. Robert Hynd and Dr. Lisa Virkela are pleased to announce that Madeira Park will not be left out of this implant revolution.

Coming in 2008 our dental office will be offering patients the opportunity to have implant treatment done here at our office in the Pender Harbour Health Centre.

Please feel free to drop by or call for more information if you are interested in dental implants.

As always we welcome new patients and our helpful friendly staff is on hand Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm to book your appointment with one of our dentists or with our hygienist Linda Williams.

Our phone number is 604-883-2997.

Madeira Park Dental Office
(604)883-2997

It was the “Daffy Down Dilly”!



Back Row:

1 Oliver Dubois, 2 Bob Lee, 3 Albert Edwardson, 4 John Dames, 5 Len Dubois, 6 Wilbur Edwardson, 7 Mrs. Huston, 8 ??
Wray

Second Row:

9 Bert Gooldrup, 10 Vera Edwardson, 11 Tiffy Wray, 12 Jack Gooldrup, 13 Gertie Edwardson, 14 Nancy Lee, 15 ?? ??

Front Row:

16 Louise ??, 17 Violet Dubois, 18 Muriel Cameron (Wray), 19 Jean Gooldrup

Thanks to Violet and her brother Ben Dubois for filling in the blanks from this photo printed in the October 2007 issue.

There was more than missing information.

It turns out that the school wasn't Maple School at Donnelly's Landing but the new school at Irvine's Landing

which made it Mrs. Huston, not Mrs. Harper.

The photo was taken in 1930 after a Christmas concert called the “Daffy Down Dilly”.

The “Daffy Down Dilly” was actually held in the Irvines Landing Hotel.

“Everybody in Pender was

there.” says Violet Dubois, who was nine years old when the photo was taken.

All that Violet could recall about the missing two names is that #16, Louise, had just moved here and “cried a lot” and #15 was partly Chinese and had two brothers.

When is it time to give up the car keys?

By S. Ross Hastings

The Sunshine Coast is among Canada's most popular destinations for retirees seeking the ideal location for their twilight years.

Here, retirees now account for 30 per cent of the population, a figure which is growing.

After 82-year-old pilot Peter Garrison died awhile ago when he crashed his plane into a Richmond apartment building, it seems timely to take a closer look at the problems associated with driving and age.

Like so many other things in life, complaining about elderly drivers is easy to do.

I hear about it often – the frustration of driving to Langdale, running late to catch the ferry, and finding oneself the ninth or tenth car in a chain of bumper-to-bumper vehicles dragging behind the yacht-sized Town Car coasting along at 30 Ks below the limit.

But what about the question of

safety – both the safety of the aged driver and other road users?

At any parking lot on the Coast you can witness elderly drivers as they negotiate the difficulties of operating the door handle and gaining entry to the vehicle while struggling to remain upright when the walking cane leaves the ground as they lower themselves into the driver seat.

I'm not talking about officially disabled drivers – these are simply very elderly people who have considerable difficulty even standing, sitting down or opening a car-door unaided, yet presumably still feel confident enough to continue driving.

This may seem a rather cruel observation, but it is a factual one – and not a rarity.

While driving on the Coast, my safety and that of my wife has been placed in danger numerous times by the dangerous driving decisions of elderly drivers — one occasion was an incident that almost became a four-car pileup.

So when is it time to hang up the car-keys for good?

The aftermath of Peter Garrison's plane crash in Vancouver is relatively benign when compared to the 10 deaths caused last year in California when an elderly man, later convicted for vehicular manslaughter, crashed his vehicle into a crowded market.

Statistically, the very young still have the edge over the very old when it comes to bad driving records, due mainly to lack of experience behind the wheel.

Most retired drivers are experienced enough to adjust their driving habits to compensate for diminishing faculties – hence the tendency to slow down a fair bit.

The statistical likelihood (per kilometre driven) of being in an accident does increase with age, even exceeding the risks associated with teenage drivers once 85 is reached.

However, serious injury for the older driver in such an accident is more likely than with younger drivers.

Recent American studies have shown that crashes are the number-one cause of injury-related death for those aged 65 to 75.

Factors such as Alzheimer's, arthritis and multiple medications combine to affect driving judgment in ways not always obvious to the driver himself.

Psychogeriatrician Dr. I.D. Ferguson recently produced a report targeting the problems associated with elderly driving in Ontario.

Ferguson's findings confirmed the increase of accident likelihood after 75, and the significantly increased chance of such an accident resulting in the death of the driver.

By 2028, Ontario will have fewer than 2.5 million drivers of age 56 and older.

The Bargain Barn Thrift Store, Madeira Park

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DECEMBER 12, 14, 15, 2007
10:30—3:30**

The Auxiliary to the Health Centre wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a very happy and healthy new year. Thank you for your donations and thank you to all our customers for making this our best sales year!

**THE STORE WILL BE CLOSED FROM
DECEMBER 16 TO JANUARY 12,
REOPENING WED. JANUARY 16, 2008**

**Please do not leave any donated items
at the store during this time.
We will be happy to receive them after
January 16, 2008. Thank you**

**The Bargain Barn
NEEDS volunteers
Call Janet at
604-883-9330 or
jmthomas@dccnet.com
if you can help**

Even more worrying, an estimated 130,000 of these will be sufferers of dementia.

Dr. Ferguson's findings on dementia and driving suggest that only one in four drivers diagnosed with dementia actually stop driving — indeed, they tend to continue driving for around four years after the initial onset of symptoms despite being considered two to five times more likely to cause an accident.

General age factors such as deteriorating sight, slowing reaction time/reflexive response, decreased mobility and difficulties in making decisions based on multiple simultaneous sources of information and stimuli also conspire to increase the likelihood of collision.

Common indicators that age-related factors are impacting driving ability include:

- Merging or changing lanes without looking;
- Trouble staying in the lane;
- Turning from the wrong lane;
- Stopping at a green light;
- Stopping when there is no sign to stop;
- Stopping in the middle of intersections;
- Mistaking the gas pedal for the brake pedal;
- Finding traffic signs and signals confusing;
- Running stop signs or red lights without realizing it;
- Hitting or nearly hitting cars, people or objects without realizing it; and
- Getting lost in familiar places

Some drivers self-assess themselves and voluntarily retire from life behind the wheel — sometimes aging drivers unnecessarily choose to stop driving despite every positive indica-

tion that their driving skills are unimpaired.

Others gradually reassess the conditions under which they feel safe to drive, perhaps driving only during the day, or when traffic is light, or only on short, familiar journeys.

However, the opposite situation is all too common, those who overestimate their abilities or fail to recognize indicators such as those listed above, prompting interventions by family or loved ones.

Approaching the aged about their driving is inherently difficult.

The ability to be mobile, to get from place to place without relying on assistance from others, is symbolic of freedom and independence.

Studies indicate that the removal of the driving privilege can be linked to the onset of mental health problems in the elderly.

Attempts to persuade aged parents or relatives to relinquish this life-long freedom are likely to be met with resistance, particularly if the subject of our concern fails to recognize the

warning signs.

Concern is most commonly manifested in attempts to persuade the elderly person to seek consultation from a doctor in the hope that the doctor will persuade them to give up driving for good — effectively transferring the burden of regulating potentially dangerous driving to the medical profession.

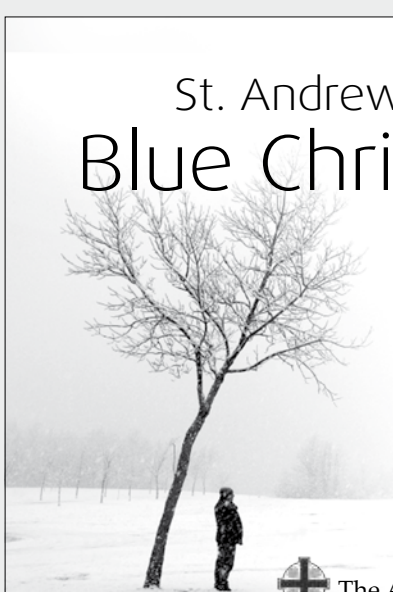
Indeed, BC's main failsafe seems to be the ICBC regulated medical exam, which (according to the ICBC website) is only mandatory once the age of 80 is reached, and even then is completed only once every two years.

As a nation, we have grown older, and will continue to do so.

As a community we have a dual responsibility to provide the care and support our parents and grandparents need to enjoy safe, healthy retirement, whether behind the wheel or elsewhere — and to challenge and seek continued improvement in the laws and policies which protect everyone's well-being.

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

Blue Christmas Service



Sunday, December 16, 3:00 pm

For some the Christmas season brings sadness instead of joy.

You're not alone.

Join us for prayer, scripture readings and music. Let God's presence shine light into your darkness. Experience the wonder and hope of Christmas.

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Alcoholics Anonymous meets Monday and Wednesday evenings – Everyone welcome.
Our board room is available for health related meetings or seminars. Please book in advance.

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

Health Centre hires part-time administrator, plans public meeting

by PHHC Board of Trustees

RECENT EVENTS

At the end of October Nurse/Manager Judi Georgetti informed the board that she was taking an extended leave and that it would start immediately.

Given the short notice the board, staff, and members of the community have been working extended hours and have taken on additional duties to ensure that programs and services provided at the health centre are not interrupted.

The board is pleased to announce that we have been fortunate to obtain the services of Rick MacDonald as a temporary, part time administrator who will assume the administrative duties of the nurse/manager position in the temporary absence of Ms. Georgetti.

Rick will also be providing advice to the board regarding process matters and human resources policies.

Rick is a seasoned administrator and manager and has a long, successful, history of helping organizations.

Rick started work on November 22nd and is staying with us as long as required.

Rick's family has owned property in the area for more than 50 years so he has longstanding connections to Pender Harbour.

Welcome Rick!

We have also been able to obtain the services of registered nurses on a part-time and casual basis.

Not only will the addition of these individuals help us by ensuring we have adequate staff available at all times but they will also help us to expand the services that are offered at

the health centre.

In response to public inquiries over the recent events, the PHHC Board will be holding a special public meeting to address the concerns of the community.

A date, location and agenda will be set at the Nov. 27 board meeting to ensure the required 14-day notice period has been provided.

THE STORM

What a way to start the winter!

Once again a serious windstorm hit the Pender Harbour area and did considerable damage to property and power lines before it left us.

Unfortunately our facility suffered some damage when a tree fell on one of the outbuildings.

The board would like to thank Jack Dennis and his assistant who went beyond the call of duty to ensure that not only were the generators running 24 hours a day to prevent expensive medical supplies from being damaged, but also quickly secured the damaged shed and, with the help of Don White, removed the tree from the roof so that it would not suffer further damage.

MOBILE NURSE

Nancy MacKay RN was seen boarding a fishing boat during the height of the storm to travel to the opposite side of the Harbour to get to patients who required care.

Well done Nancy and many thanks to the operator of the fishing boat for delivering you safely!

If the operator would like to drop by, we would like to provide him or her with a free flu shot.

The board also thanks Linda Sz-

abados RN for her efforts to provide nursing services and home care visits after the storm and Rose Doepel and Merilee Martell for the extra support they have given to the health centre and its clients.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

For those who don't already know, contact has been made with Bill Elsner, Emergency Program Co-ordinator of the SCRD.

He is facilitating a meeting of emergency response organizations for the Pender Harbour area on November 27, 2007.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST NOW AT THE CENTRE

The PHHC Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Dr. Valerie Whiffen, Registered Psychologist, is providing clinical psychology services at the centre.

Dr. Whiffen received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Simon Fraser University in 1986 and she has 20 years' experience as a researcher, professor, and psychotherapist.

She will be treating individuals for depression and couples with relationship problems.

She recently gave a presentation at the centre about her book "A Secret Sadness: The Hidden Relationship Patterns that make Women Depressed".

Since 2007 she has made Pender Harbour her permanent home.

The staff and board of the Pender Harbour Health Centre wish you a joyful, safe holiday with family and friends.

HARBOUR SEALS



Free and easy! Approvals or disapprovals!

Send to: editor@harbourpiel.com. You must include your full name and a telephone number for confirmation.

A huge Harbour Seal of Approval along with gratitude to **all my friends and family** who made exiting my thirties a surprising and wonderful experience. I am so lucky to have you all in my life and will never forget it.

Carrie Hillhouse

An immense Harbour Seal of Approval to all the **considerate, generous, community minded people** who supported the Frozen Seafood Fund-raiser for the Pender Harbour Grade 12 Graduates and the Senior Boys Basketball Team.

Julie Law

A Harbour Seal of Approval and a huge thank you to the **Legion staff**

and all the volunteers who helped so much with this year's Poppy Campaign. Couldn't do it without you.

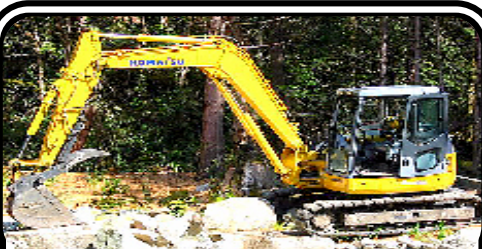
Pat Wood
Chairman, Poppy Fund

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Dr. Rick Smalley and staff**. Your care and compassion was much appreciated.

Pat Wood

A Harbour Seal of Approval and a big thank you to **everyone who has baked for the community club** monthly bake sale as well as to those who sent in cash donations.

Muriel Cameron



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HARBOUR SEALS

A Harbour Seal of Approval to all Sylvia's friends and associates with special thanks to the **Pender Harbour Garden Club, P. H. Health Centre Auxiliary, P. H. Choir and Prudential Sussex** staff for their outstanding efforts to make her celebration of life a truly unforgettable occasion.

Glenn, Ron, Gord
and Malcolm Tietjen

A Harbour Seal of kudos to **Frank Gough and his son and Ray Kraft** for their time and effort in clearing the trees and debris along Claydon Road. Much appreciated, I'm sure, by all the neighbours.

Joey Kraft

The Pender Harbour Legion, Branch #112 would like to give their appreciation to **Troy Callewaert (IGA)** for personally supplying the donuts for the children who turn out each year for our Remembrance Day Service.

Lilian Beharrell

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Ray Kraft** for helping Al with our fallen trees and **Joey Kraft** for her delicious cake and to **Helen, Dave and Maggie (Diggins)** for their support during our week without power, phone or cable.

Al & Helen Reimer

PICTURE

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Generators are the key to power outage comfort



By Alan Stewart

Storm season is upon us and after seeing a line up of jerrycans at the Petro-Can after the windstorm and power outage in mid-November, it was clear to me that I wasn't the only one ill-prepared.

Although we added a 2500W Honda generator to our arsenal of appliances last year (which has saved us hundreds in potential food losses), I always wish I was *more* ready for this regular seasonal inconvenience.

Although day one is always a treat for us with the family able to hang out together without interruption from the TV or telephone, by the end of day two, the novelty of switching the generator between the fridge and the freezer, taking cold showers, and reading by candle light has worn off.

Unlike me, there are those who

seem totally unaffected by the storms — the guy whose house is lit up like a Christmas tree while the rest of the neighbourhood is shrouded in darkness.

How does he do it? It turns out that with the help of a good electrician, you can make life relatively easy!

What's required is to connect a suitable generator to the household wiring in a way that is safe and convenient.

With a manual or automatic transfer switch a qualified electrician can route the electricity from either the municipal power supply or the generator to the vital circuits.

The transfer switch is critical to prevent sending power back into the lines which can be fatal to hydro crews working on the lines!

A standby generator on an automatic transfer switch will start up seamlessly when the power goes out

— even if you're not home.

More advanced units running on propane or diesel can operate for long periods of time without interruption.

Portable gas generators do an admirable job but need to be refueled and pull started every couple of hours.

To calculate the size of generator you'll need, start by total the wattage of the lights and appliances on the circuits you'd like to power.

For those homes that are serviced by a community septic system, be sure to include the circuit for the pump chamber and if you have a deep well pump, check with your plumber as to how much wattage is needed to deliver sufficient water.

I've done some preliminary research and it turns out that a basic system to run your fridge, stove, TV, and some lights throughout the house will cost in the range of \$4,000 installed, while a serious system to run everything in the house including the hot tub can run as much as \$15,000.

Don't cheap out on the generator, — the heart of the system.

Inexpensive generators are notorious for not firing up when you need them.

Stick with quality name brands like Honda and Yamaha which are both available through dealers here on the coast.

It may seem like a large investment but if you're ever thinking of selling, it's one that will pay off in the long run.

Stay warm!

To offer suggestions for future real estate related column topics, e-mail alan@sunshinecoasthomes.com

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Penderdise found

Dear Editor,

Knuckles white from stress, my hands unclenched the steering wheel.

I had just driven home through sheer madness. City madness!

Many of us have done this, experienced this, and hated it.

That night, I asked my wife Lorraine, "Is there a better life?"

Her answer came as a question. She did not ask, "How?" or "Can we?"

She asked, "Why not?"

Unbeknownst to us, the grand adventure of our lives had begun.

Soon however, dreaded reality set in.

We both had careers and pensions that said, "Stay... survive."

Fortunately, her question prevailed.

I recalled a country road that my oldest friend and I had cycled, motivated by the promise of libation.

The beer was cold, but it was the view — a small, protected harbour, sailing boats, skiffs, azure sky and emerald trees.

The next time I sat in that quaint pub, my wife was with me.

It had not changed. No cars, no concrete.

Reality's muse grew faint as the question grew stronger.

Penderdise had to be earned. We would earn it.

We bought a piece of property overlooking heaven, with silver harbour below and unpolluted horizon.

At night, cruise ships coasted past while the Wolf's Tail swished stars across the sky.

We met our neighbours and friendships grew.

We adapted from the pace of the city to the soul of the country; from

stress filled malls to an IGA where an elderly person politely counseled,

"If you shop on seniors' day, then you have to be patient."

We were the only two cars in the parking lot!

We took Wallace Stevens' advice, "Perhaps the truth depends on a walk around the lake."

We walked, planned and debated, did our math and said our prayers.

Then, we leaped.

We found an exceptional contractor and with a handshake, our dream manifest.

We stood in the dark on the road, flapping like country loons as the truck carrying our log home rumbled past.

On our last ferry trip from the city, we threw our old keys into the ocean — the final commitment.

That was seven years ago.

We are grateful every day for the adventure that is our lives.

Friends visit and many have moved here.

We now know the secret trails

to the lake, from where the big winds come and which deer sired which fawn.

We watch Halloween fireworks put on by the volunteer fire department and the yellow biplane saying good night to the summer sunsets.

While relaxing with cherished neighbours, deer join us and together we wait for the evening stars.

We no longer survive... we flourish.

Madeira Park is the heart of Pender Harbour and for us, Garden Bay is its soul.

Urban refugees ask, "How did you ever accomplish what you did?"

The ones who understand "Why not" get it.

The ones that don't... won't.

Best of luck to Mario Lowther & Sharlyne Niemela who get it!

Roy Dimond

In response to 'Goodbye Vancouver!' (Harbour Spiel, November 2007)



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Merry Christmas!

We now have KENO and a drop-off for the Elves Club Food Bank

THE DAYS

BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 02 - Diane Lee, Ray Phillips, and Al Wood.

Dec. 03 - Paula Campbell, Mike Pickering and Joanne McQuaig.

Dec. 05 - Gaye Beardmore, Andrea Curtiss and Andy Curtiss.

Dec. 06 - Ryan McDonald and Bill Reid.

Dec. 07 - Dianne Rousseau, Dan Gifford, and Jennifer Reid.

Dec. 08 - Keenan Clerx

Dec. 09 - Michelle Beardmore and Robert Purdy.

Dec. 10 - Cody Edwardson, Trevor Jones and Cathy Thompson.

Dec. 11 - Bill Griffith, Pete Belair, Patti Reid and Al Wendland.

Dec. 12 - Malcolm Duncan and Pat Martin.

Dec. 15 - Kay Langsford.

Dec. 16 - Cassandra Whelan.

Dec. 17 - Ian Campbell and Joi Phillips.

Dec. 18 - Niki Verzuh

Dec. 19 - Tony Adamson, Tyson Carswell, Helen Garrett and Jamie Bouvette.

Dec. 20 - Lil Beharrell, Nicole Fletcher and Tyler Silvey.

Dec. 21 - Harvey Langton, Robert Wilkinson and Josh Young.

Dec. 22 - Dani Thompson. Steven Fouts, Rob Nieuwenhuis, Gwyneth Bryant and Christine West.

Dec. 23 - Kate Thompson.

Dec. 24 - Tatiana Phillips-Campbell, Chris Phillips and Clifford Silvey Jr.

Dec. 25 - Peter Schmidt.

Dec. 26 - Peter Fritz.

Dec. 28 - Steve Boyd and Jeff Girard.

Dec. 29 - Diane Gamble.

Dec. 30 - Dean Bosch (Dean Bosch Contracting), Bryan Edwardson, Andy Ross and Jean Mimch.

Dec. 31 - John Brimacombe, Fara Priest and Scott Bruce.

DECEMBER WEATHER

MERRY ISLAND

Our average daily high temperature in December is 6.5 C and our average daily low is 3.2 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 4.9 C. The highest December temperature recorded is 13.3 C (Dec. 14, 1962.) and the lowest was -11.7 C (Dec. 28, 1968).

December has an average of 54.9 hours of bright sunshine. It usually has 19 days with measurable precipitation, an average monthly rainfall of 140.1 mm and an average monthly snowfall of 10.6 cm. Our average month-end snowfall is 4 cm. December has the highest snowfall of the year (November has the most rain). The highest December daily rainfall recorded at Merry Island was 66 mm (Dec. 25, 1972). The record daily snowfall was 40.6 cm (Dec. 31, 1968).

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HARBOUR ALMANAC

OF DECEMBER

KWANZAA

Kwanzaa (or Kwaanza) is a week-long Pan-African festival primarily honoring African-American heritage.

It is observed from December 26 to January 1 each year, almost exclusively in the United States of America. Kwanzaa consists of seven days of celebration, featuring activities such as candle-lighting and pouring of libations, and culminating in a feast and gift-giving.

It was created by Ron Karenga and first celebrated from December 26, 1966 to January 1, 1967. Karenga calls Kwanzaa the African American branch of "first fruits" celebrations of classical African cultures.

It is unclear how many people celebrate the holiday.

According to a marketing survey conducted by the National Retail Foundation in 2004, Kwanzaa is celebrated by 1.6% of all Americans (about 13% of all African-Americans), or about 4.7 million.

In a 2006 speech, Karenga asserted that 28 million people celebrate Kwanzaa. He has always maintained it is celebrated all over the world.

Lee D. Baker puts the number at 12 million.

[source: wikipedia.org]

DECEMBER ASTROLOGY

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 21)

Sagittarians love excitement and adventure. They are easily bored but often trend-setters. They are bold and impulsive, natural explorers who thrive on change and mental stimulation. Sagittarians are usually the naked ones in the hot tub.

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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2 Avocados

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2# BC Carrots

1 BC Celery

1 Cucumber

1 Bulb of BC Garlic

1 BC Red Leaf Lettuce

4 BC Red Onions

1# BC Rainbow Sweet Bell Peppers

4# BC White Potatoes

1 bunch Spinach

4 BC Tomatoes

**This is a recent sample order of the Large Family bin. We deliver to Pender Harbour and Garden Bay every Wednesday. We would like to expand into Egmont if we have enough interest. We deliver the freshest, top quality organic fruits and vegetables, right to your door.*

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTORY

• Alcoholics Anonymous (Thurs. @ 7 p.m.)	883-2882
• Aquatic Centre Society	883-2612
• Blues Society	883-2642
• Bridge Club	883-2633
• Canadian Cancer Society.....	883-9708
• Chamber of Commerce.....	883-2531
• Christ the Redeemer Church.....	883-1371
• Coast Guard Auxiliary, Unit 61	883-2572
• Community Choir.....	883-2283
• Community Club, Egmont	883-9206
• Community Club, Pender Harbour	883-2151
• Community Policing.....	883-2026
• Community School Society	883-2826
• Egmont Volunteer Fire Department.....	883-0012
• GRIPS (Recycling Society)	883-1165
• Garden Bay Sailing Club.....	883-2689
• Gardening Club	883-0295
• Golf Club	883-9541
• Guides, Brownies, etc.	883-2819
• Harbour Artists.....	883-2807
• Harbourside Friendships (seniors, Thur. 10:30 -1 p.m.).....	883-2764
• Health Centre Society	883-2764
• Health Centre Auxiliary.....	883-0522
• Hepatitis C Connection.....	883-0010
• Iris Griffiths Centre	883-9201
• Ladies Auxiliary to Legion Branch 112 (1st Thurs. @ 1:30)	883-9173
• Lions Club, Egmont.....	883-9463
• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Wed).....	883-1361
• Music Society	883-2689
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:30 pm Tues).....	883-2307
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.).....	883-3662
• Power & Sail Squad (2nd Wed. Legion).....	883-2103
• Red Balloon Parent & Tot drop-in.....	885-5881
• Reading Centre Society	883-2983
• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub)	883-1350
• Royal Cdn Legion 112	883-0055
• Skookumchuck Heritage Society (Egmont Heritage Centre).....	883-9994
• St. Andrew's Anglican Church	883-9927
• St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed. @ 1 p.m. Sept-June)	883-1174
• Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.).....	883-9883
• Suncoast Players	883-9277
• Volunteer Fire Dept (Tues. evening)	883-9270
• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
• Women's Cancer Support	883-9708
• Women's Connection (2nd & 4th Tue.)	883-2454

~ ORGANIZATIONS ~

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

Women's Connection is having their Christmas Buffet on Dec. 11 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Madeira Park. This will be turkey with all the trimmings and dessert, at \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. If you didn't get your tickets at the Nov. 27 gathering, you can still purchase them by calling Sue at (604) 883-9931 before Dec. 5. Our next gathering will be held in the New Year, Jan. 8, at the School of Music in Madeira Park.

ST. ANDREW'S SOUP & SONG

Every third Saturday join us for an informal get-together to share a bowl of soup and a variety of entertainment. It's Soup and Song in Madeira Park — just the event to brighten up dark winter nights! This month it takes place on Saturday, Dec. 15 at 5 p.m. at St. Andrew's Anglican Church on 12856 Harbour View Road, Madeira Park. For more information call 604-883-9927.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY AND POTLUCK DINNER

Sunday Dec. 9 from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Bring your favorite Christmas dish to share — salad, casserole, dessert — or if you don't cook, bring a non-perishable food item for the Food Bank. There will be arts and crafts for all ages, the community Christmas tree will be lit, and there's speculation that the guy in the red suit might drop by..... Call 883-2826, the P. H. Community School, for more information.

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE IRIS GRIFFITH CENTRE

On Sunday Dec. 16, from 3 p.m. come enjoy festive fun and live music from the Bear Bay Trio Band. No Admission fee. 15386 Hwy 101 Call (604) 883-9201 for more information.

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PENDER GOLF

Storm gives elk free round

By Jan Watson

STORM DAMAGE

Once again I was lucky and missed the big storm as I was in the U.K.

However I'm sorry to say we lost several trees and the elk fence was breached in four places.

The driving range also received damage to one of the net panels.

Thanks to our greens staff and volunteers the mess has been cleared up.

NEW GOLF CLUB EXECUTIVE

The Golf Club held its Annual General Meeting on October 20 and following are changes to the Board of Directors.

John Maveety remains as president for one more year.

Serving the second year of their two year terms are Bob Alexander, secretary/ membership and Jan Watson, pro shop.

Ian Grant, Vice President and Treasurer was re-elected for a second term.

Greens chairman Doug Vancise leaves the board after one term, he is

replaced by George Grout.

Kathy Needham was re-elected and will stay as house chairman.

Newly elected Merv Oleksyn will take over publicity.

Rusty Ellis remains as past president.

The new men's captain is Ron Needham and ladies captain is Jackie Grant.

AWARDS NIGHT

The Awards Night Banquet held on November 17 was once again a joint event between the men and the ladies.

A lovely roast beef and stuffed chicken dinner catered by Doug Davies was enjoyed by the members.

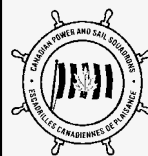
Trophies were presented by men's captain Ron Needham and ladies captain Gloria Wetmore to the various winners for the events held during the year.

With best wishes to everyone for a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy new year and here's to good weather and good golf for 2008 and who knows, maybe a hole in one!

FROM THE 19TH HOLE...

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft.

Today it's called golf.



Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron

Boating Course 2008

The boating course provides information and instruction on topics such as boating safety, operation, plotting and navigation.

The course also prepares an individual to write the Pleasure Craft operators Exam (PCOC) and the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron exam.

Those individuals who successfully complete the CPS Boating exam are entitled to one year's free membership in the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron.

REGISTRATION:

Monday, Jan. 7, 2008 at 19:00 hrs. at Pender Harbour Secondary School.

All twelve instructional classes will be held on Monday evenings from 19:00 hrs. to 21:00 hrs. starting Jan. 7.

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\$275/individual or
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If interested in taking this course, please contact Training Officer Eric Dodd, (604)883-0568

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Youth sports updates

SOCCER

Grade 11 student Tayler Metcalfe travelled to Florida with her U16 elite youth soccer team last month for the USL Super Y league North American finals.

Tayler's team, Mountain WFC, won the Pacific Northwest division beating out other elite teams from BC

and Washington to earn a spot in the 12-team final.

They were the only Canadian team competing and came in sixth place with a record of 1-1-1.

Janice Metcalfe, Tayler's mom, travelled with her and contends they were victims of Yankee meddling when they were placed in the "divi-

sion of death" on purpose, because "they didn't want the trophy heading north of the border."

Tayler also has been asked to train with the Whitecaps Prospects Academy at SFU this year which is the feeder program for Whitecaps Women's soccer.

In order to train with the program

PENDER HARBOUR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED US BY BUYING
RAFFLE TICKETS OR DONATING TO OUR FIREWORKS FUND.

Major donations were received from **STU EGGLETON** and **BILL LOUGHEED**.
You all helped to make this year's Halloween fireworks display another spectacular - and safe - success.

In particular, we want to recognize the great generosity of the following local businesses for donating fabulous prizes (names of prize-winners in brackets):

MADEIRA MARINA - 2.5 HP outboard motor (Nancy Heard)
WEST COAST OASIS - \$2,000 water garden (Greg Strauski)
HELEN'S SUPPLIERS - \$500 "romantic package" (Carol Fraser)
SUNSHINE COAST CREDIT UNION - \$400 gift certificate (Al Merrick)
OAK TREE MARKET - \$200 package (Doug Dybwad)
MARKETPLACE IGA, Madeira Park - \$200 gift certificate (Bob)
JOHN HENRY'S MARINA - \$200 fuel certificate (Kim Thomson)
SUNSHINECOASTHOMES.com - Sony Hi-Fi system (Stephanie Nichols)
RONA/CURTIS - cordless nailer (Alan Duncan)
PRUDENTIAL-SUSSEX REALTY - \$100 gas certificate (Loretta McDonald)
MOUNTAINVIEW SERVICE - \$100 gas certificate (Lori Reid)
MARINA PHARMACY - Timex heart-rate monitor (Terri Bosner)
COPPER SKY - gift certificate ((Fara Priest)
COAST VIDEO - gift certificate (Ellen McG)

A special mention to **RICK SMALLEY** and staff of Madeira Park Veterinary Hospital Ltd.,
for once again paying our \$500 insurance costs.

The following individuals/businesses kindly donated the refreshments that warmed you up and sustained you while you marvelled at the display:

STEVE WHYTE (Grimms) for the wieners, **DAVE PARSLEY** (Canada Bread) for the buns, **DAVID AND LOUISE TWENTYMAN** (Twentyman's Coffee) for the coffee, and **TROY CALLEWAERT** (Marketplace IGA #78, MP) for the hot chocolate.

BOB FIELDING, of Garden Bay Marine Services, kindly towed his barge and floats into position for us to use, **STU EGGLETON** let us use his trailer, and local **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY** members patrolled the waters while the display was going on - thanks, guys.

THE SUPPORT AND ENTHUSIASM THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE HAS ONCE AGAIN SHOWN FOR THIS EVENT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED BY YOUR FIRE-FIGHTERS, AND MOTIVATES THEM TO DO IT ALL AGAIN NEXT YEAR!

she is required to travel to Vancouver each Saturday and Monday to attend practices.

JUNIOR RUGBY

The junior rugby team, Grades 7, 8 and 9, played four games this season and won every one of them.

It's Pender junior rugby's first undefeated season ever.

Coach Michael "The Sinister Minister" Cyr had the team firing on all cylinders as they trounced Argyle from North Vancouver twice 15-14, and 29-5, and Whistler 20-12.

They recently rolled over Win-dermere in East Vancouver 26-5 to complete a record-breaking season.

Rugby is a huge sport at PHSS and they maintain a tradition of being the top rugby school on the Sunshine Coast.

TENNIS

Grade 9 student Madison Shoemaker was ranked number 1 in the province for Under 14 Girls last year.

This year she has been invited to attend the Saddlebrook Tennis Resort (WTA Headquarters) in Westly Chapel, Florida from Nov. 18 - Dec. 9 to train with the best.

Madison has recently advanced to the Under 16 category and is currently ranked Number 2 in the province.



photo submitted

After four games the Pender Harbour Secondary School junior boys/girls rugby team has ended the season undefeated at 4 and 0.

 Men's Over 30 Soccer League Standings through Nov. 18								
TEAM	GP	WON	LOST	TIE	GF	GA	PTS	
C.P.U	9	7	1	1	29	8	15	
Halfmoon Sea Kayaks	9	7	2	0	30	15	14	
Gibsons Pigs	9	6	3	0	25	16	12	
Gibsons United	8	4	2	2	22	24	10	
Pender Bananas	9	4	4	1	22	24	9	
Xenichen Wolves	9	1	6	2	26	37	4	
Sechelt Chiefs	8	1	6	1	11	22	3	
IGA Selects	9	1	7	1	14	35	3	

Nov. 4 Bananas 0 vs CPU 3
 Nov. 11 Bananas 1 vs Selects 4

Nov. 18 Bananas 4 vs Chiefs 0
 Nov. 25 Bananas 0 vs Pigs 0

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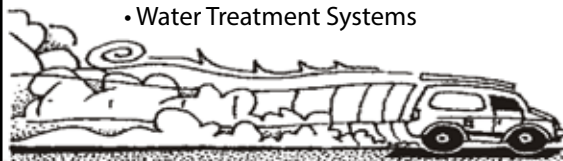


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Backyard rinks going the way of wooden hockey sticks



By Shane McCune

A gaggle of kids play shinny on a frozen pond, the still winter air dotted with clouds of breath and ringing with the clatter of sticks and skates.

It's a cherished image at this time of year, an icon of Christmas cards, calendars and ads. But it's a nostalgic image, as quaint as a horse-drawn sleigh.

In our clement corner of the world outdoor skating has always been a rare treat, with inch-thick ice as rare and fleeting as northern lights.

But in most parts of Canada, including the Toronto suburb where I spent my preteen years, hockey *al fresco* could be counted on from sometime in November or early December to the end of February or maybe even into March.

Next to my elementary school was a public rink where we actually played hockey during phys ed. It was almost like playing hooky; if you had a dime you could even have a hot chocolate.

You had to pay to skate there outside school hours, but half the houses in the neighbourhood had backyard rinks, so we'd race home every day, not wanting to waste a precious minute of the dying light. Often we wouldn't even make it home, waylaid by an invitation to play at a friend's house.

Does cold air hold more oxygen? It seemed the biting air fuelled us. There were no shifts, no benches, no whistles, but nobody

seemed to get tired.

We'd flail away until it was too dark to see the puck or we lost too many players to the increasingly insistent summons of dinner bells and whistles. (The second time I heard two long, then two short blasts of a whistle I knew my supper was in jeopardy.)

No two rinks were the same. Fathers could be as competitive with them as they were with their lawns, and of course kids could be cruel and cliquey.

There was an unspoken hierarchy, with the best rinks — smooth, snow-free and, most important, flat — reserved for the best players. Or at least the most popular.

There wasn't exactly a queue of stars jostling for ice time at my place. When my dad made a rink, which wasn't often, he did his best with hose and roller for a day or two, but he wasn't about to erect boards to correct the yard's slope. As a result the puck always slid to the bottom of the yard, and most plays

ended in a pileup by the fence.

The Maple Leaf Gardens of the neighbourhood, the backyard where the best players gathered, had no ice at all. Mr. Dryden paved his backyard so his sons, budding goalies Dave and Ken, could play ball hockey regardless of the weather.

I was too young to even think of showing up with my stick, which was a shame because I was a lousy skater and much preferred ball hockey. But my older brother remembers that Ken, who would have been in his early teens, would insist that any visitors take shots on him.

Nowadays the backyard rink has all but vanished from Toronto, Montreal, and even the southern Prairie cities, one of the lesser extinctions blamed on global warming.

Once the epitome of cheap recreation, the home rink is now a status symbol. For \$17,000 you can buy a 20-foot by 40-foot artificial rink with plastic pipes and a refrigeration unit. For the grander estate, an NHL-size sheet runs just under \$1 million.

It's a long way from Roch Carrier's "The Sweater."

But then, so am I.

I haven't donned skates in at least 25 years, and I'm more than happy to live where I can golf through the winter instead.

Still, the popularity of "Hockey Day in Canada" shows how much the idea of outdoor hockey appeals to Canadians.

It would be a pity if 10 or 20 years from now kids could only see it on a Christmas card.



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.

DECEMBER EVENTS

- Sat. Dec. 1.....Egmont Heritage Centre Christmas Gift Sale - Egmont Heritage Centre, 11 a.m.
 Sat. Dec. 1.....Terri Bosner's "Inside Out and Upside Down" Book Launch - Copper Sky Gallery, 2 p.m.
 Sun. Dec. 2.....Larrie Cook and the Bluesmasters - Garden Bay Pub
 Fri. Dec. 7.....Blue Voodoo - Grasshopper Pub
 Sat. Dec. 8.....An "It's Ours" Gala Celebration - P. H. Community Hall, 5:30 p.m.
 Sat. Dec. 8.....Christmas Cheer - Copper Sky Gallery and Cafe, 11 a.m.
 Sun. Dec. 9.....Community Christmas Party and Potluck Dinner - P. H. Community Hall, 4 p.m.
 Sun. Dec. 9.....Joe Stanton and the Precious Littles - Garden Bay Pub
 Tues Dec. 11.....P. H. Aquatic Society Special Meeting - PHSS, Room107, 7 p.m.
 Tues. Dec. 11.....Women's Connection Christmas Buffet - Royal Canadian Legion #112
 Sat. Dec. 15.....Madeira Market and Bake Sale - P. H. Community Hall, 11 a.m.
 Sat. Dec. 15.....Soup and Song - St. Andrew's Anglican Church, 5 p.m.
 Sun. Dec. 16.....Gaetan and the French Connection - Garden Bay Pub
 Sun. Dec. 16.....Iris Griffith Centre Christmas Party - Iris Griffith Centre, 3 p.m.
 Sun Dec. 16.....St. Andrew's Anglican Blue Christmas Service - St. Andrew's Church, 3 p.m.
 Tues Dec. 18.....White Christmas Family Fun Swim - P. H. Aquatic Centre, 6:30 p.m.
 Sun. Dec. 23.....Simon Paradis and Gut Bucket Thunder - Garden Bay Pub
 Fri. Dec. 28/29.....Trevor McDonald and DeGroot - Grasshopper Pub
 Sun. Dec. 30.....Verna Chan - Garden Bay Pub
 Mon. Dec. 31.....Apasionado - Garden Bay Pub
 Mon. Dec. 31.....Steel Toe Boots - Grasshopper Pub
 Mon Dec. 31.....3 Shades of Blue - Backeddy Pub

Due to a printer shut-down over the holidays, the submission deadline for the January issue of the Harbour Spiel is DECEMBER 13.

~: PLEASE BOOK YOUR AD EARLY TO INSURE PLACEMENT ~:

FERRY DEPARTURES

Effective September 4 - March 31, 2008

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.	10:00 a.m. (Mar. 21 & May 19)	10:25 a.m.	9:25 a.m.
11:00 a.m.	11:20 a.m.	12:30 p.m.	11:25 a.m.
12:20 p.m.	1:20 p.m.	4:25 p.m.	3:20 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	2:00 p.m. (May 15, 16 only)	6:25 p.m.	5:25 p.m.
3:00 p.m. (May 15, 16 only)	3:30 p.m.	8:20 p.m.	7:20 p.m.
4:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m. (Mar. 20 only)	10:10 p.m.	9:15 p.m.
5:00 p.m. (Mar. 20 only)	5:30 p.m.		
6:30 p.m.	7:25 p.m.		
8:20 p.m.	9:15 p.m.		
10:10 p.m. (Oct. 8 & May 19)	11:00 p.m. (Oct. 8 & May 19)		

Note: schedule differs slightly for Oct. 5 & 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 24 & 26, Jan. 1, March 21 & 24

♦ Daily except Dec. 25 & Jan. 1
 ○ Sept. 4, Mar. 21 & May 19 only

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Alan and Dave want to thank all their clients for their support. In return, they have faithfully supported the following GREAT local organizations & events over the past year: **May Day Family Fun Run, Garden Bay Show & Shine, Pender Harbour Rotary Club, the Royal Canadian Legion, PH Jazz Fest, PH Blues Fest, PH Chamber of Commerce, PH Music Society, Young Documentary Filmmaker, Katherine Rowlands' Concerts ("It's Ours" and "Back the Cat"), PH Fire Fighters' Annual Fireworks, PH Power & Sail Squadron, PH Chamber Music Festival, April Tools, The PH Fall Fair, and more.** At SunshineCoastHomes.com, we recognize the value of a vibrant, active and diverse community and we pledge to continue our support. Thanks again!

The Grasshopper family would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Merry Christmas!

**Come in and support the Vancouver Canucks.*

→ we're showing ALL REGULAR AND PPV GAMES

** Monday Night Football - \$3.75 BOTTLES OF BUD*

** Check out our DAILY DRINK SPECIALS*

** WINGS WEDNESDAY*

** Join us for AUTHENTIC INDIAN CUISINE every Thursday and*

→ wash it down with a \$3.75 Corona

** FILIPINO FOOD SPECIALS Every Tuesday*

THE
Grasshopper Pub
AT THE PENDER HARBOUR HOTEL

GRASSHOPPER

PUB

LIVE

ENTERTAINMENT

Dec. 7 - BLUEVOODOO

Dec. 28/29 - TREVOR McDONALD & DEGROOT

Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve with the STEEL TOE BOOTS

Prizes, drinks and laughs! Join us as we welcome Western Canada's hottest country band. Tickets are \$20 at the Harbour Liquor Store.

PENDER HARBOUR HOTEL

883-9013

Please
Seat
Yourself



BACKEDDY PUB

at Egmont Marina Resort

NEW YEAR'S EVE!

Come celebrate with 3 SHADES OF BLUE. Tickets are \$35 and includes a midnight snack and a champagne toast.

Don't wanna drive home? Call us about our special New Years eve rates on our accomodations! Book your tickets now as reservations are required

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!

Call us at.... 604-883-3614

JILL WAGNER

(604)740-7885

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GARDEN BAY PUB

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

SPECIALS

Prime Rib Saturdays

**Eggs Benny Sundays
(11 a.m. - 2 p.m.)**

**Monday Night Football:
All U Can Eat SPAGHETTI - \$10**

**Karaoke Wednesdays:
\$2.50 tacos & Corona special**

**Friday Meat Draws:
Proceeds to P. H. Dragon Boat Society**

Caesar's on special Sunday

**Molson Canadian Special:
All Canucks games**

NEW YEAR'S EVE!

**w/ Apasionado
(Randy Rayment &
Lori Charmichael)**

**DINNER • CHAMPAGNE
PARTY FAVOURS**

**Always sells out so get
your tickets now.**



SUNDAY JAMS

Dec. 2 - Larrie Cook & the Bluesmasters

Dec. 9 - Joe Stanton & the Precious Littles

Dec. 16 - Gaetan & the French Connection

Dec. 23 - Simon Paradis & Gut Bucket Thunder

Dec. 30 - Verna Chan

**Call now to book your
Christmas party**