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HARBOUR SPIEL

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NEXT ISSUE MAILS FEB. 26

EDITOR

Brian Lee.

CONTRIBUTORS

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(604) 883-0770 editor@harbourspiel.com www.harbourspiel.com

FDITORIAL

SCRD keeps pushing for the answer they want



By Brian Lee

It's clear people look to our local government for guidance on issues like the P. H. landfill

But from the first presentation in June, there was a whiff of an agenda in the air. The SCRD board and staff made subtle efforts to convince residents that maintaining a transfer station was the best option.

It might have worked too, if it wasn't so glaringly obvious that they were leaving stuff out.

One of the top local buzzwords of 2009, "leachate" was allowed to become the battle cry of the hysterical.

From the start, the presentations could have emphatically declared that there is no evidence of environmental hazard associated with leachate at the Pender Harbour landfill.

The 2008 Sperling Hansen report clearly states: "A review of the existing leachate treatment system, comprised of surface water diversion ditching, leachate collection piping and a leachate treatment wetland concluded that the system was functioning well."

If our local government wanted to, they might have pointed to another detail: "Overall the system should be able to cope with the western expansion and continue treating leachate at the present standard." They also could have directed staff to investigate funding models that would ensure a landfill expansion could be adequately paid for through grants or reallocations to the budget.

Instead, if Area A wants to maintain local control of waste, it's been threatened we're on our own.

Time was spent extolling the virtues of a gas recovery system in Sechelt with claimed benefits that would offset any GHG emissions caused by more garbage trucks on the highway.

But information might also have been presented regarding the significant health and environmental hazards caused by diesel particulates. But none came.

When asked, the manager for infrastructure services just said, "That's an air-quality issue and we haven't addressed that through our analysis."

If the board were so inclined, they might have also welcomed an opportunity to push for an innovative plan to reduce landfilling by recovering material before it gets buried.

Instead, it's been recommended that garbage be compacted to make trucking it to Sechelt more efficient.

Once compacted, there is no other option but to landfill it.

There has been no public mention of the SCRD's recent spanking by the province for a number of issues (including leachate management) at the Sechelt dump.

It's but one of many on a long list of problems at the site but none of these details ever made it into the public presentations because, one would assume, it might deter folks from supporting the plan to consolidate waste in Sechelt.

Not only does a regional government's attempt to encourage the outcome of a public process raise ethical concerns but, in this case, it calls into question the collective wisdom behind their motives.

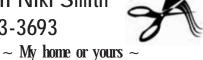
Even if, through trucking or resource recovery, our landfill never sees another piece of garbage, the SCRD board should see it as a vital long-term back up for the mess they're trying to clean up in Sechelt.

And if that's not enough, they should respect that it's what the majority of Area A — and many others on the Sunshine Coast — want.

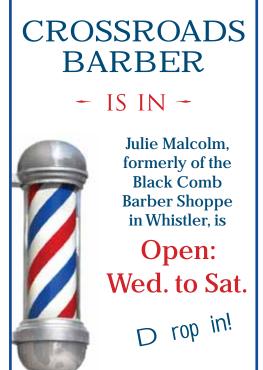
It ain't real if it's not in the Spiel.

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SPIFL PICKS

OLYMPIC TORCHBEARERS ARRIVAL - FEB. 4

Various locations starting @ 8:30 a.m. — The "Harbour Spirit Will Shine" as the residents of the rural communities surrounding Pender Harbour join together at two celebration locations to welcome the Olympic torchbearers. The organizing committee under the Pender Harbour Community School Society wishes to extend an invitation to everyone in Area A to "Share our Harbour's Spirit" with the world and the Olympic torchbearers.

Celebration one: The gathering starts outside Pender Secondary School. A welcoming archway made up of community members will line the highway on the school side of the road to Mountainview Service to cheer on the torchbearers. The Egmont firefighters will be on hand to assist with parking and school busing may start earlier that day.

Celebration two: The second torchbearer route will begin at Johnstone Road and then into Madeira Park where the Olympic torchbearers will be welcomed by the Pender Harbour Legion Pipe and Drum Band, sport and community groups, local businesses and residents. A welcoming presentation by Area A Regional Director Eric Graham will take place at approximately 9:05 a.m. School students, staff and community groups will add to the welcoming with handmade banners and musical instruments. A traditional logger's breakfast will be served by the P. H. Lions' Club at the P. H. Community Hall from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., with Canadian folk music performed by the PHSS band, the Pender Harbour Choir, children's choirs and other performers.

P. H. MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENT FORBIDDEN FLUTES - FEB. 14

Pender Harbour School of Music, 2 p.m. — Treat your Valentine to a special Sunday afternoon with two flutes, a piano and a diverse program of music including everything from Mozart and Piazzolla to "My Funny Valentine." Founded in Vancouver 10 years ago, Forbidden Flutes is a dynamic, classical crossover flute duo, whose playful ensemble explores everything from Latin and jazz originals to Cole Porter and Radiohead arrangements. Flautists Laura Barron and Liesa Norman are both classically trained and since 1998 have toured their eclectic music from Yukon to Florida. They released their recent CD, Take the L Train, to rave reviews in 2008.

ABBIE EVANS FUNDRAISER QUIZ NIGHT AND AUCTION - FEB. 27

P. H. Legion, 8 p.m. — Abbie Evans is a Madeira Park Elementary School student undergoing chemotherapy treatments for leukemia. On Saturday, Feb. 27 the MPES Parents Advisory Committee will host a quiz night at the Pender Harbour Legion to raise funds to help with costs associated with her Vancouver treatment. A silent auction of donated items will also take place throughout the evening.



Harbour Spiel

Third public presentation discussing landfill yields more debate



Over 24 people took the mike to ask questions or voice opinions while many more voiced theirs from the crowd.

To fill or not to fill was once again the topic of controversy at a public information meeting concerning the fate of the Pender Harbour Landfill on Jan. 19.

Over 100 people attended the meeting which started out with a familiar PowerPoint presentation by Dion Whyte, SCRD manager of infrastructure services.

It was the third time in eight months that Whyte has presented information pulled from a December 2008 report by Sperling Hansen Associates.

The consultant's report looked at two scenarios for expansion and two to maintain the site as a transfer station

A 508-name petition was presented by Howard White in favour of expanding the landfill site before 23 others took turns at the microphone to ask questions or to voice opinion.

Chair Donna Shugar was strict with the two-minute, 15-second time limit, leaving some speakers disappointed.

Proponents of the transfer station (closing the landfill portion of the Pender site) often pointed to perceived funding and environmental benefits gained by consolidating waste management at one location — the Sechelt Landfill.

Many who spoke in favour of maintaining a landfill in Pender Harbour underlined concerns about losing local control of waste management, perceived environmental hazards of trucking waste and current problems at the Sechelt landfill.

A decision with how to proceed will once again be discussed at the Feb. 11 infrastructure services committee meeting taking place at 10 a.m. in the SCRD board room in Wilson Creek.









As is usually the case, Egmont Road was hit the hardest by the windstorm that left the entire Sechelt Peninsula without power on Jan. 11.



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

BOOT CAMP:

PHSS gym, 6-7pm (Co-ed) **Mondays and Wednesdays** 4 Week Blocks: Feb 1-26, March 1-31

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

Instructor: Tonya Stephan

This program will help you build self-confidence, sculpt lean muscle and improve cardiovascular endurance and provide nutritional information. The group setting fosters encouragement, promotes teamwork and celebrates personal achievements.

FOR THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

Drop In: Adult: \$6.25 Senior: \$5.25 10 Tickets: Adult: \$56.25 Senior: \$47.25

HIP HOP AEROBICS:

MPES, Wednesdays, 6-6:50 p.m.

Instructor: Amy Perry

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

Active is what you make it! Join up now for our winter session of fitness programs.

MIX IT UP:

Beginner to moderate: MPES Mondays, 6:45-7:45 p.m. **Instructor: Amy Perry**

Moderate to intermediate: P.H. Community Hall, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:45-9:45 a.m. Instructor: Deb Cole/Aurelia Grimpard

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

FAB (50+) LADIES ONLY:

P. H. Community Hall,

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10-11 am Instructor: Deb Cole/Aurelia Grimpard

A 60-minute class involving a warm-up, cardio, strength conditioning and stretching. Weights, resistance bands, stability balls, medicine balls will be used for the strength portion.

TONE 'N' TIGHTEN:

MPES, Fridays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. **Instructor: Amy Perry**

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

MOVE STRONG, MOVE FIT (FOR SENIORS):

Christ the Redeemer Church Hall, Mondays & Fridays, 10-11 a.m. Jan. 22-March 29 (no class Feb. 5)

Instructor: Linda Goble

Reap the benefits of living with greater mobility, balance and strength in your everyday activities by attending this gentle fitness class. This group session will include a warmup, balance and agility games and exercises to strengthen the major muscles and core muscles. Must be able to get down on mats and be cleared by your physician before attending first class. Par Q and PARMed-X forms can be picked up at the P. H. Health Centre.

Visit www.scrd.ca under Services. To register (required for all programs), please e-mail phaquatic@scrd.ca or phone: (604) 885-6866

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SuCESS: New citizen group forms on the Sunshine Coast

The Sunshine Coastal Environmental Sustainability Society (SuCESS) announced their formation recently in response to a perceived lack of leadership and viable alternatives by the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) in the area of waste management.

The group started meeting in December to explore ways to provide alternative solutions for sustainability on the Sunshine Coast.

In a press release sent out on Jan. 18, executive director Peter MacKay announced:

"We have now formed a nonprofit society and hope to get participation from residents up and down the coast from Port Mellon to Egmont,"

The press release went on to say:

"SuCESS aims to foster and promote a co-operative, inclusive working relationship between local government and the various organizations striving to positively contribute to the many environmental concerns that face us all."

The group has declared support for the global 10:10 movement which aims to reduce carbon emissions by 10 per cent in 2010.

The society has also publicly expressed dissatisfaction with the leadership of the regional directors. claiming they defer to staff for input and do not seem to respond to the will of the people they represent.

The group states it intends to monitor regional government proceedings and provide performance reviews of directors and staff.

The group took part of their name from the Irish term "cess" which is commonly used as a shortened variant of assess.

It refers to "assessments, taxes and rates."

More information about SuCESS can be found on their website at www. sustainablecoast.ca.

Rotary sends earthquake relief to Haiti

The Rotary Club of Pender Harbour donated five "shelter boxes" to Haitian relief efforts last month following that country's devastating earthquake.

At a total cost of \$5,000 the five shelter boxes will each provide a tent, bedding, dehydrated food, water, water purification tablets, first aid kit, cooking utensils and a stove

The box itself will act as a container for water storage.

It will sustain 10 people for a month.

So far Rotary International has shipped over 700 shelter boxes with further funds coming in to ship several thousand more.

If anyone wants to help with funds to ship more shelter boxes, you may go to www.shelterbox.ca to contribute or contact John King, president of the Rotary Club of Pender Harbour at (604) 883-2544.

There is a great need for immediate shelter, water and food for the February 2010

millions of Haitians in need.

One hundred per cent of contributions goes to relief.

None is used for administration



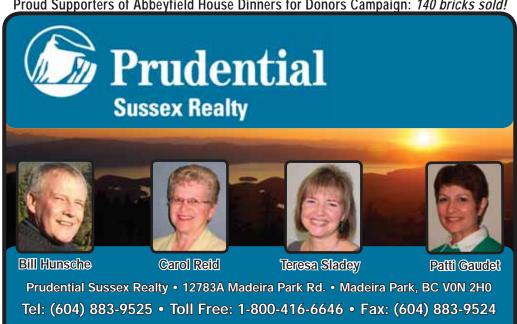
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Former Pender resident's brush with tragedy in Afghanistan

Patrick White, a former Pender Harbour resident and Winnipeg-based journalist with the Globe and Mail, escaped a brush with tragedy this past December.

White was approaching the end of a six-week stint covering the conflict in Afghanistan when Calgary Herald reporter Michelle Lang arrived at Kandahar airfield.

White's and Lang's visits overlapped by a week and the two got to know each other well.

White helped acclimatize Lang to her new post and then he left.

Not long after, White was at his parents' Francis Peninsula home when he got a call from a colleague in Kandahar.

Michelle Lang and four Canadian soldiers were killed when the Light Armoured Vehicle they were riding in struck an improvised explosive device.

That evening, White wrote a piece for the Globe and Mail about their brief acquaintance on his dad's computer.

He described the bride-to-be as far from reckless but someone whose journalistic integrity forced her to leave the base to find the real stories.

"The military really doesn't see any value in telling journalists the



Patrick White photo

'It would take a lot for me to head back there now.' Patrick White (I) poses with Canadian Press reporter Jonathan Montpetit at Kandahar Air Field.

absolute truth of what's going on," says White.

So Lang, like White before her, would often accompany military excursions into outlying villages to gain a first-hand account of the conflict and its affect on the Afghan people.

White's says his regular post —

covering items of national interest in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nunavut — doesn't provide him with much opportunity to cover breaking news.

"I play more of an aggregator role, watching everybody else and seeing what good national news comes out of the area," he says.

For two years, White waited for a



age 8 Harbour Spiel

chance to be sent overseas.

Word came last September that he was to be shipped out to Afghanistan.

Besides joining military operations and meeting and interviewing Afghan tribesmen, White says he even enjoyed the experience of living on Kandahar airfield.

"A lot of people hate KAF, the airfield, but I kind of found it a fascinating place where all these soldiers from all over the world — you had the United Arab Emirates, French, Italians, South Americans — are all stuck in this one place.

"Just watching how they interact and get along was kind of an interesting social experiment."

By the time he left, he was just becoming familiar with the system and had started to gain the trust of some key people.

White was keen to go back for a second tour but has since changed his mind.

He says it was common to hear the "ping-ping" of bullets striking the vehicle without consequence and he considered the armoured vehicles a safe and comfortable way to travel around.

"When you're sitting in these LAVs you got a couple of inches of armour on all sides, the big 43mm cannon on top of the thing and about six guys around you with huge rifles with grenades on them so you feel pretty damn safe," he says.

"It certainly shattered that illusion when I heard about Michelle."

White had travelled in the same LAV with the same four soldiers who died with Lang and says they'd passed over the spot where the blast occurred numerous times.

"It would take a lot for me to

head back there now," says White.

"I can't imagine stepping into a LAV again and if you can't go outside the wire there isn't much point in going."

White admits Lang's death was a factor in his decision but says the mission has become almost one of peace-keeping and there isn't a lot of news

worthy of reporting to justify the risk.

"It's a very slow methodical thing and is hard for a reporter to get an exciting story out of," says White.

"And it hasn't changed a hell of a lot in the last year or so — it's kind of like reporting on the Arctic."

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Gibsons Pender Harbour Sechelt

Don't Let the SCRD Take Away Our Rights!

Last June the SCRD mailed a survey to every household asking if we favoured keeping our landfill and 83% said yes.

The SCRD ignored this decisive result, saying some people thought the sample wasn't large enough and we weren't well enough informed, even though the response rate was above average and there had just been a well-attended information meeting.

In the first two weeks of January the Save the Landfill Committee canvassed over 300 households and obtained over 500 signatures supporting the landfill. It is the only time anybody actually went out and asked the people what they want. We found that opinion has not changed: 8 out of 10 residents still want the landfill to stay open. Most also want recycling to be improved.

Will the SCRD now respect the wishes of our area, or will they defiantly push ahead with landfill closure in the face of overwhelming opposition? Closure advocates are now dismissing our petition just as they dismissed the survey, but they are dead set against allowing any formal survey or referendum. Why, if they are so confident they are right? Let the people decide!

At the Jan. 19 meeting, SCRD chair Donna Shugar said the regional board does not have to do what the people of Area A want. This is a very dangerous new attitude on the part of the SCRD. Under its founding documents the board is required to respect the autonomy of the individual areas on matters within the areas. If we allow our right of self-determination to be denied on such a high profile issue as the landfill, we can expect to be similarly ignored on every other issue that matters to us.

The SCRD has ruled out a referendum because it would cost too much, but a referendum can be held for free at the regional election next year. The landfill can easily last until then. Will the board allow democracy to happen? We must stand up for the rights of Area A!

If you have not signed our petition, please do so now at Pender Harbour Diesel, John Henry's, Bathgate's Store, Coast Video, Rona, Off the Hook, the Grasshopper Pub, or mail the following to: **Save the Landfill, Box 219, Madeira Park, BC V0N 2H0.**

I respectfully request the SCRD decide in favour of keeping the Pender Harbour landfill in operation. Failing that, I request the issue be put to referendum.

Name: Signature:

Address:

You can also vote by emailing the above wording to: savethelandfill@gmail.com Keep up to date by checking our website at www.SaveTheLandfill.blogspot.com

Howard White for the Save the Landfill Committee

Paid advertisement

PHOTOJOURNAL - MADEIRA PARK LIGHTNING, JAN. 22



Approximately 40 girls in the Madeira Park Lightning running club showed off the results of their training to tackle a run from the Pender Harbour High School to Madeira Park. While some of the younger ones covered the distance in relay stages, many ran the entire five kilometres. A number of PHSS students also accompanied the girls to offer encouragement and supervision. Seen here are MPES student Grace Evans and her PHSS 'shadow' Mackenzie Stewart.



Students at the Madeira Park Elementary School came out to cheer on the athletes as they reached the school. Pictured in centre is organizer Paola Stewart, clearly happy with the day's results.



Firewood becoming harder to find... legally



photo submitted

This stump was left as evidence of illegal cutting on the Middlepoint Forest Service Road. A portion of the main trunk was gone and the remnants were covered by branches.

By Brian Lee

As the logging industry wanes, so too, it seems, does the plight of the weekend firewood cutter.

Where once downed trees could be harvested from just about any forest service road, the Ministry of Forests and Range has reduced the firewood cutting area on the Sechelt Peninsula to two roads near North Lake in Egmont.

Martin Plewak, a tenure technician with the ministry in Powell River says as logging operations are reduced or pushed further away from popula-

tion centres, opportunities for firewood harvesting have suffered.

"There's really not much logging happening compared to 15 years ago," says Plewak.

"There was always a surplus of wood left behind and that's just simply not the case anymore."

He says it has become a complicated issue with a number of factors at play including liability concerns by an industry that is becoming increasingly safety conscious.

Another factor is that MoFR doesn't control all Crown land forest operations anymore, citing the Sech-

elt Community Forest as an example where they can't interfere.

But Plewak says the main factor contributing to less access to firewood is the economic downturn which has produced a spike in the number of commercial wood harvesters hungry for exclusive licence to salvage any opportunities that come up.

Often they're after the postlogging scraps in nearby cutblocks but licences are also given for a variety of specific opportunities like downed trees and even wood left behind fromdeactivated bridges.

"There are licences still available for such things as windfalls on forest service roads," says Plewak.

"Someone can go and clean that stuff up but you need a permit."

Plewak says that local wood salvagers are so familiar with the forest system that they often apply to harvest an area before he can list it on the free-use permit system.

With the increased demand and reduced availability of firewood, the

Area A Seniors' Housing Outreach Healthy Meal Program

Donations gratefully accepted for Area "A" Seniors Housing Project (Abbeyfield House).

Tax receipts will be issued.

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

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illegal cutting of live trees is a growing problem, says Morris Potesta, compliance and enforcement officer for the Sunshine Coast forest area.

"We are aware of it. We were in the area yesterday and came across quite a few fresh cuttings," he says.

Suspiciously fresh stumps often appear along local forest roads but Potesta says a lot of the cutting that takes place is legal and it's hard to distinguish between the two.

"In a lot of cases they were dead standing danger trees where we've given out a permit for them to be removed."

Potesta says two MoFR employees on the Sunshine Coast patrol forest service roads but other demands limit their abilities to enforce all wood theft.

Plewak says people should ask

questions of firewood sellers before they buy.

"Generally what the buyer can do is ask for a licensed document," says Plewak.

"The sellers of the firewood should be able to produce a licensed document that will generally start with an A or a D. People should also have that number marked on the side of their pick-up trucks."

People should still ask questions of sellers who claim their wood is sourced from private land.

"Be wary of people who possibly sell firewood on the side of the road and say they just got it from their buddy's property.

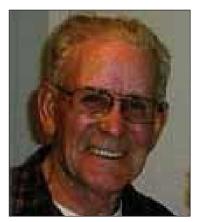
"Even then they should have some form of documentation whether it's a note or a letter."



photo submitted

How do you know if a tree has been illegally cut? A good clue is if there has been an attempt to hide the remnants with branches.

OBITUARY



Harry Robert Munro, born July 2, 1923 in Soningdale, Sask. died Jan. 14, 2010 at home in Madeira Park with family by his side.

He will be sadly missed by his loving wife Louise; children Ian (Lynne), Sheila, Brian (Christine) and Leisa (Roland); grandchildren; great grand children; sisters Darlene and February 2010

Harry Robert Munro

JULY 2, 1923 — JANUARY 14, 2010

Muriel and his niece Karin.

Harry loved the Sunshine Coast and being a "jack of all trades."

He secured a job in 1972 with the Sunshine Coast School District; a job he loved up to his retirement in 1987.

To this day, many of the former staff and students of Pender Harbour Secondary and Madeira Park Elementary remember him fondly.

He was an avid fisherman and "junk/treasure" collector — most of which would end up on his table at the monthly Pender Harbour Community markets.

He could talk for hours about his vast and worldly collection of rocks and stones, as anyone who visited his workshop could attest.

The family would like to thank

the many people that have given and offered support over the past few months, in particular Dr. Robinson, nurses and staff of the Pender Harbour Health Clinic and St. Mary's Hospital Emergency; Kathy, the home care nurse, for her understanding and gentleness; the ambulance and paramedic crews for their caring and compassion; to the pharmacists at Marina Pharmacy for making times so simple; to our friends and nurses Nancy, Linda and Patti for being there when needed and Cheryl whose graciousness and empathy will be forever remembered.

There will be no service by request and in lieu of flowers the family ask that you make a donation to your charity of choice.

Olympic torch is coming to Pender and so might the bus



By Eric Graham SCRD Director, Area A

PENDER HARBOUR LANDFILL

I would like to thank the ap-

proximately 120 people that attended the third town hall meeting at the community hall on Jan. 19. SCRD manager of sustainable services Dion Whyte gave a 40-minute power point presentation on either expanding the landfill or turning it into a transfer station.

If the transfer station is established and the compacted garbage collected in the bin, as it is now, it will be trucked approximately every six days down to the Sechelt Landfill.

In the long term, money would

be saved for the whole Coast because a grant given to the SCRD to capture half of the methane gas (a dangerous gas given off by rotting garbage) would be captured and burned off to create electricity to sell back to BC Hydro.

I think Dion did a great job explaining a very technical issue before it was opened up for questions and comments.

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT



1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A1 www.scrd.ca

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

(604) 885-6800 (tel)

(604) 885-7909 (fax)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Monday, February 8, 2010

• 9:30 a.m. Budget – Round 2

Tuesday, February 9, 2010• 9:30 a.m. Budget – Round 2

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

• 9:30 a.m. Budget – Round 2

Thursday, February 11, 2010

• 10:00 a.m. Infrastructure Services Committee

• 1:00 p.m. Planning and Development Committee

• 7:30 p.m. Regular Board

Friday, February 12, 2010

• 9:30 a.m. Budget – Round 2 **Thursday, February 18, 2010**

• 1:00 p.m. Community Services Committee

Thursday, February 25, 2010

• 1:00 p.m. Corporate and Administrative Services

Committee

• 7:30 p.m. Regular Board

DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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

AREA A ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

The next meeting of the Egmont/Pender Harbour Advisory Planning Commission is scheduled for:

7:00 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010 at the Pender Harbour High School, Room 107.

SATELLITE OFFICE - HOURS OF OPERATION

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

BYLAW ENFORCEMENT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The SCRD is considering the implementation of a new Bylaw enforcement ticketing system.

An information meeting and presentation will take place at the Madeira Park Legion meeting room the third week of February to provide more information on the proposed Bylaw Enforcement Notification System. Visit www.scrd.ca for more information. Exact date to be confirmed.

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At times it got a bit heated but Chair Donna Shugar kept it under control and most who attended understood the issue a bit better.

I would like to thank the other SCRD directors who attended to listen to the people of Area A.

This community is very passionate about this issue and whether one was for expansion or a transfer station, many residents have worked very hard at explaining their views.

The SCRD has now received two petitions — one for expansion (over 500 names) and one for the transfer station (over 300 names).

I have to respond to the petition presented to us that evening, wanting to keep the garbage at the present newly expanded site. There are six points in this petition, the first one states "there is nothing to prevent a future SCRD board from closing a transfer station and leaving us with a 40 km drive to dispose of waste."

I suppose they could be right but the B.C. government could force us to close the landfill too.

Point two, "the transfer station option would be bad for recycling in Area A because it locks us into long distance trucking of unsorted garbage." The garbage that is thrown in the metal container now is not sorted, it is trucked 100 metres and buried in our landfill now — how does that benefit recycling?

I cannot talk on behalf of the other directors but I have a problem with the credibility of these and other points in this petition.

I suspect that a lot of work was put into this petition and the majority that signed it probably really wants the garbage to stay here but I feel that if I didn't know the facts, I may have signed it and regretted it later.

Having said that, as your elected representative, I want to know what the majority in Area A wants — either to expand the present site or put in a transfer station.

At the Infrastructure Committee meeting on Feb. 11 at 10 a.m. I will be asking for the support of the other seven directors to do either a questionnaire mailed out to all taxpayers in Area A or a profession random telephone survey.

I think it is very important this community knows what the majority supports and I will support what the majority wishes when all eight directors have to decide about keeping the garbage here or trucking our garbage to the Sechelt landfill.

THE BUS

I have been working hard with a private contractor for them to operate the bus on a one-year pilot project running the bus two days a week between Egmont and Sechelt.

There is more work that has to be done but a decision should be made

soon. If an agreement is made, I will see the the information gets out to you via press and radio.

THE OLYMPIC TORCH IS COMING TO PENDER HARBOUR

On Feb. 4 the Olympic torch will arrive off the Earls Cove Ferry (8:30 a.m.) and travel by motorcade to the Pender Harbour High School by about 8:45 a.m. and runners will run/walk to the PetroCan.

It will then be motorcaded to the Pender Harbour Hotel (at about 8:55 a.m.). Runners will carry it down the highway and into Madeira Park to Lagoon Rd. and then through to Francis Peninsula Rd. where it will be motorcaded off to Sechelt.

The best two spots to be would be infront of the high school where there will be a "welcoming archway" made up of students in front of the P. H. Community Hall where the torch will be welcomed by the Harbour Legion Pipe and Drum Band, students, and sport or community groups.

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Don't touch me. Don't eat me.

By By Jim Rutherford (assisted by Nolan and Ellen)

We live in a temperate rainforest with micro-climates in locations like Kleindale that are more prone to freezing than, say, Garden Bay.

Our usually mild, wet weather discourages many poisonous plants that just can't take the wet winters.

Four distinct types of defences are used by the plant world: mechanical, chemical, phototoxic and mechanical-chemical.

Because of space, we'll just try to list a few plants, that you might run into locally.

MECHANICAL DEFENCES

Blackberries are the most common example of a species that dis-

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courages would be diners with painful points.

Some bamboo species have bristles, which break off and penetrate the skin.

All the spikes (pyrocantha) and thorns (roses) are not dangerous by themselves but wash up immediately to prevent infection.

CHEMICAL DEFENCES

Chemical defences are used by the largest group of plants.

Saps and juices are painful to most people, especially if the sap enters a cut or gets in your eyes.

Our best defence is gloves, long sleeves, pants that cover ankles and even protective glasses if you know you'll be handling plants whose sap is an irritant.

Euphorbias (spurges) get a special mention.

You can tell most euphorbias by pulling off a leaf. If a milky, white sap appears, that's the irritant and is toxic if ingested.

Don't fool around with monkshood (acontium) either. The plant looks like a lovely tall delphinium, with midnight blue flowers on tall stalks.
All parts of the plant are poisonous and can be fatal if ingested.

Don't grow it if you have children but deer won't bother this plant.

Other common plants with nasty saps are Calla lily, chrysanthemum, poison oak, marigold, poison hemlock, eastern poison ivy and tomato.

Many people get no reaction to these plants while others have a mild to severe reaction.

So, play it safe — wear gloves and transplant in a well-ventilated spot.

PHOTOTOXIC DEFENCES

Phototoxic defences are not as common but just as painful.

It's the juices of these plants that,



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HARBOUR GARDENING

when exposed to sunlight, can produce a noxious reaction.

Queen Anne's Lace is a favourite for cut flower arrangements. So rinse off the stems and arrange indoors.

Other offenders are angelica, celery, fennel, parsnip and rue.

MECHANICAL CHEMICAL DEFENCES

Mechanical chemical defences use two ways to get you.

Stinging nettle is the best example.

What look like hairs on the leaves are really soft, hollow thorns, ready to inject poison into the skin.

Stay clear of these nasty plants and use a long handled utility rake — and a lot of caution — to gather them up.

Now that everybody's scared to touch the pansies, the safe way to handle sap is to deal with any wound that would allow these irritants into the bloodstream — immediately.

Wash the affected area twice with soap and water. For any inflammation use hydrocortisone cream to calm the burning and itching.

If symptoms persist, go to the clinic pronto.

PRECAUTIONS

What we've mentioned so far are plant defences that can produce strong reactions in people and even be fatal if ingested.

Many more plants like marigolds produce only a mild reaction in people.

So if in doubt, check at the nursery by rubbing a leaf on the back of your hand before you buy a whole bunch of the plants.

So with some rotters in the plant world (and aren't there always some),

let's not let them spoil the whole picture.

P.S. Some folks who are sensitive to pollen might want to stay away from solidago (goldenrod).

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The bacteria thrive on food particles left on your teeth.

They convert sugar into acids that attack the tooth enamel, making it porous.

Eventually caries, or tooth decay, results when the porous area collapses, forming a cavity.

You may feel no discomfort at this stage but the decay does not stop with the hard outer enamel, it quickly eats its way into the soft interior of the tooth to the pulp, causing acute pain.

The bacteria that form plaque have another way of tormenting you.

If plaque is not carefully brushed away, it hardens to form a calcified deposit called calculus, or tartar, which may inflame the gums and make them pull away from the tooth.

As the gums recede, the underlying bone that anchors your teeth also recedes.

By this time your gums are red, swol-

len and bleed when you brush or floss.

Your dentist can help control this condition, but if not cared for, the tissue surrounding your teeth may become so damaged that your teeth actually fall out.

More teeth are lost this way than through tooth decay!

Your saliva provides a measure of protection from this double attack of bacteria.

Your saliva needs between 15 and 45 minutes to clear away food particles and neutralize the acid in the plaque on your teeth.

So the amount of damage done to your teeth may depend, not on the quantity of sugar you eat, but on the frequency of your meals and sugary snacks.

Since saliva flow is low while you sleep, one of the most destructive things you can do is eat or drink sugar laden snacks and then retire for the night without brushing your teeth.

If you would like to know more we are here Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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Francis Peninsula road needs improvements

The following letter was sent to Don Legault, Sunshine Coast area manager, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and was copied to the Harbour Spiel. (Portions have been edited for space.)

Dear Don,

I am a lifetime resident of Pender Harbour and I have a concern about the conditions of Francis Peninsula Road.

I have lived on Warnock Road for the last 15 years, and I drive along Francis Peninsula Road weekly, if not every day.

I always see people out enjoying themselves by taking a brisk walk along the Francis Peninsula Loop or by getting a good hour and a half of exercise by walking to Madeira Park and back.

My concern is the lack of any safe sidewalks along Francis Peninsula Road.

There are many dangerous blind corners with little or no safe walking distance between the road and the ditches and I am worried that it is just an accident waiting to happen.

Starting at Lagoon Road — which by the way has a very nice, new pedestrian and bike lane — you turn right onto Francis Peninsula Road.

Immediately, there is no safe walking area on either side of the

road, let alone any visible road maintenance.

It is covered with leaves and rocks that make it difficult for people to walk, ride bikes, longboard or ride their motorized scooters without going onto the main road.

After you cross the bridge, you come to a blind corner at Arthur Way. This is a very dangerous corner not only for pedestrians but for drivers.

The yellow line has been worn down and is difficult to see.

This corner is frequently crossed by drivers unfamiliar with the road. If there is someone using the side of the road, drivers are forced to move over to give them space.

In this situation, I think it is best to repaint the yellow line and remove the debris from each side of the road so people do not slip.

As you continue around to the next corner across from the pullout by the water, there is absolutely no safe walking area.

You must again cross the road to walk safely on the pullout. Another dangerous driving issue here is that during the rainy season a large puddle forms on the side opposite the pullout.

This next corner has been an issue for all the years that I have been using these roads. Locals call it Crosby's Corner, but I like to call it the Corner of Death.

The potholes on this corner have been filled in many times by loose gravel but vehicles continue to dig it up and then are forced to cross the yellow line in order to avoid hitting the potholes.

The next big hill that you approach is, in my opinion, the most dangerous part of Francis Peninsula, for both drivers and the pedestrians. There is a sign that warns about the lack of visibility but there is little, if any, safe walking distance on either side of this blind hill.

Although there is a ditch on both sides of the hill, I believe it is possible to make the side of the road safer by clearing road debris with a sweeper or truck equipped with a pressure washer.

After the blind hill, coming down towards east Warnock Road, there is another corner commonly crossed by drivers because the yellow line is blurred, and pedestrians have no choice but to walk on the road to avoid slipping into the ditch.

I am also concerned about the area where the road forks from Francis Peninsula onto Warnock Road. A tree blocks the visibility for vehicles travelling down Francis Peninsula towards Warnock Road.

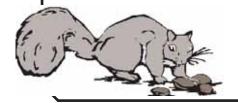
The tree in question is most likely on the property of the building beside the old Beaver Island store.

I understand that repaving the roads and erecting sidewalks would be costly and I am not saying that it should be done to all of Francis Peninsula Road but there are certain measures that must be taken to prevent the accidents that surely will occur because of the poor road conditions.

Natasha Kammerle Francis Peninsula

Something to Squirrel away?

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Page 18

Harbour Disposal's Zacharias weighs in on landfill

Dear Editor,

Area A is the largest area in the SCRD covering from Wood Bay, past Princess Louisa Inlet and includes Nelson and Hardy Islands.

It is, in large part, a tourist and cabin area and for half the year 50 per cent of the garbage in Harbour Disposal's commercial containers comes from boaters and campers.

We currently have a landfill for this vast area which has a natural protective liner.

It has three to four well test sites that get monitored at least twice a year.

So we know that we don't have a leachate problem.

We do know that the Sechelt landfill does.

It is on top of a mountain of good sandy gravel which is a valuable natural resource.

It also allows any liquids to run right through it; to Chapman Creek, for example, which is right beside the landfill.

This creek is the main water supply from Gibsons to Secret Cove with a hatchery and a swimming beach at the ocean edge.

So my question is, why would anybody in Area A want to truck our garbage to an inferior landfill that would then have an 18-year lifespan and no room for expansion when we have our own landfill that could be good for a 30 to 60 year lifespan?

Why would all the other areas on the Sunshine Coast want to reduce their landfill from a 24-year lifespan to 18 years, knowing that once you lose a landfill its hard to get another one?

If trucking it to the Sechelt landfill is planning for the future, then it's going to be an expensive one — sooner than later the trucking and barging to Cache Creek will cost three to four times that again.

It's my opinion that once you have a good landfill, keep it for as long as you can.

Mike Zacharias Kleindale

Griffin miffed

Dear Editor,

While reading the December issue of the Harbour Spiel, I found myself annoyed by your editorial and comments.

As the editor, it is your prerogative to speak your opinion in the editorial and I recall reading your opinions on the issues surrounding the Pender Harbour Landfill.

While I disagree with you (I support a transfer station), now you are discrediting a petition's validity.

Signing a petition is the public's way of voicing their opinion on issues and I take exception to a "reasonable grasp" or "blissfully ignorant" or being "coerced" into signing.

As I read further, I came to the photo from the Halloween Bash that was put on by the P. H. Blues Society.

While I liked the photo (I am the witch) your comment underneath the photo offended me (and I would think

others) "the fabulously attired and "hopelessly inebriated."

Was it necessary to categorize those that attended with a negative statement?

Yes, alcohol was served and

some folks may have been intoxicated but others were not and may have just been high on Halloween and the great music.

> Terry Griffin Ruby Lake



Money... and how to get it

By Rick Harmer, President, P. H. Chamber of Commerce

A question that is often heard — and not always answered satisfactorily — is "Where do I go for money for my new business venture?"

Very often conventional lenders aren't able to finance business startups, leaving a prospective entrepreneur asking what he or she can do to get their idea off the ground.

In April, the Pender Harbour and Egmont Chamber of Commerce will host an evening finance fair that we're calling "Live, Work, Stay."

The event will bring together those seeking money and those who have it.

Those seeking it will have put together a sound business plan, a web-

site (where applicable) and a dynamic five-minute presentation for the lenders/investors in attendance.

Entrepreneurs must be able to answer questions in a follow-up five minute Q&A session.

The panel of lenders will be made up of successful individuals, representatives from financial organizations like Community Futures and mortgage lenders and others who might be able to offer answers about how to go about acquiring financing for your business venture.

More details about the finance fair will be announced in the next issue of the Harbour Spiel.

Start doing your homework now for what may well be the most important evening in your business career.

For further information, you can



contact Rick Harmer, Pender Harbour Chamber of Commerce president, at (604) 883-3678.

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Take control of your future by creating a business plan

By Brian Lee

Part one in a series of articles intended to promote small business and self-employment.

Whether you're starting a new business or implementing a change to an existing one, it is generally agreed that creating a business plan is a sound first step.

A business plan is simply a written description of your business's future, identifying goals, obstacles and intended strategies to overcome them.

It could be dozens of pages long or a note scribbled on a napkin.

The important thing is to put your ideas to paper.

WHY A BUSINESS PLAN?

For any business, large or small, creating a business plan offers a valuable exercise in self-analysis.

Small-business people are often so absorbed by their daily struggle that opportunities and problems often go unnoticed.

Creating a business plan can help you focus in a logical and organized manner on how to achieve business goals while anticipating challenges that might get in the way.

Once created, it provides a solid reference to gauge progress and consider refinements while serving as a valuable presentation tool for potential lenders, investors or employees. What form your business plan takes will depend on the size, sophistication and type of your business as well as how your plan will be used.

An entrepreneur seeking capital from investors will likely spend more time putting together a thorough snapshot of their plan than someone who is refining theirs for internal purposes to better manage their business.

BUSINESS PLAN COMPONENTS

All business plans should contain three primary parts:

- 1. Business concept: Includes some discussion on the industry, your business structure, your particular product or service and how you plan to make your business a success.
- 2. Marketplace: Describe and analyze potential customers: who and where they are, what makes them buy and so on. Here you also describe the competition and how you'll position yourself to beat it.
- 3. Financial section: Contains your income and cash flow statement, balance sheet and other financial ratios, such as break-even analyses. This part may require help from your accountant and a good spreadsheet software program.

These basic sections can be further broken down into seven key components:

- Executive summary
- Business description

- Market strategies
- Competitive analysis
- Design and development plan
- Operation/management plan
- Financial factors

A business plan should also include a cover, title page and table of contents.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The executive summary briefly introduces the reader to your business.

It should include a description of your business (existing or proposed) with details such as name, product or service, location, market and competition, management expertise, principal ownership, legal form of operation, key personnel and history.

It should also highlight any significant achievements like patents, prototypes, awards or crucial contracts.

Identify your business goals — both short term (up to two years) and long term (over five years).

The summary should also include a description of your business's financial needs and offer a summary of earnings projections (and potential return to investors, if applicable.) It should include any current financial obligations.

Though it appears first, the executive summary is often written last.

(Continued in March issue.)



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Never ignore the call for a 'mental health day'



By Cheyenne Lightbourn

Sometimes we all work a little too hard.

Most of us have something that occupies us daily, like

school or work; something that fills up the day but can drain us.

Sometimes all we need is a little break from that thing.

A rest, no matter how brief, can restore us beyond measure and repair our crumbling motivation to make life a bit easier for us busy, silly humans.

A monotonous routine can be draining in itself.

It can be the tiny fissure in an otherwise bright and colourful, and seemingly solid world, that lets a minuscule trickle of driving motivation and excitement seep out, until slowly everything seems to become drab and mediocre.

Many of us ignore the desperate call for a "mental health day."



Happy 60th anniversary to Ted and Eileen Girard.

~ Love from your family



Either by choice or because it's hard to get a day off, most people will continue their routine and suppress the longing for a little break.

But, really, a little break is all these worn out workaholics and devout, but somewhat displeased, employees need.

I've found that sometimes taking care of needs before they get more complex and harder to remedy is a wise thing to do.

When you feel like you're going to crash and burn, if you're stressed, or if you've been wanting do something in particular for a while but haven't had the time, take a day off.

Devote it to your mental health and I guarantee it will benefit you in

the long run and you definitely won't regret it.

If you put off the things that make you happy you're bound to get sucked into a cycle of frustration and discontent — a dismal prospect and not the way anyone wants to live.

But it's your life, so make your well-being first priority.

It may be hard to believe sometimes, but if you're not happy, how can you do any good or make anyone else happy?

Look after yourself, then look after others and do as much good as you can do in the world.

And most importantly, take a mental health day once in a while.



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ALL DAY BREAKFAST SPECIALS ON SUNDAYS

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Exorcising your dog



By John Wade

Hi John,

We have a 10-month-old puppy and a seven-month-old granddaughter.

Our dog is very jealous of our granddaughter and shows aggressive behavior in the form of non-stop barking, jumping up and trying to nip her.

Cedric wants her toys, blankets and, most of all, our attention.

We have had to resort to putting him into his kennel because we are afraid he will hurt her.

He's been to puppy school and did not do well there. He is a wonderful little dog and we love him lots but he has bad habits like not coming when called (in fact he runs away from us) and we have almost lost him a couple of times.

He jumps and nips and can be aggressive with us too; he seems to be a very strong-willed dog.

We won't give him away so we have to find a way to make it work with our granddaughter and him.

Thanks, Betty

Hi Betty,

Normally I jump on a letter that involves a child-aggressive dog like a politician on a pay raise, particularly when the writer says something like "we won't give him away" as I believe in children first, dogs second.

I still believe that but this letter reeks not so much of bad dog as bad handling.

Simply put, your dog is ignoring your commands.



I have what I call "a rule of three" regarding the consequence part of teaching.

If the dog makes the same mistake three times in a row, then the consequence from the dog's perspective (and that's the only perspective that counts) wasn't a consequence and I need to massage it until it is.

You need to book an appointment with a trainer who believes in firm consequences for a pet's actions.

Depending what you mean by "quite aggressive with us too," I'd predict that if he doesn't get an attitude adjustment from someone that loves him, he could find himself in the "bone yard" before he's three — not because he's a victim of bad genetics or horrible abuse but because he's a victim of a lack of clarity.

You describe him as "strong willed." You need to be stronger willed. Those two words can be whit-

tled down to one word: parenting.

I bet at this point I could turn this dog around so fast you'd think I'd performed an exorcism but, in this case, the dog doesn't need the training so much as you do.

Without you learning the hows, the whys and the whens, after we parted company it wouldn't be long before one of Beelzebub's minions returned to retake possession of your dog, which is why you need to book with a balanced trainer.

My experience has been when you finally say, "No," in a manner the dog takes seriously, he will reply "Thank God! Mother, where have you been?" and maybe even "Please don't tell dad!"

Regards, John Wade

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



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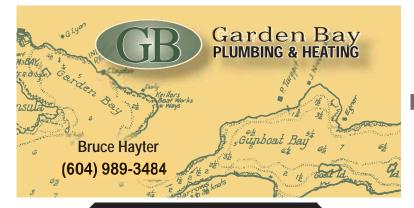
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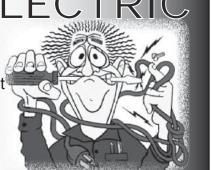
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ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTORY P. H. Aquatic Centre Society885-6866 • Blues Society883-2642 • Bridge Club883-2633 Chamber of Commerce, P. H. & Egmont......883-2531 Christ the Redeemer Church883-1355 Coast Guard Auxiliary, Unit 61883-2572 • Community Choir883-2283 • Community Club, Egmont883-9206 Community Club, Pender Harbour......741-5840 Community Policing883-2026 Community School Society883-2826 Egmont & District Volunteer Fire Department883-2555 GRIPS (Recycling Society)883-1165 Garden Bay Sailing Club......883-2689 Gardening Club883-0295 • P. H. Golf Club......883-9541 Guides, Brownies, etc......883-2819 Harbour Artists883-2807 Harbourside Friendships (Thur. 10:30 -1 p.m.)883-2764 Health Centre Society883-2764 Health Centre Auxiliary......883-0522 Hepatitis C Connection883-0010 InStitches (1st Monday, 11 a.m., PH Health Centre)...883-0748 Lions Club, Egmont......883-9463 Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Tues.).....883-1361 • P. H. Music Society (bookings)......883-9749 P. H. Paddling Society......883-3678 • Pender Harbour Choir (7:30 pm Tues)......883-9273 Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.)......883-9209 Power & Sail Squad (2nd Wed. Legion)......883-0444 Red Balloon Parent & Tot drop-in......885-5881 Reading Centre Society883-2983 Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub)883-1350 Royal Cdn Legion 112......883-2235 Skookumchuck Heritage Society......883-9994 St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed.,1:30 p.m.)883-2563 Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.).....883-9883 Serendipity Preschool883-2316 Suncoast Players883-9277 Sunshine Coast Community-based Victim Services ... 885-0322 TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)......883-3639 Volunteer Fire Dept (Wed. evening)......883-9270 Women's Cancer Support883-9708 • Women's Connection (2nd & 4th Tue.)883-9313 Women's Outreach Services......741-5246

ORGANIZATIONS

PENDER HARBOUR LIVING HERITAGE SOCIETY

The planning has begun for the ninth annual April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge and the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society is looking for help. If you are free on April 24 and would like to participate in putting on or participating in this annual fun start to spring or, if you have time in the next couple of months to help organize it, please call Richard or Jackie at (604) 883-0539.

INTERESTED IN FORMING A MUSHROOM SOCIETY?

Following up on the tremendous interest in the first annual Sunshine Coast Mushroom Fest, we'd like to form a "mushroom appreciation group." The inaugural meeting is set for Saturday, Feb. 27 at 3 p.m., at the Pender Harbour School of Music. Please come with ideas about how we can make this a fun and educational group. RSVP: (604) 883-3678 or dogscanplay@bluffhollow.ca.

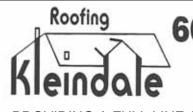
P. H. PADDLING SOCIETY

The Pender Harbour Paddling Society is hosting an open house for all those interested in dragon boating. Team Dragontini mixes competition and recreation paddling so there is something for everyone. The team is planning to attend two regattas this year. If you would like to join, please come to the P. H. Music School at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 21 to learn more.

P. H. WOMEN'S CONNECTION

Women's Connection will hold their own Olympics on Feb. 9. This will be geared to our group and we will have some great events from Ring Toss to Cross Word group competitions. On Feb. 23, Women's Connection will have their Olympic Award Ceremony along with a Finger Food Pot Luck. Both held at the School of Music, doors will open at 9:30 am and run from 10 till noon.





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Power and sail squad winds up 2009 with carol cruise and party

Submitted

The Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron wound up 2009 with two successful events.

The Christmas party took the form of a cocktail party at the Pender Harbour Legion with members bringing their signature dishes, making for a very enjoyable evening.

Next was the Carol Ship Cruise.

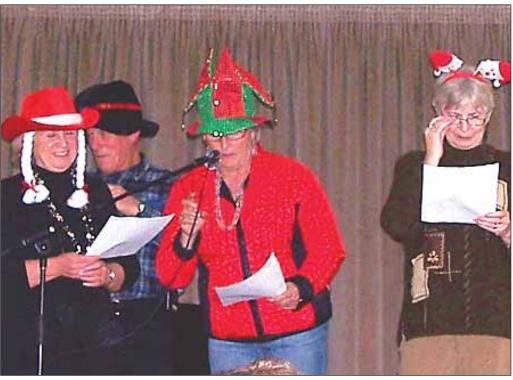
Since Bill and Wilma Thompson have retired from organizing this event after 46 very successful years, the Power Squadron decided to continue the tradition.

Charlie Park arranged for 13 boats to take part in an evening cruise of Pender Harbour.

The Harbour was treated to a spectacle of brightly decorated boats that visited the many nooks of Pender Harbour during the hour-long tour.

Afterwards, a good crowd of participants and spectators made up of the general public and squadron members gathered at the Pender Harbour School of Music to end a great evening with conviviality and carol singing.

Turning to more serious endeavours, the Power Squadron is once again offering its boating course this



Fay Wright photo

Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron Christmas Party carollers (I-r): Linda Pearson, Barry Ashley, Cathy Morrant, Heather Taylor

month and so far has one of the best responses in many years with 19 registered.

After successfully completing the course, students will receive their life-time Pleasure Craft Operator's Card (PCOC), the Power Squadron Boating Certificate and a one-year membership in the Pender Harbour Squadron.

Pender Harbour Power and Sail

Squadron meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the P. H. Legion in Madeira Park.

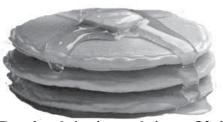
With a growing number of members attending, these are lively evenings, often with an entertaining and enlightening program afterwards.

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Pender Harbour Lions Club Free Pancake Breakfast

Thursday, Feb.4
P. H. Community Hall
8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Accepting donations for Abbie Evans, a Madeira Park Elementary School student who is battling leukemia.



Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre Winter 2010 Courses

Discovering the Healing Power Within Saturday, Feb. 6, 10 - 5 pm

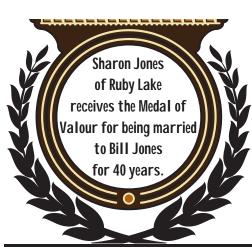
Pure Meditation Course *March 7 - 13*

Spiritual Parenting & Partnerships Workshop *March 16 – 18, evenings*

Animal Healing Course Saturday /Sunday March 20 - 21

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Happy Anniversary Sharon. Love, Bill

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HARBOUR SEALS



Free! APPROVALS or DISAPPROVALS!
Send to: editor@harbourspiel.com. Include your full name

and a telephone number for confirmation.

Please keep them short.

A Harbour Seal of Approval and a huge thank you to the **Coasters Car Club** for donating \$1,000 for the purchase of sports equipment for the Madeira Park Elementary School children. This will go a long way in encouraging this community's children to stay active and involved.

Megan Noel MPES PAC

Harbour Seals to Cheryl Jensen, Sheila Silvey, Mike, Sandra and Brandon Ewen, Tina, Sharon, Nancy Brindley and the many others who supported me and the family through my father's illness and passing — my sincerest thanks.

Sheila Munro.

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Neale and Scott Smith** for painting the inside of the Bargain Barn. It was not an easy job, but they tackled it and made it look wonderful. Thanks so much.

Janet Thomas P.H. Health Centre Auxiliary

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Mark at Harbour Disposal**. Thanks for coming back for us — you saved the day.

Anne Pino

A big fat, pregnant Harbour Seal of Approval to the **ambulance attendants** who assisted in getting me to the hospital emergency. I could never have expected such fine treatment.

Paul Holsinger

Page 30 Harbour Spiel



Alan Moberg photo collection

"This photo was taken at Edwardson's wharf in Sinclair Bay. That's a great shot of Cedric and Granny Reid's house in the background. My sister Lynda is the tanned kid in the bow. The others are summer visitors: my mother's brother at the outboard, Allan Willcox, with his wife and firstborn as well as my grandparents. By the way folks are dressed you can see that small boat was the main way to travel in those days. No roads here at this time."

~ Alan Moberg

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THE DAYS

BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 1 ~ Randy Rayment and Earl Donald **Stewart**

Feb. 2 ~ Mary Cochet, Jennifer Jones, Dootie Hille and Paola Stewart

Feb. 3 ~ Chloe Campbell

Feb. 5 ~ Rick Hartley and Roland Fritz

Feb. $6 \sim Lachlin Rand$

Feb. 9 ~ Joyce Garbers and Jackie Feb. 22 ~ Chelsea Scoular Crowell

Feb. 10 ~ Wendel Welander and Eddie **Smith**

Feb. 11 ~ Cody Pantages, Scott Smith and Chris Garbers

Feb. $12 \sim Ab \; Haddock$

Feb. 14 ~ Dolly Clayton, Steve Morton, Christine Fenn and Elsie Rennie

Feb. 15 ~ Shawna Lee Edwardson.

Feb. 16 ~ Irene Boyd and Betty Mc-

Feb. 17 ~ **Dot Farrell, Daniel Dore** and Jessica Munro

Feb. $18 \sim Dr$. Rick Smalley

Feb. 19 ~ **Don & Joan McDougall**

Feb. 21 ~ Ron Pratchett, Ryan Phillips,

Helen LeBlanc and Cathy Silvey

Feb. 23 ~ Evelyn Cumming and Donna

Campbell

Feb. 24 ~ **Debbie Rand**

Feb. 25 ~ Bruce Haines

Feb. 27 ~ Neale Smith and Rick Jones

Feb. 28 ~ Nolan Percival, Trevor Morin, Bob Walsh, Erin Fraser and

Sharlene Gamble

FFBRUARY WFATHER

TEMPERATURES, MERRY ISLAND

Our average February daily high temperature is 7.5 C; average low is 3.4 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 5.5 C. The highest February temperature recorded is 14.3 C (Feb. 27, 1986); the lowest is -10.1 C (Feb. 13, 1990).

PRECIPITATION, MERRY ISLAND

February should have about 85.7 hours of bright sunshine (the most since October), 16 days with measurable rainfall and one day with measurable snowfall. February should have a total rainfall of 97.9 mm and a total snowfall of 6.7 cm. The highest February daily rainfall recorded is 49 mm (Feb. 11, 1983); the highest February daily snowfall recorded is 22.9 cm (Feb. 15, 1983).



KERRY RAND 883-2154



Page 32 Harbour Spiel

HARBOUR ALMANAC

OF FEBRUARY

ECONOMICS 102: KEYNES vs FRIEDMAN

These days everybody's an economist. But most armchair Helmut Pastricks pull from the two giants of modern economic theory: British economist John Maynard Keynes and American economist Milton Friedman.

KEYNES

John Maynard Keynes was born in Britain in 1883

His contribution to economic theory was to further the idea that during adverse business cycles like a recession or a depression, government must step in to make powerful and strategic interventions.

In simple language, Keynes argued that, during an economic downturn, government should decrease taxes and increase government spending to stimulate the economy.

An enemy of the laissez-faire approach, he believed that skilled experts could design and fine-tune institutions to further general prosperity.

FRIEDMAN

Milton Friedman was born in the U.S. in 1912

He believed that if you leave the economy alone, it will eventually stabilize itself.

He suggested government should adopt a hands-off fiscal policy because private market interests are aligned with the public good.

A libertarian Republican who believed in legalizing marijuana, Friedman said government tampering with the U.S. Federal Reserve causes recession.

He advocated lowering taxes while also lowering government spending to let the economic machine achieve its own equilibrium.

FEBRUARY ASTROLOGY

AQUARIUS: JAN. 21 - FEB. 18

Aquarians are true humanitarians, possessing a deep social conscience. They are highly self-controlled, so they can appear cool and detached with a peppery aroma, a complex balance and a lingering tannic aftertaste.

PISCES: FEB. 19 - MAR. 19

Pisceans have a boundless imagination and a natural aptitude for acting. They are sympathetic, highly tolerant and incurable romantics. Pisceans are often religious or mystical. Of all the astrological signs, Pisces make the best lovers. Get with one.



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

Feb. 1 6:04 am +XL, 1:07 pm -M

Feb. 2 6:34 am +XL, 1:46 pm -L

Feb. 3 7:06 am +XL, 2:25 pm -L

Feb. 4 7:39 am +L, 3:05 pm -L

Feb. 5 8:17 am –M, 3:48 pm -L

Feb. 6 9:01 am +M, 4:40 pm -L

Feb. 7 9:52 am +M, 6:27 pm -M Feb. 8 7:16 am -S, 10:55 am +S

Feb. 9 8:33 am -S, 12:09 pm +S

Feb. 10 9:30 am -S, 1:22 pm +S

Feb. 11 10:17 am -M, 2:22 pm +S

Feb. 12 10:58 am -M, 3:11 pm +S Feb. 13 11:34 am -M, 3:55 pm +M

Feb. 14 12:05 pm -M, 4:38 pm +M

Feb. 15 12:30 pm -M, 5:20 pm +M

Feb. 16 12:49 pm -M, 6:03 pm +M Feb. 17 5:54 am +L, 1:08 pm -M

Feb. 17 5:54 am +L, 1:08 pm -M Feb. 18 6:23 am +L, 1:31 pm -M

Feb. 19 6:58 am +L, 1:58 pm -L

Feb. 20 7:37 am +M, 2:31 pm -L

Feb. 21 8:21 am +M, 3:14 pm -L

Feb. 22 9:15 am +M, 4:13 pm -L Feb. 23 10:19 am +S, 5:31 pm -L

Feb. 24 7:30 am -S, 11:34 am +S

Feb. 25 8:52 am -S, 12:52 pm +S

Feb. 26 9:47 am -S, 2:04 pm +M Feb. 27 10:33 am -M, 3:08 pm +

Feb. 27 10:33 am -M, 3:08 pm +M Feb. 28 11:14 am -M, 4:06 pm +M

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.

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2010 real estate assessments and the effect on property values



By Alan Stewart

It's the time of vear when realtors are inundated with questions about property assessments.

"Has my property value really dropped this much?"

"How come my property increased in value when my neighbours decreased?"

It's important to remember that while the BC Assessment Authority does all they can to reflect an accurate opinion of value, their assessments can fall a long way from the truth of the market.

Properties are assessed in July of the previous year and remember that July of 2009 wasn't exactly a banner time to be selling real estate on the Sunshine Coast

The assessors use current sales to help determine the values of neighbouring and comparable properties.

So, there is a good likelihood that even the most comprehensive assessments from the BC Assessment Authority may have rebounded somewhat with the more buoyant real estate market of 2010.

A good indicator of just how accurate (or inaccurate) the assessments are is lending institutions' willingness

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to lend based on them.

Local mortgage broker Clayton Carby of Dominion Lending suggests that "assessed values are just too erratic to be useful for the purpose of putting a realistic value on a property."

Carby's lenders either utilize the services of independent appraisers or use in-house appraisers to determine the fair market value of a property.

If the subject property has sold in recent years, it's reasonable that the assessor would use the selling price of the home adjusted for inflation or recessions to come to a value.

While in the past few years, an appraisal on a house would be considered valid by lenders for six to nine months, today's evaluations are only considered useful for a period of three to six — a reflection of the more unpredictable market conditions.

In BC, homeowners have the right to appeal their assessments.

While we haven't had many clients tell us that they are appealing their assessments because they think they are too high this year, we have had a few clients tell us that they were going to appeal the assessments of properties they have for sale, fearing a lower assessed value will impact a buyers opinion of value.

While buyers will accept a slight variation between assessed values and asking prices, a wide discrepancy between the two encourages lower offers and can impact a seller's chance of selling.

I would suggest that those properties that have been reassessed as a result of an appeal may be more in line with current market prices than those properties that have not transferred ownership for many years.

If you have are concerns about your assessment being unfair, you have until Feb. 1 to file an appeal.

Mark the date on your calendar for next year if you feel you are being unfairly treated.

You can complete the form online and find more information at http://www.bcassessment.bc.ca.

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

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Al Lloyd's 'Harbour Remembered' (Feb. 1996)

By Al Lloyd

"The time has come," the Walrus said,
"To talk of many things –
Of shoes, and ships, and sealing wax,
Of cabbages and kings."

~ Lewis Carroll

Which brings us to global warming and memories of cold winters past when the woodpile, of which you were so proud in September, shrank visibly.

It used to be cold enough to freeze the salt chuck, not only at the head but the Harbour itself.

Jim Phillips told of trying to get his wife Mary to the hospital for the imminent arrival of a baby. The ice was solid all over the bay and he well knew what ice could do to a wooden boat.

So what to do? Came inspiration and he got an old bucking saw and sawed out a passage through the ice. Mary and baby did fine.

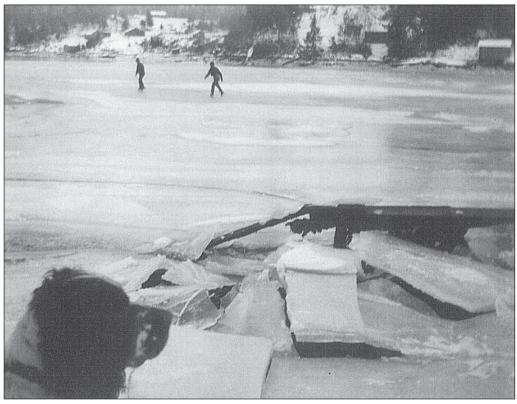
Norman Klein tells of skating from the head to the beer parlour in Garden Bay (he never said if he had any trouble skating home).

Sis Hassan of Hassan's Store, an accomplished skater, was cutting fancy figures and arabesques on the lake and had her picture on the front page of the local paper.

Daughter Diana and her friend Eleanor Remmen daringly disobeyed their parents and walked across Garden Bay from Lloyd Davis' float to the beer parlour float, very pleased with themselves and their dry feet.

Coming back from Vancouver one fine sunny winter day in a flying boat (you know, the kind of plane that lands on its hull rather than on floats), we swing into the Harbour and the water was calm as a sheet of glass.

We glided down, heading for the



Ed Wray photo collection

Whiskey Slough, December 1952.

stone float and as we landed came a great crash and clatter against the hull.

I looked at the pilot and he was as scared as I was (and I can tell you I was scared).

When gushes of water did not come through the thin aluminum hull and the clatter against it persisted, we realized that it was ice we had landed on, not water.

What a relief to get ashore and check my underwear.

The skating was fun for the bold ones and flying was scary for this

timid one, but the reality of cold winters was water.

Plastic pipe had not yet been invented and in so many places it was impossible to bury your galvanized pipe due to rocks. Chancy water sources made it impractical to have your tap running so frozen water lines were something many housewives just had to cope with.

Just imagine running your household without water — what would you do?

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AND ANOTHER THING...

'Love your neighbour; yet don't pull down your hedge.'

By Shane McCune



If Canadians take one lesson from the worldwide financial crash, let it be this: We should stop measuring ourselves against the U.S.

If you've noticed an eerie silence lately, it's the sound of the Fraser Institute,

the C.D. Howe Institute, the Conference Board of Canada and other corporate shills putting down their bongos and tiptoeing away from their anti-government, pro-Wall Street drum circle.

For years these guys have been hectoring Canadians to be more like Americans. Reduce taxes. Slash regulation. Get bureaucrats out of the way and let the magical "invisible hand" of the marketplace run things.

Even the non-partisan Dominion Institute fretted as recently as early 2008 that "Canada's status as a member of the G-7 is now being challenged."

Ah, what a difference a few months and a few trillion bailout bucks make. By the end of that year the World Economic Forum ranked Canada's banking system the healthiest in the world.

The U.S. ranked 40th.

Are our bankers smarter than theirs?

No, but our regulators are. They're a party-pooping, belt-and-suspenders bunch, who won't let the Bay Street boys play with matches and insist that they save at least half their allowance.

Turns out that being over-regulated saved our bacon. This might be a good time to look at some other Canadian complaints that arise from comparisons with the U.S.

WE'RE SOFT ON CRIME

Compared to the U.S., yes. But it has five per cent of the world's population and 25 per cent of its prisoners, with one in every 100 citizens behind bars. Minimum sentencing (a perennial Conservative hobbyhorse) and "three strikes" rules put U.S. prison costs at \$49 billion in 2007, compared with \$1.8 billion in Canada.

Sentences for serious crimes are mild here compared with the U.S., but harsher than those in many European countries. Yet we still have far less violent crime than the Americans. And of course, they're the only G-7 nation that still executes criminals, with no effect on their truly scary murder rate.

CANADIANS ARE TAXED TO DEATH

Even many lefties would concede that we're taxed more than Americans, but argue that we get much more for our money, notably medicare.

But in fact the tax burdens for average folk on either side of the 49th parallel aren't that different. A 2006 Library of Parliament study showed the average tax rate on a single, childless person earning \$40,000 a year was 25 per cent in Canada and 24 per cent in the U.S. That was about the mid-point among nine industrialized nations, with Japan at the low end (17 per cent) and Germany at the top (38 per cent).

A single parent of two making the same income was taxed at 14 per cent in Canada and 10 per cent in the U.S.

You have to make a lot of money before the differences become noticeable. A single, childless Canadian making \$150,000 a year had an average tax rate of 37 per cent, compared to 34 per cent for an American, although

\$100 increase in gross wages) were 46 per cent and 36 per cent, respectively.

In 1999 a Statistics Canada study concluded that only the top 20 per cent of U.S. workers had more take-home pay than their Canadian counterparts.

CBC VS PBS

State-funded national broadcasters are the norm, not the exception, around the world. Again, compared to the chump change PBS and NPR get, the \$1 billion Canada spends on the CBC seems like a lot. But it works

out to \$34 per capita per year, or less than a dime a day. That's less than half the average spent by the top 18 OECD countries.

They all cite the importance of mass media that preserve and nurture their culture— and none of them rubs up against a neighbour 10 times bigger, speaking the same language.

It doesn't hurt to look at how other folks live. We just shouldn't always look south.

Page 36 Harbour Spiel

Why is a golf course like a church?



By Jan Watson

Breakfast with Santa at the Clubhouse on Dec. 20 was a great success. The children

were all very ex-

cited to see Santa arrive in a golf cart as he'd had to land his sleigh on the fairway.

A free customer appreciation draw for a gift basket was won by Marilyn Goertsen.

CHRISTMAS SCRAMBLE AND **POTLUCK**

The annual Christmas Scramble and Potluck Dinner took place on Dec 27

Fewer than usual braved some very cold and foggy conditions.

We played temporary greens as the course had been frozen for a week or so

The winners were Rusty Ellis, Roberta Oleksyn, Kathy Bergman and Terry Cowan with 32.

FROM THE

19TH HOLE...

Playing golf is

the perfect thing

to do on Sunday

because you usu-

ally end up pray-

ing a lot.

Breathing down their necks were George Huey, Kirk Mackie and Jan Watson with 33.

Everyone had a good time and we decided to do another scramble on New Years Day.

What a great start to the year.

After a wild, wet and windy morning, 27 golfers headed out for the New Year's day

There was a little rain for the first hole but after that Mother Nature came through and we had a lovely sunny afternoon.

It was a very close battle as only



Santa Claus was a busy guy this year making an appearance at the P. H. Golf Course only five days before Christmas.

two points separated the seven teams.

Winners after retrogression were George Huev, Barb Nuttall, Helen Krantz and Kirk Mackie.

Runners up werer Peter Kenny, Lorraine Wareham and Jan Watson.

Both teams had 35.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Power carts must remain on the cart paths during the winter.
- Please repair your ball marks on the greens and divots on the fairways.
- If it's frosty, phone the Pro Shop as there might be time delays for tee off.
 - Memberships are available.



scramble.



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- Diabetes and Nutrition Counselling

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Dr. Robert Hynd, Dr. Lisa Virkela

Darlene Fowlie – Hygienist

- Braces Cosmetic Dentistry
- Restorative Dental Care Consulting
- Dentures Surgical Extractions

CHIROPRACTOR – 883-2764

Dr. Blake Alderson, DC

- Chiropractic care by appointment.
- Walk-in patients welcome after 3 p.m.
- Home visits available: (604) 885-5850

MASSAGE THERAPY – 883-9991

Brigit Garrett, RMT

• Please call to book an appointment.

PUBLIC HEALTH – 883-2764

Laura Brackett, RN, BSN

- Well Baby Clinic
- Child and Adult Immunizations
- **All travel immunizations done in Sechelt

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER - 883-2764 Kimberley MacDougall BA, MSN NP(F) SANE

• Women and Youth Health Services

FOOT CARE NURSE – 740-2890

Sharon Gilchrist-Reed LPN

- Foot care nursing
- Reflexology/Kinesiology

COUNSELLING SERVICES

Tim Hayward - Adult Mental Health - 883-2764 Karl Enright – Psychiatrist – 883-2764 Siemion Altman – MD Psychiatrist – 885-6101

PHYSICIANS – 883-2344

Drs. Cairns, Farrer, Ingrey, McDowell, & Robinson.

Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm

- General/family practice by appointment only
- Please bring your Care Card to all appointments

HARBOUR PHYSIOTHERAPY - 740-6728 Paul Cuppen, RPT, BSc

- Musculoskeletal Examinations
- Sports Injury Treatments
- Post-operative Therapy/Home Visits

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY **DEVELOPMENT:** CHILD AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Rhonda Jackman available for prevention/consultation

- Clinical Therapists: PH Clinic Tues. & Wed. afternoon
- Mental Health Assessments & Therapy: Children age 0-19
- For more information call: Child & Youth Mental Health

Intake (604) 740-8900 or (604) 886-5525

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Monday and Wednesday evenings – Everyone welcome.

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

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

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What's your health IQ?

Compiled by P. H. Health Centre nursing staff

In the spirit of the Olympic Games, you are invited to challenge yourself with the following quiz.

Place a \checkmark by the answer you think is correct.

Bring your completed quiz into the health centre and see how well you scored.

Answers and explanations will be posted in the waiting rooms at the Pender Harbour Health Centre.

1. What are the sources of dietary fibre?

- ☐ Meat and alternatives group
- ☐ Milk and milk products
- □ Whole grains, legumes, vegetables and fruit
- □ Convenience foods

2. What is the daily recommended amount of dietary fibre for adults?

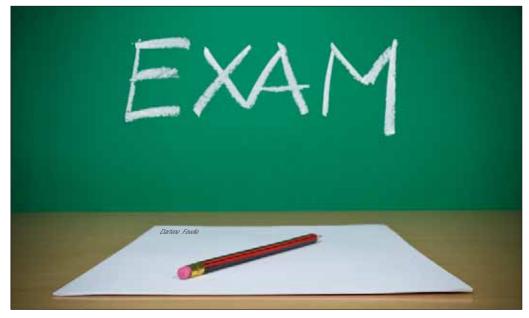
- \square 15 25 grams
- \square 25 35 grams
- \square 35 45 grams
- \square 45 55 grams

3. What is the leading cause of death for Canadians between the ages of 1 and 44 years?

- □ Heart disease
- □ Diabetes
- □ Injuries
- □ Cancer

4. What is the most popular physical activity in Pender Harbour?

- □ Attending Coffee Klatches
- □ Kayaking
- □ Boat Maintenance
- □ Walking
- ☐ Implementing ADD's (Antideer devices)



5. Who receives the most injuries?

- □ Children
- □ Youth
- □ Seniors
- □ Aboriginal peoples
- □ All of the above

6. Which of the following is considered to be the best exercise?

- □ Walking
- □ Running
- □ Soccer
- □ Weightlifting
- □ None of the above

7. The first step in achieving the benefits of physical activity is to:

- □ start an exercise program
- □ eat more fruits and vegetables
- □ buy a journal
- □ reflect on your goals and chart a plan for including physical activity in your schedule

8. Physical inactivity is as dangerous to your health as smoking.

- □ True
- □ False

9. People of all ages need to be active to be healthy. How many Canadians are not active enough to achieve health benefits?

- □ A11
- □ One-third
- □ None
- □ Two-thirds

10. How much physical activity do experts say people should do to stay healthy?

- □ 10 Minutes a day
- □ 60 Minutes of vigorous activity once a week
- □ 30 Minutes a day
- ☐ Accumulate 60 Minutes of light activity a day

Check your score at the Health Centre — answers and explanations will be posted in the waiting rooms.

Gold Medal: 10 out of 10 Silver Medal: 9 out of 10 Bronze Medal: 8 out of 10

Sources: healia.com (Your guide to healthy decisions) Public Health Agency of Canada – Healthy Living Unit

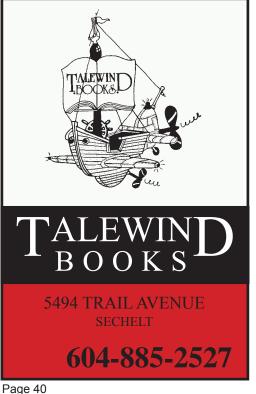
BC Bestsellers:

(For the week of Jan. 17)

- 1. Whitewater Cooks at Home by Shelley Adams
- 2. Had a Glass 2010

by James Nevison & Kenji Hodgson

- 3. A Life in the News
- by Tony Parsons
- 4. The Expanded Reilly Method by Mike McCardell
- 5. The Best of Chef at Home
- by Michael Smith
- 6. Mountain Timber
- by Richard Mackie
- 7. Trauma Farm
- by Brian Brett
- 8. The Encyclopedia of Raincoast Place Names by Andrew Scott
- 9. Small Beneath the Sky
- by Lorna Crozier
- 10. Everyday Indian
- by Bal Arneson
 - ~ Assn. of Book Publishers of BC



BOOKS

Garden Bay's Whelan brings the arctic home

THIS VANISHING LAND

By Theresa Kishkan

The Arctic holds an extraordinary attraction for many Canadians. In some ways it's a last frontier, albeit a vulnerable one, given the considerations of climate change and international jurisdiction.

In 2007, Garden Bay photographer and filmmaker
Dianne Whelan accompanied the Canadian Rangers on Operation Nunalivut as they travelled to
Ward Hunt Island to plant our flag to assert Canada's sovereignty on that most northern piece of our soil.

This Vanishing Land: A
Woman's Journey to the

Canadian Arctic (Caitlin Press, 2009) chronicles that mission. Whelan's job was to document the journey in words and film.

Convincing the Canadian Forces to allow her to travel with the patrol group wasn't easy but after ensuring she would have broadcasters willing to run her stories and footage as well as passing a snowmobile operating test that was much about attitude as skills, she was allowed to participate on the mission.

This is a vibrant book. The photographs that help to frame the text are crisp and clear with wonderful contrasts: saffron moon over a blue icescape; patches of red clothing and gas tanks; and different flags — the red and green Canadian Rangers flag as well as the iconic red and white of our national flag — against the white snow. The writing is infused with energy, sometimes almost breathlessly so, but I suspect that was the nature of the both the trip and the challenge of recording it.

The book is also important for its attention to the workings of nature in the north. The sight of ravens presages polar bears. The Inuit members of the team are as likely to trust their own knowledge of snow and ice as they are to rely on modern instruments. The snow machines require constant attention and repairs and one of the

Inuit guys observes that it would be better to use dog teams

"It would take a lot longer but I think it would be better. But for the army everything has to be fast. I guess that's the times we live in — faster, faster all the time. But faster is not better, it's just faster."

There are moments of suspense as the team is stranded by inclement weather — hurricanes, blizzards, wind and haze that make travel impossible. The tents provide cramped quarters for sleeping, cooking and dealing with injuries that range from sprained hands to serious bruising to frostbite. (The team members each pull a komatik, or wooden sled, behind their snow machines. These carry gear, supplies and fuel; they weigh around 2,000 pounds and behave like missiles on the downslopes. It seems that each person has an accident of some sort involving a komatik.)

Doug Stern is the history buff on the expedition and offers wonderful stories of earlier Arctic explorers.

There are also funny moments. If you ever wondered at the logistics of obeying nature's call when wearing many layers of protective clothing, then look no further than page 88.

To have participated in this formidable expedition and to have written about it and shot a documentary

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in This Vanishing Land

film, produced by the National Film Board of Canada, is a remarkable testament to Dianne Whelan's courage and strength.

On a recent trip to Europe, I bought a copy of Alex Ross's The Rest is Noise: Listening to the Twentieth Century (Picador, 2007) to read on

trains and in hotels. Alex Ross is a music critic for the New Yorker and I've enjoyed his writing over the years. His book had been on my radar for some time but finding it in a shop in Aixen-Provence seemed serendipitous.

serves to shake up the way

you see the world and for me, The Rest is Noise is one of those. Over the course of nearly 600 pages, Ross provides a coherent and vital reading of 20th century cultural and political history. Ostensibly about music — and he is such a fine and knowledgeable guide — the book takes the reader through a broad landscape shaped and reshaped by war and uneasy peace.

Taking as his starting point the opening of Richard Strauss's controversial opera Salome in the Austrian city of Graz in May, 1906, Ross looks at that moment — "an ultra-dissonant

biblical spectacle" — as a hinge between the 19th and 20th centuries. Present in the audience were representatives of several traditions: Johann Strauss II's widow represented old Vienna; Puccini was there to hear his German rival's "terribly cacophonous thing" and the bold younger composers — Schoenberg, Mahler, and Alban

> Berg — were there to witness the shock of the new. Also in the audience, possibly, was a 17-year-old Adolf Hitler.

> The book concludes with a look at the making of John Adams' opera Nixon in China, both a distillation of key modernist influences as well as something com-

pletely original.

Alex Ross is brilliant at pulling together the various strands of musical tradition that formed new patterns, new sounds over the course of a century. The role that politics played in both encouraging and suppressing composers is explored in fascinating detail. His clear understanding of the technical and creative accomplishments of everyone from Stravinsky to Shostakovich to John Cage to Steve Reich makes this a wonderful book for anyone with even a passing interest in music.

RECENT RELEASES from Harbour Publishing

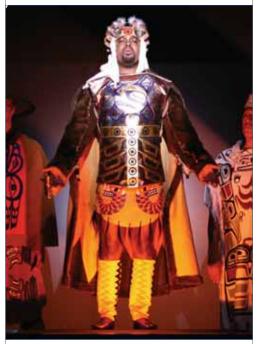
FROM FOX MOTHS TO JET RANGERS

A Bush Pilot's Life by Harvey Evans, with Doug Evans \$26.95 · paper



BRAVO!

The History of Opera in British Columbia by Rosemary Cunningham \$34.95 · hardcover



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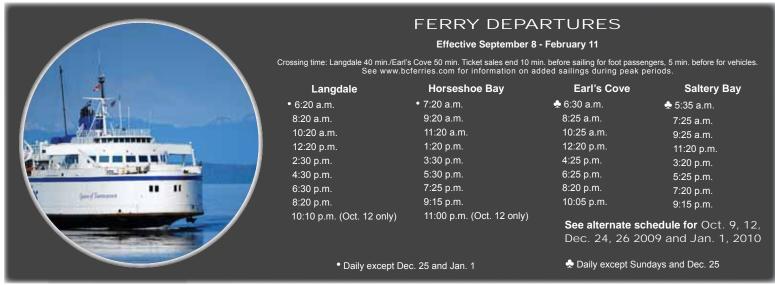
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Calendar listings are provided free of charge by the Harbour Spiel. Send information to editor@harbourspiel.com by the 15th of the month.

FEBRUARY

Wed. Feb. 3
Sun. Feb. 14P. H. Legion Valentine's Chinese Dinner - Royal Candian Legion, 112 Sun. Feb.14P. H. Music Society presents Forbidden Flutes - P.H. School of Music, 2 p.m.
Tues. Feb. 16Pender Harbour & District Wildlife Society AGM - PHSS, 7:30 p.m.
Wed. Feb. 17Free Community Meal - Christ the Redeemer Church, 6 p.m.
Sat. Feb 20
Tues. Feb. 23Women's Connection Olympic Award Ceremony - P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m. Wed. Feb. 24Free Community Meal - Christ the Redeemer Church, 6 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 27Inaugural meeting of the P. H. Mushroom Society - P. H. School of Music, 3 p.m.
Sat Feb. 27Abbie Evans Fundraiser Quiz Night and Auction - P. H. Legion, 8 p.m.



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The Harbour Spirit Shines

OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS FEBRUARY 4, 2010

Celebration 1, Pender Harbour High School

8:30 - 8:45 a.m. - Gathering and welcoming address, 8:56 a.m. - Tentative torch arrival

A "welcoming archway" made up of students, staff, family and community members will line the highway on the school side of the road to Mountainview Service to cheer on the torchbearers.







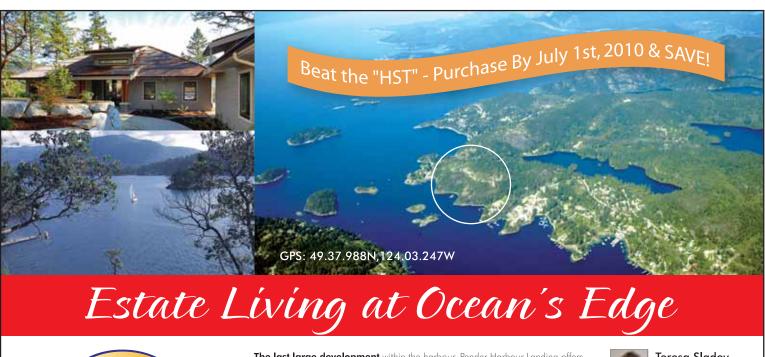
Celebration 2, Pender Harbour Community Hall

8-11 a.m. - Loggers Breakfast with Music 9:05 a.m. - Tentative arrival of torch at Johnstone Rd.

9:09 a.m. - Tentative arrival of torch at P. H. Community Hall, finishing route at the corner of Lagoon Rd. and Fran Pen. Rd. by 9:28 am.

The route will begin at Johnstone Road and continue to Madeira Park, where the torchbearers will be welcomed by the Pender Harbour Legion Pipe and Drum Band, sport and community groups, local businesses and residents. The welcoming presentation will be made by Eric Graham, Regional Director for Area A, at approximately 9:05 am.

"The Harbour Spirit Shines" Community Celebrations greatly acknowledge the financial support of Olympic Initiatives Branch, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts for the Province of BC.





Sales/Information Centre 4580 Flagship Road



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