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HARBOUR SPIEL

JULY 2011
ISSUE 247



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The Independent Voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990.

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Editor

Brian Lee

Contributors

This month we thank: Anne Crocker, Eric Graham, Theresa Kishkan, Shane McCune, Alan Stewart, John Wade and Jan Watson.

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~ NEXT ISSUE MAILS JULY 29 ~

EDITORIAL

Giving up our secrets

By Brian Lee



I don't usually aim the words in this space at visitors but it's so nice to finally see some fresh faces in town, I thought I'd reach out.

If you're a local, this doesn't concern you so just turn the page . . .

Seriously, there's a photo of a shark in the next spread — beat it.

OK. Sorry about that. One thing you should know: locals are extremely nosy — try to be patient with them.

Anyway, welcome to Pender Harbour and Egmont.

It really is a fascinating little place, as diverse as it is hard to find your way around.

First, a navigational tip:

Ignore the ocean; it may be a handy reference point in other places like Tofino or Seattle but here it will drive you crazy.

When you do get lost, you're likely not far away from one of four roads that will take you back to the highway:

Egmont Road, Francis Peninsula Road, Garden Bay Road and Hotel Lake Road. (If you're in a boat and get disoriented, drop anchor and sleep it off.)

And take solace that this confusing system of roads and waterways is what cloaks the magic of the area.

To find it, I'd suggest asking just about anyone who looks like they need a shower for a recommendation about a special hike, swimming hole or place to pee.

By the way, don't pee in Garden Bay Lake — they hate that over there.

You'll notice we're blessed with more than our share of postcard quality lakes and you wouldn't be faulted for assuming our water quality must be second to none. It's not.

But, though our tap water may look like coffee, it actually is safe — to shower in.

Improvements are well underway to all our local water systems so don't worry about that if you're thinking about moving here.

Which brings me to a question: Do you have any kids?

We desperately need more kids.

Our school enrollment's down a bit and the number crunchers keep threatening to bus what's left to Sechelt.

Sechelt's a town about a half hour away but you need only go there if you crave sushi.

Instead, stay up here an extra couple of days and scratch a little deeper.

Seek out the hidden gems like Francis Point Marine Park, Klein Lake, Harbour Gallery, Iris Griffith Centre, Pender Hill or the eagle sanctuary/landfill just off Garden Bay Road.

While you do, I encourage you to leave some of your Albertan loot with the variety of shops and services found in the next 48 pages.

It's been an especially quiet winter for our 17 full-time residents and they'll really appreciate the boost.

(If, on the off-chance you happen to stumble upon a business that doesn't advertise here, don't waste your time — they're probably no frickin' good anyways.)

Finally, like most first-time visitors to the area, you will be startled to keep seeing what you think is the same person over and over again.

Don't be creeped out — you're likely seeing different people.

They're just kin.

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

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SPIEL PICKS

PENDER HARBOUR LEGION'S CHRISTMAS IN JULY - JULY 2

What does Santa get up to in the summer? He tours. He'll be at the Pender Harbour Legion on July 2 for the annual Christmas in July dinner. There'll be a traditional turkey dinner with all the fixings and a visit by the guest of honour himself. It opens at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Adults are \$20 and children under 10 years are \$10. Tickets are available at the P. H. Legion bar.

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB'S MALASPINA REGATTA - JULY 2

The Garden Bay Sailing Club will be hosting its 22nd annual Malaspina Regatta on Saturday, July 2. This fun-filled, 10-nautical-mile race is open to all but preregistration for the race (\$25) is required. Competitors and their families will finish with a BBQ (\$12 per person) at Fisherman's Resort in Garden Bay. Trophies will be awarded and there will be a draw for a good selection of door prizes. Contact davidtwentyman@dccnet.com for further information, or call (604) 883-1199.

AERIAL ACROBATS GARDEN BAY PUB MARINA - JULY 15 & 16

On July 16 and 17, the crew of the sailboat *La Loupiote* will perform two aerial acrobat shows nightly while hanging from her mast at the Garden Bay Pub dock. Since 2004, French sailors Franck Rabilier and Delphine Lechiflart have been travelling with their two children performing shows around the world. The 6 p.m. show, "The Navigators," is an acrobatic clown show inspired by Buster Keaton and silent films.

Starting at 8 p.m., the second show, "Between Wing and Island," interprets the male-female relationship in a spectacle of aerial choreography and acrobatics.

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photo submitted

Pender Harbour Secondary School teachers Jeff Marshall and Jen MacInnes escorted these Grade 10 students to the BC Parliament Buildings in Victoria May 26. Pictured with the group (middle) is local MLA Nicholas Simons.

Harbour Spiel

Sixgill shark discovered on Garden Bay beach

Just as the ocean begins to look inviting for a swim, a rare occurrence on a Garden Bay beach has some heading for the lakes.

A bluntnose sixgill shark was found nearly lifeless on the beach at low tide near the Seattle Yacht Club on June 20.

According to Department of Fisheries and Oceans biologist Grant McBain, discoveries like this one are very rare.

The 15-foot female died soon after being discovered. An autopsy aboard Garden Bay Marine Service's barge revealed the 1,200-1,400-pound female had already given birth.

Despite the size of the creature, people needn't be concerned — sixgill sharks pose no threat to humans.

According to DFO's management plan for the species (published May 2011) the sixgill shark is listed under Canada's Species at Risk Act simply because not much is known about it. The age of maturity isn't reached until 18-35 years, making it susceptible to overfishing.

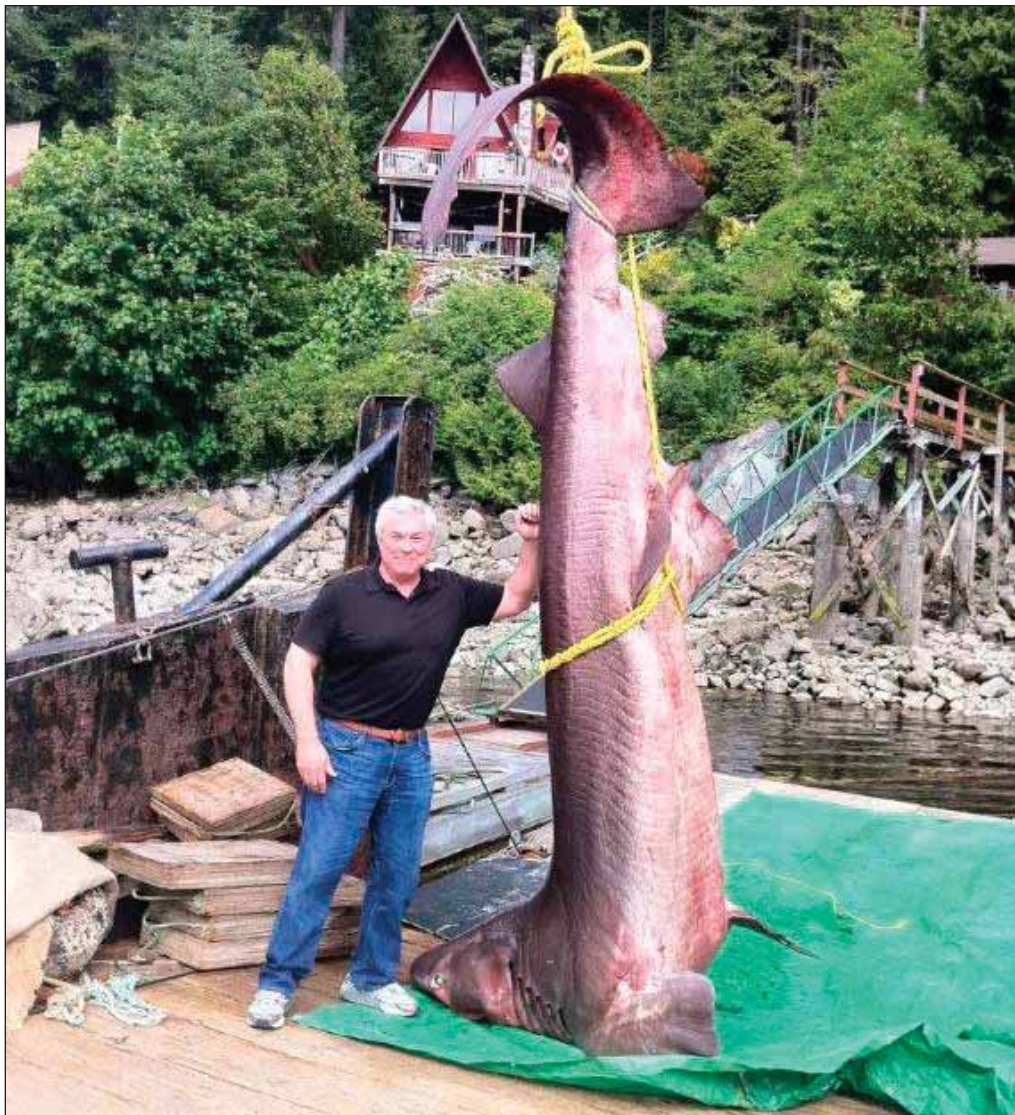
Bluntnose sixgill sharks may live up to 80 years and until recent times, it was thought they only inhabited deep water.

It's now known they do enter the shallows seasonally and females migrate to even shallower water to give birth to a litter of between 22 and 108 young.

They only enter shallow water at night as they are extremely sensitive to light.

The bluntnose sixgill shark is described in the DFO document as "an opportunistic predator" which forages nocturnally on a variety of bony fish like hake or herring, other sharks or carcasses of marine mammals.

It is unknown why the shark became stranded.



Bob Fielding photo

Bruce McKinnon, visiting from Everett, Wash., stands beside a 14-foot bluntnose sixgill shark found at low tide in Garden Bay on June 20. An autopsy revealed the 1,200-1,400 lb female had already given birth.

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



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SCRD bus survey prompts schedule change to boost ridership

If you're regular passenger on the Area A bus, you'll want to take note.

The SCRd has revised the schedule for the Area A bus in order to make the service more cost-effective and to boost its ridership.

Previously the service operated on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The bus will now operate on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Other changes look to confine the total area travelled while increasing the frequency of service on the most popular routes.

Gone are round trips to Sechelt replaced by twice-per-day connection with the Halfmoon Bay bus at the north end of Redrooffs Road.

Passengers travelling from Egmont and Garden Bay have one option for a return trip per day.

The changes are partly influenced by results of a survey undertaken by the SCRd early this spring.

According to SCRd manager of transportation and facilities Brian Sagman, of 90 respondents, only 26 per cent said they used the service.

The most popular suggestions indicated people wanted to increase their time in Sechelt and to see an increase in weekday operation.

Residents will vote to decide whether or not to continue the service at municipal elections held this November.

Egmont/Pender Harbour bus schedule

Effective July 5, 2011

Tuesday and Friday only

Schedule Location

Between Egmont/Pender Harbour and Halfmoon Bay

PH Comm. Hall	9:45 AM	3:40 PM
Petro Canada Gas	9:53 AM	3:48 PM
Earl's Cove Ferry	10:17 AM	- *
Egmont Museum	10:27 AM	- *
Arrive Egmont	10:28 AM	- *
Leave Egmont	10:48 AM	- *
Egmont Museum	10:49 AM	- *
Earl's Cove Ferry	10:59 AM	- *
Petro Canada Gas	11:23 AM	3:48 PM
John Henry's Store	11:37 AM	4:02 PM
Petro Canada Gas	11:51 AM	4:16 PM
Pender Community Hall	11:59 AM	4:24 PM
North Redrooffs/#101	12:13 PM	4:38 PM

Transfer to Halfmoon Bay bus to Sechelt

Arrive Sechelt (Halfmoon Bay bus) 12:34 PM 5:01 PM

Leave Sechelt on Halfmoon Bay bus and transfer to Egmont/Pender Harbour bus

Leave Sechelt (Halfmoon Bay bus) 11:53 AM 4:20 PM

North Redrooffs/#101	12:16 PM	4:43 PM
Pender Community Hall	12:30 PM	4:57 PM
Petro Canada Gas	12:38 PM	5:05 PM
John Henry's Store	- *	5:19 PM
Petro Canada Gas	- *	5:33 PM
Earl's Cove Ferry	- *	5:57 PM
Egmont Museum	- *	6:07 PM
Arrive Egmont	- *	6:08 PM
Leave Egmont	- *	6:23 PM
Egmont Museum	- *	6:24 PM
Earl's Cove Ferry	- *	6:34 PM
Petro Canada Gas	12:53 PM	6:58 PM
PH Comm. Hall	1:01 PM	7:06 PM

* - no service to/from this stop

This schedule for the Area A bus service takes effect July 5.

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photo submitted

Some of the local volunteers behind the *Women of Pender Harbour* book project gathered recently to celebrate their BC Historical Federation book prize award. Back row (l-r): Karen Dyck, Nonie McCuaig, Vera Kristiansen, Leani Farquhar, Cathy Jenks, Pat Jobb. Front (l-r): Marlayne Williams, Dorothy Faulkner, Elaine Park.

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SCRD waste management plan shooting for zero

The Sunshine Coast Regional District rolled out the last of three “talking trash” open houses at the Pender Harbour Community Hall on June 22.

Displays presented the most recent developments in the SCR D’s “Zero Waste Management Plan” for the region.

Included in the Pender Harbour stop was information specific to Area A’s proposed resource recovery facility.

SCR D representatives were on hand for five hours to answer questions and to garner feedback on how it should proceed.

The plan is the culmination of a two-year process in which SCR D staff engaged local stakeholders and residents to participate in a comprehensive review of its solid waste management plan.

According to the material presented, the Sunshine Coast currently diverts about 50 per cent of its waste through recycling or reuse.

The ZWMP aims to increase that number to 100 per cent.

The proposed resource recovery facility in Pender Harbour will be designed to make it easier for recyclable materials to be diverted from the eventual transfer of garbage to the Sechelt Landfill.

The conceptual plan for the facility is the result of an intensive two-



Thompson Nicola Regional district illustration

This conceptual drawing of a facility in the Thompson Nicola region shows how the Pender Harbour Resource Recovery facility could be laid out.

day workshop last July.

The workshop brought together a 14-member technical design team of local stakeholders which included representatives from the public, business, the Area A Advisory Planning Commission, environmental groups and Garbage and Recycling in Pender Society (GRIPS).

Along with SCR D staff and independent zero waste experts, the group was tasked with coming up with a

rough outline of the facility before detailed design could begin.

From there, the SCR D has asked for the public’s help in further refining the plan.

A survey was mailed to Area A residents (to be returned by June 30) probing their thoughts on such details as what materials should be recycled/reused, various design considerations and where it should be located.

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Currently it's proposed that the facility be located at one of three locations:

1. The current landfill site.
2. An undeveloped corner site on the landfill road nearer to Garden Bay Road.
3. Madeira Park (specific site yet to be determined).

The survey suggests that the current landfill site would be cheapest but also the least convenient whereas a central location in Madeira Park would be more expensive and likely face opposition from neighbours.

The SCRD already holds an existing license of occupation for the Garden Bay Road location.

Another consideration yet to be decided is who will operate the facility.

Currently, Garbage Recycling in Pender Harbour Society operates the area's only recycling depot out of a facility near Menacher Road.

Dion Whyte, SCRD manager of infrastructure services, said the SCRD is legally obligated to put the contract for operation of the resource recovery facility out to tender.

"Given that [GRIPS] is already established and providing a service, they are well-positioned to submit a bid on any proposal call," said Whyte.

Whyte said the current contract with GRIPS followed the same request for proposal process and at that time they were the only bidder.

Whyte says he hopes to take the consultation report to the SCRD board on July 22 with an aim of completing any final revisions to the draft zero waste plan by September.

After the SCRD board adopts the final plan, it will go to Victoria for provincial approval by the end of September.

A total of 15 residents visited the open house.

July 2011



Artist Sandy Buck (middle) of Deer Crossing the Art Farm in Gibsons chats with Phil Ragan, volunteer member of the Solid Waste Management Plan update working group, at the recent open house at the P. H. Community Hall. Buck and Amelia Epp (l) were on hand to display samples of art produced from waste material as well as to lead a free children's art area (for which there were no takers).

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Pender Harbour Secondary School awards night recipients

TOP ATHLETE

Bantam Girls: Dani Pazur
Bantam Boys: Paul Wicks
Junior Girls: Mackenzie Stewart
Junior Boys: Angus Marshall
Senior Girls: Lauren Storoschuk
Senior Boys: Charles Christian

MOST SPORTSMANLIKE

Bantam Girls: Samantha Stewart
Bantam Boys: Caleb Rouleau
Junior Girls: Carly Fielding,
Solveig van Wersch
Junior Boys: Nicholas Silvey
Senior Girls: Chloe Christie
Senior Boys: Joel Field

SERVICE

(10 TO 19 HOURS OF SERVICE):

Samantha Howitt, Mitchell Jones,
Michael Parrott.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

(OVER 19 HOURS OF SERVICE):

Alex Christian, Chloe Christie,
Keenan Clerx, Cody Edwardson,
Carly Fielding, Dominic Foster, Char-
lotte Gray, Rebecca Kelly, Ryleigh
Lightbourn, Taylor McKay, Aurora
Noble, Myrriah Roose, Elizabeth
Rowlands, Kari Scott, Jake Snedden,
Janine Snell, Salem Taylor, Solveig
van Wersch, Madison Williams-Rice.

STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT AWARD

Chloe Christie, Aurora Noble

MCQUITTY AWARD

(TOP JUNIOR CITIZENSHIP):

Ryleigh Lightbourn, Solveig van
Wersch

MICHAEL PHILLIPS AWARD

(TOP GRADE 11-12 CITIZEN):

Kari Scott

SCIENCE COUNCIL AWARD

(TOP GRADE 12 SCIENCE STUDENT):

Rowan van Wersch

SHOP TECHNICAL AWARD:

Michael Pazur

SPECIAL RECOGNITION YEAR- BOOK AWARD:

Chloe Christie, Aurora Noble

PRESCESKY VISUAL ARTS AWARD:

Grade 7-8: Thomas Evans, Mi-
chael Parrott.

Grade 9-10: Arhea Howitt

Grade 11-12: Chloe Christie

PRESCESKY PERFORMING ARTS AWARD:

Grade 7-8: Jace Landry

Grade 9-10: Carly Fielding

Grade 11-12: Khoya Craig

THOMPSON SPIRIT AWARD

Teaguen Craig

ALL YEAR HONOUR ROLL

Grade 7: Halle Bosch, Michael
Parrott, Samantha Stewart.

Grade 8: Crystal Cook, Teaguen
Craig, Cassidy Craig-Watters, Jace
Landry, Zena Lanteigne, Teal Lov-
erock, Emily Marshall, Caleb Rou-
leau, Jade Storoschuk, Salem Taylor.

Grade 9: Matteo Alps Mocellin,
Alex Christian, Maria Lamarche,
Taylor Phillips, Emily Reid, Matthew
Silvey, Mackenzie Stewart, Solveig
van Wersch, Rick Wagner.

Grade 10: Carly Fielding, Char-
lotte Gray, Arhea Howitt, Ryleigh
Lightbourn, Brianna Milligan, Brad
Seabrook, Savannah Sosa, Shaylen
Sosa.

Grade 11: Khoya Craig, Joel
Field, Elizabeth Rowlands, Kari Scott,
Madison Williams-Rice.

Grade 12: Chloe Christie, Michael
Chrystall, Rebecca Kelly, Taylor
McKay, Aurora Noble, Janine Snell,
Rowan van Wersch, Mitchell Wil-
liams-Rice.

TOP AGGREGATE

Grade 7: Samantha Stewart

Grade 8: Salem Taylor

Grade 9: Solveig van Wersch

Grade 10: Ryleigh Lightbourn

Grade 11: Kari Scott

TOP ACADEMIC

Grade 8: Cassidy Craig-Watters,
Jace Landry

Grade 9: Matteo Alps Mocellin,
Solveig van Wersch

Grade 10: Ryleigh Lightbourn

Grade 11: Elizabeth Rowlands,
Madison Williams-Rice

A.L. THOMPSON AWARD

(TOP GRADE 12 ACADEMIC):

Aurora Noble, Rowan van Wersch

MERLE HATELY AWARD

(TOP GRADUATING STUDENT OVERALL):

Chloe Christie



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Transit schedule changed to prevent the service from going 'bused'



By Eric Graham
SCRD Director,
Area A

AREA A COMMUNITY BUS

Our community bus started operation Sept 1, 2010 and the plan is to run the bus until the local election in November, by which time it will have run through all four seasons and we will have a good idea about cost and ridership.

A couple of months ago we mailed out a bulk survey to all residents in Area A and although I extended the deadline 30 days, there were only 114 answered questionnaires returned by mail.

Of those who answered, only 20 per cent rode the bus but 76 per cent supported the service.

Nineteen per cent are happy with the current schedule and an overwhelming amount wanted more time in Sechelt.

Only 34 out of 114 wanted just local service between Madeira, Garden Bay and Egmont.

So in response, the bus advisory committee has revised the bus schedule and, effective July 5, a new schedule will take effect (see new schedule p. 6 — please cut it out and keep it).

The bus will now run on Tuesdays and Fridays only, starting at 9:45 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall, travelling to the Earls Cove ferry, Egmont, Garden Bay, Madeira



MEETINGS AT 1975 FIELD ROAD

Policing Committee

July 4 at 9:00 a.m.

Transportation Committee

July 4 at 10:30 a.m.

Infrastructure Services Committee

July 7 at 1:30 p.m.

Planning and Development Services Committee

July 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Regular Board

July 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Community Services Committee

July 21 at 9:30 a.m.

Special Infrastructure Services Committee

July 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Corporate and Administrative Services Committee

July 28 at 1:30 p.m.

Regular Board

July 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunshine Coast Regional District

AREA A - ADVISORY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

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

LANDFILL TIPPING FEE INCREASE

Effective July 1, 2011 the tipping fee for Municipal Solid Waste will increase to \$110 per tonne at the Pender Harbour Landfill site. \$5 per tonne is an Eco Fee dedicated to funding zero waste initiatives. \$5 per tonne will fund landfill operations, capital projects and closure and post-closure reserves in keeping with a "user pay" principle.

For more information check www.scrd.ca or call 604-885-6800 ext. 6139.

PENDER HARBOUR RECREATION FACILITY

The Pender Harbour Aquatic and Fitness Centre will be closed from July 16 to September 11.

PENDER HARBOUR LANDFILL SUMMER HOURS

Wednesday to Monday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

SPRINKLING REGULATIONS FOR PENDER HARBOUR

Houses with odd numbered addresses on odd calendar dates
7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Houses with even numbered addresses on even calendar dates
7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

- NO sprinkling outside these hours
- NO sprinkling overnight
- REGULATIONS ARE ENFORCED
- Violators will be fined pursuant to the SCRD Municipal Ticketing Bylaw
- Hand watering is permitted

For more information:

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T: 604-885-6800 F: 604-885-7909
Office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
www.scrd.ca

Area A - Director Contact Information

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

Park and ending in Halfmoon Bay where it will meet the Halfmoon Bay bus at 12:13 (at Redrooffs and Hwy 101).

The bus will return to Madeira Park and lay over until 3:40 p.m. before travelling to Garden Bay, back to Madeira Park and continuing south to Halfmoon Bay to meet the Halfmoon Bay bus at 4:38 p.m.

It will then proceed to Madeira Park, Garden Bay, Egmont and return to Madeira Park where it will finish the day at 7:06 p.m.

By only going to Halfmoon Bay and taking that bus into Sechelt, the stay in Sechelt is from 12:34 p.m. to 4:20 p.m.

One cannot use a transfer ticket between the two buses and so our fares from Madeira to Halfmoon Bay have been reduced to \$3 for adults and 50 cents for children (12-18).

BC Transit provides funding of up to 46 per cent to small systems like ours.

I was in contact with them two weeks ago and they advised me that if our ridership does not increase from two passengers per hour to at least 10 per hour they won't be able to help us.

The Halfmoon Bay to Gibson transit function averages 34 per hour, including the Halfmoon Bay to Sechelt portion with an average ridership of 10 per hour.

Also effective July 5, a part of the bus route will change:

Instead of travelling from the Pender Harbour Community Hall directly to Hwy. 101 and on to the medical clinic and eventually Halfmoon Bay, it will now travel along Lagoon Road to the medical clinic.

It is hoped that there will be more passengers on this revised route.

In order for our community bus

service to continue, we must do whatever it takes to improve the ridership without increasing the costs.

The bus advisory committee pointed out there are many days the bus is empty between Egmont and Garden Bay and that is a long distance to travel empty.

If ridership does not improve in the next two months, this part of the service will be reviewed.

I plan to hold a referendum at election time and if we have it in conjunction with the local election the cost would be about half.

A legal referendum is expensive but I think it is important to give residents their say on whether they are willing to pay for this in an Area A transit function.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

A conceptual plan has been developed by a group of local stakeholders from Area A for an enhanced recycling and resource recovery facility in Pender Harbour.

Three open houses were held in June in Gibsons, Sechelt and at the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

Because of the controversy involved in turning the Pender landfill into a transfer station, I thought there would be many from our area interested in this new plan but after lots of advertising (I also mentioned it in

my last two articles) we had only 14 people attend our open house.

I know it was disappointing to the volunteers who worked very hard to put this proposal together.

ILLEGAL DUMPING

A local resident who does a lot of hiking and gathering firewood (with a permit) in logged areas called me last month and took me up a forestry road behind the high school to show me garbage dumped by the side of the road.

I took pictures of seven sites of garbage bags, discarded fridges, stoves and washing machines, etc.

At one site a bear had got into four large discarded bags of garbage.

We found a bank statement in the torn bag, so I got our staff to phone the holder of the bank account and she told us it must have been her grandson and she would be talking to him.

There was one site with a dump truck load of appliances and we counted six washing machines.

The police cannot do anything about this without absolute proof but if you see suspicious trucks dumping garbage, report them to the police and ask for a file number.

If there are numerous sightings and files accumulating there is a good chance they will investigate.

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Mosquitoes. And how to kill them.



By Brian Lee

It's barbecue season.

The cocktails have set the mood and as the evening sun casts its warmish glow across the sky, you smile politely as one of your guests reach down to take their first subtle slap at their ankle.

"Oh those darn mosquitoes," you joke, hiding a growing fear.

In denial your-



self, you try to ignore the ominous whine that precedes the piercing stab.

Soon the onslaught picks up.

As the humming chorus grows louder, more citronella candles are lit.

You hoped to finish the evening watching the sunset but something's sucking the contentment from your outdoor dinner party.

"They're really bad tonight,"

someone else says, dropping a hint.

You persevere for another half-hour but eventually even you must concede the truth – they've won.

"Let's go inside."

Winter fantasies of summer rarely recall the damage wrought by the annual scourge of mosquitoes.

Aside from the weather and drunken townies, they are likely the greatest threat to your summer enjoyment.

The voracious parasites have spawned a multi-billion dollar industry — store aisles are littered with everything from sprays and scented candles to netting and mechanical devices that claim to snuff them.

We buy this stuff up, wanting to believe they will provide relief.

But other than what we read on labels, most know less about our most intimate foe than we do about the three-spined stickleback.

Meanwhile, we trade folk remedies and laymen's theories about "proven" methods of combat:

"My uncle is a logger in Prince George, and all they ever use is Avon's 'Skin So Soft.' Only thing that works."

Unfortunately, like the old red tide adage that it's safe to eat shellfish

in the months with an “r,” science has proven it’s hooey-palooey.

Folk love to believe they’ve stumbled upon something the white coats missed but to quote Bill Murray’s character in *Caddyshack*:

“To kill you must know your enemy.”

MOSQUITO NATURAL HISTORY

The term “mosquito” often stands for just about anything that flies, bites and leaves an itch.

Indeed, there is a staggering variety of mosquitoes throughout the world.

Within the largest of insect orders, Diptera or true (two-winged) flies, there are three families of mosquitoes.

Only half of the mosquitoes found in BC actually feed on mammals and it’s the members of the Culicidae family that are differentiated from the two others by one key characteristic — they bite.

Within the 41 genera of biting mosquitoes in the world there are about 3,500 different species.

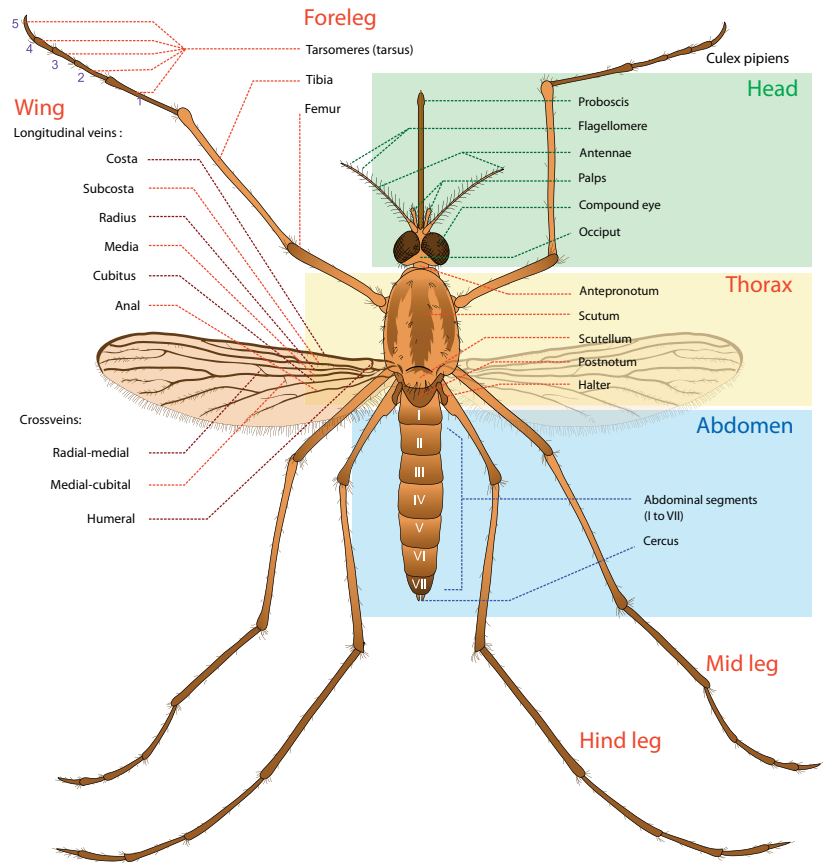
But technically, mosquitoes don’t actually bite like other flies (horseflies, black flies or no-see-ums) which literally take a chunk out of their hosts in order to extract a protein meal.

The mosquito’s proboscis allows it to pierce the flesh and draw fluids out of its host’s body, often without the host’s knowledge.

Though all mosquitoes are easily identified by their long proboscises, antennae and scaled wings, their genera designations isolate important differences.

For instance, only females of the genus *Anopheles* carry malaria.

According to the World Health Organization’s 2010 World Malaria



public domain illustration

An illustration showing the anatomy of a mosquito (*Culex pipiens*). The *Culex pipiens* is the mosquito usually heard buzzing around your bedroom while you try to sleep.

Report, it is responsible for killing 781,000 people each year or 2.23 per cent of deaths worldwide.

In BC, researchers have identified 48 species of biting mosquitoes which fall into five genera: *Aedes*, *Anopheles*, *Culex*, *Culexsetta*, and *Mansonia*.

Mosquitoes pass through four stages of growth: egg, larva, pupa and adult with aquatic borne larva.

For most species, eggs are laid in a suitable aquatic environment before soon hatching into larvae. Within 10 days or so the larvae transform into pupae. After several days of living at the surface, the mosquito will emerge, rest while blood is pumped to its wings and fly off to mate.

The varieties found in BC all follow a general pattern of winter hibernation and emergence in the

spring although there are minor differences in the conditions or time of year that will trigger their emergence from winter dormancy.

The genus *Aedes* passes the winter as a fertilized egg while the *Anopheles*, *Culex* and *Culiseta* varieties hibernate as mated females waiting to lay their fertilized eggs in the spring.

Mating occurs at dusk or dawn, when overhead swarms of males attract females which fly up to be clasped by the first male that detects them.

The pair will drop out of the swarm and often the male will have deposited his sperm before they reach the ground, at which point the two part.

(continued next page)

Mosquitoes (cont.)

(continued from p. 15)

The male then returns to the swarm and the female flies off in search of protein (blood) to help mature her eggs.

Only the females feed on animals — birds, reptiles, amphibians or mammals — and then only after mating.

They are thought to be attracted by a combination of stimuli that give away the location of a living host: carbon dioxide, heat and moisture.

Males (and sometimes females before mating) receive their nutrition from plant fluids and often contribute to the cross-pollination of plant species.

While some species breed in successive generations throughout the season, others may produce only one.

DISTRIBUTION

Many species of mosquitoes in BC are adapted to breed within very specific habitats while others can be found though the province.

According to local biologist Dr. Michael Jackson, there are three main species likely responsible for irritation in our area.

Jackson owns Culex Environmental, a consulting firm that specializes in the study of mosquitoes and the application of that research to practical and environmentally sound methods of control.

He says if you don't know the mosquitoes by their names, you will by their habits.

AEDES TOGOI

Here on the Coast, one of the species we're most often confronted with actually hatches from saltwater rock ponds at the transition from the tidal zone to land.

This characteristic is unique to *Aedes togoi* which likely came from



Places like this is where the larvae of *Aedes togoi* thrive. *Aedes togoi* is a unique species in BC as it is the only known mosquito able to breed in a marine habitat. *A. togoi* lays its eggs in moist fissures in rock just above the high tide mark.

Japan in the ballasts of cargo boats and was first discovered in the 1960s.

Research also suggests that it was spread throughout the BC coast by our ferry system.

"It literally seems to have gone from one ferry terminal to another and then spread from there," says Jackson.

Jackson has had success controlling the species by filling up rock pools just above the high water mark with sand and pebbles.

He says they're one of the few animals that can survive in the extremely hostile conditions produced by fluctuating proportions of fresh and salt water.

"If there's any sign of predators in the pool like fish or literally any other animal alive, you won't find

them," says Jackson.

"You find them in the really yucky, algae-filled fissures in the rock."

The other interesting characteristic of the *Aedes togoi* species is that they will only fly up to 500 metres inland.

This creates a band around coastal areas like Pender Harbour and Egmont and, if you live within that band, Jackson says it's the predominant species causing you discomfort.

But there's another interesting characteristic of this species that will help you amaze dinner guests with your taxonomical superiority.

Aedes togoi tend to be that particularly annoying mosquito that goes for your ankle while you're sitting on

your deck in the evenings.

Yeah, that one.

CULEX PIPIENS

Most species of mosquito thrive in fresh water sources, especially if they are manmade.

Manmade water sources like drainage ditches or sewage treatment plants are typically free of predators and full of nutrients.

An especially common species is the one that buzzes around your ears at night.

Culex pipiens can have multiple generations in a season and thrive where water has collected but hasn't had time to acquire any organisms that feed on the larvae.

These generations also have the unfortunate (for humans) characteristic of not travelling far from where they hatch.

They also share a relatively uncommon characteristic in the mosquito world: they like to come indoors.

"With a species like Culex pipiens, which is called the common house mosquito, it tends to stay within a very small area near your house," says Jackson.

"But it feeds on different things at different times of the year. In the early stages of the year it feeds on birds and switches to feed on humans in later generations.

"As the weather gets colder, they tend to seek habitation for overwintering and that's when they bite."

Jackson says control of this variety is directly tied to eradicating breeding sources of standing water like pails of water, loose boat covers or gutters that don't drain properly.

Because they can have up to six or more generations throughout a season, early control of these sources is imperative.

(continued next page)

COMMON MOSQUITO CONTROL MYTHS

1. Install bat houses and swallow nesting boxes.

Nope. They would have to eat a lot to be effective. According to entomologist Christian Back, mosquitoes make up less than three per cent of a swallow's diet and less than one per cent for a bat.

2. Install a bug zapper

Nope. A US study found these traps are not effective at killing biting insects (female mosquitoes and other insects) but are effective in attracting and killing other harmless and beneficial insects. The study found that, over one summer, 13,789 insects were killed, of which only 31 were biting insects.

3. Take vitamin B1

Nope. Vitamin B1 is often taken to help repel mosquitos but one study suggests this remedy may be useless. Researchers at the University of Wisconsin study tested B1 with a larger sample of human subjects and found no effect of vitamin B. (That goes for bananas too.)

4. Rubbing Bounce fabric softener sheets or Avon Skin So Soft on your skin will prevent mosquito bites.

Nope. They may offer some relief by masking odours but it is temporary at best. Studies testing many of these common household products against DEET based insect repellents have shown they fall well short in effectiveness.

5. Eat more garlic.

Nope. Garlic is only useful in repelling members of the opposite sex.

WHAT DOES WORK

1. Eliminate breeding sites by controlling standing water.

Rid your property of old tires, clogged gutters, buckets, plastic sheeting, wheelbarrows and flower pot bottoms etc. Change water in bird baths at least once a week and keep swimming pools cleaned and chlorinated.

2. Install a fan.

Mosquitoes dislike dry, moving air. Fans reduce the amount of moisture, as well as making it uncomfortable to fly.

3. Wear a DEET based insect repellent.

DEET works but it may be harmful also. (See p. 18).

4. Wear long sleeves and/or light coloured clothing.

Mosquitoes seem more attracted to dark clothing.

5. Purchase a propane/electrical powered mosquito trap

After attracting female mosquitoes with a combination of carbon dioxide, heat, light and octenol (a chemical attractant found in human sweat), these units capture mosquitoes with a fan and quickly kill them.

6. Sit next to someone with a high metabolism.

People with a high metabolic rate give off more carbon dioxide, a known attractant to mosquitoes. Although the human body gives off a variety of pheromones and other chemicals that may also be attractants, it's one reason to why mosquitoes "like" some more than others.

Mosquitoes (cont.)

(continued from p. 17)

CULEX TARSALIS

Culex tarsalis is often found in enriched water conditions like sewage treatment plants or farmyards.

They especially thrive in man-made water sites if there is plenty of bright sunshine.

But for both species of *Culex*, Jackson says nature has provided an effective tool to fight them.

“We use an organism called *Bacillus sphericus*. It’s a naturally occurring bacteria and is very specific to mosquitoes — it doesn’t kill anything else.

“It actually works by getting into the stomach of the larvae and

releasing toxins that blow the stomach apart.”

Jackson says the bacteria can only attack organisms with an alkaline stomach.

Since mosquitoes are one of very few organisms that have one, it makes it a safe and deadly predator to introduce to mosquito breeding sites.

MOSQUITOES AS VECTORS FOR DISEASE

Mosquitoes are now responsible for transmitting more human disease than any other blood-feeding animal.

Malaria alone infects about 500 million people each year.

Malaria has been virtually eradicated in Canada but there are a variety

of other diseases potentially spread by our local mosquito populations.

All of the three species listed above, and many more, are capable of transferring diseases like the West Nile virus to humans.

West Nile virus first appeared in the West Nile region of Uganda in 1937.

The disease can cause encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) in humans and it is transmitted from infected birds.

Authorities in BC have monitored the disease as it has moved up from the southern U.S. into Idaho, Oregon and Washington State.

The virus arrived in BC a couple of years ago and doesn’t seem to be spreading rapidly but Jackson says there’s every chance that favourable conditions, like this summer which is expected to be hot after a moist spring, could change that.

Right now, the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority advises that the risk of becoming seriously ill as a result of infection is low and most people who become infected experience no symptoms or suffer very mild effects.

Prevention of mosquito exposure is key.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

In the last 100 years, mosquito control has taken the form of anything from spreading furnace oil on ponds to a barrage of chemical weapons.

Jackson says there’s growing evidence that historical methods used to kill adult mosquitoes like chemical fogging simply don’t work because they have to be continually repeated to be effective and can be potentially hazardous.

A quick tour through the web of home mosquito control devices yields a staggering variety of claimed suc-

DEET

DEET (N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide) was developed by the U.S. Army in 1946 for protection of soldiers in insect-infested areas. Insect repellents containing DEET have been used by the general public in the United States since 1957.

DEET is a member of the toluene chemical family. Toluene is an organic solvent used in rubber and plastic cements and paint removers.

It’s not known exactly why DEET is effective but it’s thought the chemical blocks an insect’s olfactory sense receptors, thereby disabling its ability to sense chemicals given off by the human body.

According to the Medical Sciences Bulletin, published by Pharmaceutical Information Associates Ltd., “Up to 56 per cent of DEET applied topically penetrates intact human skin and 17 per cent is absorbed into the bloodstream.”

Some studies also suggest DEET may have a serious effect on the central nervous system. Dr. Mohammed Abou-Donia of Duke University studied lab animals’ performance of neuro-behavioural tasks requiring muscle co-ordination. He found that lab animals exposed to the equivalent of average human doses of DEET performed far worse than untreated animals. Abou-Donia also found that combined exposure to DEET and permethrin, a mosquito spray ingredient, can lead to motor deficits and learning and memory dysfunction.

For adults, Health Canada has now banned products with DEET concentrations over 30 per cent, citing health risks and evidence that increasing the percentage does not do much more to repel insects. Health Canada has also banned two-in-one products that combine sunscreen and DEET, saying they create the potential for people be exposed to too much DEET.

cess but Jackson says one should be careful.

Jackson says many products, including citronella, have been proven to have minimal effects on preventing bites.

And most home remedies work only for a short time or not at all.

Most experts agree that DEET is the only chemical that is truly effective at deterring mosquitoes but many also question its health side effects.

In most cases its use is weighed against the risks of acquiring malaria.

In locations where malaria isn't present, many say its use isn't worth the health risks.

Jackson's staff use a synthetic compound called Picaridin and he recommends it as an extremely effective and safe alternative.

Pharmaceutical company Bayer owns the patent for the chemical that is sold under the commercial name of Bayrepel.

One mosquito repellent product containing the chemical is Cutter but it has limited commercial availability in Canada.

That despite its recommendation by the World Health Organization and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A simple indoor method of reducing mosquito bites is to keep the air moving with a fan or two.

Mosquitoes dehydrate very quickly and avoid direct sunlight and flowing air.

It's why you rarely see them during the middle of the day or when there's a breeze. Then they prefer a damp hiding spot.

Jackson says another product that has shown success at reducing mosquitoes around the yard is a commercially available mosquito trap.

These devices all rely on propane and electricity to create proven attrac-



This mosquito control device has shown it can be effective at reducing mosquito bites around homes. It uses attractants such as carbon dioxide, heat, light and chemicals to draw in female mosquitoes in search of blood and traps them where they soon die from dehydration.

tants: light, heat, carbon dioxide and chemicals (octenol, a chemical found in human sweat) to lure the insects.

As the insect gets close, a fan pulls it into a screened receptacle where it quickly dehydrates.

To be effective, these products should run continuously throughout the season in order to trap successive generations and should be located away from where people congregate and closer to mosquito activity like bushy areas.

They typically cost in the range of \$300 to \$500 and are available at most hardware stores under the brand name Guardian (Koolatron or Bite Shield).

Popular remedies for mosquitoes

like installing bat dens around your home, procuring frogs, planting marigolds or slathering Vicks Vapo Rub all over your body may help, but they aren't worth the trouble.

But Jackson says he will vouch for the effectiveness of lighting up a cigar to keep the bugs at bay, even admitting to frequent testing himself.

It might be one of the more enjoyable ways to view one of nature's spectacles.

As you puff on the cigar listening to the hum of the males swarming above, beating for a chance encounter with a blood sucking female, blow a little smoke their way — maybe you'll give them cancer.

Where's Weston?

Dear Editor,

MPs are sure going to have nice, fat, comfortable pensions.

My local Conservative MP, John Weston, will have his six years now that he's won the election in the riding.

Can you imagine getting a pension after only six years service?

Normal working Canadians can only dream.

He sure was real grateful to the constituents you can bet.

The guy has been useless so far and no one here expects any different this go around.

Hence the big smiles on his wife and his face in the ads published the week after the election.

They are set for life no matter what happens in the next election.

His ad said, "THANK YOU for your trust. I am committed to serving you."

I believe his thanks, but, his commitment is truly in doubt.

Last year I made several attempts to be in touch with him and get some answers to questions I had.

I went to his constituency office in Sechelt on the stated opening times and it was closed.

I left a note under the door with phone number and e-mail address and then asked people, who were working in an office across the hall, when someone was in the office and all they did was laugh.

I went back again the next week — no one there during the posted open hours.

I then phoned and left a mes-

sage.

I have never received any reply to my requests.

This has also been the same scenario that my neighbour has had with him and his office in Sechelt.

So, how can he say he is committed to serving us?

I truly believe he is only committed to serving himself and the Harper agenda.

Also, I do hope you keep us informed of the libel suit against him by the Liberal candidate.

Please do not sweep it under the rug.

We as voters need to know what is going on, especially with our elected officials.

Daniel Sikorskyi
Halfmoon Bay

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In defence of *Castor Canadensis*

Dear Editor,

The often unappreciated custodians of our wetlands is our national symbol — *castor canadensis* — the Canadian beaver.

I have heard it said that it costs \$150,000 to create an acre-foot of water reservoir.

Here is a species that will do it and maintain it for free.

Wetland shrinking?

Choked with aquatic plants?

Not a problem.

Bear in mind that radical changes in pond depths will marginalize wetland health and productivity.

Beavers will stabilize wetland depth to allow a complete ecology to develop.

They also have a similar effect on the quality of our domestic water.

Next time you want to trap and drown a beaver, remove a beaver dam or shoot a beaver, consider giving him and the wetland space.

Simply protect your trees.

Plan to alter that road or driveway and look ahead to the work of a worthy neighbour.

Among the rodents in our midst, they are the most admirable.

Beaver works support salmon and cutthroat trout, sticklebacks, foraging and nesting water birds, amphibians and painted turtles.

Beavers ensure the health of our ultimate source of domestic water — after rain and snow — upland wetlands.

The ecological well-being and biological health, especially of coastal lands, forests and fresh water habitats, is determined by functional wetlands.

When the land warms and dries in summer, these reservoirs trickle into the land, streams and lakes, buff-

ering drought.

There is evidence of the recovery, tenacity and work ethic of this worthy symbol of Canada.

After 100 years of persecution and obstructive indifference by human beings, it is remarkable that beavers are here at all.

I insist that it is time for us to adapt, rather than impose our wills upon another species that gives so much service.

John Dafoe
Halfmoon Bay, B.C.



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PHOTOJOURNAL



Ron Fearn photo



The top photo shows the view from across North Lake before the Ministry of Forests started its controversial road work on the North Lake Forest Service Road this past winter. It was attached to a letter from Ron Fearn that ran in last month's (June 2011) issue of the Harbour Spiel: 'P.S. Attached is a picture of the road before our stimulus money feast.' Space considerations prevented it from making the cut. Below it is a Harbour Spiel photo taken this past March from a similar angle.

Area A Seniors' Housing Outreach Healthy Meal Program



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MPES Sports Day, June 20



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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.)

Harbour Seals of Disapproval to the **grumpy old (city) man who bought property next to Hotel Lake** and then promptly cut off the rope swing on Irvines Landing Road. Who gave you permission to do this? That rope has been a tradition for at least four decades, and will be replaced. If the sound of kids of all ages shrieking with giggles of delight as they splash into the water is so loathsome, stay in the city!

Carole Rubin

Harbours Seals of Approval to **Leah** who, going to catch a ferry, rescued my young dog from the highway at Middlepoint and **Patty** who accepted Shilo from Leah and kept her overnight until Shilo and I were happily reunited. I'm so grateful to you both.

Ann Mansfield

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **all the residents of Pender Harbour** for supporting the P. H. Secondary School girls soccer teams bottle drive on June 4. The funds raised will help greatly towards off-Coast tournaments.

Paola Stewart
PHSS girls' soccer

Big Seals of Approval to **Dustin Amaral, Marlene Cymbalist, Carol Goodwin, Leasa Williamson and Linda and Dave Sullivan, team leaders of the May Day committee and all of their volunteers.**

Helen LeBlanc
P. H. May Day committee

A big seal of approval to all of **the sponsors who gave of their time, money & expertise.** Without your generosity and support May Day would not be possible.

Helen LeBlanc
P. H. May Day committee

A huge Harbour Seal of Approval to **Jeff Sieben of Pender Harbour Charters.** He generously took all of the children who attend Serendipity on tours around the harbour. Thank you Jeff.

Gwen Walwyn
Serendipity Child Care Centre

A special Seal of Approval to **Diane Kelly, Alan Stewart, Const. Mark Wiebe, Karen Ardy, Melanie Robinson, Diana Roach and the PHSS Rugby Team** who helped on various tasks throughout the day.

Helen LeBlanc
P. H. May Day committee

A Huge thank you to **Richard & Dave Oak Tree Market, Troy MarketPlace IGA, and the S.C. Credit Union** for everything you have done for the students at Madeira Park Elementary School this year!

Kelly Kammerle
MPES PAC
Harbour Spiel



Lee family photo collection

“Tug of War: Irvines Landing, May 24, 1925. Big Joe Perry and Charlie Klein refs.”

If you have local historical photos you don't mind sharing, please call the Harbour Spiel: (604) 883-0770.

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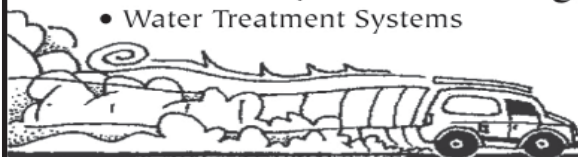
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Don't overlook these Sunshine Coast writers fest sleepers

By Brian Lee

In August 1983, SunCoast Writer's Forge volunteers managed to stage the first Sunshine Coast Writers Festival at the Sechelt Arts Centre.

They aimed to bring Canadian writers, editors and publishers to the Sunshine Coast for a gathering to celebrate the written word.

Among that year's inaugural guests were novelist Jack Hodgins, poet Dorothy Livesay, playwright Leonard Angel and children's writer Florence McNeil.

Financially it was a failure.

Festival organizers were left with a deficit of \$1,600 from an operating budget of \$7,000.

But despite the financial setbacks, there was overwhelming support for the volunteers' vision.

The festival continued the next year with the same format: individual hour-and-forty-five minute spots for each writer combined with a Saturday panel discussion.

In the 29 years since, not much has changed. The popularity has grown, owing as much to the charming venue of the Rockwood Centre as it does to the astounding roster of A-list authors taking part every year.

Throughout, the festival has maintained an intimacy that provides a rare opportunity for writer and reader to connect personally.

This year's festival once again presents an eclectic mix of literary personalities.

Some of the big names of the festival are already sold out — Margaret Trudeau, Sylvia Tyson and John Vaillant — but there is still much to be found.

Scratch a little deeper and the

The **29th** Annual

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real gems promise to be the ones the author groupies have missed.

SUSAN JUBY

Author Susan Juby keeps shedding labels.

Her first five books were instant teen fiction hits.

Her three-book "Alice" series followed a semi-autobiographical character through her high school experience in Smithers, BC.

A Vancouver Sun description of her first book, *Alice, I Think*, hints at why her character resonated with readers:

"Imagine a younger, non-smoking, non-drinking, non-dieting Bridget

Jones in a remote British Columbia locale. Imagine Adrian Mole with a father who writes (but never publishes) romance novels and a younger brother who breeds rare and unusual fish.

"Imagine Holden Caulfield in a 1950s housedress, nurse shoes and full 1980s makeup, adjusting to life at an alternative high school after 10 years of home-schooling.

"Imagine Alice. You're going to love her."

After writing two more young adult novels, Juby switched gears and "came out" with a memoir chronicling her struggles with alcohol during her teen years in Smithers.



Susan Juby

Nice Recovery reveals the seemingly uncharacteristic darkness of her youth, one quite in contrast to her bright smile.

Defying expectations again, Juby's latest book is fiction — for adults.

The Woelfeld Poultry Collective, has been described by the New York Journal of Books as, "a joyous book about someone living out a fantasy, confronting illusions, and attempting to make a dream come true."

For some, Juby's personal story of small-town experience may parallel that of the Sunshine Coast.

Combine that with her irresistible charm and this event promises a special poignancy that shouldn't be overlooked.

Susan Juby takes the stage at 1 p.m. on Saturday Aug. 6.

GRANT LAWRENCE

Grant Lawrence may not be a sleeper but he is entertaining.

The CBC personality is riding high on the success of his first book *Adventures in Solitude: What Not to Wear to a Nude Potluck*.

Published by Francis Peninsula's Harbour Publishing, *Adventures in Solitude* is Lawrence's true life account of his experiences travelling to and spending time at his family's summer cabin in Desolation Sound.

Before becoming an author, Lawrence was already a successful musician as lead singer of the durable Canadian rock band The



Grant Lawrence

Smugglers.

He now hosts his own show on CBC Radio 3 and can often be heard dropping by just about anywhere else on its radio frequencies.

The characters of the sound bring the book alive as does Lawrence's own wry and often self-deprecating take on his evolution from geeky kid to semi-capable outdoorsman.

But what makes the book especially meaningful is the subtext behind the stories.

Many will identify with the teenaged Lawrence outgrowing the annual family trek to the boonies.

"I'd whine and plead with them to allow me to stay behind so I wouldn't miss the Hard Rock Miners concert or the Violent Femmes or Shadowy Men on a Shadowy Planet.

"Eventually I steadfastly refused to return to the Sound. I grew distant and insolent, complaining that Desolation Sound was ridiculously boring, that there was nothing for me there."

Grant Lawrence appears on Sunday, Aug. 7 at 10:30 a.m.

Read *Adventures in Solitude* before you go and expect Lawrence to be as warm and light as the book itself.

IVAN COYOTE AND VEDA HILLE

A prediction: the undoubtedly freshly entertaining collaboration between musician Veda Hille and storyteller Ivan Coyote will be the festival's sleeper hit.



Ivan Coyote

Whitehorse's Ivan Coyote tells seemingly ordinary stories about her daily life.

But seemingly mundane stories about selling a car or a first swimming lesson work because the main character is always so interesting.

And she tells them really well.

If done well, coupling a talented storyteller with an equally talented musician can create a genuinely moving experience.

Anyone who has witnessed Shane Koyczan and Short Story Long can attest to this.

Veda Hille is one of those artists whom every musician or music buff in Canada knows but who could still go completely unrecognized at the Garden Bay Pub's Friday night meat draw.



Veda Hille

No matter — the composer, pianist and singer will undoubtedly add a unique and memorable flavour to the festival's last show Aug. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

The festival program promises this event will take you on "a journey that blends music and narrative in a song-and-story-infused conversation."

It might even take you farther than that.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTORY

• P. H. Aquatic Centre Society	885-6866
• Blues Society	883-2642
• Bridge Club	883-2633
• Chamber of Commerce, P. H. & Egmont.....	883-2561
• Christ the Redeemer Church	883-1355
• Coast Guard Auxiliary, Unit 61	883-2572
• Community Club, Egmont	883-9206
• Community Club, Pender Harbour	741-5840
• Community Policing	883-2026
• Community School Society	883-2826
• Egmont & District Volunteer Fire Department	883-2555
• GRIPS (Recycling Society)	883-1165
• Garden Bay Sailing Club.....	883-2689
• Gardening Club	883-0295
• P. H. Golf Club.....	883-9541
• Guides, Brownies, etc.	883-2819
• Harbour Artists	883-2807
• Harbourside Friendships (Thur. 10:30 -1 p.m.)	883-9766
• Health Centre Society	883-2764
• Health Centre Auxiliary.....	883-0522
• InStitches (1st Monday, 11 a.m., PH Health Centre).....	883-0748
• Iris Griffith Centre	883-9201
• Lions Club, Egmont.....	883-9463
• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Tues.)	883-1361
• P. H. Garden Club	883-9415
• P. H. Hiking Club (8:30 am, Mon. & Wed.)	883-2930
• P. H. Living Heritage Society	883-0748
• P. H. Music Society (bookings).....	883-9749
• P. H. Paddling Society	883-3678
• P. H. Power & Sail Squadron (2nd Wed. 7:30 p.m.).....	883-9313
• P. H. Volunteer Fire Dept (Wed. evening)	883-9270
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:00 pm Tues)	883-9749
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.).....	883-9209
• Red Balloon Parent & Tot drop-in.....	885-5881
• Reading Centre Society	883-2983
• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub)	883-2544
• Royal Cdn Legion 112.....	883-2235
• Skookumchuck Heritage Society.....	883-9994
• St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed., 1:30 p.m.)	883-2563
• Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.).....	883-0704
• Serendipity Preschool	883-2316
• Suncoast Players	883-9277
• TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly).....	883-3639
• VITAL First Aid and Safety Training Centre.....	885-0804
• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
• Women's Cancer Support	883-9708
• Women's Connection (2nd & 4th Tue.)	883-9313
• Women's Outreach Services.....	741-5246

ORGANIZATIONS

EGMONT COMMUNITY CLUB

Egmont's annual seafood dinner will be held at the Egmont Community Hall on July 2, the Canada Day weekend. Grilled salmon, prawns, oysters and clam chowder will be on the menu, as well as the rest of the fixin's that make a dinner like this memorable. Come out and enjoy your community and some excellent food. Cost: \$9.

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB

The Garden Bay Sailing Club will host its 22nd annual Malaspina Regatta on Saturday, July 2. This fun-filled, 10-nautical-mile race is open to all but preregistration for the race (\$25) is required. Competitors and their families will finish with a BBQ (\$12 per person) at Fisherman's Resort in Garden Bay. Trophies will be awarded and there will be a draw for a good selection of door prizes. Contact davidtwentymen@dccnet.com for further information, or call (604) 883-1199.

SUNSHINE COAST BOTANICAL GARDEN SOCIETY

This summer, the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden at 5941 Mason Road in Sechelt is open to members and visitors for two half-days a week on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. The garden is not a manicured space, so we strongly recommend staying on the main gravel paths or marked open areas. Please enter from gate three, the main parking area. This new benefit is free for members, by donation for non-members (\$5 - \$20 suggested).

Every Sunday at 2 p.m. there will be a guided tour of the Botanical Garden with admission by donation. It's a pleasant 45-minute walk along shaded paths, by sunny meadows, reflecting ponds, with wonderful trees at every turn. Please also enter from gate three, the main parking area.



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Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron hits 25 years

Submitted

The Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron recently celebrated the completion of its 25th year teaching boating safety courses in the Pender Harbour area.

In 1983, a group of interested sailors came together to begin the process of obtaining a warrant establishing themselves as a member squadron of the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron.

After meeting the many criteria of the national group, the warrant was issued in 1985.

Though many in the area may see the squadron's purpose as just putting on great social events (and they do) the more serious purpose of the squadron is to teach the basics of good boating to as many people as possible — from eight-year-olds to seniors.

The squadron has now taught hundreds.

Over the years, John Rees helped us initiate some public service events like "Go Green Day," an annual spring effort to clean the beaches and roadsides in the Harbour.

He also helped reintroduce Boat-wise, a boating course for eight- to 12-year-olds.

The squadron, led by Charlie Park, held two Oktoberfests to help raise money for the Pender Harbour



photo submitted

P. H. Legion, 1985. The Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron's first Bridge (no particular order): Bill Roxborough, Jock Hermon, Andy Hayes, Gayle Adams, Bill Williamson, Dave Dakin, Rita Zotoff and Chuck Williams. (Also present are three visiting dignitaries: Norman Dyck, Wally Kiss and Joe Lawson.)

Health Centre and Abbeyfield House fundraising campaigns.

We were delighted to have Pacific Mainland Commander Nancy Gibson attend the Change of Watch on May 29 to swear in new graduates and the bridge.

We had a full house at the golf club restaurant on a beautiful sunny afternoon.

In her address, Nancy Gibson gave an overview of changes on the horizon for power squadrons and advised flexibility in coping with them.

We're proud to announce the graduates from the 2011 boating

course: Benedicktus Christiaanse, Erik Petersen, Ian Grant, Michael Snook, James Rinn, Richard Crook, Patricia Beninger, Todd Slobogean, Jerryl Anslow and Paul Anslow.

The students achieved a 100-per-cent pass rate in both the boating and the radio course.

Our new 2011 bridge is: Linda Pearson (Commander), Louise McKay (Lt./C Exec.), David Pearson (Lt./C Training), Ron Hunter (1st Lt. Secretary), Sarah Davies (1st Lt. Treasurer), Diane White (1st Lt. Membership), David Pearson and Fay Wright (1st Lt. Public Relations).

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Sun smarts for summer skin safety

*Compiled by Pender Harbour Health
Centre nursing staff*

With summer now upon us and the sun hopefully making an appearance, we can look forward to many days outside enjoying endless activities.

We need to remember, however, to be aware of how much sun we're exposed to.

One of the more immediate and common problems is skin damage from the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays.

Most sunburns cause mild pain and redness but affect only the outer layer of skin (first-degree burn).

The red skin might hurt when you touch it but can usually be treated at home.

Skin that is red and painful and that swells up and blisters may mean that the skin layers and nerve endings have been damaged (second-degree burn).

This type of sunburn is usually more painful and takes longer to heal.

Other problems that can be present along with sunburn include:

- Allergic reactions to sun exposure or to sunscreen products.
- Vision problems such as burning pain, decreased vision, or partial or complete vision loss.
- Heat-related illnesses including heat rash, swelling, fainting, heat exhaustion and sunstroke or heatstroke.

HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS

Heatstroke is a medical emergency when the body fails to regulate its own temperature and body temperature continues to rise, often to 40.6 C (105 F) or higher.

This can be life-threatening and requires immediate medical attention.

For more information on signs

and symptoms of heatstroke, please see the BC Health Guide or call 8-1-1 for 24 hr health information.

Often environmental and physical conditions can make it hard to stay cool (i.e. dehydration, fatigue, overdressing, exercising, caffeine or alcohol).

Many medicines increase your risk of a heat-related illness.

If you take medicines regularly, ask your doctor for advice about hot-weather activity and your risk of getting a heat-related illness.

Also age, as older adults do not sweat easily and usually have other health conditions that affect their ability to lose heat.

Babies do not lose heat quickly and they do not sweat effectively.

OBESITY

People who are overweight have decreased blood flow to the skin, hold heat in because of the insulating layer of fat tissue and have a greater body mass to cool.

Chronic diseases, such as diabetes, heart failure, and cancer can also contribute to overheating.

These conditions change the way the body gets rid of heat.

Long-term problems include:

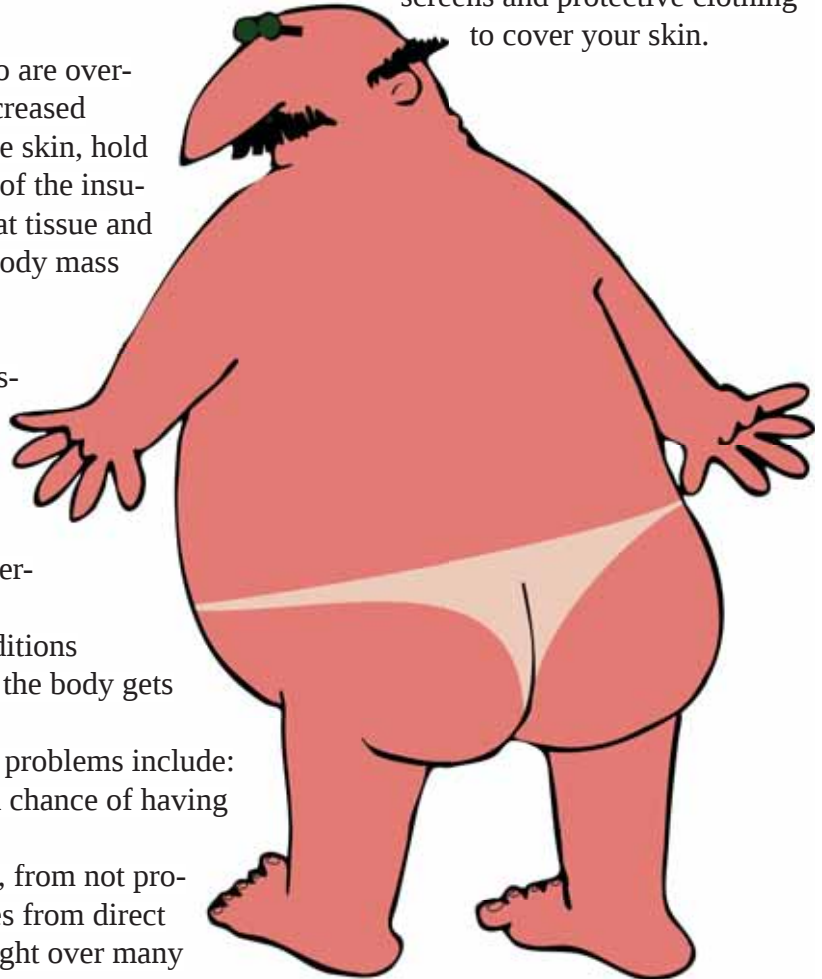
- Increased chance of having skin cancer.
- Cataracts, from not protecting your eyes from direct or indirect sunlight over many years.

- Skin changes, such as premature wrinkling or brown spots.

The severity of a sunburn may be impacted by such variables as:

- The time of day: most likely between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when the sun's rays are the strongest.
- Whether you are near reflective surfaces such as water, white sand, concrete, snow and ice.
- Altitude — it's easy to get sunburned at higher altitudes because there is less of the earth's atmosphere to block the sunlight.
- The day's UV index.

Prevention is key so include protect your skin by remembering not to stay too long in the sun and use sunscreens and protective clothing to cover your skin.



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July 4: **Jan Watson, Don White and Stephanie Phillips.**
July 5: **Ali Fraser, Wendy Lowings, Andrew Vickers and Lawrie Munro.**
July 6: **Bryce Viitanen.**
July 7: **Cypher Clerx, Shaun Georgison and Alexa Dornbierer.**
July 9: **Silas White and Danielle Atherton.**
July 10: **Tanner Haase, Beau Pantages, Sage Wright, Candy Whittaker and Maureen Luck.**
July 11: **Brittany Bouvette and Skinny Jimmy Dougan.**
July 12: **Betty Silvey and Bill Jack.**
July 13: **Steve Morris, Amy Coombes, Terry Cowan and Daron Petraschuk.**
July 14: **Malcolm Ingram.**
July 15: **Ty Campbell and Fred Baldwin.**
July 16: **Jane McOuat, Shelly Brown, Danielle Gough and Jodee Young (turns 40).**

July 17: **Greg Howitt, Cypher Clerx and Amanda Civitareale.**
July 18: **Maxine Gilkes.**
July 19: **Wade Lajlar.**
July 20: **Dwight Young, Grace Pazur and Harry Brown.**
July 21: **Eric Phillips and Karen Purnell.**
July 22: **Buck Rice, Lee Walters, Mike Zacharias, Christina Wharton, Wyatt Baldwin and Tiffany Baldwin.**
July 23: **Brody Pantages.**
July 24: **Paige Coombes and Renee Harper.**
July 25: **Adam Dornbierer**
July 26: **Chris Schroeder.**
July 28: **Rick Wagner Sr., Keith Mackie and Rick Metcalfe.**
July 29: **Randy Edwardson, Connie Sutherland and Tucker Pantages.**
July 30: **Darlene Fowlie, Shane McCune and Marvin Wutzke.**
July 31: **Parker Hohn and Ron Sim.**

JULY ASTROLOGY

JUNE 21–JULY 22 (CANCER)

Those born under the sign of the Crab value security, enjoy the safety and comfort of familiar surroundings and activities, and don't like surprises. Cancerians coin new words to describe philosophical concepts they don't understand or to refute truthiness.

JULY 23 TO AUGUST 23 (LEO)

Lions are idealists and romantics, honourable and loyal. Always individualistic, they are usually stylish, charismatic and flamboyant. These characteristics often hide a disturbingly common preoccupation with licking themselves. Down "there."

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OF JULY

JULY MUSIC FESTIVALS

- **Midsummer Festival**, Smithers, July 1-3.
- **Victoria's Ska Fest**, Victoria, July 5-9.
- **Atlin Arts and Music Festival**, Atlin, July 8-10.
- **Diversity Festival**, Shingles Beach, Texada Island, July 8-10.
- **Vancouver Island Musicfest**, Courtenay, July 8-10.
- **Vancouver Folk Music Festival**, Vancouver, July 15-17.
- **Nakusp Music Fest**, Nakusp, July 15-17.
- **CeltFest Vancouver Island**, Nanaimo, July 16-22.
- **Calgary Folk Festival**, Calgary, Alberta, July 21-24.
- **Islands Folk Festival**, Duncan, July 22-24.
- **Mission Folk Music Festival**, Mission, July 22-24.
- **Discovery Coast Music Festival**, Bella Coola, July 23-24.
- **Coombs Bluegrass Festival**, Coombs, July 29-31.
- **The Filberg Festival**, Comox, July 29-Aug. 1.

JULY WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (MERRY ISLAND)

Our average daily high temperature is 21° C and low is 14.3° C giving us a mean daily temperature of 17.7° C.

The highest July temperature recorded is 29.4° C (July 12, 1961) and the lowest is 9° C (July 1, 1979).

JULY PRECIPITATION

July averages 7 days with rainfall with a total of 41.5 mm • July has an average of 283 hours of bright sunshine. The highest daily rainfall recorded in July is 37.1 mm back on July 19, 1968. Total rainfall for the month averages at 41.5 mm.

Skookumchuck viewing times ~July~

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

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

July 1	11:22 am -XL, 6:55 pm +XL
July 2	11:59 am -XL, 7:23 pm +XL
July 3	12:38 pm -XL, 7:58 pm +XL
July 4	1:21 pm -XL, 8:26 pm +XL
July 5	2:10 pm -XL, 8:55 pm +XL
July 6	3:07 pm -L, 9:27 pm +XL
July 7	10:11 am +M, 4:03 pm -M
July 8	11:39 am +M, 5:25 pm -M
July 9	1:00 pm +L, 6:45 pm -S
July 10	2:21 pm +L, 8:05 pm -S
July 11	7:36 am -XL, 3:32 pm +XL
July 12	9:37 am -XL, 4:38 pm +XL
July 13	10:45 am -XL, 5:25 pm +XL
July 14	11:37 am -XL, 6:10 pm +XL
July 15	12:18 pm -XL, 6:49 pm +XL
July 16	12:15 pm -XL, 7:22 pm +XL
July 17	12:48 pm -XL, 7:49 pm +XL
July 18	1:14 pm -L, 8:11 pm +XL
July 19	1:56 pm -L, 8:31 pm +XL
July 20	2:43 pm -M, 8:50 pm +L
July 21	10:04 am +M, 3:26 pm -M
July 22	11:06 am +M, 4:37 pm -S
July 23	12:21 pm +L, 5:45 pm -S
July 24	1:32 pm +L, 6:57 pm -S
July 25	2:37 pm +L, 8:04 pm -S
July 26	7:40 am -L, 3:35 pm +L
July 27	8:50 am -XL, 4:29 pm +XL
July 28	9:45 am -XL, 5:13 pm +XL
July 29	10:30 am -XL, 5:53 pm +XL
July 30	11:10 am -XL, 6:27 pm +XL
July 31	11:49 am -XL, 7:01 pm +XL

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.

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Some tips for undertaking succesful summer painting projects



By Alan Stewart

Painting is one of the most common home improvement jobs that homeowners take on themselves... because

they can!

While it may take you a little bit more time than a professional crew, with the proper preparation and with the right tools, you can refresh the look of your house and add loads of value at relatively low cost.

Not only that but you'll be protecting the surface of your home's siding and trim from weather damage.

Once you have made the decision to paint the exterior of your house, there are a few important considerations before you begin.

SURFACE PREPARATION

There are few things more important than properly preparing the surface to accept the paint.

This step will make or break your paint job.

If the surface isn't clean, dry, and free of debris, then your new paint won't stick. Period.

It can be a little tedious, but spend the money on a heavy scraper and get busy knocking off all of those loose flakes.



Take a wire brush and scrub off any old cobwebs that may be stretched across your siding and use it to break loose the mildew that tends to grow on the shady side of your house.

If you don't have one, rent a pressure washer and remove all of the dirt from the foundation and salt residue that may have built up on ocean-

front homes.

Any and all of these steps will greatly improve the life, look, and quality of your paint job.

WATCH THE WEATHER

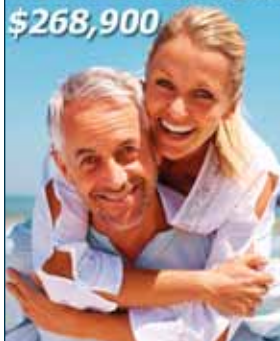
It may sound a little obvious, but check the weather. Most cans of paint will tell you right on the label how

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long the paint will take to cure, and some even tell you how long the paint must not be rained on.

Make sure you look at the long term forecast, and if it's bad, don't paint — even if it means you have to wait until next weekend or you lose your volunteer help.

There is no sense in spending money on paint only to watch it all wash down the storm gutter, leaving your house a mottled mess.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT PAINT

With luck, either the previous homeowner or yourself kept a can of the original paint in the garage or basement.

If so, try and use the same product.

Paint sticks best to itself. If you can't find the original product, make sure that you at least determine if the product that is already on your house is latex or oil based.

You should not put one over the other. If you do, it may well begin to peel off in sheets in a very short time.

The best way to find out what you already have is to grab a sheet of sandpaper and run it over an inconspicuous place on the house.

If the paint begins to roll up into little balls on your sandpaper, then it's latex.

If it gets dusty and chalky, then it's oil.

CHOOSE THE BEST APPLICATOR FOR THE JOB

This really depends on the type of house you are painting.

On a house with horizontal cedar siding, a big four-inch brush is the way to go.

A brush allows you to work paint into all of the crevices and creates a much more even coat than a roller
July 2011

would.

It also allows you to work up underneath the bottom edge of the siding a little bit. You would also need to use a brush on any trim work.

A two-inch angle brush works well for window and door trim.

If you are dealing with a masonry surface like stucco or brick, it is advisable to roll the surface.

Get a roller head with a thick nap like 3/4-inch to 1-inch. This will allow the head to hold a lot of paint and will also allow it to work a little better into the natural pits that occur in masonry surfaces.

If you have access to a sprayer (and you are in an area where it can be safely done without worrying about overspray landing on your neighbour's car), then it's certainly the fastest way to go.

You will still want to use a roller in a technique called back rolling to give your paint job an even finish. Immediately after you spray the surface, go back over the whole face with a wet roller to balance the paint coverage.

If you don't, the surface will most likely look streaky after it dries.

DROP CLOTH

True, you are outside and there is no way for you to spill paint on the

carpet while you are out there.

But even if you spill paint on an inconspicuous spot in the grass, you will step in it.

After you step in it, you will walk on your concrete driveway or new cedar deck — guaranteed.

CLEAN UP

Take the time to read all your labels before you start and make sure that you have the necessary supplies for clean up before you begin. A painting tool that is left sitting around for a few hours full of paint becomes trash-worthy very quickly.

So if you want to preserve your tools for next time, make sure clean up is included in the planning stages.

Latex paints are the norm these days which means far fewer harsh chemicals involved in the process.

That's it.

Call a colour consultant or visit the hardware store for some tips on colours and then just get started.

Painting a house is a satisfying project with relatively quick visual rewards for your labours!

Please send any suggestions for future columns to alanstewart2020@gmail.com.



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Kitty counter conundrum



By John Wade

Hi John,

We have a new seven-month old cat.

Is there any way of discouraging, training or controlling his jumping up on counter tops?

Nothing seems to work. We've tried water spraying, lifting down quickly with a stern "No!" etc.

It is amazing how fast he can jump from the floor to any table or counter top with little effort.

Are we wasting our time trying to control this?

Ken

Dear Ken,

Many years ago, my wife (at the time) complained that my German Shepherd Beau was getting up on the couch while we were out of the house.

Somehow it had slipped her mind that I was a professional dog trainer so I assured her that she was mistaken and furthermore she was confusing her two cats' hair with my dog's hair.

I confidently added that I had been with Beau longer than I'd been with her and therefore I knew him better than she did and there was no way, nohow, that he was spending a mo-



ment of his day on the couch.

She was unmoved by my loyalty (or my credentials) and countered that as she was the one doing the vacuuming, she had first-hand experience.

She assured me that he was indeed finding a place to rest his head in our absence and it was on the couch.

In order to clear my dog's name, I proposed an experiment that I was sure would reveal where the blame should rightfully lay — her two cats, Timmy and Rufus.

Both shed hair like Charlie Sheen burns bridges and I wouldn't even put it past them to plant evidence in an effort to malign my dog's impeccable reputation.

I bought some sticky-on-both-sides tape similar to what is used to keep carpets in place.

I then cut lengths and laid strips

on the couch and couch pillows.

My wife agreed that if there was no dog hair on the tape, Beau would be exonerated. We went out for a coffee.

To this day I have no idea how the cats managed it, but upon our return Beau greeted us at the front door with a pillow clinging to his backside.

Two-way tape works pretty well at deterring cats from certain areas.

Stick it to some cardboard cut to shape the areas you want the cat to stay off and when you're going to be out of the area, put it in place.

Yet another is to buy carpet protector mats, either the ones that roll out for stairs or hallways, or the stiff ones you put under an office chair.

They both have little pointy things to keep them in place.

Again, cut to shape and put it upside down in the designated areas. I've seen a version of these sold in pet retail stores specifically for this purpose but it costs way more money.

Pawsitively yours,
John Wade

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Marine aerial acrobatic display coming to Garden Bay

Patrons of the Garden Bay Pub will soon be treated to the first event of its kind ever held in Pender Harbour.

On July 16 and 17, the crew of the sailboat *La Loupiote* will perform two aerial acrobat shows nightly from her mast nightly at the Garden Bay Pub dock.

Since 2004, French sailors Franck Rabilier and Delphine Lechiffart have been travelling with their two children performing shows at various venues throughout the world.

Both trained circus performers, they've adapted their high flying skills to their home on the sea.

The French acrobats are performing along the BC coast this summer with two unusual performances.

At 6 p.m. each evening, the couple will perform "The Navigators," a show inspired by Buster Keaton and silent films.

It's an acrobatic clown show described as "a parody of navigational manoeuvres that poke fun at the mishaps of maladroit navigators."

Starting at 8 p.m., the second show, "Between Wing and Island," interprets the male-female relationship in a spectacle of aerial choreography and acrobatics.

It's likened to "an aerial and poetic ballet" representing a range of emotions found in human relationships including love and humour.

The shows are suitable for all ages and last 20 minutes each.

They are free, but the artists are not paid for their work and invite the public to make donations to help them and their two kids continue their adventure around the world.

Additional information is available on their website: www.voilier-spectacle.com.



Voiliersspectacle photo

French sailors and aerial acrobats Franck Rabilier and Delphine Lechiffart are travelling around the world with their two children performing on their sailboat *La Loupiote*.



Notice of changes to AREA A BUS SERVICE

Starting July 5, the bus will route via Lagoon Road between the Community Hall and the medical clinic.

Service will terminate at Redroofs Road and Highway #101 in Halfmoon Bay where passengers can then transfer to the Halfmoon Bay bus to carry on to Sechelt.

Additional service will be added between Halfmoon Bay and Pender Harbour. (Fares have been adjusted to account for the need to pay for the Halfmoon Bay bus.)

For more schedule information:

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PENDER GOLF

Campbell wins Sechelt men's amateur

By Jan Watson



Congratulations
to Lorne Campbell
our current men's
champion who won
the Sechelt Men's
amateur tournament

on June 12 after many attempts over
the last several years.

With a second round of even-
par-72, Lorne overcame a three-shot
deficit to post a winning score of 150
for the 36-hole total.

INTERCLUB

The men have done well beating
the Sechelt Golf Club by 26.5 points
to 21.5 points at home on June 1.

They also beat Sunshine Coast
Golf Club 27 points to 21 points.
Once again they had a good win at
Pender and played well enough in the
away game to win overall.

The ladies were not so successful
losing to Sechelt overall.

MEN'S CLUB

The annual Stableford tourna-
ment on May 14 saw winner Alex
Kerr narrowly defeat Rusty Ellis by
22 points to 21 points. Kps on No. 3
went to Lorne Campbell.

On May 31 the men played "The
Shoot-out" with two-man teams.

Winners with a score of 49 after
a count back were Rob Cameron and
Alex Thomson.

Kps on No. 3 was Eldy Gandy
and on No. 6, Blake Priebe.

June 7 saw another Stableford
with Rusty Ellis taking top spot with
24 points. Kps on No. 3 was Alex
Kerr and No. 6, Lorne Campbell.

LADIES CLUB

On May 26 the ladies played a

new game "3-2-1" and the winning
team was Jackie Grant, Louise McKay
and Jan Watson.

On June 9 the ladies played a
modified Stableford in two flights.

Hitting off the white and red tees,
Jan Watson took first with 20 points
while Pat Hallborg came in second
with 17 points.

Hitting off the red tees first was
Carol Reid with 10 pts and second
place went to Denise Jones with 9 pts.

An alternate shot scramble on
June 16 with two person teams was
taken, after a count back, by Carol
Newman and Jan Watson with a 101.

LADIES STEAK NIGHT

On June 10 the ladies played
earlier than usual so they could watch
the hockey game.

The winners were Nora Brooks,
Pat Hallborg and Jan Watson with 35.

GARDEN BAY PUB TOURNAMENT

Eleven teams participated and the
winners were Rick, Tim, Blake and
Dale with 30; second with 32 were
Tim, Bubba, Rick and Lloyd.

Men's long drive went to Blake
Mithrush and for the ladies it was Lor-
raine Wareham. Kps for the men was
taken by Bubba and Jan Watson for
the ladies.

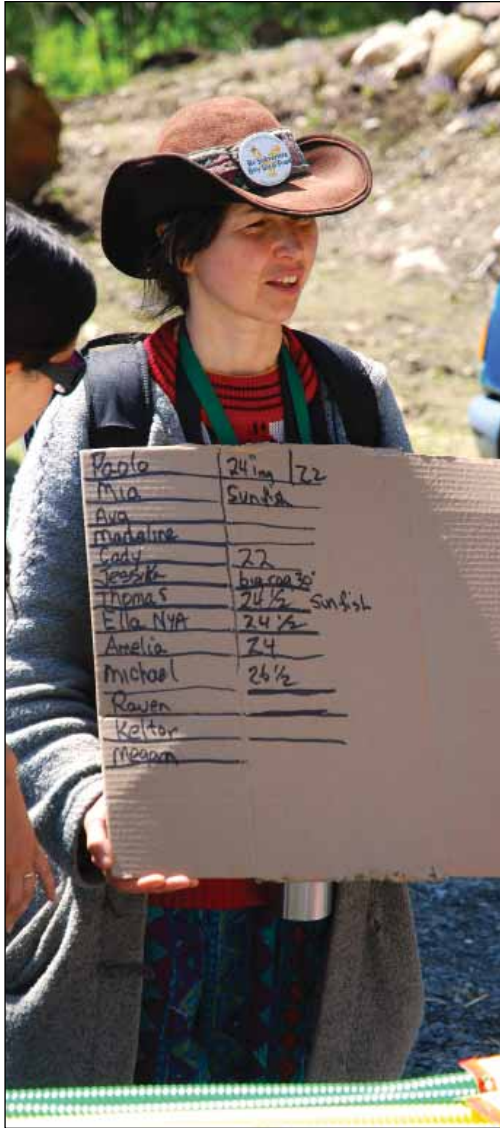
FROM THE 19TH HOLE

Golf.

You hit down to make the ball go
up. You swing left and the ball
goes right. The lowest score wins
and, on top of that, the winner
buys the drinks.

No one ever said it was a fair
game.

Egmont Day parade, June 4



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



Vague recollections have persisted for many years that the first non-native person to live in Pender Harbour was a Chinese man who operated a fish saltery in Irvines Landing.

Before Charlie Irvine landed here and lent his name to the stretch of beach at the western entrance to Pender Harbour, a family named Hsu had settled there years before in 1873.

The historic events depicted here are loosely based on the author's own imagination and should not be interpreted as fact — unless it suits the reader to do so.

By Anne Crocker

Part XII: (Continued from June 2011)

For centuries, summer shifted all focus of Kálpilín residents to the harvest of salmon.

Despite the enormous upheaval and tragedy during the 25 years preceding 1875, very little had changed. The remaining inhabitants still relied on returning salmon runs to provide food for the coming year.

They were often joined by their former friends and neighbours who journeyed from Sechelt to camp for weeks to take part in the harvest of returning stsekay (sockeye) salmon to Lake. Animosity was rare — all understood there was plenty of salmon for all and even more so since the white man's disease had taken so many.

Sauch-en-auch Lake is the Shishalh word for “neck.” Qwuní believed it referred to the narrow strip of land that separated the lake from the ocean. A tiny creek was all that connected the two and it was through here that the stsekay would pass to spawn on the gravel shore of the lake and die.

For as long as he and his family had lived in Pender's Harbour, Wei Hsu had joined Qwuní and Smqáma in the summer harvest at the creek mouth. Stsekay was the prized salmon, with deep red flesh and, especially for Lucy who had grown up on the banks of the Fraser River, a flavour no other salmon could match.

The site was a short paddle from the mouth of the harbour but more than an hour hike on a forest trail that led from the Hsu home. Throughout the year, Mary, Lucy and Inix often foraged Sauch-en-auch's shores and tributaries for the spectacular variety of berries, roots and bulbs found there. When foraging they would follow the trail because it offered a bounty of edible plants.

Most who visited the lake did so by canoe. At low tide, the lake could be accessed from the beach by a short walk but during high tide it was possible to enter the lake by pulling the boats through the creek. As the tide came in young men would often show off their canoe handling

skills by running the current down into the ocean.

Hsu had visited the lake many times in the past while prospecting for gold. Qwuní had told him about another large lake a short hike through the forest from the north end of Sauch-en-auch but he hadn't made it that far yet. Instead, Hsu had concentrated on exploring the lake's many tributaries, hoping he might find another paystreak.

For the people of Kálpilín, the paystreak was found in the small bay where the lake and the ocean met twice a day. There, the salmon would mill around waiting for a signal to enter. They almost always did this at night during a high tide but almost never before the people had taken what they needed.

Qwuní's grandfather had taught him that the Creator offered his people a brief opportunity to harvest just enough fish to supply their needs. When he felt they had enough, the salmon would enter the lake and the fishing would end. For generations, the Shishalh had maintained a rock weir at the creek mouth. The stsekay would mill around the creek mouth, tasting its waters and waiting for their call. If it hadn't come after a high tide, many would remain trapped behind the rock walls when the tide receded.

The weir was considered a shared resource; all understood its importance and the danger of showing disrespect to the gift it offered. Like many others, Wei Hsu and his family would camp on the shores of the lake to make full use of the long days and to enjoy the recreation offered by the summer's warmth. While the men waited for the next tide, the women prepared the fish for drying. Between this and foraging for the abundant berries available nearby there was still time at the end of the day for swimming and feasting.

Hsu went along with many of the rules and rituals associated with the annual stsekay harvest out of respect for Qwuní and Smqáma but he didn't fully appreciate them. Increasingly his customers preferred the stsekay over any other for its bright red flesh and taste and now



Image courtesy of Hsu family archives

Mary Hsu's painting of the Shishalh salmon weir at the mouth of Sakinaw Creek at low tide, July 1875. Men can be seen rebuilding or repairing the walls of the weir.

that his saltery and cannery business was growing steadily, he relied on the bounty the salmon run provided more than ever before. The summer of 1875 was to be the first season he would be equipped with a gillnet. The potential for taking advantage of the vast quantities of returning salmon was obvious and though Qwuní and Smqáma both voiced objections about his intentions to fish outside the creek mouth, Hsu dismissed their concerns as superstition.

As the first sockeye salmon began to arrive and mill around off the shores of the bay, so too did families setting up camp near the beach and shores of the lake nearby.

Qwuní told stories of how when he was a child a hundred or so people would arrive to camp and take part in the fishing. Now only a couple of dozen were here and most of them were from Father Durieu's Sechelt village.

For once, Durieu didn't accompany his flock and it set a more amicable tone to the affair. The tensions that existed previously between the two parts of the fractured community seemed eased by the fact they were on common ground. Differences about religion and morality fell away as the older members returned to the ways of their youth.

At low tide, the men would work to repair or im-

prove the weir, rolling large rocks up inclines to increase its height. The women prepared their camps and set about gathering berries and many other varieties of food available a stone's throw away.

Children were allowed to swim and explore freely and Mary revelled in the rare company of companions. Her father had never seen her looking so happy as when she swam across to the west side of the lake on her own while the young boys watched, astonished at her bravery. They understood that to venture that far out in the lake was inviting trouble from the serpent that lived beneath its surface.

In the evenings, the families would gather around a fire on the beach to watch for jumping salmon and to tell stories. A popular legend was of the great serpent that lived in Sauch-en-auch Lake. Someone told the story of how, in the old days, only the bravest young men would attempt the swim across to the cliffs on the west shore. It was a mark of extreme bravery and one that indicated a boy was ready to become a man.

As she listened intently to the storyteller, Wei Hsu watched his daughter's eyes grow wide in fear. It was the first time she had heard it.

(Continued next month)

BC Bestsellers:

(For the week of June 19)

1. **Adventures in Solitude** by Grant Lawrence
2. **The Sentimentalists** by Johanna Skibsrud
3. **52 Best Day Trips from Vancouver**, New Edition by Jack Christie
4. **I Feel Great about My Hands** edited by Shari Graydon
5. **Backyard Bounty** by Linda Gilkeson
6. **Patriot Hearts** by John Furlong
7. **Trauma Farm** by Brian Brett
8. **How Bad are Bananas?** by Mike Berners-Lee
9. **Geology of British Columbia, New Edition** by Sydney Cannings
10. **Vij's at Home** by Meeru Dhalwala & Vikram Vij

~ Assn. of Book Publishers of BC



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BOOKS

Of happy endings and Cowichan sweaters



Keith Shaw photo

By Theresa Kishkan

I grew up on Vancouver Island and I vividly remember my delight in discovering the work of Jack Hodgins, a writer whose novels and short stories located themselves firmly in the weather and landscape of the western edge of North America.

Hodgins teeters on the edge of magic realism, a style of fiction and visual art that balances a realistic context or setting against fantastical elements. Merville in the Comox Valley, with its small farms and logging operations, often serves as the setting for his work, and the scattering of islands off the coast, are lovingly and meticulously detailed; the characters populating these places are larger-than-life, sometimes mythic, occasionally caricatures. You think to yourself, "People would never behave like this, or live like this, or dream these dreams," or you think that surely the world is not this wildly colourful, and then you look around and realize that perhaps art imitates life rather than vice versa.

The newest Hodgins novel, *The Master of Happy Endings* (Thomas Allen, 2010), is a wonderful and timely story of what happens when a retired teacher, widowed after a long happy marriage, and now living on an island resembling Lasqueti or Hornby, posts an ad in the newspaper asking to be adopted by a family needing a tutor. Sitting on the porch of his shack with his cello, trying vainly to play anything but Dvorak's Cello Concerto in B Minor,

Opus 104 (since his wife's death, the instrument refuses any other music), Axel Thorstad hopes that returning to the teaching of his beloved English literature might be a way out of the malaise that envelopes him.

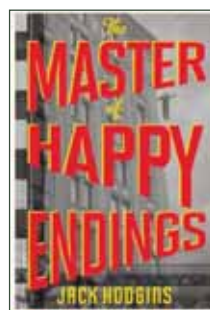
The story takes Axel, and the reader (holding on by the seat of his or her pants), to Hollywood and back, after a stop in one of Victoria's tonier neighbourhoods and one of its homeless shelters. If you've ever wondered what it might be like to hang around the set of a television series populated by beautiful troubled young people, then this novel is for you.

The *Master of Happy Endings* is rich with coincidence, with ghosts from Axel's past showing up in unlikely places, and so one must suspend disbelief while enjoying the fine prose of a writer who allows the particulars of a time and place to shape both the story and its characters.

Some readers might remember the small debacle during the 2010 Olympics when the Hudson's Bay

Company, official clothier of the Games, offended the Coast Salish people by introducing a sweater obviously influenced by the iconic Cowichan sweaters so many of us are familiar with.

The HBC had the opportunity to commission Coast Salish knitters to produce authentic sweaters, thus providing an economic boost to small communities, but chose to manufacture look-alike garments instead. No Native input was sought or received during the design process and many felt that this was another example of cultural appropriation. The media grabbed the story and eventually the knitters were given the



BOOKS

right to sell their creations alongside the “official” sweaters.

In *Working With Wool: A Coast Salish Legacy & The Cowichan Sweater* (Sono Nis Press, 2010), Sylvia Olsen provides a fascinating history of these beautiful garments.

Their origins lie in the durable wool-len blankets created with mountain goat wool and the hair of small dogs; these blankets became trade items, sought after for their warmth and ability to repel water. The materials were available and when European settlers on Vancouver Island taught Native women to

knit, the results were a wonderful marriage of utility and cultural expression. The unique graphic designs speak so clearly of the world they represent.

Profiles of some of the knitters offer us windows into a community of lively and enterprising women and men. Sarah and Fred Modeste, for example: they developed and operated a wool carding production plant, washing, drying, and carding high-quality fleece, and exporting finished product as far away as Japan.

I loved reading about the strategies women initiated in order to command fair prices for their knitted work from tourist shops on Vancouver Is-

land and farther afield. Inevitably, the story of the sweaters echoed the stories framed by colonization and poverty, pride and dignity. And I loved learning about the systems developed in order to allow women to knit and sell from home, taking into their own hands the production and retailing of their creations.



Working With Wool is a full of wonderful photographs, both archival images of stacked blankets and baskets to show the clear line from the geometric decorative values of ceremonial objects to contemporary icons purchased by avatars in the online world of Second Life.

“The history of the Cowichan sweater has been, and still is, one of struggle,” writes Olsen.

“The story has taken place over the counter and on the tailgate, where exchanges were made between the European immigrants and Coast Salish people. It’s tempting to frame the story as one of domination and oppression by the immigrants or as a victorious tribute to the persistent, ingenious woolworkers who just didn’t quit. But maybe it’s more complex than either of those stories. Perhaps, more aptly, it’s both stories.”

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



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JULY AUTHOR FEATURE:

Darlene Foster,
author of *Amanda in Arabia*

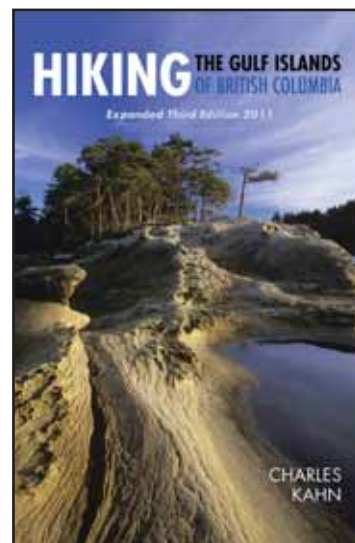
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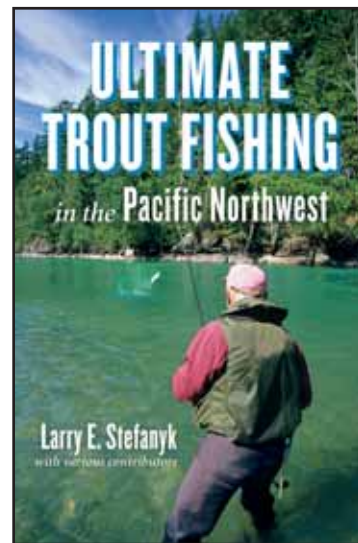


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By Shane McCune

"I've done the calculation and your chances of winning the lottery are identical whether you play or not."

— Humorist Fran Lebowitz

How did gambling become so respectable?

A century ago it was almost entirely illegal in Canada, and as recently as the mid-1970s racetracks and bingo halls were pretty much the only sanctioned places for betting or games of chance.

I can remember buying a ticket on the legendary (and illegal) Irish Hospital Sweepstake, partly for the illicit thrill and partly for the beautiful engraving on the ticket. I don't recall anyone being arrested for buying a sweeps ticket, but you bought it under an alias just in case. A friend's dad who worked for Canadian Pacific Railways bought a sweeps ticket every year under the moniker "Goodbye Crump" — referring to CP president Buck Crump.

I suppose gambling really went mainstream in Canada with the introduction of the Olympic Lottery in 1976. It was a "temporary" measure to pay for the Montreal Games. By the time that debt was paid 30 years later, Lotto 6/49 had become a permanent fixture.

Now wagering is a normal everyday activity for millions of Canadians and a mainstay of government revenues. Governments' addiction to that cash flow is even more pernicious than the rising level of addiction among individual gamblers.

At this point I should probably confess that I don't really care for gambling, and I'll bet you five bucks you can't guess why.

It's not because I lose every time I play cards, pick a Super Bowl square at the pub or buy a raffle ticket.

Nor do I regard it as a damnable vice. I was raised by Irish Protestants who considered wagering as sinful as booze, profanity or spicy food, but I've managed to embrace the last three.

No, it's just the sheer pointlessness of gambling that leaves me cold. I don't mind wasting money — in fact I have a flair for it — but I want to get something in return: a single malt Scotch, a golf club guaranteed to take strokes off my game, a loud shirt I probably shouldn't wear, yet another fountain pen, a gas-guzzling V-8 land yacht . . .

In short, I regard money as something essentially boring that you trade for an item or activity that is more interesting. But throwing away cash on the slim chance of getting more cash back . . . where's the fun in that?

And if someone told me a dozen years ago that in 2011 people would watch other people play poker on TV, I would have said, "Sure, and there'll be another show about people shopping with coupons."

You might say there's a sociable aspect to a low-stakes poker night, but it has been my observation that there's usually little tolerance for conversation not related to the game. Or maybe the guys just didn't appreciate my jokes.

Racetracks aren't about horses anymore, since most survive on revenues from slot machines. Moneywise, one arm beats four legs.

And is anything sadder than those folks sitting in the middle of the Powell River mall, staring mutely at a keno screen for hours on end?

Dropping a buck or five on the lottery for a week's daydreams might be considered a modest entertainment expense. But more people are gambling more money at a rate that smacks more of desperation than recreation.

Statistics Canada says gambling revenue rose steadily from \$2.73 billion in 1992 to roughly \$13.7 billion in 2007 and remained at that level through the recession. Profits from gambling totalled just over \$6.7 billion in 2008, representing 4.7 per cent of all provincial revenue. B.C. collects about \$1 billion a year.

In 2009 casinos accounted for 34 per cent of the net revenue from the gambling industry. Lotteries accounted for 26 per cent, slot machines 21 per cent and video lottery terminals 19 per cent.

VLTs, known as the crack cocaine of gambling, would undoubtedly rank higher if they were available in Ontario and B.C., the only provinces to ban them. They are so addictive that one of every four people who play them is either a problem gambler or at risk of becoming one, according to a 2003 StatsCan study.

That study also found that lottery tickets are the least addictive form of gambling. Apparently addicts don't like waiting for results.

It estimated that 1.2 million adult Canadians were at risk of or already had betting troubles. Of those, 120,000 people had financial or social problems, were depressed or anxious, or were alcoholics.

quiet, they're about to announce the lottery numbers. ~ Homer Simpson

A shocking 18 per cent said they'd considered killing themselves in the year before the survey. Another 370,000 adults are considered at moderate risk of developing such symptoms.

"The insidiousness of excess gambling is revealed by the 27 per cent of moderate-risk gamblers and 64 per cent of problem gamblers who wanted to stop gambling in the year prior to the survey, but believed they could not," the study said.

"About 56 per cent of problem gamblers had tried to quit, but couldn't."

An RCMP study of illegal gambling in B.C. from 2005 to 2008 found it shared many problems with legal gambling, including loan-sharking, extortions, assaults, kidnappings and murders.

Issues more specific to legal gambling included:

- Attempted infiltration by organized crime;
- Counterfeit money passed through casinos and race-tracks;
- Counterfeit pull-tabs;
- Counterfeit casino chips, and
- Money-laundering through casinos and race-tracks.

At what point do the social and monetary costs of gambling outweigh its advantages?

Don't ask the B.C. Lottery Corp. In 2009 it goosed the weekly limit on its Play Now website from \$120 to \$9,999. Which means a dedicated punter could piss away more than \$500,000 a year.

The NDP called that "unacceptable," but their objection is only a matter of degree, since they made no effort to wean themselves from the casino teat when they were in power.

And if they had, there would have been hell to pay. Scores of non-profit arts, sports and community groups depend on gambling proceeds to survive. In 1999 the NDP government signed an agreement with the B.C. Association of for Charitable Gaming promising to share one-third of BCLC revenues with licensed charities.

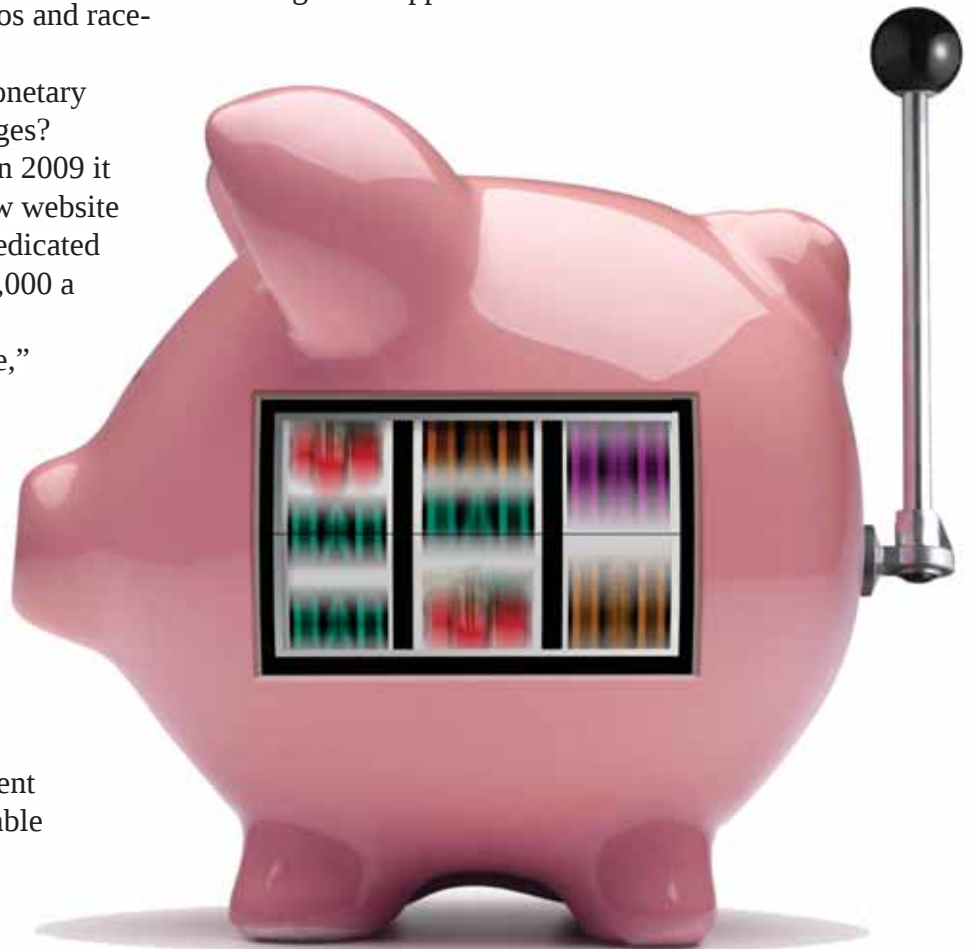
That commitment has never been met, and the Campbell government openly reneged on the agreement, slashing the charities' share to 10 per cent. Premier Christy Clark has topped it up by \$15 million, but it's still nowhere near 33 per cent of the take.

Now we have the bizarre spectacle of Vancouver Not Vegas — the citizens' group that led the successful campaign against a casino expansion at B.C. Place — lobbying Clark to increase the flow of gambling money to the Vancouver International Children's Festival and other non-profit groups.

The dirty secret none of the charities wants to talk about is that gambling revenue is a "voluntary tax" too often paid by those who can least afford it. Yeah, nobody's forcing them to go to the casinos, but that's not the point. Nobody's forcing a drug addict into the alley, but we don't peddle crack to put on a kiddies' show.

I'd like to see politicians campaign on shutting down online gambling, with the lost revenues to be replaced by reversing the past decade's tax cuts for the rich.

But five will get you 10 that ain't gonna happen.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

JULY

- Fri. July 1 (to Oct. 4)

Harbour Gallery Summer membership exhibit- Harbour Gallery, daily 11a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Fri. July 1 (to 5)

Rug Hooking demonstration with Michelle Sirois-Silver - Fibreworks Gallery
- Sat. July 2

Garden Bay Sailing Club's Malaspina Regatta
- Sat. July 2

Blues in the Park - Madeira Park (Behind PH Community Hall), noon to 3 p.m.
- Sat. July 2

P. H. Legion presents "Christmas in July" - P. H. Legion, 5:30 p.m.
- Sat. July 5

Area A bus service schedule changes
- Wed. July 6

BC Bike Race (Stage 4, Earls Cove to Sechelt) rolls through local trails
- Sat. July 9

Carole Rubin/Tyler Ellison "Shave for the Brave" cancer fundraiser - IGA Madeira Park, noon
- Mon. July 11

P. H. Food Bank pick up - P. H. Community Church, noon
- Fri. July 15

Acrobatic Sailboat La Loupiote - Garden Bay Pub, 6 p.m./8 p.m.
- Sat. July 16

P. H. Legion Golf & Dinner - P. H. Golf Course/P. H. Legion
- Sat. July 16

Acrobatic Sailboat La Loupiote - Garden Bay Pub, 6 p.m./8 p.m.
- Sat. July 16

P.H. Aquatic Centre closes for the season
- Sun. July 17

Halfmoon Bay Country Fair - Cooper's Green
- Sat. July 23

Bluewaters Books presents author Darlene Foster - Bluewaters Book, 1 to 3 p.m.
- Mon. July 25

P. H. Food Bank pick-up - P. H. Community Church, noon



FERRY DEPARTURES

~ Effective to Sept. 1 ~

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

Langdale	Horseshoe Bay	Earl's Cove	Saltery Bay
6:20 a.m.	7:25 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	7:15 a.m.
7:55 a.m. (Sat only)	9:00 a.m. (Sat only)	10:35 a.m.	9:25 a.m.
8:30 a.m.	9:40 a.m.	12:50 p.m.	11:40 a.m.
10:05 a.m. (Sat. only)	11:10 a.m. (Sat only)	3:10 p.m.	2:00 p.m.
10:50 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	5:35 p.m.	4:30 p.m.
▼ 12:30 p.m.	▼ 1:35 p.m.	7:40 p.m.	6:40 p.m.
1:05 p.m. (Daily except Sat.)	2:15 p.m. (Daily except Sat.)	9:35 p.m.	8:35 p.m.
▲ 2:40 p.m.	▲ 3:45 p.m.	11:25 p.m.	10:30 p.m.
◆ 3:25 p.m.	◆ 4:30 p.m.		
4:45 p.m. (Daily except Sat.)	5:50 p.m. (Daily except Sat.)		
◆ 5:30 p.m.	◆ 6:35 p.m.		
♣ 6:55 p.m.	♣ 7:55 p.m.		
◆ 7:35 p.m.	◆ 8:40 p.m.		
8:55 p.m. (Tues & Wed. only)	9:50 p.m. (Tues & Wed. only)		
◆ 9:40 p.m.	◆ 10:35 p.m.		

▼ Mon, Thurs, Fri. & Sat. only

▲ Tues, Wed, Fri, Sun & Aug. 1 only

◆ Daily except Tues & Wed.

♣ Tues., Wed., & Sun. only (except July 31)

Deep Thoughts . . .

"I don't say the bird is 'good' and the bat is 'bad.' But I will say this: at least the bird is less nude."

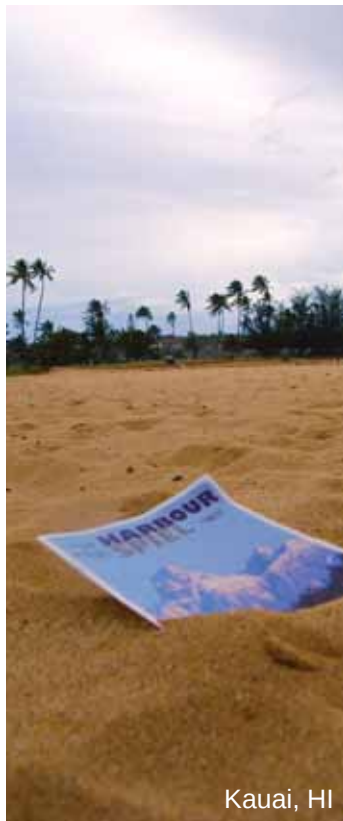
— Jack Handey



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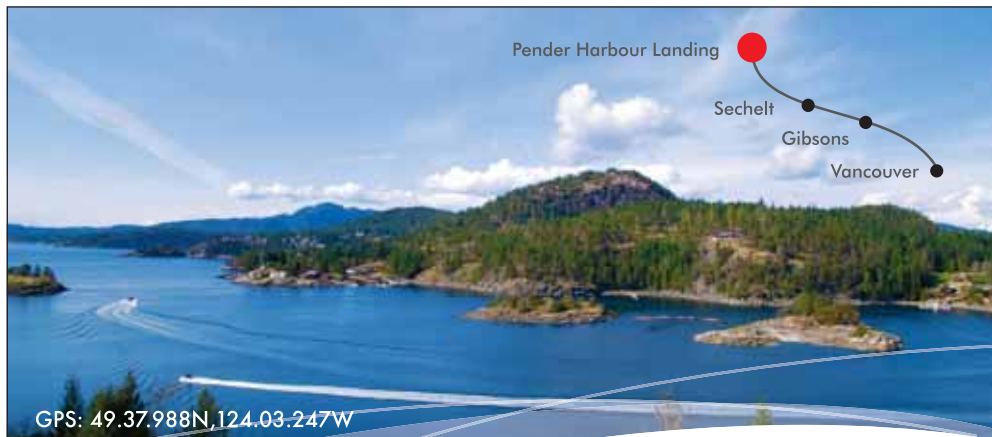
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July 3: Surveillance
July 4: Sunday Jam with Larrie Cook
July 5: Willie McCaLder
July 6: Willie McCaLder
July 7: Steve Kozak
July 8: Steve Kozak
July 9: Steve Kozak
July 10: Sunday Jam with Joe Stanton
July 13: Ray O'Toole
July 14: Ray O'Toole
July 15: Acrobatic Sailboat La Loupiote/Ray O'Toole
July 16: Acrobatic Sailboat La Loupiote/Ray O'Toole
July 17: Sunday Jam with Gaetan
July 18: 1066
July 19: 1066
July 20: 1066
July 22: Ruth McGillvray & Sheldon Bradley Band
July 23: Ruth McGillvray & Sheldon Bradley Band
July 24: Sunday Jam with Peter Van B3
July 26: Willie McCaLder
July 27: Willie McCaLder
July 28: Willie McCaLder
July 29: Midnight Eagles
July 30: Midnight Eagles
July 31: Midnight Eagles

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