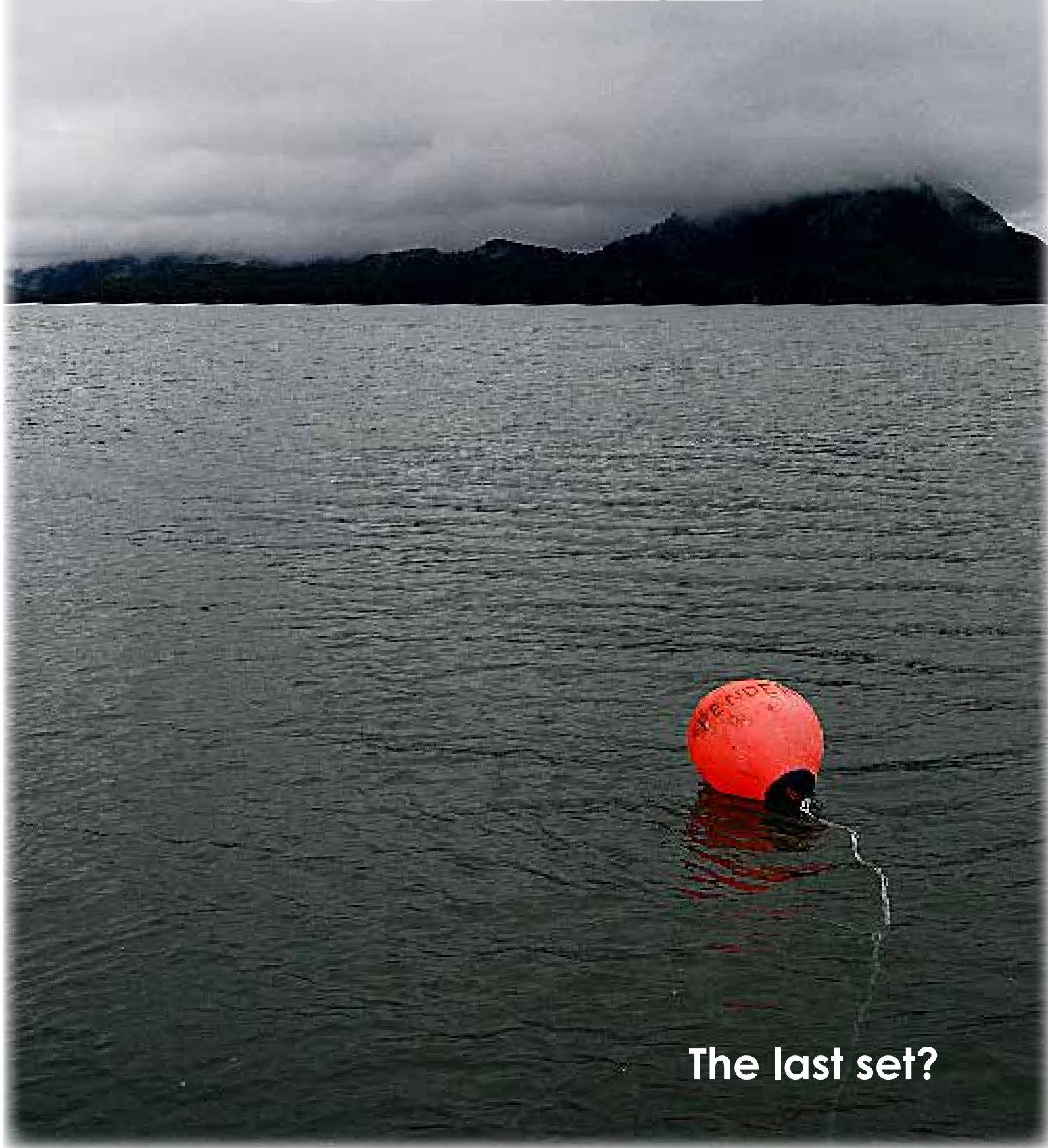


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HARBOUR SPIEL

AUGUST 2007
Issue 200



The last set?

bonfire music festival 2007

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HARBOUR SPIEL



The Independent Voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990

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Brian Lee.

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Unless otherwise credited, all photos taken by Brian Lee.

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EDITORIAL

Archive it

By Brian Lee

It's easy to forget that Pender Harbour holds a prominent chair at the table of BC's coastal history.

There's been many a nod to its role in coastal settlement in BC literature but the story hasn't really been told yet.

I've tried in vain to encourage a certain local author/publisher that he should take up the project of recording our history in book form.

It's not like the thought hadn't occurred to him before but there's just so much good stuff that it makes for an impossibly daunting task.

Would you include trivia like how Stanley Park's Lumberman's Arch came from Kleindale?

Would you try to verify rumours that Tiffy Wray offered comfort to Elizabeth Smart, author of one of literature and Garden Bay's greatest triumphs, "By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept?"

Would including research into the heritage of pioneer families clear up confusion about genealogy or rekindle the popularity of inbreeding jokes?

The amount of research required could occupy an author for years and even if there was a supply of readily available sources to pull from, what would you cut in order to keep it thinner than the Bible?

Ultimately, whether the book gets written or not isn't important.

We have a responsibility to ensure that the history isn't lost altogether so that if some future person needs to access our past, details will be available somewhere.

Somewhere usually means a

museum.

Most people think that means a place with a curious smell where folks go to see old relics.

While that's true, the most important role of a museum is archiving historical information.

The part we see is just a show-room for some of the materials gathered.

As old-timers pass on they're taking their priceless memories and records of our heritage with them.

Photographs end up being divided by family members who often don't live here and maybe don't appreciate the importance of a bunch of old "junk."

Pender Harbour needs a society committed to the adoption of a location where a part-time archivist could be employed to collect this material.

A place where old journals could be digitized and preserved.

Old photos scanned and archived.

A place where people knew they could donate their precious family mementoes and trust they'd be taken care of and shared.

Faced with priorities of water treatment and soccer fields, we tend to forget about what came before because there's an assumption that it isn't going anywhere.

The truth is that historical records are a fragile gift and with so much of it already having disappeared, we can't afford to lose what's left.

PENDER HARBOUR SHOW AND SHINE

On Sunday August 5 from noon to 4 p.m. in downtown Garden Bay. Free admission, BBQ , hot rods, remote control car races, live music, and more.

THIRD ANNUAL BONFIRE MUSIC FESTIVAL (AUGUST 16-19)

Come out to the Sunshine Coast's fastest growing music festival. Billed as "four magical days & nights of music, camping and celebration." at the Lions' Park from August 16-19, the festival features an eclectic mix of international performers specializing in "roots and groove." Ticket costs vary each day but a festival pass is \$102.12 for all four days and are available locally at Chemistry Clothing (Gibsons), Roberts Creek Health Food Store, 420 Hemp Shop (Sechelt), Oak Tree Market (Madeira Park) or online at www.bonfirefestival.com.

PENDER HARBOUR CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL (AUGUST 17-19)

The Performance Centre overlooking the floats in Madeira Park will once again be the site of this year's concerts. Featuring four ticketed performances and a free Saturday "Chamber Music Does Not Bite" concert, this year's festival has something for everyone. Tickets are \$25 each day or \$90 for a four day pass and are available at Harbour Insurance, Talewind Books or by phone at (604) 883-2130.

The Sladey Timber Crew would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for the gifts, food and help in organizing the 1st Annual Sladey Timber Fishing Derby. A great time was had by all who attended!

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A Big Thank-you to this year's organizers Jeff Girard and Gedeon Lizee, our chefs Dave Girard and Gedeon Lizee, and to all the wives for the great dinner.



S. Pender votes to amalgamate with SCRD

It turns out that South Pender residents clearly want the Sunshine Coast Regional District to manage their water supply.

The results of the vote were released on July 9 and 544 votes favoured the change versus 20 opposed.

Seventeen of the 581 returned ballots were invalid but the results show 97 percent favour a new form of management for the South Pender water system.

The transition won't take place immediately and the SPHWD will carry on business as usual probably until some time in 2008.

The next step will be for the SPHWD to draft a formal letter to the SCRD informing them of the results of the vote and making a formal request for them to take over operation of the water system.

The SCRD and the SPHWD will follow the protocol outlined in the "Improvement District Conversion

Guide" created by the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services.

"For an improvement district conversion to be implemented, the regional district will be required to pass a regional district service area establishment bylaw."

This will likely take place after the Ccabinet order has been passed that dissolves the improvement district and transfers responsibility for its services to the regional district.

This document can be found at http://www.cserv.gov.bc.ca/lgd/gov_structure/library/improvement_district_conversion_guide.pdf.

After 18 years, SPHWD Administrator Bobbi Bennett has officially retired from her position.

Currently there is one office staff person and two maintenance personnel employed to manage the system as well as the volunteer SPHWD board.

JUNE 19 TO JULY 22, 2007

By P.H. Community
Policing Volunteers

Only 3 incidents were reported to police for this month's report, all thefts and all occurring July 11 and 12.

The first is a boat trailer stolen from the Sakinaw Lake area on July 11.

The next day an outboard motor was stolen from a boat docked in Gerrans Bay (4600 blk Gerrans Bay Rd.)

And again on the 12th, some PVC pipe was stolen from a job-site located in the 13400 block of Lee Rd. (off Irvine's Landing Rd.)



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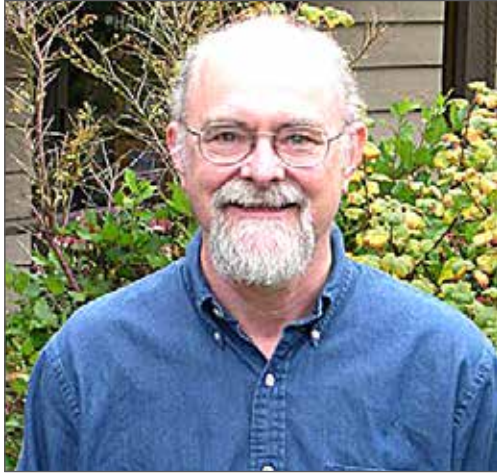
SOCKEYE SALMON FILLETS: \$15

PRAWN TAILS: \$20/LB

M.V.
"DARK
HORSE"



Howard White awarded Order of Canada



It was a quiet Monday morning when book publisher Howard White received a phone call from the Governor General's office in Ottawa, telling him he was going to receive Canada's highest civilian honour, the Order of Canada, which is awarded to acknowledge outstanding achievements and

contributions to Canadian society.

"I was completely surprised. I didn't expect it at all," mused White.

"But of course once the news sunk in I was absolutely delighted, it made me feel good all day long."

White had to keep the information under wraps until the official announcement on June 29.

Not only is White the publisher and founder of Harbour Publishing — which has been operating in Pender Harbour since 1974 — he is also the author of nine books and the editor of the award-winning Raincoast Chronicles series. But the publisher remains modest about his own accomplishments.

"In my case, this is a team award," says White.

"This isn't for the half dozen or

so books I wrote, this is for the 500 books by other people that Mary and I helped to bring into the world over the last 30 years. But they can't give the award to Bus Griffiths and Patrick Lane and Anne Cameron and Tom Wayman and Dan Francis and Jim Spilsbury and Clayton Mack and all 200 contributors to the The Encyclopedia of British Columbia, so they have to give it to me. But I accept it on behalf of all of our authors, and all of our publishing team."

White was one of only six British Columbians to be appointed to the Order of Canada on June 29.

The award will be presented at Rideau Hall in Ottawa later in the year.

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Welcome



Sheila Adkin

JULY 12, 1922 - JUNE 20, 2007



Sheila Mary Adkin was born in Vancouver on July 12, 1922 and passed away in Abbotsford Hospital on June 20, 2007.

She is survived by her husband Bob, daughter Lynne with grandson Colin in Ontario, and her son Keith

(Irene) in Abbotsford, and his son Keegan in Vancouver.

She also leaves one brother, Ken (Ruth) in Kelowna.

Sheila and Bob were long-time residents of the Pender Harbour area, moving to Earl's Cove from South Burnaby in July 1976, though they bought the property in 1970 and started building.

They moved to Madeira Park in September 1989 when they had completed their new home there.

Sheila was well known at the local "library," the Thrift Shop in Sechelt, where she helped as a member of the hospital auxiliary and many other volunteer groups in the area.

She and Bob were also strong supporters of the Pender Harbour Aquatic and Fitness Centre since its

inception.

They moved to Abbotsford last September to be closer to more medical support after Sheila suffered a stroke in March 2005.

On June 20 she was taken to the local hospital, but steadily weakened until the pneumonia that had settled in her lungs was too much for her heart.

She passed away peacefully with Bob and Keith at her bedside.

Her brother Ken and family, as well as her daughter Lynne, will join the rest of the family in a quiet family moment with her ashes at Trout Lake in Vancouver at the end of July.

The rest of her family have their ashes there.

A remembrance of her life will be held at a later date in the Pender area.

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The last set

By Brian Lee

One of my earliest vivid memories is standing in the driveway bawling as my father left to go gillnetting.

Like any kid, I didn't like my dad leaving but what really upset me was being told I was too little to go fishing.

When my chance finally came I thrived on the boat, never once getting seasick.

From then on, I spent a good portion of every summer roaming the coast on a 28-foot fish boat, never suspecting mine was to be the last generation of kids to do so.

When I was 14 I took a shore job, citing pay inequities with other deckhands my age and a dawning realization that there were more girls at home than in Namu.

Paying me low (read no) wages was my dad's convenient way of discouraging me from considering fish-

ing as a career.

Jump ahead to 2007 and I'm in YVR's south terminal waiting to board a flight to Prince Rupert to relive the glory of my boyhood gillnetting for a week with my dad Charlie on the *Pender Breeze*.

In the coffee shop I bump into Phyllis Brown, longtime deckhand/cook/wife on Harry Brown's boat the *Hazel Mae*.

Phyllis and Harry are like many gillnetters on the coast these days. They've been through the boom years and, as they near retirement, keep at it out of a mixture of habit and love for the gillnetting lifestyle.

I ask Phyllis if she's going up for the whole summer.

"That's the plan but he knows I can always quit," she says.

Looking out the window of the Dash 8, I try to spot islands and inlets I know but give up past Cape Caution.

It's been too long.

I only know we're close to Rupert when I spot the muddy waters of the Skeena River, an abrupt change from the pastel green of the glacial lakes and inlets of the central coast fjords.

Prince Rupert has long been the jumping-off point for the commercial fishing industry on the north coast and the confluence of the Nass and Skeena rivers ensure a healthy contingent of commercial salmon fishermen return every year.

For many Pender Harbour fishermen, it's like a home away from home.

I bump into Yolanda Malcolm in the Prince Rupert air terminal. Her husband Dave owns the *Kermode* and spends so much of his time in Prince Rupert they decided to buy a second house here.

Their sons also fish and, despite the hectic intervals between the salmon, halibut and prawn fisheries, the house has allowed her family to be together.

"One group comes in and I'm cooking and cleaning and doing laundry and as soon as they go back out, the next group shows up," she says with a smile.

"Without the house, they'd still all be up here but I'd be sitting at home alone."

An hour after I land, I'm on the *Pender Breeze*, a 34' Farrell hulled gillnetter.

We're heading out Prince Rupert Harbour through Metlakatla Pass, a short, narrow passage between Digby Island and the mainland.

It's chaotic as dozens of returning charter boats meet other gillnetters heading up to Area 3 for an opening



Harry Brown's gillnetter the *Hazel Mae*, just below Port Simpson on its way to a Nass opening the following morning.

the following morning.

Area 3 is usually referred to as the “Nass” simply because of its proximity to the mouth of the Nass River, home of the sockeye we plan to intercept.

We anchor near Port Simpson, a native village about two-and-a-half hours up the coast from Prince Rupert, and leave at dawn.

Up here in July, it’s only dark for about four hours and dawn comes early — a typical north coast morning, grey and gloomy with the perpetual threat of rain.

At least the winds are light and seas calm as we head across Chatham Sound towards the hills of Alaska.

Maybe it’s a good sign that few boats are heading out of the anchorage this early. It means many are fishing nearby, leaving us alone.

Or maybe they know something we don’t.

The sensual female voice of the Coast Guard marine weather report coos the familiar weather data: “East Dixon Entrance: winds southeasterly two-zero to two-five knots, shifting to northwest zero-five this morning and rising to two-zero to two-five this afternoon. Winds easing to west one-zero to one-five overnight. Cloudy, a few showers. Seas one to two metres. Outlook: moderate west winds backing to strong southeast.”

Though young deckhands sought love at the infamous Surf Club, married fishermen often embraced the fantasy of the velvet-voiced “weather hottie,” who provided a much safer version of female companionship.

The northern boundary of Area 3 is the U.S. border.

The fish crossing this invisible

line are reputed to be more obese than and not as bright as their Canadian cousins.

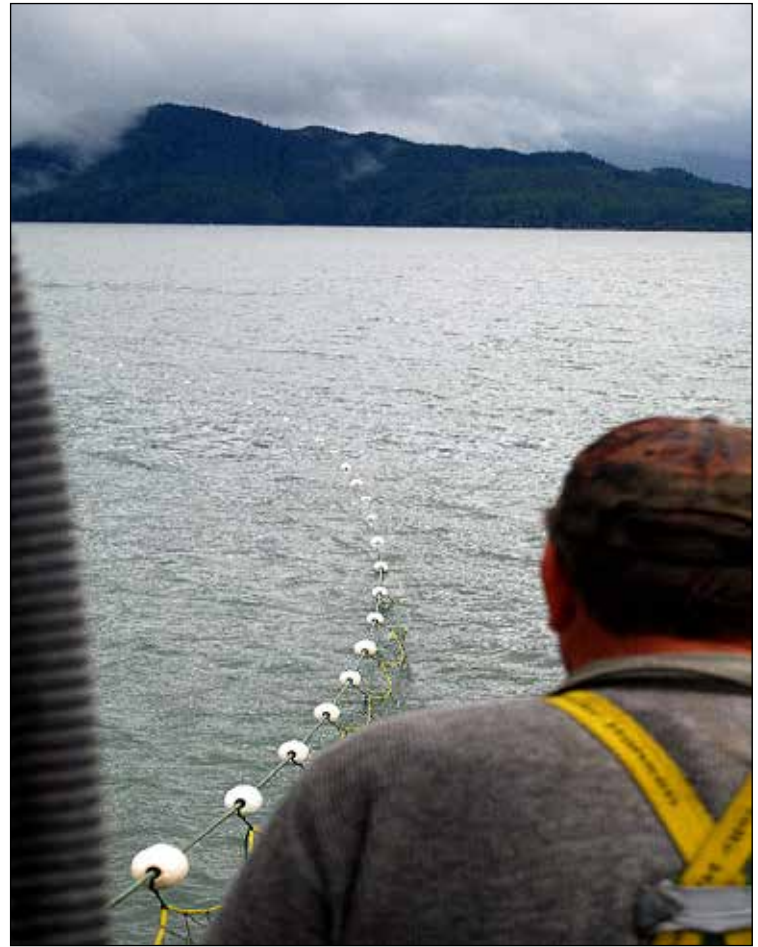
It’s late in the season for the Nass River and fishermen are waiting expectantly for an announcement that the areas to the south will open and give them an opportunity to chase the larger Skeena River sockeye runs.

Like all fisheries, B.C. gillnetters are at the mercy of Fisheries and Oceans Canada—still known universally as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans — for both fishing time and the preservation of the resource.

The industry is rife with accusations of political interference and many fishermen directly blame the DFO for mismanagement.

Budget cuts, habitat destruction, pollution, unreliable science and competing political interests have made DFO’s job a very difficult one and as they reacted to pressures in the industry some mistakes were made.

Commercial fishermen have always been an obvious target when blame needs to be assigned for low spawning returns and DFO has concentrated their efforts in the last 15 years or so on restructuring the Pacific salmon fleet.



Even when there’s no fish, there’s hope. Charlie Lee scanning for a sunken cork.

Buyback programs and area licensing, all intended to reduce pressure on the resource, have crippled the industry to the point where young fishermen can’t afford to take part anymore and the average age of a gillnetter has risen to 55.

Only the older fishermen who have already paid for their boats and licences can afford to remain.

Often, fishing is all they know. “Too young to quit, too old to change” seems to be the motto for many whose retirement plans hinged on a lifetime of investment in suddenly devalued gear and licences.

Hope is fuel for a fisherman and

Continued next page

The last set (cont.)

as the clock edges closer to 6 a.m. there's an electric anticipation in the air.

Dad did fairly well the week before and to follow it up with another good opening would set the season on a successful course.

After decades of this routine, I'm a little surprised to see that he still gets a thrill from fishing as he calculates where to make his first set.

Ask fishermen what they like about it and they'll tell you it's about making money.

Most won't tell you that it's how they make that money that sustains them through the rain and the wind and the long nights rolling around, trying to stay awake.

My friend Josh Young said years ago that fishing is the purest way of making a living he could think of.

"I put my net in the water and then pull \$10 bills out of it."

It's why many who claim they can't quit, don't.

By 6:10 a.m. the net is out, we're tied on and Dad shuts the engine off.

"Here fishy, fishy," he sings as talk turns to breakfast.

After crewing on a number of boats, I thought I knew how to make myself small.

But this boat wasn't designed for two men our size sharing the cooking duties and after being rammed one too many times with a drawer or fridge door, Dad retreats to his seat.

Diets don't work on boats and, though the meals aren't fancy, they're rich and guaranteed to be high in fat.

A fellow crew member once put it this way: "It's hot, brown and there's lots of it."

To me, cooking meals on a boat isn't done to stay alive; it's just a diversion from eating cookies.

After breakfast, we sip coffee and gossip, but fishing isn't always this civilized.

Tides and wind often make it necessary to untie and "jog" so as not to disrupt how the net sits in the water.

I was always relieved when we could finally kill the drone of the diesel engine and hang off the end.

For fishermen it's a time to catch up on sleep, read or tend to nagging repairs.

On either side of us in half-mile increments there's a half-dozen fishermen, all from Pender Harbour.

A strict protocol dictates how closely and where another fishermen can set his or her net.

"Corking" is the act of someone setting within a net length in front of you, thereby catching the salmon otherwise intended for your net.

It seems easy to avoid but when there isn't a lot of room, sometimes greed trumps etiquette and fishermen clash.



The Sockeye salmon, prized for its firm red flesh, built the the BC coast. But at \$1.50/lb, soon it won't be worth setting a net for.

Just the previous week a Native guy from nearby Port Simpson rammed a Japanese fishermen (fishing stories always have to include race) for fishing too close.

It turns out the Native guy had some substance abuse and mental health issues and was forbidden from even operating a vessel.

Luckily, the other fisherman was OK and the damage fixed in time for the next opening.

After an hour, reports from another fisherman about a lot of “mud”, probably an algal bloom, prompt us to pick up. The results are less than encouraging.

One sockeye is all that ignored the dark outlines of the “muddy” web, rendered all but useless by that and huge volumes of red and white jellyfish.

At \$1.50 per pound for sockeye, we haven’t even paid for breakfast.

“Yeah, this is the shits, you know,” says Glen Scoular, referring to a set that netted him only two pink salmon.

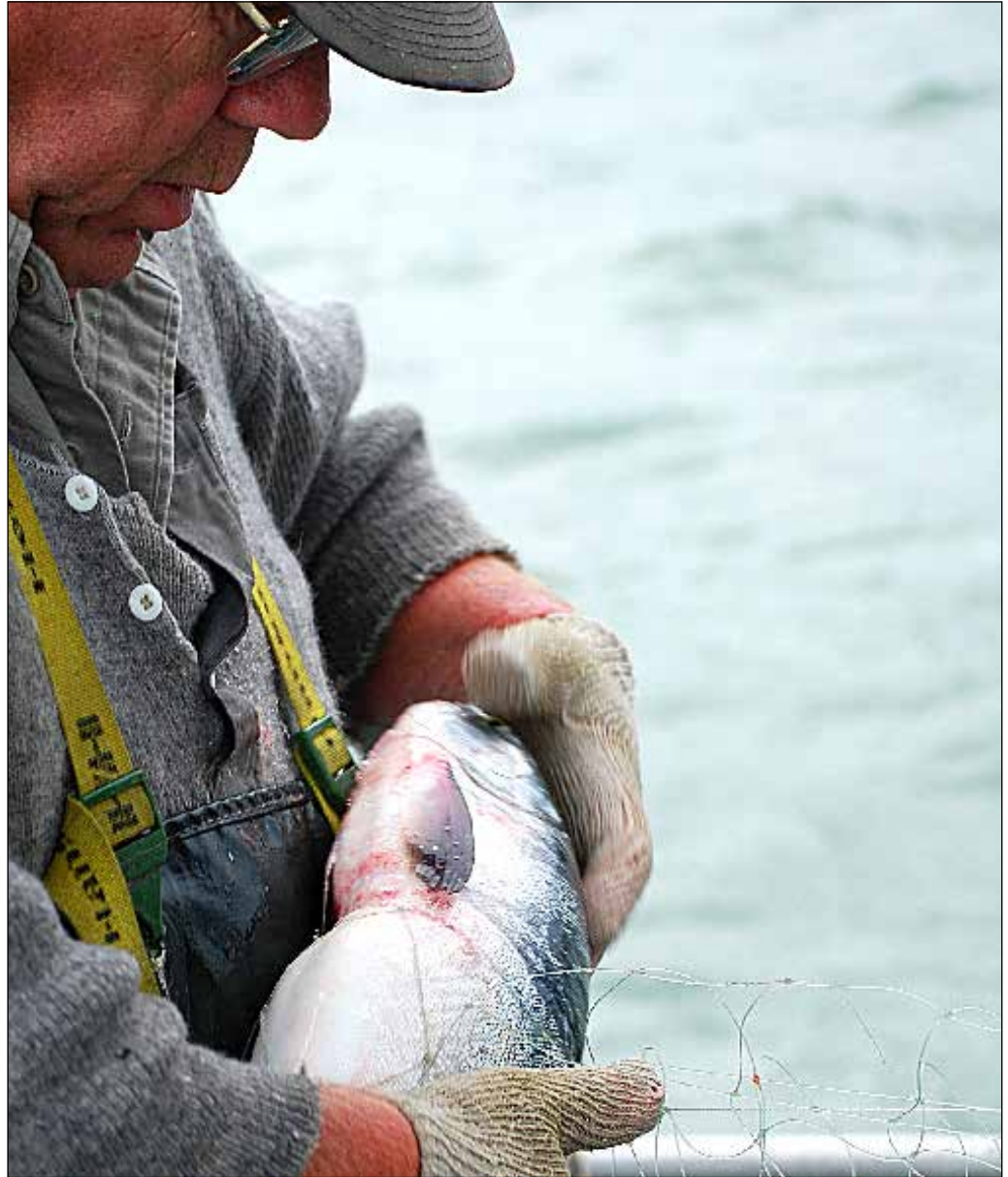
“I’m thinking of going in and try to catch a halibut!”

At 10 cents per pound, a pink salmon is nothing more than a nuisance but few fishermen have the heart to throw them away.

It seems criminal that the market should ignore the value of such a tasty bit of protein but it costs too much in time, melted ice and added weight to derive any profit in keeping it.

As the industry founders in the face of global farm fish markets, the prices fish companies pay to the fishermen haven’t really changed in more than 25 years.

This devaluation is one of the



“#\$\$%^&* pinkies!” This salmon takes just as much work as a sockeye but is worth only 35 cents. Imagine a gillnetter getting upset because he’s catching *too many* salmon.

greatest problems facing the industry says Dr. John Volpe, Assistant Professor of Marine Systems Restoration and Conservation in the School of Environmental Studies at the University of Victoria.

“The global marketplace for salmon has been saturated and so the largest threat the international salmon aquaculture industry has produced is that of the commoditization of salmon,” he tells me on the phone from

his UVIC office.

“Salmon used to be a seasonal delicacy... but no longer is salmon linked to rivers, coastlines, coastal communities or fishermen. It is now simply a homogenous material product that competes with chicken or pork for that place on your dinner plate.”

“If a fisherman were paid something even approaching the real value

Continued next page

The last set (cont.)



Changing times and markets now mean that gillnetters keep their catch in “slushed” fish holds to keep the product fresh. Twenty years ago it would have been perfectly acceptable to store fish like this without ice or water.

of their product, things would be better,” Volpe says.

“However, the challenge to that is the perception of the consumer that somehow they can have a wild, irreplaceable product for a really cheap price. It’s the Wal-Mart myth.”

He says that’s something the fish farm industry continually tries to spin.

“When you attend aquaculture industry functions, trade shows or read publications for the industry, the contention that we can feed the world with farmed salmon goes without challenge. It’s ridiculous. It’s insane. It’s like saying we can feed the world by farming tigers.”

Farmed fish are fed pellets often made from fish protein mined from the sea floor in huge South American trawl nets.

Aside from the environmental damage caused by dragging this heavily weighted gear across the ocean bottom, it’s not an efficient way to produce food.

Depending on whom you talk to, it takes between 1.3 and three kilograms of fish protein to produce one kilogram of farmed salmon protein.

Wild salmon are no more efficient, actually less so, but they follow natural cycles of feed that maintain an ecological balance.

The main determinant of feed production for farmed salmon is profit.

Within an hour and a half of opening, the panic is on as boats start “running all over” in the hope of finding fish, possibly suggesting someone has heard that fishing is more productive elsewhere.

Fishing is a mental game and the greatest danger is over-thinking.

“Chasing caught fish” is a term used to describe a fishermen moving to an area where the fishing was good, only to find they’re not there anymore.

“Something’s going on,” someone in our group says over the “private” channel.

“I just saw four ’Nammers pickup and go screaming out.”

He’s referring to the Vietnamese fishermen from Prince Rupert who came into the industry in the 1980s and formed a formidable alliance.

The Vietnamese fleet, easily spotted with similar boats and rigging, seem to move around a lot.

Fishermen like to come up with colourful names to describe everything and the Vietnamese fleet didn’t



It’s called bullshitting and after 40 years of practice, you’d make it look easy too. Glen Scoular, Stan Scoular and Charlie Lee talking fish.

escape this habit.

“Congers,” “Nammers” and “the Little People” are all common radio slang for the Vietnamese fleet.

Despite this racial division, the hostilities with white fishermen in the late eighties and early nineties seem to be gone and the Vietnamese fishermen have assimilated and thrived, much like the Japanese fishermen before World War II.

Language and culture is still a barrier but the hatred seems to have been replaced by a good-natured acceptance of each other’s idiosyncrasies.

The radio spews endless theories about why the fishing is so poor and on this day, apparently everything’s wrong.

The reasons are many and it’s not long before the superstitious in the group are even blaming the innocent observer on the *Pender Breeze*.

Luckily for me, the fishing picks up a bit through the day and we salvage expenses.

Back at the Rushbrook government floats in Prince Rupert, it’s hard not to be struck by the prevailing sense of doom.

No longer do you see raucous parties of young fishermen celebrating on the decks of their rafted boats. In fact, I’m one of the youngest people to be seen.

There’s a lot of buzz about Campbell River fisherman Jimmy Williams selling his boat and licence.

There’s a sense of awe at the bugger’s luck.

He claims that the *Jodie Lynn* was the right boat for the right guy at the right time so he put his licence into the buyback program.

Williams, in his seventies, is finished fishing for good and will finalize the details, store the gear he intends to keep on another boat and travel south on the ferry by the end of the week. But Williams isn’t as lucky as he thought.

A few days after celebrating his departure from fishing, he learns the licence buyback fell through.

This scraps the whole deal and now he’s stuck fishing the rest of the season, uncertain if this was his last chance to get out clean.

With a few hundred other boats in Prince Rupert harbour, all with aging owners, it doesn’t take an economist to foresee there’ll soon be a glut of licences and boats on the market, reducing their value even further.

In a high capital industry like fishing, this poses a problem for any fisherman who planned on retiring on the equity built over a lifetime.

Boats built for hundreds of thousands of dollars even 10 years ago are worth a fraction of that now.

Many seem to have given up.

“It’s done,” one fisherman says bitterly.

“They wanted us out and the sonsabitches won.”

Despite the overwhelming challenges faced in making their voices heard above the political static, fishermen can’t shirk the fact that they themselves are partially responsible for failing to preserve their salmon culture.

But fishermen aren’t much inclined to dabble in politics or follow global economics.

They’re romantics, often surviving on the belief that the next set will change everything.

When you deal with forces like wind and tide, that belief may be just as effective as anything else.



This gear, and the fishermen who have invested a lifetime into it, face an increasingly uncertain future.

Skelleys take on the Last Word

Dear Editor,

Thank you for continuing our much loved Harbour Spiel. We enjoy the expanded format – including colour(!) and appreciate the increased coverage of current events and articles of interest especially the history of the Pender Harbour area.

But we take strong issue with The Last Word of the July 2007 issue.

We congratulate you for allowing readers to spout off, and hopefully you will permit a rebuttal.

Surely Mr. McCune could have found words to describe the 100-year scouting movement other than that founded on “fascist” principles with a “gang” structure.

His comments betray a fundamental lack of knowledge of and appreciation for European society, its mores and values in the early decades of the 20th century.

He clearly is unaware of or at least unprepared to recognize the popularity of military-like organizations whether it be the Salvation Army or the movement of Scouting and Guiding, and his attempts to disparage only discredit the writer himself.

To speak of “Borg-like obedience” is fatuous self-serving exaggeration, ignoring all the while the value, cherished then and recognized today, of discipline and a sense of duty in one’s everyday life.

To term Baden-Powell a fascist reveals an appalling ignorance of what the term really meant, and what values

Europeans cherished through the Great War and in the inter-war years.

Finding arguments one could empathize with in *Mein Kampf* did not make one a fascist anymore than liking a few passages in the Bible makes one a Christian.

Rather it speaks more to Western Europe’s early and timorous honeymoon with what was hoped to be a bulwark against the infectious spread of Bolshevism, a contagion that had led to the collapse of Russian forces in the 1st World War and very nearly to the triumph of German arms.

The point is, it is inappropriate, if not dangerous to view the past through a 21st-century filter and to judge contemporary behavior by these standards alone.

This cavalier interpretation of history is best left to those who have some knowledge about that of which they speak.

We are not sure of the relevancy of the school principal’s son who didn’t continue in scouting... certainly the movement is not for everyone, including Mr. McCune and the principal who obviously never had the good fortune of discovering the endless benefits of participating in, and sticking with, such a movement.

Ridiculing those of us who did can serve no purpose.

We look back fondly upon our many years of scouting and guiding as participants during our youth and then as leaders with our own children and their friends.

We will never forget the valuable skills learned from how to handle an ax properly to building a fire, cooking indescribable delicacies and then eating them; pitching tents with your friends and then falling asleep in that shelter you had fashioned out of a bit of canvas and some twine.

We have come to appreciate the value of community service and the important lessons to be learned from the many new skills required to earn badges, become that patrol leader, and accept responsibility for others.

Of course the uniform has changed but so has the program. The guiding and scouting movement has worked very hard to stay current and relevant to modern attitudes and challenges facing our youth today but also to arm them with the skills and confidence to be contributing members of society much as Baden-Powell set out to do with that first group of young fellows he took camping.

It is a pity you didn’t have these experiences Mr. McCune; but perhaps the opportunity to do so would have fallen on sterile ground.

Surely an organization that still brings smiles to faces some 100 years after that first group went camping and which is now teaching those same skills of excellence and service to communities in some 216 countries around the world deserves more than your churlish comments and the headline “a century of fraternity gangs.”

Yours in guiding and scouting,
Margaret and Alan Skelley



THE SUNSHINE COAST’S OWN LASER SKIN CLINIC

“Hello laser, goodbye razor!”

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(604) 885-5558



Martin Nichols photo

Looking radiantly wistful, the PHSS grads of 2007 listen as the recipients of a whopping 37 bursaries, all locally donated, were awarded to deserving grads going on to further their education.

Pictured (l-r): Shauna Malone, Tamara Goble, Katie Struthers, Jennifer Stubbs, Celeste Percy and Kaare Jensen.

Not pictured are Jace Andersen, Calen Christie, Sally Dougan, Derek Duncan, Crystal Goodwin, Aaron Hamilton, Megan Knock, Jason Kummerfield, Jasmine Lanteigne, Kirk McLellan, Cameron Meakins, Krystal Meilleur, Christopher Nichols, Katie Roosen, Carie Veley, Joseph Ward and Katrina Woodard.

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*By John Rees
SCRD Director,
Area A*

SPHWD

By now,
many of you have
seen the results

of the recent vote on the management
and operations of this water service.

A 61 per cent response with 94
per cent in favour of the SCRD man-
agement option, is to say the least, a
very clear mandate for change, thanks
in part to the trustee board that unani-
mously recommended that course.

Several community meetings
were held prior to the vote to review
the contents of the Source To Tap
report, commissioned by the SPHWD,
and conducted by the engineering
company normally retained by the lo-
cal utility.

This report, in essence, showed
that many improvements and sub-
stantial investments were required to
meet provincial health standards, and

these new regulations could only be
logically achieved by access to out-
side cost sharing funding which is not
available to improvement districts.

Obviously the community under-
stood this and voted for a new direc-
tion.

On behalf of the water custom-
ers of this community, I sincerely
thank all the staff, the volunteers, the
pioneers, the trustee boards and those
who had the vision to build and main-
tain this system.

There have been so many to
acknowledge over the years; we all
appreciate your efforts.

What happens next?

The SCRD is already involved
in some of the day-to-day ongoing
issues, mainly from the operations
aspect.

All health concerns and engineer-
ing decisions will be closely moni-
tored by highly qualified staff, and
there will be constant communica-
tions with the district health officer.

At the moment I see that as the
most critical gap to bridge.

Other changes required, such as
office staff and administration, can
be reviewed more carefully as time
permits and as the transfer process
takes place.

I can assure you that the SPHWD
office will remain open for normal
hours, and indeed may be able to pro-

vide more services in the future.

The transfer of assets, cash and
land, letters patent, rights of way and
bylaws will follow a strict formula as
laid down by the province.

It has not yet been worked out
how this water system can most ef-
fectively be managed and separately
accounted for but these issues will
soon be discussed.

This transfer and the creation
of a new system at the SCRD will
take considerable time and human
resources to complete but, in the
meantime, you can be assured that the
water system will be safely operated
and the assets will remain separate
and accounted for.

In addition to the transfers de-
scribed, local knowledge is an impor-
tant ingredient and to that end I would
hope that the existing trustee board
will choose to stay on and work with
the SCRD to facilitate a smooth trans-
fer of responsibilities.

Hopefully boiled water will be-
come history in several areas as both
the SPHWD and NPHWD will be
working toward treated water.

The Area A Water Master Plan
has helped to unlock some of the
funding doors which were previously
bolted tight and, in addition to the \$1
million in grants recently announced,
we have every reason to believe that
we will be awarded more grants in the
very near future.

POWER WASHING

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& DOCKS



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& CREW

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SQUIRREL STORAGE

LARRY & LINDA CURTISS

CALL 883-2040

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL EXPAN- SION.

It is no secret that various levels
of government like to take the credit
for providing funding for facilities
important to communities.

This was obviously the case with
the recent announcement for the ad-
ditions and renovations for our local

hospital.

Little was said about the role of the Regional Hospital District (which is, in fact, the SCRD board) and the contribution it made to the total funding.

This \$40-million project is jointly funded, 60 per cent from the province, and the remaining 40 per cent or \$16 million is raised locally.

For many years the SCRD, acting as the Regional Hospital District, has pushed for this much needed project.

We were ready to finance our

portion way back when the estimated cost was around \$22 million.

In my opinion, the fact that we here on the Coast maintained the capacity to finance our portion was a deciding factor in final approval.

This position was achieved by many years of prudent fiscal management with expansion in mind.

Construction will start in 2008 and be completed in 2011 and our portion will be financed over 20 years.

It will be the largest infrastructure investment ever on the Sunshine Coast.

ORDER OF CANADA

Later this year, Howard White of Harbour Publishing will travel to Ottawa to receive the Order of Canada.

This is the highest civilian honour given in this country, awarded to acknowledge outstanding achievements and contributions to Canadian Society.

Congratulations Howard!

You deserve this great honour.

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT



1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A1

www.scrd.bc.ca

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

(604) 885-6800 (tel)

(604) 885-7909 (fax)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Note: Due to the summer schedule, there will be no meetings for most of August.

Thursday, August 30, 2007

- 1:30 pm Infrastructure Services Committee

Thursday, September 6, 2007

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

DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Director John Rees is available to meet with residents to discuss local issues related to the Sunshine Coast Regional District government. He can be reached at home at (604) 883-9033 or by e-mail, jarees@dccnet.com.

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

AREA A ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

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

Wednesday, August 29, 7:00 p.m.

Room 107, Pender Harbour High School.

PENDER HARBOUR LANDFILL (604-883-2954)

Summer Operating Hours (May 20-September 2)

- Tuesday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm
- Wednesday to Monday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
- **OPEN Sundays**

For more information, visit:

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

FINANCIAL REPORT ONLINE

The Sunshine Coast Regional District Annual Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2006 is now available for viewing on the SCRD website at http://www.scrd.bc.ca/finance_annual_report.html.

The Introductory Section provides an overview of the Regional District and the services we provide. The Financial Section presents the 2006 audited consolidated financial statements, and the Statistical section presents a variety of statistical information mostly on a five year comparative basis. In addition, a Service Listing Grid is also available which identifies the services each area contributes to and the cost of service per \$1000 of assessment value.

How dry I am... and proud of it!

by Jim Rutherford

In my last water bill from the SCRD, there was a great little pamphlet on water-wise gardening.

It gave tips for planting water-smart landscapes on the Sunshine Coast and though the plant list was limited, it was a good starting point.

Just driving and looking along the roadsides will give you valuable plant suggestions.

Those plants and shrubs are never artificially watered.

Most people like some colour in their garden so let's get some ideas going.

Ceanothus (California lilac) is found throughout North America with more beautiful species in California, near the coast.

It's easily grown, flowering in late spring to early summer, but susceptible to wet in summer so shouldn't be irrigated.

It's fast-growing, but short lived

and can be killed in some areas by a severe winter so it's fall sun for this one.

These California lilacs grow in upright to low-creeping forms.

Hypericums (St. John's Wort) are a wide family of yellow blooming plants, often used for ground cover.

To encourage fresh green growth, weed-whack it down in the spring and it will re-grow from the base.

Any soil will do and the shadier the location, the less bloom you'll get.

Ground covers like ajuha and bugle help to stop soil transpiration and can easily be refreshed or controlled with even light line in your weed-eater.

Blue is the usual flower colour but there are white and pink varieties.

Any reasonable soil will do and it thrives in sun or partial shade.

All your Achillea (yarrow) will take it dry but be careful with tansy because it can be invasive.

When you attempt a rock slope (and we sure have them here) or a rock retaining wall, the grass knows best.

In other words, if you see a weed or grass sprout, then you know there is some moisture.

Pull out the weed and plant.

A helpful technique is to bring in as much soil as you can and use sheet moss (sphagnum) to shade the soil

Cut old coat hangers into hair-pins to pin the moss and plant into the soil before watering.

Lavendula, plain old lavender, can't be beat.

Shape it up with your grass shears, after you've harvested the flowers, when they're not fully open.

You can string bunches up to dry or lay them out loosely.

I don't go to all the work of making fancy sachets at home because a clean foot of any old pantyhose will do.

Hung in the closet or in the linen cupboard, it always brings back fond memories of staying at my grandmother's house.

English lavender is best.

The French and Spanish varieties can't take the wet or cold winters.

Campia, (silene), lupine and foxglove are all self-seeding in borders or rockeries.

In general, all hairy-leafed and grey-foliaged plants, like dusty miller, are tolerant to dry conditions.

That said, some watering will be needed for the first couple of seasons.

After that, it's live or die.

Some people don't like how sword fern's fronds brown off over the winter so they don't use them in dry woodland or margin areas.

For fresh lush new growth, cut all the fronds to the ground in early Spring while new fiddleheads are forming.

Nobody knows how dry I am!
Can I have a drink now?



Gardening

101

NEW SERVICES!

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Grounds & property maintenance, pruning, plant installations for existing gardens and new landscape designs.

Jim Rutherford & Crew 604-883-9597



Slo - Cat

Harbour Tours

Daily tours at:

- 11 a.m.
- 1 p.m.
- 3 p.m.

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Emergency First Aid — Part 4

By Doretta Morland

With summer finally here and many of us taking our pets out with us to enjoy the beach, the boat, the cabin etc., it's a good idea to keep a first aid kit handy not only for ourselves but for our pets as well.

Most of the items below are inexpensive and readily available. Well worth the effort for the peace of mind!

BASIC PET FIRST AID KIT

It's best to use a plastic container with a tight fitting lid for your Pet First Aid Kit.

Consider including:

- Emergency information:
- Owner's name
- Address
- Phone number
- Pet's name
- Type of animal (dog/cat etc)

and breed

- Tattoo or microchip numbers
- Allergies
- Medications
- Veterinarian's phone number
- Poison control centre's phone

number

ITEMS:

1. Muzzle (imperative if animal is injured enough to bite)
2. Blanket/large towel:
 - (a.) to keep pet warm and reduce risk of shock
 - (b.) to wrap around cat for safe handling (tightly, like new-born baby)

(c.) to "sling" pet in absence of flat board for transport

3. Bandages:

- (a.) Self-cling bandages (such as Vetrap)
- (b.) Non-stick pads (such as Telfa)
- (c.) Gauze pads



4. Splinting:

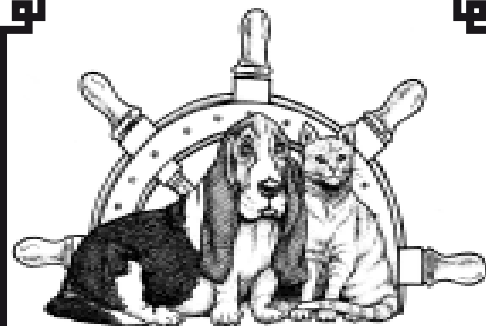
- (a.) Small roll of bubble wrap (can be used as splint for small animal)
- (b.) Tongue depressors (same as above)
- (c.) Duct tape (can be used to secure limb to a splint or to immobilize pet onto flat board for safe transportation)

5. Tape

6. Scissors
7. Tweezers
8. Rectal thermometer
9. Bottled water
10. Large syringe (no needle) or eye dropper to administer medications
11. Antiseptics:
 - (a.) Antiseptic liquid soap
 - (b.) Liquid antiseptic to flush wounds (or use normal saline)
 - (c.) Antibiotic ointment
 - (d.) Anti-histamine – Benadryl
 - (e.) Kaopectate or Pepto Bismol for diarrhea

Note: If an animal is injured, get it to the veterinarian as soon as possible.

First aid is only to keep your pet alive until you can get professional care.



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MONDAY-FRIDAY

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SATURDAY

9 a.m. - Noon

Dr. Rick Smalley
(604) 883-2488

Pender Harbour Waterworks District

SPRINKLING HOURS IN EFFECT

SPRINKLING DAYS

(Allocation determined by house number)

ODD calendar days = ODD house numbers

EVEN calendar days = EVEN house numbers

SPRINKLING HOURS

7 – 9 a.m. & 7 – 9 p.m.

ABSOLUTELY NO OVERNIGHT SPRINKLING Reservoirs need full pressure to refill overnight.

- Hand watering of baskets, bedding and vegetable gardens etc. is allowed on any given day at any given time if watering is done by a hand-held hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle.
- Please ensure that the water stays on the lawns and gardens and is not running onto the roads and driveways.
- Please refrain from sprinkling when it is raining.

The Board of Trustees would like to acknowledge and thank Bobbi Bennett for over 18 years of dedicated service to the South Pender Harbour Waterworks District.

— THE BOARD WISHES HER WELL IN HER RETIREMENT —

Amalgamation Vote

The vote results are tabulated. A majority of (96% of the returned ballots) ratepayers approve amalgamation of the Water District with the Sunshine Coast Regional District. The Board will initiate negotiations with the Regional District to facilitate this process. During the interim period the SCRD will be providing support to the District staff. We will do our best to answer any questions but appreciate your patience as we work toward a smooth transition.

SPHWD board meetings

The Board generally meets on the third Thursday of each month, pending individual schedule checks at 7:00pm at the Waterboard Office at 12828 Lagoon Road.

Please advise the District Office in writing at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting if you wish to be on the agenda.

The Board of Trustees would like to thank Shannon Reid for her time at the SPHWD and her dedication during this transition period.

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

SCRD must intervene to defend Chapman Creek

Director Rees,

How is the SCRD going to protect our drinking water from industrial activity?

Although in Area A we don't get water from the Chapman/Gray Watershed reserve, we need you, our Regional District representative, to insist that the SCRD intervene in the court case to defend Chapman Creek with the strongest measures at its disposal.

Immediate, bold action to support citizens' efforts to prevent harm to that watershed offers the best opportunity we may ever have to protect our own area's water supply.

The long-term cost of losing this opportunity exceeds the highest potential cost of losing in court, while the prize for winning could be to set a limit on the damage business can cause in its search for gain.

This is a rare opportunity because the cost to the public of logging in this watershed so grossly outweighs

the gain — if we can't win Chapman Creek, we can't win anywhere.

This is the kind of unstable watershed where removal of forest always affects water quality over a long term.

Use our tax dollars to get the best legal advice.

By seizing the opportunity to set a precedent through this case we'll gain vital momentum and advantage for every future watershed battle near and far.

But if we hesitate and watch passively as corporate lawyers ride roughshod over a few brave individuals, then the public will find ourselves disadvantaged and defensive in every battle afterward, from Burns Lake to Yahk.

You are aware there is a strong likelihood that Area A's Ruby, North, and Waugh Lake watersheds will be the very next to go.

Coast residents need to be represented by advocates who will fight

effectively for us.

Do not let them rest only on the defence that "this watershed serves 23,000 people, therefore this one should be protected."

Insist that they argue every citizen's right to clean sources of water.

Have them demonstrate that water soiled, then filtered and treated, is not an equivalent substitute.

Communities should not be expected to pay to remediate the result of abusing our lands and waters for the sake of private profits or provincial stumpage revenue.

As Llewelyn Keates remarked at the recent water meeting at Roberts Creek Hall:

"If we can raise millions for a pool for our kids to pee in, we can afford thousands to defend clean water for them to drink."

Maureen Parrott, Paul Juffs,
Michael Parrott, and
Billy Griffith

love grows here

St. Andrew's Anglican Church **AUGUST EVENTS**

HOLY EUCHARIST

Join us in celebrating the Holy Eucharist. Special musical guests Gail Suderman and Marcus Mosely on August 26th.
Sundays, 10:30 am

SOUP & SONG

Join us for soup, music, poetry and socializing. Every 3rd Saturday of the month - hosted by Penny Lang.
Saturday, August 18, 5:00 pm

CUT LIGHTING COSTS!

Learn about new lighting products to save energy consumption. Bring your questions to an open house with Don Gifford from Phillips and Darrin Shea, Lighting Consultant with BRITE-LITE.
Saturday, August 11, 2:00 pm

ST. ANDREW'S OPEN HOUSE!

See what's happening at St. Andrew's today. BBQ, exhibits, coffee and other treats await everyone.
Saturday, August 25, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm



The Anglican Church of Canada

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For more information, please call 604 883 9927 or visit www.standrewsanglican.com

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LETTERS

Another word on birds

Dear Editor,

Barry MacLennan warned us to "think twice" before allowing our pets outdoors because cats are predatory towards birds and "cats do not know of West Nile virus." (May 7: A word on birds)

This is a ridiculous reason to prevent your cat from going outdoors, although there some arguably good reasons relating to the cat's safety.

There has not ever, never, been even one case of West Nile virus in British Columbia.

Those prematurely anxious about this disease are better advised to lock themselves, not their pets, indoors.

More likely they would be bitten by a mosquito than contract a disease from a bird via a cat.

Myrtle Winchester

Purchase a Regular Membership at \$1,250 and pay no green fees for the remainder of 2007.

Call 604-883-9541 or drop by the Club

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August Silent Auction Item – Dine Around Pender*

***Garden Bay Hotel, Grasshopper Pub, Seiner's on the Green, Java Docks, Ruby Lake Restaurant and Crossroad Grill**

(Bidding closes August 31 at 5 p.m. at the Prudential Sussex Realty Office in Madeira Park)

LETTERS

Dog attacks at Garden Bay Lake

Dear Editor,

On July 9, I was chased by a "pit bull" type dog while swimming in Garden Bay Lake.

It was at the horseshoe and I was swimming on the opposite side staying as far away from the dogs as possible (approximately 100 yards away) yet one dog perceived me to be a threat to its owner and swam across to try to attack me.

Because I had flippers on I was barely able to escape.

Meanwhile the owner is screaming his head off calling "ALLIE! ALLIE!" to no avail.

When these dogs are triggered they get confused and assume the owners yelling is distress and go into attack mode.

No fun for me with a vicious dog snapping at my heels.

You can imagine my situation, far from shore in 40-foot deep water and this dog is out of control wanting to lock on to me.

So when I got home, I phoned dog control — she had just got off the phone with someone else complaining

about a dog incident at Garden Bay Lake the same day.

Now I hear a couple of days later a child is attacked at the same lake and required an ambulance to attend.

Calling the RCMP is fruitless because Area A voters refuse to have dog bylaws voted in.

It's time to reconsider this issue because these owners are blatantly abusing us.

It's against the Criminal Code of Canada to sic a dog on someone.

I have a drunk next door who thinks it's fun to do this to me and is tired of this kind of irresponsibility and harassment.

Two kids across the road were bitten in the face and I was bitten on the hand by the same dog.

Nothing could be done.

It's a hostage situation here and folks don't want to get involved.

Guess what?

Your silence provokes this situation.

It's time for dog control in Area A.

Mike Sargent

Copper Sky Gallery & Cafe

HOMESTYLE FOOD AND GATHERING PLACE

Open: 6am-4:30 pm Monday to Saturday, 8 am-3 pm Sundays

Cafe: 883-0096 • Located in Madeira Park • Gallery: 883-0098

Area A Seniors' Housing Outreach Healthy Meal Program

- Place orders starting September 17th
- Delivery will start September 24th

Thank you for your support.

We look forward to serving you an even better menu in the fall.

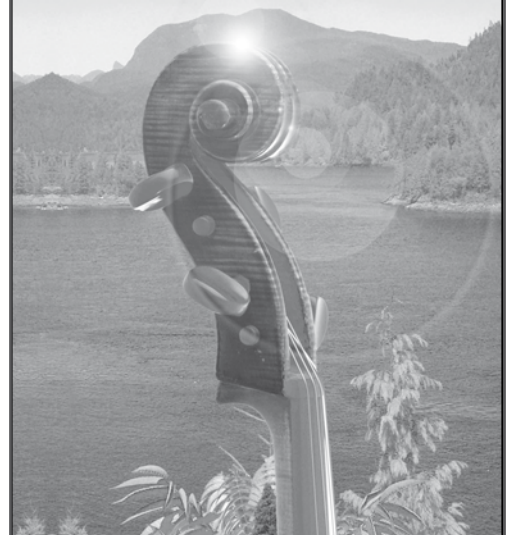
For info: Linda Curtiss 604-883-2819 or Anky Drost 604-883-0033



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Chamber
Music
Festival

**August 17, 18
and 19, 2007**

Performance Centre,
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FEATURING:

Jonathan Crow	Wilmer Fawcett
Eugenia Choi	Jeanette Jonquil
Yariv Aloni	Wendy Humphreys- Tebbutt
Antonio Lysy	Alexander Tselyakov
Lee Duckles	

Tickets: 604-883-2130

Harbour Insurance, Madeira Park;
Talewind Books, Sechelt.

www.penderharbourmusic.ca



A more meaningful relationship with your financial institution begins at Sunshine Coast Credit Union.

Here's what people are saying about **THE VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP.**



Mark and Jane Yellowley, Wheatberries
with daughters **Brianna (left) and Maren**
(members since 1997)

"Over the past ten years, Jane and I have enjoyed a fantastic working relationship with Sunshine Coast Credit Union. We were initially drawn to the friendly service and fair fees, however, our appreciation has deepened as our working relationship has grown. Their services meet the specific needs of business owners on the Coast, and they are involved at a community level in helping businesses achieve their dreams.

We applaud their support of the many important local charities and events, which contribute to the great lifestyle that we enjoy. To bank with a company that we feel shares many of the same values as we do is a wonderful thing. We are proud to be credit union members and appreciate the support that the credit union has always given us.

Thanks Sunshine Coast Credit Union!"

Bill Hunsche, Managing Broker
Prudential Sussex Realty
Pender Harbour
(member since 1976)

"Local ownership and management allows Sunshine Coast Credit Union to provide a full range of financial services that are truly sensitive to the needs of Sunshine Coast residents.

I also commend their community involvement. We are fortunate to have a financial institution on the Coast that has such a positive impact in our communities."



Photos by Duane Burnett

Dorothy and Doug Gillis, Halfmoon Bay
(members since 1994)

"Our history on the Sunshine Coast goes back to the Union Steamship era of the '30s and '40s. In the early '90s, we decided to make this our permanent home, which is when we began our excellent relationship with Sunshine Coast Credit Union.

There are many things to consider when choosing your financial institution. From our perspective, none are more important than feeling welcomed and appreciated. We have direct access to key personnel who know us, and our calls are returned promptly. The credit union's competitive rates, flexibility and local decision making, combined with their active financial participation in community affairs, and payments of dividends and bonuses to members, are all positive incentives for membership.

In today's electronic world, Sunshine Coast Credit Union still offers that human personal touch that's so very important to an aging population."

BEING A MEMBER AND BECOMING A MEMBER JUST GOT EVEN BETTER.



Open any new account with **Sunshine Coast Credit Union** before **September 30th** or make a new deposit and you can enter to win **\$5,000 in CASH** or a credit union **TERM DEPOSIT**.

Complete contest rules available in branches. Some restrictions apply.

www.sunshineccu.com



**Sunshine Coast
CREDIT UNION**

ACHIEVING GREAT THINGS TOGETHER

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985 Gibsons Way
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gibsonsbranch@sunshineccu.net

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PHOTO HISTORY



P.B. Andersen
Logging Co.,
Egmont, B.C.

Taken on North Lake,
Martin (Warnock) head
loader on the train. 1916,
-Martin 25 yrs. old.

Names of the men
standing on logs:

Top left: Charlie Higgins
Top right: Archie Douglas
Middle, third from left
(standing under tree trunk):
Martin Warnock

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GRASSHOPPER PUB LIVE ENTERTAINMENT:

August 3/4 - TREVOR MCDONALD AND DEGROOT

(Back by popular demand!) *No COVER*

August 10/11 - SANDY BONE AND THE BREAKDOWNS

(Country, blues and classic rock & roll) *No COVER*

August 17/18 - MURPHY'S LAUGH

(Celtic band + lots of laughs) *No COVER*

August 24/25 - EXCELERATE

(New age rock and roll) *No COVER*

August 31/Sept. 1 - TREVOR MCDONALD AND DEGROOT

(Over 700 song playlist) *No COVER*

GRASSHOPPER PUB BILL FUNK MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT:

On September 8, join as a group or individual for 18 holes of fun, dinner(choice of Bal's famous Butter Chicken, Prime Rib w/ Yorkshire Pudding or Seafood Pasta), prizes and good times. *Please specify dinner selection upon registration. Call Bik at the pub for info. (604) 883-9013. \$70.00

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✕ Please drink responsibly

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The politics of water – green thumb, green planet

by Carole Rubin

Harbourites!

Do you have a lawn outside your living room window?

Do you have borders of plants and flowers that require gallons of water to keep them pretty and alive?

Well, here are a few facts about water that will hopefully encourage you to change your ways — be creative, go native!

Human beings need water to live.

Only half of one per cent of water on the planet is drinkable.

That's right: 1.3 billion people on the planet do not have access to drinkable water.

Four thousand people died today from waterborne diseases.

Forty per cent of the world's population relies on water originating in another country.

By 2010, 2.5 billion people will not have access to clean drinking water.

This scarcity has made the stakes bigger, and the greedy vigilant.

Monsanto, the company that brought us patented, genetically altered seeds, along with Roundup and other pesticides, is buying up rights to clean water all over the world — in order to sell it back to us.

Joining Monsanto are the World Bank, Nestle, Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola, who are all racing to privatize and profit from water.

Water is THE next hot commodity.

Something to make money from, something to use as a political stick — something to go to war for.

Ultimately, whoever has water, lives.

That green carpet of turf, and those exotic plants in the garden consume 60 per cent of our daily domestic drinking water during the summer months.

Coastal British Columbia seems blessed by healthy amounts of rainfall, lulling us into a false sense of security that we will always have enough to drink.

But in many communities, like Tofino and Pender Harbour, we are learning that this is a dangerous myth.

Populations and industrial demand are expanding.

Our community's capacity to hold and deliver safe drinking water isn't.

Given all of this, should it even be legal to water a lawn or exotic flower?

Outdoor watering, except by drip irrigation or to establish native or drought-hardy plants, should be banned, period.

We just don't have enough to be pouring 60 per cent on lawns and gardens.

For those who are wedded to that green carpet look, put down indoor-outdoor carpeting, and have done with it!

If your self-esteem is really bound to a monochromatic monoculture that is water-guzzling, resource polluting, and horticulturally boring, it's time to call Dr. Phil.

Smother or take up a small section of your water-guzzling lawn and ornamentals this fall, or dig them up to the roots.

Then next spring or fall, you will be ready to replant with any of the hundreds of drop-dead gorgeous native or drought tolerant ground covers,

flowers, herbs, bulbs, shrubs, vines and trees that are full of colour, attract birds and butterflies and need NO water after they are established.

Add some edibles, herbs, vegetables, flowers, teas or fruits and raise them organically.

Talk about "food security."

Research the new eco-look by visiting Sunshine Coast nurseries' "native" or "drought-hardy" sections of ground-covers, flowers, shrubs, vines and trees.

It is time for all of us to rethink the way we landscape, and what makes us feel good about ourselves.

Save our precious water for drinking, and have a gorgeous yard, too!

Now go outside and turn off that tap!

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Please check the website for current hours and information.

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Alcoholics Anonymous meets Monday and Wednesday evenings - Everyone welcome.

Our board room is available for health related meetings or seminars. Please book in advance.

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

Ear's some advice

by Judi Georgetti, RN

Everyone has probably heard the adage “never put anything in your ear smaller than your elbow.”

The question then is — why would anyone put objects such as a cotton tipped swab, car key, bobby pin, toothpick or rolled up piece of napkin in their ears?

Mostly they do it to try to remove ear wax – cerumen, which is a sticky substance excreted by glands only found in the ears and which is there to trap foreign objects such as dust, dirt, feathers or what have you, from entering the inner ear.

Everybody has it, some produce more than others and some people, particularly those who wear hearing aids, have a devil of a time with ear wax occluding their drum and causing hearing loss, pain or both.

Putting foreign objects in your ear often makes the problem worse because all it does is push the wax against the ear drum where it sticks and stays.

Such tools often cause injury to the ear canal and can perforate the eardrum.

They may dislodge the small bones in the middle ear behind the eardrum.

They can even damage the inner ear, causing permanent hearing loss.

So, what to do?

Well, the best thing is always to prevent a problem before it starts.

Try a few drops of oil, at body temperature, in your ear at bedtime for a few nights once a month.

This will soften the wax and then, when you shower or bathe, the water will usually be enough to clean

out the wax.

When it gets to the point that your spouse has to scream at you or when the audiology technician can't fit your hearing aids because of wax build up, you will come to the clinic and we will have to syringe your ears.

However, when you book the appointment we will ask you to oil your ears for two or three evenings prior to coming in so that the wax is soft when we try to remove it.

DR. BLAKE ALDERSON

Dr. Blake Alderson, DC is changing his hours available at the Health Centre.

He will be here on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. for chiropractic care.

If you would like a home visit from Dr. Alderson you can book that appointment at the health centre and he will come to your home for a consultation and adjustment if required.

SCREENING MAMMOGRAPHY

The screening mammography program was a resounding success!

We were fully booked and 75 women had their mammograms done at the Health Centre in two days.

This shows that the service was needed and will be used and so perhaps the SMPBC will now get the message that this is necessary on the Sunshine Coast on, at least, an annual basis.

AUGUST IS RESPIRATORY DISEASE MONTH

Respiratory disease is the third leading cause of death in adults.

There are many respiratory diseases from colds to infections to

asthma, to bronchitis, pneumonia and the chronic diseases such as COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), emphysema or lung cancer.

The vast majority of respiratory diseases have cigarettes as a common denominator and therefore are preventable.

When there is damage to the oxygen sacs (alveoli) of the lungs, the body does not receive enough oxygen to sustain the cells and the organs become damaged.

The heart and brain in particular need oxygenated blood to function properly.

So, when the lungs are not functioning properly it can affect your heart and brain as well.

We will have lots of information on lung disease at the health centre this month for you to pick up.

Come to the President's Learning Centre, sit down and read or watch a video, and learn more about Respiratory Diseases.

BONE DENSITY SCREENING SEPTEMBER 2007

Book for heel ultrasound to determine bone density and osteoporosis risk

This is a non-invasive test which will take approximately 15 minutes

It's starting in early September for 1 month while we have the unit on loan

Call Merilee at the Health Centre to book

Pender Harbour & District Health Centre



IT'S OURS

The purpose of the IT'S OURS campaign is

- ◆ to raise awareness of our Health Centre facilities
- ◆ to assist to pay off the mortgage for the recent expansion, so we can use that money...
- ◆ to encourage innovative health programs for our community

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The Pender Harbour & District Health Centre
Society, Box 308, Madeira Park, B.C. V0N 2H0
or drop in. We also accept MasterCard and Visa.
Tax receipts will be issued for donations over
\$20. Call 604-883-2764

August Events

Sat. August 25, 7:00 pm. 'SING OUT', a gospel
music event with Gail Suderman and Marcus
Mosely at St. Andrew's Anglican Church.
Tickets at Health Centre and Talewind Books.

LETTERS

Paine "Howells" back

Dear Editor,

I am writing to remind Dave
Howell that there is a difference
between an "outhouse" and a portable
toilet rental as provided by Bon-

niebrook Industries.

Perhaps he should do some
research into the difference and stop
howling!

Yours,
Margaret Paine

Have paws, will travel

Dear Editor,

Our dog, Paladin, was lost then
hit by a car near the Ruby Lake Resort
on June 23.

He limped into the woods and
up into the mountain terrain where he
survived for 12 days.

He suffered the ordeal with a dis-
located hip and a scratched cornea.

He was covered with ticks and
mud and was extremely malnourished
and dehydrated.

He was spotted at the Klein Lake
campsite and rescued by Carrie and
her family on July 4.

We want to thank them all and
all of our friends, fabulous neighbours
and others who hiked, searched and
prayed for his safe return.

A special thank you to the Sech-
elt Animal Hospital for all the care he
received.

Shelley Stunell
Heather Cranston

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Free and easy! Approvals or disapprovals!

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

The Pender Harbour Cubs would like to thank the **Ruby Lake Resort** for supplying canoes and dinner for our last outing of the year. We appreciate local business support. Thanks again. Maybe we can make it a yearly thing. We all had a great time.

Akela

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Jim Cameron**, volunteer extraordinaire and one of the Harbour's unsung heroes, for once again taking his fellow firefighters' kids out on his boat for fun and fishing during the fire department's annual Fishing Derby. As you do every year, Jim, you made their day!

Pender Harbour Firefighters

I would love to thank the **people who organized my 60th birthday**. And you know who you are! You surprised me and you made my life worth living. I am a rich man having all of you as friends.

Laurie Munro

Hugs & kisses to all **Sheila's friends** who turned out for the "Celebration of her Life" on July 12. My thanks go out especially to the **Hospital Auxilliary members** for the great job they did preparing and presenting the tasty refreshments. I hope to be back living among you fairly soon, if you will have me back.

Thank you, thank you

Bob Adkin

A Harbour Seal of Approval and big thank you to **everyone who has made our thermometer rise**.

The "IT'S OURS" campaign committee

A Harbour Seal of Approval goes to the **local chapter of the Rotary** for generously providing the funds to finally complete our interior renovations and painting. Thank-you on behalf of Reading Centre volunteers and members.

Edda Matzen

A huge Harbour Seal of Approval to **Rod Webb Contracting** for donating his equipment to prepare our playground site, operator **Brad Zayshley and Mike Bathgate** for the use of his transit.

MPES Playground Committee

Advertisement

Plaque attack!

With your co-operation, the dentist can help to prevent the torment of toothache and tooth loss.

To wage a serious battle against the effects of plaque, a soft film of bacteria that sticks to your teeth, is our goal.

The bacteria thrive on food particles left on your teeth, they convert sugar into acids that attack the tooth enamel, making it porous.

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

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

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

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

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

By this time your gums are red, swollen and bleed when you brush or floss.

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

More teeth are lost this way than through tooth decay!

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

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

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

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

Early prevention is always our first choice so please consult with one of Dr. Lisa Virkela's friendly staff.

Madeira Park Dental Office
(604)883-2997

Who's buying land in the Harbour?



By Alan Stewart

With 37 home sales in the Harbour this year versus 38 home sales for the same period last year, the real estate market in Pender

and Egmont is still robust.

The big change has been in the amount of land being sold.

As I write this article, there are 111 lots listed for sale in Pender Harbour but we've only seen 13 sales this year versus 39 at this time in 2006.

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It's a great time for buyers looking to purchase land with a wide variety of product available and perhaps a little more flexibility in the seller's price.

So, who is buying land in the Harbour?

So far this year, my partner Dave Milligan and I have been involved in sales to a couple from Vancouver looking to build a recreational home on Merrill Road, a buyer from Calgary who purchased a fabulous view acreage on Mixal Heights Road for recreational use, a local buyer who purchased a lot in Lily Lake Village for a new home constructed by the developer and a couple of lot sales in Daniel Point to folks from Vancouver looking to eventually move into the area.

Not surprisingly, all of these buyers are baby boomers.

Boomers are not only buying up the land, but they also account for the bulk of home sales in the Pender Harbour area.

Although it is less than scientific, according to our in-house sales this year 52 per cent of our purchasers have come from the Lower Mainland, 5 per cent from Alberta and a surprising 42 per cent from right here on the Sunshine Coast.

Although a number of our local

buyers have been "downsizing" the majority have either been buying to relocate or for investment purposes.

When asked, our out-of-town buyers have commented that they decided to invest in Pender Harbour over other communities because of its natural beauty, its sense of community, and its access to some of the finest boating in the world.

Based on the 37 home sales so far this year, the "average" house in Pender / Egmont is a 1,843-square-foot 2.5-bedroom, two bathroom home which listed for \$634,030 and sold in 96 days for \$608,601.

In 2006 that same "average" home would have sold for \$561,007 in 61 days.

This year has seen a number of record-setting home sales including a spectacular 4.37-acre estate property in Kleindale which sold to a Vancouver couple for \$898,000 and a waterfront home on a subdividable 3.17-acre lot in Madeira Park which sold for \$1,925,000.

According to the Multiple Listing Service, that's the most expensive home sale in Pender Harbour history.

So if you're a homeowner considering selling in the next year, prepare your home and yard to appeal primarily to baby boomers coming out of Vancouver and Alberta and don't discount the possibility of one of your neighbours being your buyer.

If you're a buyer, expect sellers to be a bit more receptive to offers on bare land than they may have the past couple of years — but don't wait too long.

My guess is we're in another calm before the storm.

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Hang-glider lands on golf course

By Jan Watson

We are pleased to report that the newly seeded area on the 5th fairway is now open for play.

A surprise visitor dropped in while we were all enjoying refreshments after our Monday Twilight Scramble on July 9.

A hang-glider appeared over the clubhouse and asked if it was OK to land.

Naturally we said yes and he very neatly steered over the ponds and landed on the path in front of the 9th green.

He had climbed up one of the local mountains and then rode the thermals down to our level.

INTER-CLUB

The men completed their home and away series with Myrtle Point at Powell River on July 12 and sad to say they lost by a few points.

The ladies played the away leg of their match with Sunshine Coast GC on July 9 and made a valiant effort to retain the trophy, which they have held for the last three years.

They lost by just one point. This event started 19 years ago with Pender winning 11 times to Roberts Creek's eight.

LEGION TOURNAMENT

This tournament, now known as the Cathy McQuitty Memorial Tournament, is a nine-hole event scored under the Calloway system and was held on July 8. The overall champion was Doug Kammerle and the ladies champion was Reni Ducich. Men's low gross was won by Jay Deyman with 44 and ladies low gross winner was Jan Watson also with 44. Men's long drive went to George Wilson and ladies to Lori Wilson [no relation].

MEN'S CLUB

June 19 was stroke play and the low gross winner was Carey Threlkeld with 79.

June 26 was a two-man team event with net scores. Winners were Ian Grant and Brian Orr with 61.

July 3 was a scramble won after a tiebreaker by the team of Rusty Ellis, Brian Orr, Wayne Babcock and Monty Rolston 65.

July 10 was a Stableford and the winner with 37 points was Brian Orr.

LADIES CLUB

On June 21, the ladies had their

traditional Birthday Scramble, celebrating 21 years for the Golf Club.

Winners were Lorna Lycan, Marjory West, Heather Cranston, Moni Langham and Laura Jensen 75.

On July 6, the Ladies Steak Night Scramble saw 24 ladies enjoying a perfect evening and it was especially nice to have visitors from Germany, California and the Lower Mainland participate.

The winners with 37 were Jill Badger-Caldwell, Lynne Cam-

eron, Helen Crabb and Jan Watson.

We enjoyed a lovely dinner on the sundeck, had lots of laughs and watched a spectacular sunset.

MONDAY MIXED TWILIGHT SCRAMBLES

June 25 saw seven teams participate, winners Doug and Bev Provost with Fred Degenhardt 37, second Grant and Pat Hallborg with Pat's sister Joan Huenison visiting from Saskatchewan, also with 37.

On July 9 eight teams played and the winners were Lorna Lycan, Moni Langham and Jan Watson with 35.

FROM THE 19TH HOLE...

If your opponent has trouble remembering whether he shot a six or a seven, he probably shot an eight.

LOOK!

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BIRTHDAYS

Aug. 01: Linda Drought, Kelly Marko, Edith Hubbard and Jen Hardwick..

Aug. 02: Enya Delaney and Jessica "Lu-Lu" Kammerle.

Aug 03: Peter Wray .

Aug. 04: Kathleen White, Daniel White, Carol Reid, Jessica Sutherland and Gloria Keene.

Aug. 05: Genevieve Patterson and Bill Purnell.

Aug. 09: Shirley Adams.

Aug. 10: Bryan Clerx and Norma Martin.

Aug. 12: Mary White and Helga Morin.

Aug. 13: Peter Kenny.

Aug. 15: George Huey and Daryl Percival.

Aug. 16: Paul McKimm (Slo-Cat), Anna-Maria Massullo and Justin Tiefenbach.

Aug. 17: Bob Forsyth.

Aug. 18: Charles Dougan.

Aug. 20: Jim Barnet, Willy Rousseau,

June Reeder, Glen Spencer and Helga Thiele.

Aug 21: Doris Edwardson, Joyce Fowler, Kory Francis, Shelley Clay and Klisala Harrison.

Aug. 22: Buzzard Edwardson. Happy anniversary to Lee & Ken Walters.

Aug. 23: Kelly Reid.

Aug. 25: Rory Percival.

Aug. 26: Linda Ward.

Aug. 27: Warne Clay, Ann Barker and Kailee Yablonski.

Aug. 28: Wilma Thompson, Mike Ough and Brent Metcalfe.

Aug. 29: Steve Adamson and Karen O'Leary.

Aug. 30: Ruth King, Donna Hobson and Megan Bathgate.

Aug. 31: Eric English, Bryce Higgins, Corinne Gamble and Lillea Hohn.

AUGUST ASTROLOGY

LEO: JULY 23 TO AUGUST 23

Lions are idealists and romantics, honourable and loyal. Always individualistic, they are usually stylish, charismatic and flamboyant, but these characteristics often hide a preoccupation with licking themselves... down there.

VIRGO: AUG. 24-SEPT. 23

Virgos value knowledge highly. They make good teachers and advisers while avoiding positions of high power. Often shy, Virgos hide their sensitivity under a self-controlled surface, usually masking deep pain and a sadistic hatred of kittens.

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OF AUGUST

NATIONAL PSORIASIS MONTH

For many Canadians, summer is the highlight of the year, a time for swimming, sunning and skimpier clothing. For millions of people with psoriasis, though, summertime often means being turned away from swimming pools, hair salons and restaurants. "So what?" you might ask.

People with psoriasis often face discrimination and embarrassment in public places simply because others fear that psoriasis is contagious—psoriasis is not contagious. This is just one of the facts the National Psoriasis Foundation will emphasize during Psoriasis Awareness Month in August.

ABOUT PSORIASIS

Psoriasis is a noncontagious, genetic disease of the immune system that results when faulty signals in the immune system prompt skin cells to regenerate too quickly, causing red, scaly lesions that crack and bleed. It often affects the elbows, knees, scalp and torso but can appear anywhere on the body. Ten per cent to 30 per cent of people with psoriasis also develop psoriatic arthritis, which causes pain, stiffness and swelling in and around the joints.

According to the National Institutes of Health, as many as 7.5 million Americans have psoriasis. Psoriasis can affect anyone at any age, including children. There is no cure yet.

[National Psoriasis Foundation website]

AUGUST WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (MERRY ISLAND)

Our average August daily high temperature is 21 C and our average daily low is 14.6 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 17.7 C.

August averages 22 days with temperatures above 18 C, and the highest August temperature recorded is 32.2 C (Aug. 4, 1961); the lowest is 8.9 C (Aug. 18, 1973).

PRECIPITATION (MERRY ISLAND)

August averages seven days with rainfall and a total of 38.1 mm for the month (the lowest of the year).

The highest daily rainfall recorded in August was 42.4 mm (Aug. 4, 1962).

August has an average of 275.3 hours of bright sunshine.

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North Pender Harbour Water Service Area



**SPRINKLING
REGULATIONS
ARE BACK!!!**



Don't be a Drip

Outdoor water use during the summer months accounts for over 50% of the water used in the average North American home. Please observe the following sprinkling regulations to help minimize the unnecessary outdoor use of our precious water resource.

These regulations apply throughout the North Pender Harbour Water Service Area

Sprinkling Days & Times

ODD HOUSE #	EVEN HOUSE #
"odd" calendar days 1,3,5,...	"even" calendar days 2,4,6...
Daily 7 – 9 am AND 7 – 9 pm	

IMPORTANT

- NO sprinkling outside these hours
- NO sprinkling overnight
- REGULATIONS ARE ENFORCED

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• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Wed).....	883-1361
• Music Society	883-2689
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:30 pm Tues).....	883-2307
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.).....	883-3662
• Power & Sail Squad (2nd Wed. Legion).....	883-2103
• Red Balloon Parent & Tot drop-in.....	885-5881
• Reading Centre Society	883-2983
• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub).....	883-1350
• Royal Cdn Legion 112.....	883-0055
• Skookumchuck Heritage Society (Egmont Heritage Centre).....	883-9994
• St. Andrew's Anglican Church	883-9927
• St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed. Sept-June).....	883-1174
• Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.).....	883-9883
• Suncoast Players	883-9277
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• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
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In the Curtis Lumber Shopping Plaza

BC Bike Race rolls through Pender Harbour

By Brian Lee

It was surely one of the hottest days this year when racers taking part in the seven stage BC Bike Race passed through our area on July 4.

The fourth stage, Cumberland to Sechelt, is the mid-point of a seven day, mountain bike stage race from

Victoria to Whistler.

The inaugural edition BC Bike Race-Pacific Traverse is the creation of Dean Payne, an experienced organizer of BC adventure races who's caught the attention of top riders from all over the world.

The BC Bike Race follows a two-person team format, meaning

each team must ride together and finish each stage together.

"It's primarily a safety measure says course designer and participant Andreas Hestler, a former World Cup cross country racer and three-time winner of the similarly gruelling TranRockies endurance fest.

"It's also a bit of a curveball for mountain bike racers who are used to competing solo."

Aside from riding an average of 73 kilometres per day, the registration fees alone are daunting.

Each two person team had to pay \$3,500 to cover ferries, meals, massage therapy, medical support, bike maintenance support and tent facilities.

Add to that travel costs and it becomes clear why many athletes taking part need to be sponsored by companies like Trek, Rocky Mountain Bikes or Volkswagen.

The racers started the 58.5-kilometre fourth stage from Earl's Cove after completing three days of arduous riding from Sooke to Lake Cowichan to Port Alberni and then to Cumberland.

The course went in towards Egmont, followed the Klein/ Ruby corridor and the Suncoast Trail along-BC Hyro lines towards Halfmoon Bay.

Groans turned to hoots whenever the course went into the trees and as the course snaked through the single-track, the riders got a much needed break from the 30 degree-plus heat.

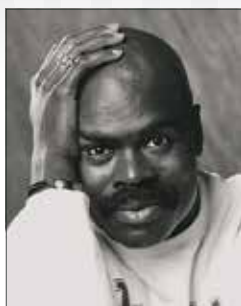
The race ended in Sechelt with a longhouse dinner hosted by the Sechelt Indian Band.

Six-time 24-hour solo world champion Chris Eatough and his

a benefit concert in support of the pender harbour health centre
"it's ours" fundraising campaign

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Lead riders tackling the Suncoast trail bridge below the Dept. of Highways gravel pit at Sakinaw Lake.

teammate Jeff Schalk (Trek-Volkswagen) led a list of well-known Canadian pros including Hestler, Olympian Ryder Hesjedal and Seamus McGrath to the finish line in Whistler.

The American team of Schalk and Eatough also won all seven stages, completing the 510 kilometre course in 25 hours, two minutes and 50 seconds.

The first women's team was "Shore Girls Don't Cry," consisting of Cynthia Young and Michelle Newton of North Vancouver who finished the course in just over 35 hours.

Sixty nine teams finished all seven stages.



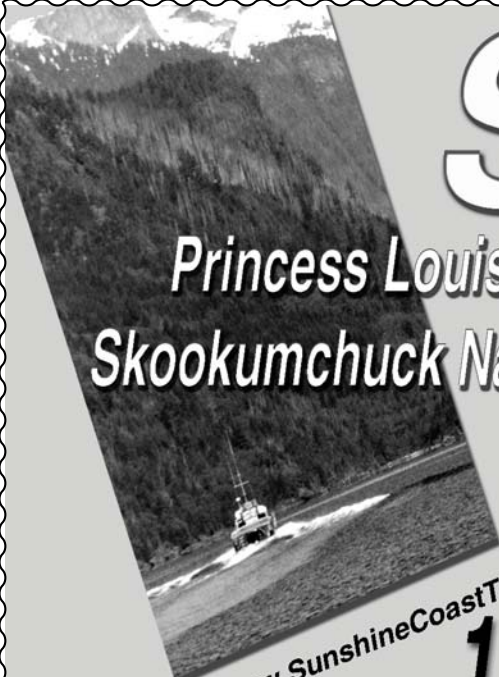
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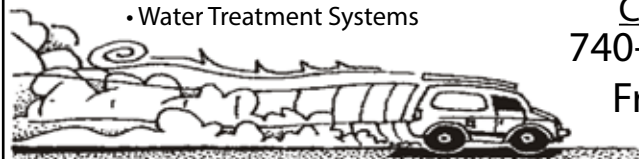
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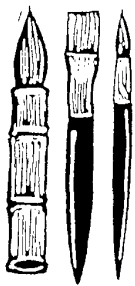
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CBC: you get what you pay for



By Shane McCune

The CBC is supposed to bring Canadians together and by golly it does, because no matter where we live or what we

believe, we love to complain about the national broadcaster.

It's full of commies or it's a tool of the establishment. It's too earnest or it's too frivolous. It's a waste of money or it needs more money.

No doubt these arguments will heat up again next month as the network launches its new season. The flagbearer for Mother Corp these days is the hit series "Little Mosque on the Prairie." It remains to be seen if viewers will remain loyal once the novelty of the premise — Muslims in Saskatchewan! Haw! — wears off, because the gags are lame.

But it will have to do, because the CBC doesn't have the money for high-quality, homegrown programming. Instead the network is leaning heavily on the cheap-and-dirty "reality" genre with "No Opportunity Wasted," "Triple Sensation" and "Who Do You Think You Are?"

Such programming choices probably won't please anyone. CBC supporters such as Friends of Canadian Broadcasting would rather see more national and regional public affairs programming and high-quality dramas like "Da Vinci's Inquest," with a big jump in funding to accomplish it. Foes such as the Fraser Institute and the Conservative Party would like to axe the CBC entirely, or at least reduce it to a PBS-style beggar.

Last year, after conducting the

umpteenth government review of the CBC, a Senate committee said the People's Network should drop all sports, including the Olympics, and all commercials. In return, the government would provide increased and stable funding.

Which ain't gonna happen. Taxpayers provide about 60 per cent of the CBC's budget (\$1.2 billion to \$1.4 billion) and commercials pay most of the rest. It sounds like a lot, but Liberal and Conservative governments have whittled away more than 20 per cent of the network's budget in 2007 dollars since the mid-1980s.

There is no way the Harper government will raise CBC funding by 40 to 50 per cent. But it likes the idea of eliminating commercials and sports. And in fact, that is a perfect business model. . . for CanWest Global, CTV and Rogers. Not only would it hand them gold mines like "Hockey Night in Canada," it would eliminate a competitor for advertising dollars.

With the CBC out of the way, would private broadcasters pick up the cultural slack? Last year, according to the CRTC, private broadcasters (mainly CTV, CanWest Global and Rogers) spent \$685.5 million on foreign (mainly U.S.) programming and \$618.5 million on Canadian programming. In most industrialized democracies that would be considered shameful enough.

But it gets much worse once you take away "reality," public affairs and local news programming and focus on drama. CRTC data show private broadcasters spent \$478.6 million on

foreign drama during 2006 (up 16 per cent from 2005) but only \$70.9 million on Canadian drama (down 15 per cent).

The CBC's model should be the British Broadcasting Corporation. Although the United Kingdom's population is not quite twice that of Canada, the BBC has a budget six times larger. It runs no commercials and is not dependent on handouts from Parliament.

The Beeb gets a third of its money from overseas sales of its programs. The rest comes from TV licence fees. Every TV owner in Britain pays \$24 a month for a licence and every penny goes to the BBC. In return it offers eight TV and seven radio channels and the most comprehensive website of any broadcaster or news organization in the world.

A monthly licence on TV sets will not fly in Canada. But why not attach a CBC levy to cable fees, which is how the Canadian Television Fund (subsidizing all broadcasters) works now? Part of the levy would be paid by individual cable users and the rest by the private broadcasters who use cable (or digital, or whatever medium takes over).

They would scream, but they would be able to offset some of that cost with the aforementioned increase in ad revenues. Besides, as their drama budgets show, it's the only way to get a meaningful investment in Canadian culture from broadcasters who make fortunes by simply inserting Canadian commercials into American content.



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.

AUGUST

- Sun. August 5.....P.H. Show and Shine - Garden Bay Pub, 12 noon
 Thurs. August 9.....Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts - Rockwood Centre (4 days)
 Sat. August 11.....Cut Lighting Costs! lecture - St. Andrew's Anglican Church, 2 p.m.
 Sat. August 11.....Giant Garage Sale - Madeira Park Community Centre, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (2 days)
 Sat. August 11.....Hackett Park Summer Craft Faire - Hackett Park (Sechelt), 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (2 days)
 Thurs. August 16.....Bonfire Music Festival - Lions' Park Fairgrounds (4 days)
 Fri. August 17.....P.H. Chamber Music Festival - P.H. Performance Centre (3 days)
 Sat. August 18.....Soup and Song - St. Andrew's Anglican Church, 5 p.m.
 Sat. August 25....."Dance for the Cure" P.H. Community Hall, 8 p.m.
 Sat. August 25....."Fight Fire With Fun" - P. H. Community Hall, 11 a.m.
 Sat. August 25....."Sing Out!" - St. Andrew's Anglican Church, 7 p.m.
 Wed. August 29.....Area A advisory Planning Comission meeting - Room 107 PHSS, 7 p.m.
 Fri. August 31.....Bidding closes for Prudential Sussex/Dinners for Donors campaign August Silent Auction, 5 p.m.

THE PENDER HARBOUR SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 2007 WISHES TO THANK THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR SUPPORT:

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 10:40 a.m.
 11:55 a.m. (Sat. only)
 12:50 p.m.
 *1:30 p.m.
 3:05 p.m.
 *4:20 p.m.
 5:15 p.m.
 ♦6:50 p.m.
 7:20 p.m.
 9:25 p.m.

Horseshoe Bay

7:25 a.m.
 9:35 a.m.
 10:30 a.m. (Sat. only)
 11:45 a.m.
 1:10 p.m. (Sat. only)
 1:55 p.m.
 *2:45 p.m.
 4:10 p.m.
 ♦5:30 p.m.
 *5:35 p.m.
 6:20 p.m.
 8:25 p.m.
 10:20 p.m.

Earl's Cove

8:20 a.m.
 10:30 a.m.
 12:45 p.m.
 3:05 p.m.
 5:25 p.m.
 7:25 p.m.
 9:20 p.m.
 11:05 p.m.

Saltery Bay

7:25 a.m.
 9:30 a.m.
 11:40 a.m.
 2:00 p.m.
 4:20 p.m.
 6:30 p.m.
 8:25 p.m.
 10:12 p.m.

*Daily except Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sept. 2.

♦Sundays only except Sept. 2.

*Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays only





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Hadicol Cowboys

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Show & Shine
Sunday, August 5**

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*4th annual SHOW & SHINE

Aug. 12 - Joe Stanton
and the Precious Littles

Aug. 19 - Gaetan and
the French Connection

Aug. 26 - Jerry Yuzon

