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HARBOUR SPIEL

FEBRUARY 2007
ISSUE 194 ❧ \$3.⁰⁰



The weather hasn't been all bad.
Ambrose Lake, January 14

HARBOUR SPIEL

The Independent Voice
of Pender Harbour
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Brian Lee.

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EDITORIAL

Severe flooding expected...

By Brian Lee

It's probably no secret to most, but Area A is soon to undergo major flooding... in the form of a water debate.

Interested parties are right now preparing their strategies for what could quickly become an ugly political battle.

On Jan. 19, the SCRD adopted the final amendments to the "Area A Water Master Plan" and it will soon be made available to the public.

The WMP was initiated and developed by the Sunshine Coast Regional District to study water quality on the Sunshine Coast and to propose solutions for long term improvements.

The plan was developed by representatives from our local water boards, Dept. of Fisheries, conservation groups and the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, with the majority of the group composed of representatives from the SCRD.

It has already been disclosed that recommendations included in the plan will include a sufficient budget, based on assessed need, and Area A has been allocated \$6.91 million, the highest on the Sunshine Coast.

The WMP should not be confused with the "Drinking Water Source-to-Tap Assessment," initiated by the South Pender Harbour Water District.

Unlike SCRD-managed water systems like the newly formed North Pender Harbour Waterworks District, the SPHWD is an independent water improvement district and, as such, will not necessarily qualify for projects proposed in the water master plan because only municipalities and regional districts qualify for infrastructure funding.

The Source-to-Tap was initiated by the SPHWD to "identify hazards and vulnerabilities that may threaten the safety and sustainability of the water supply" but also to demonstrate to the provincial government that well-run water improvement districts should be eligible for infrastructure funding.

Such funding would allow the SPHWD to construct a multi-barrier water treatment system, estimated by some at \$2.5 million.

Without infrastructure funding, this system would place a heavy burden on the local ratepayer.

The results of both studies will be available soon but it seems clear that there is already some advance posturing by interested stakeholders.

Our Area A representative, John Rees, seems to favour the amalgamation of water districts under a consolidated SCRD management system.

The SPHWD board is also preparing a reaction to the inevitable question of whether or not control should be granted to the SCRD.

The vigorous debate should provide positive steps to improve our water quality throughout Area A.

I'm satisfied all involved have the best interests of our local water supply at stake and one thing all parties agree on is that there is a need for improvement but that is clearly where the agreement ends.

Many questions still need to be answered and hopefully they will soon.

For instance, is it still OK to pee while you're swimming in Garden Bay Lake if you live on Francis Peninsula?

I don't see why not.

Nobody drinks our tap water anymore anyway.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

HARBOUR AUTHORITY AGM

Monday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 112, Madeira Park. All welcome.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY FUNDRAISING TEA

On Saturday, Feb. 10 the Pender Harbour Branch of the St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary are having their Annual Valentines Fundraising Tea at the Pender Harbour School of Music from 2-4 p.m.

LIONS' VALENTINE DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

On Sunday, Feb. 11, bring your sweetie to the Pender Harbour Lions Hall (by the P.H. golf course) for the Lions' famous pancake breakfast from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

FUN SWIM MEET

On Thursday, Feb. 15, there will be a fun swim meet suitable for kids of all ages and abilities. Since there is no school the next day it will be held from 6:30-9 p.m. Pender Harbour Aquatic and Fitness Centre.

QUIZ NIGHT

At the P.H. Legion on Friday, Feb. 16 at 8 p.m. Hosted by and proceeds to the Madeira Park Elementary School.

ST. ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH SOUP AND SONG

On Saturday, Feb. 17, experience an evening of soup, song and socializing in the ceilidh tradition at St. Andrew's Anglican Church. Hosted by award-winning singer Penny Lang. Doors open at 5 p.m., soup at 5:30 and fun from 6:30-9 p.m.

PENDER HARBOUR & DISTRICT WILDLIFE SOCIETY FILM

The Pender Harbour & District Wildlife Society will meet at 7.30 PM at P.H. High School on Tuesday, Feb.20. Instead of a guest speaker, a film, *Being Caribou*, from the National Film Board of Canada will be shown courtesy of Will and Janet Tyers.

BREAKING NEWS

South Pender Harbour Waterworks trustee, Ted Taylor, resigned his position on Jan. 26, a day after the monthly meeting of the SPHWD board.

He e-mailed the remaining trustees the morning after the meeting and followed up with a written letter later that day.

"I just don't like the way the board operates," he said, "In my opinion, it's not a totally democratic process."

When asked to comment on Mr. Taylor's resignation, board chairperson Richard Frappier indicated that Mr. Taylor probably felt outnumbered during the voting process because he often disagreed with the other four trustees.

Frappier said "I guess, basically, he wasn't a team player."

Mr. Taylor did say that he plans to continue to be actively involved with issues concerning Area A water quality.



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Wednesday, Feb. 21, 6:30-

9:30pm. Tickets \$30 in advance.

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Fatal motor vehicle accident on Francis Peninsula Road

One person is dead after a single vehicle accident on Francis Peninsula Road.

The sole female occupant of the vehicle was transported to St. Mary's Hospital in Sechart where she was pronounced dead by hospital staff.

The victim, 37 year-old Angela Cole, was an employee at the Madeira Park Liquor Store.

She was driving west on Francis Peninsula Road near Lagoon Road at approximately 11 p.m. on Jan. 17 when she lost control of her vehicle.

The police investigation is ongoing but weather conditions are believed to have contributed to the accident.

This is the second fatal MVA on the Sunshine Coast in 2007.



ABOVE: A roadside memorial at the fatal crash site.

Human remains on Merry Island still a mystery

On December 30, the Sunshine Coast RCMP were contacted by the lighthouse keeper on Merry Island who advised that what appeared to be human remains had been located in a small cove on the island.

The lighthouse keeper had been out for a walk and had come across the remains in the cove and contacted RCMP immediately.

Merry Island is a small island located southeast of Thormanby Island.

The cove where the remains were

found is on the north side of the island and is approximately 50 metres across and about 75 metres deep.

It is also completely saturated with dead logs and wood debris.

The remains consisted of a partial spine, pelvis, leg bones and some attached skin and flesh.

In addition to the remains, clothing items were located which included long pants, tattered cloth that may be a T-shirt or a blouse and a sock.

There was nothing located at the

scene that gave any indication as to the cause of death or that the unknown person's death occurred at that location.

The coroner was contacted and the remains and clothing were collected.

No new information was available at press time.

The coroner's report and a DNA profile should be completed in February.

Lions sign agreement with SCRD for playing field



On Jan. 6, the 35th anniversary of the P.H. Lions' Club, the Pender Harbour Lions and the SCRD signed an agreement allowing the SCRD to use part of the Lions' Park for construction of a soccer playing field.

The SCRD hopes to acquire use of land adjacent to the park for construction of additional recreational

facilities, including a softball diamond.

Seated front row (left to right): Lions' President, John Forward, Area A Representative, John Rees, and Rebecca Porte, SCRD Parks Planning Co-ordinator.

Standing (left to right): Lions Peter Benjafield, Cindy Schroeder, Charlie Park and Frank Roosen.

Photo submitted

Storm Knocks Out Power Once Again

Another powerful storm hit the Sunshine Coast on the evening of Jan. 5.

Many residents lost power just after 10 p.m. and service to many areas wasn't restored until late the next day.

Dozens of trees came down on a 100-metre stretch of a section of Highway 101 known as "Misery Mile" causing massive damage to hydro lines.

Other power lines were down in the Egmont area but major hydro lines on the southern coast were relatively unscathed.

One motorist driving to the

Langdale ferry on the morning of Jan. 6 was surprised at the absence of trees

across hydro lines south of Madeira Park.



ABOVE: Misery Mile lived up to its name on January 5.

Dell Deguire photo

Police News

compiled by the P.H. Community Policing Station volunteers

NOV. 17 TO DEC. 18, 2006

During the morning of Nov. 17, a speeding vehicle on Francis Peninsula Road nearly hit a pedestrian out walking her dog, injuring the dog.

The driver of the vehicle stopped to yell at the pedestrian and then drove off.

On Dec. 5, a Madeira Park resident reported the window of his vehicle had been broken.

Vandalism was assumed but

not confirmed.

On Dec. 7, beaver traps that had been set up at a Pender Harbour location were reported stolen.

Apparently the work of beavers resulted in the flow of water through a street culvert being blocked causing flooding.

The owner of two generators reported on Dec. 8 that both had been stolen from a shed in Pender Harbour sometime during the previous three weeks.

The RCMP arrested an impaired, male driver Dec. 10 on Hwy. 101 near

Madeira Park.

His erratic driving had been reported by a concerned citizen.

DEC. 18 TO JAN. 17, 2007

On Dec. 29, an Egmont home was broken into.

Various items were removed.

The Egmont Fire Department had five used vinyl windows stolen from their property.

Extensive damage and mischief to property was reported in the 4600 block of Francis Peninsula Road.

Grieg Seafoods purchases Target Marine

In a deal completed Jan. 17, Campbell River-based Grieg Seafood BC Ltd., a subsidiary of the Norwegian Grieg Group, purchased locally owned aquaculture company Target Marine.

The terms of the deal are undisclosed but Target Marine owner Bernard Bennett said it was “a good business deal for both parties and I’m

pleased there will be no job losses resulting from the sale.”

Not included in the deal are the Target Marine hatchery as well as a sturgeon farming operation.

Target Marine currently has 110 employees of which 20 will continue to work for Bennett’s remaining enterprises.

The Grieg Group is a family

owned business employing approximately 900 people, with companies specializing in shipping, ship broking, fish farming and processing, global logistics, insurance broking and asset management.

When asked what his plans are now that he has sold the majority of his business, Bennett said “I’m going to throttle back a bit.”

Abbeyfield gains title to land and \$100,000

The Area A Seniors Housing Project recently gained title to land on Lagoon Road for the proposed Abbeyfield House project.

The fully serviced lot, valued at approximately \$300,000, was provided by developer Ryan Campbell as part of the terms of his rezoning application for the three-acre Lily Lake Village development.

Campbell is building 27 recre-

ational and retirement homes at Lily Lake Village on Lagoon Road and has 10 homes, sold with another six currently under construction.

The Area A Seniors Housing Project, a not-for-profit society with charitable status, is raising funds to build an Abbeyfield House in Pender Harbour to provide supportive housing for seniors not in need of nursing care.

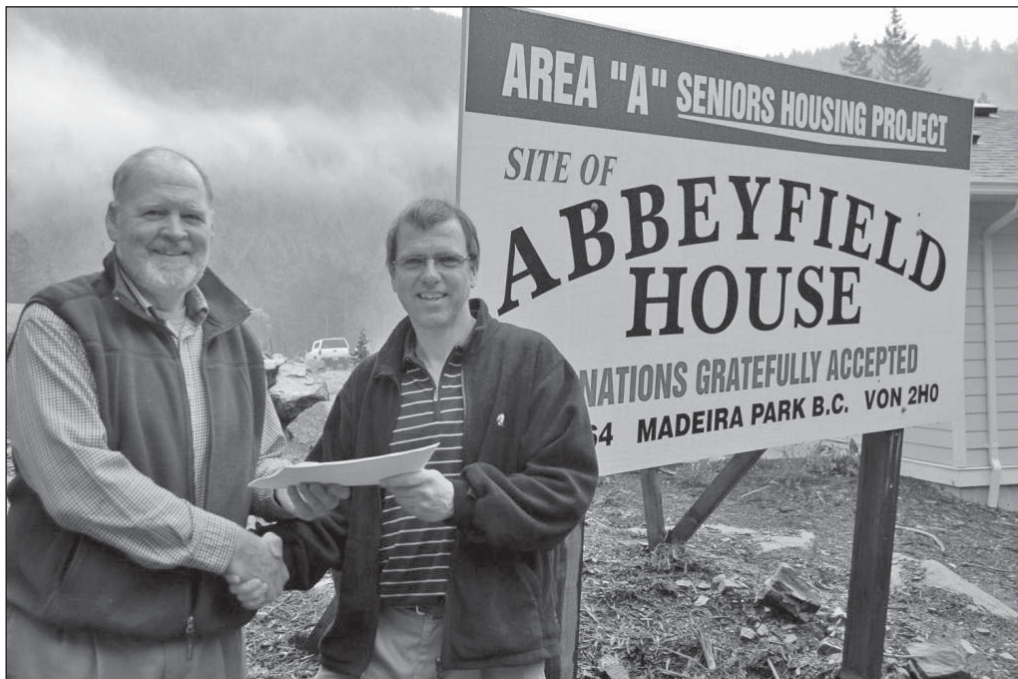
The Abbeyfield model is well established in western Canada with 21 operating houses and four under construction.

It will provide bed and sitting-room rental accommodation for 10 single, assisted-living residents, as well as many common rooms to allow residents an opportunity to socialize.

Only a day after the title was secured, the B.C. Real Estate Foundation donated \$100,000 for the construction of the Pender Harbour Abbeyfield House.

“The Foundation was “very impressed with our application. Thanks to Marg Penny, who did the application for us.” said Paul Cuppen, chairman/director of the housing project, “We were very lucky and proud to get this kind of recognition for our project.”

Donations to the Abbeyfield Building Fund may be sent to:
Area A Seniors Housing Project
Box 264
Madeira Park BC
V0N 2H0
(Tax receipt available.)



Alan Stewart photo

ABOVE: Ryan Campbell, President of Lily Lake Homes, Inc., presents the deed for the new Abbeyfield House building lot to Paul Cuppen, President of the Area A Seniors Housing Project.”

RCMP admit fault in bungled search warrant

On July 12, 2004, the Sunshine Coast RCMP executed a search warrant on premises in Garden Bay where a marijuana grow operation with over 300 plants was found.

It was later revealed that the location was correct but the incorrect address and owner's name had been recorded on the warrant.

Mr. Reynold Syms of Madeira Park was incorrectly identified as the owner of this property by the investigating officer, Cst. Jean Gelderblom.

A warrant was authorized on July 12 to be executed on the property at 13873 Casano Road in Garden Bay.

According to RCMP, background checks of that property erroneously showed it to be owned by Mr. George Reynold Syms.

The warrant was executed and a marijuana grow-op was found but no residents of the property were present.

Shortly after the search began, Cst. Gelderblom realized the property they were on was not 13873 Casano Rd. but on Garden Bay Rd.

Although a grow-op had been found at this location, the error in the execution of the search warrant virtually negated the possibility of any charges.

As required by law, a copy of the warrant was left at the premises at the conclusion of the search and somehow ended up posted on a bulletin board in Garden Bay displaying the address and name of Mr. Syms.

News of this was not discovered by Mr. Syms until a couple of weeks later, who then brought it to the attention of the Sechelt RCMP office.

In the meantime, the August 2005 issue of the *Harbour Spiel* published "George Syms, 44, of Garden Bay, faces charges of production of marijuana."

For her part, former *Harbour*

Spiel publisher Myrtle Winchester regrets that she "unwittingly harmed Mr. Syms' reputation by assuming the police report she was given was accurate."

The RCMP acknowledged their error in a written letter dated Dec. 19, 2006 from Staff Sergeant Brad Zalys to Reynold Syms.

The letter supports Syms' claim

that the investigating officer, Cst. Jean Gelderblom, was indeed "neglectful in his duty in not ensuring all provisions for obtaining and executing a search warrant had been met."

After two and a half years of presenting his case, Mr. Syms is "finally satisfied that the RCMP have acknowledged their mistake."

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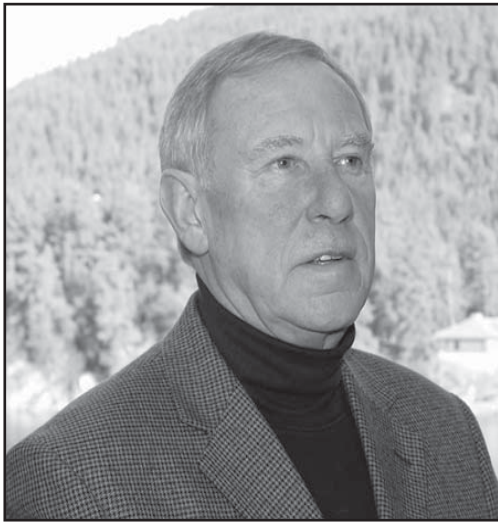
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John Rees
SCRD Director, Area A

In the last edition of this column I brought you an update of the Area A Water Master Plan.

I'd like to continue with that theme and other water-related issues.

Coincidentally, in the same issue of the *Harbour Spiel* there was a notice on page 10, placed there presumably by the Board of Trustees of the SPHWD, that mentioned that the rough draft of the WMP contained material that was either "wrong, incomplete or misleading," and then went on to state that, since it was a draft only, it was not yet ready for public distribution.

The WMP core group had another meeting on January 19th, and at this time I am pleased to announce that we achieved a full consensus on the finished product, once we make some minor changes that will not change the scope or intent of the document.

It was most gratifying to get full support for all the hard work put in to this plan and I would like to quote our District Health Officer, Tim Adams, who, besides praising its contents, said, "This water master plan is unprecedented in the province."

After the minor changes are made, the plan will be presented to the

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, February 1, 2007

- 1:30 pm Infrastructure Services Committee

Thursday, February 8, 2007

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

Thursday, February 15, 2007

- 1:30 pm Community Services Committee

Thursday, February 22, 2007

- 1:30 pm Corporate and Administrative Services Committee
- 7:30 pm Regular Board

Monday, February 26, 2007

- 9:00 am Policing Committee
- 10:30 am Transportation Committee

Budget meetings will be held from February 19 - 23 at 9:00 am.

AREA "A" DIRECTOR JOHN REES

Director 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.

AREA A ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

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

Wednesday, February 28, 7:00 p.m.

Room 107, Pender Harbour High School

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- Sunday – CLOSED all day

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TRANSPORTATION AND POLICING ISSUES

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

SCRD Public Information Meeting on Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 337.83 (Amendments to subdivision requirements), 6:30 pm on Monday, February 26, 2007, in the Pender Harbour School of Music, located at 12952 Madeira Park Road, Madeira Park, BC.

Planning & Development Division staff will make a presentation concerning proposed Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 337.83 which if adopted would:

- introduce a minimum parcel size for a subdivision under the "residence for relatives" provisions of the Local Government Act
- introduce requirement that useable area be contiguous

Further details can be obtained from David Rafael, Senior Planner, on 604 885 6804 or david.rafael@scrd.bc.ca.

SCRD board for approval at which time it will then become a public document and will be the subject of some public meetings or open houses.

To help with this, I have requested that its main features be prepared in a PowerPoint presentation for a fullscreen effect.

The WMP will then form the base for the creation of a new function at the SCRD, the idea being to establish funding to continue all the studies required in Area A to implement this overall master plan.

It also should be acknowledged that planning and study grants can more readily be leveraged if the community is prepared to fund a portion of the costs and a vision is in place.

This plan alone will not be a magic solution to all the water concerns in Area A but is a working tool that, for the first time, outlines the majority of the problem areas, suggestions to improve those areas, and options for growth development.

Successful implementation will depend upon co-operation by the community at large and a desire for a long term plan.

SPHWD PROPOSED RATE INCREASES.

I received in the mail a notice of a rather substantial rate increase from SPHWD.

The reasons given for the proposed increase were to finance the design costs of a treatment plant.

I would respectfully point out that under the water master plan described above, the SCRD has made an application for funding towards a treatment plant for SPHWD, among other issues.

To move ahead unilaterally and commit design funds would constitute a start of the project, thereby disqualifying the applicant's grant application.

I would therefore ask the trustees of the SPHWD to reconsider this decision on extra taxation, until at least we have some response on the grant distribution.

I should also point out that only municipalities or regional districts are eligible to make application for infrastructure grants.

Improvement districts do not qualify.

One other item I would mention that needs clarification by the SPHWD is the following:

In the same article, on page 10 of the January issue of the *Harbour Spiel*, the ninth module as described is presumably an independent review of the pros and cons of possible amalgamation with the NPHWD (SCRD).

If so, would it not be fair and appropriate to discuss the issue with the SCRD before such time as the April meeting?

There are certain procedures in place for this type of proposal.

NPHWD (GARDEN BAY AND HOTEL LAKE)

I attended what might have been the last meeting of the board of trustees.

These volunteers have kindly stayed on to help with a smooth transition through amalgamation.

I respect their work, dedication and local knowledge; the same can be said for SPHWD trustees.

The existing board (the old GBWD) will soon be disbanded and replaced by an advisory committee reporting to the SCRD composed of two members of the GBWD and a new member from Hotel Lake (local advertising will take place soon), plus an APC member and yours truly.

Before leaving, the old board kept a promise and approved a 2007 budget with no increases.

In fact, for the old Hotel Lake system customers there will be a small decrease for 2007 for fee balancing purposes.

This was achieved in addition to a modest allowance to start a water conservation support program.

Valentine's Day Pancake Breakfast Pender Harbour Lions Hall

Sunday, February 11
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



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Pender Harbour Waterworks District

On January 15th, the District sent out the 2007 Water Toll invoices. Office staff have been asking ratepayers, when they have been paying in person, for their reaction to the 50% increase in tolls and the proposed 35% increase for the Water Tax. The most common answer is, "the increase is inevitable, if we want to have good water."

It must be pointed out that the insert that accompanied the 2007 Water Toll invoice incorrectly stated " . . . the Board has approved a budget to enable our Engineer to start the initial work towards the planning involved."

The Board of Trustees was presented with a rough budget on December 7th so that they could see the areas of need in order to have full discussion on whether or not to increase the water tolls and taxes and, if so, to what extent. A motion was made to increase the water tolls by 50% and the water taxes by 35%. The motion was carried, with the Board approving the increase in Water Tolls and Taxes but not the budget. The error was missed and not caught until the minutes of the meeting were typed up.

The 2007 Water Toll By-law was submitted to the Ministry of Community Services for approval on December 13th. On December 21st, the Financial Analyst, charged with examining the 2007 Toll by-law for the Ministry, telephoned the water district office for more information. As a follow-up to the telephone conversation, an email was sent to the Financial Analyst with the preliminary budget as an attachment. The email read "The budget is rough, but it is enough to give the Board an idea that we had to raise the tolls and taxes". The 2007 Water Tax By-law will be submitted to the Ministry for approval prior to the issuance of the water tax notices.

Preparing for Summer Shortages

The days are getting longer and it is time to start thinking about "spring cleaning." Keep in mind that the water generally stops going over the dam by June 30th. Please plan large pressure washing jobs such as driveways and metal roofs to be completed before the end of June.

Emergency Water Shut- Off

A recent main break on Lagoon Road necessitated the water to be turned off without notification to the surrounding residents. When an emergency situation arises with the need to isolate a break, the District endeavors to contact people in the affected area, if time allows. On January 10th there was too much water erupting from the 6" main and there was no time to contact people.

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

More on the Hall...

Editor,

I agree 110% about the hall.

The health centre auxiliary was the only community group to date, including the businesses, that donated to fix the septic field.

It is inconceivable to me that anyone can think we can survive as a community without the hall.

Most of the shops have bathroom facilities for their staff, but all send tourists and groups to the toilet facilities that are now closed down.

Come summer months, all our visitors will have to use the port-a-potties.

I don't know about the public in general but I would rather not go shopping in a town that had nothing but port-a-potties, however clean,

however lovely the surrounding area.

As a customer, I am not prepared to wander around looking for facilities, especially if I had children.

I predict a further slow down in the tourism trade and we need it!!

It takes work I realize.

Just ask the ladies who volunteer at the bargain barn to raise needed funds for the health centre, its operation and its expansion.

We all want the comforts but apparently few are ready to do the necessary work.

Our taxes and our government are not solely responsible for our creature comforts.

Naomi Jackson

President, Pender Harbour and District Health Centre Auxiliary

SPHWD water question

Editor,

I was more than a little annoyed when I received my water toll invoice.

Then I read the accompanying letter and I didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

I was not consulted nor did I approve a motion to have our engineer do any planning of a treatment plant.

The SPHWD should get ratepayer approval for any substantial capital projects or asset expenditures.

I understood that a meeting was going to be held in the New Year to discuss the pros and cons of joining with the North Pender Harbour Water District.

It would appear that some of the board are putting the cart before the horse.

What is the big rush?

The letter states that "The board

has approved a budget" to do this work but I happen to know that the budget was never approved by the board.

If there is any possibility of our joining with the NPHWD, then it would be a complete waste of money to design a treatment plant that would need to be redesigned to service both districts.

Jack Dennis

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RAMOS**

Inspirational Cinema

February 24
7:30 pm

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www.penderharbourabbeyfield.org

The benefits of keeping your children indoors

by Amy Tiefenbach

After reading last month's *Pet Patter*, I was struck by the idea that the same wisdom of raising pets indoors could be applied to children.

If it can work for cats, why not kids?

More and more parents are realizing the dangers of allowing their children to roam free and it is now very common for children to be raised entirely indoors.

There are many benefits to keeping your kids indoors, just a few are:

- Dogs – Unfortunately many outdoor children are seriously injured in dog attacks.
- Cars – Another common fatality in children. Unfortunately kids just don't have any road sense.
- Cruel humans – Sad but true, not everybody loves kids.

Stories have been heard of children being deliberately poisoned by irate neighbours who resent children entering their property.

- Being preyed upon by strangers that want to harm your child.
- Preventing injuries from gang fights.

The most common injury is a black eye which is painful and will need to be treated by a doctor.

- Preventing contact with other children, which helps eliminate the risk of your child picking up various viruses and bacterial infections.
- Accidental poisoning – drugs, alcohol and cigarettes.

It is quite possible for an indoor child to be a happy child.

Below are some suggestions on

ensuring your indoor child remains entertained and happy:

- Provide a screened-in enclosure outside so that your child can have the best of both worlds.
 - Train your child to walk on a leash – it is quite possible to do with little time and effort – and you will
- (continued next page)

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Benefits (cont. from p. 13)

be guaranteed that your child will not stray too far from your side.

- Provide your child with a climbing post, to simulate climbing a real tree outdoors.

- Provide places to relax – a chair or cushion – near windows so they can watch the outside world.

- Keep a supply of toys on hand. These could include, balls, puzzles, board games etc.

- Make some time to play with your child. This will provide stimula-

tion and encourage her to exercise.

- Plant an indoor garden so your child can still nibble on fresh vegetables without going out into the yard.

- Put a special toy outside a window to attract other kids to play for your child's entertainment.

- And probably the most popular choice - consider having two children so they can play together.

Indoor children have more than twice the average life expectancy of an outdoor child and are happier and

healthier.

However, they do require different care than the average outdoor child.

They need more love and attention, and thus they make better companions.

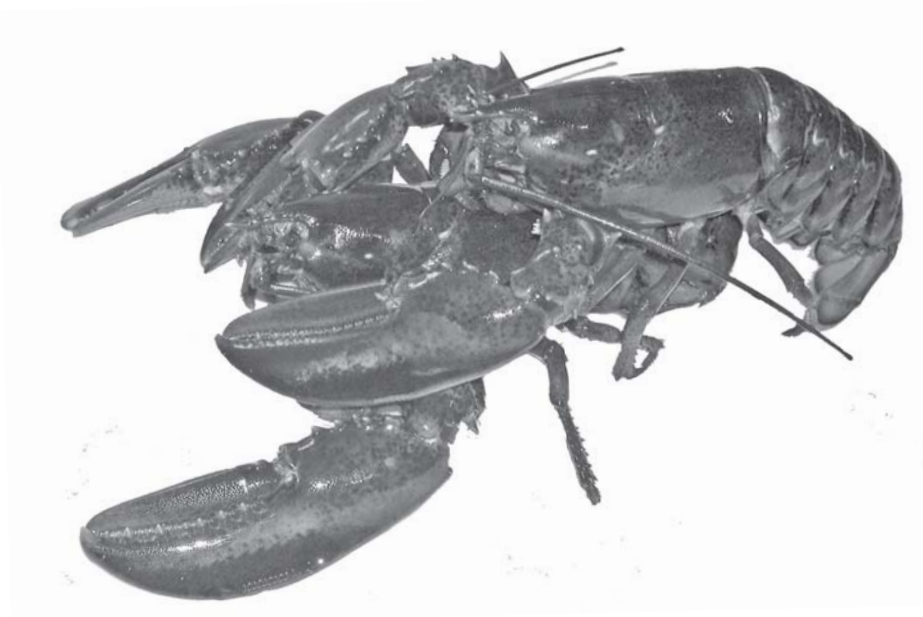
It is never too late to convert an outdoor child to an indoor child.

Watch an indoor child lazing in a window seat or staring into a television screen with that perfectly content look on her face, and you won't doubt the benefits of keeping your children indoors – for you as well as your child.

NOTE: Amy Tiefenbach is a mother of two. She'd like people to know that she occasionally lets her kids outside.



Wanna get some on February 14th?
Two for \$45.



883-9593

In the Curtis Lumber Shopping Plaza

Restock that camp stove fuel!

by Howard White

My friends at the office gave me a little Christmas gift consisting of one of those insulated mugs with a plastic slot you can put your own message in.

Mine had the message, "I survived the storms of '06" Well, I did all right, though not with very good grace.

I used to kind of laugh when the lights went out.

It happened so rarely it brought a welcome shakeup to the daily routine.

But this morning the lights blinked and here I was cursing at the top of my lungs. This has gone beyond a joke.

I've had it with campstove coffee and trying to work in the cold with one flickering light bulb, the computer losing its memory every time the generator skips a beat.

As a novelty it was tolerable, but as a way of life—it's the pits.

Today the lights come back on after five minutes—probably the guys were just fixing some jury-rig they put up during the storms—but you can't help wondering: was '06 just a freak year to remember, or was it a warmup for worse in '07, '08, '09, ad nauseam?

Official BC seems to be treating it as a one-off.

They're talking about leaving one section of the Stanley Park blow-down on the ground as a memorial to the storms of '06.

That presumes we won't have fresh blowdowns to remind us next year and the year after.

You see this same thinking in the government's treatment of the

mountain pine beetle outbreak that has destroyed much of what remains of BC's merchantable timber.

The plan is to clear off all the diseased trees and plant exactly the same species in their place, as if the slowly warming trend that spawned the plague will end any day now and things will normalize over the next 80 years.

Whether you accept the consensus of scientific opinion that changing weather patterns are the result of global warming caused by human pollution or whether you side with the Fraser Institute claim that this is just a natural shift like others we've had in the past, there is no getting around the fact that a shift it is, so we'd better adjust to it.

The Vancouver parks board should redesign Stanley Park assuming that storms like those of '06 will be the norm rather than the exception for the foreseeable future.

The ministry of forests should replace the old lodgepole pine stands with species that can survive warmer winters.

And here on the Sunshine Coast,

BC Hydro better hire back some of the line crews they laid off over the past 15 years.

But just in case they don't I'm going fire up to Curtis and restock my supply of campstove propane.

On second thought, I'll double my usual order.



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Crisis of care

by Judi Georgetti, RN

You may be aware of the shortage of physicians on the Sunshine Coast.

We are not unique, in that there is a shortage of family physicians across the country, but this area is in crisis right now and we all need to be aware of the problem and direct our indignation in the most appropriate direction.

Locally, the Trail Bay doctors are losing a physician and will be down to three doctors trying to cover two clinics and emergency on-call.

Dr. Naidoo is leaving the group to take further training and there isn't a pool of family physicians from which to draw.

The Sechelt Medical Clinic has informed us that they are not able to accept any new patients as they are losing physicians to retirement and two are moving out of the area.

If you thought it was a problem to get a short notice appointment before, be prepared to wait 1-2 weeks for a non-urgent matter.

There are going to be some days when we do not have a doctor in the

building at all so the nurses will be triaging patients and determining whether the problem can wait for an appointment, be seen in Sechelt or needs a hospital referral.

We can't just overload the emergency department for non-emergent cases so my advice to you is twofold:

1. Be proactive about your health by not allowing your prescriptions to run out or run down before you make an appointment for a renewal.

When you get down to your last two weeks of medications, call the pharmacy to see if you have a renewal and, if not, make an appointment to see your family doctor.

It is your responsibility to manage your medications.

The same goes for blood tests and the like.

Don't expect that you will be "fit in" to see a doctor who is overworked and overburdened with other patients.

2. Write letters to your MLA, to the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority and to the minister of health.

Let them know that you expect

them to be actively recruiting physicians on your behalf.

Remind them that we have the right to expect access to health care equal to those in urban areas.

Our population is growing and everyone is concerned that new people coming will mean an increased burden on our water, power and sewer systems.

What about the expectations of those people with regard to having a family doctor?

My concern is with the health needs of this community and I am concerned.

Please don't take out your frustrations on the staff at the doctor's office or the health centre or even the doctors.

We can't fix this problem but I'm sure that the doctors would appreciate your help in putting some pressure on where it might do some good.

February is Heart Month

February is Heart Month – the month of Valentine's Day is always "Heart Month."

Cardiovascular diseases, including heart disease, are Canada's leading cause of death.

Chronic and lifelong, heart disease profoundly affects individuals and their families.

Eight out of 10 Canadians have at least one of the following risk factors: tobacco use, physical inactivity,

overweight or obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes.

One in 10 Canadians have three or more.

The message is clear: Canadians are at high risk of developing heart disease and other cardiovascular diseases.

Prevention is the ticket.

You can reduce your risks.

Even walking short distances on a regular basis is a start.

3rd Annual Fund Raising Cruise

Cruises to ALASKA depart May 23rd or Sept. 14th.

Early bird pricing starts at \$677 (plus tax) for inside cabins.

Outside cabins with picture windows and verandahs are going quickly.

Proceeds go to the Health Centre Auxiliary to fund PHHC and other community needs.

Call Paddi at 885-7752 or mvt@dccnet.com.

Angela Michelle Cole

MARCH 11, 1969 - JANUARY 17, 2006

It is with great sadness that family and friends announce the loss of Angela Michelle Cole.

Angela is predeceased by her grandparents, Margaret and William Cole and Herman and Margaret Harms, all of Saskatoon, Sask.

She is survived by her father

Ron Cole and his life partner Patricia Turcott of Coombs, BC; mother Karen Knuckey of Estevan, Saskatchewan; sister Shannon and husband Bill Anderson of Vancouver and brother Rob Cole of Sechelt.

Also mourning her loss are Uncle Ken and Aunt Deb Cole of Garden

Bay and cousins Stephanie, Kimberley and Michelle.

She will also be greatly missed by her very close friends, her "sisters in crime" and her "Deidre."

A celebration of her life was held on Sunday, January 28 at the Madeira Park Legion.

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HARBOUR SEALS



Harbour Seals are free and easy!
Send to editor@harbourspiel.com.
You must include your full name and a telephone number for confirmation.

A Harbour Seal of Approval to all of the generous people who donated to our Christmas hamper; **Tom Smith** from Curtis Lumber, **Jane Threlkeld** from Marina Pharmacy, **Jayna Deroon** from P.H. Clinic, **Dan and June Jinks, Joyce and Bill Howitt, Nadine Cyr, Viki Pauls, Kat R.** and an extra big thank you to **Troy and Lori Callewaert**. You have all helped to give a young, single mother and her baby a Christmas they'll never forget!

Tania and Alison Obalek

A big Harbour Seal of Approval to the **auxiliary ladies** who provided coffee and acted as hostesses at the ribbon cutting ceremony/anniversary celebration.

A special thanks to those of you who took over for an ailing president.
Thank you a million times over.

Naomi Jackson
President

To the **ladies who volunteer at the Bargain Barn** and who have bought clothes from the 50-cent rack to donate to the coat drive for the shelter at Sechelt.

A special Seal to **Silvia Reed**.
BB volunteers, auxiliary executive and the community

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Frank White** who cut the ribbon for the health centre expansion and who reminded all who attended how much community involvement it required to get the health centre and how much it takes to keep it alive.

Naomi Jackson

We want to thank the many people of Pender Harbour and Egmont who donated to the food bank over the past year.

The **local high school, IGA, Oak Tree, John Henry's, Wonderbread, Roosendal Farms, the many businesses and organizations, the local churches and many individuals**.

We've also benefitted from the 4 Food Banks program promoted by H.Y. Louie.

Thank you for your help.
Wendy Phillips
P.H. Food Bank

A Harbour full of Seals to all of the **wonderful people who participated in the Carol Ship Parade**.

You truly have the good old Harbour Spirit.

Also, special thanks to **Tom and**

Paulette Sheldon from Gibsons who put their boat in both nights.

Not forgetting the **P.H. Legion Pipe Band** who braved the cold to play carols on the second night.

Thanks everyone.

Bill and Wilma Thompson

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

A public information meeting is scheduled to be held at: 6:30 pm on Monday, February 26th, 2007, in the Pender Harbour School of Music, located at 12952 Madeira Park Road, Madeira Park, BC.

The applicant for OCP/Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 337.88 (Parker Family) will present their application to amend the Egmont/Pender Harbour Official Community Plan, Bylaw No. 432 by re-designating Lot 32, District Lot 3681, Plan 21181 from "RESIDENTIAL C" to "COMPREHENSIVE RESIDENTIAL C" and to amend Zoning Bylaw No. 337 by rezoning the same lot from RS1 (Single Family Residential) to a new CD4 (Comprehensive Development Four) zone in order to permit up to 12 surface parking spaces associated with a proposed 3-lot subdivision located on the north side of Saki-naw Lake.

Further details can be found in the February 16th edition of the Sunshine Coast Reporter, on the SCRd web site (www.scrd.bc.ca), or from Gregory Gebka,

Something to Squirrel away?

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Let's brighten up those grey days!

Jim Rutherford

Primulas are already for sale and what a nice bit of colour they can bring without much fuss.

Keep in mind that store-bought ones are greenhouse-grown and very tender.

At a nursery, if the plants are on an outdoor table, they may be a little more acclimatized to colder temperatures.

Primulas and polyanthus do like it cool and sunny but not too frosty if you plan to use them outdoors.

For you or as a gift, a wicker basket makes a great and easy-to-make colourful container.

Line your basket with a plastic garbage bag and let the excess hang over the edge.

Arrange the 4 in. primulas in the basket the best you can and trim off the excess plastic.

Tuck any plastic still showing

between the pots and the side of the basket.

Not too deep now, as the plastic is your liner to catch water.

To mix and match for interest, 4 in. cyclamen, ferns or ivy can be added.

I nip off the faded blossoms and any yellowed leaves.

To keep the basket looking good longer, I put it in a cool place over night.

A sunroom or solarium is great if you have one.

The plants I've suggested to be mixed together are compatible for a cool, bright location but, in purchasing mixed planters that are pre-made, don't buy ones where African violets or other tropicals have been incorporated.

By keeping the plants in their pots, you can change them easily as they fade or switch them as other plants become available with the change of the season.

Once the primulas have bloomed, they can be planted in a perennial border, but I've found that as the weather warms, they really don't fare so well.

So, unfortunately, I treat them as disposable.

A little more on arranging cut branches in a vase.

I guess I should have mentioned that to get started, it's helpful to begin with the cut foliage.

It can be frustrating chasing the branches around the vase in an attempt to get them to stand upright or to look the way you want them to look.

Salal, dagger fern, escallonia, aucuba or any other foliage will do.

Just make sure, by stripping the lower leaves, that there is no foliage in the water as any greenery will quickly ferment and foul the water.

As you put the stems in the vase, criss-cross them at various compass points around the rim of the container and very quickly there will be a mesh through which to put your branches and/or flowers.

When you're done and don't want to rearrange everything when the water needs changing, you can tie the whole bouquet together with twine or raffia just at the rim of the vase.

This way you can lift out the designs, recut, change the water and plunk it back in.

There are some inexpensive clear glass vases of various sizes at the local IGA, and if you drop one, at least it wasn't grandmother's crystal.

Outdoors at this time of year, all your grasses that are now weather beaten can be cut back to ground level.

The pampas foliage still looks pretty good so it can be left until spring but cut off the plumes. Festuca grasses can be shaped into low balls in anticipation of new spring growth.

Thanks to Vicky and her guys at Curtis Rentals whose help and advice on equipment has been superb.

The best tool I bought last year was a Stihl gas powered Kombi System (KM55RC) with the grass trimmer head (KM-FS).

This tool allows for interchangeable heads for different tasks.

The cultivator head is a little heavy but works quite well.

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Dental Care Adds to Your Pet's Life

By Doretta Morland

Dental care is a little known yet very necessary component of caring for your pet's overall health.

By the age of 3, some 80 percent of all dogs and 70 percent of all cats show signs of dental trouble, which can lead to the more serious problems of heart, lung and kidney disease.

If at all possible try to clean your pet's teeth and gums once a day, preferably after a meal.

Not only will this sweep away any food particles before they have a chance to set, but Fluffy may be less likely to treat your finger like a fresh-caught prawn if you wait until after she has eaten.

Try to get your pet used to having your finger in her mouth while she's still young.

You could try dipping your finger into beef bouillon or tuna water, then gently rubbing along the gums and teeth.

Focusing on the gum line, start at the front of the mouth, then move to the back upper and lower teeth and gums.

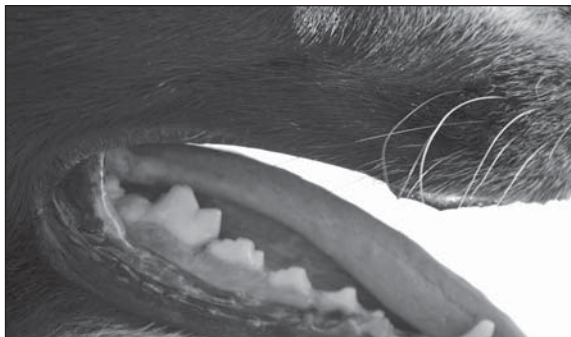
Once your pet is okay with this, gradually introduce gauze over your finger and rub the teeth and gums in a circular motion.

When you think she can handle it, try using a toothbrush specially designed for your pet or an ultra-soft people toothbrush.

You can get pet toothpaste that has been flavoured with meat or fish (no, I'm not kidding) but never use regular toothpaste made for humans or baking soda, as both will upset her stomach.

As with people, extremely bad breath is not something that can, or should, be ignored.

It may be indicative of an oral problem and the sooner you have it treated and learn to care for it yourself, the sooner you and your pet can smile proudly.



SIGNS OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE

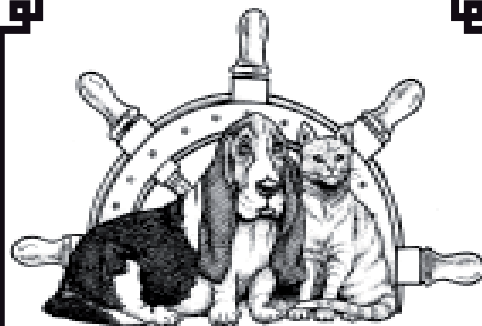
- Yellow/brownish coloured teeth
- Swollen, red, bleeding gums
- Persistent bad breath
- Loose teeth, broken teeth, loss of teeth
- Pus between gums and teeth
- Poor appetite
- Reluctance to play with chew toys or drink cold water
- Yellow-brown crust of tartar at gum line
- Receded/eroded gums

February is dental month for most veterinary hospitals across the country.

Most will be offering specials on dental work.

Please call your veterinary clinic for further information and estimates.

NOTE: Apologies to Kirsten Andersen for incorrectly attributing "The Benefits of Keeping Your Cats Indoors" to Doretta Morland in last month's issue.



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9 a.m. - Noon

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Sailing through the freeze

By Tom Barker

Sailboat racers are at one with nature

Sailboat racing can have all the intensity of NASCAR racing without the noise, the burning rubber, and the burning of fossil fuel.

After your boat goes past, the only thing you leave behind is your wake.

RACE RESULTS:

Saturday January 13, 2007:

It was cold, really cold, with ice on the docks and frozen lines holding

the boats to their docks as if they had no intention of going out.

Three boats got away from their docks, with skippers bundled up as if they were going skiing, and headed for the start line.

They were *Frendy* with skipper Charlie Park, *Boxer* with skipper David Twentyman and *BC Navigator* with skipper Tom Barker.

Evidently *Starlight* skipper Zoro Szabados tried to get into the race but found that *Starlight* was in an ice pack in Whiskey Slough and could not even be untied from the dock.

There was a mix-up at the start when the time keeper forgot his stopwatch and it was a free-for-all start.

BC Navigator went over the line early and had to turn back and make another crossing.

Boxer got over nicely and kept the lead until just after the first mark at the mouth of Whiskey Slough.

Frendy passed *Boxer* and kept the lead around the rest of the course with *Boxer* making many close attempts to pass.

A dental check-up can save your life

With the expansion of the Pender Harbour Health Centre, our dental practice has gained some new space, two operatories, an x-ray room and an office.

Dr. Virkela has outfitted the new operatories with all of the necessary, up-to-date equipment as well as a new x-ray machine capable of taking a panoramic picture of the whole mouth.

This is used to give the dentist a much-needed view of the entire mouth and jaw, mainly used when wisdom teeth need to be extracted or when beginning orthodontic treatment.

If you are a fan of *Reader's Digest*, you will have read the article entitled "The Check-up That Can Save Your Life" (October, 2006).

It was a very informative piece which says, in part:

"Think your dentist only finds and fills cavities? Not at all."

"Dentists routinely spot signs of cancer, diabetes and heart disease, along with a variety of rare skin and autoimmune diseases."

So don't neglect your check-up!

Your head is attached to the rest of your body.

Healthy teeth and gums let us talk, smile, laugh and kiss without embarrassment and medical science reaffirms that there are more reasons than ever to get dental check-ups every six months and see your dentists promptly when you have a problem.

Our dental clinic is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and we are always happy to take your call, answer your questions or book an appointment with our friendly dentists and staff.

Please call our Madeira Park Dental Office at (604)883-2997.

Madeira Park Dental Office
(604)883-2997

FERRY DEPARTURES

Effective to Mar 31. Crossing time: Langdale 40 min. Earl's Cove 50 min. Ticket sales end 10 min. before sailing for foot passengers, 5 min. before for vehicles. www.bcferries.com

Langdale	Horseshoe Bay	Earl's Cove	Saltery Bay
➤ 06:20 a.m. ➤ 08:20 a.m. ➤ 10:20 a.m. ➤ 11:30 a.m. ➤ 12:20 p.m. ➤ 12:50 p.m. ➤ 02:30 p.m. ➤ 04:30 p.m. * 05:15 p.m. * 06:30 p.m. * 08:20 p.m. - x 10:10 p.m.	➤ 07:20 a.m. ➤ 09:20 a.m. * 10:00 a.m. ➤ 11:20 a.m. ➤ 01:20 p.m. ➤ 03:30 p.m. * 04:00 p.m. * 05:30 p.m. ➤ 07:25 p.m. ➤ 09:15 p.m. - x 11:00 p.m.	➤ 06:30 a.m. ➤ 08:25 a.m. ➤ 10:20 a.m. ➤ 12:20 p.m. ➤ 02:25 p.m. ➤ 04:25 p.m. ➤ 06:25 p.m. ➤ 08:20 p.m. ➤ 10:10 p.m.	➤ 05:40 a.m. ➤ 07:30 a.m. ➤ 09:25 a.m. ➤ 11:20 a.m. ➤ 01:25 p.m. ➤ 03:30 p.m. ➤ 05:25 p.m. ➤ 07:25 p.m. ➤ 09:15 p.m.

⊙ Apr 6, May 19 & 21 * Apr 5, May 18 ➤ May 21 - x Oct. 9, May 21	⊙ Nov 13, Dec 24, 26, Jan 1 ➤ Except Dec 25, Jan 1 ➤ Except Sun & Nov 13, Dec 25, 26, Jan 1 ➤ Oct. 9, April 6, May 19 and 21 only
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The winds were spotty with the front boats getting better wind as the day progressed.

There were sheets of ice on the water at the mouth of Whiskey Slough and *BC Navigator*'s skipper blamed this condition for a poor performance.

Frendy did well to get line honours and also a win on corrected time.

It is not very often that you get to sail along with icebergs in Pender Harbour.



ABOVE: Racers sailing lazily through the harbour during the doldrums of a summer Sunday afternoon.

Yacht Name	Skipper	Boat Type	PHRF Rating	Time Corrtion Factor	Elapsed Time Hrs Secs Mins	Corrected Time Hrs Secs Mins	Position	Difference Hrs Secs Mins
Frendy	Charlie Park	Islander 38	167	0.9481	1:26:07	1:21:29	1	0:00:00
Boxer	David Twentyman	C&C 29	174	0.9366	1:34:05	1:28:07	2	0:06:38
BC Navigator	Tom Barker	Spencer 1330	115	1.0236	1:50:33	1:53:10	3	0:31:41

love grows here



St. Andrew's Anglican Church

FEBRUARY EVENTS

HOLY EUCHARIST

Priests-in-Charge The Rev. Celia Howard and The Rev. Dr. Bob Korth invite all in celebrating the Holy Eucharist
Sundays, 10:30 am

SOUP & SONG

An evening of Soup, Song and Socializing in the Ceilidh tradition. Hosted by award winning singer Penny Lang. All talents welcome! Doors open at 5 pm, soup's on at 5:30 and the fun begins at 6:30 to 9 pm
Saturday, February 17, 5:00 pm

MONDAY MOVIE

Bring your own munchies and drinks and enjoy movies at the St. Andrew's Community Room (next to the church)

February 26, 7:00 pm - "The Notebook"

CHRISTIAN BASICS II

Jesus The Christ
five Wednesdays
beginning February 28, 7:00 - 9:00

CENTERING PRAYER

Centering prayer is a prayer of "resting in God" based on the wisdom saying of Jesus "but when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door and pray to your Father in secret." Matthew 6:6

To be held at the St. Andrew's Community Room (next to the church)
Facilitator: Wendy Eyre-Gray, Spiritual Director and Priest

Follow up sessions: Sundays
February 4 - 25, 1:00 - 2:00 pm

St. Andrew's Anglican Church, 12856 Harbour View Road, Madeira Park, Pender Harbour, BC V0N 2H0
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Soup and Song social sizzles

The room was full of folks sitting at brightly decorated tables chatting and enjoying hearty bowls of turkey or lentil soup.

Twenty-five to 30 people had come to the first Soup & Song at St. Andrew's Church in Madeira Park on Saturday evening, January 20th.

The evening was hosted by award-winning singer Penny Lang, who started the entertainment by leading us in songs everyone can sing.

She was soon joined—with a little encouragement—by

other local singers, poets and storytellers.

"Don't worry if you're not perfect!" Penny told us in her introduction,

"This evening is about having

fun. They're called ceilidh in the Maritimes, everyone sitting around in someone's kitchen playing and singing together."

The next ceilidh will be on Saturday, Feb. 17, at 5 p.m. at St. Andrews Anglican Church.



Edmund Arceo photo

ABOVE: Penny Lang adds some song to the soup.

**HARBOUR AUTHORITY OF
PENDER HARBOUR AGM**

Feb. 5, 2007

7 pm

**Madeira Park Legion
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Feb. 01 ~ Randy Rayment and Earl Stewart

Feb. 02 ~ Mary Cochet, Jennifer Jones, Dootie Hille and Paola Stewart

Feb. 03 ~ Chloe Campbell

Feb. 05 ~ Rick Hartley and Roland Fritz

Feb. 06 ~ Lachlin Rand

Feb. 07 ~ Reg Morton

Feb. 09 ~ Joyce Garbers and Jackie Crowell

Feb. 10 ~ Wendel Welander and Eddie Smith

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

Feb. 12 ~ Ab Haddock

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

Feb. 16 ~ Irene Boyd and Betty McDonald

Feb. 17 ~ Dot Farrell, Daniel Dore and Emma Dore

Feb. 18 ~ Dr. Rick Smalley

Feb. 19 ~ Don & Joan McDougall

Feb. 20 ~ Roy Vickers

Feb. 21 ~ Ron Pratchett, Ryan Phillips, Helen LeBlanc and Cathy Silvey

Feb. 22 ~ Chelsea Scoular

Feb. 23 ~ Evelyn Cumming and Donna Campbell

Feb. 24 ~ Debbie Rand

Feb. 25 ~ Bruce Haines

Feb. 27 ~ Neale Smith and Rick Jones

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

FEBRUARY WEATHER

TEMPERATURES, MERRY ISLAND

Our average February daily high temperature is 7.5 C; average low is 3.4 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 5.5 C.

The highest February temperature recorded is 14.3 C (Feb. 27, 1986); the lowest is -10.1 C (Feb. 13, 1990).

PRECIPITATION, MERRY ISLAND

February should have about 85.7 hours of bright sunshine (the most since October), 16 days with measurable rainfall and one day with measurable snowfall.

February should have a total rainfall of 97.9 mm and a total snowfall of 6.7 cm.

The highest February daily rainfall recorded is 49 mm (Feb. 11, 1983); the highest February daily snowfall recorded is 22.9 cm (Feb. 15, 1983).

FEBRUARY EXTREMES

Although January is our coldest month, it's February in the rest of Canada. The coldest temperature recorded in BC is -58.9 C at (Smith River, Feb. 3, 1947).

The coldest temperature recorded in Canada is -63 C. (Snag Yukon, Feb. 3, 1947).

The coldest average monthly temperature recorded in Canada was an average temperature of -47.9 C. (Eureka NWT, February, 1979).

The greatest snowfall in 24 hours ever recorded in Canada was 112.3 cm at Kiti-mat BC (Feb. 18, 1972).

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OF FEBRUARY

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

The history of Valentine's Day, and its patron saint, is shrouded in mystery.

We do know that February has long been a month of romance.

St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition.

So, who was Saint Valentine and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?

Today, the Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred.

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century A.D. in Rome.

When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men.

Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret.

When Valentine's actions were

discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons where they were often beaten and tortured.

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first "Valentine" greeting himself.

While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl, possibly his jailor's daughter, who visited him during his confinement.

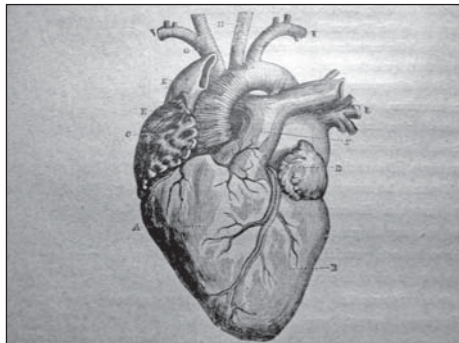
Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her

a letter which he signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today.

Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories certainly emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic, and romantic figure.

It's no surprise that by the Middle Ages, Valentine was one of the most popular saints in England and France.

—excerpted from History.com



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• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Wed).....	883-3693
• 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
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• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub)	883-1350
• Royal Cdn Legion 112.....	883-0055
• 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
• Stroke Club	883-2650
• Suncoast Players	883-9277
• Volunteer Fire Dept (Tues. evening)	883-9270
• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
• Women's Cancer Support	883-9708
• Women's Connection (2nd & 4th Tue.)	883-2454

~ MEETINGS ~

PENDER HARBOUR & DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRE AUXILIARY

On Jan 29th, the last Monday of January, the health centre auxiliary holds their AGM at the P.H. Legion meeting room, 2 p.m.

Guests are welcome so come and see what we do for our community.

We meet the last Monday of every month at the Legion at 2 p.m. (except for December and the two summer months.)

PENDER HARBOUR & DISTRICT WILDLIFE SOCIETY

The Pender Harbour & District Wildlife Society will meet at 7.30 p.m. at P.H. High School on Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Instead of a guest speaker, a film from the National Film Board of Canada will be shown courtesy of Will and Janet Tyers.

Being Caribou documents the epic adventure of a husband-and-wife team as they follow a herd of caribou across northern Canada.

Non members are invited to attend, there is no charge and refreshments will be served.

February 13th, will be our 8th Birthday Party and Valentines Celebration. This will be held at the School of Music. More info call Irda 883-2179

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

On Feb. 27, John Rees will try to come again to speak to us about SCRD issues.

The meeting will be held at the School of Music in Madeira Park. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and the meetings take place from 10 a.m. until noon.

For more info contact Linda 883-9313.

PENDER HARBOUR POWER AND SAIL SQUADRON

After the Feb. 14 meeting, we will have Cpl. Anne Clark from the RCMP who will speak about the Coastal Watch program.

Members of the public are invited and the presentation will start at 8:30 p.m.

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Golf is good for your health!

By Jan Watson

Golf is a very healthy and active sport for people of all ages, no matter what their skill level might be.

It involves lots of fresh air and exercise and, most of all, enjoyment.

Don't be put off by those people who take the game too seriously.

Like all sports it should be played for enjoyment and relaxation, so leave all the serious stuff to the professionals.

Yes, there are rules to learn, but first of all just get out and play the game and have some fun.

The rest can come later.

Ideally, we should all take lessons before we even try to hit a ball, but that is not always possible.

That said, it is a good idea to take a lesson or two before you develop too many bad habits.

I know I wish I had!

Still, I'm just happy to be out in the fresh air enjoying the exercise, appreciating the scenery and sharing the experience with good company.

It only takes one good shot to bring you back for another round of golf!

Golf is wonderful therapy to take a person's mind off their problems and to relieve stress.

Just think of the satisfaction at

venting your frustrations when you hit that little white ball!

For those of you who are just beginning to play, don't be intimidated by the better golfers or the long hitters, but it might be a good idea to choose a quieter time to be on the course until you gain confidence in your game.

Most of the serious golfers go out to play in the mornings and this leaves the course quiet later in the afternoon and evenings.

It's also good to remember that it's cheaper to play later in the day, as most golf courses have special twilight rates.

New golfers are often much slower, so if you're holding up other groups it is considered good etiquette to let them play through so everybody can enjoy their game.

Like fishing, playing golf is a great way to spend a few hours out in the fresh air.

Catching a fish or shooting a good golf score, it's all a bonus.

The difference is you never have to clean a good golf score.

Come on out and give it a try!

FROM THE 19TH HOLE

Golf is like marriage: If you take yourself too seriously it won't work, and both are expensive!

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A WATER LICENCE and NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING concerning HOTEL LAKE and SAKINAW LAKE

February 13, 2007 at 7 PM
Location: R.C. Legion, Madeira Park

Environmental Appeal Board Decision Nos. 2004-WAT-003(b) and 2004-WAT-004(b) require that the BC Ministry of Environment establish a minimum water level on Hotel Lake below which water diversions will be restricted. As part of this process, the Ministry is hosting a public meeting to receive the engineers' draft report and obtain public input. All interested parties are invited to attend.

To reduce the likelihood of the minimum water level restrictions affecting SCRD water supply services, the SCRD has applied for a water licence to use water from Sakinaw Lake. The SCRD hereby gives notice of this application (No. Z122466) to all persons affected.

The point of diversion (pump station) will be located at the foot of Lee Road near the southwest end of Sakinaw Lake. Under the proposed water licence, up to 51,439 m³/year will be used for local waterworks operations serving the North Pender Harbour Water Service Area. As a condition of approval, the SCRD will abandon an equivalent quantity of existing water licences on Hotel Lake.

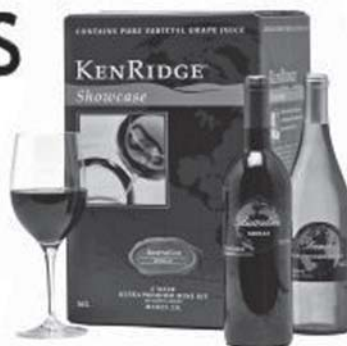
Any parties having comments or concerns with regard to the above proposal are invited to attend the public meeting. Objections to water licence application Z122466 may be filed within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. Objections should be filed with the Assistant Regional Water Manager at: 10470 - 152nd St., Surrey, BC, V3R 0Y3

Copies of the engineer's reports are available in advance from the SCRD offices. Please contact Steve Lee at 604-885-2261

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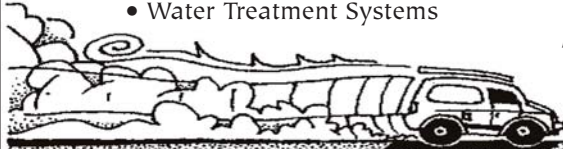
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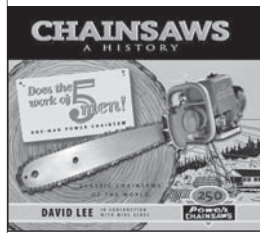
addition. Call Neale Smith
(604)883-3693

SERVICES

- **Gardening 101** - We provide property & grounds maintenance, pruning, new installations & design consultation. New: pressure washing & cleanup. Jim Rutherford & crew, 604-883-9597.

WANTED

- **Classic row boat:** 14'-16', wooden/fibreglass, fixer-upper?. Brian 883-0770.



\$49.95

Available at
the IGA & the
Harbour Spirit

Sewing Alteration and Repair



**Contact Chantal
(604)740-1647**

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

A public information meeting is scheduled to be held at 7:30 pm on Monday, February 26th, 2007, in the Pender Harbour School of Music, located at 12952 Madeira Park Road, Madeira Park, BC.

The applicant for OCP/Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 432.21 / 337.86 (Whiskey Business Ltd.) will present its application to amend the Egmont/Pender Harbour Official Community Plan, Bylaw No. 432 by re-designating a 1022 m² portion of Block 43, District Lot 1023, Plan 7238 from "COMPREHENSIVE RESIDENTIAL A" to "TOURIST COMMERCIAL" and to amend Zoning Bylaw No. 337 by rezoning the same portion of Block 43 from R3A (RESIDENTIAL & AUXILIARY COMMERCIAL A) to CD3 (COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT THREE) and all of adjacent Lot A from C2 (TOURIST COMMERCIAL) to CD3 (COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT THREE). The application is intended to permit the development of additional surface parking and related improvements for an existing hotel, including restaurant and pub.

Further details can be found in the February 16th edition of the Sunshine Coast Reporter, on the SCRD web site (www.scrd.bc.ca), or from Gregory Gebka, Planner on 604 885 2261.

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KERRY RAND 883-2154



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

FEBRUARY

Sun. Feb. 4.....Super Bowl Party - Garden Bay Pub
Sun. Feb. 4.....Super Bowl Party - P.H. Legion
Mon. Feb. 5.....Harbour Authority of Pender Harbour AGM - P.H. Legion, 7 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 9.....Alevin Takegawa Ramos (Shakahachi flute) - Copper Sky Gallery and Cafe, 7 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 10.....St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary Tea (P.H. Branch) - P.H. School of Music, 2 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 10.....Scottish Pipers and Dinner! - Backeddy Pub
Sun. Feb. 11.....Valentine's Pancake Breakfast - P.H. Lions' Hall, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 11.....Joe Stanton - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
Wed. Feb. 14.....Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron Post-Meeting Speaker, 8:30 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 16.....Quiz Night (hosted by M.P.E.S.) - P.H. Legion, 8 p.m. sharp
Sat. Feb. 17.....St. Andrew's Soup and Song - St. Andrew's Anglican Church, 5 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 18.....Gaetan and the French Connection - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
Wed. Feb. 21.....Ladies Spa Night - P.H. Aquatic and Fitness Centre, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 24.....Film "What the Bleep Do We Know!" - Copper Sky Gallery and Cafe, 7:30 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 25.....Simon Paradis and Gut Bucket Thunder - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 25.....P.H. Community Club AGM - P.H. Community Hall, 7 p.m.
Mon. Feb. 26.....Movie Night "The Notebook" - St. Andrews Anglican Church, 7 p.m.

PUB



(604) 883-9013

1/2 Price Apps
Monday to Thursday
(2-5, 8-close)

Daily Drink Specials
Monday to Thursday

Canucks Games
Pay Per View

LIQUOR STORE

SAVE MONEY!
All spirits now cheaper than
Government Liquor Store prices

Cold beer, wine, spirits, cigarettes
and snacks.

Open 9 am - 11 pm

No strangers, just friends we haven't met yet.



BACKEDDY PUB

at Egmont Marina Resort

THE PIPERS ARE COMING!

FEB. 10 - FULL DINNER AND SCOTTISH ENTERTAINMENT. \$35/PERSON.
(PHONE FOR RESERVATIONS)

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

FEB. 14 - SCRUMPTIOUS THAI DINNER, DECADENT CHOCOLATE DESSERTS & CHOCOLATE FONDUE. 5 PM

STAY FOR OUR VALENTINE'S DAY TRIVIA WITH "SPECIAL" PRIZES AND PROCEEDS TO THE EGMONT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

ROMANTIC EVENING PACKAGE

- ONE NIGHT IN THE MOTEL
- CHAMPAGNE BREAKFAST DELIVERED TO YOUR ROOM
- AVAILABLE THROUGH FEB. 18TH

Call us at..... 604-883-3614
for info on these and more events

PENDER HARBOUR LEGION

SHROVE TUESDAY LUNCH SPECIAL

Feb. 20

Pancakes, bacon, eggs and toast
\$6.95

QUIZ NIGHT

Feb. 16

Hosted by M.P.E.S.

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

On February 4, watch the game on our big screen.

Free chili and hot dogs.



OPEN AT 11 MON-SAT

BRANCH 112 604-883-0055



OPEN DAILY AT 11... (604)883-2674
GARDEN BAY PUB

**LIVE MUSIC!
NO COVER
CHARGE**

LIVE MUSIC!

SUNDAY FEB. 4

SUPER BOWL XLI

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS VS. CHICAGO BEARS

SUNDAY FEB 11

JOE STANTON & FRIENDS

SUNDAY FEB. 18

GAETAN AND THE FRENCH CONNECTION

SUNDAY FEB. 25

SIMON PARADIS AND GUT BUCKET THUNDER

GARDEN BAY RESTAURANT

Pub Menu items will be available throughout the winter for family dining.

☺ Yes, children are welcome!

SPECIAL EVENTS!

DECEMBER

Mondays:Beer & Burger special - \$6!

Wednesdays:25¢ wings & KARAOKE!

Fridays:Fish and Chips... the classic!

Saturdays:PRIME RIB

MEAT DRAWS EVERY FRIDAY
(Proceeds to the Pender Harbour Health Centre)