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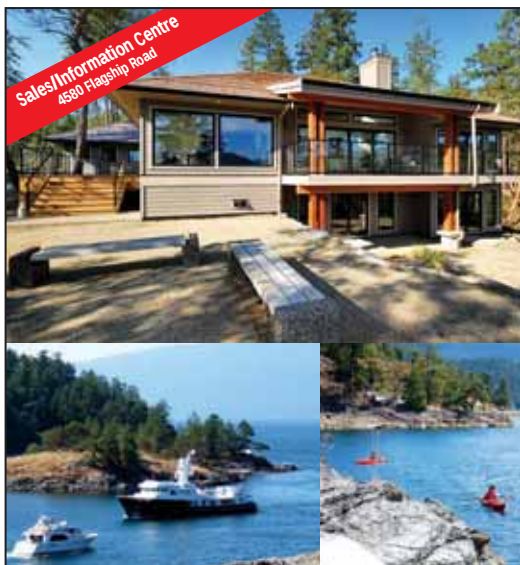
*The
Independent Voice of
Pender Harbour & Egmont
since 1990.*

HARBOUR SPIEL

MARCH 2009
ISSUE 219

'The hounds of spring are on winter's traces'

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HARBOUR SPIEL



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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

If the kids aren't all right, call on the parents

By Brian Lee



Whether we're talking about the reconfiguration debate at the elementary school or the rumoured problems at the high school, it seems there's a need now, more than ever, for parents to get involved with their kids.

For a while now we've been hearing about the "drug problems at the high school."

The drug problem isn't in the school, it is in the community.

It's like saying there's a drug problem at the IGA because the kids who go there to buy potato chips might be stoned.

Staff at the school are paid to teach youth about the proper usage of its and it's and, if there's a little time left over, the good ones will offer some moral guidance.

The rest is up to the parents — if there's a drug problem at school, and that includes alcohol, it started at home.

If nothing else, the negative attention the school is getting has brought to light the fact that there is a drug and alcohol problem here. Period.

There are other problems at the school too and they all point to an increasing failure to present kids with positive role models.

I've been to Parent Advisory Committee meetings attended by four parents from a school of almost 200 students.

It's important not to jump to hysterics — a couple of troubled twits shouldn't tarnish the whole school's reputation.

But it is time to get involved.

During the recent reconfiguration debate, a handful of parents faced down

a ludicrous proposal: The school district suggested that we ship Grades 4 to 6 up to the high school, build a new playground and house them in portables while maintaining a skeleton administration at the elementary school.

Whether it would have saved money is debatable. Whether the elementary school is of intrinsic importance to the community is not.

I've maintained from the start that the discussion should not be limited to parents of elementary school students.

The school board likely didn't consider the effect such a change would have on local businesses. I wonder how much shopping takes place by parents during pick-ups and drop-offs.

And would it not be just plain eerie to have the playground silent and empty at lunch and recess through the school year?

I'd say 40 parents of students from both schools showed up to the first information meeting, curious to hear what plans were in store for the Madeira Park Elementary School.

The second meeting saw that number drop by half while there was every indication that this restructuring would take place next year.

The proposal was finally struck down after a core group of parents encouraged others to write in opposition. It worked.

Parents are in the best position to protect our local schools as well as representing the concerns of the voiceless majority without school age children to the school district.

So parents, take a more active role — your kids and the community need your help.

SPIEL PICKS

PENDER HARBOUR MAY DAY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING - MARCH 9

Work has started on plans for 2009 May Day and the committee needs your input. All community members who have a fondness for BC's second oldest May Day celebration are urged to attend the meeting on March 14 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

SECOND ANNUAL DAVE HOWELL MEMORIAL - MARCH 14

Come out to the Garden Bay Pub for a fitting remembrance of Dave Howell — a memorial jam hosted by Joe Stanton and the Precious Littles. Bring your dancing shoes!

"RAISE THE ROOF" ST. PATRICK'S DAY SEAFOOD BUFFET DINNER & DANCE - MARCH 14

The Pender Harbour Community Hall is the site of another seafood buffet fundraiser for the Pender Harbour Community Hall "Raise the Roof." Come for dinner and stay for the dance... or not. Buffet dinner (5:30 p.m.) tickets cost \$25 and tickets for the dance (9 p.m.) featuring the band "Altered" cost \$10. Tickets available at John Henry's, Miss Sunny's Hair Boutique and Off the Hook Seafoods.

PENDER HARBOUR POWER AND SAIL SQUADRON "GO GREEN DAY" - MARCH 15

The P. H. Power and Sail Squadron host this great event every year. It starts in the morning with a beach and road clean up at three different locations around Pender Harbour and ends with a BBQ at beautiful Baker Beach on Francis Peninsula. (See p. 35 for details.)

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Vet says conditions ripe for potential spread of diseases to pets

A local veterinarian warns that the recent population explosion of coyotes could increase the likelihood of transmitting certain diseases to pets.

"My concern is that, usually, when those types of population explosions occur... what happens is they run out of food and either move on or die," says Dr. Rick Smalley.

"Here, that's not likely to happen because there's so damn many cats."

Smalley says that nature usually intervenes in a situation like that and a disease such as canine distemper, canine parvovirus or rabies occurs within the population. This could be passed on to a nearby pet population.

"It's a question of numbers... it's like kids going into Grade 1 — they're perfectly healthy and then you put them all into one room and boom, they all get sick," says Smalley.

Canine distemper and parvovirus are only transferable to the dog population but any mammal is susceptible to rabies.

Cases of rabies are rare in BC and usually associated with bats. In 2004, two skunks collected in Stanley Park tested positive for rabies.

Once symptoms start, rabies kills almost all of its victims.

Canine distemper is highly con-

tagious, affecting wild and domestic carnivores. It most often occurs in raccoons but was the leading cause of death in U.S. dogs until the 1950s when specialized immunizations became available.

Canine parvovirus affects domestic dogs, coyotes or wolves. The disease causes an intestinal infection

resulting in lack of appetite, extreme weakness and vomiting or bloody diarrhea.

Transmission of these diseases occurs most frequently within an unvaccinated pet population so pet owners are encouraged to ensure their vaccinations are up to date.

PHOTOJOURNAL



Rose Doepel photo

The Valentine Dinner and Dance at the Pender Harbour Community Hall was a smashing success in terms of the fun had and funds raised for Area A Seniors' Society's Abbeyfield House project. The fundraising efforts have taken a desperate turn as a potential \$100,000 donation is contingent on reaching a fundraising goal of \$400,000 by a certain date. (See p. 38 for details.)

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Ladies Auxiliary folds after 60-plus years of service to Legion #112

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #112 is no more.

The non-profit auxiliary has followed a trend in small communities across Canada by dissolving this past January with members joining the Legion branch itself.

Auxiliary member Bev Divall said their numbers had dwindled to around six or seven people and there weren't enough members to make a quorum at their last four meetings.

"We just couldn't do it anymore," said Divall.

"But we figured we could do just as well by joining the branch and doing the same things we did with the auxiliary.

"We used to put on the Ladies' Table... and we can put on garage

sales for the branch and we figured we could make just as much for them that way or more."

Many of the long-standing volunteers like Lil Beharrell, Caryl Cameron, Scotty Cameron, Joyce Clay, Irene Crabb, Doris Edwardson, Isabel Gooldrup and Nancy Smallwood have worked tirelessly over the years raising funds.

Their efforts have benefited the community in many ways, supporting not only the Legion but bursaries to graduating high school students and other local causes.

Originally made up of mothers, wives and daughters of returning veterans of the First World War, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion was formed in 1928, two years after the Royal Canadian Legion

itself.

The auxiliaries are an extension of the Legions themselves and have become responsible for much of fundraising and volunteer activity associated with Canadian Legions.

The local Ladies' Auxiliary was formed after the Second World War and Divall said that it often boasted 25 or more members.

"It was started to support the surviving veterans of the Second World War but now there are hardly any veterans left, you know."

The BC/Yukon Ladies Auxiliary presently has approximately 3,000 members associated with 100 Legion Branches within 17 zones.



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

HEALTH IN MOTION

MARCH!

REGISTRATION FOR SPRING SESSION OF SWIM LESSONS AND PROGRAMS: Begins Monday, March 9 with classes beginning the week of March 23. Our last 8 week session before closing for our renovations! Look for more information in the Coast Reporter on March 6 and for our program flyer you will be receiving in the mail early March.

BOOT CAMP: Next session begins week of March 23. Beginner and Intermediate programs will be offered. Registration starts on March 9.

SPRING BREAK: Monday, March 16 to Friday, March 20. The facility will be open 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. No swim lessons or fitness classes during this week.

SPRING BREAK DAY CAMP: March 16-20. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$28 per day. Lots of activities planned with option of early drop-off and later pick-up times. Registration required by March 6.

BRONZE MEDALLION: Train to become a lifeguard! Pre-requisite: Bronze Star or 13 years of age and older. Five Thursdays and two Saturdays, beginning March 26. Registration required by March 12.

All programs require pre-registration and payment one week prior to start date.

For our complete schedule of swim times and fitness classes visit us on the web at www.scrd.ca under Services.

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Local chamber of commerce gets fired up for spring

The Pender Harbour and Egmont Chamber of Commerce has risen from its den just in time for spring.

After a dormant fall and winter, the chamber seems to be receiving a badly needed injection of energy.

The annual general meeting attracted close to 30 members at the Pender Harbour Legion on Feb. 12 with director's positions filled and some fresh faces in key positions.

Often touted as Pender Harbour and Egmont's "town council," the chamber is the voice of business in Area A but has languished in recent years due to membership apathy and inconsistent direction.

Key people have shouldered much of the load in keeping the chamber alive in the past, managing such projects as the Visitors Information Booth in Madeira Park and advertising signs on the highway in Middle Point and Madeira Park.

But, according to incoming president Rick Harmer, that could change.

Harmer hoped to move forward by asking all members to accept a small role in helping out. He suggested each member make themselves available to pitch in on projects as requested in order to reduce the load for anyone person.

In addition to monthly directors' meetings, Harmer told members that he'd like to get regular "blue sky" brainstorming sessions going to identify local concerns and projects the chamber could lend a hand to.

After a quick run through business and election of directors, members listened to presentations by Renewable Power Corporation on their independent power project in Narrows Inlet.

Gil Yard gave an update on the Area A Senior Society's Abbeyfield

House project fundraising progress.

Janet Thomas from the Pender Harbour Jazz Festival gave news on their upcoming marketing campaign and the addition of an artisans' fair in Madeira Park that will run during the festival.

The Pender Harbour Jazz Festival offered a proposal that the cham-

ber consider taking on the responsibility of transportation during the festival. The directors will consider that at the next meeting.

For more information on the Pender Harbour and Egmont Chamber of Commerce, visit www.penderharbour.ca.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration "Raise the Roof" Seafood Buffet Dinner & Dance

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

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Issues at local schools light fire under parents as reconfiguration

Parents mobilized in recent months to face down a proposed reconfiguration of the two local schools that would have seen Grades 5 and 6 moved to Pender Harbour High School.

After months of consultation with parents and community members, the school board and management of S.D. #46 reached a consensus in January to drop the proposed plan.

"It certainly seemed pretty clear that people were really not interested in changing the status quo," said school district #46 superintendant Deborah Palmer.

"We got approval for the seismic project... so we got the money to refit the building and the public's not feeling as though they want to do anything different so let's leave it the way it is."

Parents contacted by the Harbour Spiel were pleased with the decision. Many cited concerns about the eventual closure of the elementary school should the reconfiguration plan move ahead.

Another worry for some is the the potential negative impact resulting from mixing older students with younger ones.

School district concerns regarding a projected decline in enrollment prompted the plan and Palmer says that is still a big concern.

She said they'll receive budget

information from the Ministry of Education in March and will look at how best to manage programs based on the figures they receive.

Last year, the province handed BC school districts an unexpected change to the funding formula that amounted to a budget shortfall of \$60,000 in school district #46.

In addition to the controversial reconfiguration plan, there have been concerns about perceived problems at the high school.

Central to the controversy is a highly publicized — and yet still unsolved — string of arsons.

In September 2008, RCMP investigated three small fires that were started inside the the school.

Principal Phil Luporini said one of the fires wasn't deliberately set and, after investigation, turned out to be some burnt popcorn smoking in a garbage can.

Another fire was reported in a student's locker on Jan. 21 eliciting a response from the RCMP and the local fire department. Signs of an attempted arson in a garbage can in the girl's washroom was reported 30 minutes earlier.

Adding to parents' worries are increasing claims of drug and alcohol abuse, violence and thefts of student property. Some parents are unhappy with the administration and are de-

manding something be done.

Luporini is quick to point out that, despite some of the negative attention his school is receiving, PHSS is still a good school.

"There's been a huge change in the staff here at the school. A lot of key staff people have retired over the last three years: Ted Roberts, Dave Gibson, Wendy Simmonds, Bruce Forbes. All the people that were here for a long time," said Luporini.

"Now the staff are building relationships with the students and it takes a few years. That is what's going on right now. We have a great staff here — a very supportive staff to the students and they care so very much for the kids and we're trying to do all sorts of different things."

Luporini recently accepted a part-time position to help implement a new technology program in the district, which means he'll now share his duties with a part-time administrator.

Luporini claims staffers are trying to lead the kids through positive role modelling in order to create a bond between the younger and older students.

"Everybody used to know each other... The kids don't seem to know the older kids whereas 10 years ago, they did. It was probably a much closer community back then."

As the administration and parents debate what needs to be done, the students seem to be taking things into their own hands.

On a student-hosted Facebook (a social networking website) group, students and parents have been sounding off on the problems and it's clear there is a perception that things at the school used to be better.

Contributors to the site repeatedly mention their pride in not requir-

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SUMMER BBQ STARTING MOTHER'S DAY

plans cancelled and problems at high school become public

ing locks on their lockers — a symbol to them of the trust once felt in the tightly knit school.

Luporini says he understands the value students place on open lockers and is proposing that security cameras be installed in the hallways.

That may deter thieves but is unlikely to satisfy those who insist the thefts are a symptom of something larger.

“Nowadays, locks are appearing on lockers of those who are the quiet victims of bullying... teachers are rarely respected, along with peers, and Pender Harbour Secondary has turned upside down. The lockers that were never used to the weight of locks are broken into, are stolen out of, are trashed, are filled with garbage, are glued shut. The garbage cans are lit on fire. Kids are beating each other up. We hate on other students,” writes the student who hosts the 274-member Facebook page in her introductory message.

“I am a student at Pender Harbour Secondary, and I deserve better than this. I am not afraid to ask for better. And I am not afraid to speak out about what I don’t think is right. Something needs to change. Students cannot continue to feel unsafe at school, especially when it is this small.

“We need to stop pretending that we can get by without anything being done. Everyone needs to put effort into making this school a good place to be again,”

“This is our school, let’s take it back and show everyone how amazing it can be.

“No offence to anyone, I’m just getting some things out, it’s time I spoke about this openly, because speaking openly about these problems



The spirit is strong at Pender Harbour Secondary School despite some highly publicized challenges.

is the only way they will possibly be solved.

“The principal and teachers haven’t changed anything thus far, so it’s up to us. If we want change we have to start acting.

What we want,
no more stealing
no more fires
no more fights
respect.”

Anyone with any information regarding the arsons at the Pender Harbour High School is encouraged to contact the Sunshine Coast RCMP at (604) 885-2266.

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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Monday, March 1, 2009

- 9:00 a.m. Policing Committee
- 10:30 a.m. Transportation Committee

Thursday, March 5, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. Regional Hospital District
- 1:30 p.m. Infrastructure Services Committee

Monday, March 9, 2009

- 9:30 a.m. Budget

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

- 9:30 a.m. Budget

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

- 9:30 a.m. Budget

Thursday, March 12, 2009

- 1:30 a.m. Planning and Development Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Board

Thursday, March 19, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. Special Infrastructure Services Committee (Watershed)

- 1:30 p.m. Community Services Committee

Thursday, March 26, 2009

- 1:30 p.m. Corporate/Administrative Services Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Board

DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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

AREA A ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

The Area A APC will meet on
Wednesday, March 25 at 7 p.m.
Room 107, Pender Harbour High School

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SOUTH PENDER HARBOUR WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Are you interested in making a difference in your community?

The SCRD is looking for area residents who would like to provide input on the planning and operation of the South Pender Harbour Water System.

As a committee member, you will also be expected to act as a liaison between the Sunshine Coast Regional District and the water users in the SPHWD. Applicants must live in the South Pender Harbour Water District.

To apply, send a letter with your name, address, telephone number and email address, explaining why you are interested in water management and why you want to join this committee to:

Dave Crosby, Infrastructure Services.
1975 Field Road, Sechelt, B.C. V0N 3A1
Fax: 604-885-7909, E-mail: dave.crosby@scrd.ca

The deadline for submissions is March 13, 2009. For more information, contact: Dave Crosby at 604-885-6800

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All Tipping Fees have increased by \$5/ton as of April 1, 2009. The minimum charge is not affected.
For more information check www.scrd.ca or call 604-885-6800 ext. 6139.

LET'S TALK

The North Pender Harbour Water Advisory Committee is holding an Annual General Meeting on Tuesday May 5, 2009, at 7 p.m.
This public meeting is held at the Pender Harbour Resort, 4686 Sinclair Bay Road, Garden Bay. All are welcome!

The devil's in the details: SCRD 2009 budget



*By Eric Graham
SCRD Director,
Area A*

BUDGET

We have completed round two of the SCRD Budget for 2009.

Round three will be done the second week of March and has to be passed by the end of the month.

Although this is my first year working on the budget, all of the directors that have been in for two or more terms (six or more years) agree this has been the toughest.

After round one there was an overall increase of 20 per cent (in Area A 21.6 per cent). After round two the Area A increase over 2008 is now at 13 per cent. Round three will be tough because there must be more cuts.

Area A total taxation is currently \$1,934,933. Some of the big increases have been for the landfill and recycling across the Coast, presently up 45.7 per cent for Area A to \$173,604

Area A grants in aid are up 260 per cent, primarily for the operation of the new bus (a new item of \$46,000).

Dakota Ridge (Area A) is up 22.5 per cent to \$28,721 and Emergency Telephone (Area A) is up 39.5 per cent to \$60,676. Rural Planning for Area A is up roughly 23 per cent to \$275,392. These are just some of the items and this is after a great deal has been cut.

When more is cut we will have to understand that there are going to be cuts in service which will affect many of us, but I think this has to be done.

THE BUS

The used 20-seater bus (funded through the Gas Tax Rebate), has ar-

rived from Edmonton, going through the final inspections before we accept it.

There was hope that we could get an operating grant but it looks like we have to prove it is needed before any operating grant money might be forthcoming. An advisory committee will be set up, a driver hired and a bi-weekly service will be started before long but there has to be proven ridership or it won't continue.

It is a good asset for the community so please help us with it once the committee is set up.

DAKOTA RIDGE

Apparently it is beautiful up there with lots of winter sports and the parking lot full on the weekends.

This year it is costing Area A \$28,721. There is no way of tracking how many from Area A are using it.

If there are many from here using it, that is great but if not, can we do something to get the numbers up or does Area A opt out of this function?

PENDER HARBOUR LANDFILL

Within two years, our landfill will be full and we have to expand it — if the provincial government allows it — or close it and put in a transfer station.

Because it is 10 per cent of the size of the Sechelt Landfill I have been told that it is costing money and

is being subsidized by the other districts.

I know when I was Jane Reid's alternate the SCRD tried to close it and Area A fought to keep it open and won.

At the present volume, if the transfer station had a compactor, it is claimed there would be one truckload every six days to the Sechelt Landfill. We will be setting up a public forum to give all the information and a decision will have to be made before long. Watch for the news.

John Weston, our MP, sat down with all governments on the Sunshine Coast and provided information on the new grant-funding program. This would apply to new projects of which we would pay one third.

We have capital projects (water, sewer, garbage) to be started. We are looking into which of those we could move forward on — but that will cost taxpayers more!

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The Pender Harbour Women's Connection celebrates 10 years by



Linda Pearson photo

The Pender Harbour Women's Connection gathers to cut the cake and celebrate their first 10 years. (left to right): Janet Thomas, Dorothy Faulkner and Linda Pearson.

By Dorothy Faulkner & Brian Lee

It's long been said that Pender Harbour and Egmont are difficult places for newcomers to find social acceptance.

Some joke that you're not a local here until your gravestone says so.

The truth is that it takes effort to be social here. The geographical spread of land and our relative isolation from each other in the form of

water and long twisty roads sometimes makes it hard for people to get together on a whim. If you're a new woman to the area and approaching retirement, it's even more of a challenge.

That was the impetus 10 years ago when a handful of people had a vision of connecting local women by holding comfortable gatherings that showcased locally relevant topics.

A mission statement was established, a bank account opened, and information calling cards were designed. Posters advertising the date of the first gathering were produced and announcements were made in local papers.

The first gathering took place on Feb. 9, 1999 with 16 ladies in attendance. They were very pleased to find out that many long-time residents wanted to join in as well.

A year later Women's Connection had 52 members and included lunches out, potlucks and the "Unique Women's Lives" program.

The Steering Committee had been successful and the first council was elected as the organization became independent.

From the very beginning it was understood that the Women's Connection events be called gatherings and not meetings. They wanted to ensure theirs was a "non-service" society where women could meet separately from the formal structure of many of the other volunteer groups they may belong to.

"The success of this group is because they are 'gatherings.' We don't do any business there. The business part of the organization is done at our council meetings," says co-founder Dorothy Faulkner.

"So when you come, you just come and have a cup of coffee and relax and talk to everybody and hear what's going on for the next time."

Faulkner says that each gathering begins with the ring of a bell followed by a short reading and a candle lighting ceremony that serves to bring members down from the excited arrival discussions that inevitably take place as members filter in.

After "Community News" — an open format discussion where members bring up various topics of interest — there is usually a presentation by a guest speaker. During intermission they hold a 50/50 draw that raises funds for a major project the group is planning.

Supporting each other during changes and adjustment in women's lives is an important part of the group. They have chosen the rose as their

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publishing a book

logo to signify the beauty of the spirit of women in the caring of others, whether it is their spouses, family or community.

For the fourth birthday celebration Jean Minch created a quilt hanging with the rose and added the geese. This was to represent the fact that when a goose becomes sick or wounded two other geese help and protect it and stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. It was thought that the women in the group would also stand by each other in difficult times as well as good times.

Dorothy Faulkner and Janet Thomas, two of the founders, were the mainstays for the first seven years. Dorothy has served as the chairperson/facilitator and Janet the secretary/treasurer.

During the last three years Irda Sherman and Linda Pearson have shared the facilitator and chairperson duties. They, together with other members of the group's council, have organized over 120 meaningful programs — some serious, some humorous, but all adding to the group's warm camaraderie. Because of the dedication to their group, they have seen the Pender Harbour Women's Connection flourish, growing to 80-plus members.

They are a diverse group. Members of the Women's Connection have worked in fishing and logging camps. They've worked in the entertainment industry, sailed around the world and some have even had kids.

The Women's Connection has been labelled the "Welcome Wagon" by realtors in the area. Not only is it the place to connect with other women but also with other community groups. The Health Clinic Auxiliary, the Quilters Group, the P. H. Garden Club and



Dorothy Faulkner photo

The first Women's Connection gathering took place in February of 1999 with 16 ladies in attendance.

the P. H. Golf Club are but a few that have been showcased in recent years. They and other community groups have increased membership through the information found at the Pender Harbour Women's Connections and in turn, the women have benefited in learning about their community. Presentations over the years have included local business people discussing practical topics such as income tax and estate planning, artisans showcasing their skills, author discussions and travel slideshows.

But by far the most ambitious project ever undertaken by the Women's Connection is about to take flight. In the spring of 2001, the concept of honouring long-time women residents of the area by documenting their stories in book form was introduced. At the time, this was an incredibly ambitious — some would say foolhardy — project to undertake by volunteers.

There have been a lot of references but never a book published about the history of Pender Harbour. It is an incredibly daunting task to try to

collect the myriad of stories that exist here.

After a monumental effort on the part of the small group, it looks like the book will be published in November of this year.

The purpose of the book was to collect the stories of more than 30 early women residents in order to bring to life a subject historians have typically ignored — the role women played in the formation of our coastal communities. By so doing, the group has tapped into a wealth of previously unrecorded general history.

After a brief preface by the Women's Connection outlining the genesis of the book, there will be a
(continued on next page)

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Women's Connection (cont.)

(continued from page 13)

foreword by Edith Iglauer outlining her own memories of coming to the Harbour and making a home here.

The main text will combine selections from collected oral histories interwoven with narratives tracing the evolution of the harbour from about 1890 to today. The link will be women's experiences — their work, struggles, discoveries, sorrows and joys — through decades of social and physical change.

After an initial description of Pender Harbour as a traditional community of Shishalh families, the first segment looks at early settlement by European pioneers in the period up to about 1935. The oral history component of this segment will come from family tales of their forebears as told by Gloria Fritz, Florence Dubois, Cledia Duncan, Lewella Duncan, Muriel Cameron and Marion Wray. It will also incorporate supplementary material from submissions provided by descendants of early Harbour inhabitants, earlier oral history collected by



Women's Connection photo

Members of the Pender Harbour Women's Connection Book Project gather to hammer out details at one of their many meetings.

the Sunshine Coast Museum in Gibsons, newspaper accounts and other historical sources and records.

The second segment will describe Harbour life from the woman's perspective at the end of the Depression, through the war years and up

to about 1950. The development of St. Mary's Hospital will be traced through recollections of the women who worked there and those who gave birth and sought medical care there for themselves, their husbands and their children.

The early economy of the Harbour will be made visible through women's memories of making a home in the wilderness. The daily travails of helping husbands with fishing, getting schooling for the children, travelling by steamer and the early stores (at Irvines Landing and Hassans) for supplies. All of the regular daily activities accomplished while relying on boats as primary transportation.

There will be stories of everyday heroism, of drownings and fires, of extraordinary rescues and of memorable community celebrations.

The third section will sketch the evolution of the Harbour through the 1950s and 1960s with women's memories on the benefits of new roads, the growth of the schools, the develop-

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ment of the hospital before its relocation to Sechelt, the shift of the commercial centre from Irvines to Garden Bay and Madeira Park, the founding of churches and various community organizations and the heyday of the fishing resorts and marinas.

Women were working in Harbour businesses as well as in the homes and the Harbour became less remote geographically from the cities to the south and north as transportation and communication became more efficient and less expensive.

There will also be memories of the "summer women" included here — those who settled in with their children in summer cabins remote from their city homes and who relished the beauty of the relatively unsullied harbour and lakes.

There will be descriptions of the Harbour festivals as they developed through the years: the Regatta, May Day and the fishermen's homecoming dance. This section will also trace, through representative anecdotes, the evolution of the Harbour from its web of ad hoc community services to its status at the end of the 1960s as a full participant in the broader structures of local government on the Sunshine Coast.

All the while, the Pender spirit of independent initiative will be heard in the voices of its women from this time period and later. The shopping mall, the golf course, the music school, the reading room, the medical centre and the aquatic centre were founded largely through the efforts of energetic local women.

A team of volunteer researchers has consulted Coast newspapers of the forties, fifties, sixties and early seventies as well as other archival resources to obtain material sup-

plementary to our interviews. The group has amassed a treasure trove of illustrative photographs, pieces of coastal news such as reports on road and business openings, store advertisements showing food prices, social notes of Harbour weddings and other gatherings and columns of homemaking advice geared to conditions on the coast. This material will be integrated into the main narrative or used in brief sidebars where it is relevant to the main text.

Concluding overviews by social anthropologist Jaime Yard will pull together the threads of women's experiences in Pender Harbour as told by our contributors to create a skein of social connectedness from the past to the present.

Theresa Kishkan's afterword will return the book to the sound of a single woman's voice, one that echoes the past and tries to anticipate the future of Pender Harbour.

The text will be supplemented

(continued on next page)

WOMEN'S CONNECTION HISTORY BOOK PROJECT

Partial list of interviewees, submitters or women profiled:

Anne Clemence	Joka Roosen
Beatrice Walker	Joyce Clay
Bev Dival	Julia Reid
Brenda Scoular	Kathy Gillespie
Caryl Cameron	Lewella Duncan
Cledia Duncan	Linda Mattis
Denise McKay	Lil Beharrel
Doreen Lee	Lorna Klein
Doris Phillips	Marion Wray
Florence Dubois	Marj McKay
Frida Lee	Marnie Davidson
Gloria Fritz	Mary Malcolm
Helen Christian	Muriel Cameron
Helen Edwardson	Olive Collins
Inge Bremer	Pixy Daly
Iris Griffith	Robbie Petraschuk
Isabelle Gooldrup	Rosa Swan
Jean Patterson	Ruth Kobus
Jean Sladey	Sue Kammerle
Jean Whittaker	Vera McCallister
Jo Benjafield	Vi Tyner
Joan Cameron	Wilma Thompson



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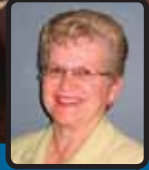
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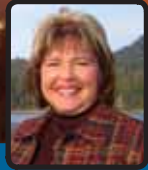
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Women's Connection (cont.)

(continued from p. 15)

by photos, illustrative maps and (possibly) sketches of domestic implements, reproduced advertisements and marginal addenda such as typical harbour recipes, folk remedies and Wrigley's directories dating from the early 20th century.

There will also be brief biographical profiles of the 30 women who were interviewed for the book and credits to the 12 family members who submitted on behalf of their mothers who are deceased.

At this point, the group working on the book project anticipates it will be approximately 250 pages in an 8.5" x 11" hardcover format

similar to Helen Dawes' *Sechelt*. This format should allow for maps of Pender Harbour, possibly both early and later views, to fit nicely across the end sheet at the front and back of the book.

As the Women's Connection worked to uncover the stories and details of what life was like in Pender Harbour before, they soon came to the realization that much of our past is getting lost because we lack a vehicle to collect it.

As old-timers pass on, the priceless mementoes and photos they've collected over a lifetime sometimes get misplaced or destroyed.

Pender Harbour lacks a museum and, specifically, an archive to which people could entrust their heirlooms and family artifacts.

In what may well be a catalyst to get such a facility started, the proceeds from the book will go to the formation of a local archive.

Since the Women's Connection is decidedly not a service group and does not have non-profit society

status, it made what was an obvious choice: to partner with the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society.

The Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society has been working for years to collect historical material with the intention of someday building a museum to preserve Pender Harbour's heritage.

A museum would likely first involve a small archival centre that could collect, store and preserve locally donated material. From there, efforts could continue to build the foundation of what could someday become a museum focusing on the history of Pender Harbour and the surrounding area.

The still untitled book will hopefully provide the financial — and psychological — momentum to get the efforts off the ground.

The Harbour Spiel has offered its full support to provide any marketing efforts required to push sales of the published book but the financial risk in publishing a project of this kind is enormous and the group is currently raising funds to finance its substantial printing costs.

Unit costs for printing each book are substantially reduced if they can afford a larger print run, with savings going directly to the museum and archive fundraising efforts.

Any community members willing to help in this regard are urged to make a tax deductible donation through the P. H. Living Heritage Society.

Publication is planned for November 2009.

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~ My home or yours ~

DONATION FORM: PENDER HARBOUR WOMEN'S CONNECTION HISTORY BOOK PROJECT

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Parents Advisory Committee welcomes

Dear Editor,

We are writing this letter in an effort to increase communication and awareness between the parents and students of the elementary and secondary schools and the community at large.

One of the PAC's goals is to liaise between the student body, their parents, and the administration of the school.

We have opened our monthly PAC meetings to include student council and staff representatives to foster a team effort to address student concerns and support effective leadership for our students.

The PAC's primary goal at this time is to increase student safety, school morale, respect and communi-

cation in our school environment by advocating for and educating parents and students.

The PAC is always concerned with increasing and maintaining the highest levels of instruction and learning support.

To this effect, the PHSS PAC has:

- promoted letter-writing by parents to the school district stating their views on the reconfiguration of Madeira Park Elementary and Pender Harbour Secondary School.
- supported the high school boys in their effort to have a functioning locker and shower facility after two years without.
- provided an open forum for parents in the form of a Parent Advisory Task force to share their views

and brainstorm ideas to help support their children in the school environment and set the agenda for the next PAC meeting.

• fostered lines of communication between parents and the school by developing an e-mail bulletin list to keep parents abreast of school and PAC activities and issues.

We always welcome input from parents, students and members of our community. Please contact us with your comments or concerns.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Kim Foster, Chair
604-883-0475

Diana Rae, Secretary,
604-883-1317

Former PHSS student 'Enspired' to help

Dear Editor,

As a local of Pender Harbour, I would like to ask my community to offer its support for an organization called the Enspire Foundation.

Through a variety of awareness initiatives, the foundation aims to make individuals realize and appreciate how truly fortunate they are, and consequently inspire them to assist the less fortunate.

In turn, Enspire provides these individuals with the opportunity to reach out and help.

People wanting to make a difference can support Enspire to improve the lives of disadvantaged children living in developing countries.

I and many others are volunteering in the Philippines this May.

Our plan is to build two houses in two weeks.

I ask for your support and donations to help us achieve this goal.

You can visit the website www.enspire-foundation.org for more information about the Bulacan Community Project and donate towards this cause.

You can also contact me personally, via email at may_eva22@hotmail.com.

Thank you — one can do so much to make a difference.

Sincerely,
Hannah Stark



THE AREA A SENIORS HOUSING
PROJECT THANKS:

- the committee that worked so well to put together the Valentines dinner/dance
- the numerous volunteers who assisted with running of errands, producing an awesome array of desserts and countless other details.
- the businesses and community members who contributed so generously.
- the musicians, Cindy Schroeder and Lori Pickles.

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TO BUILDING AN ABBEYFIELD HOUSE IN PENDER HARBOUR.

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The scoop of the poop and other dirt

By Jim Rutherford &
Nolan Sawatzky

What do all the numbers mean?

The three numbers on a container of commercial fertilizer stand for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK). These are the three major chemicals that plants need.

This column is going straight to the basics — we won't get into trace elements. Firstly, nitrogen feeds leaves and stem growth. It's the most quickly depleted element. One sign of nitrogen deficiency is yellowing leaves (e.g. Fatsia).

Phosphorus stimulates root growth and seed formation. A high count of this middle number is helpful in the fall when major root growth takes place for the next season.

Potassium promotes flowering, fruiting and disease resistance.

We find a time-release fertilizer the best, if we use any. The little pellets dissolve over a period of six months, so only one application is needed when potting up your annuals and it's easy to work in 20-20-20 — the old standby works great.

Watch the dilutions listed on the instructions. We only use half the



recommended strength, if at all. Those huge hanging baskets you see didn't get that way without regular and powerful fertilizing. Perhaps keep a bucket of dilute fertilizer handy to add once in a while when you're watering.

But, there's a lot of dirty work that goes into making, processing and packaging commercial fertilizers.

Leaching is a major concern of powerful fertilizers synthesized in a laboratory and getting washed away from their intended target.

Those in natural or organic products are released by the activity of micro-organisms that live in the soil and, through natural synthesis, convert

nutrients into a form that plant root needs. Organic fertilizers are a mixture of a wide variety of materials that supply the same NPK that plants need. But wait a minute, we have so many natural products around the house and yard to make our own fertilizer.

You can buy all the fancy composters you like, but the bottom line is to produce a humus-rich (almost black) mulch.

The simplest one we've seen is just made of two tarps. For the bottom fold the tarp to a dimension that you can tuck out of sight in your yard and use another one folded a little larger

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for the top. The purpose is to trap the runoff and trap heat to hasten decomposition.

Large woody weeds and seeds are hard to compost so perhaps avoid them, but ordinary weeds are great.

Start at one end and dump your stuff on the bottom tarp.

Grass and plant clippings are great to get started and to produce heat. If the heap is steaming be a little careful, adding dry leaves or damp them down. Be a little selective with kitchen scraps (spoiled foods and meat products) because they attract rats, bears and the like.

Avoid kitty litter as it may contain chemicals and disease-causing organisms. Also, avoid wood and BBQ charcoal ash, as the trace elements like sulphur, boron and magnesium are now concentrated to what could be harmful levels. Only the carbon burns off.

When you're offered fowl droppings be very careful. They have to be well composted. The raw uremic acid will burn your plants. Not so much with cow manure, but still compost it first. Llama manure is ready to go.

If you have too many deciduous leaves, just bag 'em and leave 'em to start the decomposition process. The resulting compost will be a little basic (pH +7), suitable for your perennials and shrubs like lilac but completely balanced in NPK and trace elements. Because of the evergreen needles, gutter cleanings around here will be acidic (pH -7). The grit from a duroid roof is neutral, as are tea bags and coffee grounds.

To lower the pH, "salt" a separate pile with aluminum sulphate for acid-loving shrubs and broadleaf evergreens (rhodod).

Now on your tarp, rake the older material over the new and repeat.

Weigh down the edges of the tarp with whatever you've got.

Unless you dig in synthetic fertilizers, you won't get the great benefits of soil aeration by using your own compost. Also, a lot of naturally occurring disease-fighting organisms

(nematodes and the like) will flourish in the compost. Many organisms "fix" nitrogen — they bond with atmospheric nitrogen to create a soluble form that is readily available to plant roots.

For further scoops, you can contact Nolan at plantguy01@hotmail.com or click on penderharbour.com.

Advertisement

Brush away heart disease

Hheart disease has many causes linked to poor life style choices or to family genetics. However, the way to a healthy heart is likely to be through your teeth and gums.

Evidence suggests that the healthier the teeth and gums, the stronger and less disease-prone the heart is. If you don't floss or brush, you might be setting yourself up not just for gum disease but also for heart disease.

Research studies are suggesting a possible link between oral infection and systemic disorders. Gum disease might be a kind of early warning system, with poor oral health linked to diabetes, kidney disease, preterm labour, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease and even certain types of cancer.

There is a startling correlation between the health of your gums and atherosclerosis, a condition that is an under laying cause of heart disease: The worse a person's gum disease, the narrower that person's arteries may be due to a buildup of plaque. This may hold true even for young, healthy adults

who have no other symptoms of heart disease.

Gum disease in the early stages is called gingivitis and left untreated develops into full blown periodontal disease, the tissue that surrounds the bones supporting the teeth become inflamed and infected. This results from the accumulation of bacteria in the plaque under the tissue holding the teeth. The bacteria release toxins and other chemicals that begin to destroy the bone. Scientists believe these toxins circulate and cause damage elsewhere in the body; exactly how remains unclear.

People need to think of their dentist and hygienist as important members in their health care team. After all the sooner a disease is diagnosed the more likely a good outcome will result. Remember regular visits to a dentist will make use of that early warning system that is your mouth.

To learn more about your oral health and how it contributes to your total well-being, call us for an appointment with our friendly and informed staff.

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It's no fun having a "scaredy-dog"

By John Wade

Hi John

What advice do you have to help my dog deal with thunder and fireworks?

Sam is a five-year-old Lab/Rotti female. If she hears these sounds she immediately hides in the basement. If she hears it while we are already walking outside she wants to run home. She has even tried to hide under a car or in phone booth. I pretty much end up running home with her.

Last summer was the worst because she got to the point where she would not even want to go out for a walk after it got dark and she loves her walks. Even during the day was touchy. I usually work during the day and when it's really hot I'd rather take her out at dusk. She didn't get back to normal until the weather got cold. Spring will soon be here and so will the thunderstorms and fireworks. I hate to see her so scared. What can I do?

— GS

Dear GS,

Spring and summer are very tough times for noise-phobic dogs. Dogs with this particular problem

have a variety of similar characteristics. They usually are anxious around any overhead sound. Fireworks, hot air balloons, roofers etc. Additionally symptoms may not appear until around the equivalent of puberty or even older and often no matter what is attempted, get worse as the dog matures.

This is a very tough problem to treat. Anti-anxiety drugs are currently a popular suggestion but must be taken eight to 12 weeks in advance and in my experience have very little effect. There are naturopathic remedies as well and once again I've not found them to be of any help with the dogs I've treated. I wouldn't rule them out but based on hundreds of cases I wouldn't hold my breath.

Dogs subjected to constant exposure to any sound, sight and smell in a positive or indifferent manner between three and 12 weeks of age usually never have a problem with those sound sights and smells. However, no exposure or negative exposure can result in a life long problem. Puppies

born in the winter may never have any exposure to loud overhead sounds such as thunder. Summer puppies may not either during the three – 12 weeks of age window. Alternatively they might but only once and were frightened by it or have been influenced by a mother with a fear or shown some trepidation and had the breeder or owner attempt to console them unintentionally reinforcing that it was something worthy of concern.

I think you're best bet is to take this letter and go have a chat with your veterinarian and a really good dog trainer and see if you can develop a strategy to desensitize your dog. But I have to warn you, I have seen very few of these cases resolved and come thunderstorm season it becomes an anxious period for dog owners as well as their dogs.

— John

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



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Frosty times on the Pender Harbour Golf Course

By Jan Watson



The golf course has never been closed for two months due to snow and ice until this year. It certainly has been a very different winter than normal.

VALENTINE SCRAMBLE

We were lucky that we were able to play in our Scramble Feb. 14. There was a great turnout considering how cold it had been — I think everyone was getting cabin fever.

We played winter tees and five temporary greens, plus four regular greens. It turned out to be a very pleasant day with 34 golfers participating.

Two teams tied with scores of 33. After a tie breaker, the winners were Eldy Gandy, Lynne Cameron, Doug Rae & Jan Watson with second place going to Merv Oleksyn, Terry Cowan, Kathy & Wayne Bergman. Kp on #3 Helen Krantz & Wayne Bergman and on #6, I screwed up so there was no winner.

A putting contest afterwards in



the clubhouse was won by the team of Tom & Maggi Christy, Gary & Marita Anderson. The individual winner after a play off was Gerry Krantz.

UNDERSTANDING FROST DELAYS

In many regions of the country, golfers occasionally face frost delays in the spring, thus pushing back starting tee times.

When frost is present golf course superintendents delay play until the frost has melted.

This is done to prevent damage that affects the quality of the playing surface and could potentially be very expensive to repair.

Frost is basically frozen dew that has crystallized on

the grass, making it hard and brittle. A grass blade is actually 90 percent water, therefore it also freezes.

Walking on frost-covered greens causes the plant to break and cell walls to rupture, thereby losing its ability to function normally

When damaged, the putting surface weakens and becomes more susceptible to disease and weeds

One foursome can leave several hundred footprints on each green, causing extensive damage

A short delay while the frost melts can preserve the quality of the greens and prevent needless repairs.

STARTING DATES FOR NEW SEASON

Men's Day - Tuesday, March 17

Ladies' Day - Thursday, March 19

St. Patrick's Scramble - Saturday, March 21

FROM THE 19TH HOLE...

Do you know that...
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• **Charter membership** in the Pender Harbour Golf Club. Contact Muriel Cameron. (604) 883-2609

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• **Lost .. tire** lost while we were moving. Somewhere between Warronock and Murdoch on Francis Pen. Please call 604 885 1336

PERSONALS

• **Thin, athletic woman seeks local man.** 29 yr. old. Professional. Generous. Likes hockey and origami. (604) 883-980 .

SERVICES

• **Portraits** make an everlasting gift! Family & children portrait photography services presently offered in Pender Harbour by Char's Photography. 604-883-2815.

WORK WANTED

• **Light repairs,** maintenance and detailing on boats and RVs, lawn and weed cutting, yard maintenance, power washing or house cleaning. Alex and Char (604) 741-1572

• **Yard and garden cleanup:** hedges, roofs, gutters, windows, pressure washing, odd jobs and dump runs. References. Rick (604) 740-9411.



Man's Best Friend

(W.D. Smith Feb. 5, 2009)

I remember how you used to play
Towing the kids in the wooden sleigh
And you loved to bark and fetch a stick
Asking only for a scratch and a lick

Suntan you've been a good friend
Faithful to the family'til the very end

For twenty years you've been by my side
A loyal companion through life's bumpy ride
Sharing unconditional love each day
Making me richer in a special way

Suntan you've been a good friend
Faithful to the family'til the very end

And now as we part my breast is full
I shed a tear as my heart strings pull
'Tis better to have loved despite the pain
For knowing you truly has been my gain

Suntan you've been a good friend
Faithful to the family'til the very end.

*Love from Neale, Niki,
Heather and Scott.*



SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

PARCEL TAX NOTICE

In 2009, the Sunshine Coast Regional District will assess a new Parcel Tax authorized under the Pender Harbour Pool Service Establishing Bylaw No. 1075 and the Pender Harbour Pool Parcel Tax Roll Bylaw No. 612. Parcel taxes will be assessed on all eligible parcels listed on the Parcel Tax Roll.

The Parcel Tax Roll and bylaws will be available for public inspection at the Administration offices of the Sunshine Coast Regional District, 1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC, and the Pender Harbour satellite office, 12828 Lagoon Road, Madeira Park, BC, during regular office hours from March 9 to March 20, 2007.

The public is welcome to review the roll for correctness and provide written notice of any errors or omissions. A person who owns a parcel included on the parcel tax roll may request that the roll be amended respecting a matter referred to in Community Charter section 205 (1) [complaints to review panel], but only in relation to the person's own property.

A request to have the roll amended must be made in writing and received by 4 p.m., March 20, 2009, in order to be considered for 2009. The request should be addressed to:

The Collector c/o The Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel
Sunshine Coast Regional District
1975 Field Rd,
Sechelt, BC
V0N 3A1

The Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel will meet on Thursday
March 26, 2009, 10 a.m. at the:

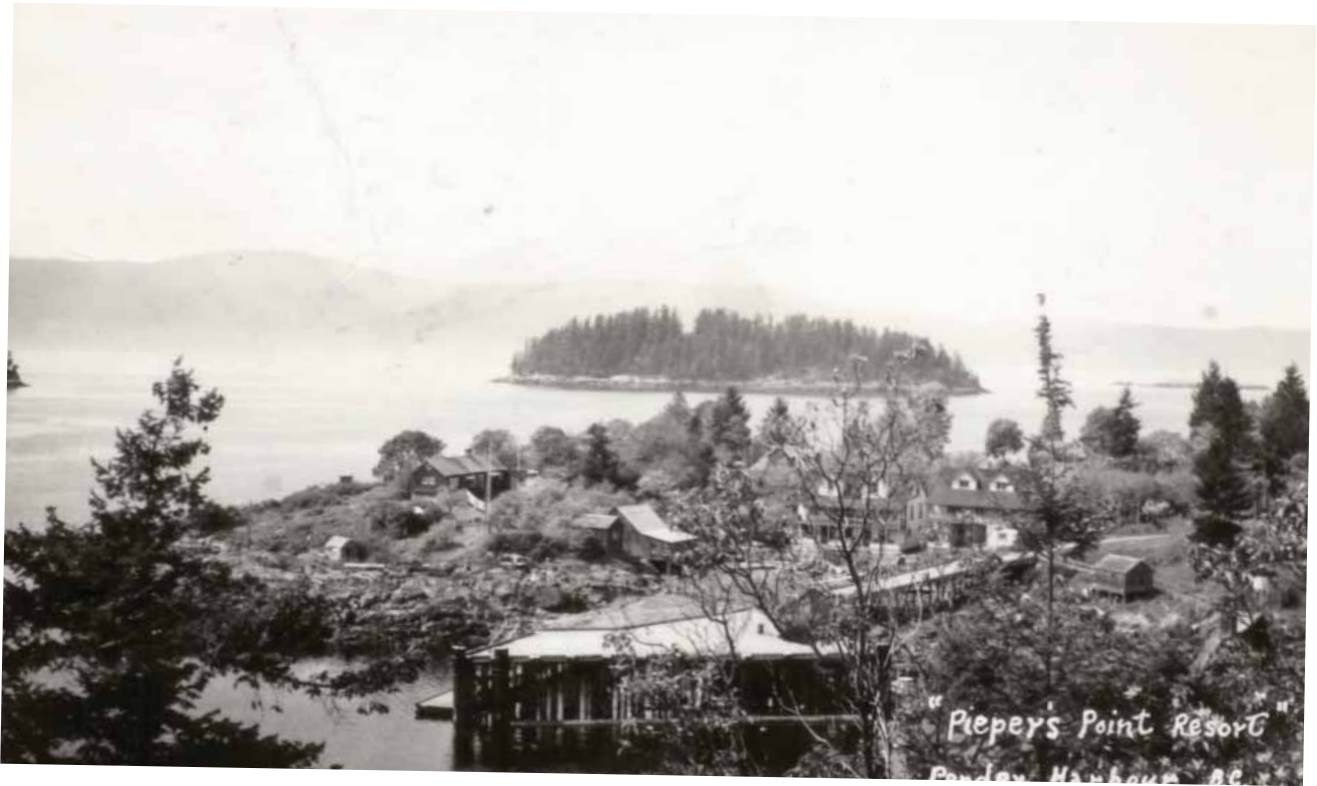
Sunshine Coast Regional District Board Room
1975 Field Rd.,
Sechelt, B.C.
V0N 3A1

A Special Thank you:

To everyone who sent flowers, cards
and for the phone calls when I wasn't
feeling well. Your caring concern was
appreciated very much.

Thanks,

Muriel Cameron



Piepers Point Resort in Irvines Landing circa 1940.

Lee family collection photo

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You gotta stay positive and focus on why we live here



By Alan Stewart

Unless you've been living under a rock, you know that the real estate market on the Sunshine Coast has changed dramatically in the past six months.

At the time of writing this article, according to the Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver, there have been two sales this year in the Pender Harbour / Egmont area.

Compare that to nine sales during the same period last year and 12 sales in 2007.

Not very encouraging news for people wanting to sell their homes quickly.

In a market with so few sales, it's more important than ever that sellers' homes and properties are presented in their best possible light and for the best possible price.

With two sales in six weeks and

123 properties listed for sale in the area, you'll either have to get in line and wait or get to the front of the line by ensuring your property is the best deal in town.

Properties that aren't priced sharply can achieve a sale when there is limited product on the market or an overabundance of buyers, but that certainly hasn't been the case lately.

So where did all the buyers go?

Of course we have our seasonal fluctuations to deal with, but since October, it's been difficult to justify opening the doors of a Real Estate office.

Over the past couple of weeks, those of us working in the industry were able to feel things vibrating again.

Not as in past years, but at least a tremor of life.

It's different now, of course, with concerned buyers looking longer and harder before considering making an

offer and sellers giving serious consideration to offers that would have been used to start fires last year.

Everyone is walking on eggshells, primarily because no one

knows where, exactly, the market is heading.

But today, a gift was delivered from the heavens.

Like the rays of golden sunlight streaming through my office windows, people interested in buying property in our area came through the door.

I had three groups of people wanting to talk to me about securing real estate in the Harbour.

Some were- thinking long term. Some that wanted to buy as soon as they could find the right deal.

They jammed the front office and waited patiently as I tried to help each one in turn.

Was it the weather – three days of sunshine patched together – that had captured people's interest?



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Or was it something else?
Something intangible?

On the Feb. 14 I emceed the Valentine's Day Dance at the Community Hall, a fundraising event for Abbeyfield House (an assisted living facility to be built in Madeira Park).

Those in attendance didn't let the economic downturn affect them; they gave with a smile on their faces.

It struck me that what makes our community so special is not just the spectacular waterfront or the awesome array of outdoor activities available to residents and visitors.

What makes our area so special are the people that live here.

Pender Harbour residents, or "Pender Harbarians," as visiting comedians' Moxy Frúvous called us a few years back, are about as generous a bunch as you'll find anywhere.

They are generous with their time, talents, and resources.

People looking to invest in real estate on the Sunshine Coast are always impressed when I speak with them about the long list of community organizations in the Harbour.

It's things like the Women's Connection, the Gardening Club, the artists guilds, the service clubs, local churches, volunteer fire halls, Serendipity Preschool, the Community School, the golf course, Power and Sail Squadron, Senior Housing Society, the Music Society, Blues Fest, Jazz Fest, Wooden Boat Festival, and the newly formed Pender Harbour Equestrian Society that make people think twice about selecting anywhere else to invest on the Sunshine Coast.

It can be a real challenge to communicate the "pulse" of Pender Har-

bour and Egmont to people who come here for a couple of hours in hopes of finding their dream property.

But once they truly understand what our community stands for and the value of living in a safe, caring, and generous town, most of our work as realtors is done.

Some nights, after a full day of

working, coaching, attending meetings and playing soccer — I lie in bed wondering how I got myself so busy.

Didn't I move to Pender Harbour to relax a little?

All I know is that on serious reflection, I wouldn't have it any other way.



Get a Fresh Start on Your Future.... starting in Pender Harbour

*Do you need to learn new and essential skills to find work
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and remain in the Pender Harbour area?*

If your answer is Yes, register now for:

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- Developing directions and goals
- Personal and work assessments
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- Health, safety, employment standards and first aid
- Practical and transferable computer skills and on-line learning
- Money management
- Introduction to self-employment and employment skills
- Transferring skills to project work, examples such as community event planning for April Tools, May Day, long-boarding competition

START DATE: March - afternoon and evening sessions. Some sessions are optional.

LOCATION: Harbour Learning Centre, Gonzales Road, Madeira Park and surrounding community

REGISTRATION: Forms are available at the Harbour Learning Centre in Madeira Park.

This Program is free thanks to sponsorship by the

LIGHTHOUSE LEARNING NETWORK PARTNERSHIP OF THE SUNSHINE COAST
AND FUNDING BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, OFFICE OF LITERACY AND ESSENTIAL SKILLS

**For further information, please leave a message at 604-883-2826
or speak to Joanne, Darcie or Jan.**



PENDER HARBOUR HEALTH CENTRE



www.penderharbourhealth.com

Please check the website for current hours and information.

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A focus on family services

Compiled by Linda Szabados RN

HEALTH CENTRE BABY SCALE

With the birth of their first child, a couple are suddenly faced with a whole new spectrum of bewildering questions and situations.

Fortunately, there are many helpful answers and programs available in Pender Harbour.

For example, one common question is "Has the baby regained its birth weight?"

Thanks to the generous support of the Pender Harbour Health Centre Auxiliary, a baby scale is now available for use at the health centre 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

BIG FOLK, LITTLE FOLK

A beneficial program offering opportunities to glean medical knowledge and communicate with other new parents, "Big Folk, Little Folk," is a friendly, family drop-in at the health centre.

It takes place Tuesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and is sponsored by Family & Community health and coordinated by our public Health nurse, Jayna deRoon, RN BSN.

SERENDIPITY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

The Serendipity Child Development Centre across from the Madeira Park Elementary School offers a couple of valuable programs:

- **Red Balloon**, a parent and tot drop-in on Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- **Preschool** for three to five year olds, three days per week from 8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Contact co-co-ordinator Gwen at (604) 883-2316 for more information.

AQUATIC PROGRAMS

Pender Harbour Aquatic and Fitness Centre offers a number of activities for babies' and children's enjoyment and physical development:

- **Tumble Tots 'n Swim** on Fridays, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. includes gym activities and a Red Cross lesson
- **Water Babies** is for youngsters age 4 to 36 months, with a parent.
- **Red Cross Swim Kids**, Tuesdays 3:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- **Wee Wet Set** for kids ages 3-5 years, Wednesdays 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The centre's staff are very enthusiastic and helpful and can be reached at phone: (604) 885-6866 or email: phaquatic@scrd.ca.

MISCELLANY OF PROGRAMS

A number of exciting new programs offered in our community are:

- **Strong Start** is a fabulous free program of early learning at Madeira Park Elementary School. A warm welcome is extended children from birth to age five, with parents, grandparents, and caregivers. Hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. It even includes a light lunch.

- **Kinder Spark** is for children entering Kindergarten this September. This is a 12-week family program for 1½ hours weekly, beginning in March. Call (604) 885 6787 for more information.

- **Spark, Ready Set Learn** is a program designed for parents to learn strategies and activities they can do with their preschool children. It is scheduled for Feb. 23 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

To register call (604) 885-6787. At this time parents can sign their children up to receive a free book monthly.

FAMILY RESOURCES

- BC Healthy Kids Program - www.eia.govbc.ca/bchealthykids. This program helps low income families with the costs of basic dental care and eyewear for their children.
- Safety Information and Injury Prevention and Information - www.injuryresearch.bc.ca
- Health Canada - www.hc-sc.gc.ca
- BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation - www.tsf-bcaa.com
- Safe Kids Canada - www.safekidscanada.ca
- BC Children's Hospital - www.cw.bc.ca
- Canadian Pediatric Society - www.cps.ca
- Fire prevention for Kids - www.sparky.org
- Canada Safety Council - www.safety-council.org
- Canadian Institute of child - Health - www.cich.ca

For the other end of the age spectrum, a Seniors' Forum will be held at the Pender Harbour Music School four Thursdays in April, starting at 10:30 a.m.

- April 2: Emergency Preparedness with Bill Elsner
- April 16: Seniors Housing with Sue Jackel
- April 13: Wills and Estates with Alison Sawyer
- April 30: Finances with Louis Legal

Everyone is welcome. There is no fee, but if you wish to stay for lunch there will be a \$5 charge.

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HARBOUR ALMANAC

THE DAYS

BIRTHDAYS

Mar. 1 ~ John Ellis, Bob Hubbard and Linda Dunaway.

Mar. 2 ~ Sandra Bosch and Marcus Delaney.

Mar. 3 ~ Ernie Carswell, Lana Ross, Terry Bosner and Jim Reid.

Mar. 4 ~ Brian Lee.

Mar. 5 ~ Mackenzie Stewart, Kirk Mackie, Brigit Garrett, Sylvia Heiliger, Alicia McDonald and Valerie Reid.

Mar. 6 ~ Ron Minch.

Mar. 7 ~ Mitch Higgins and Cassidy Craig-Watters.

Mar. 8 ~ Jeremy Morin and Trevor Tiefenbach.

Mar. 9 ~ Mary Cain, Bobbie Wendland, Eldor Dougan and Denise Cymbalist.

Mar. 10 ~ Stuart McLean.

Mar. 11 ~ Tannis Campbell and Gayle Adams.

Mar. 12 ~ Alicia Cummins, Sunny Charboneau and Gord Wenman.

Mar. 13 ~ Ian McDonald and Paul McDonald.

Mar. 14 ~ Peter Hunsche and Heather Smith.

Mar. 15 ~ Bev Higgins, Arlen Howitt, Carissa Gilkes and Justin McKimm.

Mar. 16 ~ Steve Hanna and Brad Zayshley.

Mar. 17 ~ Bill Bradshaw, Jim Weir,

Michelle Cymbalist and Chris Cavielier.

Mar. 18 ~ Mike Reid, John Struthers, Tayler Metcalfe, Blair Landry, Janie Arduini and Michelle Bernier.

Mar. 19 ~ Megan Knock.

Mar. 20 ~ Larry Curtiss, Patrick White, Kim Smail and Tammy Collins.

Mar. 21 ~ Melissa Charboneau and David Massullo.

Mar. 22 ~ Eric Graham, Margaret Hartley, Ross Palmer and Dennis Cotter.

Mar. 23 ~ Mary Ann Haase and Barlow Cowan.

Mar. 24 ~ Jane Reid, Heather Fearne, and Doris Pride.

Mar. 25 ~ Hailley Schroeder, Lexine Scoular, John Seabrook and Shirley Norish.

Mar. 26 ~ Motoko Baum and Halle Bosch.

Mar. 27 ~ Maureen Lee, Donna Edwardson, Cole Edwardson, Doris White and Rick Wagner Jr.

Mar. 28 ~ Tom Barker, Joka Roosen and Jill Bennett.

Mar. 29 ~ Rod Webb and Terry Jacks.

Mar. 30 ~ Del Deguire.

Mar. 31 ~ Merv Charboneau.

MARCH ASTROLOGY

PISCES: FEB. 19 - MAR. 19

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

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 20)

The sign of the ram gives Arians loyalty, generosity, high energy and courage. They love adventure and often fiercely defend the underdog. Aries typically do not wash lettuce before eating.

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HARBOUR ALMANAC

OF MARCH

MARCH WEATHER

TEMPERATURE

Our average March daily high is 9.2 C, our average daily low 4.3 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 6.7 C. The highest March temperature recorded is 15.6 C (March 11, 1965); the lowest, -3.3 C (March 3, 1976).

PRECIPITATION

March has an average of 127.7 hours of bright sunshine and 15 days with rainfall. The monthly total rainfall averages 78.6 mm; monthly total snowfall averages 1.5 cm. The highest March daily rainfall recorded is 44.7 mm (March 4, 1968). The lowest March daily snowfall recorded is 8.9 cm (March 2, 1962).

HARBOUR SEALS



Free and easy! Approvals or disapprovals! **Please keep them short.** Send to: editor@harbourspiel.com. You must include your full name and a telephone number for confirmation.

Thanks to **all who supported our meat draw** this last year. You were all great. All of the funds raised were very much appreciated. It has enabled the club to pay for our dragon boat and purchase a used outrigger. A huge thanks to the **Garden Bay Pub**.

Darlene Kerfoot

Pender Harbour Paddling Society

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **all the Capilano Crew** who did their

best to keep the Pender Harbour and Egmont roads safe under extremely difficult circumstances.

Barbara Ellison

A big thank you to **Troy Callewaert** (IGA) for the generous donation and installation of the Community Connections poster board next to the Credit Union.

P. H. Community School Society
Board of Directors and Members



ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR WORK AND COMMUNITY LIFE

Lighthouse Learning Network (LLN) is offering free **Essential Skills** training to improve workplace literacy and basic skills required by our communities' employers, employees and potential employees.

Essential Skills enhance the ability to adapt to change. They are transferable... from job to job, job to career and into many aspects of daily life in the community. Recently the Government of Canada and other national and international agencies have identified nine "**Essential Skills**":

1. Reading
2. Document Use
3. Numeracy
4. Writing
5. Oral Communication
6. Working with Others
7. Thinking
8. Computer Use
9. Continuous Learning

EMPLOYER SURVEY — Employers on the Coast are invited to fill out a brief survey regarding their particular needs for **Essential Skills** training in their workplace, to assist LLN in developing training workshops. Further information can be obtained at: survey@lighthouselearning.ca.

Lighthouse Learning Network is a partnership of Sunshine Coast Community Schools, Capilano University and Sunshine Coast Community Futures. This project is funded by the Government of Canada, Office of Literacy and Essential Skills.

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL SOCIETY & HARBOUR LEARNING CENTRE

Offering recreation, sport and lifelong learning programs and services for the north Sunshine Coast.

RECREATION AND SPORT PROGRAMS

YOUTH DROP-IN VOLLEYBALL:
PHSS Gym, Thursdays, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
\$3/drop-in fee per night

HOCKEY NIGHT IN PENDER:
PHSS Gym, Mondays, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Young men, Ages 14 +. \$3/drop-in fee.

ANNUAL SPRING RUGBY CAMP:
Watch for posters

P. H. MOUNTAIN BIKING PROGRAM
"In the works." to start in April

SPRING PERENNIAL PRUNING
March 25, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Caron Gardens, Garden Bay

ROCK WALL BUILDING (FOR WOMEN)
April 8, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Caron Gardens, Garden Bay

DRIP IRRIGATION INSTALLATION
April 8, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Caron Gardens, Garden Bay

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- Windows® level 1 - **Starts March 3**
- Windows® level 2 - **Starts March 31**
- Microsoft Word® - Part 1, Microsoft Office® - **Starts March 5**
- Microsoft Word® - Part 2, Microsoft Office® - **Starts April 2**
- Email - **Starts March 12**

P. H. Community School AGM: March 24
5:30 p.m. Harbour Learning Centre



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LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATIONS DIRECTORY

• Aquatic Centre Society	883-2612
• Blues Society	883-2642
• Bridge Club	883-2633
• Chamber of Commerce, P. H. & Egmont.....	883-2531
• Christ the Redeemer Church	883-1371
• Coast Guard Auxiliary, Unit 61	883-2572
• Community Choir	883-2283
• Community Club, Egmont	883-9206
• Community Club, Pender Harbour	883-2715
• Community Policing	883-2026
• Community School Society	883-2826
• Egmont Volunteer Fire Department.....	883-0012
• GRIPS (Recycling Society)	883-1165
• Garden Bay Sailing Club	883-2689
• Gardening Club	883-0295
• P. H. Golf Club	883-9541
• Guides, Brownies, etc.	883-2819
• Harbour Artists	883-2807
• Harbourside Friendships (Thur. 10:30 -1 p.m.)	883-2764
• Health Centre Society	883-2764
• Health Centre Auxiliary	883-0522
• Hepatitis C Connection	883-0010
• InStitches (1st Monday, 11 a.m., PH Health Centre)...	883-0748
• Iris Griffith Centre	883-9201
• Lions Club, Egmont.....	883-9463
• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Tues.).....	883-1361
• P. H. Music Society.....	883-2689
• P. H. Paddling Society	883-3678
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:30 pm Tues).....	883-9273
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.).....	883-3662
• Power & Sail Squad (2nd Wed. Legion).....	883-0444
• 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.....	883-2235
• Skookumchuck Heritage Society.....	883-9994
• St. Andrew's Anglican Church	883-9927
• St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed. @ 1 p.m.).....	883-2563
• Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.).....	883-9883
• Serendipity Preschool	883-2316
• Suncoast Players	883-9277
• Sunshine Coast Community Based Victim Services....	885-0322
• Volunteer Fire Dept (Wed. evening).....	883-9270
• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
• Women's Cancer Support	883-9708
• Women's Connection (2nd & 4th Tue.)	883-9313
• Women's Outreach Services.....	741-5246

~ ORGANIZATIONS ~

CENTRAL BASEBALL LEAGUE 2009 SEASON

Central Baseball registration forms available for kids born between 1991 and 2003 at www.deeprooted.ca/cbl. Drop off at the Petro Canada station in Kleindale. For more information call Peter Nattall at (604) 883-2000.

PENDER HARBOUR FALL FAIRE SOCIETY AGM

The Pender Harbour Fall Faire Society is having its AGM at 11:30 a.m., Friday March 6 at the Legion in Madeira Park. We host this multi-faceted event on the first Saturday of October — this year is Oct. 3. We do need more volunteer involvement and new ideas to keep this event in the future. If you could contribute any amount of your time it would be greatly appreciated or if you would like to come to learn more about this event, please come to our AGM.

PENDER HARBOUR WOMEN'S CONNECTION

On Tuesday, March 10, the team from Studio 2545, located in Sechelt, will create their magic with a makeover for one of our members and give us tips on caring for our mature skin. Don't miss "Fun in the Kitchen with Doug Davis," on Tuesday, March 24. Both gatherings will be held at the School of Music in Madeira Park. Members, non-members and drop-ins are always welcome.

PENDER HARBOUR LIVING HERITAGE SOCIETY

The planning has begun for the 8th annual April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge and the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society is looking for help. Scheduled for April 25, this year's event will feature a materials list that will produce boats unlike any seen in previous years, and the builders will only have one hour to figure out how to do it! To enter or volunteer, please call Richard or Jackie at (604) 883-0539 or e-mail jackieordronneau@gmail.com.

THE P. H. AND DISTRICT WILDLIFE SOCIETY

The P. H. and District Wildlife Society welcomes Katie White to its March 17 meeting at Pender Harbour High School at 7:30 p.m. Katie will report on the results of the first Bio Blitz to have been held here in 2008, and present the Lagoon Society's plans for the 2009 Bio Blitz. A Bio Blitz is a 24-hour survey of all species of plants and animals within a chosen area of inspection. It is a perfect way to bring together scientists, naturalists and the public in a celebration of biodiversity.

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Power and Sail Squadron Go Green Day — Sunday March 15

*Submitted by P. H. Power
and Sail Squadron*

It's that time of year again — everything's sprouting green and spring is in the air.

Our now customary beach and road clean up is set to take place on Sunday, March 15 when everything is green! Everyone is invited to join in to help give our beautiful Harbour a spring cleaning. As is the custom in past years, John Rees will be hosting a barbeque in the SCR D park at Baker Beach in Madeira Park (Francis Peninsula).

I'D LOVE TO HELP, WHERE DO I GO?

Decide which is best for you and turn up at one of the following meeting points:

- Millennium Park, Madeira Park
- Ray and Aline Bunt's at 13274 Potts Lane, off Sinclair Bay Rd. in Garden Bay.
- The pumphouse at the south end of Garden Bay Lake.

WHAT TIME DO WE MEET AND WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING?

Be there at 10 a.m. and you will be issued garbage bags and assigned an area to be cleaned up. We will arrange pick-up and disposal of the filled bags. A stick with a nail in the end might be useful to save your back.



Now an SCR D park, beautiful Baker Beach will be the site of the post clean-up BBQ.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

An hour will probably do it, maybe just a bit longer.

WHAT HAPPENS THEN?

Join in the fun at the BBQ at Baker Beach; no need to bring anything, hot dogs and liquid refreshment are provided. Things get underway straight after the cleanup.

WHERE IS BAKER BEACH?

Along Francis Peninsula Road, fork left at Warnock Road, along Warnock to first left, which is Davis Road. Follow Davis Road to the end.

WHO DO I TALK TO IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

For Garden Bay Lake area, call Charlie Park at (604) 883-0453, for

Irvin's Landing/Garden Bay call Ray Bunt at (604) 883-9779. In Madeira Park call John Rees at 883-9033 or Barry Ashley at (604) 883-0053.

Come out with friends and the kids, clean up our place, socialize and have some fun. Anyone who can help pick up the full garbage bags with their pickup truck will be most welcome — please contact one of the above.

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Olding and Goodison memoirs richly deserving of our readership



By Theresa Kishkan

Last month I looked at two non-fiction books written by men. This month I'd like to give equal time to two books by women.

Both are examples of the memoir, a form that differs from an autobiography in that the memoirist will choose to highlight aspects or thematic patterns of experience rather than telling a life's story from beginning to end. A memoir employs conventions of both fiction and non-fiction, art in service to memory.

Lorna Goodison's *From Harvey River* (McClelland & Stewart, 2007) has a telling subtitle: *A memoir of my mother and her people*. Goodison's mother, Doris Louise Harvey, was one of eight children born to Margaret and David Harvey of Harvey River in the parish of Hanover in Jamaica. Doris and her sisters were known as the fabulous Harvey sisters for their

beauty and accomplishments.

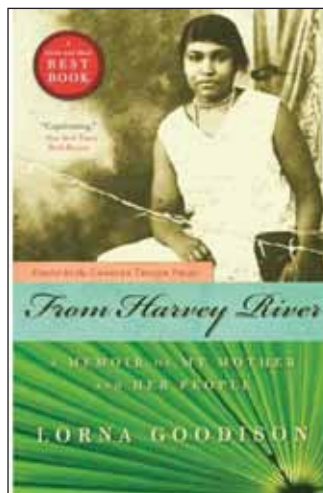
Goodison, a seasonal resident of Halfmoon Bay, explores her mother's childhood at Harvey River where she grew up in a loving generous household, one whose rhythms reflected the river where children learned to swim, where their clothing was washed and spread on the rocks to bleach in the sun, and where they learned from their parents about the complicated social hierarchies that governed the community. This is told with vivid attention to detail and with dialogue as colourful as the plants that grew in wild profusion at Harvey River. Phrases of song thread through the text: "Jubilee, Jubilee. Me get full free..."; "Attar of roses, attar of roses, good for your noses!"

After Doris married Marcus Goodison in 1931, life continued to be good. Lorna's parents moved to Malvern, in the parish of St. Elizabeth, and opened their home to friends and family. Nine children were born to them. But then their luck changed.

They lost both house and business. Forced to move to Kingston, they faced hardships. Living in poverty among strangers and violence, Doris insisted on certain domestic standards, raising her children to be well-mannered and kind. She was the fierce core of their lives.

This is a record of generations, of freed slaves, of colonial structures, of hybridity (English, African, Arawak, Irish), of the way stories themselves are hybrids of time and class, and of how details change with the tellers. The constant is the presence of Harvey River itself, a moving parable of family and belonging:

"For the first time I saw the river that was named for my mother's people. Then, it seemed like a huge wide green sea with the cleanest swift-moving water... I felt somehow that I would never come to any harm as long as I was immersed in that water named for my family. I felt that I should allow the currents to sweep me along and whenever I sensed that



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I was out too deep, I would just wade back to where my feet could touch the ground.”

Susan Olding is the daughter of a pathologist as well as being an accomplished writer and teacher. In her memoir, *Pathologies: A Life in Essays* (Freehand Books, 2008), she brings a clear and precise perspective to the dissection of her experiences.

Olding is truly her father's daughter. When she was seven years old, he took her to his lab and showed her jars of organs on shelves. “Go ahead, Susie,” he said. ‘Go ahead and tell me what you see. You’ve had a good look now, a good long look. So name it. Name it.’” And in this book, she proceeds to do just that. She names what it is to be the daughter of a brilliant troubled man, to be an unhappy adolescent, a hopeful bride, law-school drop-out, to experience divorce and a second marriage, and the painful realization that she cannot conceive a child. In the most powerful section of the book, she names what it is to adopt a child from an orphanage in China and then to cope with the difficulties inherent in that process.

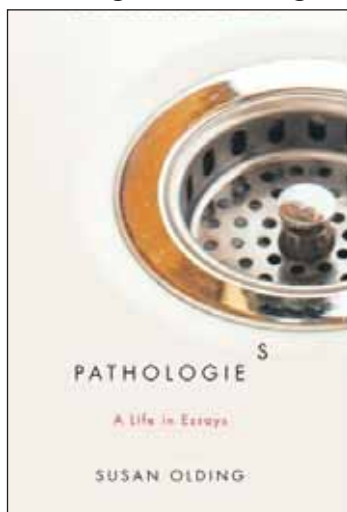
While Susan Olding is watching her daughter Maia play in a park with other children, one of the mothers asks her a question about birth and then says, “Oh, right. I forgot. You did it the easy way.” This inspires an essay, “The Easy Way,” detailing the long journey from fertility treatments to meetings with social workers to the 13-hour flight to China to meet

Maia in a Hangzhou orphanage. In an earlier essay, “Push-Me-Pull-You,” the reader learns of the labels given to Maia’s behavioral difficulties, everything from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder to Reactive Attachment Disorder; any notion that adoption is “the easy way” is quickly dispelled.

Pathologies is a deeply intelligent and original book. The concluding “The Story Lab” brings us full circle, from the medical lab at the beginning to bedtime stories told by a father to his children who insist, “We don’t want a fairy tale. Tell us

about ourselves.”

Lorna Goodison’s *From Harvey River* won the 2008 B.C. Award for Canadian Non-Fiction. Susan Olding’s *Pathologies* was long-listed for the 2009 award. Both are richly deserving of our readership.





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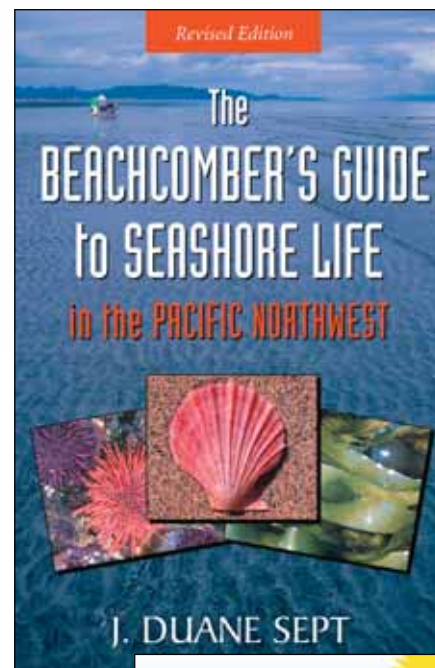
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The need for supported seniors' housing is becoming acute on the Sunshine Coast. There is no seniors' housing available in Area A and the SCRD 2006 census shows Pender Harbour has the fastest growing seniors' population on the coast. The median age in Pender Harbour is 54.1 and that includes 25 per cent over the age of 65. We need this facility now... not 5 years from now. Work is underway to revisit the initial plans for potential cost savings and to target an early 2010 groundbreaking. We need the community's support to achieve our aggressive but realistic goal and to accelerate bringing this much-needed facility to our community.

Donations may be sent to:

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Queries and suggestions are welcomed by Paul Cuppen at pcuppen@dccnet.com or 604.883.9883

Suffering the pains of Abraham

By Shane McCune

Bowing to pressure from a separatist group, the National Battlefields Commission cancelled this summer's proposed re-enactment of the 1759 Battle of the Plains of Abraham near Quebec City.

"Yes, it was because of us that they have cancelled it," crowed Patrick Bourgeois, leader of Le Réseau de résistance du Québécois (approximate translation: "The Losers' Club").

He called the re-enactment "federalist propaganda."

Apparently the French actually won that battle and went on to conquer all of North America, where English is now spoken only in Victoria during tourist season.

Quebec's motto, emblazoned on its licence plates, is "je me souviens," which in French means "I remember."

But apparently in Quebec's idiomatic French it translates to "LA LA LA! I CAN'T HEAR YOU! LA LA LA!"

The fooferaw stunned the American organizers of the event. After all, the battle has been restaged outside Quebec City several times already, most recently in 2004.

This year's assemblage of working stiffes dressed as redcoats, French regulars and Québécois militiamen was to be the climax of a five-year campaign of re-enactments marking the 250th anniversary of the Seven Years War.

They have already re-created battles in which their beloved George Washington (then a British general) was humiliated by the French, and they also plan to restage the Battle of Ste-Foy, when the French briefly erased Wolfe's gains.

No word on whether the separa-

tists object to that.

Americans love this stuff.

They're forever dressing up in period costume and shooting blank-filled muskets to re-enact their Civil War. (Usually when they take this act on the road they use contemporary weaponry with live ammo, but they were kind enough not to do that this time.)

The poor Americans, with their infamous ignorance about the wider world, probably had no idea the battle was all about the subjugation of francophone Canadians.

The benighted Yanks probably had the idea it was one battle in a protracted clash of European empires involving Britain, France, Prussia, Austria, Hanover, Sweden, Saxony, Russia and Spain at a time when French Canada — or any other kind of Canada — didn't exist.

The separatists aren't having any of that. They're bound and determined to consider themselves the losers of the battle, and no federal bureaucrat or American tourist is going to deprive them of their right to be

insulted, and to demand that the insult be withdrawn.

They may be on to something. Wouldn't the world be a happier place if none of us had to be reminded of past defeats?

To spare the feelings of Germans, let there be no more movies about the two world wars of the last century. At the very least, leave Tom Cruise out of it.

The British should stop humiliating themselves with annual re-enactments of the Battle of Hastings, where the French defeated them, and the French should stop humiliating themselves in re-creations of the Battle of Waterloo, where the British defeated them.

Hush up about the Alamo in Texas, zip it about the Spanish and Portuguese in Latin America, can the Crusades in Muslim countries, corral the cowboy movies anywhere near a First Nations reserve . . . and just don't mention the war — any war — to the Italians.



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Pender girls battle it out with 'best team in the league'



By Brian Lee

Facing the best team in the league, the Pender Harbour Grade 6 and 7 girls basketball team were in tough from the start.

"They are the best team by far," says coach Earl Antilla of the Sechelt Wolves, a French immersion school team from the Sechelt Elementary School.

They played this team a couple of weeks ago and lost by a respectable margin of 26-20.

This rematch could prove to be the turning point in a season that has seen the team come together and post some impressive victories.

They smothered West Sechelt 28-12.

They trounced Halfmoon Bay 28 to 2.

Going into the game they sat even — three wins and three losses.

The girls on the Sechelt team are mostly Grade 7s and stand a little taller than the Pender girls.

"We call them the Trucks," says team member Samantha Warner.

"The other team that was really rough to us last week, we call them the Bulldozers."

After two quarters, the home team was down 3-10 but was looking good. Pender Harbour had a bigger bench with 15 players and in a game

that runs for nine "quarters," that could prove to be decisive late in the game.

Defensive coverage was intense early on. Neither team was giving up points as they battled for loose balls at centre court. By halftime — the fifth quarter — the score was 7-12.

But something snapped in the "Trucks" at halftime. It's unknown what the coach told his players — it was all French — but whatever he said, it worked.

The Wolves came out flying and the Pender girls watched helplessly as every shot they threw up seemed to swish through the home team's hoop.

Pender didn't give up and battled for the balls while trying to get open but in the end, the Wolves had the momentum.

After nine quarters, the scoreboard told the story: 8-38.

But you'd never know they just got it handed to them by the looks on their faces. As the team pranced away from the bench looking like they just left a school dance, I cornered the coaching staff to find out what happened.

Coaching duties are shared by Antilla and Hazel Reid. Reid declined to comment on the game, referring media inquiries to Antilla.

"It was a tough day for the girls — the Sechelt team was really well

coached," says Antilla.

"In the end they just scored more baskets."

Coach Antilla says the regular season games are just about learning and having fun and the score is secondary. His is a mixed team with a lot of juniors and sees this is a building year.

The regular season leads up to a big tournament at Chatelech Secondary School in late-March where 150 girls on teams from all over the Coast will battle for one trophy.



Defense was the key to Sechelt's efforts late in the game.

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.

MARCH

- Sun. March 1.....Egmont Community Club AGM - Egmont Community Hall, 11 a.m.
 Sun. March 1.....Fibreworks reception for "Wearable Stories" by Kerr Grabowski - Fibreworks Gallery, 2 p.m.
 Sun. March 1.....Sunday Jam with Larry Cook - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Mon. March 2.....P. H. Food Bank pick up - P. H. Community Church, 12 noon
 Fri. March 6.....P. H. Fall Faire Society AGM - P. H. Legion, 11:30 a.m.
 Sat. March 7.....Madeira Market - P. H. Community Hall, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Sun. March 8.....Sunday Jam with Joe Stanton & the Precious Littles - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Sun. March 8.....P. H. Music Society presents Alexander Tselyakov - P. H. Music School, 3 p.m.
 Mon. March 9.....P. H. May Day Comittee Planning Meeting - P. H. Community Hall, 7 p.m.
 Tues. March 10.....P. H. Community Club Meeting - P. H. Community Hall, 7 p.m.
 Sat. March 14.....2nd Annual Dave Howell Memorial Jam - Garden Bay Pub, evening
 Sat. March 14.....Spring Break (school reopens March 23)
 Sat. March 14.....St. Patrick's Day Seafood Buffet Dinner & Dance - P. H. Community Hall, 5:30 p.m.
 Sun. March 15.....P. H. Power and Sail Squadron "Go Green Day" harbour clean up - various locations, 10 a.m.
 Sun. March 15.....Sunday Jam with Gaetan & the French Connection - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Mon. March 16.....P. H. Food Bank pick up - P. H. Community Church, 12 noon
 Mon. March 16.....Royal Canadian Legion Branch #112 general meeting - P. H. Legion Hall, 7 p.m.
 Tues. March 17.....P. H. And District Wildlife Society presents Katie White - PHSS, 7:30 p.m.
 Sun. March 22.....Mark Vance - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Tues. March 24.....P. H. Community School AGM - Harbour Learning Centre, 5:30 p.m.
 Wed. March 25.....Area A APC - PHSS, Rm. #107, 7 p.m.
 Sun. March 29.....Sunday Jam with Mark Krissenger - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
 Mon. March 30.....P. H. Food Bank pick up - P. H. Community Church, 12 noon
 Mon. March 30.....P.H. Health Centre Auxiliary meeting, P. H. School of Music, 1 p.m.

FERRY DEPARTURES

Effective September 2 - June 29, 2009

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

Langdale

•6:20 a.m.
 8:20 a.m.
 10:20 a.m.
 11:00 a.m. (Apr. 10 & May 18)
 12:20 p.m.
 2:30 p.m.
 3:00 p.m. (May 14 / 15 only)
 4:30 p.m.
 5:00 p.m. (April 9 only)
 6:30 p.m.
 8:20 p.m.
 10:10 p.m. (Oct. 13 / May 18 only)

Horseshoe Bay

•7:20 a.m.
 9:20 a.m.
 10:00 a.m. (Apr. 10 & May 18)
 11:20 a.m.
 1:20 p.m.
 2:00 p.m. (May 14 / 15 only)
 3:30 p.m.
 4:00 p.m. (April 9 only)
 5:30 p.m.
 7:25 p.m.
 9:15 p.m.
 11:00 p.m. (Oct. 13 / May 18 only)

Earl's Cove

*6:30 a.m.
 8:25 a.m.
 10:25 a.m.
 12:30 p.m.
 4:25 p.m.
 6:25 p.m.
 8:20 p.m.
 10:10 p.m.

Saltery Bay

*5:35 a.m.
 7:25 a.m.
 9:25 a.m.
 11:25 a.m.
 3:20 p.m.
 5:25 p.m.
 7:20 p.m.
 9:15 p.m.

Note: schedule differs slightly for Oct. 10 & 13, Dec. 24 & 26, Jan. 1 and May 18 -- see website.

♦ Daily except Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

* Daily except Sundays & Dec. 25





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Saturday: Prime Rib

Sunday: Eggs Benny

Monday: Beer & Burger (Fully loaded with fries)

Wednesday: Chicken wing Wednesday!

Friday: Meat Draws Proceeds to P.H. Abbeyfield House

LIVE MUSIC - SUNDAY JAMS

March 1 - Larry Cook

March 8 - Joe Stanton & the Precious Littles

March 15 - Gaetan & French Connection

March 22 - Mark Vance

March 29 - Mark Krissenger

*As of Friday March 6, all Meat Draw
proceeds will be donated towards
Pender Harbour Abbeyfield House.*

*Once again we'd like to thank the
IGA for their continuing support*

DON'T MISS!

**2ND ANNUAL
DAVE HOWELL
MEMORIAL JAM**

March 14

*Joe Stanton, the Precious Littles
and friends*



GARDEN BAY PUB

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