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- a) 100
- b) 1000
- c) 10,000
- d) 100,000

Answer will be in the next edition

Can't wait for the answer?

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Answer to last edition's question: About what percentage of British Columbians (over 19) choose to gamble? c) 75%

²Based on the most recent Gambling Prevalence Study in BC (2014)

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Table of Contents

Special Notices	7
Remembering	8
The Arts	10
Community Services	16
Faith Bulletin	27
Directory	28
Monthly Calendar	29
Recreation and Leisure	37
Cover Story	39
Pender Post Past February 1991	39
Weather Observations	39/40
Numbers Puzzle	42
Health & Healing Services	42
Contractors	43
Real Estate Services	49
Full and Half Page Advertising	53



COVER PHOTO

The month's cover photo comes to us from Corinne McAuley. To read about Mike Wiley's Cover Story, go to **page 39** in this issue or read it online at www.penderpost.org.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN ALLISON



From Ian Dutton and Dianne Allison

When you think about adventurers, the image of Harrison Ford in *Raiders of the Lost Ark* comes to mind, not an almost-95-year-old woman with a soft Scottish brogue. But Pender's Helen Allison is off on yet another adventure.

Helen, a fixture on Pender Island for almost 50 years, is leaving the island for Sidney, not the first time she has uprooted herself.

The winsome lass came to Canada in 1949, abandoning her home in Campbeltown, Scotland, to marry Bob Allison, who she knew in Scotland.

Traveling across the country, she arrived a day late in Kamloops after snow held up the train. Then it was on to Kelowna by bus, where Bob had spent the previous two years building a house.

"He asked me, 'How'd you like to go to a wedding tonight?'" Helen related as we met in her 'office' at Vanilla Leaf Bakery Cafe. "Whose?" she asked. "Yours," he replied.

Her first contact with Pender came in 1953 when she and Bob came to deliver a message to Mrs. Aldridge.

"We just fell in love with the island," she said. "We went back to Vancouver, where we were living then, and contacted the specialist on Gulf Island properties," she said.

"He didn't seem too interested because we were so young, just sat there reading his paper until we narrowed it down to North Pender and an acreage, and then he had 165 acres with ocean access available. I think we paid \$5,000 for it."

Having established their link with Pender, it was time for another adventure.

Bob joined the Canadian Air Force and the family was posted at various locations across the country.

"But every summer for twenty years we drove back to Pender, except when we were on PEI, when we came by train," Helen said.

In 1972 Bob said goodbye to the Air Force and the family came to Pender Island full time, and set about working their acreage.

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“I wanted pigs because I really like pigs but Bob thought sheep, so he got sheep and I became the shepherd,” she said, with her usual sunny smile.

The shepherd duties fell mainly to Helen because not long after the couple arrived, Bob took on a weekend relief job managing the BC Ferries terminal. That quickly morphed into a full-time job when the previous job holder died while on holiday. The job lasted fourteen years.

Before the island got its first veterinary practice, Helen worked closely with Saltspring Island vet Claus Andres, assisting him when he came to Pender and learning enough that she became the go-to person here when animals needed care.

She recalls pulling lambs from ewes, euthanizing pets, and she and Bob even went so far as to establish a pet cemetery on their property.

Her experience with sheep gave her a natural connection with the Farmers’ Institute, where she became a stalwart, including many years of trophy presentation at the Fall Fair.

She joined the board of *The Pender Post* shortly after moving here, and spent hours proofreading various editions at the home of then editor Maria Watson. For years she, Helen Harper, and Margaret Ravenscroft traded off being chairman or vice chair of the Pender Post Board. One of the first jobs she volunteered for was being the society’s “legbreaker.” collecting past-due membership and then advertising bills. She also kept the attendance records for many years,

Even after she leaves the island she will maintain her connection with *The Pender Post*, proofreading submissions remotely from her new Sidney home.

Several years ago Helen sold off 160 acres of her property, retaining a five-acre allotment encompassing her house, and a cottage where her son David lives.

I don’t want to leave,” she admitted. “But I think (the new owners) are a nice couple, not old like me.”

Helen’s planned departure date is February 13, and before that you’ll likely spot her at Vanilla Leaf.

From Ellen Willingham

It’s hard to believe that such an individual and consistent stalwart institution of Pender has actually sold her farm, and is moving off island! Worse yet, she’s leaving us before Valentine’s day.

Helen came to Pender Island with Bob, her devoted husband and farming partner around 1972. Did you know that Bob built every one of those dry-stone walls on the farm in the fashion of the old country way? Helen was devoted to her sheep, especially the bottle fed lambs,

and during lambing I think spent more time with them than with Bob. Farming is not just an endless list of chores to do, but a way of life. Helen became suited to that life. In the 90s, Helen was awarded the World Rural Woman of the Year, by the BC Provincial Women’s Institute.

I’ve been on Pender Island for 31 years, and upon arrival, we experienced Helen as a great and willing source of information regarding various animal and farm issues. We even shared the vet, Malcolm Bond from Salt Spring, before we had our own on Pender. However, Helen and I never did agree on which ungulates were the smartest - sheep or goats (I am on the goat side, though mischief comes with their personalities!).

Hailing from Campbeltown on the West Coast of Scotland, Helen has never lost her soft lilting accent, or forgot her roots, and has pride in her Scottish culture. As a person of strong faith, Helen always thinks the best of everyone, and wishes that everyone could get along, in spite of whatever differences they might hold. After all, we are all created in the image of God, who is Love.

I know that Helen loved to hand out the trophies to the winners at the Fall Fair for years, and knew most of the recipients. I will miss helping her with that fun and rewarding honour and task.

We will all miss Helen and hope that she comes to visit us often. May her next and less rural chapter be a healthy and rewarding one, with more rest time!

From Judy and Urs Boxler

It was with mixed emotions that I heard the news that Helen Allison had sold her house and was moving to Sidney to live with her daughter. Her



Thank you for the opportunity to serve you in the legislature.

I love the work that I do. It fires me up every day! We are in that chamber with integrity, standing up for what matters to us, and staying true to our values.

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departure will leave a hole in the island community.

We first met Helen in about 2002. I think it was on Mortimer Spit, where she was walking her dogs with her daughter. She told us about her arrival on the island and her sheep farm and her family. She also talked warmly about Pender and its history.

In about the same year, we had an opportunity to attend several of the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee meetings. Helen was at every one of those meetings.

Fifteen years later, I joined the board of *The Pender Post*. There was one familiar face at the meeting. "Who is that woman?" I asked myself. At the end of the meeting, she welcomed me. She then told me she remembered my husband's name and where we live and where we had met all those years ago. She even remembered the Trustee meetings!

I looked forward to chatting with Helen as we walked back to the parking lot after our board meetings. And to her giggle when we compared stories. And to her warm smile when we met by chance at Driftwood.

We will miss you, Helen. We wish you all the best for the coming years.

SPECIAL NOTICES

Pender Seed Library

We are excited to announce the launch of the Pender Seed Library. In partnership the Pender Island Public Library, the Gulf Islands Food Co-op, and the SGI Community Resource

Centre have created a seed library that is located at the back of the Children's section of the Pender Island Library.

There will be a two part launch

Saturday, February 20 Winter Market at the Pender Island Community Hall. This event will be outside on the deck. We will have seeds to give away, and we invite you to bring seeds you have saved from your self-pollinating vegetables: beans, grains, lettuce, peppers, and tomatoes. The timing coincides with a BC Virtual Seedy Saturday Conference on February 19-21; see www.bcseeds.org which will present inspiring speakers and more.

On Saturday, February 27, there will be a Zoom event introducing you to the Seed Library and a presentation on seed saving. Register at karin@mycampbell.net or in person at the Winter Market event.

What is a seed library and how does it work?

Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teaching of Plants*, reminds us that plants are our oldest teachers. They have been around for a long time and they have it figured out! One lesson they teach us is that a culture of abundance is a sustainable culture. This is what the seed library is: we learn from the plants to give out seeds with the understanding that they will be planted and cared for and new seeds will be brought back to replenish the library, and in this way we always have enough. The element that makes it work is reciprocity. The seed library is our chance to participate in a working culture of abundance and we

invite you to join us.

In the seed library you will find packets of seeds and information on taking, saving, and returning seeds. You will enter what you take into the log book and then when the time is right you will plant your seeds.

There are different levels of reciprocity to fit everyone. Level one is to put the seed into the soil and learn how best to care for the plant, eat the food, fall in love with the process. Maybe this takes a few years. Level two is to learn to save the seeds from your plants and become seed independent. Level three is to save seeds enough to also return some to the library. It is our hope that one day Pender Island will become seed independent and maintain a secure source of food crop seeds that are adapted to our specific climate and soils. This will make us more resilient in times of crises and change. Keep an eye out for workshops and events on saving seed and growing food that are planned by several groups on the Island, and I hope to see you at the launch.

Karin Campbell, a coordinator with the GIFC



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Santa's Sac

As always when thanks are given, someone or some group is forgotten. This year it was the Magic Lake Property Owners Society, who are annual supporters of Santa's Sac. Their donation in December was extra generous and we thank them with full hearts. Thanks also to the Food Bank for donating funds for the food hampers given to the families. We are happy to say that we managed to meet expenses due to all donations received - very generous giving in a difficult year. But Pender residents always seem to answer the call.

A reminder that you can give all year by donating your 1% at Tru Value to Spirit Board #10. Thank you to all who chose our group last year - we had \$1500 to use towards the purchase of food cards for individuals and couples on the island.

Santa is going to rest now - see you in the fall!

*Terry Shepherd,
Santa's Sac Coordinator*

REMEMBERING

Garnet (Garney) Bruce Coburn

1939-2020



Photo by Sandy Shreve

Garnet died very suddenly last January, before the pandemic, which made possible holding a Celebration of his Life service at the Anglican Parish Hall. Family and friends shared stories, recollections, and much hugging (remember that?). People came from Nova Scotia, Calgary, all over the lower Mainland and the Island as well as Pender. Garnet loved good bad jokes, so we included some of those in the service as well. It's taken almost a year to the anniversary of his death to be able to write this tribute.

Born in Calgary, Garnet spent his early years in the Ottawa area, eventually gravitating to the West Coast where he lived most of his life. He even lived on Mayne Island for a few years during the 1970s...before he saw the light and moved to Pender with his wife, Zoe. Garnet and Zoe were two days short of their 38th wedding anniversary when he died. Garnet sought, and found, community on Pender: caring, openness, creativity, making a place for all. Garnet revelled in all this. Garnet and Zoe lived longer on Pender than in any other place.

For twelve years, they embraced this island wholeheartedly and with a sense of deep homecoming. When they got off the ferry from Victoria, they said to one another, "Thank God we're home." Pender became as a balm and gift to Garnet. To have found Pender, to have lived here with his family, provided him with a source of constant wonder, delight, and joy. He was particularly pleased and proud to see his daughter Jocelyn grow up and marry, and to return with her husband Alberto and daughter Leila for visits on Pender. Garnet embraced Pender life, serving on the board of the Recycling Society, a committee looking into senior's housing, and others.

Garnet was proud to have designed and built nearly a baker's dozen of houses, on Vancouver Island, Mayne, and here on Pender. In his own small and beautiful house, he made use of fir and cedar milled from trees growing on the property.

Garnet mentored younger people with timely advice and offers of work. He made friends and kept many of them for decades. He could be crusty; he disliked

a meaningless ceremony and those who took themselves too seriously. He loved conversation, coffee, books, dinners with friends, bad puns and good jokes. His daughter, Jocelyn, remembers, "When my dad loved you, he cooked for you. He cooked for you with butter and cream and wine and good olive oil."

Together with two Pender friends who shall remain unnamed, Garnet co-founded the Curmudgeon Club. Said one friend: "The idea was to meet fairly infrequently so we didn't sacrifice our otherwise solitary existences, to complain about everything over multiple chocolates and hot beverages at the Chocolate Shop. We worried about the seemingly lost art of actual conversation, you know, where one person speaks at a time and the others actually listen and then respond to the point being made. We postulated solutions to so many diverse and challenging problems and unanimously advocated for the immediate return to the Good Old Days but knew that the revival of the age of true enlightenment was still in the distant future. We knew, however, that given time, our views would become preeminent and that the return of the horse and cart would not then be far off."

Garnet's son-in-law, Alberto Milian, called him, "...funny, and brutally kind. Easily one of the kindest people I've ever met."

Friends and family started a cairn close to where he died on his favourite walk in the world, around Roe Lake. The cairn is located under a trail marker on the main park entrance up from the campground at Shingle Bay. You'll find it at the top of the hill, where the trail splits to go around the lake. The cairn has the blessing of Parks Canada as "an ephemeral art installation." Anyone is welcome to add a stone, a shell, whatever seems good at the time. Items appear and disappear, bits of jewellery, painted rocks. The cairn is always changing. Garnet is greatly missed by his friends and family.

Heartfelt thanks from our family to the Pender Island Fire Rescue folks, the Ambulance service, the Clinic staff, and the RCMP. We feel great gratitude to everyone who stepped forward to help,

from friends putting up off-island family who'd come for the service, to the wonderful group who organized food, as well as setup and takedown. What a community!

Zoe Landale

Donald Douglas Glen Osborne

February 23, 1934-December 6, 2020



Donald, 86, died at Victoria's Royal Jubilee Hospital from complications of kidney failure.

As requested, his ashes will be buried beside his mother, Elsie (Martin) Osborne, in Kamloops.

Donald was born in Swan River, Manitoba and grew up in Bralorne, BC, where his father Glen was employed as a shift boss in the historic Bralorne Mines, while his mother worked in the

hospital. It was in Bralorne that Donald met his future wife, Vivian McVetty, and they were married in Grande Prairie in 1956.

Don went to work for Sears Canada in Powell River, Quesnel, and Cranbrook, BC prior to moving to Anchorage, Alaska in 1964. There he continued his retail career and worked for General Foods, where he rose to the position of General Manager of Alaskan operations.

Don spent large parts of his last six years on Pender island. He loved it here and was very content to be surrounded by its wildlife and natural beauty. He was instrumentally supportive of his youngest sister Kathleen Garrison in her final years on Pender.

Diligent and studious, with a penchant for finance and business, Don was prolific both academically and in sports. His proficient reading and writing skills were lifelong attributes.

Don was also astute and observant. He loved to pass time with a coffee and 'people watch' at Tru Value. He was enamoured with nature and wildlife. He and his wife, Vivian, were strong advocates of both during their lives.

Donald's mother and father were both born and raised in Nova Scotia and Donald is of the last remaining 'Osborne' family that went back to early 1700s immigrants.

Predeceased by sisters Kathleen and Glenda, his wife Vivian, his best friend John Bett, and his grandnephew Ryan Briton, Donald is survived by his niece Diane Bigham, nephews Mark, Matt, and Dan Bigham, John and Dean Hagen, Braedon Bigham, and grandniece Rachel Briton.

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His heart never left the natural beauty of Bralorne and the Bridge River Valley, but he viewed the Gulf Islands as simply spectacular.

Uncle Don was courteous, kind, curious, and respectful and his legacy is his love of nature and animals.

Matt Bigham

Gerardus Johannes (Roy) Timmermans

June 5, 1925 - December 3, 2020



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our father, Roy Timmermans, at the Saanich Peninsula Hospital on December 3, 2020.

Roy was born and raised on a coffee plantation in the Dutch East Indies. With the Japanese invasion of the Dutch

East Indies in 1942 he was placed in a prisoner of war camp until the end of the war. Following the defeat of Japan in 1945 the Indonesians declared and fought for independence from the Dutch. Roy's family stayed in the country to work the plantation, but his father lost his life during the transition period. By this time Roy had a wife and two children, and decided the risks were too great to remain in the country. In 1953 he took his family and immigrated to Canada to start his life anew.

The family settled in Alberta for eight years before moving to Kitimat BC to start a family business. In 1963, Roy joined Alcan as an instrument mechanic, retiring in 1984. Roy and Jo had purchased their Pender Island property in 1979 and spent five years designing and building their dream home prior to their move to Pender in 1984.

While living on Pender, Roy was a volunteer fireman, installed "Lifeline" response devices, pursued his lifelong passion for boating, and enjoyed working in stained glass. He also enjoyed golfing, attended concerts regularly, and was pleased to do the stained glass windows for the Pender Island Community Church.

Roy's wife Jo predeceased him in 2017. He is survived by his children Peter (Tina), Dawn, Marian (Lindsay), Edward (Kristy); his grandchildren, Scyi, Sundance (Megan), Shashone (Allison), Morningstar (Stephen), Lisa (Ryan), Kyla (Trevor), Lindsay (Steven), Rachel (Chad), Kevin (Lia), Brittany (Kiel), Leah and Wyatt; and great-grandchildren, Kate, Max, Jordyn, Luke, Lauren, Kiyomi, Isabella, Ocean, Soul, Claire, Sophia, Nyah, Hunter,

Ryder, Dylan, Remy, Jacob, Madeleine, and Clayton.

Roy had a full, long, and interesting life. He was loved and will be greatly missed by his family.

Timmerman Family

THE ARTS

Pender Island Art Society

PIAS



Pender Island Artists have been active while sheltering in place. In November and December we had an online *Le Petit Salon Show and Sale* on our web site penderislandart.com/. Although the formal Show is now finished many of the artists have left their wonderful and varied work in their galleries for you to enjoy and potentially purchase. Have a browse!

Thanks to guest curators Brenda Sledzinski and Laura Vilness, PIAS members also contributed a two week show for the Ptarmigan Gallery at Hope Bay, titled *From this Time Forward*. It featured work done by PIAS members during the COVID-19 Pandemic. An example is the wonderful image of the moss-covered Ford truck at Liberto Road done by Brenda Sledzinski.

The work of two PIAS members is presently on show at the Ptarmigan Gallery. Kelly Leroux and Ron Underhill are accomplished PIAS artists who have contributed greatly to PIAS programs and organization over many years. Their February Blues Art Show will be on display at the Gallery until February 7.

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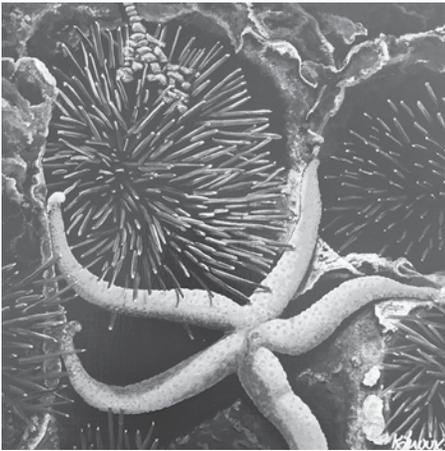
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The Interloper: a Starfish among the Sea Urchins by Kelly Leroux



The old Ford Truck by Brenda Sledzinski

Because of COVID-19, the bi-weekly PIAS meetings are on hold but as soon as the vaccine kicks in we plan some exciting sessions, and later in the Spring we hope to be able to hold some day long workshops. Good time to join PIAS since our \$35 “annual membership” is now good for two years because of the slow down in activity. Sign up at penderart@hotmail.com.

Peter Paré



Pender Island Celtic Music Society

See photo montage of the drum corps **on page 12**. Numbers correspond to the numbers on the photo montage.

1. Davey Sanders, Mark Laperriere
2. Victor Jones
3. Tony Merry
4. Joyce Steeves, Jesse Bowen
5. Lorraine Hughes
6. Jessica Willows, Gina Fulop
7. Shawna Barrett, Denis Dion, Jan Wallace, Marie Dion, Joyce Steeves



Still in a spirit of celebration in honour of the band’s 25th anniversary, we provide the sequel to our last article in *The Pender Post* by shining the light on the drum corps. Back to the beginning. In 1995, it was Gerry Woods who became the first bass drummer, joining the founding group of pipers, Jim Dunlop, Jack Russell, and Marshall Butcher. Stan Ballentyne was the first snare drummer and Davey Sanders, first tenor player. Around 1996, Christine Dempster became the first female to join the drum corps, playing snare.

Other former bass drum players include Davey Sanders (many played more than one instrument, filling holes where needed, often on short notice), Duncan Patterson (recently deceased), Lorraine Hughes, Tom Keiffer, Sue Foote (recently retired), Tom Lee, Murray Stewart, Brian Nord, and Tony Merry. Denis Dion is the bass player now. He also played the snare and tenor before being asked to take over the bass.

Many snare drummers have come and gone over the years. According to Tony Merry, he joined the band as a snare drummer in the spring of 2000. The following year, he became “lead tip” (head snare) until Jesse Bowen joined the band. Jesse then took up the lead and Tony changed to bass drum, finally retiring from the band as Drum Major for a short period of time in the spring of 2018. Tony now lives in Sidney and is a member of the Saanich Peninsula Pipe Band, still playing bass drum.

Other snare drummers from former days include Jessica Willows, Victor Jones, Duncan Patterson, Mark Laperriere, and Murray Stewart. James and Debbie Clelland, part-timers from Maple Ridge, played tenor and snare respectively, joining us in lessons and performances whenever they were on the island.

Tenor drummers of recent years: Sue Foote, Janna Cummings, Gina Fulop, Brian Nord, and Denis Dion. Shawna Barrett (2018) is our current tenor player.

There are many interesting stories that capture the dynamics of band life. The following quote from Sue Foote, illustrates the flow and versatility involved:

“When I joined the band in 2005, and started to learn to play the pipes, Tom Keiffer had been playing the tenor and was moving off island. Tony Merry convinced me to take up the tenor, during which time I could learn to ‘march’ and participate with the band in parades and competitions. So, under Davey Sanders’ tutelage, I learned to play the tenor and march...all the while learning to play the pipes and memorizing all the tunes. This

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took about one and a half years. I would play the bass as well during this time, when needed, but never even attempted the snare - too heavy! I don't know how those snare players do it."

Those hardy snare drummers are now 'lead tip' Joyce Steeves (2010), Marie Dion (2013), and Jan Wallace (2015).

Of her own beginnings, Jan says, "I was lucky enough to meet a neighbour who introduced me, as a possible snare drummer, to Tony Merry. Within 15 minutes of the conversation, Tony phoned and said, 'Practice is tonight at 7 pm; I'll pick you up at 6:30.' I wouldn't have had the courage to apply to the band without Tony's encouragement. It's a lot of fun to play in the pipe band and it's an excellent social group."

To all those members, and maybe some not mentioned here, who have, over the years, contributed to the band's success, gratitude!

Marie Dion

Pender Island Quilters' Circle



You have heard many times over "If there is a will, there is a way." Pender quilters took the quote to a new level this past month. Showing from a very interesting backdrop, Susan Purney-Mark took us on a paper piecing adventure via a Zoom meeting in January. The object of this meeting was to explore the area of value in choosing colours. A demonstration took place to show how colours can be joined together in the best possible way to add interest and eye appeal to the art of quilting. As an added bonus for quality quilting, Susan suggested getting some Superior Top Stitch Titanium needles. The meeting then went into the direction of Show and Share. Participants of the Zoom meeting happily showed what they have been working on during this COVID-19 time. Around the screen, each quilter showed their artwork. With Japanese fabrics (red, black and blue) in the design of the Yellow Brick Road quilt, Susan Dawson was getting right back into her bright and cheerful colours in this lovely work. Sue Foote presented an amazing Halibut quilt

in appliqué cut-outs. It was stunning. Something like 72 buttons bordered this wall hanging and all the buttons were from her mother's and grandmother's button box. Jeannine has been busy with a lovely bird table runner. Charlotte is building a growth chart, as cute as can be, with delightful sheep and balloons. This beats by far the door frame marks that most of us have used in the past. Other ideas popped up during our Zoom session. Laura shared two new quilt pattern books based on William Morris fabric designs. The treat here was that Laura has started on one of the patterns and is planning a wall hanging when the border is finished. Janet filled us in on her saga of the quilt that almost never got to Cloverdale. Finished and parceled up, this lovely table runner was sent on December 1 to her daughter and finally it arrived on January 11, thankfully none the worse for wear and having had an adventure of its own. Needless to say, her daughter was very happy to receive this Christmas runner. Donna let the quilters know that she was working on finishing up two quilts that are in the quilting stages and may have something for next month. Donna is missing all her

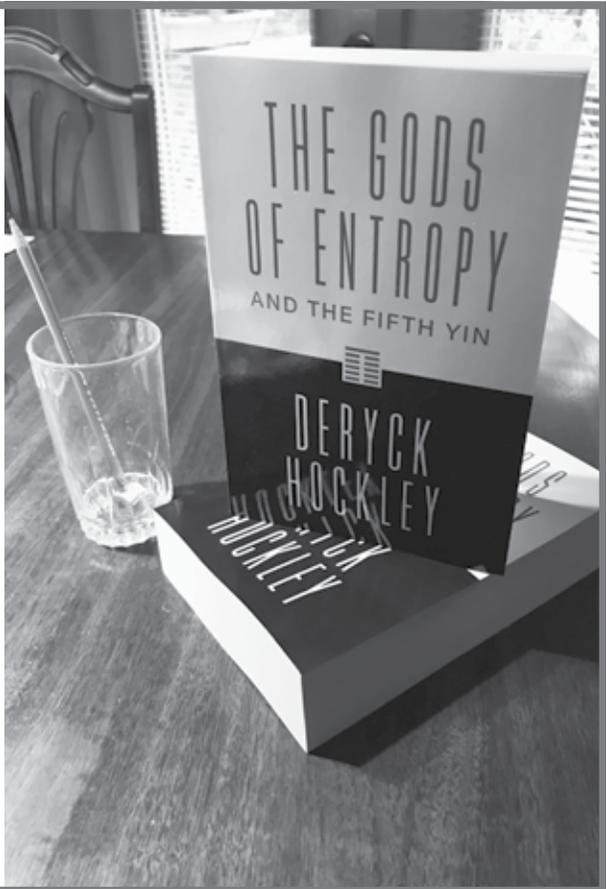
quilting friends and hoped we will soon be back together.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 10 for our next Zoom meeting. We hope more will be able to join in on the fun of seeing everyone and hearing their tales of quilting. Word has it that Heather has been doing a series of stash quilts. They would make a wonderful addition to our February meeting.

Charlotte will be sharing a pattern and a method of piecing circles. So, stay tuned to our Pender Island Circle. We may not be able to meet in person but we will be meeting.

We send our very best wishes to Margaret Vergette for a speedy recovery from her shoulder operations. We understand she is home and resting. Andrea Spalding has put together a dinner chain to help with her recovery. On your behalf Donna and Karen are preparing a meal to help out in February.

Words from your President Laura in our new addition of the Quilter's Philosophy. The joy of discovery can be found in our everyday places and spaces. For a quilter, this might mean



The Gods of Entropy and the Fifth Yin is a surrealistic satire and polemic that mirrors the last two thousand years of our own history. Its themes deal with ideology and wars and confusion that contribute to suffering debt for the hoi polloi who are under the thumb of the ruling Haploids. Meanwhile the Hyperborean masters from the fifth dimension are trying to thwart the psychopathic Haploids. It is a trilogy contained between one cover of nine hundred and eighty-seven pages of relatively small print, also available as an eBook.

Google the book title and author's name to order or for more information.

Deryck Hockley
d_hockley@shaw.ca

going through fabric stashes and pattern books with the purpose of tidying up and, unexpectedly, we find ourselves unearthing forgotten treasures. We view the recovered items with a fresh perspective; it sparks a new design from remnants of our past and we're off on a path leading to rejuvenated creativity.

See you virtually on February 10 at 10 am. Happy Valentines Day to all the lovers in our crowd.

Karen Gagnier

Pender Solstice Theatre Society



Solstice is excited to be bringing another pantomime to Pender Island for Christmas 2021. Yes, we know it is a long way off but be prepared. *Treasure Island*, directed by Karen Parker, will be a fun-filled community event. We hope by then our COVID-19 worries will be behind us, and *Treasure Island* will be a show for live audiences to enjoy.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we had to postpone this past year's

Christmas show, *It's A Wonderful Life*. However, all is not lost. Barb Pender and her talented crew will be filming this radio show later in the year and streaming it for Christmas 2021. *It's A Wonderful Life* is a collaboration of Solstice Theatre and members of the Pender Choir, and we all have enjoyed sharing the songs, the talent, and the laughter.

If you are looking for a theatrical experience to brighten a dreary day and haven't already heard *Wily Barlow*, you can go to the Solstice website or Facebook page and hear or see this radio play at www.solsticetheatresociety.org. It is full of Pender references and is written and performed by your very own Solstice Theatre.

As always, we have many plans for the coming year. So if you are wanting to test your theatrical skills or just test the waters, why not join us. We have big show productions at the hall, radio plays, and members-only play readings with potlucks (it is hard to believe it's been almost a year without all that). If you have any questions or wish to be a member, email us at pendersolstice@gmail.com.

Rutger Kamphuis

Ptarmigan Arts



We would love to help you beat the February blues with art and music. If you have an idea for a workshop or program that you would like to see happen, please get in touch with us. We'd love to know what you're interested in and how we can help make it happen. Send

me (Lauren Mann) an email lauren@ptarmiganarts.org anytime with your ideas, comments, and questions!

Music Theory

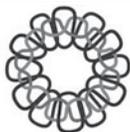
Music Theory doesn't get nearly enough credit in the world of music, yet it is the cornerstone of playing, reading, and writing it. Sabrina Werbowski is an accredited music teacher who makes learning theory fun and engaging, and she will be leading this six-week class for anyone who wants to refresh their skills and get back to playing and enjoying music. Happening on Thursdays from 5:30 - 7:30 pm for six weeks starting February 18 in person at the Community Hall (depending on COVID-19 restrictions) and also on Zoom for those who want to join from their own home. Get more info and register on our website.

Sponsorship Program

We are excited to start the year off by revamping our sponsorship program. The goal of this program is to create opportunities and reduce the barriers for local performing artists to produce their own musical, theatrical, literary, or dance performances or workshops including online-based programming. If you have an event or program you would like Ptarmigan Arts to consider sponsoring, we would love to hear from you. Head to our website to see what we are able to offer and to fill out a sponsorship proposal.

Ukulele Strum

We are continuing to meet on Zoom on the first and third Wednesdays of the month to sing and strum together until we can safely meet in person again. All ages and abilities are welcome to



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David Howe
Electoral Area Director
Southern Gulf Islands

250.216.5618
directorsgi@crd.bc.ca

www.crd.bc.ca/southerngulf

CRC

join. Register for free on our website to receive the Zoom link, and you can also find chord charts for the songs we play at www.ptarmiganarts.org/ukulele. This month's strums are happening on February 3 and 17 from 4 - 5 pm.

Community Gatherings

We have some great performances coming up this month for our Virtual Community Gatherings. Join us from 12-1pm on Fridays online or in person at the Community Hall (when safe to do so) to hear performances from Adam Dobres on February 5, Liam MacKenzie on February 12, John Temple on February 19, and Cole Dine on February 26.

The Gallery at Ptarmigan Arts

We have two shows that will be gracing the walls of the Gallery this month. Until February 7 we will have a private show of Ron Underhill and Kelly Leroux, curated by Peter Pare. Then in February, an open call show curated by Susan Purney Mark called *10 x 10* will be opening and running until the beginning of March. Beat the February blues by coming for a browse from Tuesday-Sunday, 11 am - 2 pm.

For information on any of the above programs and The Gallery, visit our website www.ptarmiganarts.org.

Lauren Mann



Three on the Tree Production Society



While the winter months didn't bring our usual Magic Lake Lantern Festival we're happy to share some lovely community engagement projects that we were able to finish up!

As 2020 came to an end, our grad mural project was completed. Rowan Barker, Yoko Kikuchi, Quynn Stafford, and Taeven Lopatecki painted three murals that represent Pender Island. They are now hung on the small barn-style building behind the community hall. Please check them out on your next trip past. We are also looking to renew this project again this spring and would love to include a local artist as a consultant for technique. We are also searching for a site for the next mural. If you have any interest or know of a location please get in touch.

We also finished a faerie door art project that was recently installed in the Enchanted Forest. Ms. Boland's Grade 6/7 class learned about the ecosystem on the covenant property on South Pender Island. They designed and painted doors in class with Liis Graham who masterminded the project. In total, 18 doors were installed in the park. Each door is unique and hidden away, a fun scavenger hunt for young park visitors. We want to thank the Islands Trust, the Pender Islands Conservancy, and PIPRC for allowing this art project to go through. Please enjoy a walk through the park and see how many doors you can find.

Annual events have changed drastically, but we are happy to announce that the plans are still in place to create a film of our annual Magic Lake Lantern Festival with plans to release it in March as winter officially ends. Please stay tuned for more details on that in the next month's issue of *The Pender Post*.

We are also working on putting together a digital ZOO-isLANDER. Led by the creative Madelin and her team, the show will go online. ZOO-isLANDER is looking for islanders with a sense of style and creativity who are willing to take photos or video content and submit it to be included in an online presentation. The theme is *Inside Out*, but this can be interpreted as creatively as you choose. Dress up to stay home, show off a side of yourself we don't usually get to see, or take your closet into the great outdoors to show off your personal runway look! Submissions will be needed by mid-March so start creating now. More details to come about the exact deadline and how to submit in the March issue.

If you would like to get involved in any upcoming projects please don't



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hesitate to contact us by visiting threeonthetree.org.

*Alaia Hamer,
Program Coordinator*

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Paramedic

BCEHS It never ceases to amaze me what you find when you turn out a cupboard or empty a drawer. I recently found a prescription bottle from 1995 when I was looking through a box of old stuff. Most of us have some medications in our cupboards that are either expired or are products that we will never use. These products can be safely disposed of by returning them to the pharmacy. The pharmacy can accept the return for disposal of all prescription medications, over the counter medications, and natural health products. If possible please either remove or black out any labels with your name on it, pour any loose pills out of their bottles into a bag, and leave anything that's liquid in the original bottle. Any sharps or needles

need to be placed in a proper sharps container and sealed up before being returned to the pharmacy for disposal.

Community Events for February

**Friday Health Forum
Every Friday, 3 - 4 pm
Virtual Event***

The Friday Health Forum is open to everyone, and people are welcome to participate for the full hour or to simply call in for a short conversation.

**First Aid Friday
Friday, February 12
9:30 - 10 am, Virtual Event***

First Aid Friday is held on the second Friday of every month, a virtual first aid discussion.

**Drive-Up Blood Pressure Clinic
Thursday or Friday**

This clinic is by appointment only, with strict safety rules in place. Use the contact information below, or by calling 250-221-0754.

*Virtual Events can be accessed either online (via a computer or cell phone) or via telephone (toll free from a landline). Please contact us via telephone or email

(listed below) to receive the access information for our virtual events.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact us at CP.PenderIsland@bcehs.ca or via landline at 629-6344.

Alyssa Woolcombe

Epicentre

Family Co-operative

Thanks to the caring and generous Pender Island community, we have a youth centre on Pender Island that is safe, neutral, central, and inclusive. Thank you to our member families who have been very patient over this past year. Check out our website to learn more about the Epicentre at <https://piepicentre.weebly.com>.

Membership

Membership has its privileges. Your 2021 membership fees get you exclusive access to the epicentre building with your household bubble and following Covid guidelines, and special member pricing on our programs (some of which we hope will start soon!). Membership fees help to keep our lights and heat on, our telephone connected, and help pay our lease and insurance. The fee is \$125 per family per year, and is payable by e-transfer and cheque. To e-transfer your member fee please email Penderrep@hotmail.com. If you want to be a member but the financial cost is a hardship, please reach out to us to discuss this.

In the past we have had very generous Penderites anonymously sponsor a family in need by covering their membership fee. If you feel that this is something you would like to do please email Penderrep@hotmail.com.

Programs

Programs have not been running at the Epicentre for many months but we feel with proper COVID guidelines and safety protocols we can soon start an exciting new program, "The Forest School." Forest School is an entirely outdoor program starting up March 5 and is now open for registration! It is for kids age 8-12 and will run for twelve weeks for the spring term. The Forest School is a program meant to teach



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kids about outdoor survival, nature, games, foraging, and more! For more information please contact Megan at Penderrep@hotmail.com. If anyone has a handheld microscope they would like to donate to the Epicentre for the Forest School and future science programs, we would greatly appreciate it!

Playground Update

We are very close to having a final design for Phase II of the Epicentre Playground. It has been a long process to bring this playground to life but in the end I think all the kids, and kids at heart, will be excited. Watch for updates!

The playground is still open with the following guidelines:

- Please do not come if you have signs or symptoms of illness.
- Use at your own discretion.
- Always wash your hands frequently and thoroughly after using any playground facilities.
- Bringing your own equipment (balls, bikes) is encouraged.
- Please respect and maintain physical distancing between yourself and other playground users except for those in your household bubble.
- Adults and caregivers, please guide your kids through the importance of these guidelines.

Thank-you and take care.

Quynn Stafford



Gulf Islands Food Co-op



As seed catalogues begin to arrive in the Gulf Islands, now is a great time to begin to make your garden dreams into a reality, one seed at a time! Last season, several seed varieties sold out quickly and others were very slow to arrive, so acquiring seeds sooner rather than later is highly recommended. Seed catalogues from local BC companies like West Coast Seeds (available now locally at Southridge Country Store and Petals and Paws), offer valuable information for new and seasoned growers, including a monthly chart of which plants to start indoors (ie - February includes artichoke, arugula, asparagus, leeks, and onions, as well as several varieties of flowers and herbs) and which plants to sow directly outdoors (ie - broad beans, miner's lettuce, corn salad, mustard greens, and peas) or outdoors under cloche covers (ie - pac choi, radishes, and spinach). Planting a few seeds in February makes it feel like spring is just around the corner!

While most Seedy Saturday events remain on hold this season, FarmFolkCityFolk bcseeds.org will host the first ever Virtual Seedy Saturday Conference February 19-21, aiming to encourage both the planting and the saving of seeds by BC growers in hopes of creating a more resilient local food system for years to come. On Saturday, February 20, Gulf Islands Food Co-op (GIFC) will proudly launch the Pender Seed Library, in partnership with the Community Resource Centre (CRC), by giving away free seeds and offering a seed swap table at the Community



February Vitamin SALE ! Multivitamins and supplements

In the heart of the cold season, many of us like to boost our diet with vitamins and supplements. A multivitamin can be an excellent addition. Make sure you choose one that has both vitamins and minerals to maximize benefits from these supplements. If you are on blood thinners, be aware that some brands may contain Vitamin K, which is not recommended as it may interfere with your medication.

Canadian recommendations for vitamin D, during winter, are between 1000-2000 units per day. The needs are less during summer as our skin, when exposed to sunlight, can transform inactive vitamin D into the active form (D3). If you have kidney failure or if you are vegan/vegetarian, make sure you ask your pharmacist which formulation of vitamin D would be best for you.

Vitamin C can be a good idea, as some studies suggest it helps the immune system. Eating more citrus is also a healthy way to get your daily dose of vitamin C. High doses of vitamin C are not proven safe, so we do not recommend taking over 500-1000mg daily.

There are plenty of options for vitamins--ask your pharmacist for information or recommendations.

Remember that a healthy diet and exercise is the best way to keep you healthy for life.

Monday - Friday 10am-6pm
Saturday - Sunday 10am-4pm

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Hall's Winter Market! On the following Saturday, February 27, GIFC will showcase the home of the Pender Seed Library at the Pender Island Public Library via Zoom, along with offering a presentation on seed saving. For more information, please contact Pender Seed Library Coordinator Karin Campbell at karin@mycampbell.net. By planting and then saving regionally adapted seeds with characteristics suited to thriving in the Gulf Islands, growers are able to be better prepared to withstand future challenges to the supply chain, ensuring that crops will be planted at the right time year after year, regardless of what is happening elsewhere in the world.

Expanding on this idea of regional adaptation to help bolster food security, GIFC is working on a Food Asset Map of Pender, Mayne, Saturna, and Galiano, with funding from the CRD's Community Economic Sustainability Commission's (CESC) Food and Agriculture Working Group, a collaboration of several organizations, including the Galiano Food Program and the CRC. The purpose of the Food Asset Map is to inventory the food related

organizations, services, businesses, infrastructure, growers, land, crops/livestock etc. to then identify both the connections between these food assets and the gaps that exist in the local food system of the Gulf Islands. This Food Asset Map is in the form of a spreadsheet to be updated regularly, and will serve as a tool to better understand the unique regional challenges to food security as well as to identify possible solutions at the regional level. Please stay tuned this spring for our community outreach efforts to help us complete this Food Asset Map.

To find out more about how GIFC supports food growers in the Gulf Islands, please check out our website at gulfislandsfoodco-op.org, or contact us at info@gulfislandsfoodco-op.org to get involved in building a more resilient community. In the meantime, enjoy the first few steps toward your garden oasis by planting a few seeds!

Nancy Goodman



Moving Around Pender

MAP



Bike display at the Driftwood



Some might think that in this time of social restrictions there would be little to report, but that is not the case with MAP. We have our regular meetings on Zoom, and like some other organizations, we have had an increase in membership that has resulted in an increase in activities. Our full name is Moving Around Pender Alternative Transportation Society, which embraces multi-modal trails, bicycles, buses, and electric vehicles; in fact any form of travel that lessens our dependence on the petrol driven car.

There has been growing enthusiasm for electric bicycles, and a number of cyclists on Pender have shown an interest in converting their existing machines into an electric version, and our steep roads are an obvious inducement. To this end, Priscilla Maki and Ken Marshall are working on a series of bicycle maintenance workshops to be available in late spring, when the weather improves and when, hopefully, group work will be possible. The first series, Basic Bicycle Maintenance, will include the following: bicycle safety; the disassembly and assembly of the modern bicycle; brake maintenance; the demystification of gears, cables, chains, and shifters; and the accessories you need to keep you rolling. Then, once you are confident with your bike, the advanced course will show you how to convert your bike to an E-bike. If you are interested in one or both of these workshops and would like to ensure your place, contact Ken at the Recycle Depot.

We have a number of keen cycling members who have mentioned their concern for a few folk who are using E-bikes without helmets. Without a helmet, you are likely to be injured if

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you have an accident on a pedal bike, but you are certain to be hurt if you come off a fast-moving E-bike without the security of a helmet. We urge you to wear the proper gear.

In recent months there has been increased cooperation between MAP and the Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission (PIPRC), which is a logical development as we are both interested in providing and maintaining paths and trails for the benefit of the community. Recently, MAP, under the leadership of Niall Parker and with input from the Nature Trail Society, arranged a Zoom course on the fundamentals of trail building. This included dealing with water, erosion and the wear from trail users; the construction process; and how to meet the Nature Trail Society's aims to have their trails blend with the environment and be appealing to users and neighbours. Once the COVID-19 situation improves, MAP intends to provide the practical side of this course, focused on George Hill. If you missed the theory element of the course you are welcome to attend the physical part. Details will be posted.

For those who have not tried it, here is a pleasant rural walk. Start at the Library; cross the road and enter the signed trail on Karl Hamson's land that leads to the back of the Hall. The trail weaves its way through a well-developed, atmospheric, second growth forest that has a series of boardwalks to cross the wet areas. However, after the recent rain it is best to wear boots! Then, you cross the Hall grounds and after rejoining the road for a few yards you enter the signed 'country' trail that runs parallel to the road on the edge of the Weins's land. The return journey is equally worthwhile, as you see everything from a different perspective. It is MAP's long term aim to provide more of these safe, off-the-road trails for community use.

We usually meet on the first Saturday of each month. Our next Zoom meeting is on Saturday, February 6 at 1 pm, and if you would like to join us, contact Niall Parker at ginpr@movingaroundpender.ca or Peter Paré at peter.pare@hli.ubc.ca.

Barry Mathias

Pender Island Child Care Society

Dragonfly Child Care & Family Resource Centre



To all Pender Island families: due to the health guidelines, we will continue to postpone Parents and Babies, HOP, and Dad n' Me pancake breakfast until further notice. Families are welcome to come by Dragonfly's front entrance each Monday to pick up weekly resource kits for children, and self-care kits for parents.

Parents and Babies RSVP

(Postponed...self-care and resource kits available at the front entrance every Monday morning!)

Parents and Babies RSVP is normally every Monday morning from 9 - 11:30 am at Dragonfly. Please call or email Sarah if you would like to participate in this free program for parents, caregivers and their children. Dragonfly's occupancy allows four families to join us either inside or outside in our fully fenced play yard. Enjoy adult and children interactions, age-appropriate toys, individual snack time, and the book lending library. If your family is unable to participate please help yourself to the free self-care and resource kits available at the front entrance. Thanks to Victoria Foundation and the Pender Island Child Care Society, this program is free.

Healthy Opportunities for Preschoolers (HOP)

(Postponed...ask Sarah if you would like to borrow some of our fun equipment that supports your child's developing

gross motor skills)

HOP is normally every Wednesday morning in the schools' outside rink from 9 - 10 am and 10 - 11 am in the school forest. Come on out and join our trained facilitator as they set up new activities each week, from hockey passing to badminton, hula hoops to balancing, and stilt walking to bean bag toss; this program will be sure to tire out your youngster! HOP is designed for parents/caregivers to engage in physical activities and learn new skills with their children 1-5 years. Thanks to the Pender Island School and the CRD, this program is free.

Dad n' Me Pancake Breakfast RSVP

(Postponed...Dad n' Me resource kits are available at the front entrance each month!)

This is a free program for Dads, Uncles, Grandpas, or friends, and their kids. We have limited occupancy for this program so please call or email Sarah if you would like to join us. If your family is unable to participate at this time, please help yourself to a Dad n' Me resource kit available at the front entrance. Thanks to the Ministry of Children and Families, this program is free.

Tru Value Spirit Board

As a non-profit organization we rely on donations, grants, and in kind support from our generous community and partners. Please consider contributing 1% of your groceries to #15 on Tru Value's community spirit board.

Child Care

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children to engage in play and deepen their connection to nature and place. Please notify us if you would like to have your child's name on the waitlist. We are currently accepting registration for Dragonfly's Pre Kindergarten class beginning September 2021. The government initiated program titled, A New Day for Families, means that we have opted into the parent reduction fee program. Also, the new Affordable Child Care Benefit is helping more families with the cost of child care. The link to this site is gov.bc.ca/affordablechildcarebenefit. Call Sarah for more information or if you need assistance with your forms.

If you would like further information on Dragonfly activities, you can contact Sarah at 629-3039 or by email dragonflyfamilycentre@gmail.com. The website is www.dragonflycentre.ca.

Sarah Conley



Pender Island Community Service Society

Nu-To-Yu

Today is the tomorrow you thought about yesterday.



If today is a Tuesday or a Thursday morning, the Nu-To-Yu is open from 9 am - 12 pm to take your gently used items such as linens, clothing, housewares. For the early morning risers 9 - 10:30 am is the perfect time to drop items off as our volunteers are less busy during this time in receiving. For car free or senior Pender residents who have suitable items to donate that would otherwise go for free at the end of a driveway, please call 629-2070 on a Tuesday or Thursday morning and talk to Anne or Pam to discuss the possibility of a pick up. All monies generated go back to the Pender Island community.

If today is a Friday, the Nu-To-Yu is open from 10 am - 4 pm for shopping. Maximum customers remain at six masked patrons in the store at one time (upstairs). Additionally, the inclement weather now dictates that shopping will be limited to 15 minutes (upstairs).

Though the majority of people already keep to this time limit, we now need to move along those customers who continue to choose to shop for much, much longer as it is not respectful to those standing outside in the cold. So set an alarm on your phone, listen to the staff when they ask you to "wrap it up" and be courteous. Need more than 15 minutes? Feel free to line up again after your initial purchases or alternatively, come back later in the day.

Narrow winding roads are the norm on Pender Island. So was the lineup on December 26 for the 50% off sale. Thank you to all who attended, who made new friends whilst standing in the cold. We appreciate your patience and your patronage. Thank you.

As of February 1, we are accepting donations of Easter items. Halloween items are accepted as of August 1 and Christmas as of September 1. Of course, Nu-To-Yu is the place to go for Valentine Day gift shopping: decorations, cards, jewellery, clothing, books, decorative dishware and items for the workshop are all for sale at reasonable prices.

Richard, a new Nu-To-Yu volunteer, earned his stripes this week by organizing all the CDs and DVDs. Located to the right of the main door upstairs, the CDs are organized alphabetically and by genre. Please help us keep the CDs organized by placing them back in the correct container after browsing. All CDs are now only 25 cents.

Our books have also been thinned, sorted, and restocked. Looking for a wee gift for a certain someone for the 14th? Hint: Valentine's Day. A book may just be the item you are looking for.

Today is the tomorrow you thought about yesterday. If you are using the day to declutter, if you are a "two out, one in." sort of person please think of Nu-To-Yu as you spring clean. For your convenience a list of items we are not able to receive is listed on www.nu-to-yu.com. Newer to this list are partially used or opened bottles of lotions, shampoos, nail polish, perfume, hair dyes etc.. Please note, we are able to take the aforementioned items if they are new. As always donations of gently used clothing, housewares, books, bric-a-brac, shoes (and the list goes on) are

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Thank you and see you in the store.

Daurel Minion

Pender Islands Conservancy

S, DÁYES Flycatcher Forest Campaign



It has been two months since we launched our fundraising campaign with Raincoast Conservation

Foundation to purchase 13 acres of forest and wetland on North Pender Island. Thanks to the incredibly generous support of so many individual donors, we are now less than \$20,000 away from reaching our fundraising goal! But we're not there yet: if you are able to help us reach our final goal and permanently protect this ecologically valuable forest and wetland, please consider donating to our campaign. You can do so in person at the Conservancy Nature Centre at Hope Bay, online through our website www.penderconservancy.org or drop a cheque into the Conservancy community box at the Driftwood Shopping Centre.

Conservancy Nature Centre

Following the bustle of Christmas shopping, our Christmas Bird Count 4 Kids elves were busy building "bird bags" for our 12 registered families to pick up in advance of the CBC4Kids, held via Zoom on January 2. Participating kids learned about local Pender birds, feather structure, and the history of the Christmas Bird Count, had pinecone bird feeders to build, word searches and colouring sheets to complete, and much more - all fueled by hot chocolate and fresh baked cookies included in their packages. Then families were tasked with heading out to look for birds along their favourite trails or beaches, and we all got together by Zoom to report on what we had found. A special thank you to Jill Ilsley and Julie Johnston for organizing the event, Sandra Johnson for providing baking and helping with bird bag assembly, Meredith Boyd

for helping develop activities and assembling bird bags, David Boyd for hosting the Zoom meeting, and our local bird expert mentors who helped develop bird quizzes and activities. And a big thank you to all participants for making this COVID-19-safe version of the CBC4Kids so successful!

Coming up at the Nature Centre: Our displays in the Kids' Corner will be shifting to migration and nesting as we move into spring. Stop by to check out the different nests we have on display - including the amazing woodpecker cavity nest that you can open up and peek inside! Thank you to Ben Symons for all the hard work and skill he put into that beautiful display.

The Pender Conservancy relies on memberships, donations and revenue from our Centre Gift Shop to fund much of our ecological monitoring, research and community education programs - you can help us continue this important work by becoming a member, volunteering, giving a tax-deductible donation, or purchasing some of the sustainable and locally made products available in our Gift Shop. Stop by the Centre to find out all the ways you can contribute to conservation on the Pender Islands.

Erin O'Brien

Conservancy Community Education Committee

The Education Committee is planning a variety of educational programs for Pender Island residents and visitors, to be resumed in full once COVID-19 subsides. These will include conservation-focused outdoor walks, visits to protected areas, action-oriented events, day camps, and extended courses, as well as guest speakers and seminars. We welcome our new members from the Field Naturalists, who bring a wealth of experience in offering walks and educational events. We have obtained a CRD grant to partner with the Dragonfly Child Care Centre for monthly guided forest walks for young children, and a grant to support our current student researcher, Meredith Boyd, who supports the Committee's work as well as the Nature Centre in general. We also appreciate the assistance of our many volunteers, who are creating displays

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for the Centre, supporting programs such as the Salmon Stream project and CbC4Kids, and helping to plan future events and programs. If you have an interest in contributing to any aspect of education that supports the values and goals of the Conservancy, please leave your contact information with Erin O'Brien at the Nature Centre, or email us through our website, and we will get back to you.

Pat Holburn

Perhaps a Rolling Stone Can Gather Moss



Oregon Beak Moss

When viewing the Conservancy's new website, you will have noted we are fundraising to protect a 13 acre parcel on Pender referred to as the Flycatcher Forest. This prime example of Coastal Douglas Fir Forest has a number of iconic, spectacular species of trees such as Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar. It also hosts a number of species of shrubs and ferns. The trees are what garner most people's attention, but the site also contains a wide variety of small, mostly ground hugging plants that people see but don't really notice. This group of plants belong to the family of non-vascular plants called bryophytes that includes mosses and liverworts. Bryophytes, unlike vascular plants, don't have true roots, stems, or leaves. Instead of roots they have rhizoids (root hairs) which perform the function of roots, anchoring them to the growing surface.

Acrocarparous Mosses – Sporophytes Usually at the Tip of the Branches

Scientific Name	Common Name	Usual Location	Plants of Coastal BC page#
Antrichum selwynii	Crane's-bill Moss	soil (disturbed)	455
Bryum capillare	Thread Moss	rock (wet)	456
Dicranoweisia cirrata	Curly Thatch Moss	logs, roof, fences	478
Dicranum scoparium	Broom (Cranesbill) Moss	logs, duff	480
Leucolepis acanthoneura	Tree Moss	duff	474
Orthotrichum lyellii	Lyells (Bristle) Moss	trees (living)	476
Plagiommium insigne	Badge Moss	duff, logs	457
Plagiommium venustum	Magnificent Moss	duff, logs	457
Polytrichum juniperinum	Juniper Haircap Moss	duff, logs	452
Rhizomnium glabrescens	Fan Moss	logs	458

Pleurocarparous Mosses – Sporophytes Usually on the Side of the Branches

Antitrichia californica	California Antitrichia	tree (Maple)	465
Dendroaisia abietina	Plume Moss	tree (hanging down)	465
Homalothecium nuttallii	Nuttall's Yellow Moss	tree (Maple, Oak)	467
Hylcomium splendens	Step Moss	logs, duff	474
Hypnum circinale	Coiled-Leaf Moss	trees, logs	469
Isoetecium stoloniferum/myosuroides	Cat-tail Moss	trees	468
Kindbergia oregana	Oregon Beaked Moss	duff, logs	470
Metaneckera menziesii	Menzies Neckera	trees (Maple)	464
Racomitrium elongatum	Roadside Rock Moss	rocks	483
Rhytidiadelphus triquetrus	Goose-necked or Electrified Cat's Tail Moss	duff	472

Over 700 species of moss inhabit the west coast; many are found on Pender Island but there are less than 100 commonly found here. Therein lies the problem with trying to identify the various species of moss: there are just too many of them and without close study they look very similar. While individual species are often difficult to identify, it is made easier by using a process of elimination.

The process of elimination begins with observing where the moss is growing, as each species of moss has a certain habitat where it typically grows. Some moss is found on forest floor duff or rotten logs. Others grow on the branches of live trees and others primarily on rocks. So, observing where the moss is growing is a start.

Observing the moss closely you will notice that there are small hairlike filaments with a pod located on the upper end and these structures are called sporophytes. The position of the sporophytes on the leaf is a further aid in the process of elimination. About half of the mosses found on Pender have the filaments growing out of the tip of the leaves (acrocarpous) and the other half have them growing out of the side of the leaves (pleurocarpous) While this is not absolutely definitive, it is generally the case. Observing the shape of the leaf is also a clue.

Trying to identify moss types can be a lot of fun and there are several good guides to west coast plants that can help out. One of the best is *Plants of*

Coastal British Columbia by Pojar and MacKinnon which is available at most bookstores. The book contains over 30 pages of photos and descriptions of many of the mosses found on Pender. In addition, we have prepared an identification table of the more common mosses found on Pender. This table categorizes mosses by sporophyte type and the location where they commonly grow. Also included are page references for the aforementioned book. Anyone interested in getting an e-copy of the table can contact me by email, bvergette@shaw.ca.

Bob Vergette

Pender Island Fire Rescue

PIFR

Happy New Year, Pender Island



December 2020 went out with a bang: 275 calls attended. Remember when snow was a fun thing? Making snowmen with the kids, tobogganing down the hill at the golf course...snow is not much fun when it takes down the hydro lines in 37 places within a 24-hour period and blocks off access to almost every corner of the Island.

In these extreme events, the Fire Department focuses all of its resources on attempting to reach every site, assessing the life safety issues, delineating the scene with high visibility cones and hazard tape, and reporting the details to BC Hydro for them to prioritize repairs. The first hydro crew to arrive

on Pender Island faced 70 km winds and arrived within six hours of the initial 'lines down' call of the day. Additional crews arrived the following morning and within a 48-hour period repaired 37 hydro lines down and successfully restored power to our Islands.

Hydro lines on the ground present a very dangerous situation - so dangerous, in fact, that Work Safe BC prevents our firefighters from coming within 10 meters (33 feet) of a downed power line. The lines can become energized at any moment during the repair process, which is why we mark the site with warning devices to keep people away and safe. Despite our efforts to do so, many people ignore the danger and take it upon themselves to work on, step on, and drive over downed Hydro lines. This never ceases to amaze me. Thankfully, nobody was hurt.

Many people asked me why I did not open the Lively Peak emergency evacuation route during this outage. The reasons were as follows:

- We were not evacuating Magic Lake; we were keeping people at home.
- There was not a clear path on Scarff Road because the road was blocked by Hydro wires and trees down.
- The route could not be opened without personnel for traffic control because it is a one-way road, and there were not enough firefighters to spare. By the third day, I was finally in a position where I could open the route up, but thankfully the roadways had been cleared and power had been restored to the majority of the Island.

I know people were scared being shut off and shut in by COVID-19 and fallen trees and downed Hydro lines, but I want everyone to be assured that if you are having an emergency during one of these major events, your emergency services - your fire fighters and your first responders - will find a way to get you to safety. They will shoulder more risk when they need to and they will not be asked to take risks when they do not need to. "We risk our lives to save lives."

If you have questions and concerns about this or any issue, please feel free

to call me directly at 629-3321.

Please continue to be safe and kind.

Mike Dine, Fire Chief

Pender Island Food Bank

Hello everyone, from the volunteers at the Pender Island Food Bank. The Food Bank is located up the little hill, at the back of the Anglican Parish Hall. We continue to be open to serve our clients each week on Friday from 10 am - 12 noon. We have in place appropriate COVID-19 practices, which include one client at a time in the Food Bank, plexi-glass divider, mask wearing, use of hand sanitizer....a reminder to all clients, new and regular, and to anyone dropping off donations, please bring and wear a mask when in the vicinity of or in the Food Bank; in the event you have forgotten to bring your face mask we will provide same.

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of Terry Shepherd and Barb MacPherson, the donations of a wonderful array of gifts by businesses and individuals, the donation of funds for the purchase of food and the many volunteers to pull

the project together and carry it out, Santa's Sac had another amazing year in being able to provide support to 26 families, 12 couples and 33 singles over Christmas. All families were also able to choose between a turkey, ham, or tofu as part of their hamper. This is a huge effort each year, and it is wonderful to see so many businesses and community members come together to assist as they can to make Santa's Sac happen each year. Thank you to all who were able to participate in some way; all donations of goods and time are very much appreciated.

Due to the donation of time and skills by Scott Elliott and also the time and efforts of one of our volunteers, Kathy Curtis, we now have a sink with hot and cold running water. We have had access to the kitchen in the Parish Hall in the past when required, and at times volunteers have also taken items home for cleaning; it will be so convenient though to have running water right in our workplace. It is also my understanding that Herb Katz, another of our volunteers, will be making a board to fit onto the sink, which will provide us with more counter space, also

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in short supply. Thank you so much Scott, you have made our work easier, and thank you also to Kathy and Herb.

Thank you to the ongoing efforts of Sherrie Boyte, Bill Critchley, Terry Shepherd, and Barb MacPherson in completing paperwork and working through the “red tape” to get us to the point of the Pender Island Food Bank becoming a Society; as a Society, we will be in a position to receive a portion of donations raised through Food Banks BC. We will also be able to write our own tax receipts; we are currently able to provide tax receipts through the continuing generosity of the Parish of Pender and Saturna Islands, and particularly Rob Ilsley, Treasurer for the Parish. Thank you; we are grateful for your assistance in this regard.

Teresa Young

Pender Island Health Care Society

PIHCS



As you read this story, 2020 is a month behind us, but it's not a year we'll soon forget at the Pender Island Health Centre. COVID-19 added to an already full agenda of unanticipated and difficult challenges related to our aging building infrastructure and growing deficit.

Then came the sudden loss of former board chairman, Gary Steeves, who died in December of leukemia. We continue to hear his encouraging words and honour his memory as we move ahead with plans that he set in motion to ensure the long-term viability of our health centre.



PENDER ISLANDS HEALTH CENTRE BY the NUMBERS

How well do you know your health centre? Match the description on the left to the correct number, right. (We've done one for you.) No peeking, but the answers are at the end of this month's article.

1. # of health/wellness services & programs provided by health centre	2008
2. % of Pender residents over 65yr	7,333
3. Year the Health Centre opened	27
4. Pender Islands' population [2016 Census]	1981
5. Last major expansion of health centre	8,401
6. # of properties on Pender tax roll	10,300
7. # of annual booked medical appointments (2019)	2,302
8. Size of health centre in square feet	40%
9. # visits to other health services (2019) <i>(e.g. dental, community & public health nurses, lab, chiropractor, optometrist, audiologist, mental health support workers)</i>	2,543

An important milestone

On January 6, we submitted a draft application to the Capital Regional District (CRD) for a referendum that, if successful, will see property tax funding for health centre operating costs. We await input from officials on the need for more information, whether the application addresses their concerns, and what's required for a preferred referendum in late 2021.

Why go with the property tax roll option?

We see property taxes as a fair and equitable way to ensure predictable,

long-term funding to operate our health centre. With stable operating funds, the health society can refocus and return to its original core mission of managing the facility and finding revenues from other sources to provide outstanding facilities for the delivery of health services.

2020 was a tipping point

Issues associated with our aging building and infrastructure became much more obvious in 2020. Opened in 1981, the last major expansion was in 2008. Since then, changing building standards, technologies, community expectations, an aging population - and

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now a pandemic - have challenged the facility as never before. While centre staff provide excellent care, the centre itself needs significant remediation and upgrades to the site, the building, equipment and ambulance bay. Some of the most urgent work began in 2020 with more scheduled for 2021 and beyond. This reality underpinned the board's determination to address current and projected future deficits.

The very notion of reducing the present level of health services for the local community led to a thorough review of various funding options and the decision to pursue the tax roll as a preferred option. [Note: The December 2020 issue of *The Pender Post* outlined the options in detail.]

Expected cost for an average property owner

Your next question is likely, "how much will this cost?" Shared across the 2,543 taxable properties on North and South Pender, the cost for an average property is estimated at less than a hundred dollars per year to ensure the future of our health centre.

You might also wonder why our public healthcare system doesn't pay for our health centre. The Vancouver Island Health Authority does fund our physicians, our nurse practitioner, a public health nurse, community health nurses, and a variety of programs and services through grants. Unlike hospitals, however, our clinic is not a "designated" health facility. It's always been up to small communities like ours to build, operate, and expand health facilities, and cover any annual deficits.

If the CRD approves a fall 2021 referendum, you can expect to see detailed information in advance, as well as drop-in sessions, hopefully when COVID-19 restrictions have eased.

Community generosity kept us going

What eased the challenges of 2020 was the incredible kindness of the Pender community. You responded with significant donations. While donations cannot guarantee stable, long term funding, your generosity made possible immediate repairs, much-needed infrastructure assessments, and

offset a growing deficit. Engineering professionals on and off-island determined the costs and priorities for major issues like drainage and accessibility for the disabled. Local contractors also gave their time and expertise to remedy urgent issues affecting the centre.

Community members stepped up to join health society committees in 2020, adding energy and wisdom as we developed strategies to create a solid future. Their depth of knowledge and sheer hard work are evident in the quality and detail that underpin the CRD application. We are both humbled and encouraged by their active involvement.

Looking ahead...

COVID-19 was an added challenge in 2020, a year that already had a very full agenda of unexpected "opportunities." We had to adapt and learn, giving us confidence in charting a path to sustain and enhance medical services on our islands. As our new board chair, Kathleen Lightman, wrote in her two-part series on the 40-year history of the health centre in the October and

Answers to our health centre "by the numbers" matching game.

1. 27 health & wellness services and programs operate out of our health centre. See penderislandhealth.ca
2. 40% of Pender residents are age 65+ (compared to 17% for all Canada)
3. Clinic opened in 1981 (Happy 40th!)
4. 2,302 population of N.&S. Pender
5. 2008 was last major expansion (medical wing + emergency bays)
6. 2,543 taxable properties
7. 7,333 medical appointments in 2019.
8. 8,401-square-foot asset with insured value of \$2.6M
9. 10,300 total yearly visits to all other health/wellness services in 2019.

November issues of *The Pender Post*, "you (the community) are charged with writing the history of our health care as we move forward..." For the full articles, go to www.penderislandhealth.ca/our-history.

We look forward to your ongoing support, engagement, and questions as we move through the referendum process.

The Board of PIHCS

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Pender Island Lions Club



The next Lions Club meeting will be February 3 at 5 pm at the Legion when we will be welcoming our new District Governor, Jane Beddows, to Pender Island. All are welcome to attend, masks and social distancing required. If you are interested in joining the Lions, membership forms are available in the Community Box at Dockside Realty, Driftwood Office, or open the door and ask me any questions. We really need new members to keep the club as a viable chapter. Meetings are the first Wednesday of every month excluding January, July, and August.

Phone books have been mailed and all Pender Island residents should have received one. If you did not receive yours, please call Dave Dryer at 629-6012. Extra copies are available for purchase at Pender Island Pharmacy for \$10. We apologize for any errors in this printing. Also, don't forget - used eyeglasses and hearing aids can be dropped off at Tru Value, Nu-To-Yu, and the Medical Centre. The Lions Club cleans and repairs them and distributes

them to countries where needed around the world. Stay safe and healthy. *Together We Serve.*

Terry Shepherd, Secretary

Pender Island Museum Society



You can be forgiven for thinking that the Pender Islands Museum "didn't do much" during this pandemic year, but you might be surprised to learn how much actually happened behind the scenes. Like so many other organizations, the museum society will host this year's annual general meeting via Zoom.

The 2020 theme for the Pender Islands Museum - as with almost every other community organization - is that of a year sharply divided in two: the time pre-COVID-19 followed by the challenges of operating a small museum during a pandemic for the rest of the year. We'd love to show you what we accomplished as we turned challenges into some interesting "opportunities."

PENDER ISLANDS MUSEUM

Annual General Meeting
Sunday, February 21st at 2pm

To join, email:
pendermuseum@shaw.ca

And we want to thank the 675 of you who waited patiently on the museum porch, sanitized your hands, donned a mask, and still came for a visit. Your presence, support, and encouragement meant the world to us!

Annual General Meeting February 21, 2 pm via Zoom

So, please, mark your calendar for Sunday, February 21 from 2 - 3 pm. We encourage members, our volunteers, and anyone with an interest in our island heritage to join as we show you the museum's year in pictures. The annual report will be mailed to museum society members by mid-February and posted on our website penderislandsmuseum.ca.

To attend, please send an email to pendermuseum@shaw.ca and we'll make sure you get the link for the Zoom meeting. Or feel free to call or leave a message with your email address with board chair Simone Marler at 250-217-0823.

A thank you to the Community Resource Centre for their assistance in hosting our annual meeting.

Simone Marler

Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission

PIPRC



The most recent PIPRC meeting was held on January 8, 2021, via Zoom technology and chaired by Ben McConchie. We learned that the Community Resource Centre's Community Justice program, led by David Nickoli, began a mediation process to resolve the dog-park issue.

JOIN THE CROWD!

Become a Museum Member

Individual: \$10⁰⁰/year

Family \$15⁰⁰/year

To renew your membership or to become a new member:

- Go to penderislandsmuseum.ca, click on the "Support" tab; scroll down to the bottom for the "Donate" button; add a message that this is for a membership.
- Send cheque with your name, address, email and phone# to: Pender Islands Museum, 2408 S. Otter Bay Rd, Pender Island, BC V0N2M1. Or drop cheque & contact info in the museum folder at the realty office at Driftwood Centre.
- To print membership form, go to penderislandsmuseum.ca under "Support" tab.

Thank you for supporting our great little museum!

Anglican Church of Canada

Parish of Pender and Saturna Islands • 4703 Canal Road

February 7	10:00 am	Zoom	Morning Prayer
February 14	10:00 am	By email	Readings and Reflections- Ellen
February 21	10:00 am	Zoom	Island Liturgy Service
February 28	10:00 am	Zoom	Annual Vestry Meeting

Due to the uncertainty of continuing COVID-19 restrictions, no in person gatherings have been planned for February. Anyone wishing to join the above events is most welcome. Please contact our administrator at the parish email address below in order to receive links and/or updates.

Ellen Willingham, 629-6700
Church Office: 629-3634

Bookings for the Parish Hall: rentals@pendersaturnaanglican.ca
Parish E-mail: admin@pendersaturnaanglican.ca

Pender Island Community Church (PICC) (www.picchurch.ca)

4405 Bedwell Harbour Road - We are a non-denominational church, all are welcome!

- The Pender Island Community Church has currently suspended its services due to the COVID-19 closures. Please check out our website for further up-dates
- If you have any questions or requests, please contact Judy Neil, 629-6168

St. Teresa's Chapel - Roman Catholic Services

4705 Buccaneers Road

- The current BC ban on public gatherings and events is still in effect. As we do not know what restrictions will be in place after that date, we are unable to publish a January schedule of services for St. Teresa's Chapel. If restrictions for church gatherings are lifted, please contact stteresachapel@gmail.com or phone 629-6029 for updated information. Meanwhile, stay safe at home and pray for the health and safety of others.
- Until restrictions are lifted, you are encouraged to live-stream daily Masses from the Diocese of Victoria. Information on daily live-streamed Masses is found at rcdvictoria.org/diocese-of-victoria-live-stream.

The Bahá'í Community of Canada (www.bahai.ca)

The Bahá'í Group of Pender Island (<https://bahaisofpender.org>)

February 7	10:30 am	Feast of Dominion (Mulk), via Zoom
February 18	7:00 pm	Feast of Loftiness (Ala'), via Zoom

Ayyam-i-Ha Celebrations February 25 through to February 28 inclusive.

- The names of the Baha'i feasts are based on the Baha'i Calendar, which has 19 months, each named for an attribute of God.
- We have established a weekly devotional zoom meeting every Thursday evening. For an invitation, please email bevpeden-pender@gmail.com for me to send you the zoom link, or call 250-412-2524 or visit bahai.org for more information.
- From the writings of the Bahá'í Faith: *When you meet those whose opinions differ from your own, do not turn away your face from them. All are seeking truth, and there are many roads leading thereto. Truth has many aspects, but it remains always and forever one. Do not allow difference of opinion, or diversity of thought to separate you from your fellow-men, or to be the cause of dispute, hatred and strife in your hearts. Rather, search diligently for the truth and make all men your friends.* Abdu'l-Baha, Paris Talks, no. 15.8-10

The Church at Hope Bay

Hope Bay Bible Camp, 4302 Bedwell Harbour Road (Entrance on Hooson Road)

The Hope Bay Fellowship is holding off on doing indoor services and potlucks at Hope Bay Bible Camp. Instead we'll be meeting for one hour each week at 11 am in safer, outdoor beach or park locations to sing, read scripture, and pray for our families and community. Everyone is welcome. If you wish to be added to our email list to receive notifications of locations and details, please reach out to robertjoelcooper@gmail.com or call Bobby at 250-882-5571 for details. May everyone in our community feel the deep anchoring of God's love and hope during this uncertain season.

Health Services

Medical Emergency 911
Medical Clinic..... 629-3233

Dr. Gerry Moore, Dr. Robyn Wiens, Dr. Bruce Rebner
 Nurse Practitioner - Tracey Adams

Monday to Friday, 9 am - 12 pm and 2 - 5 pm

Please do not call clinic staff at home. If your circumstance is genuinely of an urgent nature that will not wait until the clinic reopens, call **1-800-866-5602** and ask for the “**Doctor on-call for Pender Island.**” Your call will be returned.

Audiologist, Donna Stewart..... 778-426-4876

Better at Home Program 629-3346

Chiropractor, Mark Wensley 629-9918

Community Nurses..... 629-3242

Carolyn Cartwright-Owers and Miranda MacKenzie

Community Support Worker/Volunteer 629-3346

Crisis and Mental Health Counsellors

Elizabeth Miles 250-539-0905

Shellyse Szakacs 250-538-8711

Ulla Rembe 250-539-0325

Family Advancement Counsellors 250-222-0025

Dentist, Dr. Gary Sacher 629-6815

Lab Services..... 629-3233

Massage Therapy, Tru Hartwood 250-889-3923

Krista Wissink250-381-7318

Optometrist, Dr. David Schaafsma 629-3233

Public Health Nurse, Immunization, Prenatal Education

Lois Woolley..... 250-544-2400 or 539-3099

Pharmacy

Pharmacist, Christine Swan 629-6555

Home-based Licensed Health Professionals

Physiotherapy, Mieke Truijen 629-9910

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Healthlink BC Dial 811

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Problem Gambling Help Line..... 1-888-795-6111

211 - Free multi-lingual information/referral to wide range of community/social/government services.....Dial 211

24 Hour Crisis Help Lines

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Crisis support/transition..... 1-877-435-7544

Stopping the Violence Counselling 250-538-5568

Women’s Outreach Counsellor..... 1-888-537-0717

Kids’ Help Phone 310-1234

Text 686868

Chat..... www.kidshelpphone.ca

Continued

Mental Health Distress Line

Support/Information 310-6789

Suicide Prevention Helpline 1-800-784-2433

Vancouver Island Crisis Line..... 1-888-494-3888

Text..... 250-800-3806

Chat (Adults) ww.CrisisCentreChat.ca

Chat (Youth) www.YouthinBC.com

Ministry of Child and Family Development

MCFD..... 800-663-9122

Victim Link..... 1-800-563-0808

Community Support Numbers

Capital Regional District (CRD)

Director SGI, David Howe 250-216-5618

Building Inspector 629-3424

SGI Harbours, Ben Mabblerley...*benmabb@telus.net*

Bylaw/Animal Control complaints . 1-800-665-7899

Magic Lake Water & Sewer General . 1-800-663-4425

Magic Lake Water & Sewer Emergencies 1-855-822-4426

Emergency Hydro 1-888-769-3766

Fire Rescue (Emergencies)..... **911**

Duty Officer is available 24/7..... 1-250-478-7770

Non-Emergency - Hall #1 and Admin 629-3321

Burning Permits - online *www.penderfire.ca*
 or at Fire Hall #1, 4423 Bedwell Harbour Road

Hall/Meeting Room Bookings

Anglican Parish Hall.... *rentals@pendersaturnaanglican.ca*

School Community Room 629-3711

Health Care Centre 629-3326

Legion Hall..... *bookings239.rcl@gmail.com*

Pender Island Community Hall..... 629-3669

Plum Tree Court..... *plumtreecourt@gmail.com*

Home Support Services

Ask for the home support program.. 1-888-993-2299

Islands Trust: Victoria 1-800-663-7867

NP, Deb Morrison.... *dmorrison@islandstrust.bc.ca*

NP, Ben McConchie . *bemconchie@islandstrust.bc.ca*

SP, Steve Wright..... *stwright@islandstrust.bc.ca*

SP, Cameron Thorn..... *cthorn@islandstrust.bc.ca*

Member of Parliament

Saanich-Gulf Islands, Elizabeth May.... 1-800-667-9188

Pender Island Emergency Program

Emergency Coordinator - Pat Haugh..... 629-9991

ESS - Barbara Tarris 629-3052

Pender Island Public Cemetery 629-6625

Pender Island Veterinary Clinic 629-9909

Poison Control Centre..... 1-800-567-8911

RCMP, Outer Gulf Islands (non-emergency).. 629-6171

Crimestoppers 1-800-665-TIPS (8477)

Victim Services 629-6531

Rescue

Marine & Aircraft distress 1-800-567-5111

Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC)

Search and Rescue (Land) Emergency 911

School Trustee, Greg Lucas..... *glucas@sd64.org*

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

As per orders from the Provincial Health Officer, events may be cancelled at short notice

1	Mon	9:00 am	Resource Kits (also on the 8, 15, 22), Dragonfly Centre	19
2	Tue	10:00 am	Computer Savvy Seniors Course (every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am)*	36, 41
		10:00 am	The library building is open on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday to 3 pm*	30
		5:00 pm	CPS <i>Boating 2 & 3 Combined</i> course begins	
3	Wed	9:00 am	HOP Lending Program (also on 10, 17, 24), Dragonfly Centre	19
		9:00 am	Book Bag Program (Ongoing), Dragonfly Centre	19
		10:00 am	Weekly walking group every Wednesday until noon, Community Hall Path*	32
		1:30 pm	Community Hall <i>Zoom in: Knit and Natter</i> every Wednesday to 2:10 pm, via Zoom*	32
		4:00 pm	Qui Gong every Wednesday to 5:30 pm, Community Hall*	32
		4:00 pm	Ukulele Strum to 5 pm via Zoom, Register online for the link, All ages and abilities welcome*	15
		5:00 pm	Lions Club regular meeting, Pender Island Clinic Meeting Room	26
4	Thu	10:00 am	Computer Savvy Seniors Course (every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 am)*	36, 41
		10:00 am	Recycling Depot, winter hours: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday to 3 pm*	33
		10:30 am	SGI Non-profit Leader Network Meeting, via Zoom	37
		1:30 pm	Singing for Joy begins with Mary Reher via Zoom to 2:30 pm, \$38/5 weeks, Register online*	34
5	Fri	10:00 am	The library building is open on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday to 3 pm*	30
		10:00 am	Recycling Depot, winter hours: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday to 3 pm*	33
		10:00 am	Food Bank open Fridays to 12 pm, upstairs at back of Anglican Parish Hall*	23
		10:00 am	Nu-To-Yu open every Friday until 4 pm*	20
		11:30 am	Community Gathering, music by Adam Dobres, Community Hall	15, 35
		3:00 pm	Friday Health Forum to 4 pm, (Also on 12, 19, 26) see Community Paramedic Article for details	16
6	Sat	10:00 am	Recycling Depot, winter hours: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday to 3 pm*	33
		10:00 am	Winter Market to 1 pm, Community Hall*	32
		1:00 pm	PenderPOD presents <i>Sea Talks</i> , an informative video, via Zoom	34, 35
		1:00 pm	MAP regular meeting, via Zoom	19
		10:00 am	The library building is open on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday to 3 pm*	30
9	Tue	11:00 am	New show <i>10x10</i> opens at the Ptarmigan Gallery, Tue-Sun, 11 am-2 pm, Hope Bay	15
10	Wed	10:00 am	Quilters Circle' meet to 12 pm, via Zoom	13
11	Thu	1:00 pm	Garden Club meeting with the Bee Man Barry Denluck, via Zoom	37
12	Fri	9:30 am	First Aid Friday to 10 am, see Community Paramedic article for details	16
		9:30 am	Parks and Recreation Monthly meeting, via Zoom	30
		11:30 am	Community Gathering, music by Liam Mackenzie, Community Hall	15, 32
		2:00 pm	Pender Islands Earth Education Program, Community Hall	31, 36
17	Wed	4:00 pm	Pender Island Reconciliation Circle to 6 pm, virtual meeting place	31
		4:00 pm	Ukulele Strum to 5 pm via Zoom, Register online for the link, All ages and abilities welcome	15
18	Thu	10:00 am	Pender Post Directors meeting, via Zoom	
19	Fri	11:30 am	Community Gathering, music by John Temple, Community Hall	15, 32
		5:30 pm	Music Theory begins with Sabrina Werbowski to 7:30 pm, \$120/6 weeks. Register online	14
20	Sat		Gulf Islands Food Co-op (GIFC) and CRC will launch the Pender Seed Library	7, 17, 30
21	Sun	2:00 pm	Pender Islands Museum Annual General Meeting, via Zoom	26
24	Wed	7:00 pm	Community Conversation <i>What makes a supportive, Inclusive community?</i> , via Zoom	37, 41
25	Thu	9:00 am	North Pender Local Trust Committee regular meeting, via Zoom	
26	Fri	11:30 am	Community Gathering, music by Cole Dine, Community Hall	15, 32
		2:00 pm	Pender Islands Earth Education Program, Community Hall	32, 36
		3:00 pm	Youth Book Club, Community Hall	32
			Legion Friday Take-Out <i>Chili Cook-off, Battle of Pender Restaurants</i> , Legion	35, 53
27	Sat		GIFC will showcase the home of the Pender Seed Library at the Library, via Zoom	7, 17, 30

ADVANCE NOTICES FOR MARCH

1	Mon	10:00 am	Library AGM via Zoom, see website for more info	30
4	Thu	1:30 pm	Singing for Joy with Mary Reher to 2:30 pm, \$45 for 6 weeks, Register ptarmiganarts.org	15
5	Fri		Epicentre new program, <i>The Forest School</i> , now open for registration	16

*indicates an event or activity which is scheduled weekly or for more than one day

The process for preparing a Master Plan for PIPRC began with a meeting on January 15. Work will continue.

Several new trails have been proposed, or were started a while ago, and are being re-examined for feasibility. In particular, a motion was passed to proceed with making a trail from the end of Ainslie Point Road to the Beaumont Marine Park. Consideration is being given to working cooperatively with Moving Around Pender (MAP) to implement a multi-purpose trail joining the ballpark and the school and another trail to bypass Einer's Hill.

On January 14, the trails at Enchanted Forest took on an even more ethereal appearance thanks to the installation of fairy doors by grade 6 and 7 students under the guidance of Liis Graham of Three on the Tree Production Society and teacher Cheryl Boland. Creatively painted by the 16 students, you'll have to search for the fairy doors as they were placed so each one is out of sight of the others.

Please note

We are streamlining the Recreation Funding application process and moving the schedule ahead. Applications

will now be open May 1, with a final deadline of June 15. More information will be available on our website closer to the time at www.crd.bc.ca/parks-recreation-culture/parks-trails/pipr.

Please report any problems with our trails and facilities and/or provide your input to how the Commission should proceed by contacting a commissioner, sending an email to penderparks@crd.bc.ca, or attending one of our monthly meetings, which are open to the public. The next meeting on February 12 will be held by Zoom at 9:30 am.

Hopefully life will get back to normal in the new year and the commission can resume business as usual.

Hans Tammemagi

Pender Island Public Library

Library Opening Hours



The library is open on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10 am - 3 pm. There are no overdue fines on any items borrowed, to make our collection accessible to all members of the community - we still ask, though, that patrons replace lost or damaged books.

Library AGM

We will be holding our AGM online only, on Monday March 1 at 10 am. Visit the library website, under Events, to obtain a Zoom link for the meeting, or call the library HelpDesk. There will be a reduced meeting to accommodate the online format.

Library HelpDesk

No question is too small for our HelpDesk! Last month our favourite question was from a caller who needed help solving a crossword puzzle hint - we were happy to oblige! Library HelpDesk open Tuesday to Saturday, 10-3, 629-3722; email libraryhelpdesk@crd.bc.ca.

Art in the Library

On Display January and February

Quilts by Kay Begley. Kay's quilts range from 1997 to this year, and show progress from following patterns to her own designs - each quilt has its own story.

New Seed Library

We are very pleased to partner with the Pender Island Food Co-op for the launch of their new seed library - an opportunity for locals to obtain free seeds, learn about seed saving, donate extra seeds, all with the goal of making our community more self-reliant. Drop by the library to learn more about the new Seed Library, and at the same time check-out books and magazines on growing your own food.

Online books and magazines

For those of you that have enjoyed the free RB Digital eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eMagazines, the company has been bought by OverDrive/Libby. RB Digital content will be transferred over in the coming months, so look for changes on how to access these online materials.

Island Tides archives

Feeling nostalgic? Come browse past issues of the local *Island Tides* newspaper, now available in the library due to a generous donation of issues by editor Christa Grace-Warrick. Lots of community events, island news, and fun photos from 1989-2016. Digital versions also available from the Island Tides website.

New items in the Library

Youth picture books

Maisy's Chinese New Year (Lucy Cousins), *Binny's Diwali* (Thrity Umrigar), *Eid al-Fitr* (Shalini Vallepur), *Holi* (Shalini Vallepur), *Simon And The Bear: A Hanukkah Tale* (Kimmel, Eric A.);

Young Adults

Influence (Sara Shepard)

Adult Fiction

The Lost Shtetl (Mas Gross), *The Awkward Black Man* (Walter Mosley), *The Book Of Two Ways* (Jodi Picoult), *The Scorpion's Tail* (Douglas Preston)

Adult Mystery

Cardiff, By The Sea (Carol Joyce Oates), *Invisible Girl* (Lisa Jewell), *Snow* (John Banville), *The End Of Her* (Shari Lapena)

Adult Non-Fiction

Gone Viking (Bill Arnott), *Through The Garden* (Lorna Corzier), *Needle Felting For Beginners* (Roz Dace), *100*



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www.joyalenbouviere.com/BBPenderIsland/BBPender.html

Cookies: The Baking Book For Every Kitchen (Sarah Kieffer), *The Best Of Me* (David Sedaris). Happy Family Day on February 15.

*Carmen Oleskevich,
Library Director*

Pender Island Reconciliation Circle

In January our plan was to revisit a previous topic, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). I would like to remind you that, in 2019, BC was the first province to pass legislation to implement UNDRIP. Unfortunately, as of *The Pender Post* deadline, we hadn't met yet!

For the February meeting your homework is short. We will be individually viewing "Racism and Privilege in the Everyday," with Dr. Charlotte Loppie and Dr. Adam Barker and then coming together on February 17 to share our reactions.

It is available on the website of the National Indigenous Cultural Safety Learning Series.

www.icscollaborative.com/webinars/racism-and-privilege-in-the-everyday.

We will be using our "virtual" meeting place in February. If you are on the Truth and Reconciliation email list you will receive more information about seven days before the meeting, with the details about joining the group. If you are not on the list and would like to be a part of our Zoom gathering, then please email your contact information to me at susanparr@shaw.ca.

I hope you will join us February 17, from 4 - 6 pm, from the comfort of your own home. Take good care.

Susan Parr

Pender Island Recreation and Agricultural Hall Association

PIRAHA



The Community Hall fundraiser is moving along. We have received nearly \$35,000 towards our \$75,000 goal. Our appreciation and thanks go out to those who have already

donated. Lindsay Lou Huberdeau and the wonderful online Christmas auction she organized raised over \$5,500 of that total! The board offers our sincere gratitude and thanks for all the effort that she put into organizing and running this event. It is a really big help. Thank you so very much Lindsay Lou! We also offer a huge thank you to all the people, vendors, and businesses who so generously donated to this event. The list of auction items was truly amazing. Unfortunately, our expenses are increasing. Our insurance has just taken a huge jump including a 900% increase - yes I checked the math and it is indeed 900% for our third party liability insurance. All that in spite of not having any claims for 20 years! Insurance companies are apparently feeling the "pinch." Just so you know, we did ask for three quotes and only received the one from our original insurer before our expiry date. So we still need your help. If you can make a donation we would be very grateful. You can do so four different ways: by e transfer to info@penderislands.org, by leaving a cheque in the locked black mail box beside the Hall doors, or by bringing it in person to Andrea at the Hall on Fridays or Saturdays, or by going to the GoFundMe (Pender Community Hall Fundraiser). All donations over \$25 can receive a charitable tax receipt. Just let us know that you wish a receipt for the donation to the Community Hall fundraiser, including your full name, address, and telephone number. We thank you in advance for your help in keeping your Community Hall viable.

Youth Programs at the Community Hall

Leadership for the Earth Program Friday February 12 and 26, 2 pm

Leadership for the Earth Program launched in January 2021. We host biweekly in-person, at-a-distance, outdoor and environmental leadership activities for youth, including outdoor living skills, environmental awareness, and food and farming skills. We also offer virtual and remote resources through a monthly newsletter. Please email Ellie at picommunityhall@gmail.com for more information and to sign up.



**Call or text:
250-889-0225**

Youth Book Club
Friday, February 26, 3 pm

The Youth Book Club is a free monthly book club for teens ages 13-19. Our goal is to create a space for book-loving teens to safely gather, read and discuss new books, and socialize. We have been meeting over Zoom and are completing our first book, but anyone else who wants to join is very welcome! Our next meeting will be on February 26 from 3 - 4 pm, in-person at the Community Hall unless regulations change. Bring your own cozy blankets, tea, masks, and enthusiasm. If you are interested in participating, please email penderhall@hotmail.com

Spring Break Leaders Wanted

Become a Spring Break Day Camp leader. Plan, organize, and lead a 1 day, 6 hour day camp. Receive \$200 for the day camp and day camp preparation time. Experience free one-on-one and group training. Receive other opportunities to learn and work with your peers. Applicants must be between 17 to 29 years old, have experience leading groups of 6 - 12 year olds, experience planning and organizing

activities or workshops, be able to commit to organize and run a one day camp, be able to commit to six hours of mandatory group training, and provide references and a clear criminal record check. Send your resume and a short day camp proposal to Andrea at bookings@penderislands.org by February 3.

Spring Break Volunteers Wanted

Maybe you aren't quite ready to take on organizing a camp, but it sounds awesome and you don't want to miss out? No problem! You can still participate as a volunteer. As a volunteer you can receive volunteer credits for graduation, get free training, and get amazing, fun and valuable work experience. Volunteers must be 13+ years and provide references.

Across the Ages

Across the Ages is a program to foster intergenerational connection on the Southern Gulf Islands, run as a collaboration between the SGI CRC and the Community Hall. We are recruiting youth community members (19 and under) and senior community members (55+) across Southern Gulf

Islands to participate in a virtual storytelling program. Email Ellie at picommunityhall@gmail.com if you would like to sign up.

Adult Programs

Walking Group
Wednesdays 10 - 11:30 am

Focus on your health, happiness, and fun every Wednesday at the Community Hall. The Walking Group is a drop-in activity where you can join others in a pleasant walk along the Valley Home Farm trail. Masks encouraged.

Zoom in, Knit and Natter -
Wednesdays from 1:30 - 2:10 pm

To find the activity link go to Pender Community Hall Facebook page and find the poster or go to the Community Hall website, copy the link on the calendar, and use it to get to the activity.

Tibetan QiGong
Wednesdays 4 - 5:30 pm

Gather and absorb chi (life energy) into your body with these gentle movements to increase circulation and flexibility while quieting the mind. Most exercises are done standing. For more information, call Ken at 629-3104. Drop in cost is \$2. Masks required. To find the activity, same as above for Knit and Natter,

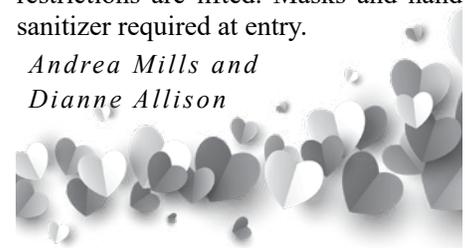
Friday Community Gathering

When we are able to gather again we will be inside, with distanced sitting areas, door open for ventilation (dress warmly), and contact tracing at entry. Tea and coffee will be available by donation. Masks required when not eating or drinking. If you can't join in person, we livestream on the Pender Community Hall Facebook page.

Winter Market
Saturdays from 10 am - 1 pm

Come out on Saturdays to the Winter Market to browse local food and produce. Handmade goods will be available inside the Hall once restrictions are lifted. Masks and hand sanitizer required at entry.

*Andrea Mills and
Dianne Allison*



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Kristin Taggart
(250) 629-6053
kristin@islandscapes.ca
www.islandscapes.ca

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Pender Island Recycling Society



Thank you to our many supporters that have renewed their voluntary annual membership to the Pender Island Recycling Society. For \$20 annually, you support our efforts to keep Pender Island clean and green. And for those still wishing to renew, we now accept credit and debit payments at the depot. Memberships can also be renewed from the comfort of your own home at PenderIslandRecycling.com. All memberships are considered donations and are eligible for a tax receipt.

Thank you to all those of you that are pre-sorting your recycling. This really reduces wait times for everyone and is much appreciated. If you're having trouble pre-sorting check in with us for tips and suggestions. One of the most common and simplest ways is to pre-sort recyclables into brown paper shopping bags. That way, even if you only have one or two blue boxes, you can have everything in your box subdivided and organized and it will make drop off much faster.

If you have mobility issues, let us know and we can pull a large bag right to your car that you can drop your recyclables into. This works best if you have your material pre-sorted in clear plastic bags or brown paper bags that you can leave with us. If this poses a challenge, please know that we will accept unsorted recycling too.

For those new to the island, did you know that besides packaging, we also accept scrap metal, large and small appliances, electronics, lightbulbs,

smoke detectors, household and vehicle batteries, house paint, and tea lights, as well as gently used items for our FreeStore and ReShop? We also accept non-packaging plastic (e.g., lawn chairs) for a small fee, which is then bailed and hauled to Vancouver to be recycled.

If you've noticed the daffodils bravely poking through the soil and are looking ahead to spring, think about booking a backhaul delivery with the depot. Every week we haul soil, sand, gravel, or mulch back to Pender. The cost is \$140 to North Pender or \$160 to South Pender plus the cost of your materials. Spots start to fill quickly at this time of year so contact us soon to reserve yours. You can phone us at 629-6962 or ask a staff member the next time that you're at the depot.

Niki Roberts

Pender Organic Community Garden Society



February is here. That means gardening is beginning to heat up for gardeners. We are perusing

our newly arrived seed catalogues and the planting of leeks and onions will begin on many window sills this month in order to be ready for spring planting.

Another worthy endeavour during these slow gardening months is creating nesting boxes for all the birds that will assist you in the garden this year. Nuthatches, chickadees, and sparrows are always looking for nesting sites and love to eat bugs in your garden. Consider creating owl boxes or platforms (best for Great Horned) in order that the local owls can assist in controlling rats and mice in the garden and on your property. We have many species of owls on the island which assist with this: Barred, Great Horned, and Saw-whet. Short Eared and Barn owls could be here with the right environment created for them. That's where you come in. Simply hang a box in a quiet corner of your yard to create habitat for these creatures. February and March are prime breeding months for owls; they are beginning to fight for mates and territory, so females are looking for nesting sites. There are many resources online describing the type of boxes that can be built

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and utilized by these creatures and by building one, you get nature to do the work for you.

I also encourage you to watch the movie *Biggest Little Farm* currently airing on Netflix to see these incredible owls in action doing what they do best: eating the pesky rodents that we don't want around. Happy Gardening.

Kathy Cronk

PenderPOD

Young People Stand Up For the Whales



Last summer PenderPod commemorated all the orcas that have

died in recent years. Now we want to turn to something more positive. A group of young islanders have formed a youth group as part of PenderPod. Calling themselves the PenderPodlings, they have taken on the joyful task of celebrating all the local orcas that have been born since 1998, and you are invited to get involved. Here is their report:

PenderPodlings's new orca tile project is now open for community participation! There are 43 orcas who have been born and survived in the Salish Sea since 1998, and so we have 43 tiles to be painted. Come down to the Community Resource Center at the Driftwood to pick up a tile and painting kit, which will provide you with paints, brushes, and a tile. Part of the project is researching your whale, so we can celebrate these orcas by representing them through art and telling their stories. Feel free to email penderpodlings@gmail.com with any questions. Aspiring artists of all ages and any skill level are welcome as we turn hope into lasting art to celebrate these young whales.

The deadline for the tiles is February 15, so spread the word and come collect your tile!

The tiles will be displayed around Pender, though the location has yet to be finalized. An image of your tile and your Orca's story will also become part of the PenderPOD archives on www.penderpod.ca.



Podlings prepare whale kits

Whales in the Salish Sea Find out more

Join us for Sea Talks, an informative Zoom video on Saturday, February 6 at 1 pm. There will be a review of research projects that are happening in the Salish Sea. Learn more about the Southern Resident Killer Whales, Bigg's Transient Killer Whales, Minke Whales, and vessel transits. Susie Washington-Smyth and Sanjiv Shrivastava from Saturna Island Marine Research Education Society (SIMRES) will be making a report on the informative and surprising findings of the Saturna Sighters Citizen Science project which is working to establish a baseline count of whales in the center of the Salish Sea.

See ad on page 35.

We are recruiting sighters living on Pender Island who reside along the coast, to record sightings to help with this research. A training session will be organized with SIMRES. Please contact us if you are interested in learning more at info@penderpod.ca.

The Pender Ocean Defenders' Facebook page has been active since 2014 and continues to provide the latest news on how to save our orcas. Our website, Penderpod.ca has information on our organization and ongoing activities.

Julia Nicholls and PenderPodlings



Taeven's sample tile

Royal Canadian Legion

Branch 239

Legion  Our heartfelt gratitude to all the 2020 volunteers who contributed to keeping the Legion operating. We could not have done it without you!

Shirley Arthur, Tony Bachmeier, Vicki Bachmeier, Charles Baker, Anne Burdett, Diane Cuthbert, Bill Critchley, Colin Denton, Jean Deschenes, Teresa Dyck, Gail Forsyth, Tim Frick, Jamie Graham, Angie Gray, Mike Gray, Shane Greenall, Marian Haime, Dean Harris, Joanne Harisson, Dale Henning, Natasia Ilkiw, Tannis Kirby, Martin Kerins, Ian MacGregor, Brian and Sue Morton, Ken Pelley, Barb Pender, John Pender, Melody Pender, Kathy Reich, Laurie Rupert, Dave Schissler, Tania Schissler, Terry Shepherd, Dave Sherman, Annie Smith, Katrina Smith, Linda Swanson, Neil Smith, Pamella Smith, Ally Tammemagi, Hans Tammemagi, Carol Tonnellier, Garth Train, Laurel Villa, Roy Villa, Art Van Vliet, Tracy White, Tom Wyborn.

We are pleased to announce that we received \$11,919 in COVID-19 relief financial assistance from Veterans Affairs Canada, via Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) Dominion Command, to help cope with pandemic challenges. The funds are used for operating expenses, and have taken our Branch out of a loss position for 2020.

Our Legion Branch is a crucial part of our community, helping to serve Veterans and their families, promote Remembrance, and support the community. The Royal Canadian Legion was founded in 1925 and is Canada's largest Veteran support and community service organization. We are a non-profit organization with a national reach across Canada as well as branches in the US, Europe, and Mexico. With close to 260,000 members, many of whom volunteer an extraordinary amount of time to their branches, our strength is in our numbers.

To keep our strength in numbers, please renew your membership, or become a new member. Everyone is welcome. Membership dues for 2021 are \$55.

You can renew, or join, on the *legion.ca* website, mail a cheque to the Legion, drop off a cheque to the Legion folder in the Community Box, or send an e-transfer to finance239.rcl@gmail.com. Your 2021 member card sticker will be mailed to you.

Please check our website to get updates for Friday Night Dinners, Meat Draws and other events at penderislandrcl239.com. Weekly emails are sent to members and anyone who has requested to receive the emails. Please send a request to branch239.rcl@gmail.com if you would like to join the email list.

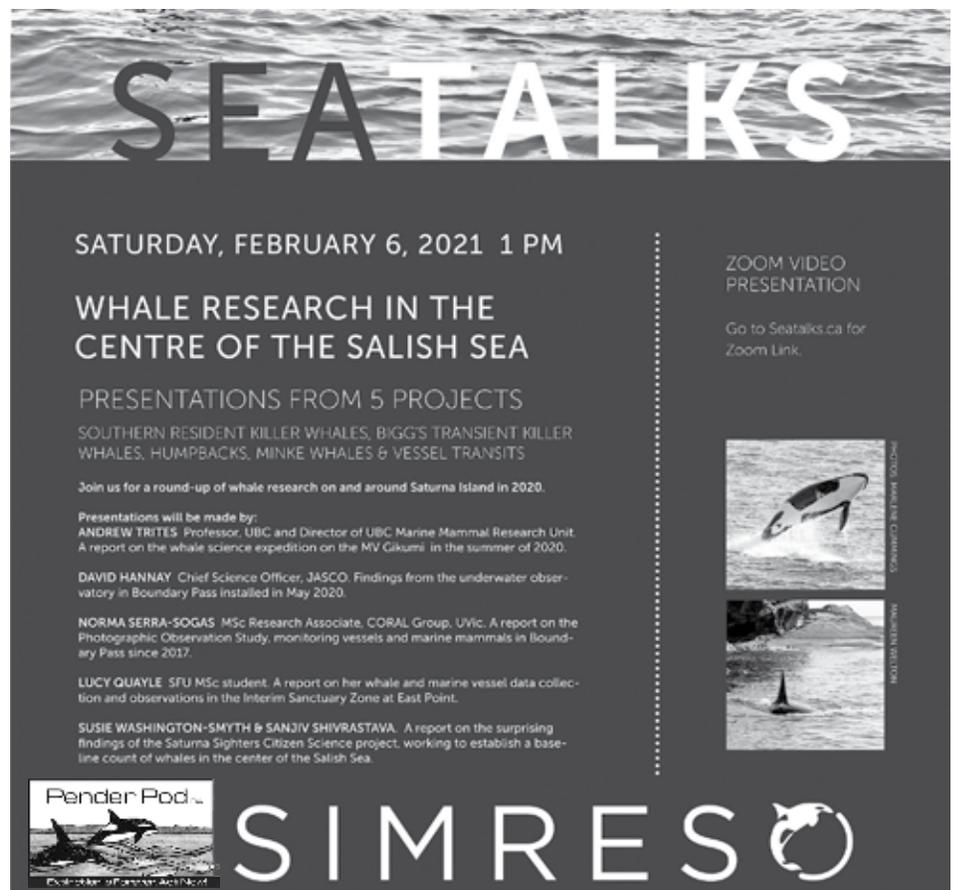
We are offering Friday night takeout dinners when volunteer cooks and crew are available. A dinner requires a cook and a minimum of four crew. If you have a favourite meal you like to cook for your family and friends, why not cook it at the Legion? We will do the food shopping, and the kitchen crew will help you with preparing, cooking, packaging, and clean-up. We can make your small servings recipe turn into 40 servings, no problem! In addition, you will receive the guidance and expertise of our famous resident Chef, John

Pender! Free cooking school! Not confident to be the "cook"? Please consider volunteering as a crew. All our volunteers are fun, and safe, to work with, and your dinner is free!

Don't miss the *Chili Cook Off, Battle of Pender Restaurants!* Thank you for chili donation entries from El Faro Fusion, Jo's Place, Poets Cove Resort & Spa - Syrens, Port Browning Marina Resort, Southridge Country Store, and Vanilla Leaf Bakery Cafe. Friday take out dinner, February 26, 2021. Six chili portions for voting, salad, garlic bread, and dessert for \$20. Register early - it will be a sell out! See ad on **page 53**.

Another initiative to help keep the Legion operating, and serve our members and patrons, like many Legions across Canada, we are considering leasing our kitchen. Operating days and hours of operation are flexible. If you are interested, and would like more information, please contact Ken Pelley at ken.pelley@gmail.com.

Due to COVID-19 and RCL Command restrictions there have been no general meetings for members to attend and, therefore, no annual Executive elections.



SEATALKS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2021 1 PM

WHALE RESEARCH IN THE CENTRE OF THE SALISH SEA

PRESENTATIONS FROM 5 PROJECTS

SOUTHERN RESIDENT KILLER WHALES, BIGG'S TRANSIENT KILLER WHALES, HUMPBACKS, MINKE WHALES & VESSEL TRANSITS

Join us for a round-up of whale research on and around Saturna Island in 2020.

Presentations will be made by:

- ANDREW TRITES: Professor, UBC and Director of UBC Marine Mammal Research Unit. A report on the whale science expedition on the MV Gikuaus in the summer of 2020.
- DAVID HANNAY: Chief Science Officer, JASCO. Findings from the underwater observatory in Boundary Pass installed in May 2020.
- NORMA SERRA-SOGAS: MSc Research Associate, CORAL Group, UVic. A report on the Photographic Observation Study, monitoring vessels and marine mammals in Boundary Pass since 2017.
- LUCY QUAYLE: SFU MSc student. A report on her whale and marine vessel data collection and observations in the Interim Sanctuary Zone at East Point.
- SUSIE WASHINGTON-SMYTH & SANJIV SHIVRASTAVA. A report on the surprising findings of the Saturna Sighters Citizen Science project, working to establish a baseline count of whales in the center of the Salish Sea.

 **SIMRES** 

Existing Executive members have been requested to remain in their position until elections can be safely conducted. Executives for 2021 are: President, Jean Deschenes; Past President, Bill Critchley; Vice President, Colin Denton; Secretary, Terry Shepherd; Treasurer, Gail Forsyth; and Executive-at-Large Charles Baker, Marian Haime, Dale Henning, Ian MacGregor, Ken Pelley, Dave Sherman.

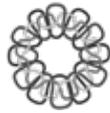
Thank you to the Executive for keeping your positions and continuing to support the Legion with your expertise.

The only Executive change for 2021 is Angie Gray, Treasurer. Gail Forsyth has accepted an appointment from the Executive to take this position. Thank you, Gail. If you know Angie, you know she has many hats. Taking care of the administration of our Pender Island School and other obligations with our School District, operating the Tru Value grocery store with her husband Mike, and wife and mother, among many other things - and giving time for the Legion! We are very grateful for the expertise and competence Angie has contributed while on the Executive over the years,

both as Secretary and Treasurer. Angie will continue to be a strong supporter and volunteer of the Legion. Thanks Angie! Thanks to everyone for supporting your Legion.

Jean Deschenes, President

Community Resource Centre



Hello and welcome to February! The SGI Community Resource Center has started 2021 off with a bang. This month we are focusing on virtual activities to get everyone through the winter lockdown months and provide opportunities for social interaction. Want to learn new technology skills and keep your brain sharp? Sign up for the Computer Savvy Seniors programming for February and connect with likeminded seniors across all islands. Are you a senior or youth looking to make new friends and volunteer? Join the Across the Ages virtual buddy program and make friends with a neighbour. Read further for more information on these programs and many more.

Also, we would like to take this time to extend our heartfelt thanks to anyone who has volunteered their time and effort to any of the many programs benefiting our island communities. Thank you also to all people who continue to take COVID guidelines seriously. As a community, we can work together to keep everyone safe.

Computer Savvy Seniors

Bored in Lockdown? The SGI Community Resource Centre is offering virtual 2-hour instructor-led courses on Zoom focusing on tech related topics. Priority is for seniors 55+ but everyone is welcome. Learn the basics of Cybersecurity, research online effectively, write your own autobiography, use Spotify to share music with your family. Check our website for a full course list and sign up form www.sgicommunityresources.ca/css-courses/. See ad on page 41.

Leadership for the Earth

We host biweekly in-person, at-a-distance, outdoor and environmental leadership activities for youth ages 13-18, including outdoor living skills, environmental awareness, and food and farming skills. We also offer virtual and remote resources through a monthly newsletter. Please email Ellie at picommunityhall@gmail.com for more information and to sign up. Meet-ups: Friday, February 12 and 26 at 2 pm.

Across the Ages

Across the Ages is a program to foster intergenerational connection on the Southern Gulf Islands, run as a collaboration between the SGI CRC and Pender Community Hall. We are recruiting youth community members (19 and under) and senior community members (55+) across Southern Gulf Island communities to participate in a virtual storytelling program. Email Ellie at picommunityhall@gmail.com if you would like to sign up.

SGI Community Justice Program

The Community Justice Program hosted its second Community Conversation on January 13. This time, 20 community members "circled" around their various devices and examined the topic, "What makes a good neighbour?" The circle started with participants sharing stories

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on interactions with neighbours that went well. We next examined the elements of those interactions that made them successful. With each round of the circle, we examined how these elements could be applied in a wider context. These Community Conversations are proving to fill a vital gap in island communication. At first, we weren't sure circles would work virtually, but they really do! Our next Community Conversation will be on Wednesday, February 24 at 7 pm. The topic will be, *What makes a supportive, inclusive community?* Please reserve your seat at sgicjp@shaw.ca by February 21. We look forward to talking with you. See ad on **page 41**.

Pender Island Kindness Program

Throughout the pandemic, the CRC has been busy providing Island's residents who are in mandatory isolation, self isolation, vulnerable seniors/individuals, and those with mobility challenges,, with a food delivery program in partnership with Tru Value Foods. Volunteer shoppers and drivers are responsible for the success of this program. Our delivery service takes place on Wednesday evenings. If you would like more information, please contact orderonpender@gmail.com or phone the Hotline at 629-3665.

The CRC is providing Emergency Relief to applicants who have financial challenges related to the pandemic. Approved applicants will receive Tru Value Gift Cards in denominations ranging from \$50-\$200, or micro-grants up to \$500. Please pick up an application form at the CRC Office in the Driftwood or from the Community Box at Dockside Realty in the Driftwood (in the Community Resource Centre file).

The Pender Island CRC Office has Legion face-masks for sale, at \$10 each. We have small and large sizes. Cash, e-transfer to sgicrc@shaw.ca, or cheque made out to Royal Canadian Legion Branch 239 accepted. The Pender Island Legion has also provided free hand sanitizer for organizations - just drop in during regular hours and pick one up while supplies last.

The CRC Office has tablets available for Island Savings online banking transactions. Using the installed app,

local residents can deposit cheques, pay bills, and transfer funds as long as they have an Island Savings account. Our tablets are also available for PANS sign-up, and for Work-BC job related research.

As we continue to hunker down during our COVID-19 winter, your CRC is assembling some fun distraction kits with activities for young children and for seniors in lockdown. Look for details on the SGI CRC Facebook page, and on the SGI CRC website at www.sgicommunityresources.ca/.

SGI Non-profit Leaders Network

The monthly meetup is a place for SGI Non-profit Leaders to have a place to discuss issues and trends, and connect with each other. With no agenda, topics are diverse, meaningful, and very valuable for those in attendance. The next meeting will be held February 4 at 10:30. For more information or to register, email sgivolunteercentre@gmail.com.

Melody Pender

RECREATION AND LEISURE

Pender Island Garden Club



Well despite the fact that many of our members, myself included, had not used Zoom before we are all getting pretty proficient after two Garden Club meetings using Zoom. Our last meeting was with Trevor Erikson, who gave a very informative and easy to follow presentation on growing veggies and flowers from seed. He must surely

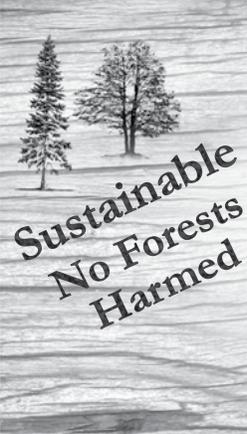
have the most understanding wife on Pender as he turns his kitchen into a greenhouse as he pots up the seedlings. The presentation was followed with a Q and A session and that showed up one flaw in the Zoom meetings. After the meeting was over and everyone signed off, I thought of two questions I wanted to ask and I am sure I was not the only one. With in-person meetings, we usually had tea or coffee after the meeting so you had time to speak with the presenter and time to get in the last minute questions. Hopefully someday we can return to our original format. I do encourage people to play with your view options as I had a view of Trevor's presentation but had 4 pictures of members covering a corner of it. After playing with the view options I got a side by side which allowed me to not only see the presentation but also see Trevor doing the presentation, a view I had not found before. This was much more enjoyable than just seeing the presentation with a disembodied voice.

Depending on the COVID-19 restrictions and weather, we hope to have an outdoor meeting at the Community Hall in April and combine that with a plant sale. Watch this space and Kathy's emails for more information on that.

On February 11 at 1 pm we will have another Zoom meeting, this time with the bee man Barry Denluck who will speak to us about these so important pollinators. Get your coffee and tea cups ready and see you on February 11.

Val Butcher





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Pender Island Junior Sailing Association

PIJSA



Despite the restrictions and disappointment of this second COVID-19 wave, PIJSA Board is planning to give sailing courses this summer. Optimistically, vaccination should have reached a significant proportion of the population, and kids, their parents, and grandparents will be looking for summer activities.

As sailing is an outside sport, it is safer, but the biggest problem is when a dinghy has more than one person in it. If the other person is a household member, then essentially no problem is presented; if the people in the boat are a social bubble, then the problem is diminished; but if the person is unrelated, a potential problem exists. PIJSA will abide by the recommendations of BCSail, who provide the specific interpretation of the public health advice.

In order to help plan for the summer, PIJSA needs to understand the potential demand for sailing courses. The following are being considered: Beginners course, Level 1 & 2, for students older than 9 years of age; Advance Course, Level 3 & 4 for students with Level 2 standing and 12 years of age or older; and fun sailing for students who have at least Level 1. Levels 1 & 2, because of the boats we have, require students to sail in groups of 2 or 3; Levels 3 and 4 should sail in single-handed boats, but in the past, PIJSA has used some Laser 2s that usually have two sailors.

At present, PIJSA has made an assumption that fewer will be interested in participating in one-week sailing courses, but we could be wrong. Currently, the plan is to offer courses for Levels 1 & 2 in the last two weeks of July and Levels 3 & 4 in the first two weeks of August. In addition, we may be able to offer supervised fun sailing: those with Level 1 or higher in the first two weeks of August using dinghies that may require 2 crew, and for those with at least Level 2 in the last two weeks of July using primarily single-handed boats. Cost of the courses with instructors will be \$175; the fun sailing

courses may be cheaper.

If you think that you or a child is interested in taking sailing this summer, PIJSA will have a short questionnaire on our website, penderislandjuniorsailing.com. The information we ask is: who is the student; what level of course; which week; can the student sail with other family taking the course (and with whom); can the student sail with someone who is likely to be in their bubble(who); if it is permitted, would the student (or parent, etc) be comfortable with them sailing with a person who is new to them. Last, if some week other than the above is preferable, let us know. Normally, PIJSA has mixed up crews and avoided family members sailing together; this year we expect if students are sailing together, they will be together all week. In addition, a student would use the same boat and equipment, and keep their PFD all week. Boats will likely be put and spaced out on the beach all week to avoid the daily exertion (and close contact) of moving the boats each day to and from the beach.

If you need more information, or if you want to respond to the above questions without going to the web site, please email infoPIJSA@shaw.ca. Those who respond with details about names, levels, and dates, will be given the first opportunity to register when a decision is made. If the response indicates that more courses are needed, PIJSA will try to address this. We look forward to hearing from you.

Bruce Waygood, Commodore

Pender Island Otters Swim Club



January has flown by, and we are already having to start thinking about our AGM, but no date has been set yet. It will probably be in early March, and via Zoom again, as we are not yet at the point of having in-person meetings, and let's face it, the weather is not dependable to do outdoor socially distanced meetings. But, in short, we started off the new year with a few more swimmers than last fall, and we still have room for a few more, if there are any others who would like to join us. Our lanes are restricted to having

a maximum of three swimmers per lane because of COVID-19 protocols for safety, so we can't yet expand beyond 15 swimmers per hour, of our two hour session. Our first hour has room for more, but it is getting pretty well full in the second hour. We swim 12 - 1 pm and 1 - 2 pm. If you have any questions, please contact us at penderottersswimclub@gmail.com or to register, please go to our web page at www.penderislandotters.webs.com and follow the link to the registration page. It is so great to be back in the pool, and those swimming now are really enjoying the coaching, or just having a chance to get a whole bunch of laps in. That is it for now, and we will announce the Annual General Meeting date in the next month's report.

Helen Lemon-Moore, President

Pender Island Yacht Club



The New Year has brought out more boats for the weekly racing. Dave Reed in *Baccarat* has rejoined the group, and Lauren Mann and Mike Matys in *Petrouchka* are new to our group. Two races have been held since the Christmas break: January 9 and 17. Both races were held under current COVID-19 regulations; boats must be single-handed or crewed by household members. On January 9, nine boats participated. The race involved going from Shingle Bay to the can buoy (U51) that is near Mayne Island's ferry terminal, then around the beacon marking Enterprise Reef, then over to the buoy (UN) in front of the Channel Islands, and back to Shingle Bay. The wind was initially good, but died as the afternoon progressed, causing three boats not to finish. The race was won by Patrick Cramond in *Avocet*. *Baccarat* was the runner-up.

The next week, the race on Saturday was postponed to Sunday as the forecast had poor winds for Saturday and good winds for Sunday, January 17. Eventually, the winds on Sunday were forecasted to die after noon, which did happen. It was decided to hold a short race, which involved going from Shingle Bay around the Channel Islands and back. Four of the seven boats managed to complete

the race by about 12:30 pm while the others suffered from the lack of wind. This race was also won by *Avocet*, and *Gadgets* captained by Charlie Eigl was the runner-up.

Bruce Waygood, Race Captain

COVER STORY



This year heralds a different kind of Valentine's Day, with the world continuing to be in the grip of COVID-19. For the most part, we Canadians seem to be following the rules and, for the most part, seem to be making strides. But the pandemic has changed the way we do almost everything, with even simple events like gathering with friends now requiring a head count, distance measuring, masks and meeting the challenge of ever-changing Public Health measures.

On a positive note, I am in daily email contact with old friends, friends with whom I rarely communicated when "life was so busy." I now realize what a flimsy excuse that was! For months now I have enjoyed the sharing of jokes, cartoons and, of course, many well-deserved pot shots at Trump. Often little snippets of pure communication in some emails remind me that these old friends are special people with whom I have shared important parts of my life. When life eventually settles into its "new normal," I plan to maintain some of my new habits and renewed contacts.

A look at our February cover by Corinne McAuley quickly reminds me that we have not yet established our "new normal," and events like St. Valentine's Day must be re-jigged for our present reality. Be sure to tell your loved ones that they are more special today than ever. Walk one of Pender's beautiful trails, go for a sail, or boat ride if possible, or, like so many have done over the past year, Zoom your special friends and relatives. St. Valentine's Day is special because we make it so.

In case I have given you the impression that I have handled the pandemic resourcefully and successfully, I haven't. Just like many, I can slip into meaningless time wasting. For example, when I received the draft of the cover of the February issue of *The Pender Post*, I soon found myself counting the number of hearts or heart fragments on the cover! How is that for a meaningless event? I counted those damn hearts five times and came up with the same total only three times. Go ahead. Try it and, of course, let me know your answer. The number is a matter of interest but is not this month's quiz. The real quiz question...What the heck is the solo butterfly doing on *The Pender Post* cover amidst all those hearts?

Mike Wiley

PENDER POST PAST



February 1991

A quick look through the calendar for February 1991 shows the new Library meeting room was getting a lot of use, with community groups booking it for various events. Bob's Driftwood Café and Wine Bar published a schedule of events where Sunday was Seniors day, Tuesday Kids day, Wednesday Seniors day, Thursday was Teens day where teens got half price poutine and a big screen action movie. Nice to see the Island teens being treated to an event of their own. Environmental awareness started early on Pender as the Pender Island Farmers' Institute asked people

coming to their meetings to bring their own mugs and cups to do away with styrofoam. The Fall Fair committee had decided to accept the challenge of a garbage-free Fall Fair and they were coordinating with the Recycling Depot to make it happen. The Legion and Port Browning were planning Valentine's Day dinners. Join me next month to find out what happened in March, 1991.

Val Butcher

WEATHER OBSERVATIONS

December is statistically our snowiest month and it always rains a lot in December, January, and February; this is winter. We have experienced only eight Decembers in the last 34 when we had less than 100 mm of precipitation and only one December with less than 50 mm. In December 2020 we received more than the average amount of rain and one day of modest snowfall which brought our total precipitation above average for December. Much of the rain came in the last week of the year. It was a white Christmas, because there was still a trace of snow on the ground on Christmas Day, but it had all gone by morning on December 26.

December 2020 was very mild. Our average daily minimum temperature was much warmer than usual and the temperature dropped below zero only once.

The Winter Solstice is called the shortest day of the year. The actual day and time depends upon Longitude and the change from decreasing daylight to increasing daylight is gradual, so we did not see any dramatic change on December 22. For about three weeks there is hardly any change and the duration of daylight on January 1 is only a few minutes longer than on December 1, but daylight is increasing as we move into spring. Coincidentally on the day of the 2020 winter solstice there was a conjunction with the planets Jupiter and Saturn being so close together that they looked like one bright star. Unfortunately it was too cloudy on the night of the Solstice to see this phenomenon which was last visible 600 years ago, however these planets were still quite close together two days later when the sky was clear.

WEATHER OBSERVATIONS FOR DECEMBER 2020

	Average Temperatures			Extreme Temperature		Precipitation		
	Max	Min	Mean	High	Low	Rain	Snow	Total
Magic Lake	7.8	4.2	6.0	11.5 on 4 th & 9 th	-1.0 on 24 th	159.0	8.0	167.0
Normal	7.0	2.6	4.8	15.0 in 2014	-11.5 in 1990	119.8	9.8	129.6

Comparing 2020 with average annual temperatures and precipitation since 1987:

	Annual Average Temperatures			Extreme Temperatures		Precipitation		
	High	Low	Mean	High	Low	Rain	Snow	Total
2020	15.0	7.0	11.0	34.0	-7.0	943.9	39.4	983.3
1987 - 2020	14.9	7.0	10.5	35.0	-12.5	831.9	31.0	862.9

Weather Observation Continued

February is still part of our wet season and even March is usually very wet. The only dry Februaries we have had were 1993 and 2003 with less than 20 mm in each of these months and no snow. We had a high temperature of 16°C in February 1990 but the average daily maximum for February has been about 8.5°C. In February 2020 the average daily maximum temperature was unusually low at 4.2°C. At the low end of the thermometer, in February 1989 I read a minimum temperature of -12.5°C and that is the lowest I have ever recorded on Pender Island in any month. February is the month with the lowest average daily minimum temperature, namely +2.4°C. We have had snow in 15 of the last 34 Februaries. It was four years ago that there was ice on Magic Lake thick enough for skating, but that was in January and most of it had melted by February; all this reminds us that winter is not over yet but it soon will be.

As usual I have summarised the average of observations over the 34 years that I have been a voluntary observer for Environment Canada and these can be compared with the 2020 statistics. This federal government department is now called Environment and Climate Change, Canada.

There is no doubt that Climate is changing and in some parts of the world it is more apparent than in others. It seems that any unusual or extreme event is now attributed to climate change or global warming, but there have always been extreme weather events, such as heat waves, cyclones, floods, and forest fires. With or without climate change

we must always be vigilant to prevent fires and it is a good idea to have a container to save water when there is plenty of it; Magic Lake filled up in a few weeks from its summer level to the point when it overflows into the ocean. The statistics from my weather observations show that climate change is having little or no local effect on us on Pender Island. Our temperatures are not rising or falling and our rainfall is not increasing or decreasing. For example, the high average daily minimum temperature in December 2020 was similar to December 2019, but the same as December 1997 and 1999; readings go up and down with no trend.

The average daily minimum temperature of all months in every year shows no trend; the highest figures were in 1992, 1998 and 2016.

The average daily maximum temperatures for December had high values in 1991, 1997, 2002, 2005, and 2018. The high and low values of daily average maximum temperatures for all months in every year occurred randomly throughout the last 34 years with very little variation.

December precipitation varies over the years with no trend. December 2020 was our fifth wettest December after 1996, 1998, 2007 and 2008. In some years there are extreme weather events: for example, 1996 was the year of highest total precipitation on Pender Island and was also the year of most snow thanks to 96 cm of snow in December of that year. Also we had very low minimum temperatures that year in January and in December.

Maximum temperatures do not show any trend. In 1988 we had a maximum temperature of 33°C and temperatures in excess of this are uncommon, and rarely last longer than a few days and only in July and August.

Extreme minimum temperatures are also random in their occurrence. In February 1998 we had -12.5°C, in December 1990 there was a low of -1.5°C, in December 1996, -8.5°C in November 2006, -8.5°C and in January 2020 we had a low of -7.0°C.

Total annual precipitation is always of interest, but it only takes one month of the year to boost the annual total above average. There have been five years when our total precipitation has exceeded 1000 mm and five years (including 2020) when we came close to 1000 mm. The lowest total precipitation was 664 mm in 1989 and the second lowest was in 2013, but high and low values have occurred randomly over 34 years and the years of very high total precipitation all have one or two months of unusually high precipitation. There have been twelve months in which we had more than 200 mm of precipitation from 1990 to 2020, including a record 339 mm in November 2006.

We must all observe medical recommendations and regulations to help get rid of COVID-19. No large gatherings on St Valentine's Day! Just two people. When I first came to North America, I could not understand the practice of giving everyone a Valentine card; I was used to it being a romantic occasion and originally it was supposed to be anonymous.

Malcolm Armstrong

SGI Community Justice Program Presents Community Discussion #3

WHAT MAKES A SUPPORTIVE & INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY?

Join our Zoom conversation
on February 24 at 7pm

Email us at sgicjp@shaw.ca
by February 21 to reserve your 'seat'



Southern Gulf
Islands Community
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Southern Gulf Islands
Community Justice
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All ages welcome
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New course list for February!

Learn the basics of **cybersecurity**, and **researching** online effectively. Write your own **autobiography**, use **spotify** to share music with your friends and family, and much more!

Check our website for full course list and sign up form www.sgicommunityresources.ca/css-courses/



NUMBERS PUZZLE MCA #3 BY MALCOLM ARMSTRONG

Rules and Tips

If you found MCA #2 too easy, you will find this one to be more difficult, but next month, #4 will be easier. A tip: do not go too fast, check each entry in all directions, especially when it seems to be going easily. Too fast is when you are likely to make a mistake and not discover it until later.

MCA #3 has 26 squares occupied and to complete the puzzle you must fill in the remaining 55 squares. There must be only one number from 1 to 9 in each horizontal row, only one number 1 to 9 in each vertical column and only one number, 1 to 9 in each block of nine squares.

There is more than one correct solution to these puzzles, but you will know if you have got it right if your solution complies with the rules set out here.
Malcolm Armstrong

		9			6	2			
		5						1	
7				4		8	3		9
			8			7			
4					2		9		
	7					4		3	1
				5			7		
			3				9		8
5					6				

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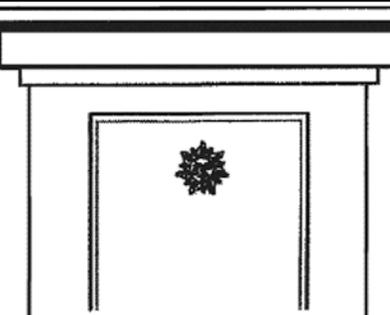
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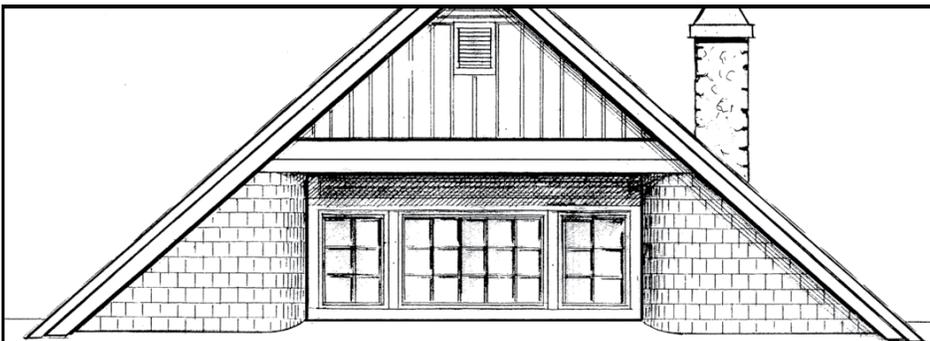


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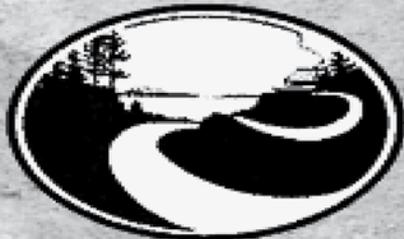
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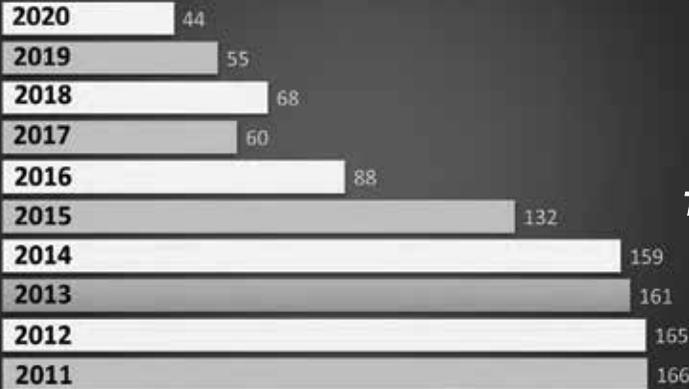
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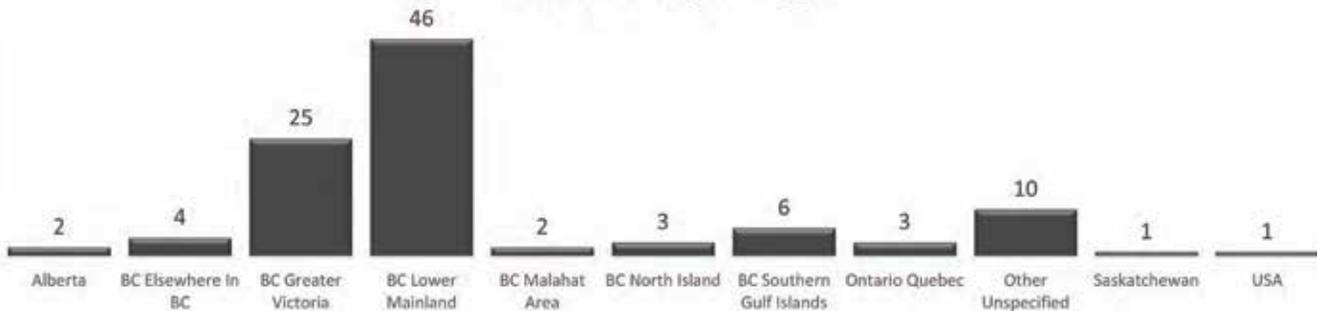
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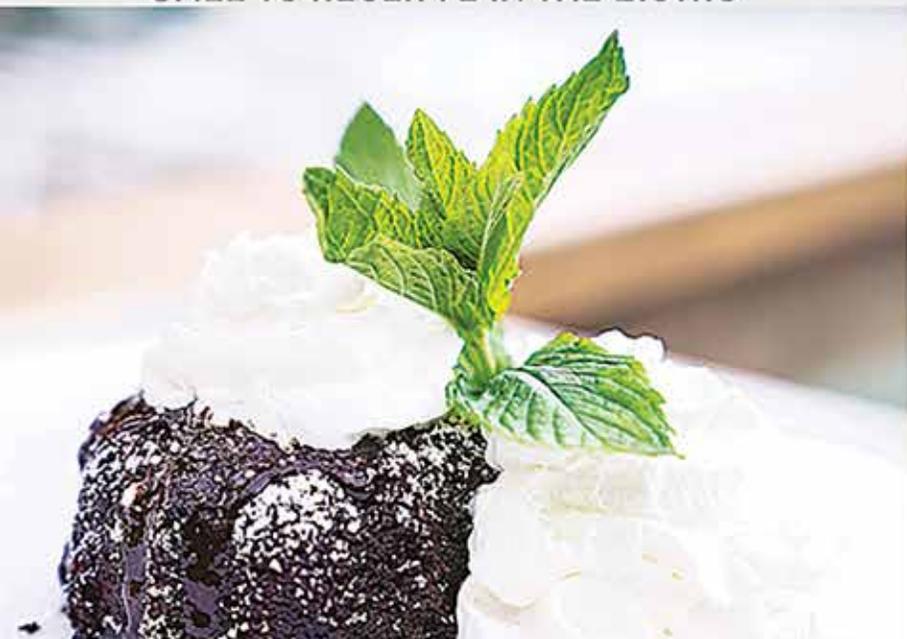


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Once purchased, we will begin the work to protect the land in perpetuity through a conservation covenant and long-term management plan. S,DÁYES Flycatcher Forest will first and foremost be an ecological preserve, meaning ecological health and preservation of biodiversity will always be our highest priorities. If you are interested in learning more, visit our organization websites or the Nature Centre in person at Hope Bay.

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