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

HARBOUR SPIEL

DECEMBER 2008
ISSUE 216



A controversial new power industry
dawns on the Sunshine Coast

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Dec 26th...10 am - 5 pm

Dec 31...9 am - 6 pm

Jan 1...10 am - 5pm

HARBOUR SPIEL



The Independent Voice
of Pender Harbour &
Egmont since 1990

The *Harbour Spiel* is published monthly by Paq Press © 2008. Circulation is 2000, Egmont to Halfmoon Bay. The *Harbour Spiel* is 100% locally owned and operated, published without the assistance of federal, provincial or regional government grants.

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Brian Lee.

CONTRIBUTORS

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Unless otherwise credited, all photos taken by Brian Lee.

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EDITORIAL

Food bank offers good rate of return

By Brian Lee



As Christmas approaches I'm struck by some rare thoughts about our local food bank.

Many people may not even know we have one and I have to admit that I don't usually give much thought to its role in the community.

Occasionally I'll realize I picked up the wrong kind of soup and, to save myself a trip back to the canned goods aisle, I'll drop it in the box at the IGA.

But for the most part the food bank seldom registers in my daily routine.

It's a quiet little charity.

It operates without SCRD support or grant funding and all that is required to make use of the service is need.

Ron and Wendy Phillips volunteer their time to collect food donated through local businesses and private donations. They set up at the Pender Harbour Community Church to hand it out each month.

They also faithfully send me updates to the Community Calendar for pick-up times — which, inciden-

tally, are on Dec. 8 and Dec. 24 this month.

It's an important part of the community at any time and could be especially so this year.

You usually don't think about how close to the street many people are until someone you know is laid off.

With the volume of debt most of us carry these days, it's likely you too are only a few missed pay-cheques from moving in with the parents... or the kids.

But what if you don't have that safety net?

The economic burp we're experiencing right is a reminder that homelessness and poverty are all around us — all the time.

Surely the strain on the food bank's supply is going up this month and they could use your help.

If it's true that it's better to give than to receive, then a donation to the food bank just may be the best antidote to our own financial worries.



Errata: "On the Trail of Snails" (October 2008 issue, p. 18): Jason Gregory filed an action against the school board — not his mom. Apologies to the Gregory family for any distress this may have caused. -- Ed.

SERENDIPITY PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR — NOV. 29

Ignore the ad that was wrong in last month's Spiel! Come out to the Pender Harbour Community Hall on Saturday Nov. 29. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 27 different artisans and crafts people will be set up selling all kinds of original items. Beverages and food on hand as well as child activity services.

SECOND ANNUAL PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER — DEC. 7

The second annual Christmas Community Club dinner will be held on Dec. 7, 2008. Doors will open at 4 p.m. for crafts for kids (between 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.). Dinner will be served from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. It is potluck or foodbank donation. Everyone is welcome. Plus, Santa will be there!

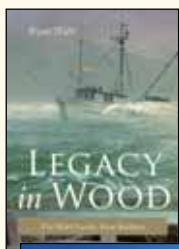
P. H. & EGMONT WILDLIFE SOCIETY'S CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT — DEC. 17

Join the Pender Harbour Christmas Bird count from dawn to dusk on Wednesday, Dec. 17. Led by expert birders, anyone can join a group to count every bird seen by species on the water, on playing fields or backyards in the Pender-Egmont area. Just phone Dr. John Field @ 883-9958 or register your feeder or waterfront observations by leaving your name and phone number with Joe Harrison at (604) 883-9958 or e-mail: jhrsn@dcnet.com. We will get back to you with expert help on identification and have a team visit you on count day.



NEW BOOKS FROM HARBOUR PUBLISHING

Pender Harbour's book publisher • www.harbourpublishing.com

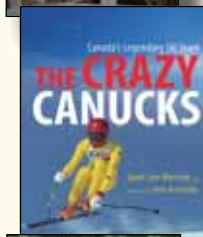
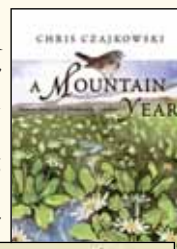


LEGACY IN WOOD
The Wahl Family Boat Builders
Ryan Wahl

The story of an early 20th-century BC shipwright, Ed Wahl, who created the most successful wooden fishboat building enterprise on the north coast.
\$32.95 hardcover

A MOUNTAIN YEAR
Nature Diary of a Wilderness Dweller
Chris Czajkowski

A beautifully produced book full of original paintings, sketches and diary entries, offering an awe-inspiring glimpse into the life of this independent spirit.
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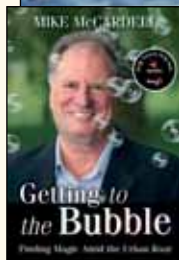
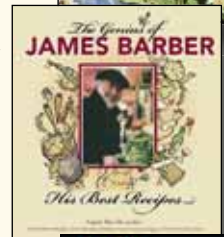


THE CRAZY CANUCKS
Canada's Legendary Ski Team
Janet Love Morrison

Morrison chronicles the grit and perseverance of the young Canadian skiers who believed they had the right stuff to win and keep on winning.
\$34.95 hardcover

THE GENIUS OF JAMES BARBER
His Best Recipes
James Barber

Some of Barber's most distinguished fans get together to collect James' greatest recipes and talk about what his art meant to them.
\$26.95 paperback

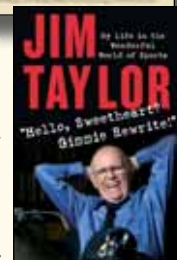


GETTING TO THE BUBBLE
Finding Magic Amid the Urban Roar
Mike McCardell

Bestselling author and Global BC news broadcaster Mike McCardell shares his unique point of view.
\$32.95 hardcover

"HELLO, SWEETHEART? GIMMIE REWRITE!"
My Life in the Wonderful World of Sports
Jim Taylor

Taylor, one of Canada's most loved sports writers, looks back at a half century of sitting on the sidelines with "the kings and queens of second-guess."
\$32.95 hardcover



Available at bookstores everywhere, including Harbour Spirit and the IGA.

School board and SCRD election serve up change for Area A

Results of the Nov. 15 municipal election served up some change for residents of Area A with 36 per cent of eligible voters taking part.

Eric Graham won the position of Area A director by a comfortable margin with 63 per cent of the vote and will officially assume the role on Dec. 4.

Graham received 476 votes to beat opponent Geoff Craig who received 278.

Graham says he had scrutineers at the Madeira Park and Garden Bay polling stations who waited for the ballots to be counted.

He received news of his victory by phone Saturday evening at his

campaign headquarters in the Garden Bay Pub.

Lori Fielding was the lucky one in the Area 1 school board race beating incumbent Mary Bittroff by taking 68 per cent of ballots cast..

Fielding defeated Bittroff 811 votes to 386.

RESULTS OF ELECTION FOR AREA A DIRECTOR

Name	Advance voting	Egmont (ECH)	Garden Bay (RVYC)	Madeira Park (PHCH)	Total
Craig	25	31	43	179	278
Graham	46	14	126	290	476
Total	71	45	169	469	754
# of voters from voters list	67	39	143	433	682
# of voters that were new registrations	4	6	26	36	72
Totals	71	45	169	469	754



Pender Harbour Power & Sail Squadron

Boating Course

**10 Monday evenings starting
Jan. 12: 19.00 - 21.30**

In September 2009, everyone will need the PCOC card to operate a pleasure craft — don't get caught without it!

At the conclusion of the course, you will be eligible for your lifetime PCOC card, your Power Squadron Boating certificate and your first year's membership to the Squadron. You will also be a safer, more informed boater.

Classes are held at the Pender Harbour High School. For details and registration, please contact David Pearson, Squadron Training Officer.

Cost: \$275 per person/\$425 for couples (includes course material)

E-mail: djpearson@dccnet.com  Phone: 604-883-9313

*YOU ARE INVITED TO WENDIE'S
CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE*

5653 Garden Bay Road

**Saturdays & Sundays
Dec. 6&7, 13&14, 20&21,
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Gifts for everyone on your list
(save 10-30% off selected items)**

- Natural handmade bath/body products & gift baskets
- Jewellery, candles, awesome lamps & stocking stuffers
- Ultimate Royal Massage Certificates...and much more

**Bring a friend
Door Prize & Refreshments
Thanks for your community support!**

604-883-9361

Abbeyfield receives more than \$11,000 from two fundraising efforts

Fundraising efforts for the Pender Harbour Abbeyfield House got a much needed boost on Nov. 12.

Abbeyfield representatives Paul Cuppen and Jackie Ordronneau first received a an oversized cheque made out to the Area Seniors' Housing Society for \$7,000 from the proceeds of the Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron's Oktoberfest fundraising dinner.

Cuppen thanked the group assembled and added,

"This year has been our most succesful, as far as community involvement. It's overwhelming."

Immediately after, Janet Thomas presented a cheque for \$4,645.02 from the Pender Harbour and District Health Centre Auxiliary, raised through Bargain Barn sales in October..



Left to right: Paul Cuppen and Jackie Ordronneau of Area A Seniors' Housing Society receive a cheque for \$7,000 from Maureen Luck and Charlie Park of the Pender Harbour Power and Sail Squadron.



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

HEALTH IN MOTION

The Pender Harbour Seals Swim Club
invite you to their first inter-club Swim Meet:
TUESDAY DEC. 16, 3:15 - 5 p.m.
Come and watch our future Olympians! ➔

- **CHRISTMAS FAMILY SWIM:** Tuesday December 16, 6:30-9pm. Come and join in on seasonal activities and games in the pool.
- **HOLIDAY HOURS:** Public Swim 1-4 pm and 6:30-9 pm on December 22, 27, 28, 29, 30 and January 2. Facility closed December 23-26, 31 and January 1. Back to regular program hours beginning Saturday, January 3.



ALL THE STAFF AT THE PHAFC WISH EVERYONE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Watch for our program flyer in the mail late December. Registration for the Winter Session begins January 2.

For our complete schedule of swim times and fitness classes visit us on the web at WWW.SCRD.CA under Services.

(604) 885-6866

St. Andrew's Anglican Church discontinues Sunday services

Parishioners of St. Andrew's Anglican Church will have to travel to Sechelt for Sunday Services now that theirs has been discontinued.

The last service was held Nov. 23.

"Although the parish will still be there, there won't be regular services," said Neil Adams, communication officer with the New Westminster diocese of the Anglican Church.

Adams said the congregation was too small to support a priest.

The congregation has 12 full-time members with four to five part-time community members.

Community groups will still use the building but parishioners willing to travel will likely attend St. Hilda's Anglican Church in Sechelt for Sunday services.

The number of parishioners has stayed steady since a portion of their congregation split off in 2004.

Reverend Barclay Mayo and more than half of St. Andrew's parishioners left in a well-publicized split over the Anglican Church of Canada's decision to endorse same-sex marriage.

Mayo was ordained as a missionary priest of the Anglican Church of Rwanda and formed Christ the Redeemer Church.

The Christ the Redeemer congregation now worships at a new church



St. Andrew's Anglican Church faces an uncertain future.

building they established near the Pender Harbour High School.

St. Andrew's Pastor Bob Korth took over soon after the split in 2004.

When asked what he and wife Celia will do now he said:

"We had a three-year contract and it's up so we're going back to Vancouver to look for work."

Join the PENDER HARBOUR CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

*Dawn to dusk on
Wednesday, Dec. 17.*



Led by expert birders, anyone can join a group to count every bird seen by species on the water, on playing fields or backyards in the Pender Harbour/Egmont area.

Phone Dr. John Field at 883-9958 or register your feeder or waterfront observations by leaving your name and phone number with Joe Harrison at 883-9958 (e-mail: jhrs@dccnet.com). We will get back to you with expert help on identification and have a team visit you on count day.

Pender Harbour Wildlife Club
meets at the High School
on the third Tuesday of the month

Area A Seniors' Housing Outreach Healthy Meal Program



This season open your hearts to seniors and make a donation to Area A Seniors Housing Project:
BOX 264, MADEIRA PARK, B.C. V0N 2H0

(Tax receipts will be issued.)

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



Ambulances lined up on Halfmoon Bay government wharf on Nov. 16 hoping to receive survivors of a plane crash on Thormanby Island. Out of eight passengers and crew, only one person survived when a Pacific Coastal Airlines Grumman Goose crashed in dense fog. The men were on their way from Vancouver to Plutonic Power's run-of-river project in Toba Inlet.

Creative Coastal Cuisine

Consider this an invitation to dinner.
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(Choices from a Selected Menu)

THE RESTAURANT
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604.883.3000



Amendment proposed to OCP sewage outfall bylaw

Residents packed the Pender Harbour School of Music Nov. 19 to review an application to amend an OCP bylaw regarding sewage outfall.

The developers of Pender Harbour Landing want to re-establish an existing outfall extending 175 metres outside the harbour entrance that formerly served the Irvines Landing Pub and Marina.

The outfall would be shared equally by the vacant Irvine's Landing Pub and Marina property as well as one other residential connection.

Pender Harbour Landing's outfall volume would include sewage from the Sarah Wray Heritage Hall, the result of an offer by the developer that would save the society costs and loss of land associated with building a new septic system at the hall site.

According to environmental consultant Ward Prystay, presenting on behalf of the developer, the effluent will be treated to meet requirements by the SCRDR that are four times more stringent than provincial requirements for sewage discharge.

The proposed zoning bylaw amendment would see changes to Sections 4.1 and 20.6 of the Egmont/Pender Harbour Official Community Plan to allow "sewage ocean outfalls to serve existing and proposed developments."

Currently the OCP stipulates that applications "...will only be considered... to serve existing developments with identified problems."

The amendment states applications considered would be subject to high-quality secondary treatment, appropriate environmental studies and a limit on outfalls to tidal areas able to disperse the effluent effectively.

Realtor Bill Hunsche noted there is a real problem with the failure

of aging septic systems throughout Area A and this amendment would be another tool the SCRDR could utilize in defining a waste management solution for the future.

He sees the bylaw amendment as eventually leading to a community septic system.

Many who attended the meeting were concerned that future ocean outfalls would be granted to new de-

velopments without getting the same scrutiny as this application.

Planner Gregory Gebka said that they could define the bylaw amendment so that it was "site specific" which would require all future proposals to go through the same public process. Gebka assured those attending that SCRDR planners would never approve an outfall within the harbour itself.

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NOW YOU CAN!

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\$199.95.***

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***Offer void where prohibited by law.*



Act now and nab him before your neighbour does!

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT



1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A1

www.scrd.ca

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

(604) 885-6800 (tel)

(604) 885-7909 (fax)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Thursday, December 4, 2008

- 11:30 a.m. Inaugural Board
- 1:30 p.m. Infrastructure Services

Thursday, December 11, 2008

- 1:30 p.m. Planning & Development Committee

Thursday, December 18, 2008

- 10:00 a.m. Special Infrastructure (Watershed) Committee
- 1:30 p.m. Community Services Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Regular Board

DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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

AREA A ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

The December meeting of the Egmont/Pender Harbour Advisory Planning Commission is cancelled. If required, a meeting may be scheduled early in January 2009.

SCRD OFFICE HOURS: CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The SCRD offices in Sechelt and Pender Harbour will be closed on December 25 for the Christmas Holidays and will reopen on Friday January 2, 2009.

LANDFILL CLOSURE: CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY

The Pender Harbour and Sechelt Landfills will be closing at 3:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2008 and New Year's Eve, December 31, 2008.

Both landfills will be closed on Christmas Day, December 25, Boxing Day, December 26 and New Year's Day January 1, 2009.

SCRD SATELLITE OFFICE - AREA A

The SCRD Satellite Office, located at 12828 Lagoon Rd. is open from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday. Services provided include:

- full-time staff providing information and directing inquiries to the right person or source at the SCRD;
- website access to the SCRD;
- water services staff available five days a week.
- building inspectors, available by appointment;
- planning staff, available by appointment;
- building permit applications and other forms available on site; and
- secure drop-off location for plans, applications and other documents.

Phone: 604-885-6877 or Email: info@scrd.ca

Eric Graham assumes Area A regional director position Dec. 4



*By Eric Graham
SCRD Director,
Area A*

I will be sworn in as regional director Dec. 4, at which

time John Rees will retire from this position.

I congratulate John on the hard work he has done for the past six years and I wish him well.

As regional director, I will initially deal with a lot of ongoing work and I'd like to take this opportunity to touch on just a few issues.

WATER

The first, water, is very important to me and most residents of Area A.

I see on the agenda that I have a Water Board Advisory Meeting and an all-day Water Sustainability Workshop to attend (before I even get sworn in).

Concerned Sakinaw Lake property owners contacted me during the campaign and I promised to sit down with them and SCRD staff to discuss their concerns.

People from Middlepoint want a new water supply in their area because of the arsenic problems and I will be looking at what, if anything, can be done.

BUS SERVICE

John has received funding to purchase a bus for Area A.

The main idea is to run the bus from Egmont to Garden Bay, then Madeira, Sechelt, and back to Madeira Park after about a two hour layover, twice a week.

I will ask for three to five volunteers, who are interested in the success of this service, to sit on a committee to recommend the best hours/days of

operation, with at least one from Madeira Park, Garden Bay and Egmont.

Ridership is the magic word. If we don't have enough people using the bus, it will fail when the operating cost cannot be justified.

INCORPORATION

This is another big issue, but it's up to the province (Ministry of Community Development) to approve funding for Phase I of a feasibility study.

If it is approved, the next step is the forming of a Restructure Committee to gain input from the community and hiring of an independent firm to evaluate the pros and cons of two or more scenarios for boundaries and services.

This process, after funding approval, will take two or more years and the final decision is up to the people, in the form of a referendum.

EGMONT GRAVEL PIT

During the campaign, people from the Egmont area contacted me

about the dust and noise coming from the gravel pit. I have been in contact with the manager and he is willing to sit down with me and a few residents to see if something can be done.

THE ECONOMY

The economy is not looking good and job losses are already happening close to home (Construction Aggregates Ltd.) and affecting Area A residents.

Many others are watching their investments take a beating and all of us will have to tighten our belts to ride this out.

So, the last thing we need is higher taxes.

Let's all be careful not to forget what we can afford when we're thinking about what we want.

I represent you at the Sunshine Coast Regional District, so please feel free to contact me with your ideas, concerns and suggestions.

E-mail ericgraham@dccnet.com or telephone 604-883-9061

Jolly Roger Inn
Family Restaurant & Lounge

OPEN THURSDAY TO SUNDAY
LUNCH & DINNER: 11 am - 8 pm
SUNDAY BREAKFAST: 10 am - 2 pm

Merry Christmas!

Closed Dec. 22 - Jan. 8
~Reservations required~
(604) 885-7860

Independent Power Producers: The dawning of a controversial new



photo courtesy of the IPPBC

Run-of-river intake and weir at the 10.5 MW IPP at Furry Creek near Squamish.

By Brian Lee

Most travelling our inlets during the spring are struck by the immense volume of water cascading down steep valleys and rumbling into the chuck.

What most don't realize is that the chances are pretty good that somebody owns a water licence to harness that power.

The independent power industry has snapped up hundreds of water licences throughout BC in response to BC Hydro's call for bids from the private sector for energy production.

They promise to deliver renewable energy to accommodate the province's future growth while providing rural economies with construction jobs and municipal tax dollars.

But not everyone agrees.

British Columbians have historically enjoyed some of the lowest electricity rates in North America thanks to an abundance of — and investment in — hydroelectricity.

Massive dam projects built during the W.A.C. Bennett era have

afforded British Columbians cheap energy based on the actual cost of production while avoiding some of the environmental problems associated with coal-fired energy common in Alberta and south of the border.

But the reservoirs necessary for these damming projects also come with an environmental cost and, as the province's energy needs grew beyond our capacity to produce it, a greener solution was sought.

As the provincial government moves to restructure the energy system to allow private enterprise to contribute to future energy needs, critics are crying foul.

At stake, they say, is the crown asset, BC Hydro and our most valuable resource, hydro energy.

2002 BC ENERGY PLAN

BC has been a net importer of electricity for more than six years. At least 15 per cent of the energy we use comes from the U.S. — mostly from coal-fired plants. BC Hydro forecasts our energy needs will grow by 45 per cent by 2020.

To overcome this energy deficit,

the Campbell government released its 2002 energy plan *Energy for Our Future: A Plan for BC* in which a crucial element involves the use of independent power producers, commonly called IPPs, to contribute to the electrical grid.

Touted as “green energy,” IPPs are privately owned power generating projects that generate power from sources such as biomass (burnt waste wood), solar, wind, geothermal or run-of-river hydro power.

All applications involving the Sunshine Coast — and 64 per cent of all IPPs in BC — utilize small hydro projects commonly referred to as “run-of-river.”

RUN OF RIVER HYDROPOWER

Run-of-river hydropower diverts some of a river's flow into pipes called “penstocks” that direct the water down to lower-elevation turbines before returning the water back to the stream.

To do so, a small dam or weir is created to form a “headpond” large enough to ensure the intake is sufficiently submerged.

power industry on the Sunshine Coast

The headponds often have an inflatable barrier that regulates the volume of the headpond ensuring adequate flow.

A general rule of thumb states that a one megawatt power plant will produce enough energy to supply 1,000 homes.

IPP projects range in size from 1MW of energy production to 200 MW with most less than 50 MW. The Plutonic Power project in Toba Inlet (near Powell River) is one of the largest at 196 MW.

There are now 46 IPPs operating in BC providing nine per cent of BC's 11,000 MW total system capacity.

Though the energy contribution from IPPs to the main Hydro grid has only grown two per cent since 2001, there's a steady volume of applications awaiting processing through the various levels of government and assessment criteria.

IPPs have filed water licences on more than 400 creeks in BC since 1990 and though most won't be developed, the economic potential is staggering.

THREAT TO BC HYDRO?

As IPPs quietly move to the forefront of the provincial government's energy plan, much of the opposition focuses on the fear that the quiet deregulation of BC Hydro will put British Columbians at the mercy of corporate interests in the North American energy market.

They claim policy framework is designed to eliminate the historical function of BC Hydro as an investor — and owner — of energy on behalf of the province.

Energy Purchase Agreements (EPAs) for IPPs with BC Hydro run,

on average, for 30 years. Among the many worries of people like SFU Professor John Calvert is what comes after they expire.

Calvert is an Associate Professor at Simon Fraser University and a director of Citizens for Public Power, a group firmly opposed to the involvement of private enterprise in the BC energy industry.

In his unabashedly one-sided 2007 book, *Liquid Gold: Energy Privatization in British Columbia*, Calvert writes:

"The government has stated repeatedly that it is not privatizing BC Hydro. In making these assertions, the government has taken advantage of the fact that most British Columbians equate public ownership of BC Hydro with public ownership and control of the electricity system. However, it isn't necessary to privatize the entity formally registered as BC Hydro in order to privatize the province's electricity system. Rather, this can be done by transforming, over time, the

public utility's basic function from that of producer of BC's electricity to that of a distributor of energy purchased from private sources."

Steve Davis says most of what critics like Calvert offer as fact is simply not true.

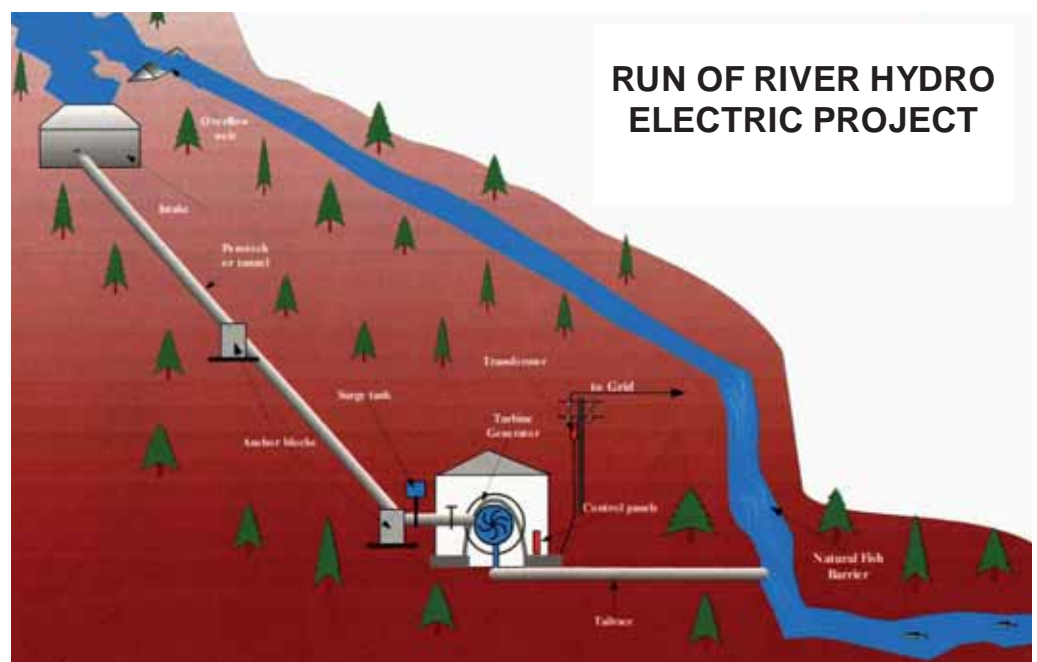
Davis is the president of the Independent Power Producers Association of BC, a 300-plus member group whose mandate it is to promote a viable independent power industry in British Columbia.

Davis has been waging a battle against what he sees as a misinformation campaign by groups who refuse to accept that the IPP industry does not pose a threat to the ownership of water resources.

"Well over 95 per cent of all of the creek water in BC belongs to the Crown. So IPPs effectively are like tenants where the government is like the landlord," says Davis.

"IPPs file a water licence application and, if they get all of the 50-plus permits and get all of the con-

(continued on next page)



A typical run-of-river project with water entering through the intake at the top, leading down through the penstock to the turbine generator before re-entering the creek

graphic courtesy of the IPPBC

IPPs (cont.)

(continued from page 13)

tracts done and then get built, they are basically tenants. The Water Act very specifically states in Section 2.2.2 that the lease expires in 40 years.”

FOREIGN CONTROL OF WATER RESOURCES?

There are no restrictions on foreign ownership within the IPP industry and critics suggest this opens the door for big U.S. energy to gain control of BC hydroelectric power.

Early on, licences and EPAs were snapped up mainly by small, local energy companies which, Calvert predicts, will eventually be forced to sell to larger companies with the capital resources to develop the projects.

“They know they don’t have the economies of scale of large energy corporations,” writes Calvert.

“Nor do they have the marketing skills and outlets for their electricity that will be needed to capture the full benefits of their investment once their BC Hydro contracts terminate.”

Plutonic Power Corporation

is building what is touted to be the largest IPP development in BC (196 MW) at its East Toba Inlet project near Powell River. Within a month of getting its 2006 EPA from BC Hydro, it had sold 49 per cent of the project to GE Capital of Canada, an affiliate of the giant American financial corporation, for \$100 million.

Davis says this is typical of most developing industries and is actually an advantageous model for growth because large companies may not have the local knowledge or risk tolerance to initiate these types of projects.

But Calvert claims it will put British Columbians at the mercy of the West Coast energy market, forcing them to pay the same prices as energy consumers in California or Oregon.

“All EPAs have a fixed term and will, in time, expire. When this happens, private owners will be free to sell their power to the highest bidder. If BC customers want access to this energy in the future, they will have no choice but to pay American market prices to keep it in the province.”

Davis bristles at these kinds of statements.

“The government has all of the cards. It’s real simple — they are the landlords. They own the water, they own the land.”

He adds that even if IPPs could purchase and sell water resources outright it would still be unlikely the power would ever leave the province.

The door has been open for IPPs to sell energy to markets outside of BC for 15 years.

“Theoretically, all the pieces are in place but no IPPs have ever been built for that [foreign export of energy] purpose,” Davis says.

“It’s almost as simple as saying that if you were an apple orchardist up

in the Okanagan, would you sell first of all to Vernon and then maybe sell to Vancouver or would you run down to California and set up a stall?”

According to Davis, even in the United States, 95 per cent of all energy produced stays in the state of origin and gives two practical reasons why energy typically stays at home.

The physics of “transmission-loss” dictates that a quantity of power generated in northeast BC will suffer a loss of six per cent before it gets to the market in Vancouver. It would be about the same if the producer shipped it from the BC border down to California.

The other is the economics of “rate pancaking.” An IPP selling power to the Sacramento Utility District would have to go through six other utility districts where each one takes a cut.

“So, not only do you have a physical loss, in the order of six or seven per cent, but you have multiple handoffs between different utilities on the way down,” Davis said.

“So why the heck would you want to do it?”

IPP INDUSTRY COSTS

Independent power producers defend claims that the production of power by private enterprise will drive hydro costs up.

They point out that any increase in costs associated with future energy production are inevitable as we’ve enjoyed the benefits of major infrastructure investment in the 1950s and 60s.

Regardless of whether a project is built with public or private funds, a major reinvestment in energy is required and will ultimately add to BC’s electricity costs.

“There’s no conspiracy that IPPs



photo courtesy of the IPPBC

The IPPBC’s Steve Davis in front of the penstock at the Furry Creek IPP.

are imposing a new cost on the British Columbia Transmission Corporation (a subsidiary of BC Hydro). Whoever owns a new facility needs the wire extended,” says Davis.

“In this case, the IPP pays for the extension from their plant to the grid.”

Much like municipal governments which take over sewage treatment systems after the completion of a real estate development, BCTC will take over ownership and operation of transmission lines after an IPP is operational.

BUT IS IT GREEN?

The provincial government has been careful to deflect attention from the deregulation aspects of what it could mean to purchase power from private enterprise by focusing on the “green” aspect of the industry.

But detractors also dispute these claims of “green” component of this energy industry.

Compared to hydroelectric dams requiring the flooding of large tracts of land, the environmental footprint set down by a typical run-of-river project is considered minimal because they require very little alteration of the original stream bed.

But the possible cumulative effects of several projects clustered in the same region highlight concerns about the effect changes in water temperature, flow rate and levels will have on aquatic species.

And all IPPs are not equal. There is a huge difference in size between a 1MW project and a 200MW project resulting in different scales of habitat pressure.

Another concern is the deforestation resulting from new transmission lines. Underground electrical lines aren’t a viable alternative so vast



photo courtesy of the IPPBC

The 9.8 MW McNair Creek IPP project dam/weir near Gibsons.

tracks of forest may need to be cleared to connect to the main electrical grid.

The fact remains that the province needs more power and the energy deficit we’re running right now is getting larger. Proponents of IPPs say the alternative is to import “brown” energy from coal-fired power plants in the US. Assuming all energy productions carries with it some environmental cost, they say theirs is the best option.

Each run-of-river project must obtain permits from 10 review agencies at both the federal and provincial levels plus consultations with First Nations. This could exceed 50 different permits for each project.

Evidence of the exhaustive process required to get an IPP up and running is the glacially slow growth of the industry.

“There’s 46 IPPs operating in the province of BC. Thirty-six of them are run-of-river projects and we started to do them 18 years ago. So we’re doing two per year and the average is 10 MW,” says Davis.

“So when someone says the sky

is falling because suddenly we’re going to pave everything with IPPs and we’re going to privatize BC Hydro... when you look at any take on the actual facts, we’re tiny — we’re not growing that fast. So when someone creates a lot of fear that somehow we’re taking over the province, it’s irksome and it’s dysfunctional.”

THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

IPP’s are a new industry so there isn’t a long term measure on the environmental effects a shift in the province’s energy policy might mean.

Just as unclear is how much say local governments have in regulating the industry.

Public opposition over a proposed run-of-river project on Ashlu Creek near Squamish brought to light the potential friction that can occur between municipal governments and the province.

The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) noted broad concerns from the community over potential

(continued on next page)

IPPs (cont.)

(continued from page 13)

threats to a popular recreation area near the site and turned down Ledcor's planning application.

After a lengthy dispute, the provincial government passed Bill 75, *The Significant Projects Streamlining Act* and then Bill 30, *The Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act*.

This gave the BC Utilities Commission the power to override the opposition of local governments to private power projects and Ledcor resumed construction.

Any run-of-river projects that fall within the boundaries of Sunshine Coast Regional District are required to submit proposals to its planning department for rezoning approvals and to negotiate community benefits.

There are projects already generating run-of-river power south of Sechelt — the McNair Creek project near Gibsons has been up and running since 2004 — but none has yet started operation in Area A or B. But that is about to change.

BC Hydro has identified more than 80 potential sites on tributaries of Jervis Inlet in Area A (Pender Harbour/Egmont) and Narrows and Salmon Inlets in Area B (Halfmoon Bay).

So far, the SCRD planning department has worked with three companies to approve five projects north of Sechelt. All of those have been in Area B — four around Clowhom Lake at the head of Salmon Inlet and one on Tyson Creek at the head of Narrows Inlet.

"The key focus for us is the desire to get some public consultation in there in a structured way that we're involved with," says SCRD planner David Rafael.

"My understanding is that the

province does require proponents to demonstrate some level of community involvement and the rezoning process is a good way of demonstrating that, at least from our point of view."

SCRD planners haven't felt compelled to turn down an application yet and it's unclear what would happen if they tried.

Coming off a stinging defeat in trying to halt Western Forest Products logging activity in the Chapman Creek watershed, they might be gunshy about challenging a run-of-river project, especially considering the Ashlu River/SLRD precedent.

"If we were to refuse one then we'd have to justify that quite heavily to the province," says Rafael.

And considering the potential economic benefits to the communities nearby, the SCRD would have to justify it to local taxpayers too.

LOCAL ECONOMIC BENEFITS

According to the IPPBC, a 10MW run of river project built in 2003 will pay about \$20 million in direct taxes, fees, water rentals and community benefits over the life of the project.

Davis says the developer for the McNair Creek project in Gibsons did a count of the number of local companies they had given purchase orders to during the construction phase and it numbered over 100.

"Many of these IPP proposals are up in the Jervis Inlet area, so it would naturally follow that the assessed value would come under Area A," said outgoing Area A Director John Rees.

"As far as jobs are concerned, the majority of jobs would come during the construction process but, the last time I looked, there were about 25 proposals up in Jervis Inlet.

So, if three, four or five of those are constructed then the property tax of the assessed value would be added to Area A."

Built into these development proposals are community benefit packages intended to offset any negative aspects.

"We negotiated a community benefit package based on the kilowatt hours generated," said Rees. "Depending on how much power they produce, so much per kWh would be donated back to the community for community benefits... that's on top of the industrial taxation."

The taxation benefits could be significant too — especially if Area A incorporates. Industry is taxed at four times the level of residential taxation and this new industry could provide the missing link to ensuring an economically feasible plan to include all of Area A into an incorporated entity.

"We have a \$1.5 million assessment value but 95 per cent is residential and five per cent is commercial," said Rees.

"If you take a look at Sechelt, they would probably have about 70 per cent residential, about 15 per cent commercial and the balance would be industrial. That's how you build a community. You don't build on residential taxation alone."

Rees tells a story about when he first got into politics and attended a session in Richmond,

"There was a wise old mayor who said to me, 'If you run a community based on residential taxation alone, you will never make it. If you have a fair amount of business taxation you will break even. But, if you have some industrial taxation tucked away, your community will move ahead.' And he's right."

Roy Vickers

FEBRUARY 20, 1939 – OCTOBER 24, 2008



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Roy. Roy passed away on Oct. 24 after a three-month battle with cancer.

Roy was born in Manchester, England and joined the Royal Navy at

the age of 18. On a visit to Vancouver Island he decided he wanted to move there one day.

He met Paula on a visit to her mother's pub to celebrate his and Paula's brother's birthday which were on the same day. They fell in love and eloped to Scotland where they were married on October 4, 1963. Andrew was born in 1967 and Darren in 1970.

They decided to emigrate to Canada in 1976 when they bought the Roost, which they owned and operated until 2002. Darren built their house in Garden Bay and Roy spent his final years doing what he loved — garden-

ing and reading.

People often ask how he found his way to Pender Harbour from England and he would say, "Just lucky, I guess." He always referred to it as God's country.

There was a private funeral for the family as he requested but he would have been grateful if, in lieu of flowers, those who would like to could make a donation to the Canadian Cancer Foundation.

He will be deeply missed by his loved ones and friends.

Ann Cook

JULY 22, 1929 – OCTOBER 25, 2008



Our beautiful mother, eldest sister and devoted grandmother, born July 22, 1929, passed away on October 25, 2008.

Predeceased by her parents Clarence and Celina Cook, partner Ray Mair and siblings Sara Kelly, Leonard Phillips, Patricia Campo, Verna Madayag, William Cook, John Cook, Albert Cook and Allen Cook.

Survived by sons Larry (Candace) Campo, Brian (Jennifer) Campo, grandchildren Elias, Talaysay, Jacelynne and Tamara, her sisters Norma Martin, Eleanor Cook and many lov-

ing nieces and nephews.

Ann lived her life with love and commitment to her family, friends and community. She will be remembered for her utmost generosity. What she had, she gave and what she said, she did.

Her two sons, Brian and Larry, will forever be grateful for her endless support and dedication to helping them raise their children Elias and Talaysay Ann, Jacelynne and Tamara — the luckiest grandchildren ever.

Ann's partner Ray Mair passed away in 1998. Ann's home base was

in Egmont, BC at Waugh Lake. All who knew her knew the lake was her oasis and sanctuary throughout her life. Over the years, Ann travelled and lived between North Vancouver, Pender Harbour, Sechelt and, for a short period, Deroche.

Ann will be remembered for for her involvement in the Egmont Community Club where she was very active. Ann was very committed to social justice and was actively involved in the 1960s/1970s women's liberation movements and had dedicated her life to helping others in need.

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A tree of joy and celebration

By Jim Rutherford &
Nolan Sawatzky

Why buy a cut Christmas tree, when one that's potted will be a joy forever?

You don't have to get the biggest evergreen — a gnarly pine with lights twisted up the trunk and branches will look great. Green garbage bag ties work fine to secure the lights to the branches without harming the tree.

The black landscape pot the tree comes in can be painted any color with a drip saucer to match. (The saucer is the most important thing to save your floor as well as the tree.)

Bringing live material into the house works great with just a couple of precautions.

Water the tree well until the saucer has water in it. Let the excess be used up before re-watering. An indoor environment is quite dry and will absorb a lot of moisture from the tree. Drying out is a sure killer.

DECIDUOUS TREES

Those that bloom early can look great indoors — with or without lights— and lightly decorated with baubles.

Wisteria is a favourite. The very early blossoms come in yellow, yellow/red and coral Jelena. Just bring it indoors — it forces the blooms, which are small but have a lovely fragrance. To thicken up the shrub for adding lights, it's OK to cut branches from another source — western maple or whatever you find. Sharpen a bamboo stick or dowel and drive it in the pot to "premarket" the hole for your branches — this won't do the tree any good but it won't kill it.

Korean dogwood has wonderful upright spreading branches while Korean lilac "Miss Kim" is more compact.

TOPIARY TREES

Topiary trees are a little tricky as usually they are not staked well enough to carry any weight of lights and decoration. You'll need a two-inch by two-inch stake, sharpened and cut to height to drive to the bottom

of the container. Now is a great time to hide the light cord as you wrap the stake in colourful ribbon.

To support the tree we use lengths of old hose and a coat hanger. Cut the coat hanger open at the top and bend it into a straight line and thread it through the piece of hose.

Next you put the hose part around the shrub to stake and the coat hanger is to be at the other end of the stake. Next twist the coat hanger together like you would a twist tie, but with pliers. Practise away as you have little to lose. This old hose and coat hanger technique works on any shrub or tree that needs support.

A low shrub like Spirea "Bumalda" can be made very festive.

Home Hardware is selling 32-inch outdoor tree sets (of three). These branches with the light moulded in could be stuck in the soil for an instant focal point.

All the trees and shrubs mentioned here will survive indoors for a couple of weeks before needing to be put outdoors in a sheltered spot. It's best to use plants that can take some frost after starting to flower or bud out. Don't use broad leaf evergreens or shrubs like standard lilac, mock orange or smoke bush, as they are not used to frost when budding. Drape the pot with fabric if you like, moss over the soil and stick in cut holly for that finished look.

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SWAGS

Some TV home/garden shows go to great extremes and cost for a simple door swag or entry decoration, so let's keep it simple.

Florists sell a plastic swag form with floral foam already in it and a handle with a hole to hang it.

Soak your form and put in

your long pieces first to give it vertical length. Moss over the form very lightly so you don't have to cover with so much foliage. Start to fill out your swag with material cut from the garden or roadside.

If you don't have shrubs bearing berries, those artificial berried swags work great as they're all wired and easy to cut into pieces. Perhaps mount your bow early so you can work it into the foliage for a more natural look.

Salal can be an effective friend at last. A blush of burgundy spray paint looks great and will match ivy that's coloured up this time of year. Let the ivy drape down. Long is good.

Water well and hang it.

For that long Christmas table, bare branches of alpine huckleberry will give you great extensions and the

branches don't have to reach the foam.

To add candles, it's back to the old coat hangers, without buying expensive candle adapters.

Cut the heavier coat hangers so that about two inches go into the candle (pre-drill if you like) and perhaps four inches into the foam, snuggled into the foliage.

Wearing oven mitts, heat one end of the coat hanger very hot and gently insert into the taper base as the wax melts. Let it set up and you are ready to stick into the centerpiece.

Many blessings to you all and hope you will celebrate 2008 as the year you planted your Christmas tree and enjoy it for many years to come.

Thanks for a great year!

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A litter bit lax



By John Wade

Dear John,

I have a one and a half year old, spayed cat who causes me grief from

time to time.

She is very fanatical about clean litter habits.

She is a Siamese/tabby cross and is very feisty.

We have to use two litter boxes and they have to be cleaned morning and night.

She likes her litter box to be clean before she'll litter again in it.

Sometimes, she will poop on the carpet by the litter boxes. Why does she do this? Is she mad at me?

Also, my husband noticed she peed on the carpet by the litter box this week. Is she marking her territory?

I work in an office that has a resident kitten.

Do you think my cat smells this little kitten when I get home?

I want to keep the peace at home.

S.T.



Hi S.T.,

I doubt the litter problem you're having has anything to do with territory. She will be aware of the office cat as, no doubt, some odor and the odd cat hair will be making it home.

She might be acting out due to being incensed that one of her kind would stoop so low as to work in an office.

Cats are solely creatures of leisure. Work and anything associated with it are in her mind signs of lowly breeding.

Nine lives out of 10, when the litter box is replaced, instead of just cleaned, the problem goes away.

If it does not, then take your cat to the veterinarian. Cats are hard wired to hide pain and discomfort lest a challenger take notice so there may be nothing obvious to you. I have provided first aid to cats with extremely traumatic injuries that accepted a scratch behind the ears and purred loudly in response.

Make sure that your veterinarian knows you're not asking for a general exam. Instead, give the behaviour details and your vet will check for

crystals etc.

While you're in there, if the veterinarian doesn't already suggest it, have a blood panel done. It might reveal something but, even if it doesn't, you'll have invested in a very good diagnosis tool for down the road.

If your cat is healthy it will provide a baseline for what is normal.

Later in life, if your cat is behaving oddly you can have another and by comparing it with your cat's norm, getting to the bottom of what's going on will be much more likely.

In fact, I recommend everyone with a cat or dog reading this make a note to call their vet and ask that a note be made on their pet's file to have a baseline blood panel done on their next visit. It can be a true life saver.

**Pawsitively Yours,
John Wade**

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

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A forest worth saving

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to you about saving Bear Bay Forest.

I believe Bear Bay Forest is important, beautiful and unique and it has just as many, if not more, recreational, health and economic benefits to the local community as any of Pender Harbour's other beautiful parks.

For those of you who are not familiar with Bear Bay Forest, it is a unique and awesome stretch of forest, up Bear Bay Road, south of Sakinaw Lake.

The SCRD, along with the Ministry of Environment, has identified Bear Bay Forest as containing the only low-elevation old forest ecosystem between Sakinaw Lake and Halfmoon Bay.

It has been designated by the Sechelt Indian Band as having cultural and natural value.

Bear Bay Forest has a well-maintained interpretive trail system that provides hikers easy access to a century old steam donkey engine, as well as views of Sakinaw Lake.

The trail in Bear Bay Forest is the only one in the area to offer level walking terrain through a diverse array of ecosystem types, massive old-growth trees and historical artifacts.

It is because Bear Bay Forest possesses all these incredibly unique features that I believe it is worth saving. I don't want BC Timber Sales to put it up for auction in spring 2009 for a proposed small 55-acre cut-block – do you? Many in the community are already behind the campaign to protect the Interpretive Trail and our only accessible old forest and I believe our local businesses and economy would benefit more from its contin-

ued growth than a short term logging contract.

I believe it would be a huge loss and massive expense to the community if logging were to be permitted in Bear Bay Forest, even if most of the ancient trees were to be left standing.

It has recently been in the news that Stanley Park's famous Hollow Tree is in jeopardy of toppling over.

The park has gone to great lengths, over the years, to keep it standing with iron rods and metal straps.

Even now as it leans precariously due to decomposition and damage from winter storms, a \$215,000 plan has been put forward to use hydraulic extension jacks to reposition the 700-year-old stump.

Bear Bay Forest is a healthy, living forest and its trail passes a dozen robust 600-year-old trees and many more old-growth trees.

It would be an incredible shame to cut the forest or isolate the ancient trees. With Bear Bay Forest left intact, Pender Harbour won't need to

desperately hold up its last big old tree stumps with cables and wires, it can let them fall to the ground naturally and feed the new trees that will grow to be giants.

I encourage anyone who hasn't yet hiked the Bear Bay Interpretive Trail to do so. I encourage those who have to go again.

Please visit www.bearbay.ca for information on how to help protect Bear Bay Forest or email info@bearbay.ca if you would like a guided tour or if you would like to get involved.

Carole Logtenberg

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HELP WANTED

- **Cleaner wanted:** To clean our Church on a contract basis. Rate negotiable. Criminal record check and references required. Send resume to christredeemer@dccnet.com or mail to Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, RR#1, S-15, C-36, Madeira Park, BC V0N 1S0, Attn. Edith Applications to be received by Dec. 15/08.

- **We need a volunteer cook** for the Harbourside Friendship Group which meets every Thursday at 10:30 am at the Music School. Contact Sharon at (604) 883-3662 / sfhalfor@telus.net

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

WORK WANTED

- **Fall yard cleanup,** garages, basements, attics cleaned out, dump runs, errands, etc, Middlepoint to Egmont, Alex 604-741-1572
- **Yard and garden cleanup:** hedges, roofs, gutters, windows, pressure washing, odd jobs and dump runs. References. Rick (604) 740-9411.

HARBOUR SEALS



Free and easy! Approvals or disapprovals! (Please keep them short.)

Send to: editor@harbourpiel.com.

You must include your full name and a telephone number for confirmation.

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **Chris** for the warm drinks at the Garden Bay Pub after our cold paddle. They were much appreciated by all of us!

the Dragontinis

A Harbour Seal of Approval to the **very, very honest guy** who found my wallet and took it to the RCMP office. Thank you a thousand, thousand times.

Diane White

We would like to thank all the caring **people of Pender Harbour** for the flowers, cards, phone calls, hugs and simple 'sorries' we have received over the past two weeks. This truly is a wonderful community and we will never forget your kindness at such a sad time.

Paula, Andrew,
Darren and Jo-Ann Vickers

Harbour Seals to **shoppers who have contributed to the food bank program at the IGA.** As they purchased certain items, a percentage of the cost went to that program. So, shoppers and the IGA, we thank you so much for the donation of \$1,930.

Wendy Phillips, P. H. Food Bank

A Harbour Seal of Approval to the **home care nurses at the Health Centre.** We are so lucky to have this wonderful service here in the Harbour. I really appreciate the great care they have provided me these past few months.

Jan Watson

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **my friends and neighbours** who have taken care of me in so many different ways the last six months.

Jan Watson

A huge Harbour Seal of Approval to all **the volunteers who helped to make a memorable Remembrance Day** at the Royal Canadian Legion #112. May it continue for many, many years.

Rob Crouch

A Harbour Seal of Approval to **all of our friends and neighbours** in this great community of Pender Harbour for their help, support and love given to us since the night of our fire on Aug. 13, 2008. You are amazing, wonderful, kind and caring people. Thank you all!

Bill, Sharon & "Carma" Jones
Ruby Lake

A Harbour Seal to all my supporters; especially **Myrtle Winchester, Silas White, Tracey Gooldrup and my girls - Carly, Kimberly and Michelle.**

Lori Fielding
Harbour Spiel



John Little photo collection

John Little's (back row, second from right) birthday party in Irvines Landing on July 19, 1946 or 47. The photo was taken in a "small field that was directly behind the old hotel and bordered the road that ran then (and does now) that goes to the Gov't dock."

Front row (l-r): Eddie Reid, -?- Reid, -?- Reid (one would be Nancy), Peggy Palmer, Sonny Reid, Peter Wray.

Middle row: Mervyn Reid, Marian Reid, Barbara Davidson, Bob Brooks, Tommy Palmer.

Back row: George Curly, Bill Wray, John Little, Fred Brooks.

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Winter tips: Staging the outside to get buyers inside

By Alan Stewart



In today's competitive real estate market, with nearly 100 more homes listed for sale this year over last, it is more important than ever that a house listed for sale presents itself in its best possible light — from the curb to the crawl-space.

In my September article I wrote about ways to de-clutter the interior.

We are finding more and more clients and other realtors calling us these days to cancel showings because they drove by the house and decided it wasn't right for them.

I can count on one hand how many times that may have happened last year.

With so many potential homes to view, why should a potential buyer even walk into a home that doesn't scream "Come on in, kick off your shoes and stay a while?"

Here are some easy and relatively inexpensive fixes that will help create that outside appeal you need and get you a giant step closer to a sale.

1. Paint or stain the front and garage doors, especially if they show any weathering, dirt or damage. These points of entry are the first visual elements a potential buyer sees and they communicate just how well the home has been cared for. If you've dented the metal door — bite the bullet and replace it. If Rover has scratched your cedar front door — sand and refinish or replace it.

2. Get rid of any old rickety sheds or small structures. Timmy's 30-year old tree fort isn't full of wonderful memories for a potential buyer — it's an eye sore. If the tired tin garden shed is jammed full of things you haven't used in years, don't just empty it, consider recycling it as well. Be sure you grade and seed the area and you'll be amazed how much bigger and more appealing your property will look.

3. Change any dated outside light fixtures. I once used a \$5 can of matte black spray paint to freshen up some old brass fixtures and I was impressed with the impact it had on the whole house. Many neighbours commented

on the "new" lights we had invested in.

4. While driveway repair work can be expensive, it doesn't have to be. You can buy a bag of cold asphalt mix or concrete repair material at RONA for under twenty bucks. It's a great way to fill potholes and cracks and, if it's followed with a sealer, you'll be amazed at the results. We just sold a house for a client in Garden Bay who applied a black driveway sealer every couple of years and I couldn't get over how many buyers commented on how nice it looked. Asphalt usually isn't something we consider a selling feature, but it sure was for this property.

5. Make sure landscaping bricks and rocks are in their proper place. I've said it before: Look at your house from the perspective of a new buyer. When bricks and stones are bumped by lawnmowers or weed whackers, many homeowners don't notice the effect to the overall impression of the home. You never get a second chance to make a good first impression.

6. Re-mulch areas of the garden where exposed dirt shows through and under large shade trees. The other day I noticed a company on the Coast that "sprays" mulch onto your gardens in



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a fraction of the time it would take a happy gardener with a wheelbarrow.

7. It's a good time of year to have trees and brushes pruned and trimmed. Pay particular attention to limbs overhanging the roof and the driveway.

8. Give your house a bath! While a full paint job may not be in the budget or even practical at this time of year, it is amazing what a difference a power wash can make. While inexpensive pressure washers are handy, you'll be much happier with the results and time savings from a gas pressure washer. Be very careful not to get too close to woodwork or old siding to avoid "scarring" the material. Now that most of the leaves have fallen from the trees, it's also a good time to clean gutters and windows while you're at it.

9. Even though grass has virtually stopped growing, make sure it is in good shape with weeds pulled and leaves raked. Consider a couple of seasonal hanging baskets to add colour and warmth.

10. Decks should be washed and repainted, and if you have patio furniture, make sure it is clean and in excellent condition. You'd be amazed how enticing a well thought out and well maintained backyard can be to a buyer. A grouping of nice outdoor furniture around a fire pit paints a vivid picture of what their buyers' future life may be like.

Don't forget that most home buyers aren't able to visualize how beautiful your home can be. It's up to you to ensure your property presents itself in its best possible light. You

wouldn't expect an investor to pay full price for an unfinished or damaged Rembrandt. To fetch top dollar and work towards a timely sale, you have to invest time, energy and resources to make sure everything is in perfect order — especially in today's market.

I'd suggest that you have a

neighbour or friend, who will be brutally honest with you, to bring a fresh pair of eyes and tell you what they would see if they were considering purchasing.

To offer suggestions for future real estate related column topics, e-mail alan@sunshinecoasthomes.com

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To implant or not

Implants have been used in dentistry since 1965.

Over the last 20 years, implants have become part of standard dental care and have offered new treatment planning options.

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As a result, implant restorations have a higher long-term survival rate and have the highest success rate of all the prosthetic options available today.

Implant dentistry is becoming the primary method for replacing missing teeth, rather than a last resort.

This exciting treatment offers patients a permanent solution to replacing missing teeth, from a single tooth to the whole dentition of a person now using dentures.

Implants supported dentures are far superior to dentures that rely on adhesives to keep them in place.

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A general dentist has undergone an advanced, extended supervised training program to qualify to place implants.

The Sunshine Coast Dental Group, Dr. Robert Hynd and Dr. Lisa Virkela are pleased to announce that Madeira Park will not be left out of this implant revolution.

Our dental office is now able to offer patients the opportunity to have implant treatment done here at our office in the Pender Harbour Health Centre.

Please feel free to drop by or call for more information if you are interested in dental implants.

As always we welcome new patients and our helpful friendly staff is on hand Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm to book your appointment with one of our dentists or hygienists. Our phone number is 604-883-2997.

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Health tips for surviving the holidays

Compiled by PH Health Centre Staff

There's no doubt that we have much to celebrate over the rapidly approaching festive season.

But it's all wonderful until the New Year, when once again, we face the bathroom scales with great trepidation or see ourselves in the department store mirrors while shopping the January sales.

It's important to protect ourselves against the endless promotions of fancy fitness equipment and diets.

Here are a few tips which might help you enjoy the holidays while doing minimum damage to your mind and body.

Don't start drinking too early. Alternate your hard drinks with soft beverages.

Before going out, snack on protein, like chicken, peanuts or cottage cheese. Protein satisfies and will help you eat less, as well as slowing down the absorption of alcohol.

Alcohol severely depletes B-vitamins, thus contributing to mood swings and depression.

Make a point of eating a large bowl of B-vitamin enriched breakfast cereal the morning after an indulgent evening.

Remember to keep up your water intake.

Dehydration is responsible for many hangover symptoms, including headaches and a furred tongue.

Water is needed to keep the digestive system working properly and also helps moisten winter skin.

Drink one and a half litres per day. Sparkling water and other carbonated drinks make some people feel bloated and, if this is the case, stick to still water and fresh juices.

SANTA HEALTH FACTS

Do you ever wonder how Santa Claus would fare at his annual physical? — For a look at his doctor's report, go to:
http://www.malehealth.co.uk/userpage1.cfm?item_id=584

Caffeine might make you feel more alert when needed, but high consumption jangles your nerves and raises adrenaline levels during stressful situations.

This negatively affects the body's recovery systems. Choose decaf or, even better, a weak tea.

Sugary foods make blood sugar levels soar and crash again, which will make you want to binge more often.

Concentrate on snacks and meals that feature protein, vegetables and fruits. Some traditional holiday foods such as turkey, salmon, Brussels sprouts, cranberries and nuts in shells (they take longer to crack so you eat less) have definite health benefits so enjoy them (in moderation, of course).

Use smaller plates, especially when approaching the buffet table

and wait 20 minutes before deciding whether you really want seconds. That's how long it takes for the brain to realize just how much your stomach has taken in and decide how full you really are.

If you are finding it difficult to cope with all the holiday festivities, you are not alone. Don't hesitate to communicate with your doctor or pastor.

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings take place at the Pender Harbour Health Centre Monday and Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m., including both Christmas Eve and New Years Eve.

The Board of Trustees and the staff of the Pender Harbour Health Centre wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Trustees of the Pender Harbour & District Health Centre cordially invite the community(which has so stalwartly supported the health centre) to the unveiling and dedication of the "It's Ours" donor appreciation plaque.

**Date: December 8, 2008
Time: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Location: Health Centre lobby
Tea and treats will be served**



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THE DAYS

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Dec. 3 - Paula Campbell, Mike Pickering, Joanne McQuaig and Ed Wray.

Dec. 5 - Gaye Beardmore, Andrea Curtiss and Andy Curtiss.

Dec. 6 - Ryan McDonald and Bill Reid.

Dec. 7 - Dianne Rousseau, Dan Gifford, and Jennifer Reid.

Dec. 8 - Keenan Clerx

Dec. 9 - Michelle Beardmore and Robert Purdy.

Dec. 10 - Trevor Jones and Cathy Thompson.

Dec. 11 - Bill Griffith, Pete Belair, Patti Reid and Al Wendland.

Dec. 12 - Malcolm Duncan and Pat Martin.

Dec. 14 - Cody Edwardson-Zayshley

Dec. 15 - Kay Langsford.

Dec. 16 - Cassandra Whelan.

Dec. 17 - Ian Campbell and Joi Phillips.

Dec. 18 - Niki Verzuh

Dec. 19 - Tony Adamson, Tyson Carswell, Helen Garrett and Jamie Bouvette.

Dec. 20 - Lil Beharrell, Nicole Fletcher and Tyler Silvey.

Dec. 21 - Harvey Langton, Robert Wilkinson and Josh Young.

Dec. 22 - Dani Thompson. Steven Fouts, Rob Nieuwenhuis, Gwyneth Bryant and Christine West.

Dec. 23 - Kate Thompson.

Dec. 24 - Tatiana Phillips-Campbell, Chris Phillips and Clifford Silvey Jr.

Dec. 25 - Peter Schmidt.

Dec. 26 - Peter Fritz.

Dec. 28 - Steve Boyd and Jeff Girard.

Dec. 29 - Diane Gamble.

Dec. 30 - Dean Bosch, Bryan Edwardson, Andy Ross and Jean Minch.

Dec. 31 - John Brimacombe, Fara Priest and Scott Bruce.

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Our average daily high temperature in December is 6.5 C and our average daily low is 3.2 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 4.9 C. The highest December temperature recorded is 13.3 C (Dec. 14, 1962.) and the lowest was -11.7 C (Dec. 28, 1968).

December has an average of 54.9 hours of bright sunshine. It usually has 19 days with measurable precipitation, an average monthly rainfall of 140.1 mm and an average monthly snowfall of 10.6 cm. Our average month-end snowfall is 4 cm. December has the highest snowfall of the year (November has the most rain). The highest December daily rainfall recorded at Merry Island was 66 mm (Dec. 25, 1972). The record daily snowfall was 40.6 cm (Dec. 31, 1968).

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OF DECEMBER

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The Twelve Days of Christmas, and the associated evenings of those twelve days (Twelve-tide), are the festive days beginning the evening of Christmas Day (December 25) through the morning of Epiphany (January 6). The associated evenings of the twelve days begin on the evening before the specified day. Thus, the first night of Christmas is December 25–26 and Twelfth Night is January 5–6. This period is also known as Christmastide.

Over the centuries, differing churches and sects of Christianity have changed the actual traditions, time frame, and their interpretations. St. Stephen's Day, for example, is December 26 in the Western Church and December 27 in the Eastern Church. December 26 is Boxing Day in the United Kingdom and some of its former colonies; December 28 is Childermas or the Feast of the Innocents. Currently, the 12 days and nights are celebrated in widely varying ways around the world. For example, some give gifts only on Christmas night, some only on Twelfth Night, and some each of the 12 nights.

[source:wikipedia.com]

DECEMBER ASTROLOGY

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 21)

Sagittarians love excitement and adventure. They are easily bored but often trend-setters. They are bold and impulsive, natural explorers who thrive on change and mental stimulation. Sagittarians are usually the naked ones in the hot tub.

CAPRICORN: DEC. 22 - JAN. 20

Capricorns often experience hardship early in life, but their resourcefulness makes them survivors. Often hard to get to know, they are loyal, responsible, and down-to-earth but beware the baggage from those early life hardships...

BINGO THANKS:

We would like to thank our weekly helpers:

Muriel Cameron
Dolly Clayton
Carol Chambers
Liz Beadle
Georgia Hall
Moni Langham
Shelley Brown
Pat & Jan Christophersen

Special thanks to:

Gail Paton for Baking the treats every week.

Special thanks to:

Gail Rolston for copying all our sheets.

Bravo to all our valued players who keep us going.

Seasons Greetings to all

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• Chamber of Commerce, P. H. & Egmont.....	883-2531
• Christ the Redeemer Church.....	883-1371
• Coast Guard Auxiliary, Unit 61	883-2572
• Community Choir.....	883-2283
• Community Club, Egmont	883-9206
• Community Club, Pender Harbour	883-2715
• Community Policing.....	883-2026
• Community School Society	883-2826
• Egmont Volunteer Fire Department.....	883-0012
• GRIPS (Recycling Society)	883-1165
• Garden Bay Sailing Club.....	883-2689
• Gardening Club	883-0295
• P. H. Golf Club.....	883-9541
• Guides, Brownies, etc.	883-2819
• Harbour Artists.....	883-2807
• Harbourside Friendships (seniors, Thur. 10:30 -1 p.m.).....	883-2764
• Health Centre Society	883-2764
• Health Centre Auxiliary.....	883-0522
• Hepatitis C Connection.....	883-0010
• InStitches (1st Monday, 11 a.m., PH Health Centre).....	883-0748
• Iris Griffith Centre	883-9201
• Ladies Auxiliary to Legion Branch 112 (2nd Thurs. @ 1:30)	883-9173
• Lions Club, Egmont.....	883-9463
• Lions Club, Pender Harbour (1st & 3rd Wed).....	883-1361
• P. H. Music Society.....	883-2689
• P. H. Paddling Society.....	883-3678
• Pender Harbour Choir (7:30 pm Tues).....	883-2307
• Piecemakers (quilters, 1st & 3rd Wed. 9:30 a.m.).....	883-3662
• Power & Sail Squad (2nd Wed. Legion)	883-0444
• Red Balloon Parent & Tot drop-in.....	885-5881
• Reading Centre Society	883-2983
• Rotary Club (noon Fri. Garden Bay Pub)	883-1350
• Royal Cdn Legion 112	883-0055
• Skookumchuck Heritage Society (Egmont Heritage Centre).....	883-9994
• St. Andrew's Anglican Church.....	883-9927
• St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary (2nd Wed. @ 1 p.m. Sept-June)	883-2563
• Seniors' Housing Society (3rd Thur.).....	883-9883
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• Suncoast Players	883-9277
• Sunshine Coast Community Based Victim Services.....	885-0322
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• Wildlife Society (3rd Tues. PHSS).....	883-9853
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~ ORGANIZATIONS ~

PENDER HARBOUR & DISTRICT WILDLIFE SOCIETY

The Pender Harbour and District Wildlife Society will be hosting the Sunshine Coast Christmas Bird Count on Wednesday Dec. 17, 2008. Members can join birding experts on land and ocean to identify and count our local birds and we congregate afterwards for supper and stories.

For more information visit www.penderharbourwildlife.com.

PENDER HARBOUR WOMEN'S CONNECTION

Women's Connection will have their Christmas Luncheon, 11:30 am, on Dec. 9, at the Royal Canadian Legion in Madeira Park. Tickets are sold in advance and cannot be bought at the door.

This is our last event until after the Christmas Holidays. Our first gathering of the year will be Jan. 12, 2009 at the School of Music in Madeira Park. We welcome as always members, non-members, and drop-ins to join in our sharing of mutual interests.

ST. ANDREWS ANGLICAN CHURCH

It is with regret that the congregation of St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Madeira Park and the Diocese of New Westminster announce that circumstances have not allowed for weekly Sunday worship to continue at the church building at 12856 Harbour View Road, effective Nov. 30, 2008.

Groups that currently use the church hall will continue to meet there as usual. Pastoral care for the Pender Harbour area has been graciously offered by the people and clergy of St. Hilda's Anglican Church in Sechelt (604) 885-5019. For more information, call the Diocese of New Westminster (604) 684 6306.

The congregation of St. Andrew's is particularly proud of our contributions to the community and grateful for the privilege of serving the Health Centre and Abbeyfield Housing by raising funds.

In all our endeavours we have been generously supported by local businesses and individuals and for that we are appreciative.

PENDER HARBOUR CHOIR

The Pender Harbour Community Choir celebrates the holiday season with a Christmas Concert on Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Pender Harbour School of Music.

Golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon

By Jan Watson

NEW GOLF CLUB EXECUTIVE

The P. H. Golf Club held its Annual General Meeting on Oct. 25

and the following are changes to the Board of Directors.

With one year to go, Ian Grant steps up to President from VP and Finance and John Maveety moves to Past President.

He replaces Rusty Ellis who can now concentrate on playing golf. Thank you Rusty for many years of dedicated service.

Serving the second year of their two-year term, George Grout remains as Greens Chairman, Merv Oleksyn remains as Publicity, and Kathy Needham moves to Secretary/ Membership from House.

Bob Alexander steps down after one term. Newly elected Bruce Forbes takes over Finance and Grant Hallborg takes on House.

Re-elected for a second term, Jan Watson is VP and Pro Shop. The new Men's captain is Ian Archer and ladies captain Jackie Grant stays for another year.

HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to one of our members, Heather Cranston, who was inducted into the BC Sports Hall of Fame on Oct. 18.

Heather was an accomplished softball player who was named a Canadian All-Star player twice. She was also on the last club team to represent Canada at the World Championships and in 1978 won a silver medal in San Salvador.

AWARDS NIGHT

The Awards Night banquet held on Oct. 25 was once again a joint event between the men and the ladies.

A lovely roast beef and chicken dinner was followed by the presentations.

Captain Ron Needham presented the trophies to the following: Men's Champion - Don Matheson, Match Play Champion - Lorne Campbell, Ladies' captain Jackie Grant presented the Ladies Low-Net Trophy to Pat Hallborg. The Ladies Champion Reni Ducich was unable to attend due to a family medical emergency in Australia. There were other trophies pre-

sented for both the men and the ladies.

HUSBAND AND WIFE TOURNAMENT

A tradition started by Cathy McQuitty, the Husband and Wife Tournament continues each fall and was won this year by Merv and Roberta Oleksyn with a combined net score of 146. Runners up were Bob and Nora Brooks with 147.

The "Odd Couple" part of the tournament turned very odd when organizer Ron got a bit mixed up! However a good time was had by all especially at the 19th hole!

FROM THE 19TH HOLE...

Stand proud you noble swingers of clubs and losers of balls:

A recent study found the average golfer walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found golfers drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year. That means, on average, golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon.

Kind of makes you proud. Almost feel like a hybrid.

HALLOWEEN SCRAMBLE

Quite a few crazy people found a win-dow from the rain and several were wearing Halloween costumes for this event.

The winners after a tie-breaker were Helen Krantz, Lorna Lycan, Merv Oleksyn and Doug Rae.

They beat out the team of Rusty Ellis, Glen McCuaig, Roberta Oleksyn and Kathy Needham. Both teams scored 33.



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Residents of Pender Harbour & Egmont

We strongly urge ALL PROPERTY OWNERS to carefully review your upcoming PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS for accuracy, bearing in mind the proposed provincial government freeze at 2007 values.

Should you have any questions or require our opinion as real estate professionals, please do not hesitate to contact any one of us for a "NO OBLIGATION" opinion of your value.



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Ann Harmer photo

Registrants at a recent mushroom dyeing workshop (that's dyeing with an "e") at FibreWorks Gallery in Madeira Park were delighted with the rainbow of earth hues that came out of the dyepots. All of the colours were attained by using local mushrooms; because of their seasonal nature, the next opportunity for dyeing won't be until 2009. The workshop was led by Ann Harmer.

THANKS to all of the advertisers who have supported the pages of the Harbour Spiel through 2008.

SPECIAL THANKS to the advertisers below, who have supported every issue:

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Place names of Pender Harbour and Jervis Inlet (Part III)

By Peter Trappitt

Ed. note (1993): This is Part III of an article written by Peter Trappitt in 1960 for Al Lloyd.

FOLEY BAY

After Sir Thomas Foley, GCB, Admiral of the *White* and Rear-Admiral of Great Britain. He commanded *Goliath* at Nile and was Nelson's flag-captain at Copenhagen. One of the most famous of Nelson's captains.

HOTHAM SOUND

After Admiral William Hotham (pronounced "hutham"). His indecisive conduct while in command of the Mediterranean fleet was responsible for missing two great opportunities to destroy the french fleet on March 14 and July 13, 1795. Nelson is said to have openly despised him as a fleet commander.

ST. VINCENT BAY

Commemorates the Battle of St. Vincent and its victor, Sir John Jervis, later Earl St. Vincent.

SYKES ISLAND

Named in honour of John Sykes, an Able Seaman in the British Navy for many years and an old and faithful follower of Nelson.

HARDY ISLAND

After Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Masterman Hardy. Best known as Captain Hardy, he commanded Nelson's flagship the *Victory* at the Battle of Trafalgar.

CULLODEN POINT

After HMS *Culloden*, 74 guns, which, under the command of Captain Thomas Troubridge, distinguished itself at the Battle of St. Vincent.

BALL POINT

Situated on the N.E. tip of Hardy Island and named after Rear-Admiral Sir Alexander John Ball. Ball captained the HMS *Alexander*, 74 guns, at the Battle of the Nile and was one of Nelson's famous "Band of Brothers." A gallant and distinguished officer who well deserved the honours that came to him later in life.

ALEXANDER POINT

Located on the S.W. tip of Hardy Island, it's named after the line-of-battle ship HMS *Alexander*.

FOX ISLAND

Located in Blind Bay, it's named after the cutter *Fox* which served under Nelson in his attack on Santa Cruz in July 1797.

CAPE COCKBURN

Named after Admiral Sir George Cockburn who, as Captain Cockburn, commanded the frigate *Minerve* at St. Vincent.

FEARNEY POINT

Located at the S.W. entrance to Agamemnon Channel and named after Nelson's barge-man and follower

who, at the Battle of St. Vincent when Nelson captured the Spanish *San Josef*, received from Nelson the swords of the Spanish officers as they surrendered and coolly tucked them in a bundle under his arm as they were handed to him.

VANGUARD BAY

At the north end of Nelson Island, it's named after HMS *Vanguard*, the flagship of Rear-Admiral Sir Horatio Nelson at the Battle of the Nile.

ELEPHANT BAY

Named after HMS *Elephant*, 74 guns, Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Copenhagen.



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A lone kayaker scans the dramatic granite cliffs at Cape Cockburn. The cape is named after Sir George Cockburn, commander of the frigate *Minerve* which fought at the Battle of St. Vincent on the southern coast of Portugal in 1797.

SAUMEREZ BLUFF

Located in Prince of Wales Reach. Named after Admiral James, Lord de Saumerez, of the most distinguished of Nelson's captains.

spoke of his bravery and skill but they chiefly remembered him for his generosity and thoughtfulness."

He became Rear-Admiral in 1811, was honoured with a KCB in

1815, promoted to Vice-Admiral in 1815 and to Admiral in 1830. He died in England on Sept. 2, 1834.

MOUNT HALLOWELL

This peak, situated between Sakinaw Lake and Sechelt Inlet, towers 4,130 feet above the highway between Pender Harbour and Earls Cove. Named in honour of a great Canadian, Mt. Hallowell is a monument to Canada's notorious neglect of its heroes of history.

Benjamin Hallowell was one of the bravest and best of Nelson's captains. Born in what would later be known as Canada in 1760, his father was the last commissioner of the American Board of Customs.

"His contemporaries in the Navy

THANK YOU to the people of Pender Harbour and Egmont

I thank you for electing me as your Regional Director. The key to our relationship is communication, so don't hesitate to contact me about any of your SCRD-related concerns, ideas and issues.

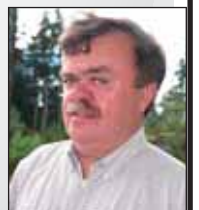
I thank my good friends Myrtle Winchester and Jane Reid for helping me on my campaign. Myrtle (Paper Mill) took the pictures, designed and printed my brochure (which I am very proud of). She also designed my yard signs and along with Jane put the signs all over the community and maintained them.

I thank Brian Lee/Harbour Spiel for the excellent coverage of our election, and Lorraine Wareham of the Coast Reporter for doing last minute changes to my ad. I congratulate Geoff Craig for being a worthy opponent and running a clean campaign. I thank all those who asked me my views on local issues during the campaign and those who congratulated me on the victory. I thank my neighbors Rose and Judy for arranging my Win-or-Lose gathering Saturday night — it was a hoot.

I am so proud to represent everybody in Area A on the Regional District Board and I will do my very best to look after that trust you have given me.

Eric Graham, Area A Regional Director (Elect)

604-883-9061 ericgraham@dccnet.com



A booklover's guide to Christmas



By Theresa Kishkan

I confess that I love everything about Christmas — the lights, but-tery shortbread, bright gifts under

a fragrant tree, my husband's special sherry trifle, the carol ships, the arrival home of my far-flung children...

Living where we do, some distance from a city, it's perhaps easier to avoid the hype and commercialism that increasingly ask us to buy big. And I come from a family of readers; my childhood Christmases were characterized by books. I was never disappointed. Imaginary worlds, travel to exotic places, close encounters with wonderful minds, an introduction to interesting cuisine, the natural world, a fine story, well told — what could be better?



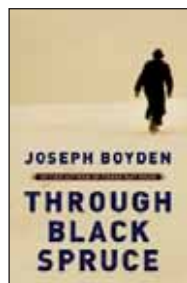
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a book to take us lands away..."**

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FICTION

For readers of contemporary fiction, why not consider Joseph Boyden's *Through Black Spruce*, awarded the Giller Prize this fall? It continues the story of one of the characters in his splendid *Three Day Road* and demonstrates Boyden's masterful prose style as well as a strong sense of setting and plot.

I also loved Mary Swan's *The Boys in the Trees*, short-listed for the Giller. It's a haunting and original story of a hanging in 19th-century Ontario.

Nino Ricci won the Governor General's Award for his novel, *The Origin of Species*, also worth checking out.

NON-FICTION

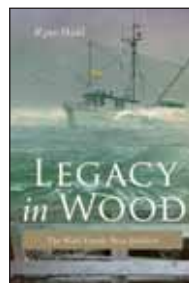
There are lots of new titles for anyone interested in regional history. Ryan Wahl's fine *Legacy in Wood: The Wahl Family Boat Builders* chronicles his family's boatbuilding business, a story of courage and industry.

In *Stranger Wycott's Place*, John Schreiber explores the geography and stories of the Chilcotin.

And for a masterful investigation into the Asian presence in B.C. from 1941-67, I highly recommend Patricia Roy's *Triumph of Citizenship*.

FOOD AND WINE

There are cookbooks to please



every taste. Celebrity chefs are well-represented but a book that impressed me was *A Good Catch: Sustainable Seafood Recipes from Canada's Top Chefs*, edited by Jill Lambert. Among chefs represented are Tojo with "Marinated Sablefish," Dolly Watts with "Fast Fish Hash," Rusty Penno with "Dandelion Tea-Cure Steelhead Trout" and Mario Navarrete Jr. with "Dogfish Ceviche in Five Elements."

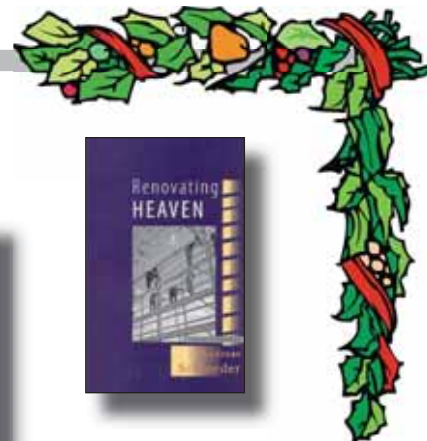
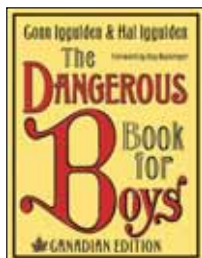
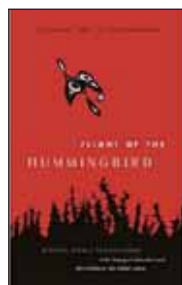
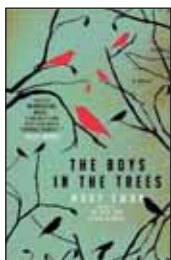
I was intrigued by Robert Wolke's *What Einstein Told his Cook: Kitchen Science Explained*. It decodes the chemistry of cream of tartar, the mysteries of heat and cold as they affect food, how gadgets work (or don't) and offers recipes to demonstrate the science of brining and levels of sweetness.

What's food without wine? The duo of Kenji Hodgson and James Nevison has a winner with their *Had A Glass* series. These two guys provide great suggestions for wines under \$20 and the 2009 edition is available now. Their wine notes are spirited and useful.

There's also a wonderful new book, *The Spirituality of Wine*, in which Tom Harpur, a theologian and classicist, looks at wine from ancient times to the present. It is lavishly illustrated and beautifully written.

YOUNG ADULTS/CHILDREN

I was delighted by a new edition



of Kenneth Grahame's *Wind in the Willows*. The illustrations by Robert Ingpen pay a kind of homage to the earlier work of Ernest Shepherd and Arthur Rackham but update the charming characters somewhat. (Mr. Badger wears a sweatshirt with a big B on it and a long hoodie. His baggy pants are tucked into rakish boots. You almost expect a skate board under his arm.)

For a child who likes comics, consider *Draw Your Own Manga* by Haruno Nagatomo. This distinctive and popular Japanese graphic form is deconstructed so that its elements are easily attempted by a child who likes to draw.

An interesting companion to this might be Michael Nicholl Yahgulanaas's *Flight of the Hummingbird* which is an inspiring example of his own blending of his Haida traditions with the stylistic effects of manga.

The popular broadcaster (and former children's librarian) Bill Richardson has teamed up with Cynthia Nugent to produce the lively *The Aunts Come Marching*, a witty take-off on the song we all learned as children. The language and illustrations work together to make a treasure.

When I was growing up, my brothers' cub master would come to our house for Christmas dinner and he always brought them gift books like *The Boys' Own Annual*. I thought

these were amazing — full of survival lore, jokes and tales of daring and adventure. So I was hugely impressed with *The Dangerous Book for Boys* (Canadian Edition) by Conn and Hal Iggulden. It's just full of information on everything from flag codes to making a pocket light to marbling paper to sports arcana, cloud formations, monsterology and even girls.

There's a *Pocket Daring Book for Girls* by Andrea Buchanan and Miriam Peskowitz that looks pretty good, too. Sections include "Queens of the Ancient World," "Tongue Twisters," "The Fibonacci Sequence" and "Elements and Atoms."

The Human Body by Pascale Hédelin and Robert Barborini is interactive and really fascinating as well as being extremely informative. For older kids, there's *The Way We Work* by David Macauley. It does for the human body what his earlier book, *The Way Things Work*, did for just about everything else, from levers to cam-

eras to the internal combustion engine.

BOOKS FROM THE COAST

Why not consider the local, too? The Coast is home to lots of writers (as well as publishers) and a number of them have new books this season.


Andreas Schroeder's *Renovating Heaven* is a suite of three connected novellas.

Robin Wheeler's *Food Security for the Faint of Heart* looks at sustainable food production.

Anthea Penne has published *Reckoning*, a collection of short stories.


Anik See, formerly of Francis Peninsula and now a resident of Amsterdam, has published *Saudade: the Possibilities of Place*, a book as beautiful to look at as it is to read.

I'd like to thank Bev, Paula and Shannon at Talewind Books for their enthusiastic assistance in compiling this month's recommendations.



Copper Sky Gallery & Cafe

Monday - Saturday:
6 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday:
7 a.m. - 4 ish p.m.



You won't know what's on your Christmas list until you find it here...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

DECEMBER EVENTS

- Sat. Nov. 29.....Serendipity Christmas Craft Fair - P. H. Community Hall, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Tues. Dec. 2.....Pender Harbour Community Club General meeting - P. H. Community Hall
Sun. Dec. 7.....Larrie Cook and the Bluesmasters - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 7.....Pender Harbour Community Club Christmas Dinner - P. H. Community Hall, 4 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 8.....Pender Harbour Food Bank pick-up - P. H. Community Church, noon
Sat. Dec. 8.....Dedication of the "It's Ours" donor appreciation plaque - P. H. Health Centre, 4 p.m.
Tues. Dec. 9.....P. H. Women's Connection Christmas Luncheon - Royal Canadian Legion #112, 11:30 a.m.
Fri. Dec. 12.....Harbour Gallery Annual Christmas Sale - Harbour Gallery, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 13.....Harbour Gallery Annual Christmas Sale - Harbour Gallery, 11a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 13.....Madeira Market - P. H. Community Hall
Sat. Dec. 13.....Pender Harbour Choir Christmas Concert - Pender Harbour School of Music, 7 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 14.....Joe Stanton and the Precious Littles - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
Tues. Dec. 16.....Pender Harbour Seals inter-club swim meet - P. H. Aquatic Centre, 3:15 p.m.
Tues. Dec. 16.....Christmas Family Swim - P. H. Aquatic Centre, 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Dec. 17.....P. H. & District Wildlife Society Christmas Bird Count - dawn to dusk, everywhere
Sun. Dec. 21.....Gaetan and the French Connection - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.
Wed. Dec. 24.....Pender Harbour Food Bank pick-up - P. H. Community Church, noon
Sun. Dec. 28.....Larrie Cook and the Bluesmasters - Garden Bay Pub, 2 p.m.

FERRY DEPARTURES

Effective September 2 - June 29, 2009

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

Langdale

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

Horseshoe Bay

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

Earl's Cove

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

Saltery Bay

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

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

♦ Daily except Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

* Daily except Sundays & Dec. 25



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Dec. 7 - Larrie Cook and the Bluesmasters

Dec. 14 - Mark Crissenger

Dec. 21 - Gaetan & French Connection

Dec. 28 - Larrie Cook and the Bluesmasters

Ron and Marita and the staff at the
Garden Bay Pub
wish all a merry Christmas and
a happy New Year.



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