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# The Pender Post

March 2024

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Pender Island's Community Connection Since 1971  
PenderPost.org Vol. 54 #648



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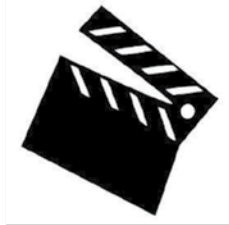
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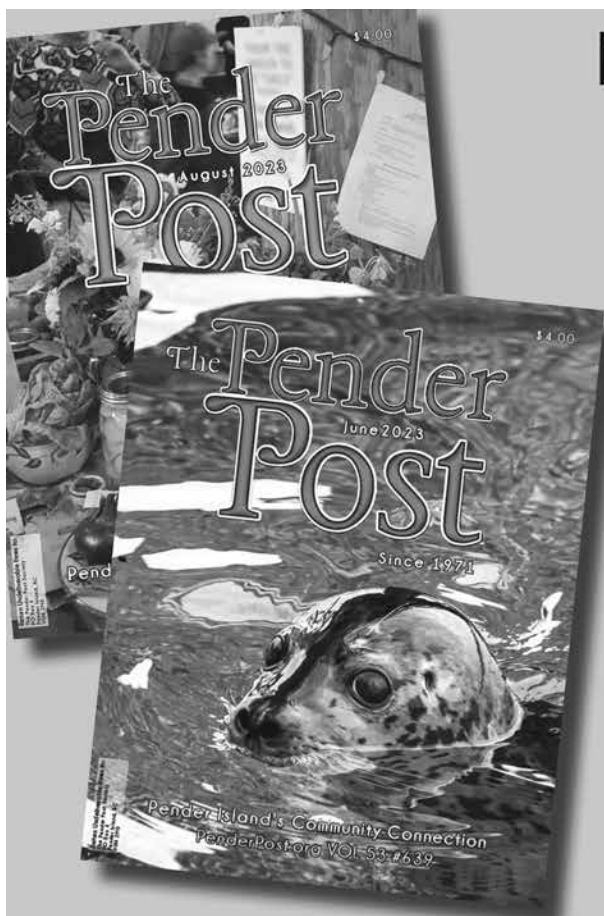
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## The Pender Post

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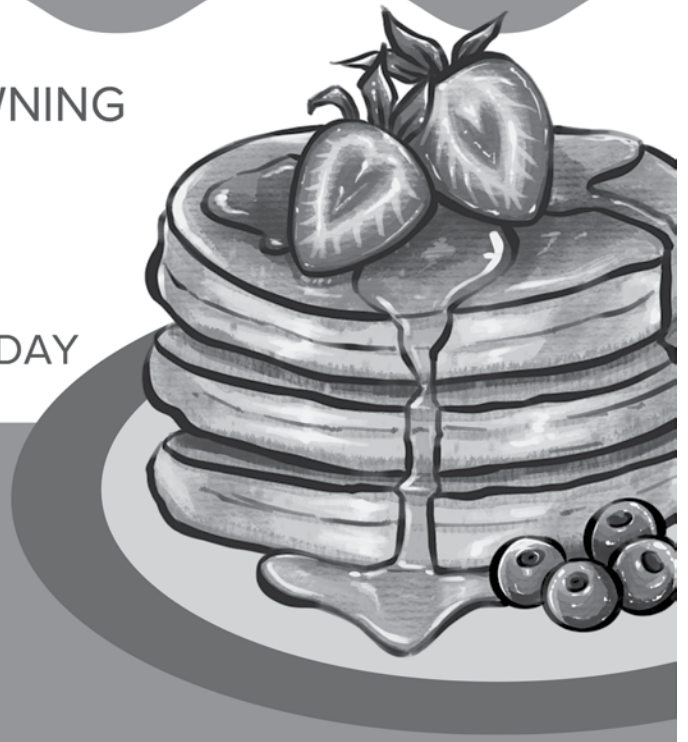
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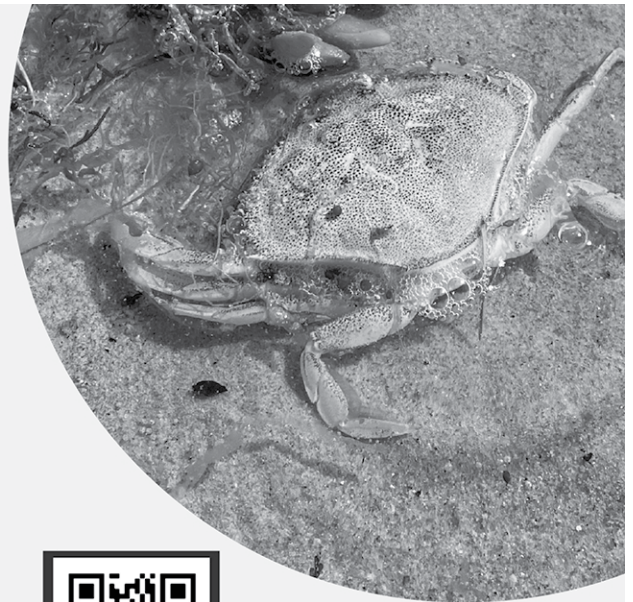
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## WHERE TO FIND

In Appreciation .....	5
Remembering .....	7
Government.....	9
The Arts.....	12
Community Services.....	20
Faith Bulletin .....	31
Calendar of Events.....	32
Recreation and Leisure .....	50
Weather Observations .....	54
Health & Healing Services.....	54
Numbers Puzzle.....	55
Cover Story.....	55
Contractors.....	56
Real Estate Services.....	61

*The Pender Post* is published once a month as a non-profit service to the community. Those who buy an annual subscription to *The Pender Post* and are residents here, are automatically members of the Pender Post Society. The board meets monthly and is comprised of representatives from the various non-profit clubs and societies. To send a new representative, please contact Jan Wallace at secretary@penderpost.org.

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## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

From our first visits to Pender Island in the 1980s, I got hooked on *The Pender Post*. My sister had a subscription, and I always found time to spend paging through the community reports and looking at the array of activities and events. But I confess the section that always had my full attention was “Remembering” – the obituaries, and the sharing of memories and stories of people who had died. They were such fascinating glimpses of the islanders, and their place within the community. I always felt an underlying message: “This person mattered. This person was a part of the fabric of our daily lives. We share in this loss together.”

This seems to have been a particularly hard winter on Pender, when it comes to loss. Some expected; some shocking in the sudden and seemingly random circumstances. Whether it is the loss of a busy, well-known resident or a quieter, more reticent islander, our community is diminished by their passing. People in our community are left hurting. It is a reminder of the fragility of our time here; a reminder of the importance of appreciating each other while we have the chance.

I’m so thankful that *The Pender Post* still believes in the value of Remembering. We publish obituaries at no cost, we don’t dictate how much space is available, and we welcome family members and close friends to share their pictures and memories. But whether or not a person is remembered in *The Post*, the fact remains: “This person mattered. This person was a part of the fabric of our daily lives. We share in this loss together.”

Annie Smith



## SPECIAL NOTICES

### 25<sup>th</sup> South Pender Easter Art Walk

March 31, 12 - 5 pm

This year will be the “Best Ever” because we are celebrating 25 years, and there are 19 artists participating, and of course, we have the rural charm of South Pender.

The idea for the South Pender Island Easter Art Walk (SPIEAW) originated in the fertile mind of Susan Taylor in late 1999/early 2000. At that time there were several artists living within convenient walking distance of each other (hence the name) at the far end of South Pender: Joy McAughtrie, Isabel Roberts, Vern Simpson, Susan Taylor and Frank Ducote, and Wendy Munroe being a bit farther away across from the fire hall.

Susan continued to organize the growing and changing number of artists and makers over many years. In 2023, Dana McConchie stepped up to run the show and this year Tracy Calvert and I are doing the coordination.

We look forward to seeing you.

*Dorset Norwich-Young*

### Community Conversations

A third bi-monthly meeting of Community Conversations was held at the lounge in the Hall on January 12, with both Adam Olsen and Paul Brent taking questions from an engaged cross section of the Pender community. Issues that were addressed ranged from the fact that all island roads are considered to be rural highways (and the problems therein) to such hot topics as housing, deer, the fossil fuel industry and local agriculture.

On March 8, Dag Falck (South Pender Island trustee) will join Adam at the Hall at 9:30 am for questions and discussion. This is the opportunity to voice your concerns and learn more about the critical issues that impact our island life. All are welcome.

We are very grateful to the Community Hall and Andrea Mills for providing the space for these gatherings.

*Kathy Cronk & Mary Anne Paré*

### Thank you, Davie Rae

The Pender Island Community Service Society (Nu-To-Yu) would like to express our sincere gratitude to Davie Rae, owner of the Driftwood Shopping Centre, for the donation to the Society of 1.5 acres of land adjacent to the Driftwood Centre. This donation has allowed the relocation of the Nu-To-Yu to proceed. We are excited to move ahead with development of this site for our new thrift store. Thank you, Davie!

*Pam Petrie,  
President, Nu-To-Yu*

### Thank you, Elizabeth May

I would like the Pender Community to know that Elizabeth May, MP for Saanich-Gulf Islands, has provided a new Canadian flag for the Danny Martin Baseball Park. This new flag replaces the previous flag that was very faded and torn. Elizabeth provided a new Canadian flag for the Danny Martin Baseball Park about three years ago and has once again provided a new Canadian flag that will proudly fly in the Pender winds.

I have replaced the old flag with the new one along with a new halyard... so let the winds blow.

The next time you are at the Danny Martin Baseball Park for a baseball game, take a moment and salute our flag.

*Dale Henning*

### Thank you, Pender Elves

I am late getting my thank-you article printed as I was away in New Zealand visiting family.

First of all, thank you to ALL who donated gifts and funds for our Santa's Sac program this year. We were able to provide approximately 200 gifts to children in 27 families, along with a \$250 food card and a ham or vegetarian option. We also sent 40 food cards for \$125 to individuals and \$150 to 4 couples. We delivered 20 gifts to seniors with a poinsettia, box of chocolate biscuits (courtesy of PI Pharmacy) and a snuggly teddy bear (courtesy of PI BC Liquor store Share a Bear program). 21 turkey dinners were also delivered by volunteers along with the gifts.

Secondly, Santa would not have arrived this year without the hours of assistance from many volunteers, but particularly the dedicated head elves – Cathy Nealy, Deanna Roozendaal, Shirley Arthur, Barb MacPherson, Anne Burdett, Carol Davis, and Suzanne and Paul Passenier. Countless hours of decorating, organizing, sorting, packing, shopping, phoning, texting, emailing, writing cards, mailing, delivering, driving, and Facetimeing to New Zealand – so many moving parts which they carried off with grace, humour and goodwill. To all others unnamed, thank you once again for being part of this wonderful program.

Thirdly, a huge thank you to Mike and all the staff at Tru Value who agreed to host the tree this year while I was away.

Thanks to them and Pender generosity, over \$8000 worth of toys and gift cards were donated to the 27 families (45 children) needing a little extra help this year. So remarkable for a small community. Also, a huge thank you to Lori and the Mill Bay Marine Group for hosting a small tree in the marina office. Lori collected food for the food bank and arranged for the donation and delivery of foods from both Sysco and Gordon Foods – so thank you so much to those companies as well. Mill Bay Marine Group also donated \$400 to the cause.

And finally, to all our corporate sponsors and individual donors – thank you! We raised approximately \$12,500 in donations this year, including \$1400 from our awesome PI Fire Rescue crew and the Shake a Boot Day. Our annual lead sponsor, the Nu-To-Yu, again donated \$2000 despite fundraising for the new building. We could not continue this program without the generosity of so many.

I was sorry to have missed all the joyous fun in December but enjoyed all the photos, messages, and updates while I was away. Christmas in New Zealand is warm and fun but there's no Santa's Sac!

Thank you all again – spring is almost here and Happy Easter!

*Terry Shepherd,  
Santa's Sac Coordinator*

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**Nu-To-Yu  
Building Fund**

60% of the \$1,250,000 required to build the new Nu-to-Yu facility at the Driftwood Centre has been raised. Government grants will provide some of the remainder but private donations are also requested.

For information see:  
<https://nu-to-yu.com/our-new-build>

**To donate to the Building Fund, contact:  
nutoyudonate@gmail.com**



## Charles Graeme Harris

January 10, 1930 - January 18, 2024



After ninety-four years of a life well-lived, on January 18 Chuck quietly slipped the surly bonds of Earth and headed off on his next adventure. He is survived by Doreen, his wife and partner in forty-four years of many happy adventures, three children, Lorne (Elmy), Ted, and Nicole; three grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. Chuck had a remarkable life, one which began in the drought years of the Great Depression, on a farm in Moosomin, Saskatchewan, in a home with no running water, electricity, or telephone. His life ended almost a century later in a time of terrible climate disasters and mind-boggling technological advancements.

The oldest of three boys, when he was nine, Chuck drove himself and his brother two and a half miles to the one-room Red Jacket school either by horse and buggy (a jerry-rigged harness sulky) in the summer or in the winter by horse-drawn cutter. The older kids looked after their horse, putting her in the school barn. The school was so named for the red jackets worn by the North-West Mounted Police.

Soon after World War II broke out, when Chuck was nine, his father enlisted, and

his mother was left to look after three boys under age 9 on an allowance of \$86/month for the duration of the war. The farm equipment was auctioned off and the family moved into town. Thus began a very unsettled life during the war years for Chuck, his two brothers, and their mother. After several moves to stay with various relatives, they eventually moved to Victoria where Chuck's mother's parents lived.

By the time he reached high school, Chuck had attended nine schools and had lived in many cramped rooming houses. Their mother found various jobs, including one short-lived experience at the Esquimalt shipyards as a Rosie the Riveter. The boys had several jobs during the war delivering telegrams, selling newspapers, and helping Mr. Hillis fill sacks of sawdust at Sweeney's Cooperage in Vic West, then delivering them to people who used sawdust burners to heat their homes. Mr. Hillis was a kind man who always made sure the boys had a meal before he took them home.

Chuck worked for a time as a wiper (clean-up man) at the roundhouse of the E & N Railway and, one summer when he was seventeen, he worked as a wiper in the engine room of the Princess Louise on its weekly voyage between Victoria and Skagway, Alaska. Chuck remembered often being seasick as the seawater sloshed through the porthole and splashed the crew as they slept during the crossing of Queen Charlotte Sound.

Chuck enjoyed learning and the stability that school offered. His teachers inspired a love for poetry and literature, which continued until he died. The range of books he read was amazing. One week he would be reading *War and Peace* and then the next week it would be a Virginia Woolfe novel or *Cloud Cuckoo Land*. After graduation from high school, he completed one year at Victoria College and then joined some of his buddies in Vancouver, enrolling at UBC. Summer jobs during this period included working

on a bottling assembly line at a Victoria brewery, in the Parliament Buildings in Victoria, on a forestry survey crew studying bark beetles in the Windermere Valley, building cement pads to which log booms were attached at the Harmac Mill in Nanaimo (where he worked with David Spalding of South Pender Island), and work for a construction company building the Kemano project at West Taitsa Lake.

Chuck graduated from UBC with a BA and Bachelor of Social Work and, after working for the City of Vancouver, he took a job in the personnel department as an employee selection officer at CP Air. He didn't enjoy that job either, but it did provide one highlight. On a trip by train to Winnipeg to recruit stewardesses and reservation clerks, he met Tommy Douglas who kindly gave him directions when he got off the train.

*Continued*

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The  
**Pender Post**

With a growing family to support, Chuck switched gears and became a teacher, first in Surrey and then in Richmond where he taught English and Social Studies to high school and junior high school students.

He fell in love with Pender Island in 1971 and purchased an unfinished cabin there which was a summer escape for him and the kids until he retired in 1987. After moving here full time, it wasn't long before he needed something to do. He agreed to be the Activities Director of the Magic Lake Property Owners' Society and then a year later he had his arm twisted to join the new Pender Island Parks Commission to help register and open beach accesses, and develop trails and parks. From 1988 to 1999 he worked with various government departments to open 25 trails, beach accesses, and parks for all to enjoy.

He tried his hand at acting with Solstice Theatre. He enjoyed the camaraderie. Jacquie Main will remember a funny moment onstage after she had warned

Chuck NOT to use that door. He loved being a member of the Play Reading Group, many of whom were long-time Pender residents. Chuck was proud of his role in helping to establish the Pender Island Conservancy Association and was happy to see it continuing to do such important conservation and educational outreach work. He was one of the 28 Hope Bay Rising shareholders who each contributed \$10,000 to buy the property and then work together to bring the Hope Bay complex back to life after it was destroyed by fire.

One of the most interesting and rewarding chapters of Chuck's life began in 1990 when he and Doreen opened Hummingbird Hollow Bed and Breakfast. Chuck was kept busy for twenty-five years in his roles as greeter, breakfast server, and bathroom cleaner. So many guests came to stay, each with his or her own interesting stories to tell. Many of our guests went on to buy homes and move to Pender.

Over the years he got a lot of joy playing disc golf. Any family or friends who visited would be taken for a hike on one of the trails or beach accesses and then, almost always, they would be taken to the disc park. Chuck was still able to play a few holes on the lower nine into his 92nd year. As is shown on the plaque on pin # 22 at the course, the basket was donated by the Three Old Farts: Chuck, Tony Orlaw, and Jim Kozma. They spent a lot of happy hours together playing disc golf.

Chuck's happiest years were spent on Pender. The family is grateful to our Community Nurses, Carmel and Miranda, and all the kind support workers who looked after Chuck making it possible for him to stay here almost until he died. A celebration of Chuck's life will be held on Saturday, April 13 at 2 pm at the Anglican Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome to come and help celebrate a long, happy life.

*Doreen Ball*



**In loving memory of Jane Slater**  
**1939 - 2023**

## Lisa Christensen



Like so many on our island, we at *The Pender Post* were saddened to hear that Lisa Christensen recently passed away. We hope to have a full remembrance of Lisa in our April issue and to announce details of her Celebration of Life. In the meantime, please see John Pender's tribute to Lisa in his report for The Legion on page 47.

*Annie Smith*

I met Lisa at the Community Church, I knew we would hit it off as friends because of her bubbly personality and pink hair. Lisa loved Pender Island and gave her time and energy to so many different organizations; she looked forward to all the activities she was involved in. Lisa never complained and always counted her blessings, making sure to emphasize the positive side of any situation. She loved her Dodge Challenger; she would always correct me if I called it a Charger (did I get it right this time, Lisa?) She was a great cook, proud of her Italian heritage. She loved her Mom very much and often talked about her. Lisa was a seeker and loved God; she was generous and giving, a lovely, lively, and sweet person. I'll miss her.

*Ilse Phillips*

## Marianne Schaefer

Marianne Schaefer passed away peacefully in her sleep February 20 at the San Pen palliative unit with her sister by her side. Death would have come as a relief after her painful struggle with cancer. Marianne was a quiet, reclusive character but served our community well as a beloved music teacher for many years with the Pender Primary School and Dragonfly Child Care Centre. Please look for info about a small memorial in next month's Post.

*Yvonne MacKenzie*



*Aerial view of Mortimer Spit, the canal and Bridge Park*

© Claudia Lorenz. Courtesy Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission.



## You're Invited!

**The Pender Post is looking for people to join its Board.**

**We particularly encourage younger members of our community to get involved.**

If you'd like to be involved in publishing our island's monthly magazine, please contact our President, Annie Smith, [annie-smith@shaw.ca](mailto:annie-smith@shaw.ca).

To get a sense of what we're about and how our Board is involved, we invite you to join us at our next Board meeting on March 18, 10:00 am at the Community Hall.

*As always, there will be coffee and home-baked treats!*

## The Pender Post

Pender Island's Community Connection Since 1971

CRD

**Biosolids Disposal**



So what is the hot topic at the CRD these days? It's hot because it's not, and that topic is biosolids. They are the dried residue from the \$770 million wastewater treatment plant in Esquimalt and were to be burned at a facility on Annacis Island to help fuel the making of cement. However, material handling and other technical issues have frustrated that process, so those biosolids are being landfilled at Hartland Landfill or used in mine reclamation up island.

There are citizen concerns about "forever chemical" leaching into the water system and previous CRD Boards have voted to ban land application of biosolids. We now get monthly biosolid updates and have begun a significant public engagement process. If the cement plant option isn't resolved, there are alternatives to land application, but most are very costly, so it will be a test of how much people are willing to pay for dealing with this issue. On Pender, Magic Lake's wastewater effluent (sludge) is trucked to either Salt Spring or Langford for its treatment.

**Mooring Buoys**

Something a bit more relevant to our islands is the attempt to grapple with the proliferation of mooring buoys and boats, and in particular derelict boats, that have increased in our waters. It is a multi-jurisdictional mess, needing all levels of government to work cooperatively (that's innovative) and on a region-wide basis, otherwise the problem will just move around. While

Transport Canada (Federal) regulates mooring buoys relative to navigation, they advise that local governments can regulate their placement using land use bylaws. One twist is that the Province controls the seabed, but they've chosen not to regulate mooring buoys, which is within their remit. We're doing our best to get this under control, but it is truly a dog's breakfast.

**Electric Scooters**

Another focus is "micro-mobility", or the use of two-wheel electric scooters in the CRD and on our islands. They are in use in many places worldwide, but are illegal in our province, including the CRD. There is a Provincial pilot program that legalizes them, allowing local governments to opt in, but no CRD municipalities have joined. I sought to have the Southern Gulf Islands included in the pilot but without luck. As an Electoral Area we fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transport and don't qualify. Yet again. What I'll be doing is looking for CRD to advocate for a full provincial program or at least allow Electoral Areas to opt-in.

**On the Housing Front**

The CRD Board has endorsed a rural housing program as one of its three housing streams for this term. For this year we've received commitments from the Southern Gulf Islands Tourism Partnership for \$100,000 in funding as well as a further \$50,000 for the pre-existing Housing Now Program and we'll be working with the Partnership to access upwards of \$200,000 more if housing opportunities present themselves. We can expect a lot more funding in 2025 when program deliverables are fully fleshed out and in place.

I want to congratulate the Galiano Island Trustees for passing a temporary use permit for four trailers hooked to an engineered septic for use as workforce housing. That took a lot of courage and foresight, especially given Galiano Island's perception of trailers as viable homes.

*Paul Brent,  
CRD Director for the SGI*

**Islands Trust**

**South Pender LTC**



Well, we managed to get through the winter months with relatively few (and thankfully short) power outages.

Snowdrops, crocuses, and daffodils are up, and the garden is waking up too! Here is what I have been up to for the last month as your South Pender Trustee; it's been a busy month.

**Chief Administrative Officer Hiring Committee (CAOHC)**

After our CAO, Russ Hotsenpiller, announced his plans to retire, the CAOHC was formed, which consists of the Executive Committee and the Chairs of all standing committees. I was appointed to the CAOHC as I am the Chair of the Trust Programs Committee. We have been meeting approximately fortnightly since forming to work through the hiring process, with meetings on January 19 and 26, and February 8 and 20. These meetings are mostly conducted in-camera with Rise and Reports afterwards as appropriate.

**South Pender LTC work**

South Pender held its quarterly LTC meeting on February 2. It was well attended and during the Rise and Report after the in-camera portion of the meeting, it was announced that Paul Petrie had been appointed to the local Advisory Planning Committee (APC). Congratulations, Paul.

Trustee Falck and I each held two community brainstorming workshops to discuss setbacks and house size topics. These were also very well attended, and some great ideas were presented with (in my personal experience) highly collaborative and informative discussions. We look forward to working on the next steps in this process and truly appreciate the time and commitment of everyone who came out to participate. A big thank-you to everyone.

**Trust Programs Committee**

Trust Programs met on February 14. Topics currently being explored are Spatial Planning and 30x30 Pledge which means that by 2030 at least



**Paul Brent**  
Electoral Area Director  
Southern Gulf Islands  
250-216-5618  
directorsgi@crd.bc.ca

[www.crd.bc.ca/southern Gulf](http://www.crd.bc.ca/southern Gulf)



30% of the island's area is effectively conserved. The current average for the Islands Trust area is 19.55%. There are only two islands that currently exceed this goal, South Pender is at 32.16% and Saturna is at 45.97%. High five to South Pender!

### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee met on February 21 to discuss the upcoming requirements for year-end mandated submissions.

### **Financial Committee**

The Financial Committee met on January 24, and February 1 and 21. The January and February 21 meetings worked on finalizing the draft budget and discussing the various business cases that have been submitted. The February 1 meeting was dedicated to discussing the Budget guidelines and their relation to Corporate Planning.

### **Corporate Planning Process Status**

Since its inception a year ago in

February 2023, the Corporate Planning Process Working Group (consisting of Trustee Mairead Boland, Trustee Laure Patrick, Trustee Kristina Evans, Director Julia Mobbs and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Russ Hotsenpiller) have written the first draft of the Corporate Planning Process and presented it to the Financial Committee, Governance Committee, Executive Committee, and Trust Council. The Corporate Planning Process Project Charter was approved by the Trust Council at its September meeting.

A couple of big Corporate Planning Process issues were brought forward to the Trust Council to address, namely the need for an Islands Trust Vision statement and agreement upon the object of the mandate. These two items were addressed at the Trust Council September and December meetings, and they will form the foundation of the meaningful work undertaken by Trust

Council. We have proposed a discussion and an exercise at the next Trust Council meeting on Goal and Priority setting for the remainder of the term.

We met on January 25 and discussed the next steps for this working group, including reviewing proposed timelines for each process step as they occur within the year, how they tie in with the current financial budget process, project planning process, and tie in with scheduled Trust Council meetings. In addition, we are starting to review applicable current policies and procedures to make sure there is alignment with the Corporate Planning process being developed and make additional adjustments to the draft process language.

### **Culturally Committed Meetings**

I was privileged to join the Culturally Committed group and attended the Building Meaningful Engagement and

*Continued*



**Happy 80th and 75th Birthdays Roger and Josette Whitehouse!**  
**Lots of Love, Andrea, Kate, Ethan, and Rueben**

Relationships with Indigenous Peoples workshop on January 17. As I missed the January 24 meeting, I was welcomed to participate in a different group on February 7. It was a very moving meeting, and I was honored to be included and learned a lot that I hope to bring forward into our meetings as well. I also attended the February 21 meeting.

**Adam Olsen's Southern Gulf Island Forum**

Sadly, due to my waitressing job at the Copper Otter (serving my community in more ways than one), and the numerous committees and working groups I am involved with, I am finding that I have been unable to attend the meetings because of scheduling conflicts and have decided to step down from this group. Trustee Dag Falck has been regularly attending these meetings, so South Pender still has excellent representation on this forum. Please feel free to contact Trustee Falck about any questions related to this group.

*Kristina Evans,  
South Pender Trustee*

**Pender Island Art Society**



We are keeping busy with many different sessions planned.

The last session we had was with Corinne Parker, a "critiquing" of work that members brought. It was very thoughtfully done and there was positive feedback. Members mentioned that it really helped them with some ideas as to whether a work was finished or not. By the time you read this we will have had our first evening session on Tuesday the 20th, where we explored many different ways of drawing. We are trying these sessions for those who can't make it during the daytime.

**Pochoir Printmaking with Bev Peden**

Monday March 4, 1 - 3 pm

Pochoir Printmaking is a technique used by many artists to create prints using stencils. You can look up Youtube videos on Pochoir Printmaking, and you will have a sense of the process. The

Society has a supply of materials, paper, paints rollers etc. If interested just email [mjalpenart@shaw.ca](mailto:mjalpenart@shaw.ca); we will send a list of supplies you can bring. No need to go out and buy supplies though.

**Life Drawing**

Tuesday March 19, 7 - 9 pm

This is the second of our evening workshops, where we will be doing life drawing with a dressed model. In April we will be presenting a watercolour workshop with Rebecca Hansen. That will be two consecutive Tuesday sessions.

Friday May 10 and Saturday May 11 - We will be hosting a 2 day workshop on landscape painting with David Goatley. Have a look at his work at [www.davidgoatley.com](http://www.davidgoatley.com). Cost and info coming soon. Please feel free to come even if you are not a member. We welcome non-members for a drop in fee of \$5.

*Margaret Alpen*

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**Pender Taxi Saver Program**

In partnership with Moving Around Pender, Lightning Taxi, and the SGI Neighbourhood House

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**Save up to 50% on Taxi fare!**

Registration and approval is required before voucher purchases.

**Register & Purchase Vouchers Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 10-4 at the SGI Neighbourhood House Office at the Driftwood Centre**

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## Pender Island Celtic Music Society

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Another month has sped by and practices have gone on although attendance has been rather sparse some Monday evenings. There have been no music performances, but the band did pool their efforts to co-host, with St. Peter's Church, the annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on February 13. The supper goes from 5 - 6:30, but the work actually begins about 1 in the afternoon and goes until everything is cleaned and put away. There was a good turnout of band members, and we received lots of assistance from family, friends, and other community members that evening. The attendance was 80 - 90 diners, including those who volunteered and helped out. Some worked cooking and serving the meals and others laboured in the kitchen in ways that are greatly appreciated though less visible to all.

*Caren Rennie*

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## Pender Island Concert Society

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Our first concert of the year headlined Lester Quitzau and Matthew Hinton in their first public performance as a duo. Matthew and Lester first got together about a year ago to jam a little and they hit it off. A full house audience on Sunday February 11 listened enthusiastically to the results of this collaboration and the unique musical chemistry between these two talented people.

Now we have a bit of a wait until the next and last performance of our 2023/24 season. This will be at 7:30 pm Thursday April 25 when we present guitarists Adam Cicchillitti and Steve Cowan in concert at the Community Hall.

The renowned American magazine Classical Guitar called Cicchillitti "a virtuoso at the top of his game" and CBC Music described him as an "ardent ambassador for classical guitar," including him on their list of the top 30 musicians in Canada under 30 years old. His album



*Some of the most important folks at the pancake supper – the guests.*



*Adam Cicchillitti and Steve Cowan*

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## THE ARTS

*Focus*, dedicated to new Canadian music for two guitars, was awarded "Classical Recording of the Year" at the East Coast Music Awards in 2021.

Adam and his duo partner Steve Cowan have won the second and third prizes at the Guitar Foundation of America International Ensemble Competition in 2023 and 2021 respectively, without a doubt the world's most prestigious guitar ensemble competition.

So please join us to welcome these distinguished performers to Pender Island in April.

As usual, tickets will be available for sale at Talisman Books or Ptarmigan's website for \$25, and at the door if seats are available. Our generous sponsors make it possible for students to attend all concerts free of charge, although they still need to get a ticket.

*Jon Heaney, Society Chair*

## Pender Island Quilters' Circle



A group of eleven convivial quilters met at the Anglican Church

Hall on Monday, February 12. It was the second session for the Sea Glass quilt project, introduced in January. Heather Duncan demonstrated a free motion sewing technique where she followed the applied fabric stones without breaking the thread. The thread is trimmed when the applique stitching is finished. It is a fast and easy technique for ensuring the fused fabric pieces stay firmly adhered to the background fabric. Heather also showed us how to sew on the quilt binding with a special binding foot. The rest of the morning was spent chatting about quilting projects and life in general. These quilting sessions are an opportunity to learn about new techniques, get inspired by the work of others, and tap into the expertise of our quilting friends. Karen Gagnier issues a heartfelt thank you to Susan Underhill for opening the church and starting the session and Heather Duncan for leading the Sea Glass project.

Handy Hint: If you made an error in your quilt but you can't spot it from three feet, it doesn't exist!

The March 11 Quilters' Circle project will be "Wonky Square" led by Karen Watson. It's a delightful pieced square that can be used as a pot holder, table runner, wall hanging, or quilt.

The April 8 project is a paper pieced pin cushion. Heather will lead this and provide the paper templates and crushed walnut shells for the filling. More detailed instructions will be sent by email to the members.

We are participating in the *Hands Across the Water* event on Mayne Island, June 18. This is a gathering of quilt guilds: Cowichan Valley and Saturna, Mayne, Galiano, and Pender Islands. The hosts always provide a very enjoyable day of quilt displays, vendors, and lunch.

## B & B



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Martha Deme's Bed Quilt, appliqued William Morris pattern and fabric.



Ann England's Sea Glass Wall Hanging with kelp and starfish.



### Quilter's Philosophy

We all have our moments of discouragement where the quilt we designed isn't turning out. The fabrics and patterns, when chosen, were appealing but just did not work out. We debate whether to persist or give up. We may make several attempts but eventually consign the failed effort to the cache of unfinished projects, languishing and waiting eternally for completion. It's okay to let go. Letting go can move us beyond discouragement and provide the freedom to explore new horizons.

Next Meeting:  
Monday, March 11, 9:30 - Noon,  
Anglican Church Hall

Laura Vilness



New Horizons  
for Seniors  
Program

## 55+ Luncheon Gatherings

### At the Pender Island Community Hall

#### Lasagna

Bechamel Sauce & Traditional  
Bolognese with Parmigiano  
Reggiano

Mar 4

#### Roasted Chicken

Pan Sauce, Braised Cabbage with  
Apple & Caraway, Butternut  
Squash Puree

Mar 11

#### Cuban Roasted Pork

Orange & Achiote, Cuban  
Spices, Rice & Beans with Cotija,  
Cilantro Pickled Cabbage.

Mar 18

#### Salmon Poke

Soy Marinated Fish, Pickled  
Vegetables & Sushi Style Rice,  
Toasted Sesame & Kewpie Mayo.

Mar 25



12-2pm | \$8 Sliding Scale

## Pender Photo Club



*Latin Dancers.* Photo: Bruce Graham

What an unusual theme for our monthly meeting! On Monday February 5 via Zoom, we viewed 52 photos, which consisted of pairs: first a poor shot, that is boring, with no pizzazz or otherwise containing one or more major malfunctions. That part worked well, as we camera-clickers produced some really terrible shots. But what an incredible change when the polished, corrected photos appeared! Each person discussed what they had done to improve the image with the techniques including a different angle, adding an item to the composition, straightening the horizon, lightening or darkening certain sections, posterizing the photo with special software and, of course, cropping or zooming in closer. It was a great learning experience as everyone had a different take on the subject.

The theme yielded shots that were wide-ranging in content and included rolls of toilet paper, Chinese restaurants with a row of dead chickens, frozen puddle designs on a road, a duck in the reeds, fisherman's wharf and more. We were dazzled by the photos and how they had been improved.

We are considering inviting speakers to address our meetings. If we use Zoom, travel costs can be avoided. The next meeting will be at 7 pm on Monday March 4 via Zoom. Please submit up to six photos that capture this month's theme to Urs Boxler ([ursboxler@gmail.com](mailto:ursboxler@gmail.com)). The theme is "cozy interiors," which suits this time of year. Good luck!

All camera lovers are invited to join our meetings.

*Hans Tammemagi*

The Pender Post - March 2024

## PIJazz

Depending on when you read this, we're either eagerly anticipating our March 2 dance at the community hall or celebrating a grand success. I can say there will be/was great music, creative dance moves, and many lovely folks will /did wish me a happy 50th birthday, which it will be/was. Thanks!

We still have spots open in the brass section, so come on out! Other instruments could work too: give us a holler at [brycewoollcombe@gmail.com](mailto:brycewoollcombe@gmail.com) and we'll chat. We can even sometimes find instruments to loan.

### Music Musings

If you've read a few of my rants you'll know I am a recovering music snob with a great love for removing barriers to enjoying all musical genres as well as telling the gatekeepers to take a long walk on a short dock.

But there's an area of music that even some very fine musicians flog themselves over, taking on musical demerit points even though they can play and groove like nobody's business. They may even unduly credit those of us who have this arcane knowledge with more than our share of musical 'talent'.

I'm talking about theory. Music theory.

Music theory is all the codified bumphus about how we write, read, construct, deconstruct, and sauté notes in the process of cooking up a tasty tune. If music were construction, theory would be the code, the span tables, the engineering, even the materials science and some of the architecture.

I studied music theory for over a decade and, while I don't regret it, it's not necessarily something to envy. When I look at players who consider themselves 'theory deficient' yet play beautifully, collaborate with clarity and grace, and have a shelf full of Junos, I don't really see the deficiency. The spark and will of a musical creator supersedes all the persnickety math that theory can provide.

## Pender Solstice Theatre Society

Now I say that I don't regret having a brain that is slowly leaking plagal cadences, Neapolitan 6ths, tritone substitutions, and metric modulations. Theory does a few great things. I can nail entire Jeopardy categories about once a year. I can communicate on a very detailed level with others who are read-in on the arcana. Theory can sometimes tell me exactly why I love a musical piece or gesture. Theory allows me to anticipate musical things that will work, lets me know how to make something spicier or more mundane, and helps troubleshoot when music goes heinously wrong. Like an engineer, I'll know exactly why my bridge fell into the river.

So it's worth it to me, mostly because I have had the privilege to learn it and use it. If you like puzzles, language, and all things squamous and rugose, give theory a go!

*Bryce Woollcombe,  
Music Director*



*At a recent rehearsal, Karen Parker, Aaron Severance, Matt Adolf, and Joyce Davis get into character and discuss who's on first.*



Pender Solstice's spring production of *4 Weddings and an Elvis* is ramping up, and the cast and production team are raring to go. This delightful comedy hits the stage April 19 - 21. Who is being married and for how long? And will Elvis ever leave the building? All will be revealed in April.

*Evan Llewellyn, President*

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Ptarmigan Arts



Hello everyone, Lauren here! I'm back from my maternity leave and am happy to bring you this month's report for all the wonderful things happening at Ptarmigan. I had an amazing year off being immersed in the world of first-time motherhood while you've all been getting to know Alice, who jumped into the creative director role with ease.



*Lauren and Penelope.*

Alice will be staying on at Ptarmigan and she and I will be job-sharing the creative director role as we continue to bring you a full roster of programs through the year including our big events such as Mosaic Festival, coming up this summer on August 2-4 (mark your calendars).

**Payadora Tango**

We are very excited to be welcoming back award-winning tango ensemble Payadora to the island on March 18 at the Community Hall. Payadora performs its own arrangements of a core repertoire drawing from Argentinian/Uruguayan traditions (tangos, milongas, waltzes, and folk music such as the Zamba and chacarera), as well as original songs inspired by that tradition. Composed of musicians who are each musical powerhouses in their own right, this "superstar group" has combined their profound love of tango with their classical, jazz, and world music backgrounds to create something entirely new. Payadora is officially endorsed by the Argentinian



*Payadora Tango, coming to the Community Hall March 18*

Consulate in Toronto for its adherence to the spirit of tango, and audiences flock to performances that convey joy, virtuosity, humour, and intense passion. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the show starts at 7 pm. Tickets are \$25 (youth 12 and under are free) and are available online as well as at Talisman Books.

**Singing for Joy**

Mary Reher's well-loved program Singing for Fun, Singing for Joy is back in 2024. Singing in both unison and harmony can bring awesome feelings of sensory well-being, while connecting us in community. You may experience poignant, sacred, uplifting, or humorous moments, as we sing old songs, folk songs, rounds, chants, and sometimes dances. This program is for both novice/reticent singers, and those more experienced who love to sing. All ages and abilities are welcome. Rather than working toward a performance, our aim is to have an enjoyable music experience within a small group, and to build confidence in our voices and

musicianship. Singing is every person's birthright. The cost is \$60 for eight weeks and subsidies are available for caregivers and those in financial need. Sessions are Thursdays from 4 - 5 pm at the Fireside Room at the Anglican Church, March 14 to May 2.

**Uke Strum**

Hopefully you had a chance to catch the wonderful performance of the ukulele strummers (now known as the G-Strings) at the Community Gathering last month. If you missed it, the full recording is on our Facebook page and it's worth checking out. You can join the Ukulele Strum, too. Players of all ages and abilities are invited to join or just give it a try. Extra copies of music are available each week and Ptarmigan also has ukuleles available to borrow if you need one. The group meets at the Pender Island Community Hall Lounge on two Wednesdays each month from 5 - 6 pm. \$5 drop-in fee accepted at the door. This month the strummers are meeting on March 13 and 27.

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## Three on the Tree Production Society

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### Weekly Community Gatherings

Join us every Friday from 12 - 1 pm at the Community Hall for live music and fresh soup. This long-standing community program is a partnership between Community Hall, Ptarmigan Arts, and the SGI Neighbourhood House. On March 1 the Young Violins will bring us a collection of fiddle music from around the world. March 8 is International Women's Day so we are putting together a special showcase of women musicians and songwriters with myself, Anne Mullins, Chanda Bosch, Diana Fairclough, Heather Read, Sarah Smith and Taeven Lopatecki! Then on March 15 we'll hear folk rock originals and covers from Dave and Frank Scanlan, on March 22 The Dine and Dash (Dobro Bob, Elizabeth Miles, Enzo Marino, Howard Southwell and Cupid Cruz) will grace the stage, followed by Herb Keim on March 29 with original songs and yodelling accompanied by Howard Southwell on bass.

### Art in the Library

The Pender Island Public Library has revived the Art in the Library program, and we are proud to be partnering with them. The 2024 schedule will be available on their website (sgicl.bc.libraries.coop/pender-island). Debbie Katz's 'Winterlude' can be viewed until the end of March during the Library's regular hours, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 - 3.

### First Saturdays Open Studios

First Saturday Open Studios is an artist-run open studio event. This project creates an opportunity for artists and art lovers to visit artists at work in their studios, ask questions, learn about techniques and build community. Several Pender artists have already registered and we hope to encourage many more to do the same. Artists can register with First Saturday Studios online at [firstsaturday.ca](http://firstsaturday.ca)

For information and to register for any of the above programs or events, please visit our website: [ptarmiganarts.org](http://ptarmiganarts.org)

*Lauren Matys*



2023 Lantern Festival. Photo: Kenta Kikuchi



Spring is just around the corner and we're in the throes of planning our upcoming year, but we want to give one more round of thanks to our wonderful volunteers from the 2023 Magic Lake Lantern Festival and share a couple of beautiful pictures taken by Kenta Kikuchi. In the process of all our wrap up, we take some time to try to note all of the people who take part in the event as volunteers or performers and get a sense of the hours they put into it, so we'll be sharing that on our Facebook page along with a few more photos of the event for those who couldn't attend.

This upcoming year is going to be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival and our organization so if you've ever wanted to take part, we would love to hear from you this year and make it extra special. We truly have jobs for all skills so we're ready to put you to work or hear any ideas that you'd like to contribute.

In other news, this past month we also started a couple of sessions of dance classes for youth which we're very

excited to bring back to the island. Right now we've started with an Introduction to Ballet for preschool ages and a taster of a few different styles for slightly older youth. We're hoping to keep these going later in the spring and start a new session in the fall so please give us an email if you would like more info and didn't get registered for the first round.

We're also in the midst of planning our Summer Theatre Camp. In August we'll be bringing in a wonderful instructor who teaches primarily in Vancouver but has a family home on Saturna and is passionate about bringing the arts to the islands. This will be for ages 6-10 and 11+. We'll be giving out many more details over the next couple of months.

For questions about any of the programs above or general enquiries, please give us an email at [threeonthetreeproductions@gmail.com](mailto:threeonthetreeproductions@gmail.com).

Have a wonderful March!

*Alaia Hamer and Liis Graham,  
Production and Artistic Team*

Community Hall (Pender Island Recreation and Agricultural Hall Association)



The kitchen and food security improvements are progressing splendidly. The new commercial range, freezer, fridge, BBQ and various small appliances and tools are all in place; the walk-in freezer and refrigerator and other elements are still in progress and will require a bit more time to complete. We will put on a proper tour of the facility once everything is finished, but in the meantime, we've already shown around a few people interested in food security so they can get a feel for things. Our goal with these improvements is to establish the Community Hall as a crucial food security community asset for Pender.

We would once again like to thank Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) under the Local Food Infrastructure Fund (LFIF), for providing us with the majority of the funds that facilitated this major

leap in essential local infrastructure. We would also like to thank Pender Islanders for their generous support, for without your donations, we would not have been able to apply for this grant, as almost all grants come with a requirement that the benefiting community provides a percentage of the total amount.

Aside from this food security initiative, your generous donations play a pivotal role in supporting essential programs, including the Youth Leadership Program, children's camperships, Comfort Centre, community activities, capacity building for local nonprofits to create new activities, and the fundamental maintenance of the building.

If you wish to contribute to the Community Hall, we are pleased to accept e-transfers at accounts@penderislands.org. In the transaction notes, kindly include your name, address, phone number, email, and

specify that it is a donation. Donations exceeding \$50 will be eligible to receive a tax receipt. Your support is invaluable in helping us build a resilient and thriving community.

**Spring at the Oscars Films**

Spring at the Oscars is back! We have several films coming up over the next couple of months. Read more about the March films below. Other films we will be showing are *Killers of the Flower Moon*, *Poor Things*, *Spider-Man: Across The Spider-verse*, and a few others that still need to be confirmed with our licence.

Doors open 15 minutes before the films begin. Admission is \$5 - \$10 (sliding scale).

**Past Lives**

Friday, March 8, 7:15 pm

Nora and Hae Sung, two deeply connected childhood friends, are wrest apart after Nora's family emigrates from South Korea. Decades later, they are reunited for one fateful week as they confront destiny, love and the choices that make a life. \$5 - \$10 (sliding scale).

**Elemental**

Saturday, March 9, 2:45 pm

In a city where fire, water, land, and air residents live together, a fiery young woman and a go-with-the-flow guy discover something elemental: how much they actually have in common. \$5 - \$10 (sliding scale).

**The Holdovers**

Friday, March 22, 7:15 pm

A curmudgeonly instructor at a New England prep school remains on campus during Christmas break to babysit a handful of students with nowhere to go. He soon forms an unlikely bond with a brainy but damaged troublemaker, and with the school's head cook, a woman who just lost a son in the Vietnam War. \$5 - \$10 (sliding scale).

**YOUTH PROGRAMS**  
Ages 15-29  
March 2024

@ THE COMMUNITY HALL LOUNGE

THURS MARCH 7 - HOMEWORK CLUB WITH LIAM, 5-7PM  
FRI MARCH 8 - GAME NIGHT - MAGIC: THE GATHERING, 4-8PM  
THUR MARCH 14 - HOMEWORK CLUB WITH LIAM, 5-7PM  
FRI MARCH 22 - GAME NIGHT - BOARD AND VIDEO GAMES, 4-8PM  
(FREE SNACKS AND DRINKS)

ZOOM EVENTS:

SUN MARCH 24 - YOUTH BUDGETING WORKSHOP WITH SHELAGH, 2-4PM  
WED MARCH 27 - YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH LIAM AND MADDI, 7-9PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CONTACT  
[YOUTHPROGRAMS@SGINH.CA](mailto:YOUTHPROGRAMS@SGINH.CA)



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## The Color Purple

Saturday, March 23, 7:15 pm

Torn apart from her sister and her children, Celie faces many hardships in life, including an abusive husband. With support from a sultry singer named Shug Avery, as well as her stand-her-ground stepdaughter, Celie ultimately finds extraordinary strength in the unbreakable bonds of a new kind of sisterhood. \$5 - \$10 (sliding scale).

We would love more helpers for the films. Are you able to help as a concession host, door person, or projectionist? If so, please let us know.

## Community Hall Activities

### Carpet Bowling

Wednesdays 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Australian rules Carpet Bowling offers mild to moderate exercise, a bit of friendly competition and great fun. No special clothing is needed except clean, flat soled shoes. Recommended drop-in is \$2.

### Community Gathering Lunch

Fridays, 10:45 am - 1 pm

Join the weekly Community Gathering for a visit in the café, a delicious lunch, live music, and fun activities for everyone.

### Friday Fun

Fridays, 10:45 am - 12 pm

Every Friday come and join our youth leaders from 10:45 - 12ish as they lead fun activities. All ages are welcome, older adults are particularly encouraged as a fun way to get to meet children and youth of the community. Activity is by donation.

March 1 - Sticker Making

March 8 - Paper Airplane Contest

March 15 - Cookie Fun

March 22 - Cardboard Gardens

March 29 - Easter Egg Fun

## Saturday Special Activities at the Market

### Brainteaser Day - March 2

Back by popular demand! To see if you are deserving of a treat, puzzle out three brainteasers for a free hot drink from the café.

### Garage Sale Day - March 9

It's time to go through your cupboards, drawers, and garage to find things that need a new home. Cost per table is \$5 or 10% of what you earn (whichever is lower), the tables are 6 x 3 feet and you must book ahead by calling 250-629-3669 (leave a message with your email address) or email [bookings@penderislands.org](mailto:bookings@penderislands.org)

### St. Patrick's Day - March 16

Experience the variety of festive green drinks at the community café. Don't forget to wear green and enjoy a 50% discount on any drink.

### Welcome Spring Window Painting - March 23

Let's get together to create a beautiful scene in the Café. Grab your paintbrush, and let's turn that window into a lively spring vista together!

### Seedy Saturday Facepainting - March 30

Visit our youth leadership-led face painting table, where talented young volunteers will transform your face into a vibrant garden masterpiece. Any donations for the art will go towards fuelling their growth, creativity, and contribute to the flourishing community spirit at this celebration of gardening and togetherness.

### Saturday Market

Saturdays, 10 - 1 pm

Come out on Saturdays to the Market to browse local food, crafts, and produce; support your local artisans, artists, farmers, and cuisiniers. Drinks are available in the Café where you can visit with other market goers or our helpful Youth Leadership Volunteers.

*Continued*

# TALISMAN BOOKS & GIFTS

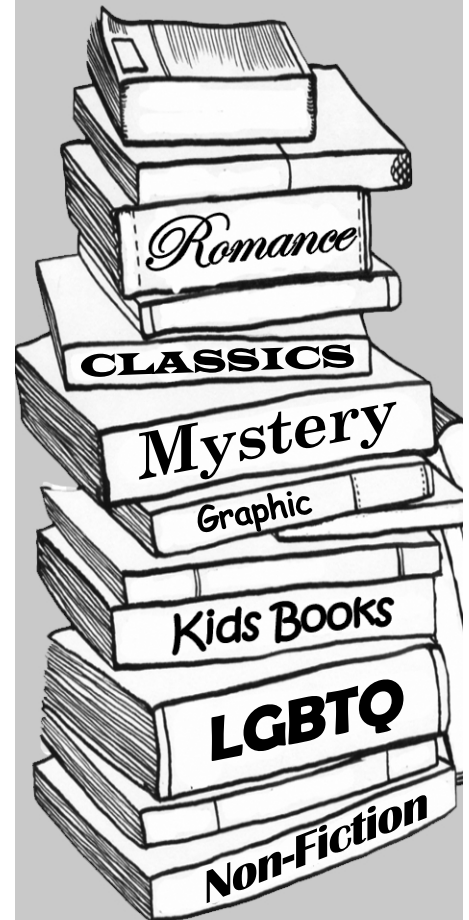
Tues. - Sat. 10 - 4  
Sunday 11 - 4



## Book of the Month UNTIL AUGUST

By Gabriel Garcia Marquez  
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**Youth Leadership Program**

Youth 10 to 18 are welcome to join this fun program. Learn how to do things like run the café, help at special events, show people how to carefully handle animals, make posters, be a caretaker of the Community Hall, assist with activities, organize and lead activities, mentor younger or less experienced youth, help older people with technology, be an event and activity photographer ... develop your skills and get great experience! Come in on a Friday or Saturday between 10 - 1 pm and ask to talk to Andrea or Liam S.

**Adult Volunteers**

**Films** - Are you a cinephile? We need people to help take entry donations, sell popcorn, and help tidy-up after movies. Volunteers watch the show for free and receive a bag of popcorn.

**Comfort Centre Volunteer** - Power outages, heat warnings, other urgent issues... help the community have a fun and safe way to spend these special days. Volunteers take shifts to open up the Hall, open the café, assist people in finding things, and liaise with regular users.

**55+ Activity Leader** - Do you have a fun activity you would like to have happen on Mondays before or after the 55+ Luncheon? We would love to hear from you.

**Youth Leadership Program Mentor** - We regularly have 3 - 10 youth help out at the Friday Community Gathering and Saturday Market; they all want to learn real life work skills and have fun. We would love to have a few more mentors with a variety of skills they would like to share.

**Advertising and Office Support** - Would you like to help make our social media presence amazing? Learn some new administrative skills or brush up on some old ones? Then this is for you.

All training will be provided. If you are interested in volunteering please email [bookings@penderislands.org](mailto:bookings@penderislands.org) or call 629-3669

*Andrea Mills & George Fowlie*

**Fall Fair**

We have already begun preparing for the 72nd Pender Island Fall Fair on August 24! This year we are marking the 125th Anniversary of the creation of the Pender Island Farmers' Institute by selecting the theme of "Then and Now." Our guests of honour are the Pender Island Museum Society and the South Pender Historical Society. Guest speakers Simone Marler and Robert Dill will talk on behalf of these organizations with a look back to early pioneers settling on the homelands of the WSÁNEĆ First Nation, and through the years to the present agricultural practices.

The Fall Fair catalogue is in the works and will be available earlier on this year so entrants can gear up with their exhibits. We encourage all to enter in the many sections displaying the talents and skill of the Penders - 'S,DÁ,YES' as it is known in the Indigenous SENĆOTEN language.

Volunteers are an important factor in the production of our annual Fall Fair and we are needing a Volunteer Coordinator and a Registration Coordinator. We're also looking for a Convener in the Preserves Section. A Fall Fair Conveners meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5 at 7 pm, at the Community Hall Lounge. If you'd like to be a part of the Fair in these above positions, please attend or contact me.

This year a new trophy for tomatoes, donated by Raven Rock Farm, will be featured in the vegetable section. Stay tuned for future Pender Post Fall Fair updates or visit [www.pifi.ca](http://www.pifi.ca).

*Michelle Marsden*



**Gulf Islands Food Co-op**



The Gulf Islands Food Co-op will be holding its 2024 AGM on Sunday, April 7, at 3pm via Zoom. We will be giving a quick overview of what we accomplished in 2023, and then providing details on what we have planned for the coming year. Email [info@gulfislandsfoodco-op.org](mailto:info@gulfislandsfoodco-op.org) for the link.

We welcome new nominations for our board, from individuals with a passion for supporting local food systems. If you'd like to learn more about the Co-op's mission and past projects, please visit our website [www.gulfislandsfoodco-op.org](http://www.gulfislandsfoodco-op.org). Feel free to ask questions by sending us an email, or send us your nomination.

The Pender Seed Library will be hosting a seed table at the Seedy Saturday on March 30. Please come by to pick up some vegetable seeds that have (mostly) been grown on Pender, and support all the other vendors and activities at the event, kindly organized by the Farmers' Institute.

If you'd like to subscribe to our e-newsletter, please send an email with your request. Our newsletter includes updates on workshops and events across all four islands over the growing season.

Happy Spring!

*Roz Kempe*

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PERSONAL INCOME TAX**

***Shirley Searle***

Dipl Tech BCIT, ATD

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**Magic Lake Property Owners' Society**

**Pickleball and Tennis**



*With the balmy February weather, the Privateers courts are getting lots of use. And all these players are one family!*

To learn more about the Magic Lake Property Owners' Society and what we do for, and with, the residents of Pender Island, have a look at the website: [www.magiclake.ca](http://www.magiclake.ca). You can contact us to join the MLPOS at [notifymlpos@gmail.com](mailto:notifymlpos@gmail.com) or go on Facebook: Magic Lake Property Owners Society.

The next MLPOS Directors meeting - on the second Monday of the month - is Monday, March 11, 4 pm at the Community Hall Lounge.


*Mary Beth Rondeau, Secretary*



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**PETER BINNER**  
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**Moving Around Pender (MAP)**



**MAP has a Mystery - or Two**

Who damaged the Danny Martin Park car stop bench? In late November this beautiful wooden bench was pulled from its foundation pad. The legs were loosened from the top and the damaged bench was dumped on the nearby bank.

Then a second mystery: between late December and early February the concrete foundation itself was removed, possibly to eliminate the safety hazard of the steel U-brackets.

MAP has had no explanation for the damage to the bench or the removal of the foundation. Vandalism is highly disappointing after the community's work in creating this amenity. Thankfully, bench-maker Colin Hamilton, of Thuja Wood Art, has been able to reconnect the legs to the top and the bench can be installed again on a re-poured foundation. MAP has not decided on a location for reinstallation.

**Taxi Saver Program**

Not a mystery is the MAP/SGI Neighbourhood House Taxi Saver program, which is now operational. If you are 65+ or have mobility challenges, you are eligible to buy half-price vouchers for Lightning Taxi rides for on-island trips including riding to the ferry terminal.

Drop in at the CRC/Neighbourhood House Office at the Driftwood Centre to complete an application form and to buy vouchers. This pilot program will operate until the fall when its operation will be assessed. If well received MAP/SGI Neighbourhood House can advocate for continued funding.

**Monty's Trail Winter Walking**

The duckboards at the Community Hall end of the trail have been repaired and woodchips applied to the very muddy area at the stile and gate into the Community Hall grounds. This is a very pleasant improvement on getting through the gateway.

More information on doing your own trail mapping will be tackled in a subsequent article.

MAP's next meeting will be on Saturday, March 2, 10 am in the lounge or on the back porch at the Community Hall. Everyone is welcome to come and sit in on the meeting. In the meantime visit: [movingaroundpender.ca](http://movingaroundpender.ca)

*Peter Easthope*





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## Nu-To-Yu (Pender Island Community Service Society)



Store hours will remain unchanged this spring/summer.

Donation days will be Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am to 12 pm and Saturday 11 am to 2 pm. Large items like furniture are not accepted on Saturdays. If you wish to catch the 9ish ferry and have items prior to 9 am on the weekdays, there is usually a welcoming volunteer to assist if you knock on the back door. Please do not dump and run. Volunteers will need to check donations, or talk to you about your donation to ensure it is something that will reasonably sell at the store. Last year the Nu-To-Yu spent over \$5000 on garbage removal. This is money that should more reasonably be going to grants and bursaries. Finally, there was a deep fryer dropped off without the cord. We need the cord, could you please drop the cord off? Thank you.

### Bursary Applications

Full-time residents of Pender island who are graduating from a CRD high school this year are again welcomed to apply for one of Nu-To-Yu's bursaries for post-secondary education. The (firm) deadline for application is June 30, 2024. The \$1000 bursary may be put towards your first year tuition whether it be a trade school or other post-secondary education facility. Applicants need to be first-year students who are full-time Pender residents, CRD high school graduates and under age 25. More information and an application form may be found online at [www.nu-to-you.com](http://www.nu-to-you.com).

### Grant Applications

Meanwhile, applications for Nu-To-Yu grants have a deadline of March 15 this year which, as usual, is the third Friday in March. Applicants are encouraged to request funds for a specific project and include a detailed budget and quotes (if applicable). Current financial statements are required. It is helpful to include the number of volunteer hours involved. Grants are limited to those groups who do NOT pay salaries/bonuses/stipends/honorariums to their staff/volunteers.

### Store Hours

Summer is Pender's busy season and the Nu-To-Yu's as well. While we await the new community building's completion, the current store selling hours remain Fridays and Saturdays 10 am to 4 pm. We are a small but welcoming store and we limit the number of customers in the upstairs area of the store to 25. When there is a lineup outside the store, please limit your upstairs shopping to 15 minutes. The new building will have two change rooms; the current store has none. So dress appropriately if you wish to slip on a dress.

### Silent Auction

This year's Silent Auction, our annual fundraiser for the new building, will take place on Saturday, August 2 at the Driftwood. Expect to have a full house with visiting relatives on that weekend.

Members are reminded that the semi-annual meeting to see what we all look like will be held a little earlier this year on Monday, April 15. Time and location will be sent out closer to the date.

*Daurel Minion*



## TRAVEL HEALTH

It is the time of the year when many Canadians travel to somewhere sunny and warm. Your travel to exotic destinations may come with health risks. Pre-planning can reduce the chances of having a bad experience.

Did you know Pender Island Pharmacy now offers a full Travel Medicine Service? We can provide all necessary immunizations to protect you against diseases, and if malaria prevention medication is needed we can contact your doctor and have it prescribed for you.

In addition to your prescription medications, here is a short list of necessary items that we recommend you take while you travel: bandages & tape, alcohol-based hand sanitizer & wipes, blister pads or moleskin (excellent for hikers!), disposable gloves, gauze, tweezers, sunscreen and insect repellent. The following medicines can really save the day if you're feeling sick or indisposed:

Imodium (for diarrhea), Gravol (for nausea), Benadryl or Reactine (for allergic reactions), Tylenol or Advil (pain killers), stomach acid pills like Zantac or Pepto Bismol, Aloe vera gel, cortisone cream, topical antibiotics (Polysporin)

Finally, a few important items to add to your emergency kit are medical insurance coverage information, emergency contact info (family, friend), allergies and medical condition information as well as a current medication list.

Remember to Cook it, Wash it, Peel it or Forget it.

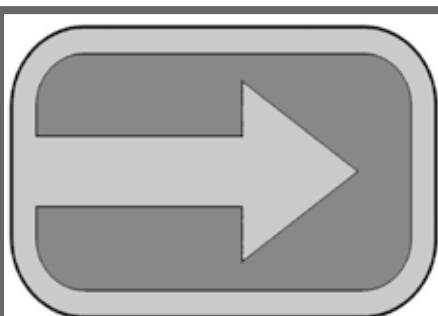
Bon voyage!

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[otterbayexpress.ca](http://otterbayexpress.ca)

## Victoria

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

## Help on Pender

Tuesday and Thursday

**Pender Earth**

Our Climate Cafe meetings are held on the first Friday of the month in the lounge at the Community Hall at 9:30 am. This gathering creates a space to share thoughts and feelings about the climate crisis and to brainstorm responses in the company of engaged, supportive others.

We began the circle with a ‘check in’ and then encouraged conversation by asking questions. February’s questions included 1) How does it make you feel physically, emotionally, and intellectually when a climate denier posts false statements on social media? 2) What are the positive truths of the climate emergency? And 3) What does self care look like for you when it comes to dealing with the emotions of the climate emergency?

Usually, these questions entice engagement but this month the majority of the group ignored the questions and spoke about what they wanted to address with respect to the times we are in.... which is perfectly fine as this is a space for people to show up where they are. That definitely happened this month. We are thrilled that attendees feel comfortable enough to speak about how they are feeling given the planetary emergency.

Our next Climate Cafe is on Friday, March 1 at 9:30 am in the Lounge at the Community Hall.

More information and feedback? Reach out to [penderearth@gmail.com](mailto:penderearth@gmail.com).

*Kathy Cronk and  
Mary Anne Paré*

**Pender Islands Chamber of Commerce**



As our much-loved Pender islands continue to build economic vitality and community well-being while honouring our commitment to the environment, your Chamber of Commerce wishes to thank our member businesses who continue to support our vision: a diverse network of businesses working together to serve the Pender Island community. The Pender Island Chamber of Commerce has been representing your business interests since 1959.

Today, we stand at a crossroads, faced with rising operating costs. Despite our 100+ membership roster, our budget does not stretch far. The board and I continually seek to reduce expenses, generate additional revenue streams, and partner with others. This recently led us to increase membership dues as a cost-recovery strategy. Unfortunately, some members chose not to renew.

It is undeniable that the strength of the Pender Island Chamber is closely linked to the support it receives from our islands’ businesses and community organizations. So, if you are not currently a Chamber member, we’d like to ask you to reconsider.

**What’s in it for you?**

Being a Chamber member brings added credibility to your business. Chambers exist to support businesses and the local economy through advocacy, promotions and referrals, discounts and benefit programs, networking opportunities, resources and support. We’re in your corner and we’re here to help.

**Isn’t it just for hospitality businesses?**

The Chamber is not just for hospitality businesses. We need and want to represent

the broad spectrum of businesses and community organizations on our islands – successful and struggling, new and established, big and small, for-profit and not-for-profit – so that we can be sustainable into the future to represent our islands’ and your economic interests.

But if you do operate a hospitality business here on Pender, we offer several optional marketing opportunities that we’d be happy to discuss with you.

**What if I don’t need referrals?**

Chamber membership isn’t just for new business start-ups needing to make a name for themselves. Even if your business is so busy that you don’t need referrals, we’d still like to have you in our network. Your success is invaluable to mentor new and young entrepreneurs and, to put it bluntly, we need your financial support. You may also find you need our advocacy support.

**What does it cost?**

Our regular business rate is \$110 for the year, less than \$10 a month, and it’s less than half that for community organizations. Chamber membership is an investment in your long-term success.

If you are new, welcome in! If you have left us, please come back! Let’s rebuild, reconnect, and rediscover the strength that comes from working together. Please visit our website ([www.penderislandchamber.com](http://www.penderislandchamber.com)) to learn more about membership benefits and find a link to our online application form.

We will be holding our AGM on April 18 at 5pm. If you are a Chamber member and have an interest in joining our board, please consider being a part of the journey that lies ahead.

*Sandra Tretick, Manager*

**RAVEN ROCK FARM**

[www.ravenrockfarm.com](http://www.ravenrockfarm.com)  
[ravenrockfarm.pender@gmail.com](mailto:ravenrockfarm.pender@gmail.com)

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## Pender Island Child Care Society

Dragonfly Child Care & Family Resource Centre

 At this time we wish to thank the Green Angels Woodchoppers for their very generous donation to our outdoor space. The children will be delighted with the new additions!

### Spring Break

Dragonfly will be closed for Spring Break beginning on Friday, March 15 and will reopen after the Easter long weekend on Tuesday April 2.

### Adult Meditation Night

Exploring Expanded States of Consciousness and Meditation will be held every Thursday evening from 7 pm - 8 pm at Dragonfly (closed March 21 and 28). The evening is guided by Glenn Henderson and begins with a variety of different short exercises from breathing exercises to *chi gong* to guided meditations to experiencing sound frequencies and more. This will then be followed by a silent sit meditation.

### Parents and Babes

The Parents and Babes program runs 9 - 11:30 am at Dragonfly every Monday morning (except holidays and closures). Sarah Conley facilitates this free drop-in program for parents, caregivers, and their children. Come out and enjoy healthy snacks, adult and children interactions, developmentally appropriate toys, and the book lending library. Thanks to Victoria Foundation and the Pender Island Child Care Society, this program is free.



### Healthy Opportunities for Preschoolers (HOP)

HOP is held every Wednesday morning from 9:30 - 10:30 am in the school gym (closed March 20 and 27). Come on out and join Jennifer Ursell as she sets up new activities each week: from basketball and hula hoops to crash mats and obstacle courses, this program will be sure to tire out your youngster! HOP is designed for parents/caregivers to engage in physical activities and learn new skills with their children 1 - 5 years. Thanks to the Pender Island School and the CRD Parks and Recreation, this program is free.

Check out our website for more information about our programs, helpful parent blogs, and recipes: [www.dragonflycentre.ca](http://www.dragonflycentre.ca).

If you would like further information on Dragonfly activities, you can contact Sarah at 629-3039 or by email [dragonflyfamilycentre@gmail.com](mailto:dragonflyfamilycentre@gmail.com)

*Sarah Conley*



*Children making soup in the mud kitchen. Photo: Rowie Symons.*

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**Pender Islands Conservancy**



**Memberships**

If you have not already done so, please renew your memberships, which are due on the first of January every year. If you are not a member, we hope you will join us. Your \$20 tax deductible donation pays for your single or family membership and will help us run our programs in 2024. To renew your membership you can visit our website ([penderconservancy.org](http://penderconservancy.org)), renew in person at the Conservancy Nature Centre at Hope Bay, or e-transfer \$20 to [treasurer@penderconservancy.org](mailto:treasurer@penderconservancy.org) (include your full name and email address in the message box).

**Conservation Conversation**

On February 15, we held a Conservation Conversation at the Community Hall, where 21 concerned community members gathered to discuss land protection and management on the Pender Islands, especially in KELÁ\_EKE Kingfisher Forest. Discussion included the human impacts on the health of ecosystems, the effects of predator presence (human and canine) on wildlife, the importance of habitat connectivity, and the damage to habitats from invasive species and over-browsing by native deer. We very much appreciated the ideas and opinions expressed by the participants, which will help inform our work in the development of the Management Plan for KELÁ\_EKE Kingfisher Forest. We also distributed copies of our survey about the Kingfisher Forest. If you would like to participate in the survey, you can get a copy at the Conservancy Nature Centre, and it will soon be available on our website as well ([www.penderconservancy.org](http://www.penderconservancy.org)).



**March Seminar**

**Living in Thin Air: Avian Adaptations for Life at Altitude**

With Dr. William Milsom, Prof. Emeritus UBC  
 Friday, March 15, 7 pm  
 Community Hall

Ever wonder how some birds can fly over the highest mountain ranges during migration - without the assistance of an oxygen mask? Join us at the Community Hall on Friday, March 15 as Dr. Milsom discusses his comparative vertebrate physiology research. We guarantee that you will come away with a new appreciation for the amazing efficiency of bird lungs. Entry \$10 per person at the door (no registration needed).

**Earth Day Beach and Roadside Cleanup**

April 20, 9:30 am

The 2024 annual Earth Day Beach and Roadside Cleanup will be happening Saturday, April 20 at the Medicine Beach Centre parking lot from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. There will be coffee and tea, lunch, treats, draw prizes for participants, as well as live music. Volunteers will be there to help you get your collected debris into the bins. You can start cleaning your favourite beach, path, or roadside now, and bring items down to the drop-off site at the Medicine Beach Centre on Beach Cleanup Day.

**The Conservancy Nature Centre**

We have made some great changes to the Nature Centre, so if you have not visited in a while, please come on down and see our new look and expanded displays. The Nature Centre serves as a source of ecological and conservation information for our community; drop by for a visit and chat with one of our knowledgeable volunteer hosts. You can also do some sustainable shopping while you are at it and support local artisans and our conservation programs at the same time. New in the shop: Wendi Lopatecki's gorgeous weaving, including scarves and table runners. Our hours are Wednesdays to Sundays from 11am to 3pm.

*Dr. Erin O'Brien*

**Natural History Notes: Crafty Birds**



*House wren nest lined with snake skin.*  
 Photo: Sarah DeVries.

Nesting season is fast approaching, and many of the birds of Pender will be busy seeking out a safe place to build their nests. Nests are the primary place for the development of birds' young: eggs are laid and hatched in nests, and the nestlings are fed and cared for in the nests until they are developed enough to leave. The diversity of nest designs is as diverse as the birds that use them. Nests can be as simple as a scrape nest – a small depression scraped out of sand, gravel, or dirt – or as complicated as a pendant nest which is woven and dangles from the branches, much like a hanging basket. Some nests are naturally concealed in their locations, hidden from predators by branches and leaves, or rushes and rocks, but for some birds, that isn't enough protection. Some birds incorporate protection into the nests themselves, not just from predators, but from parasites and insects as well. For example, it has been observed that birds will include smelly plant material, acting as a natural insecticide, in the construction of their nests. Amazingly, house finches have been known to incorporate used cigarette butts into their nests which act as anti-parasite

## Pender Island Emergency Program

protection. Birds have also been found to include prickly or thorny plants, carnivore scat (poop), or snake skin in their nests to repel and deter small predators. The innovation and variety in nest design for protection is remarkable.

As the spring migration begins, be sure to keep a keen eye for the nests under construction, and be sure to give nests and birds lots of space.

*Sarah DeVries,  
Pender Conservancy's  
Ecological Technician for 2023*



What does the Pender Emergency Program actually do? We often encounter misconceptions about our role in the community, and we frequently hear “Why don’t you \_\_\_” and “You should \_\_\_” and “How come you don’t \_\_\_.” So, let’s try to clear up what we do and what we don’t do.

The Pender Island Emergency Program is a division of the Southern Gulf Islands Emergency Program, which runs under the authority of the Capital Regional District, our local government. It is made up of dedicated volunteers who help the community to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters. The scope of our program includes an emergency community co-ordination centre, emergency support services and reception centres, VHS and amateur radio program, Neighbourhood Program, and a cache of emergency supplies. We help to enable public readiness and resilience, support

our first responder agencies through seasonal readiness meetings, disaster planning and exercises, incident support and emergency communications, and aid for evacuees – those people forced from their homes due to wildfires or other disasters.

In a large-scale event, such as extreme weather, earthquakes, flooding, or hazardous spill, we would be tasked to open an Emergency Operations Centre to help support first responder agencies, provide situational awareness, deliver public messaging, and offer communications between the incident site, our local government, and the residents of Pender.

In non-emergency times, we provide public education and personal preparedness strategies. You may have seen our signs publicizing the annual Emergency Preparedness Week or won a prize by playing our Wheel of Fortune game at the Farmers’ Market or picked up

*Continued page 34*



## SENĆOŦEN LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

We are honoured to welcome W̱SÁNEĆ Elders & Teachers sharing their knowledge: History of Language Suppression, Revitalization, Place Names & Welcome Phrases.

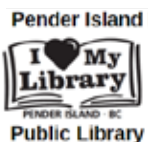
**Location: Pender Island Public Library**

**Date: March 20th, 2024**

**Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

**To register and for more information:  
Check library website under “Events”  
[sgicl.bc.libraries.coop](http://sgicl.bc.libraries.coop)**



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## Anglican Church of Canada

Parish of Pender and Saturna Islands • 4703 Canal Road

March 3	10:00 am	St. Peter's Church	Holy Eucharist
March 10	10:00 am	St. Peter's Church	Morning Prayer
March 17	10:00 am	St. Peter's Church	Holy Eucharist
March 24	10:00 am	St. Peter's Church	Palm Sunday (no Eucharist)
March 31	10:00 am	St. Peter's Hall	Easter Eucharist

All services are in person or via Zoom. Please contact the office for the Zoom link.

Church Office: 629-3634 | Parish e-mail: [admin@pendersaturnaanglican.ca](mailto:admin@pendersaturnaanglican.ca) | Hall bookings: [rentals@pendersaturnaanglican.ca](mailto:rentals@pendersaturnaanglican.ca)

## Pender Island Community Church (PICC)

4405 Bedwell Harbour Road (little white church next to the library) We are a non-denominational church, all are welcome!  
Please visit our website ([www.picchurch.ca](http://www.picchurch.ca))

March 3	10:45 am	Dan Glover - Communion
March 10	10:45 am	Christian Girard
March 17	10:45 am	Chris Pollock - Mustard Seed
March 24	10:45 am	Frank Stroschein
March 29	10:00 am	Good Friday Service
March 31	10:45 am	Jim Madsen - Easter Sunday

Please visit our website for updated information, or telephone Judy at 629-6168.

## St. Teresa's Chapel - Roman Catholic Services

4705 Buccaneers Road

March 3	9:30 am	Liturgy of the Word and Communion
March 8	9:30 am	Friday Mass with Fr. Rolf
March 17	9:30 am	Liturgy of the Word and Communion
March 22	9:30 am	Friday Mass with Fr. Rolf
March 29	3:00 pm	Good Friday service
March 31	9:30 am	Easter Sunday Liturgy of the Word and Communion

Pender residents and visitors are welcome to celebrate Sunday and Friday liturgies with the chapel community. Except for Good Friday, which is a day of fast and abstinence, there will be coffee, tea and goodies served after the liturgies. If there are any changes to the above schedule, those on our mailing list will be informed. Others who plan to attend a liturgy should email [stteresachapel@gmail.com](mailto:stteresachapel@gmail.com) or phone 250-629-6029 to find out any changes to the schedule.

## The Bahá'í Community of Canada ([www.bahai.ca](http://www.bahai.ca))

The Bahá'í Faith Community of Canada ([www.bahai.ca](http://www.bahai.ca)); The Bahá'í Faith Group of Pender Island and Southern Gulf Islands

March 1 - 19		19 day fast between the hours of sunrise and sunset in preparation for the New Year.
March 19	7:00 pm	Feast of Baha (Splendor)
March 20	2:00 pm	Naw Ruz (New Year): coffee, tea & cakes at the home of Don & Bev Peden, 4862 Pirates Rd.

Following the days of Ayyam-i-ha, a time of visiting, gift giving and caring for others, The Baha'I community begins the period of the fast in preparation for the New Year. It is meant for those in good health, not doing heavy labour, and between the ages of 15 and 70. It is a time of prayerful preparation.

Please email [bevpedenpender@gmail.com](mailto:bevpedenpender@gmail.com) or call 250 412 2524 or visit "bahaissi.org" for more information.

## Common Table Fellowship in Christ

Meets every Sunday upstairs at the Community Hall

Sundays	10:00 am	Meet for coffee upstairs at the Community Hall
	10:30 am	Service
	12:00 pm	Potluck Lunch (around noon)

Common Table Fellowship In Christ is a spiritual family of folks who find Unity and New Life 'In Christ'. Come as you are, all are welcome. Reach us at [commontablependerisland@gmail.com](mailto:commontablependerisland@gmail.com).

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

Kids Club After School Program, Mondays - Thursdays, 3:45 - 5:30, Fridays 10 am - 4 pm

**SUNDAYS**

Badminton Club, 10 am -noon, School Gym (also Tuesday evenings)

**MONDAYS**

Parents and Babes, 9 - 11:30 am, March 4 & 11, Dragonfly .....27

MYI: 18 Postures for Seniors with Judith, 11 am - 12 pm, Community Hall .....37

55+ Luncheon Gathering, 12 - 2 pm, Community Hall.....15

Pender Highlanders, 7 pm, Anglican Parish Hall

**TUESDAYS**

Badminton Club, 7:30 - 9:30 pm, School Gym (also Sunday mornings)

MYI: Moderate Yoga with Krista, 9:45 -10:45 am, Community Hall.....37

MYI: Gentle Chair Yoga, 11 am - 12 pm, Community Hall.....37

MYI: Essentrics 11 am to 12 pm, Community Hall .....37

Artists' Drop-in Drawing with Ron Underhill, 2 - 4 pm, every Tuesday

**WEDNESDAYS**

Healthy Opportunities for Preschoolers (HOP) , 9:30 - 10:30 am,

School Gym (except March 20 & 27)..... 27

MYI: Gentle Walk with Andrea, 10 - 11 am, Community Hall.....

Taoist Tai Chi, 9:30 - 11:30 am, Community Hall

Carpet Bowling, 1:30 -3:30 pm, Community Hall ..... 21

Socrates Club with John Gowen, 2 - 4 pm, Legion

Kids Club, 3:45 - 5:15, until March 13, Community Hall

Youth Club, to March 13, 5:30 pm - 8 pm, and Friday all day

**THURSDAYS**

MYI: Gentle Chair Yoga, 11 am - 12 pm ..... 37

Navigating Grief Support Group, 1 - 2:30 pm, March 7 - April 11, Anglican Church Hall ..... 36

Euchre with Margaret Vergette, 2 - 4 pm, Legion

Homework Club for High School Students, March 7 & 14, 5 -7 pm, Community Hall ..... 20, 50

Adult Meditation Night, 7 - 8 pm (to April 11) ..... 27

**FRIDAYS**

Food Bank, 10 am - noon, upstairs at back of Anglican Parish Hall ..... 35

Friday Fun, 10:45 - 12 pm, Community Hall ..... 21

Community Café, 10:45 am - 1 pm, Community Hall ..... 21

Community Gathering Lunch, 12 - 1 pm, Community Hall..... 19, 21

**SATURDAYS**

Saturday Market, 10 am - 1 pm, Community Hall ..... 21

1 Fri 9:30 am Pender Earth Climate Café, to 11:30 am, Community Hall ..... 26

10:45 am Friday Fun: Sticker Making, to 12 pm, Community Hall ..... 21

12:00 pm Community Gathering, music by *The Young Violins* ..... 19

2 Sat 10:00 am MAP meeting, Community Hall..... 24

10:00 am Brainteaser Day, Community Hall ..... 21

7:30 pm Let's Dance with PI Jazz, to 9:30 pm, Community Hall..... 16

3 Sun 2:00 pm Speakeasy with Leslie McBain, to 4 pm, Legion

4 Mon 9:30 am Beginner Guitar Lessons with Bill Heintz, to 10:30 am, every Tues. & Thurs.

1:00 pm PIAS: Pochoir Printmaking with Bev Peden, to 3 pm ..... 12

3:00 pm Parks & Recreation Commission monthly meeting, Community Hall and Zoom..... 41

7:00 pm Photo Club monthly meeting, via Zoom ..... 16

5 Tue 10:00 am Bike Shop open, to 3 pm, Recycling Centre ..... 43

7:00 pm Fall Fair Convenors Meeting, Community Hall..... 23

6 Wed 5:30 pm Lions monthly meeting, Legion ..... 47

7 Thu 9:30 am Beginner Guitar Lessons with Bill Heintz, to 10:30 am, every Tues. & Thurs.

Navigating Grief support group, 1 - 2:30, Anglican Church Hall, Fireside Room ..... 36, 37

8 Fri 9:30 am Community Conversation with Adam Olsen and Doug Falk, Community Hall..... 5

10:45 am Activity: Paper Airplane Contest, Community Hall..... 21

12:00 pm Community Gathering, music by Lauren Matys, Anne Mullins, Chanda Bosch,

Diana Fairclough, Heather Read, Sarah Smith and Taeven Lopatecki ..... 19

**NU TO YU** .....25

Shopping: every Friday and Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm

Donations: every Tuesday and Thursday 9 am - 12 pm and Sat., 11 am - 2 pm

(no furniture on Saturdays)

**LIBRARY** .....41

Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and

Saturdays, 10 am - 3 pm.

**RECYCLING CENTRE** ..... 42

Tuesdays, Thursday and Saturdays,

10 am -3 pm

**THE CONSERVANCY**

**NATURE CENTRE** ..... 28

Wednesdays to Sundays, 11 am - 3 pm

## MARCH CALENDAR

8	Fri	4:00 pm	Games Night: Magic, The Gathering, to 8 pm, Community Hall .....	20, 50
		7:15 pm	Film: <i>Past Lives</i> , Community Hall.....	20
9	Sat	10:00 am	Garage Sale Day, Community Hall .....	21
		1:00 pm	Bingo, Legion .....	
		2:45 pm	Film: <i>Elemental</i> , Community Hall .....	20
10	Sun	4:00 pm	Oscar Party, Legion .....	1, 47
		2:00 pm	Canadian Power and Sail Maritime Weather Seminar, Legion .....	50, 52
11	Mon	9:30 am	Quilting Circle, to 12:30 pm, Anglican Church Hall .....	14
		12:30 pm	1:1 Counseling with Geneva Jacobs, until 4 pm, Dragonfly Centre .....	
		12:30 pm	55+ Workshop: Estate Planning Seminar, to 2 pm (Zoom).....	49
		1:00 pm	Caregivers Support Group, to 2:30 pm, Community Hall .....	38
		4:00 pm	MLPOS Directors Meeting, Community Hall Lounge .....	24
13	Wed	9:30 am	Library AGM, at Library and by Zoom.....	41
		11:00 am	Workshop: Privacy and Non-Profits, to 12:30 pm, via Zoom .....	49
		5:00 pm	Uke Strum, to 6 pm, (also March 27, April 10, 24), Community Hall Lounge .....	18
14	Thu	1:00 pm	Pender Island Garden Club: Growing Beautiful Tomatoes, Community Hall .....	50
		4:00 pm	Singing for Joy starts, to 5 pm, (until May 2), Anglican Church Hall .....	18
15	Fri		Dragonfly closed for Spring Break and Easter until April 2 .....	27
		10:45 am	Activity: Cookie Fun, Community Hall .....	21
		12:00 pm	Community Gathering, music by Dave and Frank Scanlan .....	19
		5:30 pm	Friday Dinner: St. Patrick's Day Irish Stew, live music by Peter Emery, to 10 pm.....	47
		7:00 pm	<i>Living in Thin Air: Avian Adaptations for Life at Altitude</i> , Community Hall .....	28
16	Sat	10:00 am	St. Patrick's Day, Community Hall .....	21
		10:00 am	Scrapbook & Crafts Group with Melody Pender, to 5 pm, (also March 17), Legion .....	
		2:30 pm	Farmers' Institute AGM, Community Hall.....	34
		4:00 pm	S,DÁ,YES Truth & Reconciliation Circle, Fireside Room, 4703 Canal Road .....	
17	Sun	1:00 pm	55+ Workshop: Card Making with Melody Pender, to 3 pm, Legion .....	50
18	Mon	5:00 pm	Pender Island Yacht Club Speaker: Rita Balaam, Pt. Browning Bistro .....	53
		7:00 pm	<i>Payadora Tango</i> , Community Hall .....	18, back cover
19	Tue	7:00 pm	PIAS: Life Drawing.....	12
20	Wed	10:00 am	SENĆOFEN Language Workshop at Library, to 1 pm .....	29, 41
22	Fri	10:45 am	Activity: Cardboard Gardens, Community Hall.....	21
		12:00 pm	Community Gathering, music by Dine and Dash.....	19
		4:00 pm	Games Night: Board Games and Video Games, to 8 pm, Community Hall .....	20, 50
		7:15 pm	Film: <i>The Holdovers</i> , Community Hall.....	20
23	Sat	10:00 am	Welcome to Spring Window Painting, Community Hall .....	21
		2:00 pm	Speaker: <i>A Guide to Healthy Aging to Avoid Frailty</i> , Community Hall .....	35, 36
		7:15 pm	Film: <i>The Color Purple</i> , Community Hall .....	21
24	Sun	2:00 pm	Youth Budgeting Workshop with Shelagh, to 4 pm, Zoom.....	20, 50
		11:30 am	TLC Fibre Arts Pop up Market, to 3 pm, Community Hall .....	2
25	Mon	1:30 pm	Caregivers Support Group, to 2:30 pm, Community Hall .....	38
27	Wed	7:00 pm	Youth Advisory Committee with Liam and Maddi, to 9 pm, Zoom .....	20, 50
29	Fri	10:45 am	Activity: Easter Egg Fun, Community Hall .....	21
		12:00 pm	Community Gathering, music by Herb Keim and Howard Southwell.....	19
30	Sat	10:00 am	Seedy Saturday, Community Hall .....	21, 23, 45
		1:00 pm	Museum opens for the season, Saturdays and Sundays, to 4 pm .....	39
		2:00 pm	Legion General Members Meeting.....	47
31	Sun	12:00 pm	25th Annual South Pender Easter Sunday Art Walk (to 5 pm).....	4, 5

## ADVANCE NOTICES FOR APRIL

5	Fri	9:30 am	Pender Earth Climate Café, to 11:30 am, Community Hall .....	26
7	Sun	3:00 pm	Gulf Islands Food Co-op AGM, via Zoom.....	23
		7:00 pm	Pender Island Otters Swim Club AGM (via Zoom).....	53
15	Mon		Nu-To-You Semi-annual Meeting .....	25
16	Tue	6:30 pm	Community Meeting with Adam Olsen, Community Hall.....	5, 9
18	Thur	5:00 pm	Chamber of Commerce AGM .....	26
19			<i>4 Weddings and an Elvis</i> , Solstice Theatre, to April 21, Community Hall .....	17
20	Sat	9:30 am	Earth Day Beach and Roadside Cleanup, Medicine Beach Market .....	28
25	Thur	7:30 pm	Concert Society: Adam Cicchillitti and Steve Cowan, Community Hall.....	13
27	Sat		Pender Island Garden Club Plant Sale .....	51

**Emergency Program (Continued)**

pamphlets containing valuable information on getting yourself ready for an emergency by creating a personal emergency plan. our dedicated group of Duty Officers monitors pagers 24/7 so we're ready if any situation should develop into an event requiring our support.

This May, during Emergency Preparedness Week, we will host an open house at the Community Hall. Fire Chief Mike Dine will give a presentation on what we can do to prepare for fire season. More information in next month's edition of *The Pender Post*.

A couple of things to keep in mind:

(1) A first responder agency or health authority must ask the Pender Emergency Program for assistance – we can't just decide on our own to help out. The CRD and BC's Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness have established criteria for opening warming or cooling centres that we must follow. Even if it's extremely hot/cold but temperatures don't meet those guidelines, we are not allowed to act unilaterally and open a warming/cooling centre on our own.

(2) We do not decide on evacuation routes during an emergency. Those are determined by the incident commander or Unified Command on scene.

(3) We do not deal with medical emergencies. If it's a serious situation, don't waste precious seconds calling us; call 911 immediately.

Want more information? Even better, want to help out your community by joining us? Contact Program Co-coordinators Catherine Dawson or Liz Gowen at (250) 589-3001, or by email at [piecc@crd.bc.ca](mailto:piecc@crd.bc.ca)

*Liz Gowen*

**Pender Island Farmers' Institute**



Seedy Saturday will be on Easter Weekend, March 30 from 10 am - 1 pm at the Pender Island Community Hall. Everyone is welcome to participate. Come to swap, buy, and sell seeds, seedlings,

plants and services such as irrigation, pruning, landscaping and custom gardening. Join with the Winter Market vendors at the Hall. There will be information displays and discussions. There will also be face painting by the Hall's youth volunteers, and seed planting for young ones on the deck. Warm yourself with coffee, tea, treats and food. Visit with your neighbours and friends. For more information and to register contact us at [penderislandmarket@gmail.com](mailto:penderislandmarket@gmail.com), or regular vendors can sign up with Andrea at the Hall.

The Pender Island Farmers' Institute will be having its Annual General Meeting on Saturday, March 16 at 2:30 pm at the Community Hall. Everyone is welcome. Learn about what the Farmers' Institute does, who we are, and what we are planning for 2024. We encourage you to join the Farmers' Institute if you are a farmer or grower, or a local food advocate, or love the Farmers' Market and the Fall Fair - it is still only \$5. Check out our website at [www.pifi.ca](http://www.pifi.ca) and click on the Become a Member Box and fill it in. Memberships expire December 31 annually. You can also fill a form in and drop it off at the Community Box at Dockside Realty, or mail it into PO Box 38, Pender Island V0N 2M0.

*Barbara Johnstone*

**Pender Island Fire and Rescue**



Hello Pender Islands. As of February 18 our members have responded to 35 emergency calls.

**Recruit Training**

February was a busy month for training, between our 2023 recruit class getting close to finishing up their interior firefighting certification and our 2024 recruits starting the training stream doing their emergency scene traffic control and being well on their way through the first responder III modules.

**Fire Permits**

Last month I spoke about the new fire permit system that has been put in place. Our website interface has been updated and we are converting the payment method from PayPal to Square. This update should make paying for your permit easier and we would appreciate your feedback. One important change that will directly impact vacation rentals is that permits must be issued to the property owner, not the guests. The permits are valid for a year and will be the responsibility of the property owner. Propane appliances like "campfire in a can" are always the safest option and the burning permit system does not apply to their use.

**Donate Your Old Car for Training Purposes**

PIFR needs your help. Through initial and refreshing training scenarios, our members become proficient at auto extrication. Unfortunately, our inventory



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of donor cars has dwindled and we are putting the call out to the community. If you own a car or truck, PIFR will pay the cost of towing the vehicle to Hall 1 if it is donated for training. The vehicle needs to have its doors and windows intact and be empty of all contents. The vehicle does not need to be in running order for the training purposes. If you have a vehicle in your driveway that you just want gone please call or email [administration@penderfire.org](mailto:administration@penderfire.org) to schedule the pickup of your vehicle.

### Visible Address Signs

In an emergency, seconds do count. Even with all the tools like GPS, computer-assisted dispatch, CRD address maps, and local experience, if we can't see your address it can delay an essential response time. I ask you to go to the road and look and see if your address sign is easily visible. Is it reflective and in a contrasting colour? Is it missing numbers? Is it buried under vegetation? All of these things contribute to the challenges responders encounter before we even get to your front door. If you have a long driveway and there are spurs off of it, is the direction to the house identified? If there is no room to turn around at the end of an extended driveway or one with challenging access, a posted sign at the road can be a beneficial addition. If you have any questions about what you can do to improve driveway access and identification, don't hesitate to get in touch with us to help.

Remember to test your smoke detectors.

*Jon Grelik, Captain*

## Pender Island Food Bank Society

At our AGM it was recognized that there are so many people to thank for our success, from Tru Value for their 1% Spirit Board donations to people like Barb MacPherson, who has given so many years to organizing and building up the Food Bank, and every volunteer who offers their time serving our clients.

Barb MacPherson will retire this year as Chairperson and Pam Wright will pick up her post. Barb will remain on the board as Past President. Herb Katz stepped down as Treasurer, and that will now be filled by Barb Scanlon. Shirley Arthur will serve as Vice Chairperson, and Chris Gillis remains as secretary. Terry Shepherd and Rob Theriault will serve as Members at Large.

We are working on implementing the standards of excellence program with a baseline set of standards for member foodbanks to ensure we are meeting FoodSafe guidelines and that our operations are accountable to clients and donors and will be sustainable. Membership in the Food Banks network is conditional on implementing the standards and receiving certification by 2025. We have benefited greatly from belonging to the British Columbia Food Banks network and will work hard to continue to enjoy that association. We already meet many of the standards, and there are some we can improve. The benefit, of course, will be going to our clients ensuring safe and healthy food.

We are happy to invite new volunteers who would like to be part of our team. Contact Pam Wright or Barb MacPherson if you have any questions. Follow us on Facebook for more information.

*Bev Peden*

## Pender Island Health Care Society (PIHCS)



Thank-you for Your Participation in the Public Survey of Pender Health and Wellness Services

Well, Pender, we asked you to participate in the survey, and you responded. Thank you! There were 728 responses with a completion rate of 94%, which translates to over 25% of our North and South Pender population (2773 according to the 2021 Census). With this excellent response rate, and with 2,871 written comments, we hope to have captured a good representation of the population's perceptions and needs.

Responses (all anonymous) are now undergoing some serious number-crunching and analysis, and we hope to have preliminary results to share soon. As we go to press for the March edition of *The Pender Post*, the analysis is not yet complete, but the numerous and thoughtful responses to the survey confirmed the interest, passion, and concern that residents have regarding our health and wellness services.

We will be hosting a public forum in April (date to be determined) to share the results and their implications, and to offer another opportunity to have your voices heard.

### **Here's to Your Good Health Speaker Series A Guide to Healthy Aging to Avoid Frailty**

March 23, 2 pm, Community Hall

Presented by Dr. Grace Park, the regional medical director for Home Health with

*Continued*

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Pender Islands  
Health Care Society

## A Guide to Healthy Aging to AVOID Frailty



The next talk of our speaker series  
**“Here’s to Your Good Health”**  
will take place on March 23 at 2 p.m.  
at the Community Hall.

The talk **“A Guide to Healthy Aging to AVOID frailty”** will be presented by Dr. Grace Park.

Dr. Park is the regional medical director for Home Health with Fraser Health Authority and a practicing family physician. She provides medical direction for the Home and Community Care program to support and help clients to live independently at home for as long as possible. How to age gracefully in place on our beautiful Pender Island is the aim of many Pender elders!



Pender Islands  
Health Care Society

## NAVIGATING GRIEF

Support Group Meetings

Every Thursday, March 7 to April 11, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.  
at Anglican Church Hall, Fireside Room

### Facilitated by Adrienne Moya and Elizabeth Miles

Over the course of six weeks the facilitators will help participants understand and navigate their grief through sharing, reflection, and group exercises. This will be a closed group after week two. If you can't commit to all or most sessions this group may not be for you. Please bring a journal or pen and paper.

**Adrienne Moya** is a registered social worker and clinical counsellor with training in mindfulness-based approaches, expressive art therapy, and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. She is passionate about the ability of mindfulness to support individual healing, growth and transformation.

**Elizabeth Miles**, MSc, CCC worked for 25 years as a registered psychologist in women's health and in private practice before moving to Pender Island. She is a counsellor at the Health Centre with a special interest in mindfulness and health, the emotional impact of chronic illness, and positive psychology.

For info/to register email [info@penderislandhealth.org](mailto:info@penderislandhealth.org)

Fraser Health Authority and a practicing family physician. She provides medical direction for the Home and Community Care program to support and help clients to live independently at home for as long as possible. Aging gracefully in place on our beautiful Pender Island is the aim of many Pender elders. See also the ad, opposite.

We are also pleased to pre-announce the next talk in the speaker series in May: "Breathe Easy: Lung Health and Disease" presented by Dr. Peter Paré.

Video recordings of previous talks may be viewed on the PIHCS website: <https://penderislandhealth.org/speakers>.

### **Community Volunteer Income Tax Program for Seniors**

The Better at Home Program is pleased to confirm that we will once again be working with a CRA approved community volunteer to complete income tax returns for individuals 65+. To access this free service, you must have a modest income and a simple tax return. Please contact Jane Harrison at 250-629-3346 for more information.

### **Navigating Grief**

Support group meetings will be held for people grieving the loss of a loved one and seeking support and strategies for coping. The meetings will be facilitated by Adrienne Moya and Elizabeth Miles every Thursday, March 7 to April 11, 1 - 2:30 pm in the Anglican Church Hall, Fireside Room. Over the course of six weeks the facilitators will help participants understand and navigate their grief through sharing, reflection, and group exercises. This will be a closed group after week two. If you can't commit to all or most sessions, this group may not be for you. Please bring a journal or pen and paper.

See also the ad, opposite. For info and to register, e-mail [info@penderislandhealth.org](mailto:info@penderislandhealth.org).

### **About the Emerging Primary Care Network (PCN)**

The Ministry of Health, Island Health, the physicians and health societies on the Outer Gulf Islands (OGI) have

begun to create a Primary Care Network (PCN) for our islands. The aim is to bring more complete services for primary care and wellness services to the OGI based upon concepts of team-based care and when necessary, shared services between islands. An important part of this initiative is identifying gaps in service.

Led by the Doctors of BC, a one-day consultation with representatives of the OGI will occur on March 12. People who represent a broad base of organizations and population groups from Pender will have attended a public meeting at the Community Hall on February 24 at which PIHCS explained the upcoming process and the community voiced their needs.

PIHCS has gathered data from the recent survey and other sources to support our need for physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, mental health counselling, social work, and laboratory services. The Society has identified the private sector providers as dentist, pharmacy, chiropractor, and physiotherapy. Issues of drug addiction should be part of the scope of mental health counselling and social work. With 57% of Pender's population being over 60 years, issues of dementia are well identified. PIHCS will consult with those who administer the centre and clinic to understand all the needs of the community.

The Society has a number of concerns including the demands for urgent care that is made on the clinic, especially during the summer. Our data indicates that up to 20% of the providers' time is urgent care given to residents, visitors, transient workers, and part-timers. It has surprised us to find out the number of people in the health system who were unaware of this. All the OGI health societies are pressing for this to be adequately addressed. We will push that most of the expenses for the urgent care room, now borne by the society, should be covered by PCN funding.

The perennial financial problems that face the Society stem directly from

Ministry of Health policies, starting with unrealistic overhead payments for providers. The fear is that while the PCN may fund more providers, this increase will add to financial problems and increases in the property tax roll. Even the current inadequate overhead is not confirmed by the ministry beyond the next fiscal year, making it impossible to recruit physicians.

The Society is aware that any increase in personnel results in more space needed. The promise of the PCN process is that funding to allow this would be available. This would be a necessary and welcomed action.

*Urs Boxler on behalf of the Communications Committee*

### **Community Support Programs**

*"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful."* ~ Mother Teresa

### **Maintain Your Independence Classes**

Classes are \$50 for the eight sessions or \$8 to drop in. If the cost poses a barrier, contact Community Support for assistance. Many thanks to the CRD/Pender Parks and Recreation Commission for its financial support of the MYI programs.

### **18 Postures for Seniors with Judith** Mondays, March 4 - April TBC

Important note: This session's end date is dependent on a yet unscheduled appointment and as such will only be drop-in. Registration is still highly encouraged. Drop-in is \$5 per session.

### **Moderate Yoga with Krista** **Gentle Chair Yoga** **Essentrics with Heather**

Tuesdays, March 5 - April 23

### **Gentle Chair Yoga** Thursdays, March 7 - April 25

To register or have your email address added to our mailing list, leave a message for Andrea at 250-629-3346 or email [andrea@penderislandhealth.org](mailto:andrea@penderislandhealth.org)

*Continued*

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**Hiring**

**Seeking instructors for Maintain Your Independence classes**

We are searching for yoga and exercise instructors with a kind and compassionate approach to lead our moderate and gentle classes. Leaders could instruct Gentle Chair Yoga classes, Gentle Chair Exercise classes or lead Moderate Fitness or Yoga sessions. Leaders would need to bring a good understanding of techniques tailored to accommodate diverse physical abilities. If you are committed to creating inclusive and accessible wellness experiences, we encourage you to reach out to us to discuss the possibility of joining our team.

**Caregivers Support Group**

Monday, March 11 and 25, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

The Family Caregivers Support Group is an opportunity for self-care, a place to discuss your concerns, get information, find out what others have done, share your feelings and connect with others. Come early, 12 - 1 pm, for a delicious lunch put on by the SGI Neighbourhood House.

**Community Volunteer Income Tax Program**

The Community Support Program is once again happy to assist Beacon Community Services with the federal government's Community Volunteer Income Tax Program. If you have a modest income and a simple return, a trained volunteer is available to assist you with tax preparation and filing. Please call the Community Support office for more information 250-629-3346.

**Act of Kindness**

Each month we will bring you a story found in our community. If you would like to have your story of kindness or gratitude added, please contact Andrea.

“As I pulled into the grocery store parking lot, I was rattled by a near miss with an aggressive driver on the road. Taking a deep breath, I parked as far as I could from the entrance to give

me time to walk off the stress. Along the way, I caught sight of an older lady struggling with a full shopping cart while attempting to load groceries into her car. I approached her and, smiling, offered to lift the bags out of the buggy and take the cart back to the rack. She said ‘Thank you so much! That’s really kind of you.’

While I handed her the bags, we chatted. Her name was Sara; she had a bunch of family coming for a visit and was going to make them a special dinner. She volunteers regularly at a morning breakfast program for children, and she recently had a surgery which made it difficult to reach down into the cart. She asked me about myself as well. The simple act of helping her and engaging in a friendly conversation began to lift my spirits.

With the bags safely stowed, I turned to her and said, ‘You know, I had a little bit of a driving mishap earlier, and doing something for someone like you just made my day so much better.’ She smiled warmly, thanked me again for the help and said ‘helping others makes me feel better, too; now I’m glad I was having so much trouble with the cart.’

Walking away from that encounter, I couldn’t help but feel a sense of satisfaction and positivity. In that brief exchange, the negative energy from the aggressive driver dissipated, replaced by a genuine connection and the uplifting feeling that comes from helping others.”

To volunteer, to learn more, to inquire about meeting dates or times, or to sign up for any of the above programs and opportunities, please email [andrea@penderislandhealth.org](mailto:andrea@penderislandhealth.org) or leave a message at 629-3346.

*Andrea Mills,  
Community Support Worker*



## Pender Island Museum Society



The museum reopens for 2024 on Saturday and Sunday, March 30 - 31, from 1 - 4 pm. Our wonderful volunteer hosts are ready to welcome you for your walk down memory lane. And now, we take you back to the late 1950s.

Electricity at last – “How nice it is.”

The years 1956-58 were a watershed in the everyday lives of North Pender Islanders when they finally linked into BC’s electrical power grid for the first time. (South Pender got electricity in 1961.)

Most already knew the convenience of turning on lights at the flip of a switch. Anyone who’d been to Victoria would have had this experience because it was one of the first cities in Canada to get electricity in 1883. To learn of its arrival on Pender, we turn to the journals of Victor Menzies.

By the time hydro was on its way to his Hope Bay home in 1956, 71-year-old Victor was counting the days. On July 30, he noted: “hydro crew clearing along road for power line”. By early November, they were “putting up poles”, followed in early December by “lineman put the electric wire to our house.”

Victor was not one to express much emotion in his daily jottings, but December 19 was “a big day for Pender as we have electric power on. How nice it is.” The wider community shared his enthusiasm, and everyone gathered in February 1957 at a “big supper at the P.W. [Port Washington] Hall to celebrate Hydro power to [North] Pender.”

Never big spenders, the Menzies went on a spending spree. Even before the electricity was turned on, Victor’s wife, Vivienne, “bought an electric washer; cost \$173.25.” As their very first expenditure, the purchase reflected how much toil had gone into doing laundry by hand over the years. Victor had done the washing by himself from time to time, so he knew the challenge personally.

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Catalogue price..... 124.88



*Families were quick to order this popular Viking washer from the Eaton's Catalogue once electricity arrived on Pender in the late 1950s.*

The couple’s purchases over the next two years read like a “Top 10” list of electrical appliances. On February 7, 1957, “Vivienne sent \$62.48 order to T. Eaton’s for a vacuum cleaner.” A few weeks later, Victor “gave Vivienne a new electric iron for her birthday”. We might smile at this gift, but Viv turned

around and gave Victor “a power lawn mower for [his] birthday present”. On Boxing Day that year, he noted, “I used my electric razor I received yesterday. My 1<sup>st</sup> shave by electric.” An “electric blanket” also warranted an appreciative mention.

*Continued*

Three big purchases came in 1958-59, when Victor “paid \$131.25 for a fridge from the Denny’s store Victoria”; an “electric rangette [stove] for \$115.00”; and, payment of “\$250.00 for a 15-cubic-foot deep freeze.”

As Victor noted in early 1957: “received first Electric Power bill, \$8.40.” By 1961, “our electric bill for last month [was] \$11.01, our highest yet.” That would be about \$110 today. He also noted the first time that the “electric power [was] off for about 17 hours. Lots of wind [and] rain.” Victor never seemed to complain about outages!

Entertainment changed, too. Neighbour Stella Bowerman had a television set by 1959, and the Menzies enjoyed their visit with her on January 1 to watch “the Rose Bowl parade on T.V. – very good.” Victor and Vivienne would eventually buy their own TV set, and on February 20, 1962, they “saw on T.V. John Glenn in orbit 3 times around Earth [and] back safely.” The Space Age had begun, and Pender would be a part of it.

*Simone Marler, President*

**Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission**



Aside from regular maintenance and operations of our parks and trails, here are a few of

the items that currently have our attention.

**Recreation Grants**

Got an idea for a recreation program on Pender? Our application process for recreation grants opens in April, with a deadline of June 30. Now’s the time to get your creative juices flowing and start planning. If you received funding in the 2023/2024 cycle, we will expect a report on how the grant was used and how many people benefitted.

**Project Coordinator**

We are looking for a Project Coordinator to join our small band of contractors that help us enhance our parks and trails. If you’re someone who enjoys getting stuck into projects, we want to hear from you. You’ll help drive projects like the Schooner Way Trail, the pump track, the Magic Lake dock, and more. Applications are open until March 8,

so if you’re interested, now’s the time to throw your hat in the ring. See ad below..

**Schooner Way Trail**

We are waiting on a decision about our BC Active Transportation Grant application and have since submitted a second grant application to the Island Coastal Economic Trust. In the meantime, we are still accepting pledges. A pledge can help make our roads safer for all users. Find the pledge forms online ([www.crd.bc.ca/schoonerwaytrail](http://www.crd.bc.ca/schoonerwaytrail)) or pick one up at the Community Resource Centre, the community folders at Dockside Realty or in the Visitors Centre kiosk across from Tru Value.

**Spot Something Off?**

If you see something amiss in our parks – like a damaged bench or a downed tree – don’t hesitate to reach out ([penderparks@crd.bc.ca](mailto:penderparks@crd.bc.ca)). Your reports help us keep our parks safe for everyone. So, if you spot anything that needs attention, give us a shout.

**Capital Regional District**



**Contract Opportunity**

**Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission (PIPRC) – Project Coordinator**

The PIPRC delivers the operation, maintenance and development of CRD parks, trails and recreational services on Pender Island. Parks is a CRD service delivery organization run by volunteer Commissioners. With the direction of the PIPRC the Project Coordinator will work closely with Commissioners to ensure the success of multiple projects.

**Tasks include:**

- Coordinating PIPRC park and trail development projects.
- Ensuring that projects remain within scope, schedule, and budget.
- Providing project updates to PIPRC.
- Organizing and coordinating project contractors and volunteers.
- Organizing project reports, invoices, contracts, and other files.
- Planning project meetings and organizing logistics.
- Other related duties as assigned.

**Applicants should demonstrate:**

- Project coordination experience.
- Strong interpersonal, and written and oral communication skills.
- Proven problem-solving abilities.
- Understanding of land use considerations on Pender Island.

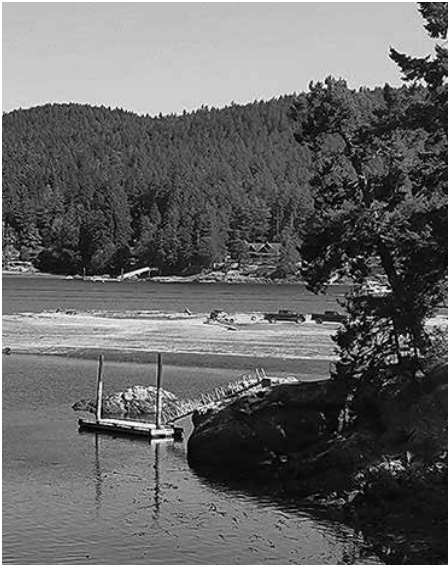
The contract is **\$1250/mo**, based on 1 day/wk, up to a maximum of \$15,000 / yr.

**How to Apply:** To apply, please send a resume and cover letter outlining your skills, experience and interest to work with PIPRC to [penderparks@bc.ca](mailto:penderparks@bc.ca)

**Deadline: March 8, 2024**



Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission  
 PO Box 86, Pender Island, BC., V0N 2M0  
 Website: [www.crd.bc.ca/penderparks](http://www.crd.bc.ca/penderparks)



*Mortimer Spit from Bridge Park.*

### Wet Conditions Warning

With spring just around the corner, you can continue to expect some of our fields and trails to be extra soggy in places. Please keep an eye out for signs and closures.

### At the Commission

Let's give a warm welcome to the newest member of the parks and rec commission team. Joining us from South Pender is Cecilia Sui. She was recently appointed by the Capital Regional District and fills the final vacancy on the commission.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 4 from 3 - 5 pm at the Community Hall. You can also link in by Zoom. Whether you're a frequent attendee or thinking about joining us for the first time, we'd love to see you there. Let's keep the conversation going about the future of our parks and trails and recreation programs.

*Sandra Tretick, Vice Chair*

## Pender Island Public Library



### Library AGM

Welcoming all library members to join our Board of Trustees and staff for a short AGM on Wednesday, March 13 at 9:30 am. The meeting will be held in-person at the Library and by Zoom. Meeting package is available on the Library website, under Events. We'll review the successes of 2023 and present our new Strategic Plan 2024-2028.

### Events

Exciting events this month include hosting Juno nominated percussionist Robin Layne to mentor school students with Ben McConchie on March 11. Robyn is the senior percussion instructor at the Sarah McLachlan School of Music and the Artistic Director of the World Rhythms for Youth Society. On March 20 we are honoured to once again welcome Elders, Teachers, and Apprentices from the WSÁNEĆ School Board to provide a SENĆOFEN Language Workshop, focused on language learning. Free program, pre-registration required at the Library website, under Events.

### Book Donations - Thank You

We wanted to thank our community for all the amazing book and DVD donations in 2023. Your donations of high quality, newer books and DVDs made a significant difference to the collection available to library users. We received just over 660 donations, which made up about 50% of the new items added. We also purchased a wide variety

of new books (830 adult and 410 youth) last year. Stop by to browse this amazing, free collection! Our friendly staff can help with book recommendations for all ages.

### Art in the Library

*Winterlude* by Debbie Katz, Felt Artist, on display March 2024. Brighten up your winter days with fantastic, felted objects, functional and fanciful. For the past 15 years Debbie has been creating unique pieces of felted art that explore the boundaries between art, fashion, and home decor in a fanciful, colourful, and humorous way.

### Books On Display

In March, we shine the spotlight on women authors, in celebration of International Women's Day on March 8, with the 2024 campaign theme *Inspire Inclusion*. "When we inspire others to understand and value women's inclusion, we forge a better world. And when women themselves are inspired to be included, there's a sense of belonging, relevance, and empowerment. Imagine a gender equal world, free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive". Info: [www.internationalwomensday.com](http://www.internationalwomensday.com)

### New Books on the Shelves

#### Adult Non-Fiction

*Tiny Traumas* (Megan Arroll), *Blood* (Jen Gunter), *Robots and the People that Love Them* (Eve Herold), *Fleece and Fibre* (Francine McCabe), *Living Untethered* (Michael Singer), *A City on Mars* (Kelly and Zach Weinersmith).

#### Adult Fiction

*An Ordinary Violence* (Adriana Chartrand), *Meet Me at the Lake* (Carley Fortune), *Family Family* (Laurie Frankel), *Yellowface* (R.F. Kuang), *Shut Up You're Pretty* (Téa Mutonji), *Sunshine Nails* (Mai Nguyen).

#### Adult Mystery and Sci-Fi

*Radiant Heat* (Sarah-Jane Collins), *Goodbye Girl* (James Grippando), *Taste of Blood* (Lynda LaPlante), *Random in Death* (J.D. Robb), *Girlfriend on Mars* (Deborah Willis).

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**Youth**

*Plan A* (Deb Caletti), *Gwen & Art are Not in Love* (Lex Croucher), *Eva for President* (Rebecca Elliott), *Flat Cat* (Tara Lazar), *Clementine Fox and the Great Island Adventure* (Leigh Luna), *The Unbeatable Lily Hong* (Diana Ma), *Meet Clara Hughes* (Elizabeth MacLeod), *Worm and Caterpillar are Friends* (Kaz Windness).

**Library hours**

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 - 3, at 4407 Bedwell Harbour Rd. For assistance, email [libraryhelpdesk@crd.bc.ca](mailto:libraryhelpdesk@crd.bc.ca) or call 250-629-3722.

*Carmen Oleskevich,*  
*Library Director*

**Pender Island Recycling Society**



**Battery Recycling**

Did you know that we collect used household batteries? Some types, such as alkaline and nickel cadmium, can be dropped directly in the battery collection box. But others, such as small sealed lead acid, lithium ion, and lithium primary batteries, require protection of the terminals to prevent fire hazards. Please check the type of battery you are recycling, and if it is one of the types that are hazardous, protect the terminals as soon as the battery is removed from the appliance or electronic device.

Battery terminals that touch a metal surface or other batteries can spark, causing a fire or explosion. Lithium fires are particularly challenging to extinguish and we want to be extra cautious about fire hazards on Pender Island.



The easiest way to protect the terminal is to place the battery individually in a clear plastic bag, which is available for free at the depot. They should never be placed together in a bag, since they can spark off each other. Battery bags can be taken home from the depot so they are on hand to safely pack your batteries. Another option is to tape the terminal with clear packing tape.

We often find batteries mixed in with the tin cans and glass jars. To avoid this, please store them in their own container clearly marked "batteries" and keep them separate from your other household recycling.

**Freestore and Reshop**

Thank you for your generous donations to the Freestore and Reshop. We accept items any time that we are open. Please ensure items are clean since that makes them more appealing. Also remember to check with a staff person at drop off. All revenue from the sale of donations goes right back to funding the operation of the store.

**What can we accept:**

- Recyclable items in working order (for example - small and large appliances, metal items, gift bags and wrapping paper, and electronics)
- Books that are recently printed, in good condition, and likely of interest to others
- Kitchenware such as plates, glasses, and cutlery
- Sturdy wooden furniture

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**What we can not accept:**

- Clothing, textiles, cloth covered furniture, and particle board. Our store is damp and moisture degrades these materials
- Mirrors (unless protected by a frame, as life can be rough and tumble in the Freestore)
- Windows (they are not recyclable and frequently break during their stay with us)
- Promotional dishware (e.g., Important Business Meeting 1989)
- Chipped dishes
- Textbooks, TimeLife books, encyclopaedias, and musty, dusty old books
- Food and personal care items

If you have items that you would like to donate but are unsure whether they could be accepted, you can send photos and questions to our general inbox (address below).

**Memberships**

Thank you to our supporters for renewing your annual membership. Memberships are \$20, are voluntary, much appreciated, and provide the necessary funding for reuse initiatives like the Freestore and Reshop. January and February are our busiest times for renewals but you can renew at any time of the year, either on our website, by email to the address listed below, or at the depot. We accept debit, credit card, cheque, or cash payments and issue charitable tax receipts, which we will mail to you if you purchase your membership on-line (include your address for e-transfers).

**Bike Shop**

Did you know that we offer bike tune ups, sales, and repairs on the first Tuesday of the month? Come by between 10 am and 3 pm and ask for Laurie at the bike shop.

We strive to create a positive recycling experience for you. Please let us know if you have any suggestions as to how we can make our operation better. You can reach us by email (penderislandrecycling@gmail.com) or at 250 629 6962.

Happy Spring!

*Niki Roberts*

Pender Island Public Library

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## Pender Organic Community Garden Society



The beginning of the new gardening year varies but generally the beginning of March sees the first gardeners working on their plots.

According to most gardening guides, the magical date for vegetable planting is “after the last frost”, but since we haven’t been getting many frosts...I prefer the “as soon as the ground can be worked” advice. While March is still too early for transplants, some crops such as peas, carrots and onions can go in early as they have no problem with cool temperatures.

Crops like peas and carrots are usually planted regularly at two week intervals to ensure that you have a continuous crop and not a deluge all at once. If you grow your onions from seed, the earlier you plant them the better your chances of getting larger bulbs come harvest time. For other vegetables, check one

of the local seed suppliers for advice. West Coast Seeds has a handy guide in the middle of their catalogue.

If you haven’t already planned your 2024 garden, now is the time. Make a plan of your plot leaving space for access paths between beds, so you can weed and water without threatening your seedlings and transplants. Consider what grew well last year, how much room the various crops took, and whether or not you still have seeds. When seed catalogues arrive, it is often tempting to buy more seeds than you could possibly use. Before you rush to order more seeds, check your supply from last year. If you kept them in their paper packets in a glass jar in a cool dry place, many seeds will last for years. Beans and peas: at least three years. Squash and Kale: four years. Brassicas and beets: five years. Carrots and lettuce: six years. Of the crops commonly grown from

seed, only onions are only good for the year in which they are sold. Since many seed packets don’t have clear dates on them, it helps to mark the year when you get them clearly on the packets. And if you don’t really like fussing with seeds and heating mats and lights, transplants start appearing in gardening centres in early April. Don’t be tempted to buy too many too soon, unless you have access to a warm, protected, sunny spot for them. If you plant them before the soil is really warm enough, they will sulk. May, when Pender growers start offering their transplants for sale, is usually the earliest that you can safely plant warm-loving transplants such as tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers.

*Rhondda Porter-Plumb*








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The  
Pender Post

## Pender Seed Library

The first step of spring planning starts with seeds, so this is an exciting time for the Seed Library. Freshly stocked at the Pender Library are lettuces, peas, radish, arugula, onions, and broccoli, locally donated from around the islands. For those varieties that easily cross-pollinate, we have stocked seeds purchased from Salt Spring Seeds in order to ensure that these varieties will not disappoint our library users. Seed viability is hugely important to us. The Library can only be successful if the seeds that growers borrow actually produce food and, ultimately, seeds.

The Pender Seed Library will be at Seedy Saturday on March 30 at the Community Hall, with seeds and information about saving seeds as well as how to use the Library. Please come by and take some seeds or return some seeds that you have saved.

We have a new Facebook group, called Pender Seed Library, where we will be posting updates on what seeds are available, events we will be at in person, as well as tips and bits about growing, harvesting, and storing seeds. You are welcome to add your voice to the conversation as we would love to hear about your experiences and insights, and help answer questions as a community of growers, from beginners and experts.

The Seed Library is located inside the Pender Library at the back of the Children's section. Choose seeds to borrow, or return seeds into the box at the bottom. You can return them in any



Seed Library door at the Library

container as we will repackage them, but please label your seeds with a date of collection. Seeds older than four years won't be circulated into the system. We also appreciate knowing who the seeds came from.

We are so grateful to the Gulf Islands Food Co-op and the Pender Island Library for ongoing support, and the small handful of growers who regularly give back seeds. Thank you!

We can be reached at [penderseedlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:penderseedlibrary@gmail.com).

*Wendi Lopatecki*

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PenderPOD



**J60 RIP**

In the February Pender Post we reported the birth of J60, the newest addition to the endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales, believed to have been born on December 25, 2023. Sadly, J60 has been reported as “likely deceased”. A tragic loss for J Pod and for us all.

Those who follow the endangered Orcas and support measures for their protection have a right to ask - What killed J60? The answers are in the extensive research that documents the lack of sustaining Chinook salmon, the heavy pollutant burden in the Salish Sea, and the unrelenting underwater noise from the freighters, container ships, and oil tankers.

The oil tankers are the existential threat. An oil spill at Turn Point where Haro Strait becomes Boundary Pass is the most likely location for a shipping accident according to the TransMountain Pipeline Project hearings. A major oil

spill would be the end of the Southern Resident Orcas and would also undermine our Southern Gulf Islands economic future.

However, the most immediate threat to the Orcas is starvation. The lack of their main Chinook salmon diet is compounded by the vessel noise that interferes with the Orcas’ ability to echolocate to hunt their main food source. And the toxin load from pollution is passed on in the mother’s milk to the peril of the newborn struggling to survive in an already hostile environment.

The more difficult question is Who killed J60? In my mind the short answer is “we did.” Yes, I know, it is a complex question and any politically correct answer must be more nuanced. But I would argue, collectively we are all responsible, although I recognize we each must answer that question for ourselves.

And the final question I would like to pose to those who follow the endangered

Orcas and support measures for their protection - What are we going to do about the death of J60?

Will we write to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Hon. Diane LeBouthillier DFO.Minister-Ministre.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca to urge her to:

- close the Chinook fishery in March, not June,
- activate Orca Sanctuary zones in March not June,
- protect the herring and Chinook spawning grounds
- reinforce the voluntary vessel slowdown in early spring to reduce noise, and
- extend the approach buffer zone to 1,000M for Killer Whales as is now under way in Washington State?

Elizabeth May, our Member of Parliament, will be raising the death of J60 and the need for greater protection for the Southern Resident Orcas in the House of Commons.

In 2019 Pender POD mounted a campaign to commemorate all the Southern Resident Orcas that had been “presumed deceased” since 2002 with a prayer flag and a tribute for each orca. These compassionate and loving tributes created by islanders of all ages were most recently displayed at the Pender Conservancy Centre. All 48 flags are posted on POD’s website at: <https://www.penderpod.ca>.

The Orca tribute flags will next be displayed at the Beach Clean-up at Slow Coast on April 20. The Pender POD team will be there serving soup and buns for the intrepid beach warriors. We will have pre-addressed postcards to government ministers responsible for protecting the Orcas available so you can choose the postcard message that best reflects your preferred action, add your two cents worth and pop it in the mail. No postage required.

The time has come to add a new prayer flag for J60. Every step we take to protect the endangered Southern Resident Orcas from extinction is a step in the right direction. We owe it to J60 and his family.

*Paul Petrie for Pender POD*



Royal Canadian Legion



When I write my Legion report each month, I try to keep it somewhat light hearted but, unfortunately, I'm not feeling quite so cheery this time.

**Lisa Christensen**

We lost a good part of our heart and soul at the Legion, and really, for all of Pender Island this week with the sudden passing of Lisa Christensen, while on holiday in Mexico. Lisa has been an integral part of our Legion team since she joined us nearly six years ago. Almost from day one she became the go to person for any job that needed to be done, be it working in the kitchen, behind the bar on a regular basis, or helping out with practically every function we've done during her time with us. No job was too big or too small... she could be the leader or sweeping up the debris afterwards, no 'big ego' with our Lisa!

Lisa has been a member of our Executive from her first year and was currently our Vice President. She held many other titles as well: Legion zone representative, membership chair, and co-bar manager with Jean. She did it all with good humour and dedication to making the Legion such an important part of our community. Speaking of community, after all she did for the Legion, she still had time to become a huge part of the Nu-To-Yu, the Junior Sailing Association, the Neighbourhood House, Pender Pride, the Museum – if someone needed a hand she was there.

Lisa was not on Pender for a long time, but she left a mark that few can match. We were blessed that she chose our little island to be her permanent home after her retirement from the armed forces. She didn't really retire – she just became a full-time volunteer and Pender Island was her family.

Lisa was sick and at the airport in Mexico, trying to get home, when she collapsed and was rushed to the hospital. She never regained consciousness and passed away from a heart attack on February 13, so far away from those she loved and who loved her. She was only 50 years old. She has left a void that will be hard to fill, but hopefully her inspiration will make us all strive a little more to be just a little better than what we were before. It's sad how life goes along and you know someone is special but you never tell them that and then it's too late! We will be having a Celebration of Life for Lisa at a date to be determined, and it will be a full house to say goodbye to our special friend.

Upcoming events at the Legion feel so trivial at this time, but the Legion will carry on. Please go to [www.penderislandrc1239.com](http://www.penderislandrc1239.com) for more information.



**Oscar Party**

On March 10, Marilyn Forbes will be hosting an Oscar Party with doors and bar at 3:45, and Oscars show at 4 pm. Oscar attire is encouraged. Appies and snacks will be served with donations appreciated.

**St. Patrick's Day Dinner**

On March 15 we will have a special St. Patrick's Day dinner with Barb and John O'Pender dishing up Irish stew, green salad, some good bread, and dessert for \$25 plus \$3 for entertainment by Peter Emery – that silver haired warbler from down South Pender way. Trust me, he has a fantastic voice and a full repertoire of Irish classics. He's a regular Val Doonican (look him up). Wear some green and join us for a great night.

**Meat Draws**

Fun meat draws continue every Saturday at 4 pm.

*John Pender, President*



Nu-To-Yu Building Fund

60% of the \$1,250,000 required to build the new Nu-to-Yu facility at the Driftwood Centre has been raised. Government grants will provide some of the remainder but private donations are also requested.

For information see:  
<https://nu-to-yu.com/our-new-build>

**To donate to the Building Fund, contact:**  
[nutoyudonate@gmail.com](mailto:nutoyudonate@gmail.com)



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Outer Gulf Islands RCMP



As I missed the last issue, let's look at the stats for the period between December 10 and February 18. We attended one hundred and nineteen calls to 911 for service, up from one hundred and fourteen during the same period in 2022/2023.

In January police received a report of a crypto currency scam. The victim worked with their bank in an attempt to get their money back. Remember, if it sounds too good, it's a scam. Pender RCMP responded to four money frauds since the New Year.

February 12, members attended Navy Channel and assisted the Coast Guard, as a vessel had called a mayday. Members were able to locate and assist the Coast Guard in getting the vessel safely to port.

February 16, members attended an address on Pender Island for a reported domestic assault. One person was taken into custody and released on no contact conditions with the other party. The accused will be attending court at a later date. Both persons have been provided resources and victim services in the interim.

Info sessions: Fraud Alert

I am currently putting together an information session focused around telephone and internet (email and spam) fraud, so stay tuned for date, time and location.

Celebration

An award ceremony was held at the Pender Detachment to honor the detachment office manager, Marc Lesperance. Many of you know Marc personally, in the community, or have



Award ceremony for Detachment Office Manager, Marc Lesperance

had the opportunity to speak with him when in need of information. Many may not know this, but Marc was also a serving member of the RCMP Auxiliary program until it was closed down. On February 15, we took some time to honour Marc and present him with a certificate of appreciation. Sgt Dyson, in true fashion, was able to have Marc's badge encased and mounted. This was presented to Marc as well and for the first time Marc was speechless. Congratulations again, Marc, on your years of dedicated service.

If you want to read more about what is going on in Province or the other islands, you can search this link <https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca>, then use the quick links (BC RCMP Detachments). Then scroll down to Outer Gulf Islands and select "newsroom".

Const. Simon Bentley



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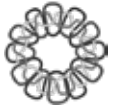
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## SGI Community Resource Centre



As we anticipate bidding farewell to the last snowflakes of winter, there's a buzz of activity stirring across the islands. Explore our upcoming programming to discover the exciting opportunities the CRC has in store for you this March.

### Dining in the Dark

The CRC is pleased to announce that *Dining in the Dark*, a cookbook for meals without electricity, is now available for purchase. Order your copy by emailing us at [info@sgicommunityresources.ca](mailto:info@sgicommunityresources.ca) or calling 250-629-3665. The cost is \$10, and payments can be made via e-transfer. Once you place your order, further details regarding where to pick up your copy will be sent to you. See <https://www.sgicommunityresources.ca> for more info.

### Housing Now

Could you use some extra help around your home or property? Do you have an unused bedroom or suite you'd be open to sharing? The Housing NOW Homeshare Registry is looking for hosts. Let us connect you with the guest you've been searching for... today. Connect with our team today to find out more by emailing us at [housingnow@sgicommunityresources.ca](mailto:housingnow@sgicommunityresources.ca).

### Sustainable Funding Initiative

This month's capacity building workshop is *Privacy and Non-Profits*, on Wednesday, March 13, 11 am - 12:30 pm (Zoom). Understanding BC's privacy legislation is critical for nonprofits. A seasoned Privacy Consultant and Board Director will review your organization's obligations under the Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA), Confidentiality and Safeguards to protect personal information. For non-profit boards and volunteers.

We also have a monthly newsletter with upcoming grant opportunities (for non-profits, small businesses and individuals), resources, inspiring videos, community news and non-profit features.

Subscribe to our newsletter, or register for workshops at [www.sgicommunityresources.ca/non-profit-support](http://www.sgicommunityresources.ca/non-profit-support).

Sending warm wishes for a safe and cozy March to all!

*Melody Pender*  
Executive Director



## SGI Neighbourhood House



### Community Justice Program

The first few weeks of the year have been filled with CJP activities all over our islands. We held our most popular Community Zoom Circle yet with the topic "Making Peace in 2024." Look for a follow-up Circle soon as we examine ways of "Doing Peace." Ben Kadel hosted workshops on each island focused on using Peace Circles in the Real World. This month, we have been very excited to expand our network by co-creating peace circle training sessions with Dr. Evelyn Zellerer. Please see her website: [www.peaceofthecircle.com](http://www.peaceofthecircle.com). There you will see that Dr. Zellerer is one of the world's foremost practitioners and facilitators of this process. We are honoured to have her as a mentor and champion of our work. Check out [www.sginh.ca/programs/cjp](http://www.sginh.ca/programs/cjp). We're on Facebook and Instagram, so "like" us to keep up with all our events, and email us at [cjp@sginh.ca](mailto:cjp@sginh.ca) to get on our email list.

### Computer Savvy Seniors

Would you like to improve your digital skills? Are you seeking assistance with organizing files, printing emails, working with PDFs, or navigating social media platforms? Computer Savvy Seniors Program can help. We can provide up to 2 hours of in-home tech support, FREE. Call (250) 629-3665 or email us at [fiftyfiveplus@sginh.ca](mailto:fiftyfiveplus@sginh.ca) for more information and to register for assistance.

### 55+ Workshops

#### Estate Planning Seminar

Monday, March 11, 12:30 pm - 2 pm (Zoom)

Presented in partnership with Island Savings, a division of First West Credit Union, and hosted by Kerri Roberts (Brentwood Branch Manager), Terri Leslie (Wealth Advisor) and Jennifer Kaila (Senior Financial Advisor). This workshop will help you simplify your estate for yourself and your loved ones, including Taxation, Wills and POA, and

*Continued*



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**Help on Pender**  
Tuesday and Thursday

Transfer of Property. Presentation followed by a Q & A. Please contact our office at fiftyfiveplus@sginh.ca or call 250-629-3665 to register and obtain the Zoom link.

**Card Making Workshop with Melody Pender**

Sunday, March 17, 1 - 3 pm at the Legion

Join Melody Pender in making an interactive “Jacob’s Ladder” optical illusion card (with 12 sides) and a custom box. This card is easy and fun to make. Cost is \$10 for the class and \$15 for materials. Space is limited, so sign up early to avoid disappointment! Please contact our office at fiftyfiveplus@sginh.ca or call 250-629-3665 to register.

**Youth Programs 15 -29**

**Homework Club with Liam**

Thursday, March 7 and 14, 5 - 7 pm, Community Hall

**Games Night - Magic : The Gathering**

Friday, March 8, 4 - 8 pm, Community Hall

**Games Night - Board Games and Video Games**

Friday, March 22, 4 - 8 pm, Community Hall

**Youth Budgeting Workshop with Shelagh**

Sunday, March 24, 2 - 4 pm, Zoom

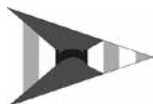
**Youth Advisory Committee with Liam and Maddi**

Wednesday, March 27, 7 - 9 pm, Zoom

To register or for more information please contact youthprograms@sginh.ca

*Michael Cowan,  
Managing Director*

**Canadian Power and Sail**



**Pender Island Squadron**

A reminder that we will be presenting a Weather Seminar, at the Legion, Sunday, March 10 at 2 pm. Cost for admission is \$15 per person or \$20 per couple, pay at the door. (See ad page 52 for details.)

Our membership continues to evolve. In addition to our Pender Island members we also have members from Salt Spring Island, Saturna Island, Galiano Island, and Mayne Island. One of our goals this year is to bring our weather seminar to Salt Spring and Mayne after the initial presentation this month on Pender.

We currently have two registrants taking our self-study Maritime Radio Course (1 Salt Spring and 1 Mayne) and one registrant enrolled in the self-study Basic Navigation and Boat Handling Course (Salt Spring). These on-line courses make it possible for Southern Gulf Islanders to access CPS training and education without the expense and inconvenience of travelling off-island. Based on past experience we expect more people will register as the season progresses.

Preparation is currently underway in preparation for the Marty Tilley Grade 9 Boating Program this May in partnership with the Pender Island School, with Transport Canada having provided copies of the Canadian Safe Boating Guide for distribution to those students participating.

A good start to spring.

Thanks for reading and stay safe on the water,

*David Kirsop, Commander*

**Pender Island Garden Club**



*Three of the ladies of the Garden Club participating with Andy MacKinnon, last month, in a demonstration of the partnership between the plant and fungal kingdoms. Jessie, far right, represents a Douglas Fir. Allyson, down low, is the mycorrhizal network connecting them and Faye, far left, is a mycoheterotroph such as Coral Root or Indian Pipe. Photo: Ann Coombs.*



**Growing Beautiful Tomatoes**

Who doesn’t love juicy, tasty tomatoes right out of the garden? Heirloom, hybrid, determinate, indeterminate, best taste, maximum yield and disease resistance; these are terms of some importance to tomato growers. Come to the Community Hall, downstairs, at 1 pm on March 14 to hear Ben Litzke let us in on his planting hacks for growing the biggest, earliest, and tastiest tomatoes.

The topics that Ben will cover in some depth will be starting tomatoes from seed; hardening them off and planting; along with soil and watering suggestions. He will talk about disease prevention and best practices for training, pruning, and supporting your tomato plants. Ben will tell us about the vast diversity of tomato varieties available, how to find and choose them, and how to save your own seed.

It should be a most comprehensive talk. Ben will have some rare varieties of tomato seed for sale and be accepting pre-orders for tomato starts.



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## Pender Island Golf Club

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You may want to try the Sea Farm Kelp or Fish Fertilizer that we have available on your tomatoes. Theresa is selling it to Garden Club members at the wholesale cost of \$15 per 1 L bottle and has had good feedback on it.

The kelp is planted in a kelp farm and then harvested in a sustainable manner, so does not take away from any natural kelp habitats.

Members are starting to send in photos for the 50th anniversary calendar. Please email your pictures to Janice Levy: [stevestongirl@icloud.com](mailto:stevestongirl@icloud.com). Start clicking and also have another look at your previous photos to submit your favourites. Any members who would like to help in organizing the calendar are welcome to participate; please contact Theresa Barker at [tabarker2017@gmail.com](mailto:tabarker2017@gmail.com). We would also like to include gardening tips that have worked well for you in your garden so please also submit any gardening and growing tips that you may have for each month of the year!

Lastly, don't forget our annual Plant Sale on April 27 and pot-up any extra plants that you have to donate.

Happy spring gardening,  
*Kathy MacLachlan*



*The waterfall at Buck Lake Park frozen in time. Photo: Ben Symons.*



In January, we told you that golf play ceased on the course after the Tombstone tournament in 1953. After that it would be several years before playing resumed. Perhaps the tournament name was prophetic!

In 1961 membership consisted of 19 playing members and 2 social. Some of these members held debentures (the original mortgage) that financed the purchase of the Grimmer land. So, in April of that year, club President Percy Corbett called a special General Public meeting to discuss the reopening of the course for golf. He gave a brief overview of the history of the club and outlined its then current financial status. Debt owed in debentures \$1400, cash on hand \$500. A proposal was made to issue no more than 100 new debentures for \$25 each. These debentures would be non-transferable (can't give it to anyone else), non-assessable (can't get your money back) and limited to one debenture per person. The idea was to increase the financing of the club to a wider community base, minimize the chance of the property being sold by the present small number of shareholders by paying off the debt and ensuring the course would remain as a benefit for the whole community with the land being owned by the Society - not the club members. So, they sent the members door-to-door to sell this new debenture. On May 14, 1961 the club held a grand reopening tournament followed by tea and cookies convened by Mrs. H. G. Scott. Today, members pay what we now call an initiation fee which is also non-redeemable and non-transferable. Since 1961 members have built and maintained the course to become what it is today.

In 1965 they embarked on clearing the west side of Otter Bay Road to build four more holes. (That's not quite how it looks today as there are six holes on the east and three on the west. There was a lot of to and fro going on during the 60s as to where the holes should be). What is important to note is that 95% of the work was done by volunteer members. The only paid work was a small token of \$200 paid to Les Bowerman and Max Allan who donated two days of heavy



equipment work to clear the trees and make the fairways.

We asked Linda Wein, the daughter of June and Max Allan and niece of Marge and Elmer Bowerman, if she could share any memories her family had in the building of the course in the 60s and here is what she had to say.

“Work Bees were critical to the establishment and maintenance of the course. Starting in the spring, the elected President would get groups out on Saturdays to clean up, rake, and build. Most would bring their own tools. They shared a common goal: to create a playable golf course that the community could enjoy. These bees always included a potluck lunch or refreshments. Golfing became a much-loved sport for my mom and dad (June and Max Allan) and Uncle Elmer and Aunt Marge Bowerman (nee Corbett, Percy's daughter). They played from the 60s right up to the 1990s, June even later. Elmer Bowerman worked course maintenance until about 1990. Marge said he worked there so much he practically lived there. Rumor has it they had a lot of fun cleaning up and burning. They apparently had some close calls in almost burning the Grimmer fence down! It should be noted this work was done on the weekends because all these people still worked. The course became an important addition to the community. It provided a challenging sport and an active and entertaining social focal point for the island. It also helped greatly in supporting tourism on the Island. Who doesn't like a game of golf on their vacation?”

Note: Marge Bowerman served as the first female president of the club; both she and sister-in-law June Allan served many roles on the board over years

*Continued*

The club hired its first paid groundskeeper in 1971 but the members continue to this day helping around the course. So, when you think about the golf course now, hopefully you will see it as a great community resource and not some uppity golf club. Thanks for reading our little history of the club. Golf starts up in April so stay tuned for some more current affairs. Who knows, maybe we will sneak a little history in here and there.

*Cindy Bedford, Volunteer*

## Pender Island Junior Sailing Association



It is almost spring, and thoughts of summer activities are beginning to surface, including our summer sailing courses. Two sets of courses will be offered: beginners, CanSail Level 1 and 2 and more advanced CanSail Level 3 and 4. The age requirements are that students must be 9 years old for Level 1 and 2 and 12 years old for Level 3 and 4 in addition

to having completed most of the Level 2 requirements.

We need to explain how students are assessed and what expectations should be. These courses are not done on a pass/fail basis, but rather seeing students complete a list of basic skills. Many students enrolling in a one-week Level 1 and 2 course will likely achieve many of the Level 1 skills, some will achieve them all, but a second week of courses will be needed to obtain some proficiency at Level 2. Students who have either completed all the Level 2 skills, or most of the Level 2 skills can enrol in Level 3 and 4 courses. The same expectations apply to Level 3 and 4. The student's record of skills obtained is recorded and is available to any other sailing school.

Level 1 and 2 courses will be given the weeks of July 15 - 19, July 29 - Aug 2, Aug 5 - 9, and Aug 19 - 23. Level 3 and 4 courses will be given Aug 5 - 9 and Aug 19 - 23. The Monday to Friday courses start at 9 am and end at about 3:30 pm. The courses are given at Hamilton Beach. The Level 1 and 2

courses use Pirate-class dinghies with 3 students per boat; Level 3 and 4 use single-handed Laser 1s or Bytes or two students in a Laser 2. Instruction is provided by BCSail certified instructors.

Registration will begin for returning students and other household members on May 1 at 8 am (BC time) and May 1 at 8 am for other students. Costs for the courses will be \$250. Registration and payment are an online process at [penderislandjuniorsailing.com](http://penderislandjuniorsailing.com).

PIJSA is looking for additional directors and volunteers to take on some of the duties needed for the delivery of these courses. Parents or grandparents who help during a week are always welcomed. If you have any interest in being involved at any level, please contact Bruce Waygood [kbwaygood@shaw.ca](mailto:kbwaygood@shaw.ca) or 250-818-8555. Being familiar with boats helps, but isn't a necessary requirement; some of it is just helping with beach "supervision" and a weekly BBQ lunch.

*Bruce Waygood, Commodore*

## Canadian Power and Sail Pender Island Squadron



# Weather Seminar

March 10, 2:00 pm

At the Pender Island Legion on McKinnon Road  
\$15/person or \$20/couple

Weather in the Salish Sea can often come in many forms and in many ways. Our coastal mountain ranges, many channels, tidal systems and location on the west coast can often result in sudden squalls and difficult to interpret weather events. Don't venture out unprepared!

Learn how to obtain, understand and plan for local weather events before venturing out on the water. This will be a fun presentation in plain spoken language that will help you to understand many of the terms and conditions presented in a typical marine weather report.

For further information contact David Kirsop, Commander, at 250-539-0951.

The Wind Came All Ways ~ Emily Carr

## Pender Island Otters Swim Club



March is here and, despite school spring break, we are continuing right through March, as Panorama Pool has altered its annual pool maintenance closing to April 1 - 19. They have usually done this closure for full pool filtration maintenance in late August to early September, but have decided to do it now instead. That means we will miss a couple of weeks of swimming due to that rather than school spring break/Easter this year. But that also means that summer season registration will follow rather quickly on with the end of our final week or weeks of winter maintenance on April 26.

May 3 is the start of Summer season, which runs from May to August. In past years we let swimmers decide if they want to sign up for May/June only or also go through to July/August where they can get two days of swimming a week (Tuesday and Friday), and get to participate in swim meets if they choose. Information about the summer season will be in the April *Pender Post*.

The BIG news is that our Annual General Meeting will be held via Zoom on Sunday, April 7 at 7 pm. It would be really great to have some new folks join us on the board to see us through another year of swimming fun. Anyone interested in joining us, or joining the board, please contact us at [penderottersswimclub@gmail.com](mailto:penderottersswimclub@gmail.com) or contact me, for board nominations at [pencod@shaw.ca](mailto:pencod@shaw.ca).

We will be having to find a Head Coach for the summer, as our wonderful winter maintenance Head Coach Jack Savage has signed with a Revelstoke Swim Club for the summer (but might be back for our fall session). We look forward to welcoming our Junior Coach, Jeremy Ellis, back for the summer, but do need to find a Head Coach to cover our coaching staff. Many thanks to Deirdre K. and Elizabeth G. for continuing to cover our Otter Pups for the summer session.

I will report on the full summer meet schedule in the next report and will announce our elected board in May.

Swimming on into spring,

*Helen Lemon-Moore, President*

## Pender Island Yacht Club



*Baraka Bashad*

### Speaker Series

We are pleased to announce that Rita Balaam will be our featured presenter March 18, 5 pm, at the Browning Bistro. Rita's presentation will be about a recent sailing trip to Alaska that she undertook with her husband, Vaughan.

#### A bit about Rita...

Rita and Vaughan lived over 20 years in a log house, built by Vaughan, in the Highlands outside Victoria. 19 years ago, they moved to Sidney to live aboard their sailboat, *Baraka Bashad*. They have sailed around Vancouver Island, enjoying the Broken Islands, Desolation Sound, and the Broughton Islands for

many years. They have been to Alaska and back with their boat two times. Rita has been a teacher and administrator for many years in the Saanich school district. Currently she is teaching teachers for Queen's University and continues to work in schools in Saanich. Vaughan has been operating a marine canvas business in Sidney for many years. Their sailboat, *Baraka Bashad*, is now up for sale as Vaughan and Rita plan on moving onto a powerboat to continue to enjoy living on the water.

The presentation is free to Yacht Club members. Others are encouraged to attend, with a donation to the club.

*Charlie Eigl, Vice Commodore*



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## WEATHER OBSERVATIONS FOR JANUARY

	Average Temperatures			Extreme Temperatures		Precipitation		
	Max	Min	Mean	High	Low	Rain	Snow	Total
<b>Magic Lake</b>	6.8	2.1	4.5	12.5 on 30th	-11.5 on 12th	171.8 mm	33 cm	204.8 mm
<b>“Normal”</b>	7.4	2.7	5.5	19.0 in 1988	-11.5 in 2024	128.4	9.7	138.1

January is in the middle of our wet season (the middle of winter) and this January did not disappoint us; we had ice all over the lake and lots of snow and the inevitable power failures. On January 12 our minimum temperature was -11.5°C which was almost a record low for Pender Island. The record low temperature since I started recording our weather was -12.5°C in February 1989.

I have been reading the letter of appreciation that I get every December from The Meteorological Service of Canada (Environment and Climate Change Canada) (ECCC). They comment on Climate Change. 2023 was the warmest summer in Canada in the 76 years since national record keeping was started and it was the worst year on record for wildfires. We are having a comparatively mild winter because of

the El Nino coastal current. I do not know exactly how “the warmest summer” was calculated. I added up the mean daily maximum temperatures for June, July, and August for every year 1987 - 2023 and there were four years (all in the last ten years) when the average maximum daily temperature in those three months was about one degree warmer than in 2023, so 2023 was not the warmest summer on record on Pender Island.

Climate change and global warming is caused by the emissions of greenhouse gases which hang around in the atmosphere and prevent the escape of excess heat. ECCC states that effects will get worse unless greenhouse emissions are rapidly curtailed. On Pender Island there is always the danger of wildfires every summer even without Climate Change. The other

associated climate related dangers such as hurricanes, droughts, and deadly heat waves have hardly ever happened here. Our climate comprises a wet winter and a dry warm summer.

You will be reading this report in March, when winter is (almost) over and spring is here. We return to Daylight Savings Time on March 10 and the Spring Equinox occurs on March 19. March can be a rainy month and even a little snow is possible. I would caution that there may be frosts in March so do not be too hasty putting plants in the garden.

Birds will be nesting, so try not to destroy their habitat when doing the usual Spring cleanup. It is a difficult time especially for ground-nesting birds.

*Malcolm Armstrong*

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## NUMBERS PUZZLE MCA #40 BY MALCOLM ARMSTRONG

There are 26 numbers in this puzzle and that should be enough to ensure that the puzzle is not too difficult but not too easy either. From the feedback I get from readers, I know there is a wide range of expertise at solving these puzzles. There are 55 empty squares and to solve the puzzle you must put one number 1 – 9 in each of these 55 squares, but no more than one number 1 – 9 in every row, every vertical column and every group of nine small squares. There are more than one correct solutions.

*Malcolm Armstrong*

### COVER STORY



I took the crocus photo on the cover of this issue near the Community Hall. I love flowers. After a few winter months without them, spring flowers make me very excited! Crocus and Snowdrops are a welcome sign that, after a dark, wet winter, spring is on the way and that makes me happy.

*Ewas Jaros*

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

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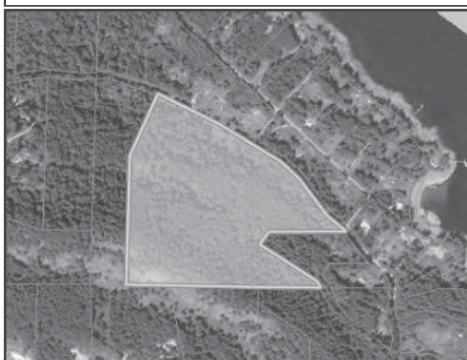


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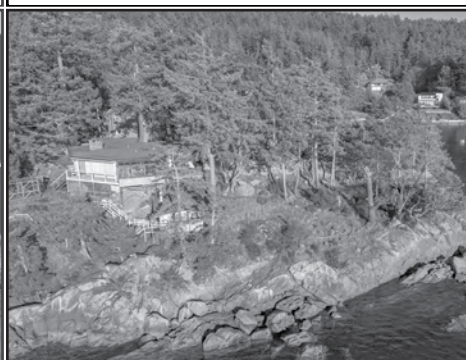
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# Happy Easter



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 <b>Lot 61 Keel</b> MLS# 941950 • \$239,000	 <b>3710 Bosun</b> MLS# 941390 • \$239,000	 <b>3614 Jolly Roger</b> MLS# 937465 • \$249,900
 <b>3726 Rum</b> MLS# 920971 • \$269,000	 <b>2267 Port Wash</b> MLS# 908137 • \$275,000	 <b>Lot A Boundary Pass</b> MLS# 937048 • \$299,000
 <b>4616 Mate</b> MLS# 934872 • \$329,000	 <b>Lot 17 Sextant</b> MLS# 938336 • \$369,000	 <b>2223 Port Wash</b> MLS# 904285 • \$433,000
 <b>2687 Galleon</b> MLS# 909531 • \$499,000	 <b>3218 Armadale</b> MLS# 950914 • \$545,000	 <b>2618 Crowsnest</b> MLS# 916562 • \$589,000
 <b>6939 Pirates</b> MLS# 916955 • \$899,000	<i>Price marked on Sold Listings is the Last MLS List Price.</i>	

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# Easter Brunch

**SUNDAY, MARCH 31st, 2024**

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

**\$58** per adult & **\$25** per child (5 - 12 years old)

Exclusive of tax & gratuity

## Salads

Spring greens with grape tomatoes, cucumber, feta cheese, housemade pickled beets, poppy seed vinaigrette topped with roasted pumpkin seeds  
Greek Salad, Fruit Salad, Granola & Greek Yogurt

## Salmon Platter

Cold poached king salmon  
with Remoulade sauce & candied salmon

## The Main Fare

Pulled Pork Benny, Hollandaise sauce  
Dijon crusted striploin of beef with red wine au jus  
Scrambled eggs with fresh spinach  
Maple sausage & double smoked bacon  
Basil pesto & Gruyere cheese baked tomato  
Rosemary roasted fingerling potatoes

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