

\$5.00

# The Pender Post

April 2024

Pender Island's Community Connection Since 1971  
PenderPost.org Vol. 54 #649

# SWING INTO SPRING

A Lindy Hop Swing Dance Workshop

**Saturday**  
**April 27**  
**4-6pm**

**Pender**  
**Community**  
**Hall**



**Bring a partner**  
**or come alone**

**With Kevin and Christabel**  
**from Red Hot Swing in Victoria**

**\$30** Includes evening Swing Dance  
with PJ Jazz starting at 7pm

[ptarmiganarts.org/programs](https://ptarmiganarts.org/programs)



**CELEBRATE**

# Mother's Day

## **BRUNCH AT SYRENS BISTRO & LOUNGE**

**SUNDAY, MAY 12th • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**\$65 Adults • \$29 Kids (5-12 years old)**

Mothers receive a complimentary Mimosa

Prices are exclusive of tax & gratuity

### **Salads**

Mixed Greens with Burrata Cheese, roasted Pumpkin seeds Grape tomato,  
Cucumber & Bermuda Onion, Strawberry Champagne Vinaigrette,  
Quinoa Tabbouleh Salad, Greek Salad, Fresh Fruit Salad  
Greek yogurt, Granola

### **Platters**

Poets Charcuterie Boards, Cured meats, assorted Cheeses, olives & Pickles  
Roasted Vegetables with Local Basil Vinaigrette & Balsamic Drizzle  
Mussel & Shrimp Platter

### **The Main Fare**

Kraken Basted Baked Ham Carved  
Poets Smoked Salmon Eggs Benny, Pickled red onion, house made hollandaise  
topped with caper berries  
Scalloped Potatoes, Lighthouse Beer baked beans, Veggie Eggplant Roll Ups  
Smokehouse Bacon, & Maple Sausage  
Lemon Blueberry Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs with Chives

### **Sweet Treats**

Assorted Mini Croissant & Danish, Chocolate Dipped Strawberries  
House Made Bread Pudding with Vanilla sauce  
Tiramisu Cake, Chocolate Brownies

### **RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED**

250.629.2100 • [info@poetscove.com](mailto:info@poetscove.com)



9801 Spalding Road, South Pender Island, BC V0N 2M3  
250.629.2100 • [info@poetscove.com](mailto:info@poetscove.com) • [poetscove.com](http://poetscove.com)

### **JOIN OUR TEAM**

We are always looking  
for reliable and  
fun people.

# Hey, North Pender Island

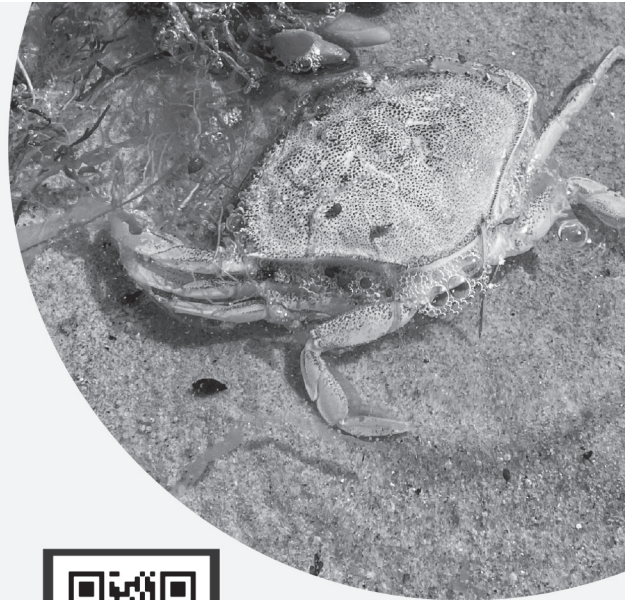
Local Trust Area

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Preserving and protecting over 450 islands and surrounding waters in the Salish Sea

## SEA ★ STAR

### VINEYARDS & WINERY

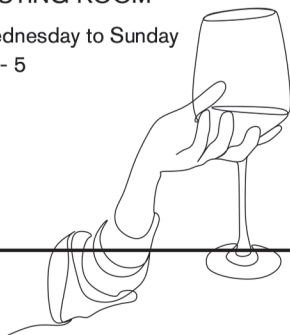
Our patio is open, and the food truck is here! We're serving up wine with handmade pizza and more by Truss Farm Food every weekend.

### TRUSS FARM FOOD TRUCK

Friday to Sunday, 12 - 3

### TASTING ROOM

Wednesday to Sunday  
12 - 5



## SPARE ROOM? PUT IT TO WORK!

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[housingnow@sgicomcommunityresources.ca](mailto:housingnow@sgicomcommunityresources.ca)



# FREE CONCERT!

## WESTGATE MENNONITE COLLEGIATE



**ON TOUR  
ALL THE  
WAY FROM  
WINNIPEG**

**FRIDAY**  
**APRIL 12**

**7:00 PM AT PENDER  
ISLAND SCHOOL**

**FREE PERFORMANCES INCLUDE:**

- **CONCERT BAND**
- **JAZZ BAND**
- **CONCERT CHOIR**
- **VOCAL JAZZ**



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*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.

### Board of Directors

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### Submission Information

Submit reports and ads to production@penderpost.org. The submissions deadline is 5 pm on the 19th of each month. Ad sizes and prices are listed at www.penderpost.org/advertising. Please refer to our website www.penderpost.org for our Personal Information Protection Policy.

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Pender Island is a place that resounds with music. From the plaintive notes of a flute floating down the hill, or a lone piper striding back and forth at Thieves Bay, from the Friday community luncheons or the Legion dinners, from concerts to festivals to jams at Slow Coast, music has been a constant source of joy and community. So I am especially excited to tell you about the upcoming free concert – yes, free – which is a gift to our community, from the students of Westgate Mennonite Collegiate, coming to Pender from Manitoba.

Many readers will remember Eleanor Brownlee from her years on Pender. She was a valued member of The Pender Post board, and a passionately committed member of the Conservancy. During her life on Pender, her son Ross brought his students to the island twice to perform. And now, in Eleanor’s memory, Ross is bringing his students to perform for us once again. It will be a big group – a concert band, “big band”, concert choir, and jazz vocal group will be performing.

You can read the details under “Special Notices”, or in the ad on page 3. It is a wonderful opportunity to revel in the music, support these young performers, and remember a woman who was an integral part of our island. Please come, celebrate, and enjoy. Let music fill the air!

*Annie Smith*

The Pender Post Society AGM will be held on April 18 at 10 am at the Community Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend.

## SPECIAL NOTICES



### Earth Day Beach and Roadside Clean-up

Saturday April 20

Earth Day is a day to celebrate the wonders of our planet and all the wild and wonderful life it supports. It is also a day to recognize how human activities are affecting other living things, and a day for action. One important action that we can take is to protect marine life and ecosystems by removing the litter and debris along our roads, beaches, pathways, and shorelines.

Please join us for the Annual Earth Day Beach and Roadside Clean-up on Saturday, April 20, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in the parking lot of the Medicine Beach Centre. This is the fifteenth year that the Pender Islands Conservancy has organized the event, which is sponsored in part by the CRD and supported by many local businesses.

Anytime between now and April 20, grab some gloves and bags and head out to clean the beach, park, pathway, or roadside of your choice, then bring your collected debris down to the drop-off site at the Medicine Beach Centre on Clean-up Day. If you are unsure of where to clean, check in on Clean-up Day and we will assign you a beach. Volunteers will help you load your garbage into the bins. If you need help with any large or difficult-to-reach items, we will do our best to arrange for someone to assist you.

Volunteers will greet you when you arrive at the drop-off site. Bags, coffee, lunch, and snacks will be provided, and there will also be displays, music, and draw prizes, including a gift certificate for an overnight stay-cation donated by Poets Cove Resort.

If you have any questions or if you are able to help others get their collected debris to the drop-off site, please email me at president@penderconservancy.org.

*Elizabeth Miles*

## Can We Help?

The Pender Post often has space for free fundraising announcements. If your organization is fundraising, send a note to production@penderpost.org and we'll try to help get the word out.





# COMMUNITY MEETING

Hosted by Adam Olsen, MLA

Please join me to discuss topics relating to the provincial government. Community meetings are open to the public and completely non-partisan.

## Connect. Engage. Inform.

SAANICH PENINSULA - SALT SPRING - PENDER  
MAYNE - GALIANO - SATURNA

## PENDER ISLAND

**DATE/TIME: Tues. April 16, 2024 @ 6:30 PM**

**LOCATION: Pender Islands Community Hall,  
4418 Bedwell Harbour Road**



COMMUNITY OFFICE

**SAANICH NORTH  
AND THE ISLANDS**

**Adam Olsen, MLA**





# Pender Islands Conservancy



*Celebrate Earth Day!*

*Join us for the 36 Annual*

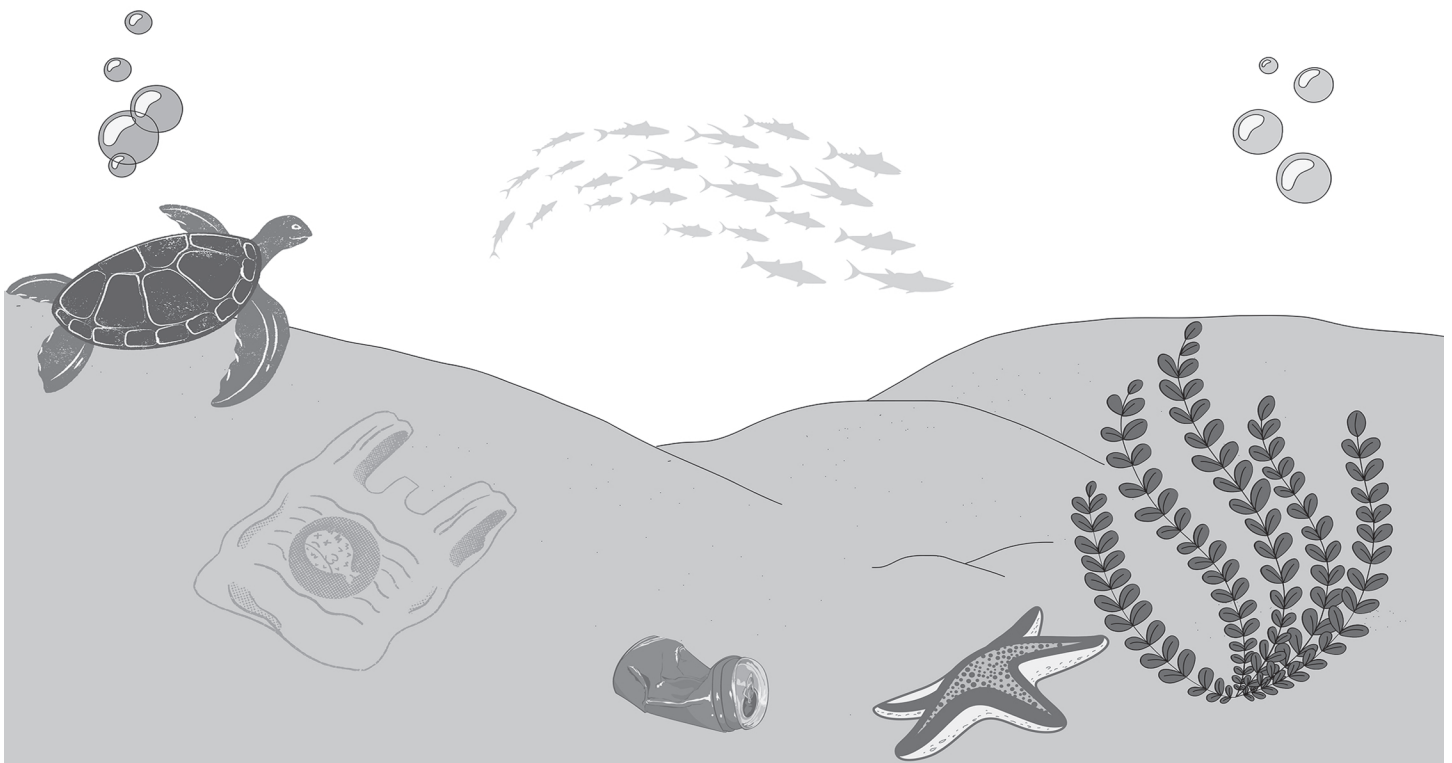
## **Beach and Roadside Cleanup**

**Saturday April 20th**

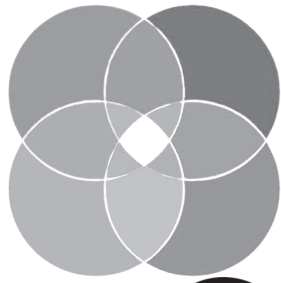
**9:30 to 12:30**

**Medicine Beach Centre**

*Door Prizes, Lunch and Treats, Coffee and Music*



Details at [penderconservancy.org](http://penderconservancy.org)



**SGI**  
Neighbourhood  
House

We connect people in the SGI and empower them to create the change they want to see in their communities. See what we're up to in April on Pender!

PENDER ISLAND ~ APRIL 2024



**TAXI SAVER PROGRAM**

For more info, email: [admin@sginh.ca](mailto:admin@sginh.ca)

65+ or mobility challenged? Save up to 50% on taxi fare! In partnership with Moving Around Pender. Register & Purchase Vouchers Mon, Wed, Fri 10-4 at the SGINH Office at Driftwood Centre.

**COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROGRAM**

For more info, e-mail: [cjp@sginh.ca](mailto:cjp@sginh.ca)

**Wed, April 10, 7-8pm Intro to Sociocracy Webinar via Zoom**

Learn about a system of non-hierarchical organization that involves principles of peace circles. To receive the Zoom link to this Webinar, e-mail [cjp@sginh.ca](mailto:cjp@sginh.ca).

**EPICENTRE & YOUTH PROGRAMS**

**Apr 3-Jun 26 5:30-8pm Wednesday Teen Nights... with Pizza!**

\$325 (+\$5/night for pizza) for 2.5hrs every Wednesday for 13 weeks. Register by e-mail: [epicentre@sginh.ca](mailto:epicentre@sginh.ca)

**Apr 4-Jun 27 3:45-5:15pm Thursday After School Kid's Club with Sitka**

\$180 for 2hrs every Thursday for 12 weeks. Register by e-mail at [epicentre@sginh.ca](mailto:epicentre@sginh.ca)

**Apr 12-Jun 21 9am-4pm Friday Kids Camp with Karen**

Hands on explorations and Learning using Montessori teaching methods.

\$665 for 7hrs every Friday for 10 weeks. Register by e-mail at [epicentre@sginh.ca](mailto:epicentre@sginh.ca)

**Fri, Apr 5 & Fri, Apr 26 4-8pm Games Night with Andrew**

Magic: The Gathering and other board games. Community Hall, Free for Youths 15-29

Drinks and Snacks will be provided. Register by e-mail at [youthprograms@sginh.ca](mailto:youthprograms@sginh.ca)

**55+ PROGRAMS**

For more info or to Register, email : [fiftyfiveplus@sginh.ca](mailto:fiftyfiveplus@sginh.ca)

**Thurs, Apr 18, 10am Computer Savvy Seniors: Intro to Instagram (\$5)**

Via Zoom. Learn to make posts, interact on the app, connect with friends and community.

**Mon, Apr 29, 1-3pm Card Making Workshop with Melody Pender (\$15)**

At Pender Island Hall lounge. Come for lunch and stay for the craft! No experience necessary.

**55+ LUNCHEONS @ 12-2PM EVERY MONDAY**

At the Pender Island Community Hall ~ Sliding scale donation (\$8 recommended donation).

**April 1 Sweet & Sour Pork** Vegetables and Steamed Rice.

**April 8 Fried Chicken** Scallion and Buttermilk Biscuits, Coleslaw and Warm Honey Glaze.

**April 15 Mexican Pork** Rice and Beans, Pickled Cabbage, Cotija and Lime.

**April 22 Chicken Schnitzel** Warm Potato Salad, Pickled Fennel with Lemon Caper Aioli.

**April 29 Braised Brisket** Roasted Vegetable, Crispy Potato, Fresh Herbs.

**FRIDAY MULTIGENERATIONAL GATHERINGS**

Every Friday from 12-1pm at the Pender Island Community Hall.

Hot Soup and Music! Open to all! Sliding scale donation(\$8 recommended donation).

For more information or to register for our programs, please reach out to us! We're here for you!



**Call our Office:**  
(250) 629-3665



**E-mail Us:**  
[admin@SGINH.ca](mailto:admin@SGINH.ca)



**For more info visit:**  
[www.SGINH.ca](http://www.SGINH.ca)

## Pender Island on National Wheelchair Basketball Scene



Zone 6 Vancouver Island BC Winter Games gold medalists. Left to right: Coach Megan Smith, Victoria; Coach Nic Van Bakel, Pender; Heidi Boland, Pender; Greg Smart, Victoria; Maraika McConchie, Pender; Ian Peter, Victoria; Kim Boland, Pender

Four Pender Island athletes were selected to attend wheelchair basketball events across Canada in March, with results coming in next month's Pender Post.

Sisters Kim and Heidi Boland have been selected for the Junior West Regional Championships in Regina March 15 - 17. This event was for athletes identified with Canada Games team potential as they must be under 21. The 17 year olds will be among the youngest selected for Team BC. This 3X3 tournament has entries from BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. The pair came off a successful BC Winter Games tournament held in February in Quesnel. Their squad, Zone 6 (Vancouver Island), defeated Zone 3 (Fraser Valley) in double overtime to take home the gold medal. A fifth Pender athlete, Hattie Booth, was picked up by Zone 2 (Okanagan) for the Quesnel tournament.

Later in March, the Boland sisters were joined by fellow BC Games teammate Maraika McConchie and 2023 Canada Games gold medalist Lannette Boland

as they represented BC as members of the BC Breakers women's team. The Breakers were looking to improve on last year's silver medal at the Women's National Championship held in Ottawa.

Wheelchair basketball is an inclusive sport in that players do not need a classifiable disability to compete. The sport has a system in place that ensures a fair representation of athletes with functional disabilities alongside those who are not disabled.

Funding for both the wheelchair basketball and the running game of basketball at the Pender school is provided in part by a Pender Island Parks and Recreation grant and the BC Wheelchair Basketball Society.

*Tim Frick*



## Prairie Musicians Performing on Pender Island

The staff and students at Westgate Collegiate in Winnipeg are becoming very excited about travelling to Pender Island for their grand tour of British Columbia. The Concert Band, Concert Choir, Vocal Jazz, and Big Band members have been putting in extra hours to polish up our tour repertoire.

We truly hope to meet as many of you as possible at our free concert, taking place at the Pender School on the evening of Friday, April 12 at 7 pm. This will be our third performance tour to your stunning island, and each has been a highlight for our students and staff. With two bands and two choirs, there will be a broad range of styles and sounds that we look forward to sharing with you.

Some highlights will include the concert choir singing Canada's own Indigenous composer Andrew Balfour's *Vision Chant*; a beautiful arrangement of Bob Dylan's *The Times, They Are a-Changin'*; and an excerpt from Vivaldi's *Gloria*. The concert band will sample from many styles, including the West Coast's Robert Buckley who collaborated with the Squamish First Nation to re-imagine *Raven (The Trickster)*. We will also feature the modern wind band composer Frank Tichelli with his whimsical and wild piece, *Sun Dance*. Close to our hearts will be the premiere of a piece commissioned by Ross Brownlee and the Westgate community in memory of Ross's mother, Eleanor Brownlee, a longtime resident of Pender Island. Composer Peter Meechan put into music some of Mom's magic; her passion for the environment, for community, her family, and for her beloved island. We are so very excited to bring *Portrait* to life on Pender from whence it came. A special highlight is that all three of Eleanor's kids and her only cousin will be on island for the concert.

The two jazz groups will be sure to thrill in the second half, with our vocal jazz ensemble (Wired) performing an arrangement of the well known standard

*Continued next page*

*You Make Me Feel So Young*, and an exciting version of *Dans La Prison de Londre* (a story of a guy who escapes jail to be with his love) as performed by the Belgian group Witloof Bay. Our classic Big Band will perform standards from the height of the swing era to the present featuring selections such as *The Duke*, a tribute to Duke Ellington by the famous composer and performer Dave Brubeck; the Count Basie standard *Fancy Pants*; and the tongue-in-cheek music made famous by Austin Powers, *Soul Bossa Nova* by Quincy Jones.

We would like to thank all of the wonderful Pender residents who have been working so hard to ensure our group of 60 is accommodated and fed while we are on the island. We genuinely look forward to seeing you all on the 12th.

Ross Brownlee and Vic Pankratz,  
Music Directors  
Westgate Mennonite Collegiate



## Denis Dion



Denis shared in the life of Pender Island Community Church for about 10 years. A gentle soul, a servant before all else, Denis epitomized the motto of his seminary class: ‘called to serve.’

Denis came to this island from Quebec for a ‘visit’ and soon would be here for good. The long-held affection turned into marriage with his dear Marie and, as a bonus, many friendships as well.

Denis’ joining with the community church may have seemed unlikely to those who know his background, but he possessed a wonderful openness toward those who hail from many different church backgrounds.

Very educated, multi-lingual, kind, and friend to all those attracted to his warmth, Denis accepted everyone. In church, he

would sing or preach if called upon to do so, attend Bible study and participate with enthusiasm. On most Saturdays he would join some of the men for coffee, quietly listening to the opining of those around him and enjoying the simple grace of friendship. In either context, Denis had the habit of saying little but when he did, his words would land with an amazing combination of simplicity and gravitas.

That Denis meant so much to us goes without saying, but the words of our former board chair, Judy Neil, paints a picture of Denis’ presence in our little outpost on Pender:

Denis showed his servant heart through all his time in our church family. When he preached, he spoke always of the love of God and the love of God’s people. When he prayed on our behalf, he confidently addressed “God our Father, with also the heart of a Mother.” When he led the worship, he chose hymns rich in meaning and led them with skill and feeling. When he sang solos or participated in hymn sings, he took care to learn the music and words, and blessed us in the performance, accompanying himself with simple skill on the guitar. Whatever he was asked to do he did gladly, saying with a smile, “I will do my best.” And he did.

I surely miss him. As do we all.

What will be a perennial favourite memory for many of us was when he, along with Marie, would sing the sublime *Huron Carol* on Christmas Eve as he gently played his guitar. Their rendition emitted something of the humility and joy of that first Christmas.

Denis has left this earth for a place even more wonderful than Pender Island. It is not hard to picture his gentle strumming of guitar and reverent singing of the *Huron Carol* heard now on a fairer island still.

Wm (Bill) Phillips, Board Chair,  
Pender Island Community Church

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## Trevor Stearn Bennett 1940-2024

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When we first met Denis at the Community Church about a decade ago, we wondered what a Quebecois who was struggling with English was doing on a small island in the far west. One day my wife decided to ask him and he told her, "For love. I came for love." He had moved to be with Marie, whom he had known at a distance for many years. They were soon married. His English rapidly improved because he delighted in learning other languages. He knew a fair bit of German, and even some Japanese greetings. He had been a Catholic priest, so he had learned Latin, too. As a priest he obviously had a good knowledge of the Bible, but even so he wanted to know more. He loved to attend the church Bible studies, bringing with him each time his Greek New Testament to check for any deeper meanings in the English text. Whenever the group needed to take a break from the studies for a few weeks, he would express his sadness at the interruption and long for the sessions to resume. Although he was shy in some ways, he was very much a part of our church community. On many occasions he led the singing, and provided meaningful solos on his guitar. He knew everyone's birthday and anniversary, and would send them greetings on that day. But it wasn't just the church that loved him. When Marie and Denis had to travel to Edmonton for tragic family reasons, there was a funding campaign from all quarters of Pender Island: the Ceilidh Band, the Pipe Band, the Choir, and others. We will all miss Denis and his quirky sense of humour.

*Michael and Rhondda Plumb*

\*Marie will be writing in the June issue of the Pender Post, as a celebration of life is planned for June.



Trevor was born on May 18, 1940, in Regina, Saskatchewan but soon moved with his mother, Alita and sisters, Nancy and Joan, to Vancouver while his father trained for the army in Alberta. When the Second World War ended, his father returned to the family.

Trevor grew up in North Burnaby, attending North Burnaby High, but he graduated from Magee High School when his family moved to Kerrisdale in the late 1950s. He went to work for the airlines straight after school, starting at YVR, but soon moving to Campbell River where he was station manager when the airport was opened in 1959. Trevor worked in many smaller locations through the 1960s, including Mayo, Fort Smith, Edmonton, and Whitehorse. He was known as the guy who could handle living in the north, all while he dreamed of getting posted to Hawaii! During his time in Whitehorse, Trevor was recruited by Wien Alaska Airlines and moved to Fairbanks. But this was during the Vietnam War so to avoid being drafted by the U.S. government, he moved back to Whitehorse, just in the nick of time. It was a story he loved to tell.

In 1969, not long after his first son, Kirt, was born in Whitehorse, Trevor and his first wife moved back to Vancouver. His parents convinced him to go into real estate. Trevor was a natural salesperson. He moved into management fairly quickly and worked for a large, national

firm until 1983, when he opened his own company, Western Realty Ltd., in West Vancouver. By then, his second son, Don, was nine years old. Don loved to visit the office where he would declare proudly that he was "the owner's son".

While managing, and then owning his own company, Trevor worked hard to build the B.C. real estate industry's professionalism. He was one of the authors of the original Licensee Practice Manual, wrote and taught many courses around the province, and worked with BC lawyer, Mike Mangan, on 'Legal Update', an ongoing educational course on real estate and the law. Trevor did all of this while pursuing an Urban Land Economics diploma from UBC. Latterly, he, Mike Mangan, and Gary Brady, also in real estate management, wrote the book *What If?*, a contract manual for real estate salespeople, which was purchased by UBC. Trevor had active memberships in a variety of real estate organizations including the British Columbia Real Estate Association, the Real Estate Council of BC, and the Real Estate Institute of Canada, from which he received recognition of his 45 years of service in the industry. Trevor sold Western Realty in 1989.

In 1992, Trevor married me, Monica Kottmeier, of West Vancouver, on a beautiful sunny Vancouver day in May. We made the decision to move to beautiful Pender Island in 1999 as we were looking for a smaller community, a slower pace of life, and more accessibility to nature. Trevor managed Pender Island Realty the first year we were here and volunteered on the Board of Variance. Unfortunately, his health and chronic back pain forced him to slow down his involvements, eventually retiring or 'turning in his licence' as they say in the industry, in the mid two thousands.

Trevor loved to travel, mostly to Maui for a yearly vacation. But we did manage to visit Thailand, Singapore, and Hong Kong in 1996, before Britain handed it back to China. We had talked often of visiting New Zealand and Australia, a

big dream of his, but his failing health never allowed that trip to happen.

Gardening was a big love of Trevor's, especially growing his superb tomatoes. He was known for being an expert at it. He even learned how to save seeds from his favourites. He loved talking to the deer (but built strong fences to keep them out of the garden!), feeding all the birds, especially the hummingbirds, watching for whales, walking on the beaches, and generally enjoying all the beauty that Pender offers. But he also got so much joy from just sitting on the deck with a cup of tea, reading a book with our cat, Tigger, on his lap. He supported me in my artistic pursuits, was my biggest fan, but also my thoughtful critic when I needed it. He delighted in my successes but always wondered how he'd become an Art Spouse!

As his health and mobility continued to fail, he took enjoyment in life where he could. He was stoic, brave, and tried hard not to complain about all the pain and

surgeries he endured. When dementia entered the picture, it just didn't seem fair at all. I cared for Trevor at home for as long as possible with the wonderful care and support of our lovely care aids and community nurses. In May of 2023, Trevor moved to a care facility in Esquimalt. When he fell out of bed and broke his hip in September, I worked hard to get him moved. A spot became available at the Extended Care Unit #2 at Saanich Peninsula Hospital within five days of him leaving hospital. I was so grateful to have him much closer to Pender and the ferry. For six months, he received such good care. I always made a point to thank his care aids and nursing staff every week, telling them how grateful his family and I were for all their care of my beloved husband.

Trevor and I were together for thirty-three years. Lucky for us, we spent most of that on Pender, an island we both adore. He always said that he never wanted to leave Pender and he

won't. His ashes will be interred at the cemetery here and a Celebration of Life will be held at some point this summer when his sister, Joan Orlick, both sons and their wives, four grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and friends will gather to share our memories of an amazing, accomplished husband, father, brother, uncle, and good friend. He loved us all so much.

I am very grateful to our wonderful Pender community for all the support, kind thoughts, and warm hugs these past two months. The last few years have been tough, so it was a blessing for Trevor to just slip away one afternoon in his sleep. We who are left behind to grieve feel the loss deeply. He is forever in our hearts.

*Monica Bennett*



Islands Trust

## SOUTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

Visit our web site at: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/>

E-mail: [southinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:southinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca)

### Minor Land Use Bylaw Amendments Project Community Information Meetings

The **South Pender Island** Local Trust Committee (LTC) is in the process of considering targeted amendments to the South Pender Island Land Use Bylaw No. 114. The purpose of the Community Information Meetings is to gather community input regarding specific land use bylaw topics.

DATE		TIME	LOCATION	TOPICS
Sunday	April 7, 2024	1:00 p.m.	St. Peter's Anglican Church Hall 4703 Canal Road	Dwelling height, freshwater catchment regulations, agriculture regulations, shipping containers, and other minor amendments
Friday	April 26, 2024	1:00 p.m.	St. Peter's Anglican Church Hall 4703 Canal Road	Residential floor area & setbacks

Please send correspondence to: [SouthPenderLTC@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:SouthPenderLTC@islandstrust.bc.ca) or [southinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:southinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca)

MLA

Initiatives to Protect Firefighters and Bear Dens

Lisa Christensen

I first met Lisa at the summer Friday Legion BBQ nights. Contagious smile and boundless energy, to be around her was to give in to child-like laughter. She brought this same enthusiasm to our Pender Island Community Church. Whenever you caught her eye, she would break out into a smile and she always had something kind to say. Her eyes would sparkle as she talked about the joys in her life or her next planned travels. She would quietly enter the church and take up her typical position in the back corner. She had such a servant's heart both at church and at the Legion. We were sad to hear of her passing at such a young age and will miss her but we know where she now resides and we look forward to seeing her smile once again.

*Randall Lockhart, Pender Island Community Church Vice Chair*



I've sat on a lot of committees in my time as an MLA, including Police Act reform, Freedom of Information and Privacy

Act reviews, and several hiring committees.

Last summer, I participated in an all-Party committee to look at how private members (all MLAs except cabinet ministers) could introduce, debate, and vote on bills or motions. Currently, the legislative agenda is entirely controlled by a couple dozen cabinet ministers in THE executive council.

All elected representatives should have the opportunity to introduce public policy and have it debated and voted on. The BC NDP committed to the committee recommendations to increase access of private members for the next parliament after the provincial election. Let's celebrate the changes as a positive legacy.

However, with an election scheduled for this fall, the only thing current members can count on is the next six weeks. So, I have introduced two solid initiatives with strong public support that the BC NDP government should consider before the election.

For three consecutive years, I've introduced legislation to protect bear dens on public and private land.

Premier David Eby committed Minister Nathan Cullen to protect wildlife, implement recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review and Together for Wildlife Strategy, work toward Indigenous Conserved and Protected Areas, and lead the provincial "work to achieve the Nature Agreement's goals of 30% protection of BC's land base by 2030."

Why not start by protecting the habitat around bear dens? Bear den habitats are a critical oasis for stressed forests, and bears are essential 'forest tractors' spreading nutrients across their territory. Bears are crucial allies in regenerating devastated clear cuts and torched creeks and streams.

It is not in our ecological or economic interest to displace bears. It leads to increased human-bear contacts

and unfortunately often ends in the destruction of the bear. The B.C. Conservation Service killed more than 600 bears last year, many the result of increasing pressures on bear habitat.

I also introduced the Firefighters Amendment Act, a proactive measure that creates provincial standards to limit firefighters' exposure to forever chemicals in firefighter personal protective equipment (PPE) and fire suppression foams.

Labour minister Hon. Harry Bains has progressively added presumptive clauses in our workers compensation programs for firefighters with certain cancers to support them and their families to access the resources and services they need.

Just as Premier Eby set targets for nature protections, I encourage him to set equally ambitious targets for the transition to fire protection and suppression equipment free of per- and poly-fluoroalkyls (PFAs).

Firefighting is a dangerous job, and we should not unnecessarily expose firefighters to toxins. The BC NDP government should follow the lead of the Vancouver Fire Department and ensure all fire services, no matter where they are located in British Columbia – professional and volunteer, large and small – have access to PFA-free equipment.

Former Premier John Horgan recognized that good ideas are not limited to his side of the house. Now Premier David Eby has an opportunity to support good ideas in a spirit of cross-party collaboration in the waning weeks of the 42<sup>nd</sup> parliament.

**Community Meetings**


I will be visiting your community for my spring community meeting tour. I hope to see you there!

**Community Meeting on Pender Tuesday April 16, 6:30 pm - 8 pm, Community Hall**

Let us know if you will join us. RSVP at Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

*Adam Olsen, MLA  
Saanich North and the Islands*

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## GOVERNMENT

### Islands Trust



Here's what I've been involved in since last month's publication.

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

We met in-camera on February 20 and March 8 to discuss personal information as it applies to a position appointed by the Islands Trust. As reported out, the CAOHC heeded the advice from the Public Service Agency (PSA) and released a Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire an external executive search firm to assist us in finding suitable candidates for the CAO position for the Islands Trust. As recommended by PSA, a business case for \$75K was prepared and added to the budget for approval.

CAO Hotsenpiller was requested to provide a shortlist of currently available and suitable external acting CAOs and to consult with the CAO of Bowen Island Municipality to obtain their comments regarding suitable potential CAO interim appointments in case a new CAO is not hired before June.

#### Audit Committee

We met on February 21 to go over fiscal year-end discussions with our external auditor company.

#### Financial Committee

The Financial Committee met on February 21 to discuss its recommendation to the Trust Council on how and where potential budgetary savings could be realized. This was an extensive discussion with suggestions that were included in the March Trust Council agenda package on pages 127 and 128.

#### Culturally Committed Meetings

I was present at the February 28 meeting which was postponed from February 21. This was a very emotional meeting as people shared private stories about personal experiences and allowed those of us present to gain a better understanding of the deep impact we have on each other, both as communities and individually. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to join these meetings and the openness of the group to share.

#### South Pender Local Trust Committee (LTC)

Following a total of four community workshops hosted individually by the local Trustees Dag Falck and myself (one

on house sizes and one on setbacks each), a special electronic meeting was held on March 7 to discuss the two Community Information Meetings (CIM) planned for April regarding the Minor Land Use Bylaw (LUB) amendment project. The first CIM will be held April 7, and will have scheduled time slots for the floor to discuss cottage and dwelling height, water storage, shipping containers, freshwater storage, and agriculture conditions of use changes including maximum number of permitted guests. Early email engagement on these topics is highly encouraged.

The second CIM is scheduled for Friday, April 26 and will be dedicated to setback and house size discussions. Additional CIMs are also included later in the project charter as the project advances.

#### Trust Council Meeting

Budget: The budget as suggested by the Financial Committee was approved with some additional tweaking made by the Trust Council. The Secretariat Program and the Stewardship Program had their funding reinstated and other areas received additional cuts.

Key areas of change affecting the budget include the 3% contracted wage increase for all BCGEU staff members, the office lease increase, and software and support expenses. These items have the largest effect on the budget overall. In addition, \$75K for the hiring of an executive search firm to assist with hiring a new CAO as recommended by the PSA, LTC direct expenses were almost doubled due to increased travel costs, and LTC project expenses are nearly 60% higher.

In summary, \$9.65M will be directed to operations, \$983K for special projects and \$347K for purchase of capital assets for a total budget of \$10.98M. This will result in a 5.9% tax increase. Read the Islands Trust News Release for additional details.

Strategic Plan – Goals and Priorities: We had a fabulous facilitator come and assist us in identifying our key themes or topics. We also agreed on what our top three high-level priority goals should be. There is a lot more work to do in creating a solid strategy plan, but we only had three hours allotted for what normally takes other municipalities two full days to complete. Hopefully we can schedule the rest of this important



## Pender Island Art Society

work to complete this council's strategy process soon. This is the next key step in implementing the Corporate Planning Process to start putting controls in place for the spending of taxpayer's money.

Committee of the Whole: Bylaw 196 was passed which amends the Islands Trust Council Meeting Procedures Bylaw by adding language to facilitate Trust Council to sit as Committee of the Whole, which is a less formal structure to discuss complex issues that may require more in-depth consideration.

Policy Statement Amendment project update: The revised draft is about to be released by staff with the supporting documentation as a full package. A motion was made and carried that the revised draft be sent to the Trust Council via an electronic special meeting for initial review and discussion, rather than going to Trust Programs as originally planned. The package will be viewable by trustees and the public once the agenda is released. A six-month engagement period is also scheduled at the LTC level.

Another motion was made and carried that a full, detailed work plan for this project be created to provide clear and transparent information about what work is to be carried out in each step and what successful delivery of each milestone looks like. The Project Charter is space constrained and cannot adequately articulate a complex scope of work within a line item, which causes confusion among the Trustees and Public about what work is intended.

Meeting Agendas: Staff have been requested to investigate providing meeting agendas in HTML with links to supporting documents as a way to simplify the meeting agenda packages. Stay tuned!

*Kristina Evans, South Pender Trustee*



The Pender Island Art Society, in an effort to include those members who work during the day, held their first evening session on drawing, February 20. The artists were given the opportunity to experiment with different techniques and exercises in drawing. In the photo, Julia Nicholls and Laura Vilness are working with pencils taped to long sticks. The second evening session on drawing was with a model.

March 4 there was a workshop on Pochoir printmaking led by Bev Peden. The session was energetic and enthusiastic about learning this way of printmaking. The photo is of Sandi Pugh and Theresa Williams at the inking table with printmaker Bev Peden.

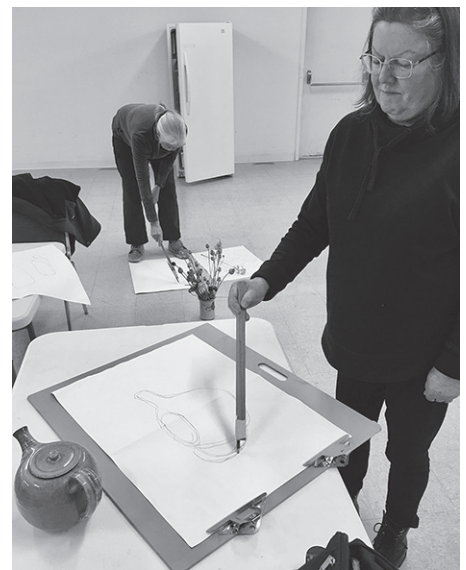
April 8 and 15 there will be watercolour workshops with Rebecca Hansen held at the Anglican Church Hall from 1 to 3 pm. Thinking of joining us? Drop ins are welcomed for a small fee of \$5.

On Tuesday, April 30, 7 - 9 pm, at the third of our evening sessions, we will be having Corinne Parker lead us in a critiquing session. We invite you to bring one or two pieces of artwork and as a group there will be positive feedback on your creation.

Coming up in May we will be having a two-day landscape painting workshop with David Goatley, being held at the Hope Bay Bible Camp. More info is coming but if you are interested, you can email Margaret at [mjalpenart@shaw.ca](mailto:mjalpenart@shaw.ca).

And don't forget *A Touch of Spring*, the semiannual show of members' art on May 17 and 18 at the Community Hall.

*Laura Dunsmuir*



**Paul Brent**  
Electoral Area Director  
Southern Gulf Islands

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CRD

## Pender Island Celtic Music Society



These last few weeks have been a time of loss and sadness for the Pender Highlanders and Ceilidh Band. Denis Dion finished his battle with cancer at the end of February. Jan Wallace has written a very fitting memorial tribute to Denis on the Highlanders Facebook page. Here are some reminiscences of other band members about Denis as both fellow musician and friend.

Larry Dempster, Pipe Major - My memory of Denis will always be of a man with a relaxed and balanced personality, hard to find in anyone. He also had a mischievous sense of humour which could make you smile and laugh. My job as PM was made much easier with Denis' beat on his bass drum to bring the sound of the pipe band together.

Joyce Steeves, Lead Tip - Denis was a good, solid bass drummer and the band misses his steady beat along with his charming personality. He always had a

cheery welcome, and we will miss his "Byyyyyyyyy!" when he was leaving practice.

Byyyyyyyyy Denis, you left us too soon!

Heath Lansdowne, Piper - I knew Denis as a neighbour for a few years and as a drummer in the pipe band. As a neighbour he was all that you could want, always with a warm and cheery hello. Now as pipers we are discouraged from openly speaking with the drummers, but I did anyways. Just like his steady bass beat, you could count on his character and humour to keep things lively at practices. We're all going to miss him, and our hearts go out to Marie.

Alan Morrish, Ceilidh Band Member & Piper - It was the Ceilidh Band that Denis first joined in June 2013 when he came to Pender to marry Marie. She brought him to a practice to introduce him. Although a background in French-Canadian and sacred music was an unlikely fit for a Celtic music group, Denis agreed to give it a try. His

enthusiasm for the music and the group was immediate even if it did mean he had to wear a kilt for performances. He was a real asset to the group being willing to perform Celtic as well as Acadian and Quebec songs such as *Evangeline* and *L'Hiver* and even comical songs such as *The Last Saskatchewan Pirate*. Marie's involvement in the Highlanders as a snare drummer drew Denis into that band as well. His sense of rhythm and musicality eventually led him to become the 'heartbeat' of the band as the bass drum player. To have known Denis was a real privilege for all of us. His talents, encouragement, and loyalty will stay with us, his friends, for the rest of our lives. We will surely miss him, his wonderful singing and playing, and his friendship.

*Caren Rennie*

## Pender Island Community Choir



The PI Community Choir thanks all who came to the winter/December concert in support of our fundraising efforts. Thanks to all who bought tickets and the fabulous musicians who donated time and talent, there is a spring concert with Adult and Youth choirs.

The theme this season is *Songs from the Land and Sea* – so appropriate to reflect life and living on our beautiful, small island. Mark your calendars with the concert dates – May 10 and 11 (7 pm) and May 12 (2 pm). Yes, it's Mother's Day weekend so bring your mom or mothering person to one of the concerts for a fun evening/afternoon. Tickets will be available in April at Talisman Bookstore.

Once again, thanks to our talented and enthusiastic director, Sabrina Reid, and accompanist, Eileen Deros, for their energy and commitment to both choirs. Always a joy to sing with them.

Hope you are enjoying the light and freshness of spring!


*Terry Shepherd,  
Communications Liaison*

## Thank you, Volunteers!

**Volunteerism empowers individuals to find their purpose, to take their passion and turn it into meaningful change. When each of us, in our own way, answers the call to make a difference, we make progress in solving our most persistent problems, and create stronger communities and a more just society.**

**Thank you from the Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House and the Southern Gulf Islands Community Resource Centre for the countless hours you have given to the SGI's and our island communities.**



## Pender Island Concert Society



*Adam Cicchillitti and Steve Cowan*

This month we present our final concert of this season. We are very pleased to present classical guitarists Adam Cicchillitti and Steve Cowan in performance at the Community Hall Thursday, April 25 at 7:30 pm.

Cicchillitti and Cowan won the second and third prizes at the Guitar Foundation of America International Ensemble Competition in 2023 and 2021 respectively. This event is probably the world's most prestigious guitar ensemble competition.

The program will feature a variety of arrangements by Cowan and Cicchillitti from works by Maurice Ravel, Edvard Grieg, Christine Donkin, and Germaine Tailleferre amongst others. This promises to be a very special performance.

Tickets will be available for sale at Talisman Books or at 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.

We will have more news on the direction our society is taking in future issues of the Post. At the moment, we would welcome some fresh blood, as it were, onto our board. If you have enjoyed our past concerts over the years, now is the time to consider joining us with your skills, ideas, and knowledge. Love of and appreciation for music of many genres is the main criterion.

*Jon Heaney, Chair*

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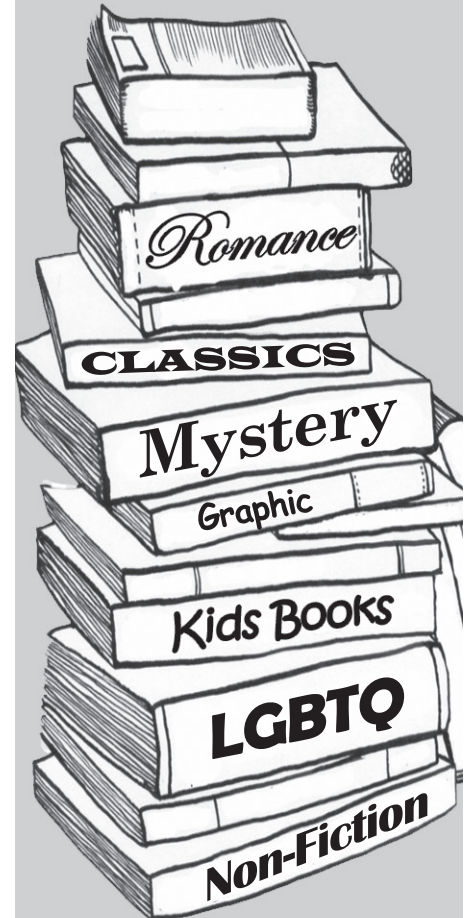
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## Pender Island Quilters' Circle



Many hands creating "Wonky" squares



We held another relaxing and amiable Quilters' Circle session on Monday, March 11. The project for March was the *Wonky Square*, arranged by Karen Watson. Our session leader was ill, unfortunately, and the quilters had the challenge of figuring out the fabric puzzle on their own. It involved cutting into two contrasting fabrics and then weaving the pieces to make the square; the edges of the interwoven pieces must be stitched to ensure the integrity of the square. It involved the use of brain neural connections (not easy on a Monday morning) and mutual support and cooperation. I arrived on the scene late and was greatly impressed with the resulting "wonky squares".

In addition, Susan Dawson and Karen Gagnier brought beautiful finished sea glass quilts to display.

We next meet on Monday, April 8 at 9:30

am, Anglican Church Hall. The project for April is an English paper-pieced pincushion led by Heather Duncan. It is a project that can be completed during the morning session; there is a sense of satisfaction in taking home a finished product.

Quilter's Philosophy: I came across three suggested measures of happiness this morning: something to do, something to love, and something to hope for. Quilting, and any creative activity, would meet these standards of a happy life. Quilters spend hours designing and fabricating; they love being in the "flow" when quilting; they obtain pleasure in gifting their creations to others; and, they have hopes and dreams for future creations. Continue to "do", "love", and "hope" in whatever brings you happiness.

*Laura Vilness*

## Pender Photo Club



Photo: Ken Sawatsky

Due to heinous skullduggery by technical gremlins, the meeting scheduled for March 4, the first Monday of the month, had a few problems, and we were forced to postpone it until Monday March 11. At that time, we viewed 39 photos submitted by seven club members with the theme "Cozy Corners."

The appropriately selected theme gave us a warm fuzzy feeling, perfect for a cool windy evening. We oohed and aahed over shots of furry pets, cute children (or were they grandchildren?), special nooks at home, and more. Favourites included a dog happily asleep in a bed next to a snoring man. Another one showed a contortionist cat curled up as only a cat can, fast asleep.

The next meeting will be at 7 pm on Monday April 1 via Zoom. Although this is Easter Monday, we felt this shouldn't deter our mostly retired membership. 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 "moss, fungi and other things that grow on rocks and trees." Good luck!

All camera lovers are invited to join our meetings.

Please don't forget to include the black and white photo including the title and author.

*Hans Tammemagi*

## Pender Solstice Theatre Society



Jaime MacLean and Ethan Smith are hard at work rehearsing a crucial scene.

Photo: Tammy Adolf



The cast and crew of our spring comedy are ramping up for the April 19 - 21 run of *4 Weddings and an Elvis*.

This production has several cast members new to the Pender/Solstice stage, as well as some new behind-the-scenes crew.

Sandy, the four-times-married-three-times-divorced owner of a wedding chapel in Las Vegas, has certainly seen her fair share of matrimonies! In this hilarious and heart-warming romantic comedy, we witness four of her most memorable couplings.

Tickets are now available at Talisman and online at [buytickets.at/solsticetheatresociety](http://buytickets.at/solsticetheatresociety).

Solstice Theatre has been performing theatre on Pender for over 30 years, and if you are interested in the club history, check out the photos, programmes, and memorabilia in the breezeway next to the liquor store at the Driftwood. Maybe you did some acting in high school and have always had a hankering to perform. Or perhaps you have a project to propose. Let us know by contacting us at [pendersolstice@gmail.com](mailto:pendersolstice@gmail.com), or message us on our Facebook page.

Every year Solstice Theatre offers a bursary of \$500 to a Pender student who is pursuing an education in the arts. Preference will be given to

individuals or families with a previous involvement with Solstice Theatre. For further information contact us at [pendersolstice@gmail.com](mailto:pendersolstice@gmail.com).

And looking forward to this fall, we will be presenting Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*. It is a story of a group of people stranded on an island (sound familiar?), one of whom is a murderer (well, maybe not so familiar). *And Then There Were None* will open on November 29.

*Evan Llewellyn, President*

## PIJazz

### Swing Into Spring Workshop and Dance

Let's dance into Spring! PIJazz, Ptarmigan Arts, and Red Hot Swing are bringing an awesome swing dance workshop to the Hall on April 27. Demos and instruction go from 4 - 6 pm, and the band cranks up at 7. This is an all-abilities event, all ages welcome, and is a perfect chance to get dancing with expert help (and don't we all need some of that sometimes). Tickets are \$30 and they include both the dance clinic and the full swing dance, which is a screaming deal. Check it out at [www.ptarmiganarts.org/programs](http://www.ptarmiganarts.org/programs).

### Music Musings: Strange Obsessions

A funny thing happened at the Fall Fair round about the time the last mammoths were expiring on Wrangel Island. Pat Smith gave me a cheap little Generation whistle, and it turned into the most important leaky tube (wind instrument) in a life rather full of leaky tubes. I've publicly thanked him and privately cursed him many times over the years for that gift and all the musical challenges it has presented.

Now, I've always been organologically obsessed (organology is the study of musical instruments – calm down). One whistle led to more whistles, making DIY flutes out of bamboo and PVC, buying dodgy Ebay finds, and culminated in getting several state-of-the-art copies of mid-19th century

tooters\*, two excellent originals from 1820 and 1845, and an eye-wateringly expensive penny whistle.

But wait, there's more! Actually a lot more, because instruments are pretty useless without the music that goes with them. And Irish Traditional Music (ITM) is pretty dang cool. It has hundreds of years of songs and dances, rich regional and familial traditions and stories, star musicians that will just floor you, and tendrils that connect it from Galicia to Brittany to Appalachia to the Maritimes to the Red River Valley. There are sporadic outbreaks of ITM in Tokyo, and a fine pub session in Manila, last I heard.

ITM is constructed of traditional tunes arranged into sets of similar tunes.

"Let's play a Jig set"

"OK, which one?"

"*Morrisson's Jig, The Bride's Favourite, then Roger Delaney*"

"Great, you start!"

There's little use learning the full sets, mostly. If you get used to ending a set of reels with *Soldiers' Joy*, guaranteed the next person you play with wants to play *Cat In The Blender* instead. Knowing a whole bucket load of tunes is essential, and here's the kicker: they're not written down. You have to learn them by ear.

Sure, websites like *The Session* have tunes written down, but without copying and interpreting a real human musician you'll sound like Chat GPT writing a love note to Mark Zuckerberg. The tunes are simple, but the room for interpretation is enormous. Some tunes vary so much it's like comparing *Beowulf* to *Fast and the Furious #78*, or the *Sermon on the Mount* to *Dune Part Two*. Some of the gestures match up, but drawing the family tree is an adventure.

And adventure is what it's all about. I started out with one little whistle and *Morrisson's Jig*, and now I wonder how to play *The Banshee* on my 1820 flute more like they do in County Kilkenny while keeping that bit I like from that Métis fiddler whose name I forgot. So many tunes, so many traditions.

Sláinte is táinte,

*Bryce Woollcombe, Music Director*

## Ptarmigan Arts



Thank you to everyone who came out to our International Women's Day songwriter's showcase on March 8! It was very inspiring to see the community come together to celebrate the amazing women among us, both in the audience and the talented songwriters on stage. It was an eclectic mix of original tunes that had the audience laughing, crying, and singing along. Thank you to Andrew for not running out of soup, and to Colin who stepped in to help with sound. We hope to do more events like this to showcase the amazing talent on the island and create magical musical moments together.

### After School Felting

Students in Grades 6 to 9 are invited to join Debbie Katz after school to transform fluffy wool into fashion statements, vessels, fascinating fascinators! Over four Thursdays, 3:50 - 4:50 pm from April 11 to May 2, you will learn how to create beautiful vessels, felty locks, jewellery, and more. Sign up soon as spaces will be limited to 14 students. Register at the Pender School Office by getting a registration form.

### Gulf Islands Film Co-op

The Gulf Islands Film Co-op was created by David Ohnona and Rutger Kamphuis to support filmmakers from the Southern Gulf Islands by providing accessible filmmaking equipment and mentorship. The objective is to assist filmmakers with a peer-to-peer collective, where discussions about specific projects will lead to production and dissemination of those films and videos. Join us for the first ever gathering of the co-op to meet with fellow filmmakers, discuss your specific project, and how the Co-op can help with the production and dissemination.



### PI Concert Society Presents: Steve Cowan and Adam Cicchillitti

Ptarmigan Arts is proud to sponsor the next Pender Island Concert Society event with Steve Cowan and Adam Cicchillitti. One of the world's most decorated guitar duos of the new generation, Canadian guitarists Adam Cicchillitti and Steve Cowan have set a benchmark in the world of classical guitar with their award-winning recordings, commissions of major orchestral works, and competition performances. Don't miss their performance on Thursday April 25 at 7:30 pm at the Community Hall. Tickets are available on the Ptarmigan website and at Talisman Books.

### Swing Into Spring: A Lindy Hop Swing Dance Workshop

Join us for our first Lindy Hop swing dance workshop on April 27. Kevin and Christabel Savage from Red Hot Swing in Victoria are making the trip to 'Swing into Spring' with us for the afternoon and dance with us at night. With a beginner workshop you can hold your own on the dance floor and it is known to put the biggest smiles on people's faces! PI Jazz is putting on a swing dance in the evening and the facilitators will be leading the 30-minute beginner lesson at 7 pm, right before the music starts. The swing dance workshop will be held at the Pender Community Hall from 4 - 6 pm on April 27, \$30 includes the evening PI Jazz swing dance starting at around 7:30 pm. You can bring a partner or come alone. Find more details and register on our website.

### 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. This month we have Daniel Scott performing as Rusty Strings for the first time on April 5 with original songs on acoustic guitar and the flute and bodhrán making an appearance. On April 12 we'll hear from musician and storyteller Lonnie Glass who plays bass with Pender's own Sarah Smith. Then on April 19 Randy Pinchbeck will be performing with original tunes on the guitar, and on April 26 Pondsider (Jim Stafford, Colin Hamilton and Wendi Lopatecki) will be performing an eclectic mix of folky original songs.

### 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 is available on their website ([sgicl.bc.libraries.coop/pender-island](http://sgicl.bc.libraries.coop/pender-island)). This month illustrator and animation artist Kristian Lobb will be displaying their show *Chromera* until June.

### 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)

*Alice Karolina*

Community Hall (Pender Island Recreation and Agricultural Hall Association)



April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, a time when we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the many wonderful volunteers who enrich our community. At the heart of our Community Hall's mission is the commitment to fostering social and recreational activities accessible to all. While we boast a wonderful venue for hosting such activities, it's our dedicated volunteers who truly bring our vision to life. Without them, we would merely be a space for rent.

Let's take a closer look at the various volunteer roles that contribute to the vitality of our Community Hall:

**Board Members**

The PIRAHA Board is the keystone to our operation. Their stewardship ensures we are able to exist, stay open, and improve. The board meets about once a month.

**Hall Improvement Team**

This dedicated group assists with maintenance, technical improvements, cleaning, and major renovation projects such as the ongoing enhancements to our commercial kitchen. Volunteers contribute their time on a regular or project basis, depending on their availability and skills.

**Films**

This group helps with selecting films, projectionist duties, the concession and door person; helping create wonderful film experiences for the community.

**Friday Gathering**

These individuals serve in various roles such as kitchen helpers, café hosts, tech support, repair assistance, and leading fun activities during our Friday gatherings.

**Youth Leadership**

These young folks, ages 10 to 17, contribute their energy and talents to a range of activities on Fridays and Saturdays, enriching our programs with their enthusiasm and creativity. They do a little bit of everything on this list and then some. A few come several times a month, while others come just once in a while.

**Activity Hosts**

These folks take the lead on the Wednesday Carpet Bowling and Tuesday French Causerie Cafés. They host or co-host weekly activities that are fun for them and all who attend.

**Comfort Centre Hosts**

Stepping in during emergencies or unusual circumstances, these volunteers provide support during power outages, extreme weather events, and other challenges. They also assist in various other volunteer roles to gain a holistic understanding of our operations. During Comfort Centre days, they take shifts as they are able and interested.

**Administration Support**

These invaluable volunteers assist Andrea with tasks such as updating social media, supporting programs, organizing events, managing volunteer appreciation efforts, enhancing administrative capabilities, and applying for grants.

**Donors**

There are many others who don't have the time or ability to volunteer, who instead support activities through donations.

We welcome anyone interested in volunteering to join us in any capacity they feel drawn to. Whether you're passionate about film, enjoy working with youth, have administrative skills, or simply want to lend a helping hand, there's a place for you at our Community Hall. To get involved, please contact us at 250-629-3669 or email [bookings@penderislands.org](mailto:bookings@penderislands.org).

For those wishing to contribute financially, we gratefully accept e-transfers at [accounts@penderislands.org](mailto:accounts@penderislands.org). Please include your contact information and specify that it is a donation in the transaction notes. Donations exceeding \$50 are eligible to receive a tax receipt. Your support is invaluable in nurturing a resilient and thriving community. Thank you for being a part of our journey.

**Spring at the Oscars Films**

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

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

Doors open 15 minutes before the film starts. Admissions is \$5 - \$10 (sliding scale).

**Poor Things**

Friday, April 5, 7:15 pm

Brought back to life by an unorthodox scientist, a young woman runs off with a lawyer on a whirlwind adventure across the continents. Free from the prejudices of her times, she grows steadfast in her purpose to stand for equality and liberation.

**Barbie**

Friday, April 12, 7:15 pm and Tuesday, April 23, 2:30 pm

Barbie and Ken are having the time of their lives in the colorful and seemingly perfect world of Barbie Land. However, when they get a chance to go to the real world, they soon discover the joys and perils of living among humans.

**Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse**

Saturday, April 13, 1:15 pm

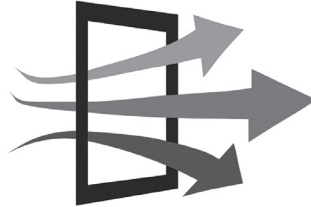
Spider-Man is catapulted across the Multiverse, where he encounters a team of Spider-People charged with protecting its very existence. When the heroes clash on how to handle a new threat, Miles finds himself pitted against the other Spiders. He must soon redefine what it means to be a hero so he can save the people he loves most.

**Oppenheimer**

Saturday, April 13, 7:15 pm and Tuesday, April 30, 2:30

During World War II, Lt. Gen. Leslie Groves Jr. appoints physicist J. Robert

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Oppenheimer to work on the top-secret Manhattan Project. Oppenheimer and a team of scientists spend years developing and designing the atomic bomb. Their work comes to fruition on July 16, 1945, as they witness the world's first nuclear explosion, forever changing the course of history.

## 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. Suggested drop in is \$2.

### French Causerie Café

Tuesdays, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Do you speak French but don't have the chance to practise? Would you like to improve but don't have the opportunity? Come join a relaxing evening of French conversation. By donation, \$1 suggested.

### 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.

April 5 - Puzzles

April 12 - Make rice crispy bars

April 19 - Learn to draw cute animals

April 26 - Pot decorating and planting

### Saturday Market

Saturdays 10 am - 1 pm

Come out to the Market on Saturdays 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.

*Andrea Mills & George Fowlie*

## Magic Lake Property Owners' Society



### Much More Than Just Boating and Racquet Sports

Its Renewal Time May 1  
- Please Join MLPOS

MLPOS renewal forms are being mailed/emailed out for the May 1 deadline. Please contact Joanna Rogers [notifymlpos@gmail.com](mailto:notifymlpos@gmail.com) if you do not receive your renewal in the mail or via email.

### Magic Lake Community Issues Assessment Survey and Report

Thank you to all of you who took part in the survey this past year. The initial results are available on the CRD website <https://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/mle-community> and the final report is forthcoming (delayed due to consultant health issue).

### MLPOS Rainwater Tank Rebate

Capturing rainwater can help to future-proof for the predicted longer, drier summers. If this interests you, email [notifymlpos@gmail.com](mailto:notifymlpos@gmail.com) for more information.

### MLPOS Privateers Recreation Facility

Thank you to all the volunteers who pitch in to help keep our facilities up to date. The tennis/pickleball courts have had a number of maintenance upgrades and we look forward to another busy season in the Privateers Recreation Facility. Our new director of special projects is working on getting the Playground Project going.

### Thieves Bay Marina

The marina crew are busy planning our spring work parties on the docks. If you can volunteer some time and expertise, and haven't done so already, please let the marina crew know at [notifymlpos@gmail.com](mailto:notifymlpos@gmail.com).

Marine insurance for boats moored in the marina must be sent to MLPOS upon renewal so that we always have a copy of the current policy. If you are taking little ones down on the docks, and they aren't wearing life jackets, please make use of our children's loaner life jackets which are hanging on hooks on the shed



*The tradition of planting daffodils originated by Ursula Poepel is thriving throughout Magic Lake.*

just before B Dock and on the stand at the bottom of the ramp on A Dock.

### Becoming a FireSmart Community

If you haven't had a FireSmart evaluation of your property, now is the time. Environment Canada is forecasting another dry summer.

The MLPOS Board continues to be run by excellent volunteers. In addition to our new members: Roy Moore, Vice President and Rachel Lenkowski, Special Projects Director, we have Mary Beth Rondeau (Secretary), the Thieves Bay Marina Team of Wally Foster (Director), Ian Syme (Maintenance Manager), Art Curtis (Operations Manager), and Dave Harrison (Projects Manager), Recreation Director Mike Wiley, and Treasurer Jean Deschenes who also sits on the CRD Magic Lake Estates Water and Sewer Committee along with Mary Beth and David Reed who is our Member at Large Director.

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

The next MLPOS directors' meeting is April 8, 4 pm at the Community Hall.

*Mary Beth Rondeau, Secretary*

## Moving Around Pender (MAP)



### Adding a Route to a Digital Map

In digital mapping, there are two steps to add a route. First, a trace of the route is recorded using a mobile GPS device, commonly a mobile phone or tablet. The trace is a list of points on the route represented as text of longitude and latitude pairs. In OpenStreetMaps the format is GPS Exchange Format, GPX.

A map editor is used to add a trace to a digital map. The default editor in OpenStreetMaps is named iD.

With the trace on the map, a route such as a trail can be drawn by marking a series of points on the route. This is typically done on a desktop system by mouse clicking points. The trace described above serves as a guide but the route may differ from the trace.

There are various types of route including trails, roads and highways.

A route can have attributes such as direction and grade.

Moving Around Pender meets at the Community Hall at 10:00 am on the first Saturday of each month. Interest and questions about digital mapping and any topics about island transportation are welcome.

Membership is not necessary to attend a meeting.

*Peter Easthope*

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



By shopping at the Nu-To-Yu (NTY), Penderites reuse items that others no longer want or need, reduce their personal need for purchasing new, and as a result, stop items from going to the landfill. Perhaps we should refer to the NTY as Pender's Prudent Store. After all, the word prudent is a synonym for thrift. Both words emphasize not being wasteful, to be careful particularly with the goal of saving money. The alternative, of course, is to say we are all exceptionally frugal or, heaven forbid, known for our stinginess.

The Nu-To-Yu volunteers give thanks and a deep knee bend to South Pender's Ladies Exercise group. Your \$500 donation to the New Community Building Fund will go a long way in making Pender's dream of a new store a reality. Thank you, ladies.

A reminder that we can only accept up to 10 CDs or 10 DVDs per household at a time. We are unable to accept any personalized CDs where you have personally transferred music onto a disc. Winter outerwear, be it boots, coats, heavy vests/ jackets are now not being accepted until late August. Hardcover books are usually not accepted nor are previously opened shampoos and toiletries. Public Health regulations forbid us from taking previously used cushions and pillows.

Lately the NTY has been receiving very, very small bits of ribbons, material, and thread. Thank you for thinking of us but unfortunately, sometimes a donation is just too small; not enough to attire a small garden troll. Please also remember that fabric should be clean and not torn.

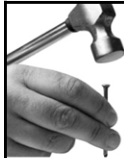
There is still a limit of two boxes or green garbage bags of donations per household per day. This has worked well in allowing donations to be taken from 9 am to noon without the early cutoffs we previously experienced. If you have a large item, please phone ahead at 250-629-2070 as there are times where our space is limited. Finally, donations

need to have a reasonable expectation of selling. For this to happen please ensure donations have been gently used and are clean. Thank you. For further information about donations please go to [www.nu-to-yu.com](http://www.nu-to-yu.com). A thank you goes out to those individuals who have been packing stemware and ceramic breakables with great care. We appreciate the time you took to ensure these items did not break.....and they did not!

As with all volunteer organizations on the island we welcome new blood. Volunteers are asked to volunteer six hours of their time per month. Sorters and stockers work Tuesday and Thursdays from 9 am to noon. Sellers work a three-hour shift on either Friday or Saturdays. The Nu-To-Yu obviously accommodates personal vacation times. Able to volunteer? Please drop by on a Tuesday or Thursday between 9 am and noon and discuss with Pam, Debbie, or Daurel.

For our current merry band of volunteers, NTY's semi-annual meeting will be held on April 15, a week earlier than usual. To be held at the Legion, the new start time is 1:30 pm. Please attend as the new board will be voted in.

*Daurel Minion*



## 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)

## Pender Earth

Climate Cafes create the space to share thoughts and feelings about the climate crisis and to brainstorm responses in the company of engaged, supportive others.

We always begin our circle with a 'check in' to see how folks are doing and where they are at. Participants are then offered a series of questions that spur conversation. March's questions included 1) How are you since last month? 2) How can we stay informed without feeling overwhelmed with the consumption of media?

Sometimes participants answer the questions and sometimes they don't; instead they end up talking about what is on their mind and that is fine with us. When it comes to being overwhelmed by the media, some of the ideas included taking a news holiday, remembering gratitude, getting involved with Peace Circles, some suggested podcasts and reading scientific magazines, and most importantly always keeping a balance.

Sometimes our Climate Cafes entice ideas of "doing". One participant, as she walked towards the Community Hall, noticed that the hall has no water catchment and suggested that maybe something we could do is to assist the Hall with a fundraiser to purchase water catchment tanks.

We ended the meeting talking about offering the Climate Cafe on a different day or evening. No clear consensus came from that discussion; therefore our next Climate Cafe is on Friday, April 5, at 9:30 am in the Lounge at the Community Hall. The following meeting will be May 3. Do you have an opinion on when we should hold these circles? Let us know at [penderearth@gmail.com](mailto:penderearth@gmail.com).

*Kathy Cronk*



## Pender Island Child Care Society

### Dragonfly Child Care & Family Resource Centre



#### Dad n' Me Pancake Breakfast

Dad n' Me Pancake Breakfast is held one Saturday per month from 9 - 11 am at Dragonfly. This month it will be held on April 27. Facilitators Pam and Chris will be there flipping pancakes, sizzling up some sausages, and brewing endless pots of coffee. This is a fabulous program for children and dads, uncles, grandpas, or friends to come out for a free breakfast, socialize, play and give mom the morning off! Thanks to the Ministry of Children and Family Development, this program is free.

#### Adult Meditation Night

Exploring Expanded States of Consciousness and Meditation will be held every Thursday evening from 7 pm - 8 pm at Dragonfly. 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 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 April 1). Sarah Conley facilitates this free drop-in program for parents, caregivers, and their children. This is an inclusive and welcoming place for children and their big people to 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)

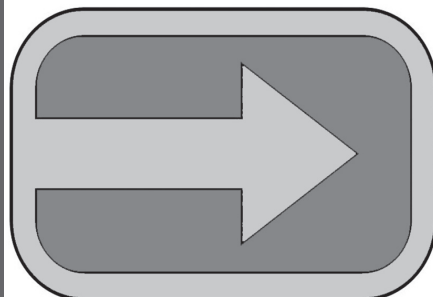
HOP is held every Wednesday morning from 9:30 - 10:30 am in the school gym. Join Jennifer Ursell as she sets up new activities each week; from basketball and hula hoops to crash mats and obstacle courses this program will be sure to tire out your youngster! HOP is designed for parents/caregivers to engage 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.

#### Dragonfly website

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 at [dragonflyfamilycentre@gmail.com](mailto:dragonflyfamilycentre@gmail.com)

*Sarah Conley*



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## Pender Island Chamber of Commerce



### Spring Cleaning for Small Businesses

Spring is here and that signals rejuvenation and new growth, and not just for nature. It's also the perfect time for local businesses to freshen up their operations and strategies. Just as we declutter our homes and tidy up our gardens, small businesses can benefit from spring cleaning to set the stage for success in the busy, warmer months ahead. Here are seven tips for business spring cleaning your business. Which ones can you adopt?

#### Refresh Your Branding

Take a critical look at your brand identity. Does it still resonate with your target audiences? Spring is an ideal time to update your logo, signage, website and marketing materials to reflect any changes in your business or market trends.

#### Evaluate Your Inventory and Offerings

Clear out any stale inventory or outdated products/services that are no longer in demand. Consider introducing new seasonal offerings or refreshing existing ones to align with springtime themes and consumer preferences.

#### Optimize Your Operations

Streamline your internal processes to improve efficiency and productivity. This could involve updating software systems, reorganizing workspace layouts, or implementing new workflow procedures to better serve your customers.

#### Revitalize Your Marketing Strategies

Reassess your marketing efforts and explore innovative ways to reach your target audience. Consider social media campaigns centered around spring activities. Look for opportunities and partnerships that can boost visibility and attract new customers. If you're not already a Chamber member, ask us about how we can help with your marketing efforts.

#### Engage with the Community

Spring is a season of renewal and community spirit. Get involved in local events, sponsorships, or charitable initiatives to strengthen your ties with the community and enhance your brand's reputation.

#### Focus on Staff Development

Invest in training and development opportunities for your employees to enhance their skills and boost morale. A motivated and well-trained team can make all the difference in delivering exceptional customer experiences during the busy spring and summer season ahead.

#### Prepare for Growth

As the economy picks up momentum in the springtime, be proactive in planning for growth opportunities. Whether it's expanding your physical space, hiring additional staff, or diversifying your product/service offerings, laying the groundwork now can position your

business for success in the months ahead.

By embracing the spirit of renewal and implementing these spring-cleaning tips, local businesses can emerge stronger, more resilient, and ready to thrive in the vibrant energy of the new season.

The Chamber holds its annual general meeting on April 18. Be sure to follow the Pender Island Chamber of Commerce on Facebook and Instagram for the latest Chamber news.

*Sandra Tretick, Manager*



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## Pender Islands Conservancy



### March Seminar: Into Thin Air

On March 15, we were treated to a fascinating presentation on the physiological adaptations that have evolved in birds which allow them to complete amazing feats of migration over high altitudes and long distances. Dr. William Milsom, Prof. Emeritus at UBC, shared with us his research on ways animals adapt to extreme environments, especially the bar-headed goose, which migrates over the highest mountains on Earth. These birds travel from India to Upper Mongolia at altitudes that humans would have to carry extra oxygen. Dr. Milsom described his comparative vertebrate physiology research, conducted over many years in extreme locations such as the Upper Mongolia Plateau and the peaks of the Andes Mountains. We learned that flying requires a great deal of energy and a large amount of oxygen, and that over millennia, many adaptations have evolved in these birds to allow them to make these epic migrations. Some of these adaptations include larger hearts, smaller muscle fibres with more capillaries, higher CO<sub>2</sub> tolerance, changes in ATP metabolism in cells, and more efficient lung structure. One of the most surprising things we learned was that these birds were migrating from India to Mongolia before the Himalayas existed, and these adaptations appear to have evolved over millions of years as the Himalayan mountains were being formed, and the birds had to gradually fly higher and higher to reach their summer breeding grounds.

### Coming Events:

#### April Ecology Seminar

Dr. Terry McIntosh presents on  
**Mosses and More**

Friday, April 26, 7 pm

#### April Natural History Walk:

**Moss Walk with Dr. Terry  
McIntosh**

Saturday, April 27, 9:30 am, George Hill  
Park (Ogden Road entrance)

### Beach and Roadside Clean-up

April 20

Celebrate Earth Day by joining us for the Annual Earth Day Beach and Roadside Clean-up, Saturday, April 20 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in the parking lot of the Medicine Beach Centre.

Anytime between now and April 20, clean the beach, park, pathway, or roadside of your choice, then bring your collected debris down to the drop off site at the Medicine Beach Centre on Clean-up Day. If you are unsure where to clean, check in on Clean-up Day and we will assign you a beach. Volunteers will help you load your garbage into the bins. If you need help with any large or difficult to reach items, please let us know, and we will do our best to arrange for someone to come and assist you. We will have hot coffee, lunch, prize draws and live music.

If you have any questions, or if you can help others get their collected debris to the drop off site, please email [president@penderconservancy.org](mailto:president@penderconservancy.org).

### Earth Day Tree Planting

Monday April 22

After you've helped clean the beaches and trails of Pender, join us and the Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission on Earth Day at Shingle Bay Park (Galleon Way) to plant a tree! Tools and gloves will be provided, but we invite you to bring your own gloves and a shovel if you have them.

### Conservancy Nature Centre

The spring birds have joined us at Hope Bay – come check out the new species, here until early May. We have also launched our Saturday Native Plant sales, with more species being added each week! As always, Conservancy members receive 20% off all native plants. We are also now carrying FIADH Alchemy products in our gift shop: self care products and jewelry inspired by the four elements and produced on Pender Island.

*Dr. Erin O'Brien*

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## Pender Island Emergency Program

### Emergency Preparedness & Resilience Grants



Eligible projects are initiatives that have a community-wide impact on emergency preparedness and resilience.

“Emergency” means a present or imminent event or circumstance that:

(a) is caused by accident, fire, explosion, technical failure, or the forces of nature

(b) requires prompt coordination of action or special regulation of persons or property to protect the health, safety, or welfare of a person, or to limit damage to property.

Two funding streams are being offered up to a total of \$25,000.

- Stream 1: Micro Grant to a maximum of \$500.
- Stream 2: Impact Grant to a maximum of \$5000.

Project examples include:

- Neighbourhood evacuation drills
- Community emergency preparedness event
- FireSmart neighbourhood property clean-up
- Community workshop (FireSmart education, emergency preparedness, etc.)
- Neighbourhood emergency supply/equipment hubs
- Interactive art installment, film, painting, or video that promotes community preparedness.

Ineligible projects include:

- Preparedness or resilience projects without significant community impact
- Projects that are outside of the administrative boundaries of the CRD’s Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area

The application deadline is May 13. All applicants are required to submit an electronic copy of the entire application, including a completed Application Form with all required attachments indicated by the 2024 Grant Application Guide.

Applications will be reviewed and awarded by the Southern Gulf Islands Emergency Program Commission, which is comprised of representatives from each of the Southern Gulf Islands.

For more information or to apply, go to [www.crd.bc.ca/service/fire-and-emergency-programs/sgi-emergency-program](http://www.crd.bc.ca/service/fire-and-emergency-programs/sgi-emergency-program) or write to [sgiepc@crd.bc.ca](mailto:sgiepc@crd.bc.ca).

*Brigitte Prochaska,  
SGI Emergency Management Lead*

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The Pender Post

## Pender Island Farmers' Institute



The Pender Island Farmers' Institute AGM was held on March 16 with guest speaker Megan Halstead, South Island Regional Agrologist from the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Extension and Support Services. Megan reported on the Regional Extension Program and the Agriculture Water staff's drought management tools and programs. She also gathered input from those present to provide a response to the Ministry with regards to farmers' needs. During the day she was able to visit a few farms as well; thank you Roz Kempe for escorting her around the island. We also enjoyed a piece of delicious cake to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> year of the Pender Island Farmers' Institute (thank you Michelle!). The board for 2024 will be Barbara Johnstone, Shawn Crichton, Anne Burdett, Jodi Schamberger, Matilda te Hennepe, and Michelle Marsden.

April 6, after the market at the Hall (approx. 1:30) there will be a Farmers' Market Vendor Meeting to discuss market layout, any changes to rules or rates, anything new that needs to be communicated to the vendors, and to receive applications and fees. All past vendors and those wanting to know more about the market are welcome to attend. We are a member of the BC Association of Farmers' Markets, which also administers the BC Farmers' Markets Nutrition Coupon Program. For more information see [www.pifi.ca](http://www.pifi.ca).

On April 6 there will also be an opportunity to learn about the new food hub that is being developed at the Community Hall. In addition to the equipment that PIRAHA has acquired, the Farmers' Institute has also recently received a United Way Climate Resilient Communities: Food Infrastructure Grant in partnership with the Ministry of Health for the purchase of food processing equipment. This equipment will be available to farmers and farmers' market vendors to use.



We had a record-breaking temperature year in 2023, and are entering drier, drought conditions in 2024. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship are having a virtual meeting called *Decoding Drought Management* April 4 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. The purpose is to improve awareness of the supports available to area producers to prepare for and reduce the impacts of drought. The engagement sessions will help build understanding within the agriculture sector about B.C.'s legislative framework for water management, including regulatory tools and decision-making under the Water Sustainability Act. Register online through Eventbrite – look for Decoding Drought Management Engagement Session West Coast.

The CRD Community Economic Sustainability Commission is beginning the process to implement the recommendations in the SGI Local Food Area Plan (2021). There is the opportunity to provide feedback so that initiatives can be ranked and prioritized. More information will be announced next month.

The Farmers' Institute also has Emergency Management for Farms binders available to farms to help them plan for wildfires and other emergencies. Please contact Barb for a copy at [penderislandmarket@gmail.com](mailto:penderislandmarket@gmail.com) or 250-222-3817.

*Barbara Johnstone*



### Fall Fair: Then and Now

Time to start sowing seeds for those entering flowers or vegetables, choosing baking recipes and finishing up that quilt, painting, or craft project. Snap that photo, raise that chick or lamb, nurture those fruit trees and hone your preserving skills - all in preparation to show off your hard work at the 72nd Fall Fair on August 24.

It is a special and significant year - the 125th anniversary of our local Farmer's Institute and an opportunity to acknowledge and reflect on the past and take a look where we're at in our present to plan for the future in a changing world. We encourage entrants to tie in the theme of *Then and Now* with their exhibits where possible. Don't forget the scarecrow competition, children's creations, and the colourful Fall Fair parade.

We're always looking for new ideas and community input into our Fair, so don't hesitate to contact us. As always, we encourage you to be a part of the Fair simply by entering, volunteering, or participating. We're needing a Convener(s) for Fine Arts & Photography (contact Terry Shepherd).

We are planning many interesting displays this year in the Hall and on the grounds. Thank you to the P.I. Museum, which has shared olden day images of farming life. You'll see these comparisons featured in *The Pender Post* leading up to Fair Day.

*Michelle Marsden*

**Pender Island Fire Rescue**



Hello Pender Islands. As of March 16 PIFR members have responded to 49 emergency calls.

This past month we responded to a couple of notable incidents. A late night garage fire was reported by a neighbor and crews were dispatched to quickly and efficiently extinguish the fire. There were no injuries and the fire was contained to the structure’s interior. The property owner was notified and passed on their appreciation of the department and its members for a job well done.

A second notable call was an emergency call for the smell of propane in the area. Our crew located a propane line that had been damaged by a tree branch that came down in a windstorm. This propane line was supplying a generator unit which was running at the time due to the power

outage. The branch fell and was lying against the hot exhaust. This could have caused a catastrophic chain reaction but luckily our crews with the appropriate PPE and multi-gas detector were able to shut down the generator and isolate the gas making the scene safe. Remember propane in its natural form is odorless and companies add a harmless chemical called mercaptan to give it the distinctive “rotten egg” smell. If you smell this, immediately call 911.

I am pleased to announce a new public AED has been added to the community. Currents at Otter Bay now has an AED mounted outside the entrance to the main office. Early defibrillation and effective CPR give patients the highest outcome for survival in a cardiac event, so the more of these devices out there the better off we are.

Advanced notice: the Pender Island Fire Protection Society annual general meeting will be held on May 9 at Pender

Island Community Hall starting at 6 pm. Membership to the society is \$2 and you must be a registered member to participate. Additional information can be found in the message from the Pender Island Fire Prevention Society, below.

By the time you read this article, construction on the South Pender DIP should be well on its way. I understand the delays and closures will be frustrating to people but I ask you to please be understanding and courteous to the traffic control members and staff working on this job to fix the road. That being said, PIFR is working with the Prime Contractor, RCMP, and BCAS to ensure minimal service delays to South Pender and you can rest assured if you have to call 911 you will still receive a professional response that our Islands have come to expect from its emergency services.

*Continued page 35*

**The Pender Islands Fire Protection Society’s (PIFPS)  
Notice of 2024 Annual General Meeting**

(This AGM covers your fire service’s operations for Year 2023)

**Thursday, 9 May, 7pm, at Pender Islands Community Hall**

P.I.F.P.S President, Brent Marsden, will give the 2023 Reports for the Society, and Fire Chief Dine will present his 2023 report on the activities of Pender Fire/Rescue.

Membership in the society is open to all owners of real property within the boundaries of North or South Pender Island, BC, or to persons domiciled on North or South Pender Island.

Membership is \$2 annually and runs with the calendar year. 2024 membership and registration can be paid in person at Firehall #1 during business hours. Or you can pay and register at the door before the AGM. (While all are welcome to attend the AGM, only currently paid-up and registered members of Pender Islands Fire Protection Society may address the AGM or vote.)

P.I.F.P.S. is seeking individuals interested in serving their community through membership in the society and on the board of directors; submit bio by April 15th to Secretary, Christa Grace-Warrick, Fire Hall #1, 4423 Bedwell Harbour Road, Pender Island, BC V0N 2M1, or to: [administration@penderfire.ca](mailto:administration@penderfire.ca).

The PIFPS Board of Directors hopes you will take up or renew your membership and join us at the AGM.



## Anglican Church of Canada

Parish of Pender and Saturna Islands • 4703 Canal Road

April 7	10:30 am	Ecumenical Service	Hope Bay Bible Camp
April 14	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	St. Peter's Church
April 21	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist	St. Peter's Church
April 28	10:00 am	Circle Service	St. Peter's Hall

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))

April 7	10:30 am	Ecumenical Service at Hope Bay Bible Camp.
April 14	10:45 am	Bill Phillips
April 21	10:45 am	Garth Klassen
April 28	10:45 am	Judy Neil

The ecumenical event previously scheduled for January was postponed due to our big snow event. It is now planned for Sunday, April 7, at 10:30 in the chapel at Hope Bay Bible Camp. This is a joint event of the Christian churches on Pender Island to celebrate our unity in Christ. Dan Glover will speak on the parable of the Good Samaritan with various ones from the island churches participating in the music, readings, and prayers. All are welcome to the service and to the lunch which follows in the camp dining hall.

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

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

4705 Buccaneers Road

April 7	10:30am	Ecumenical Service (rescheduled from January 21)
April 12	9:30am	Friday Mass with Fr. Rolf
April 21	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word and Communion
April 26	9:30am	Friday Mass with Fr. Rolf

The Ecumenical Service is hosted this year by the Community Church. Christian churches and worship groups will be participating in the event. The theme is "You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself" (Lk 10:27), which is highlighted by the parable of the Good Samaritan. This year's service and lunch will take place at the Hope Bay Bible Camp. For further information about our liturgies and times, email [stteresachapel@gmail.com](mailto:stteresachapel@gmail.com) or phone 250-629-6029.

## 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

April 8	7:00 pm	Feast of Jalal (Glory), via Zoom.
April 20	7:00 pm	First Day of Ridvan, devotional and hospitality at the home of Don and Bev Peden
April 27	7:00 pm	Feast of Jamal (Beauty), devotional and hospitality at the home of Don and Bev Peden

Address of Don and Bev is 4862 Pirates Road, also contact for zoom links. Devotionals welcome prayers from all religious traditions, and people from all faiths.

Ridván is a twelve-day festival in the Bahá'í Faith, commemorating Bahá'u'lláh's declaration that he was a Manifestation of God. In the Bahá'í calendar, it begins at sunset on the 13th of Jalál, which is a joyful occasion. Local Spiritual Assemblies are elected on the first day of Ridvan, while elections for National Spiritual Assemblies happen later in the festival.

Please email [bevpedenpendersaturna@gmail.com](mailto:bevpedenpendersaturna@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 [commontablependersaturna@gmail.com](mailto:commontablependersaturna@gmail.com).

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

Kids Club After School Program, Mondays - Thursdays, 3:45 - 5:30

**SUNDAYS**

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

**MONDAYS**

Parents and Babes, 9 - 11:30 am, (except April 1), Dragonfly .....25

55+ Luncheon Gathering, 12- 2 pm, CommunitHall.....

**TUESDAYS**

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

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

MYI: Essentrics 11 am to 12 pm, Community Hall

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

French Causerie Café, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, Community Hall NEW .....23

**WEDNESDAYS**

Healthy Opportunities for Preschoolers (HOP) , 9:30 – 10:30 am, School Gym..... 25

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 ..... 23

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

Youth Club, 5:30 pm - 8 pm, and Friday all day (except April 5)

Teen Nights... with Pizza, April 9 - June 26, 5:30 - 8 pm, Community Hall ..... 8, 46

**THURSDAYS**

MYI: Gentle Chair Yoga, 11 am - 12 pm

Navigating Grief Support Group, 1 - 2:30 pm, to April 11, Anglican Church Hall

Euchre with Margaret Vergette, 2 - 4 pm, Legion

After School Kids Club with Sitka, 3:45 - 5:15 pm, April 4 – June 27, Community Hall ..... 8, 46

Exploring Expanded States of Consciousness and Meditation, 7 - 8 pm, Dragonfly ..... 25

**FRIDAYS**

Kids Camp with Karen, 9 am - 4 pm, April 4 - June 21, Community Hall ..... 8, 46

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

Friday Fun, 10:45 - 12 pm, Community Hall ..... 23

Community Café, 10:45 am - 1 pm, Community Hall ..... 23

Community Gathering Lunch, 12 - 1 pm, Community Hall..... 23

**SATURDAYS**

Saturday Market, 10 am - 1 pm, Community Hall.....23

Legion Meat Draw, 4 pm.....44

**NU-TO-YU** .....24

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** .....40

Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10 am - 3 pm.

**RECYCLING CENTRE** ..... 41

Tuesdays, Thursday and Saturdays, 10 am -3 pm

**CONSERVANCY NATURE CENTRE** .27

Wednesdays to Sundays, 11 am - 3 pm

**April on Pender Island**

1	Mon	7:00 pm	Photo Club monthly meeting, via Zoom ..... 18
2	Tue	10:00 am	Bike Shop open, to 3 pm, Recycling Centre ..... 41
3	Wed	1:00 pm	Local Authors Presents: Z. Landale, Evan and Joy Llewellyn, at the Library ..... 40
		5:30 pm	Lions monthly meeting, Legion ..... 40
5	Fri	9:30 am	Pender Earth Climate Café, to 11:30 am, Community Hall ..... 37
		10:45 am	Activity: Puzzles, Community Hall..... 25
		12:00 pm	Community Gathering, music by Daniel Scott (Rusty Strings) ..... 20, 23
		4:00 pm	Games Night with Andrew, to 8 pm, (also April 26), Community Hall..... 8, 46
		7:15 pm	Film: <i>Poor Things</i> , Community Hall ..... 21
6	Sat	10:00 am	MAP meeting, Community Hall..... 24
		1:30 pm	Farmers' Market Vendors Meeting, Community Hall ..... 29
7	Sun	2:00 pm	Speakeasy with Leslie McBain, to 4 pm, Legion
		3:00 pm	Gulf Islands Food Co-op AGM, via Zoom
		7:00 pm	Pender Island Otters Swim Club AGM (via Zoom)..... 51
		1:00 pm	South Pender Local Trust Council community meeting (also April 26) ..... 12

## CALENDAR

8	Mon	9:30 am	Quilting Circle, to 12:30 pm, Anglican Church Hall .....	18
		1:00 pm	Watercolour Workshop, to 3 pm (also April 15) Anglican Church Hall .....	15
		1:30 pm	Caregivers Support Group, to 2:30 pm, (also April 22), Community Hall .....	37
		2:30 pm	1:1 Counseling with Geneva Jacobs until 4 pm, Dragonfly Centre	
		3:00 pm	Parks & Recreation Commission monthly meeting, Community Hall and Zoom .....	39
		4:00 pm	MLPOS Directors Meeting, Community Hall Lounge .....	23
10	Wed	5:00 pm	Uke Strum, to 6 pm, Community Hall Lounge	
11	Thu	1:00 pm	Pender Island Garden Club: Citrus & Sub-tropical Fruit Trees, Community Hall .....	47
		7:00 pm	Gulf Islands Film Co-op, to 8 pm, Ptarmigan Arts office at Hope Bay .....	20
		3:50 pm	After School Felting for grades 6-9, to 4:50, Thursdays to May 2, Community Hall	
12	Fri	10:45 am	Activity: Make Rice Crispy Bars, Community Hall .....	23
		12:00 pm	Community Gathering, music by Lonnie Glass .....	20, 23
		5:30 pm	Legion Dinner .....	44
		7:00 pm	Free Concert: Westgate Mennonite Collegiate Bands and Choir, Pender School .....	3, 9
		7:15 pm	Film: <i>Barbie</i> , Community Hall .....	21
13	Sat	1:00 pm	Bingo, Legion	
		1:15 pm	Film: <i>Spider-Man: Across the Spider-verse</i> , Community Hall .....	21
		7:15 pm	Film: <i>Oppenheimer</i> , Community Hall .....	21
15	Mon		Nu-To-You Semi-annual Meeting .....	24
16	Tue	6:30 pm	Community Conversation with Adam Olsen and Paul Brent, Community Hall .....	6, 13
17	Wed	4:00 pm	S,DÀ,YES Truth & Reconciliation Circle, to 6 pm, Fireside Room, 4703 Canal Rd.	
18	Thu	10:00 am	Computer Savvy Seniors: Intro to Instagram, Community Hall .....	8, 46
		5:00 pm	Homework Club with Liam, to 7 pm, Community Hall	
			Chamber of Commerce AGM .....	26
19	Fri	10:45 am	Activity: Learn to Draw Cute Animals, Community Hall .....	23
		12:00 pm	Community Gathering, music by Randy Pinchbeck .....	20, 23
			<i>4 Weddings and an Elvis</i> , Solstice Theatre, to April 21, Community Hall .....	19
20	Sat	9:30 am	Earth Day Beach and Roadside Cleanup, Medicine Beach Market .....	5, 7, 27
		10:00 am	Scrapbook & Crafts Group with Melody Pender, to 5 pm, Legion	
21	Sun	10:00 am	Scrapbook & Crafts Group with Melody Pender, to 5 pm, Legion	
22	Mon	9:30 am	Conservancy/Parks & Rec. Tree-Planting for Earth Day, Shingle Bay Park .....	27, 39
		1:30 pm	Caregivers Support Group, to 2:30 pm, (also April 8), Community Hall .....	37
23	Tue	2:30 pm	Film: <i>Barbie</i> , Community Hall .....	21
25	Thur	7:30 pm	Concert Society: Adam Cicchillitti and Steve Cowan, Community Hall .....	17, 20
26	Fri	10:45 am	Activity: Pot Decorating and Planting, Community Hall .....	23
		12:00 pm	Community Gathering, music by <i>Pondside</i> (Jim Stafford, Colin Hamilton and Wendi Lopatecki) .....	20, 23
		4:00 pm	Games Night with Andrew, to 8 pm, (also April 4), Community Hall .....	8, 46
		5:30 pm	Legion Dinner .....	44
		7:00 pm	Dr. Terry McIntosh: Mosses and More, Community Hall .....	27
27	Sat	9:00 am	Dad 'n Me Pancake Breakfast, to 11:00 am, Dragonfly .....	25
		9:30 am	Moss Walk at George Hill Park. Meet at the Ogden Road entrance .....	27
		2:00 pm	Legion General Meeting .....	44
		4:00 pm	<i>Swing into Spring</i> Lindy Hop workshop, to 6 pm, Community Hall .....	19, 20
		7:30 pm	PIJazz Swing Dance, Community Hall .....	19, 20
		10:00 am	Pender Island Garden Club Plant Sale, to 1 pm, Community Hall .....	47
			Legion Volunteer Appreciation .....	44
29	Mon	1:00 pm	Card Making Workshop with Melody Pender, to 3 pm, Community Hall .....	8, 46
30	Tue	2:30 pm	Film: <i>Oppenheimer</i> , Community Hall .....	21
		7:00 pm	PIAS Critiquing Session with Corinne Parker, to 9 pm, Anglican Church Hall .....	15

## ADVANCE NOTICES FOR MAY

2	Thur		<i>Critical Distance Immersive Ora Experience</i> , Community Hall .....	42
3	Fri		Otters Swim Club summer session begins .....	51
4	Sat	1:00 pm	Health Care Society Public Communications Meeting, Anglican Hall .....	36
8	Wed		Power and Sail AGM .....	47
9	Thur	6:00 pm	Pender Island Fire Protection Society AGM, Community Hall .....	36
10	Fri		Community Choir Spring Concert (also May 11, 12) .....	16
17	Fri		PIAS <i>A Touch of Spring</i> , show of members' art (also May 18), Community Hall .....	15
18	Sat		Canadian Power and Sail <i>Safe Boating Week</i> display, Driftwood Centre .....	47
24	Fri	7:00 pm	Daniel Lapp's <i>West Coast Kitchen Party</i> , Community Hall	
31	Fri		PenderPOD <i>Legal Heroes</i> , speakers and film, Community Hall .....	42

## Health Services

**Medical Emergency** ..... 911

**Medical Clinic**..... 629-3233

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

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

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

**Better at Home Program** ..... 629-3346

**Chiropractor, Dr. Penny Paterson**..... 629-9918

**Community Nurses**..... 629-3242

Carmel Kozac and Miranda MacKenzie

**Community Support Worker/Volunteer** .... 629-3346

**Crisis and Mental Health Counsellors**

Shellyse Szakacs ..... 250-538-8711

Ulla Rembe..... 250-539-0325

**Family Advancement Counsellors** ..... 250-222-0025

**Dentist, Dr. Emma Marler**..... 629-6815

**Lab Services**..... 629-3233

**Massage Therapy, Tru Hartwood** ..... 250-889-3923

Taylor Watson ..... taylorwatson.ca

**Public Health Nurse, Immunization, Prenatal Education**

Julie Duhamé ..... 250-544-2400 or 539-3099

## Pharmacy

**Pharmacist, Christine Swan** ..... 629-6555

## Other Licensed Health Care Professionals

**Physiotherapy, Mieke Truijen** ..... 629-9910

**Reg. Massage Therapy, Krista Wissink**..... 250-381-7318

## Help Lines

**Healthlink BC**..... Dial 811

Nurses 24/7, Pharmacists 5 - 8 pm, Dieticians 9 am - 5 pm

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

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

## 24 Hour Crisis Help Lines

**A.A. (24 hour help line)**..... 250-383-7744, 250-526-0550

**Islanders Working Against Violence (IWAV)**

Free, confidential support..... 1-250-537-0735

Toll-free..... 877-435-7544

**Kids' Help Phone**..... 310-1234

Text..... 686868

Chat ..... www.kidshelpphone.ca

**Mental Health Distress Line**

Support/Information..... 310-6789

Suicide Prevention Helpline..... 1-800-784-2433

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

Text..... 250-800-3806

Chat (Adults)..... ww.CrisisCentreChat.ca

Chat (Youth) ..... www.YouthinBC.com

## Ministry of Children and Family Development

MCFD ..... 800-663-9122

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

## Community Support Numbers

### Capital Regional District (CRD)

Director SGI, Paul Brent ..... 604-760-9975

Building Inspector..... 629-3424

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

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

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

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

**Emergency Hydro** ..... 1-888-769-3766

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

**Duty Officer is available 24/7**..... 1-888-574-1959

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

**Burning Permits - online** ..... www.penderfire.ca

or at Fire Hall #1, 4423 Bedwell Harbour Road

### Hall/Meeting Room Bookings

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

School Community Room ..... 629-3711

Health Care Centre..... 629-3326

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

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

### Home Support Services

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

**Islands Trust: Victoria** ..... 1-800-663-7867

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

NP, Aaron Campbell ..... acampbell@islandstrust.bc.ca

SP, Dag Falck ..... dfalck@islandstrust.bc.ca

SP, Kristina Evans ..... kevens@islandstrust.bc.ca

### Member of the Legislative Assembly

Saanich North and the Islands, Adam Olsen.. 250-655-5600

### Member of Parliament

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

### Pender Island Emergency Program

Emergency Coordinator ..... 250-589-3001

ESS..... 250-792-0880

**Pender Island Public Cemetery** ..... 629-6625

**Pender Island Veterinary Clinic** ..... 629-9909

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

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

**Crimestoppers** ..... 1-800-665-TIPS (8477)

**Victim Services** ..... 629-6531

### Rescue

Marine & Aircraft distress ..... 1-800-567-5111

*Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC)*

Search and Rescue (Land) Emergency ..... 911

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

**Pender Island Fire Rescue (continued)**

Lastly, I would like to thank the Islands for the adoption of the new outdoor burning permit system. Your feedback has been very positive and is appreciated. So just a reminder that permits are required year round and that all permits are valid until December 31. Many people have noted that buying a year-round permit saves them money so that's great to hear.

Remember smoke detectors save lives so check their age (less than 10 years old), and replace the batteries every six months.

*Captain Jon Grelik*

**Pender Islands Fire Protection Society**

Pender Islands Fire Protection Society is seeking community-minded individuals to serve as society directors.

The Society works in tandem with its executive arm, Pender Fire Rescue, to provide Pender residents with fire protection, emergency and rescue services, and public assistance.

Punching well above its weight, over the last 50 years, the Penders' fire service has developed into a Canadian award-winning asset for the community. Its 'full service' designation requires a high level of training and regular re-certification for both staff and paid-on-call firefighters.

A Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, two Fire Officers, and 26 paid-on-call responders comprise Pender Fire Rescue's executive staff. The fire service is funded by and operates under an Agreement For Service to the CRD and is governed by several provincial agencies.

The Service has a bookkeeper and an independent accountant. Staff are well-versed in budget preparation. The annual budget is approved by the CRD. The Society also administers the staffed Victim Services Program

through a Transfer Under Agreement for the Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General.

Interested individuals need to be outgoing, and have a facility in engaging with the community in representing the fire service. Training in the complexities of how the service and the board operates will be provided. More information can be found at [www.penderfire.org](http://www.penderfire.org).


If you are a property owner or resident of the Penders and are interested in serving with this dynamic and essential community service team, mail or email your bio, explaining your interest in a director position to: Secretary, Christa Grace-Warrick, Fire Hall #1, 4423 Bedwell Harbour Road, Pender Island, BC V0N 2M1, or [administration@penderfire.ca](mailto:administration@penderfire.ca).

*Christa Grace-Warrick, Secretary,  
Pender Islands Fire Protection Society*

**Pender Island Food Bank Society**

March is an exciting time for Food Bank Volunteers, and hopefully Food Bank clients, as we start to implement some of the changes which will bring us more in alignment with BC Food Bank principles and standards. We had our first bulk food repackaging session in the Food Safe environment of the Church Hall kitchen and were happy with the concept of "many hands make short work". We donned our masks and gloves and packaged enough bulk food items for (hopefully) the month. Our delivery space is undergoing a facelift with more surfaces that are readily cleaned. Because of our space we have been operating a bit like an old-fashioned general store where the client tells the volunteer which of the items they want and then we pull things off the shelf. With a bit of creative rearrangement, we will be switching to a more conventional grocery store model over the next few months.

*Continued next page*




**CRC**  
Southern Gulf Islands  
Community Resource Centre

**Presents**

**Dining in the Dark**

a unique cookbook crafted for moments when the lights go out, offering delicious recipes tailored for days and nights without power



**To purchase a copy email**  
[dineitdark@sgicommunityresources.ca](mailto:dineitdark@sgicommunityresources.ca) or stop by the  
**CRC office on Pender**

**Food Bank (continued)**

Making potential clients prove that they can't afford food is what is meant by "means-testing". To us, this is an undignified, intrusive, and very much an inappropriate role for a foodbank and for a non-profit organization. Many people in British Columbia live close to their financial edge with inflation, and one vet bill, car repair, or dental emergency can put them having to choose between buying food and paying rent. We provide food and other assistance to those needing help regardless of race, national or ethnic origin, citizenship, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, income source, age, or mental or physical ability. We maintain respect for the privacy of those served and will maintain the confidentiality of personal information.

We are part of a system of food banks which acquire and share food in a spirit of cooperation with other food banks and food programs. We do not sell donated food but make them available for clients to choose items which fit their needs.

We welcome volunteers to our food bank team, and if you would like more information on our Pender Island Food Bank, please visit our website, [www.penderislandfoodbank.com](http://www.penderislandfoodbank.com), or visit our Facebook page..

*Bev Peden*

**Pender Island Health Care Society (PIHCS)**



**Public Communications Meeting**

Mark your calendars for an important meeting. We will be hosting a public communications meeting on May 4 at 1 pm at the Anglican Hall. There will be four topics as outlined below.

First, we are delighted to welcome our new (for Pender) Nurse Practitioner, Lee-Ann Jespersen. Watch for more details in the May issue.

Second, we will be presenting more in-depth results and conclusions from the community survey of health & wellness services needs that was run in February. This will provide another opportunity to have your voices heard. The final Survey 2024 report will become available at the same time on the PIHCS website: <https://penderislandhealth.org/documents>.

Third, feedback will be provided from two planning meetings organized by the Doctors of BC that have been held in Sidney during March and April with representatives of the Ministry of Health, Island Health, and the physicians and health societies on the Outer Gulf Islands (OGI) to inform the process of creating a Primary Care Network (PCN) for our islands. The goal 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.

Fourth, there will be a presentation by the new BC Seniors' Advocate Dan



*The Health Care Centre's newly renovated waiting area.*

Levitt. Dan has been an outstanding champion and advocate for seniors for 30 years at local, national, and international levels, and we are very pleased that he is making time to come to Pender and share his thoughts.

**Speaker Series: Here's to Your Good Health**

The latest talk, *A Guide to Healthy Aging to AVOID Frailty*, was presented by Dr. Grace Park in March. A video recording of this popular talk, as well as all of the previous talks, may be viewed on the PIHCS website: <https://penderislandhealth.org/speakers>.

We are pleased to announce the next talk, *Breathe Easy: Lung Health and Disease* by Dr. Peter Paré, at the Community Hall at 2 pm on May 11.

**Renovations to the Health Centre**

The first accessibility project, undertaken November 20 should be completed by the end of March, pending the final CRD Building Permit inspection. We are grateful to Hillel Architecture Inc. and Canpro Construction for managing this project. It was completed on time and within budget.

The PIHCS Board also thanks the staff, tenants, and volunteer board and community committee members who supported getting this project completed, both in spirit and in time.

Phase 2 starts soon!

*Urs Boxler on behalf of the Communications Committee*

**Port Washington Montessori Children's House**  
A learning environment for young people

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**Inspired Education**

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in a Licensed Facility with an accredited Montessori Educator  
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infant/toddler, preschool, out-of-school, home school support

**Community Support Programs**

“The beauty of volunteering is that it’s not about making a difference; it’s about being the difference.” ~ Unknown

**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, April 8 and 22, 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.

In honor of Volunteer Month, let me share the reflections of a local volunteer. “Volunteering is not just about giving; it’s about receiving too. As someone who has experienced the transformative ability of volunteering, I can attest to the multitude of benefits it brings. Volunteering helps us to connect with our communities on a deeper level. When I began volunteering at a local soup lunch, I was amazed at how it brought together people from all walks of life, fostering a sense of unity and compassion. It also offers a unique opportunity for personal growth and development. Through my volunteer work, I’ve honed valuable skills such as communication, problem-solving, and leadership, which have proven invaluable in both my personal and professional life. Volunteering can provide a profound sense of purpose and fulfillment. One memorable experience was helping to organize a camp for children with terminal illnesses. Witnessing the smiles on their faces helped me realize the importance of bringing joy and a positive difference, even if momentary, to the world. Besides all this, volunteering can improve mental and physical well-being. Studies have shown that acts of altruism release endorphins, promoting a sense of happiness and reducing stress. It also often involves physical activity which contributes to overall health and vitality. The benefits of volunteering are manifold, enriching both individuals and communities alike. Whether it’s lending a helping hand at a lunch program, participating in environmental conservation efforts, or helping at an event, each act of volunteerism contributes to a brighter, more compassionate world.”

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 contact me at [andrea@penderislandhealth.org](mailto:andrea@penderislandhealth.org), 629-3346.

*Andrea Mills, Community Support*



Bursary applications are now being accepted. Are you a Pender Island resident pursuing post secondary education? Send us an email to [penderislions@gmail.com](mailto:penderislions@gmail.com).

Spring is upon us but first a quick recap of what our Lions Club has been up to over the 2023/2024 winter. Santa (Liam Regan) carrying his workshop toys arrived safely at Hope Bay escorted by the RCMP crew aboard their Search and Rescue boat. Met by Mrs. Claus (Pamella Smith) and approximately 70 Pender children, the day was a roaring success. The following week we enjoyed good weather while hosting the Polar Bear Swim at Port Browning Marina and provided BBQed hot dogs and candied bacon for purchase. While attendance was down at both events this year due in part to the cold and flu season, money was raised for our community work and food was collected for our local food bank.



*Dave Dryer receives Lifetime Membership from District L19 Governor Elaine Luk*

Past President Dave Dryer was awarded a lifetime membership to the Lions in honour of his tireless work and commitment to the Pender Lions Club.

*Continued next page*

Lions (continued)



July 15, 1984 – Original Road Sign

We are in the process of reactivating the Lions Club Road Sign on Otter Bay Road. This sign was first started in April 1984. I remember stopping there on our first visit to Pender Island and know it provided great information for so many other visitors. On that note, why not sign up to advertise your business? Rates are currently \$50 a year with a \$40 charge for initial preparation and supply of your tile.

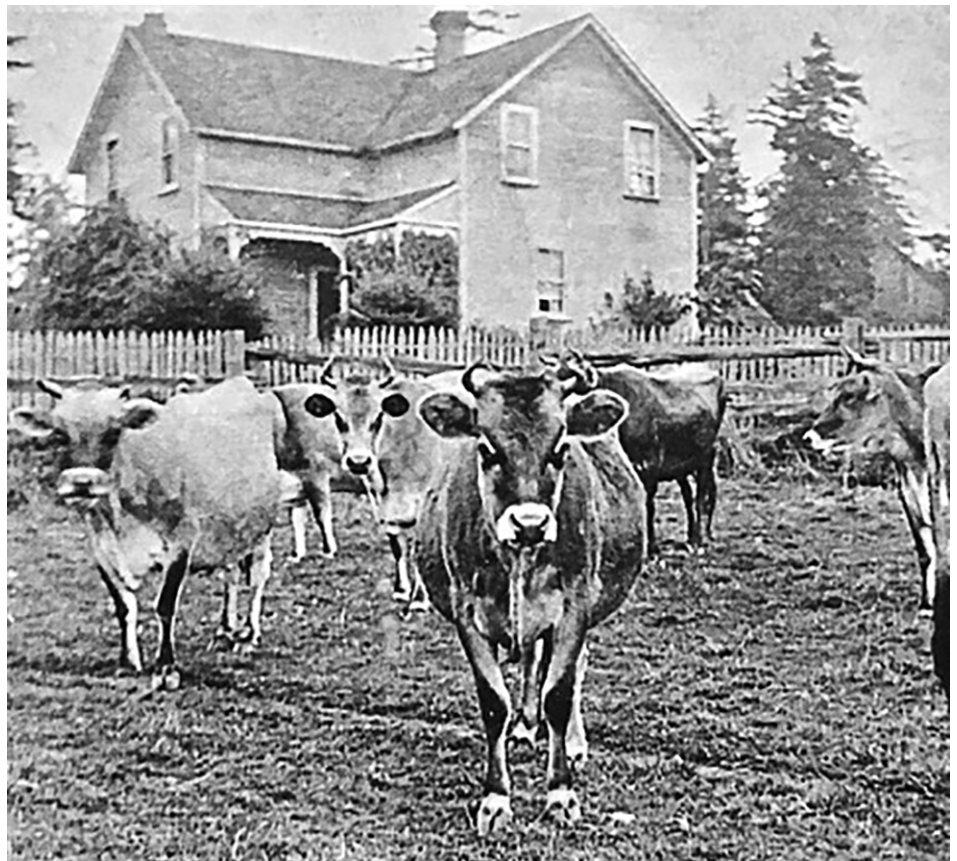
**Did You Know...**

The Pender Lions Club has been serving our community for more than 50 years! The Club first established itself to raise funding to build our Medical Centre in June 1973. For more history of the clinic visit <https://penderislandhealth.org/history>. The Lions continue to support the Clinic today, adding valuable equipment as needed. Since our inception we have been involved with numerous activities around the Pender Islands. When we say “We Serve”, we mean more than just hot dogs!

As with all clubs and groups on our wonderful Island, we depend on the valuable efforts of our members to enable us to serve our community. Have you considered joining your local Lions Club? We meet for 1 hour once per month, September through June. Contact Annette Cyr or send an email to [penderislions@gmail.com](mailto:penderislions@gmail.com) for more information.

Greg & Gail Forsyth

Pender Island Museum Society



The Menzies’ prize-winning Jersey cows at Valley Home Farm on North Pender

**Pender’s Famous Jersey Cows**

The average BC dairy farm today has 135 milking cows, so it’s tough to imagine making a good living with just a dozen cows on an island. Yet that was the case of Pender’s Valley Home Farm – the one opposite the cemetery – and its award-winning Jersey dairy herd between 1898 and 1947. We know the details because Victor Menzies (1885-1977) kept a diary for much of his 92-year lifespan.

At age seven in 1893, Victor, with his parents, Albert and Henrietta Menzies, came to Pender where Albert worked for Washington Grimmer. As Victor wrote, “Father bought a cow from someone on Mayne Island [and] so it was not long before I learned to milk her.” Victor’s career as a dairyman had begun.

In 1896, neighbour Rutherford Hope asked the Menzies family to rent his 230-acre sheep farm, but the “fences on this farm were not in very good shape and the sheep were getting out,

so father sold them off and gradually went in for dairy cattle.” By 1905, Albert had built up “a nice Jersey herd”, preferring the hardy breed from Jersey in the English Channel, where expert breeding led to a cow that produced high levels of butterfat.

The years 1909-10 were pivotal ones as the Menzies made a name for themselves as first-rate producers and breeders. It must have been an adventure for young Victor to exhibit the best of the herd at Victoria and New Westminster fairs, netting over \$500 in prize money.

Typically understated, Victor recorded: “So that was quite good advertising for our Jerseys, and we found sale for the young bulls at quite good prices. And in figuring out our accounts at the end of 1910...the profits on the Jerseys came to \$1,236.18.” Sales of cream and milk continued to be a key source of income with sales of \$2,595.15 recorded in 1919.



## Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission

Many records would be set. “Dr. S.F. Tolmie [later the 21<sup>st</sup> Premier of BC] was...the Dominion Livestock Commissioner and he encouraged father to enter our Jersey cows in the Canadian Record of Performance Test...In January of 1909 he entered *Lilac of Pender*, *Lady Buttercup of Pender*, and *Lady Rose of Pender*... the first three Jersey cows to pass the test in Canada, for which we are proud. It was also in this year 1909 that our Jerseys were registered under A.H. Menzies & Son. I am the son.”

In 1910, “out of 10 Jersey records for Canada, we had 7 of them in our little Jersey herd.” In 1912, “our 2-year-old Jersey cow *Buff’s Lassie* won the Silver Cup presented by the B.C. Dairymen’s Assoc. Her record was 9,574 lbs milk and 493 lbs fat.” *Buff’s Lassie* won again in 1914.

Pender dairymen were also taking a leadership role in the newly created Jersey Breeders of B.C. in 1918, when “father was elected President...and Neptune Grimmer one of the four directors.”

By 1918, Albert finally owned the farm outright, and he rewarded Victor with “the deed to 65.9 acres of the valley.” A year later, as Albert eased into retirement, Victor made “an agreement with father to lease the farm with all stock and machinery”.

In the 1920s, Pender was a go-to place in BC for dairy farmers. Year after year, groups of 20 and even 50 breeders came on outings to look “over our Jersey herd and onto Grimmer’s.” In 1927, they “picked out 2 of our heifers to be sent to China, price \$300.00 for the two.” Pender cows had gained an international reputation.

Twenty years later in 1947, 62-year-old Victor sold the farm. It was the end of an era. But he couldn’t quite quit. In 1948, his diary records that “Laurie Auchterlonie and wife are off to California, so I am milking his cows.”

The museum is now open weekends from 1 - 4 p.m. for the season. Our volunteer hosts would love to see you.

*Simone Marler, President*



Oh my – it’s Earth Day! Open the door, step outside being sure to leave any sense of entitlement behind. Open your ears, open your eyes, scan the skies, hear the wind in the trees, and suck in the fresh air. Take off your shoes and socks, let your toes feel the bountiful soil. Is it warm or cold? Is it damp or dry? How many billions of creatures does the natural world support? Reflect on the countless ways this planet provides for all creatures and the ways in which it is so essential for our lives.

Mother Earth gives us water, food, materials for shelter, shade and warmth, and life-giving oxygen bestowed by the trees and plants. But so much of what nature provides also fulfills our spiritual needs and so is less tangible – and its gifts are right here at our doorstep if we take the time to open our hearts and mind to appreciate them. Wander along one of Pender’s many trails bursting with new life this April; listen to the songs of the birds – the warblers, wrens, robins and flycatchers; seek out the spring flowers such as the pink Calypso Orchid, creamy-white Easter Lilies (Fawn Lily), Blue-Eyed Mary, and Yellow Seep Monkey Flower.

From a walk along the shores and beaches of several of the Pender parks you may see river otters, mink, seals, and a rich assortment of sea birds – perhaps even a pod of Orcas – while overhead eagles and vultures scan the skies. Traipse through the Enchanted Forest Park to bathe in greens of every shade where mosses clad moist rocky walls, waist-high sword ferns carpet the ground, and cedars shimmer in the breeze. Take a ramble through George Hill Park and enjoy a well-earned rest on the bench at the top to look across to spectacular views of the surrounding islands amid the Salish Sea, where ferries pass below like toys, and on a clear day you may glimpse the snow-capped mountains of the Olympic Peninsula.

Each day on Mother Earth is a gift – let us appreciate, cherish, and respect all life on this Island in the Salish Sea. Remember

that we are all interconnected, all part of the same earth – so all things really are all our relations.

To get to know the birds and other species that share this Island with us, here are two free apps to download that will make every walk exciting and educational:

Birds:

<https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/download>

Plants, fungi and more:

<https://www.inaturalist.org>

*Lisa Baile, Commissioner*

### Tree Planting on Earth Day

Join the Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission and Pender Islands Conservancy on Earth Day, Monday April 22 to plant a tree. We’ll be working in the Masthead-Shingle Trail Park; meet at Shingle Bay park at Galleon and Crowsnest at 9:30 am. Bring gloves and a shovel if you have them, but tools and gloves will be supplied.

### 2024/2025 Recreation Grants

Attention all community groups! It’s that time of year again. If your organization wants to be considered for any of the recreation funding that Parks and Recreation administers on behalf of the CRD, you’ll need to submit your request by the end of June. We can fund organized programs, workshops, and community events of a recreational nature.

We’ll be looking to meet the diverse needs of the community, from our youngest residents to our most senior members. Priority will be given to projects that have the broadest benefits and offer the best value. Arts and culture activities and groups that are not open to the general public are ineligible. Find more information and applications at [www.crd.bc.ca/penderparks](http://www.crd.bc.ca/penderparks).

The deadline to apply is June 30. PIPRC will review at its August meeting and notify applicants shortly thereafter. Funds will be distributed in September. If you have questions, please email [penderparks@crd.bc.ca](mailto:penderparks@crd.bc.ca).

*Erin O’Brien, Commissioner*

## Pender Island Public Library



### Board of Trustees

Thank you to all who attended our AGM, and to the trustees who stepped forward to take on governance of our public library until March 2025: Laura Vilness, Joanne Peacock, Cee Cartwright-Owers, Sarah Stacy, Ene Haabnitt, and Ann Coombs.

### Events

Our heartfelt thanks to honoured WSÁNEĆ elders, teachers, and apprentices from the WSÁNEĆ School Board who guided an enthusiastic audience through a beginner's SENĆOŦEN language workshop in March, with funding by the PI Truth & Reconciliation group. Thank you to percussionist Robin Layne, who we hosted to bring a *Music Journey into Rhythm* to all students at the Pender Island School in March, with funding by IslandLink Library Federation. Join us for a lively local authors reading event featuring a nordic myth, a mystery, and a pantry of delights! Join Zoe Landale (*Sigrene's Bargain With Oden*), Evan Llewellyn (*Death on Pender: A Murder Most Foul?*), and Joy Llewellyn (*Dining in the Dark Cookbook*) on Wednesday, April 3 at 1 pm at the Library.

### Art in the Library:

#### **Chromera** by Kristian Lobb

April 10 - June 19

Kristian Lobb is a classically trained animation artist. As a child, he began

writing and drawing his own comics, which naturally progressed into an interest in storytelling through animation. Come see this vibrant, surreal art featuring character designs and production artwork with colourful animal and creature themes.

### Books On Display

April is Earth Month, a time to celebrate our planet and take action to protect it. Take the opportunity to learn more and borrow books for kids and adults on environmental concerns, climate solutions, sustainable development, restoring ecosystems, and reducing pollution. On April 22, celebrating Earth Day provides a unique opportunity to take action for the environment.

### New Books on the Shelves

#### Adult Mystery and Sci-Fi

*The Boy Who Cried Bear* (Kelley Armstrong), *Death of a Spy* (M.C. Beaton), *Three-Inch Teeth* (C.J. Box), *The Book of Doors* (Gareth Brown), *The Bezzle* (Cory Doctorow), *The Chaos Agent* (Mark Greaney), *The Ghost Orchid* (Jonathan Kellerman), *Translation State* (Anne Leckie), *The Girl in the Eagle's Talons* (Karin Smirnoff)

#### Adult Fiction

*Fourteen Days* (Margaret Atwood and Authors Guild of America), *The Hidden Life of Cecily Larson* (Ellen Baker), *Welcome to the Hyunam-Dong Bookshop* (Hwang Bo-Reum), *Throwaway People*

(Mallory Eaglewood), *Pale Shadows* (Dominique Fortier), *The Women* (Kristen Hannah), *Followed by the Lark* (Helen Humphreys), *Bad Cree* (Jessica Johns), *The Phoenix Crown* (Kate Quinn), *Burma Sahib* (Paul Theroux)

### Adult Non-Fiction

*Drawing Botany Home* (Lyn Baldwin), *Big Mall* (Kate Black), *Eve* (Cat Bohannon), *Tiffany Cooks* (Tiffany Chen), *Zaatari* (Karen E. Fisher), *Normal Women* (Philippa Gregory), *Dining in the Dark* (Joy Llewellyn), *Ultra-Processed People* (Chris van Tulleken), *Arborama* (Lisa Voisard)

### Youth

*Different Thinkers* (Katia Fredriksen), *Amulet book 9 Waverider* (Kazu Kibuishi), *Slugfest* (Gordon Korman), *A Wild Child's Book of Birds* (Dara McAnulty), *Bustling Cities of the World* (Jana Sedláčková), *Momo Arashima Breaks the Mirror of the Sun* (Misa Sugiura), *Hilo Book 10: Rise of the Cat* (Judd Winick)

### Library Hours

We're available to give you a helping hand Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am - 3 pm at 4407 Bedwell Harbour Rd. Email us at [libraryhelpdesk@crd.bc.ca](mailto:libraryhelpdesk@crd.bc.ca) or call 250-629-3722.

*Carmen Oleskevich, Library Director*

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## Pender Island Recycling Society



Happy Earth Day everyone – and let's make every day Earth Day if we can!

Earth Day (April 22) is almost here, and you may be wondering what you can do to reduce the amount of packaging that comes through your house. One rewarding way to accomplish this is to grow a little bit of your own food. This way, you'll have a little seed packet to contend with rather than a plastic bag or container - and many seed packets are compostable. Growing locally also eliminates the greenhouse gas emissions that are associated with food transportation.

Plastic plant pots are available for free outside the Freestore. If you need soil to get your garden started, we offer a delivery to North (\$160) or South Pender (\$180), plus the cost of materials. Our waiting list is quite long but it is not too early to think of an autumn delivery and thus be extra prepared for 2025. Springtime is a great time to try planting peas, lettuce, or radishes, which can be grown in plant pots, deck boxes, or a little corner in your garden.

Another way to go green is by using the depot's dish loan program. We have an abundance of plates, side plates, soup bowls, cutlery, wine, water and champagne glasses, and cloth napkins available. These can be borrowed for community events, weddings, and private gatherings. Ask a staff person for more information or to view the dishes the next time that you are at the depot. Dish washing is not available

at the depot so be sure to wash items thoroughly before and after use.

Our Recycle Bike Shop is open the first Tuesday of the month from 10 am to 3 pm. Laurie can repair or tune up your bike and has refurbished bikes for sale.

Thank you, Pender Island residents and visitors, for your dedication to recycling. In 2023, the depot collected approximately 234 tonnes of recycling, including 164 tonnes of packaging and paper, 43 tonnes of scrap metal, and 27 tonnes of consumer goods such as electronics, small appliances, paint, and tires. That is approximately 84 kg of recycling per person. Way to go Pender!

At the current disposal rates, the local landfill at Hartland will be full by 2045. So another way that we can help the planet is by striving for responsible waste management. Recycle as much as you can, as well as you can, by cleaning and sorting beforehand, and placing items in the correct drop off spot at the depot. Also make sure to keep compost out of your garbage. Organic waste makes up the largest portion of the waste stream (21%) and this material can be easily dealt with by installing a composter (\$114) or a food digester (\$185) in your backyard. Both of these are sold at the depot.

The composter handles raw plant food scraps, such as fruit and vegetable peelings, as well as egg shells, coffee grounds, and brown paper towel. The material decomposes with the help of worms, moisture, warmth, and bacteria. The finished compost can be harvested

from the bottom of the unit and added to your garden. If your compost has stalled, we offer accelerator to kick start the bacterial decomposition. These packages are sold at cost and are \$12.50 each. They can also be used in food digesters.

The food digester handles cooked and uncooked plant material, as well as dairy, meat, and bread. You cannot collect the composted material out of a digester but it will enrich the soil and improve the growth of nearby plants. Rats and other vermin may chew through it, so be sure to wrap the below ground basket in welded wire mesh before installation. It requires a sunny, well-drained site. Ask for more information the next time that you are at the depot or visit the Compost Education Centre website: <https://www.compost.bc.ca>.

The best things in life are free and so are many items at the depot. We offer free household paint in the Freestore as well as kitchenware, small appliances, and electronics. There is a scrap metal salvage area where items are free or can be acquired for a small donation; and free used egg cartons for our local chicken farmers.

Just a side note – please remember to cover your load if you are transporting recycling to the depot in a truck. This prevents materials from flying off and ending up in the ditches and roadways. And please drive slowly when you enter the depot (5 km) - our lot is small and many recyclers are walking about.

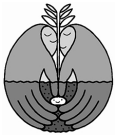
*Niki Roberts*



**LANDSCAPING PRUNING INSTALLATION MAINTENANCE**

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## Pender Organic Community Garden



Over the winter, I've been watching my garlic grow, cooking all but two of my butternut squash, and harvesting the carrots, parsnips and sprouts. The weather is warming up and it's not constantly raining so it must be spring. It's time to get gardening again. As a gardener in March, I'm getting excited! There's a lot to think about though. If I'm not careful, I'll forget to start a crop and miss out on some good growing time.

I've worked on my garden plans. What should I grow? What does my family like to eat? What can I cook? What can I freeze or can? If I freeze the runner beans, will I really use them all? Then I have to decide how much to grow of each. I've learnt that three is the right number of zucchini plants, with two or three squash plants.

Next I have to decide where to plant each crop. I need to allow for crop rotation and move my carrots and onions into different areas, to prevent pest and root disease issues.

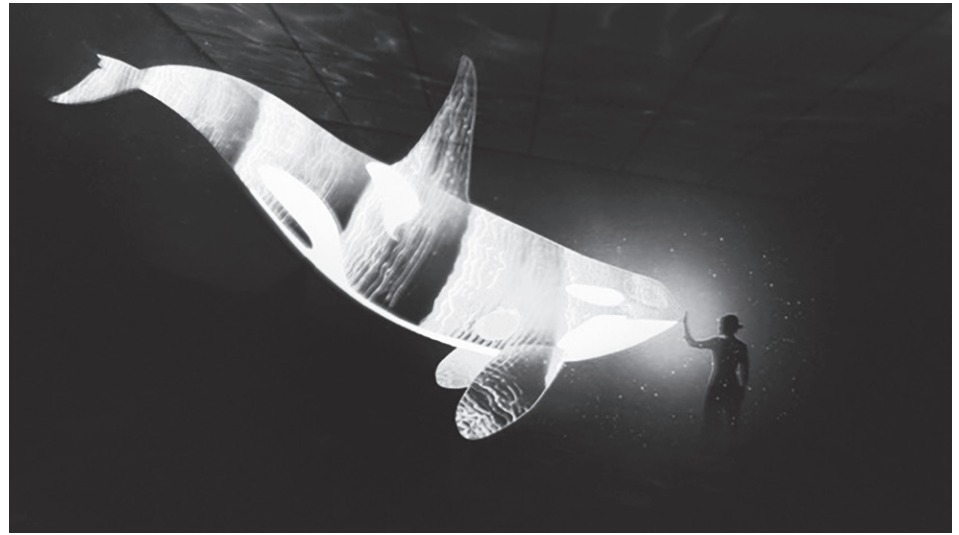
I've inventoried my seeds and bought more to fill gaps and replace older seeds. Onions, tomatoes, broccoli and peas have been started already and are happy under their grow lights.

This year I will create my own seed tape for carrots and beets as I'm not good at thinning them out. I hate throwing away good little plants. I'll make my own seed tape from toilet paper and a glue made of flour and water.

It's warm enough now to work outside without a coat, hat and gloves so it's time to get to the garden, meet this year's lambs and start preparing the vegetable beds. The piles of leaves that protected the soil and crops over the winter can be dug in. The cool weather crops can be planted. Arugula, lettuce, and spinach will be direct-sown and protected by the polytunnel. The pea plants will get transplanted out into the garden soon, as they're looking big enough to fend for themselves now.

*Sue Long*

## PenderPOD



Earth Day is celebrated on Saturday, April 20 and Pender POD will join Pender Conservancy to serve snacks and soup at the Beach Clean up in the parking area by Slow Coast Café. We'll have information about POD activities, whale sightings, sanctuary zones. Come join us. Bring your beach junk.

### Critical Distance Immersive Orca Experience

Have you ever wondered what it's like to be under the waves with our endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW)? Guess what! you will have an opportunity to step into the ocean with them during a series of open houses being held on Saturna, Pender, and Mayne Islands. The Southern Gulf Islands Whale Sighting Network (SGIWSN) sponsored by Saturna Island Marine and Education Society (SIMRES) is piloting *Critical Distance* on the islands using the power of Meta Quest 3 technology. This immersive shared mixed reality (IMR) experience brings audiences into the world of the SRKWs. Seen through the eyes of Kiki, an eight year old Orca who carries the future of her pod on her shoulders, participants experience how Kiki communicates with her family through echolocation, and together face the daily perils threatening her famous family, J Pod.

On May 2 at the Pender Community Hall, *Critical Distance* will run from 5 to 10 pm and is open to participants ten years old and above. Audience members, four at a time, will have a chance to take turns immersing themselves in a holographic Orca pod, allowing them to witness some of the challenges faced by our local whales. Watch for more information. A small donation to cover some of the cost will be appreciated.

### Legal Heroes

May 31 will see PenderPOD at the Hall again, this time hosting local legal heroes Margot Venton and David Boyd, who will speak about their legal work for the rights of nature. There will be a film as well. Mark it on your calendars!

### Coming Up

More dates to make note of: on June 7 at the Hall, Misty McDuffy and Valeria Vergara will present *Orca Talk*. On July 14, POD will be down at Thieves Bay with Conservancy to celebrate World Orca day. Lots of ways to learn about, support, and celebrate our relatives of the sea.

Find us on the web at [penderPOD.ca](http://penderPOD.ca) or catch us on Facebook.

*John Allan and Kath Durant*

## Royal Canadian Legion



As I write this month's report the sun is shining, flowers are blooming and one might think that winter is over and summer is just around the corner – but hey, I've been fooled by that one before. It'll probably be snowing by the time you get to read my words of nonsense. I hope not, as we all need some sunshine in our lives after the last few months we have endured with our Legion family.

The death of Lisa Christensen has been paramount in our thoughts since we heard the sad news on February 14 – it certainly ruined a few Valentine celebrations. However, we had more scary news a few days later when Diane Cuthbert (another of our Legion stalwarts) was rushed into hospital for an emergency operation that sounded terrible, was very serious, but ended up being something she managed to endure and still maintain that winning smile. She is recovering nicely but will be on light duty for a while yet, and with

Jamie's love and care I'm sure she'll be back volunteering in no time at all. And yes, Diane, that is one helluva scar. Beats any of mine.

Another sad note is the sudden passing of Denis Dion. Denis was a good friend of the Legion, and a gentle soul with a singing voice that will be long remembered by those that were privileged to hear it. His time on Pender may not have been long, compared to some, but he made his presence felt in so many ways that he will be missed by many – those in the Pipe band and the community church especially. Our condolences to Marie.

Another person I would like to acknowledge is our Legionnaire of the month, Carol Tonnellier. Carol has not volunteered this month or even the last six months, for that matter, but for the previous few years she was front and centre to perform any task that was asked of her – hey, we didn't have to ask

*Continued*

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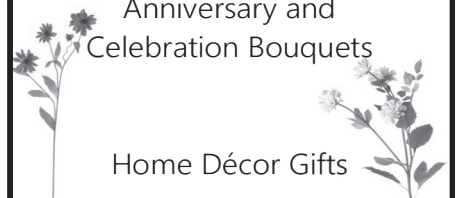
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**250 629 9950**

most of the time, she was just there, digging in, making those special salads and always bringing her homemade cookies for the crew. She and Pamella were the two constants that got us through so many dinners during COVID. She still came to help even when she was not feeling well, however her current condition has made it impossible for her to be with her Legion family, and I know she misses that. We all miss her as well, and our thoughts and prayers are with her and Larry at this difficult time.

As I mentioned before, things haven't been all that cheery lately, but some better news is that past president Jean Deschenes has been honoured as our Legionnaire of the Year for 2023. In reality Jean could have received this award in any of the past four years if she hadn't been the president for so darn long. Jean is still involved in many aspects of running the Legion as I slowly – note SLOWLY – take over some of those roles. She is also working hard to expedite the return of Lisa's worldly remains to Canada – dealing with two countries' bureaucracies is proving difficult. When she has achieved this task, we will finally be having a celebration of life for Lisa – hopefully in May. Stay tuned for that.

Our volunteer appreciation bash is scheduled for Sunday, April 28, so all you 2023 volunteers get ready for a fantastic day of food, prizes, and entertainment. This will be a catered affair so everybody can relax and enjoy themselves (including me this time). It's going to be a day you don't want to miss, so keep that afternoon in April open. You'll be receiving invitations soon.

Next General Meeting is April 27. Please join us and have your say.

As a last note, I'd like to thank Pete Emery for a fantastic performance at our St. Patrick's dinner event. Especially his *A Night at the Legion* that he wrote just for this show. It was a special moment – thanks Pete. Hopefully you'll be performing at the Legion again real

soon. Your singing even makes my cooking taste better...if that's really possible.

Not sure of our dinner lineup for April at this time but the dates to remember are April 12 and 26. I will be doing one of them, and I'm sure we can line up a real chef for the other. Did someone say it will make a nice change?

Don't forget our new and improved Meat Draws every Saturday at 4:00 pm.

Come by and check us out.

*John Pender, President*

### Outer Gulf Islands RCMP



February 18 to March 18 we attended 43 calls to 911 for service. That is down from forty-eight from the same period in 2022/2023.

In February, police received multiple reports of a possible home air testing scam. The victims worked with members here, only to learn it wasn't a scam. Police were very happy to receive the calls from the public as it is better to discuss these things in advance. Thanks again to all that called in.

In March, police were requested by Pender Island Fire Department to attend and assist at a structure fire on Pender Island. Police attended and learned that there was no one home at the time and there were no witnesses to the fire. A thorough investigation was done, learning the fire was deemed accidental.

In March police also attended a residence for a dropped 911 call. Once at the residence, members located the home owner who advised they had misdialled, then hung up. They did not answer the calls from 911 dispatch. Remember if you accidentally call 911 do not hang up; talk to the ECOMM operator and explain what happened. Police will call you back and confirm everything is okay. If you hang up or refuse to speak to the operator we will arrive on your doorstep!

We 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.

An info session around sextortion and cell phone awareness was held at Pender Island Elementary on February 29. Thank you to everyone that came out.

Of note: the Police Initiated Public Alert program. This is a program that is initiated by police in the jurisdiction of an unfolding event that puts the general public at risk. In BC the usage of Alert Ready has been sub-delegated to the RCMP by Emergency Management and Climate Readiness BC (EMCR) for two specific categories: Amber Alert and Police Initiated Public Alert. As such, alerts will be sent to cell phones. This alert system will assist police in rural areas such as ours that do not have TV or radio to get the message out. Hope we never have to test this system here in the Gulf Islands.

If you want to read more about what is going on in the province or the other islands, you can search <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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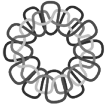
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## SGI Community Resource Centre



April is volunteer appreciation month, and in honour of every dedicated volunteer who tirelessly gives their time and effort for the betterment of our shared home, we extend our sincerest gratitude. Whether you lend a helping hand at local events, organize initiatives, or sit on the board of one (or more) of our non-profits, your contributions are essential and deeply appreciated. Together, you embody the spirit of compassion and unity that makes our community truly special.

### Dining in the Dark

*Dining in the Dark*, a cookbook for meals without electricity, is available for purchase. Drop by the CRC office for a copy or order one by emailing us at [dineitdark@sgicommunityresources.ca](mailto:dineitdark@sgicommunityresources.ca) or calling 250-629-3665. The cost is \$10, and payments can be made via e-transfer. We have copies on all islands so once you place your order, further details regarding where to pick up your copy. See <https://www.sgicommunityresources.ca> for more info.

### Housing Now

Have you had a chance to check out the latest addition to our website? We are excited to be introducing the Housing NOW Registry 'ISO' Housing Bulletin Board. In search of a short- or long-term accommodation opportunity? Or maybe you are interested in becoming a host? Place your free advertisement here and let the Housing NOW Registry help connect you with possibilities. Serving Mayne, Pender, Galiano, Salt Spring, and Saturna. Visit [www.linktr.ee/sgihousing](http://www.linktr.ee/sgihousing) to find out more.

### Sustainable Funding Initiative

The SGI Sustainable Funding Initiative has two upcoming workshops to tell you about, dates TBA.

### Better Meetings

Volunteers spend significant time in meetings but are the conversations

*Continued next page*



# ISLANDSCAPES

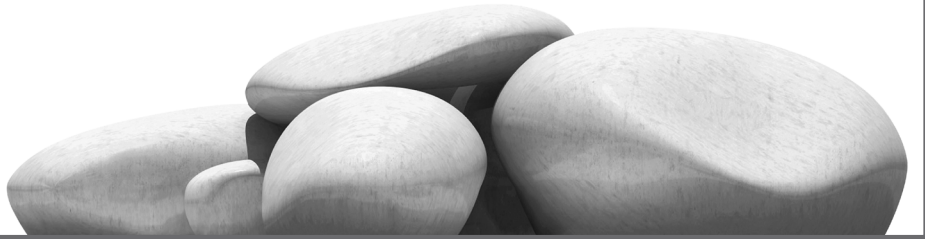
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**SGI Community Resource Centre  
(continued)**

getting the work done? Learn the value of having a clear purpose for meetings and how meeting agreements, strategic agendas, and other structures keep meetings on track while holding space for creativity and relationships.

**Treasurer Lab**

Board treasurer is a critical leadership role for organizations. This session is geared toward helping new treasurers and finance committee members (or current ones looking for a refresher). An experienced non-profit bookkeeper and board member will cover tools and practices that can help board treasurers develop finance skills and keep the numbers connected to the mission.

Don't forget that the SGI Sustainable Funding Initiative has a monthly newsletter, jam packed with upcoming grant opportunities for nonprofits, small businesses, and individuals; resources, inspiring videos, community news, and non-profit features. Subscribe to our newsletter, or register for one of our workshops by visiting: [www.sgicommunityresources.ca/non-profit-support](http://www.sgicommunityresources.ca/non-profit-support).

If you have questions about the SGI Sustainable Funding Initiative, please reach out to [kdentry@sgicommunityresources.ca](mailto:kdentry@sgicommunityresources.ca)

Happy April, everyone!

*Melody Pender*

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**Walnuts**

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**SGI Neighbourhood House**



**Community Justice Program  
Sociocracy 101**

Wednesday, April 10, 7 - 8 pm

Ben Kadel presents a free webinar (open to all islands) on a system of non-hierarchical organization that involves principles of peace circles. Free to attend. For access to the Zoom link, email [cjp@sginh.ca](mailto:cjp@sginh.ca).

**Healthy Communication Skills and Conflict Coaching**

Brook Parkin presents on how to be more comfortable and confident with difficult conversations. Free to attend. Date, time, & location TBA.

**Pender Taxi Saver Program**

Save up to 50% on taxi fare. If you are 65+ or are mobility challenged, you are eligible for the Taxi Saver Program. Registration is required. Register Mon, Wed, Fri 10-4 at the SGI Neighbourhood House Office at Driftwood Centre.

**Computer Savvy Seniors**

Would you like to improve your digital skills? Need help with organizing files, emails, PDFs, navigating social media platforms? We provide up to two hours of in-home tech support, FREE!

**Intro to Instagram**

Thursday, April 18, 10 am (via Zoom)

Learn to make posts, interact on the app, connect with friends and community. Bring your questions & confusion.

**55+ Spring/Summer Workshops**

We need your ideas for all islands for April/May. If you have a special skill or talent that you would like to share, or if you and a group of friends would like to start an interest group, reach out to us.

We can assist you in setting up workshops featuring YOU and YOUR interests. Printed calendars are at the CRC, Community Hall, and businesses around the Driftwood, and on our website [sginh.ca](http://sginh.ca), under Seniors Programs.

**Card Making Workshop with Melody Pender**

Monday, April 29, 1 - 3 pm, Community Hall lounge

Come for lunch and stay for the craft, this workshop will involve techniques in colour blending and heat embossing. No experience necessary – all ages are welcome. \$15 - \$5 for the class, \$10 for the materials. Limited numbers, please register by Friday, April 26.

For further information, Zoom links, or to register for any of these programs, call (250) 629-3665 or email us at [fiftyfiveplus@sginh.ca](mailto:fiftyfiveplus@sginh.ca).

**Epicenter & Youth Programs**

**Wednesday Teen Nights... with Pizza!**

April 3 - June 27 5:30 - 8 pm, Community Hall  
 \$325 (plus \$5 per night for pizza) for 13 weeks. Please contact [epicentre@sginh.ca](mailto:epicentre@sginh.ca).

**Thursday After School Kid's Club with Sitka**

April 4 - June 27, 3:45-5:15 pm  
 \$180 for 12 weeks.

**Friday Kids Camp with Karen**

April 14 - June 21, 9 am - 4 pm. Hands on explorations using the Montessori teaching method. \$665 for 7 hrs/day for 10 weeks.

To register or for further information on Epicentre Programs, please contact [epicentre@sginh.ca](mailto:epicentre@sginh.ca) or (250) 629-3665.

**Games Night with Andrew**

Friday, April 5 & Friday, April 26, 4 - 8pm, Community Hall lounge  
*Magic: The Gathering* and other board games. Youths 15-29 (flexible with ages). Drinks and snacks will be provided. Please contact [youthprograms@sginh.ca](mailto:youthprograms@sginh.ca)

*Michael Cowan, Managing Director*



## Canadian Power and Sail

### Pender Island Squadron

A big thank you to the 16 boaters who attended our weather seminar at the Legion on March 10. Based on the audience response, John Reader gave an excellent presentation.

We now have 34 active members and hopefully our membership will continue to grow as more boaters seek to acquire the knowledge to safely navigate our local waters. May 18 to 24 is Safe Boating Week and we will staff our display on May 18 at the Driftwood Mall to provide information on the courses we offer and membership in Canadian Power and Sail Squadron.

We currently have three persons taking our self-study Maritime Radio Course and one person 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.

Speaking of boating season...now is the time to get your boat ready for the summer. Make sure you have the appropriate personal flotation devices for each person onboard, a working fire extinguisher, marine VHF radio, and that all lines, mechanical equipment, and anchoring equipment are in good working order.

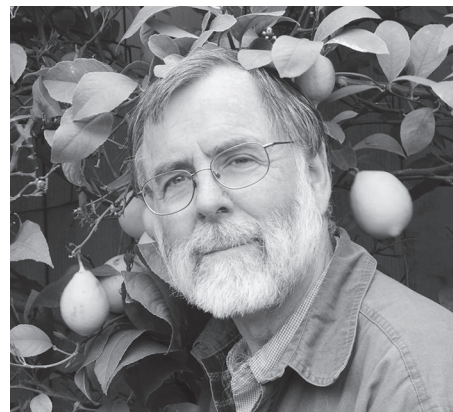
Beach clean-up is scheduled to occur April 20 and once again CPS Pender Island Squadron will be scouring the shores of Shingle Bay and Panda Bay in our effort to help keep our local beaches clean.

Our AGM is approaching and scheduled for May 8. All current members will receive a Notice of AGM soon.

Thanks for reading and stay safe on the water.

*David Kirsop, Commander*

## Pender Island Garden Club



*Bob Duncan with one of his Meyer Lemon trees.*



Bob Duncan of *Fruit Trees and More* will be our speaker on Thursday, April 11, 1 pm, downstairs at the Community Hall. Bob's topic will be *Growing Citrus & Sub-tropical Fruit Trees on the South Coast of BC*. A drop-in fee of \$5 for non-Garden Club members applies.

Bob operates a speciality plant nursery and demonstration orchard on Wain Road, Saanichton and has over 50 years experience growing fruit trees. Maybe Bob saw climate change coming as he specializes in warm temperature citrus, Mediterranean, and hardy subtropical fruits such as pineapple guava, pomegranates, loquats, lemons, oranges, grapefruit, limes, olives, and avocado as well as our more common apple, pears, plums, quince, peaches, nectarines, cherries, and kiwis.

*Continued next page*

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Although some of these exotics have specialized requirements, Bob says that it is possible to produce heavy crops of high quality fruit here on the south coast. This presentation will provide information on training systems, pruning techniques, variety selection and suitable siting for successful growth. If you haven't visited *Fruit Trees and More* consider paying them a visit to see various training systems and cultural techniques.

Also happening this month is our Plant Sale at the Community Hall on April 27, during Saturday Market hours. You will have the opportunity to buy a wide variety of Pender Island grown plants as well as Sea Farm kelp and fish fertilizers. We have had good feedback on it. The kelp is planted in a kelp farm and then harvested in a sustainable manner so it 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: [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.

Happy gardening,

*Kathy MacLachlan*

## Pender Island Golf Club



I would like to thank Cindy Bedford for all the time she spent in gathering, organizing, and writing about the history of the Pender Island Golf Club. It is an interesting history to be able to share with the Pender Island community as well as the members of the golf course. I think we all learned a few things. As a bonus to at least one person who has read these articles, we have a simple contest that appears at the end of this column.

As for golf, the course is ready and waiting for the opening of the season (not really waiting, you can enjoy the course by golfing at any time of the year). Bob Lee, our newly starting Pro Shop Manager, is eager to meet all of our returning golfers, and to welcome those of you who have not yet experienced our beautiful course. Please visit Bob at our newly renovated (well... paint and carpet!) Pro Shop, or call 629-6659. He and/or his staff will be pleased to help you with booking tee times or providing you with assistance in selecting from our new clothing arrivals; stylish and comfortable for golf, as well as running, hiking, and general outdoor wear. We are also well-stocked with many golf accessories you might need, including golf gloves, towels, and hats. The Pro-Shop will open on April 1, and you will be able to book tee-times online for that date and onwards. Again, if you need help with a booking, don't hesitate to call.

The ladies league commences Tuesday, April 2 (9 holes with a 10 am start). The men's opening day will follow on Thursday, April 4 (18 holes, 9 am start). Tournament play starts later in the month. Details of the tournament schedule are available on the website at [www.penderislandgolf.com](http://www.penderislandgolf.com). If you are not a member, but would like to learn what the club is about, call the pro shop or email us at [pigolf@shaw.ca](mailto:pigolf@shaw.ca). Non-members are welcome to participate during Men's and Ladies' day. If you are considering becoming a member, watch for our time limited special promotion which will be advertised in April.

Wednesday two-for-ones and Sunday Family Days are continuing this year. Details of social events and other notifications will be available on our website.

Edd Boudreau, our visiting professional golfer from the George Vale Club, will be at the Pender Island Golf Club at regular intervals to provide both private and group lessons. His lessons are a great experience for those who feel they need a tune-up or that maybe something is missing from their game. Details of dates and how to book with Edd are available on our website, or call or email us.

Mark Tremblett is back with us this year as he operates The Clubhouse on Pender. His menu is not completely set yet, but he is promising golfer friendly



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fare such as hot dogs and breakfast sandwiches. He will also have other entrees including noodle dishes. Although his daily operating hours will be limited, he will be offering dinners on the weekends.

The Pender Island golf course is open to all. It is run by a not-for-profit society that is dependent on its members for most of its funding. The bulk of the groundskeeping functions are carried out by the superintendent who maintains the grounds. He is assisted by volunteers who provide assistance, not only in the summer but all year, in helping to keep the course looking beautiful.

We have an established Capital Trust Fund which allows us to maintain the quality of the golf experience here on the island. It has been labelled as our "gem of a golf course" and attracts hundreds of visitors to the island every year as well as providing a healthy recreational and social hub for all Pender residents. If you support our presence here, please consider a donation. Donations may be a one-off contribution, an annual contribution or a bequest for a loved one or an organization. All donations will be suitably recognized. Please contact Frank Deme at [president@penderislandgolf.ca](mailto:president@penderislandgolf.ca) or call at 250 222-2212 for further details.

### Upcoming Tournaments and Activities

#### Opening Day

Sunday, March 31 -

#### Ladies' Opening Day and Lunch

9 holes 10 am shotgun start  
Tuesday, April 2

#### Men's Opening Day and Lunch

18 holes, 9 am shotgun start  
Thursday, April 4 -

#### Ladies' Day

9 holes, 10 am shotgun start  
Tuesday, April 9, 16, 23, 30

#### Men's Day

18 holes, 9 am shotgun start  
Thursday, April 11, 18 -

#### Men's Evans Grimmer

Qualifying round: 9 am start  
Thursday, April 25 -

*"The difference in golf and government is that in golf you can't improve your lie."* — George Deukmejian

#### Contest

Would you like to win a round of golf for 2 with cart included? Guess what year the golf course hired its first Grounds Superintendent and how much we paid. Submit your answer to [Pigolf@shaw.ca](mailto:Pigolf@shaw.ca). The first correct answer wins! (Please note this contest is not open to members.)

*Frank Deme, President*



### Is your pain affecting your sleep

Whether pain is due to a backache or muscle spasms, tense muscles in the neck or an ankle sprain, you should seek relief to achieve a restful night. When we are not well rested, pain is even more irritating, so here are a few tips to help:

- Try to not overuse the muscles or joints that are in pain, and allow yourself some rest during the day.
- Make sure you have identified the CAUSE of your pain. Your doctor may help you diagnose an underlying issue.
- Consider consulting with a physiotherapist or other health professional to treat and solve the problem.

Ask your pharmacist what over-the-counter pain killers you may use. Tylenol Nighttime or Advil Nighttime may be good options as they contain a pain killer as well as diphenhydramine that helps as a sleep-aid. Consult your pharmacist before using these products, as they may interfere with your medications or current health condition. For example, men with prostate problems should avoid over-the-counter sleep aids, and people with history of heart or kidney conditions should avoid ibuprofen and other NSAIDS.

Happy Easter!

The Pharmacy will be open normal hours every day through the Easter weekend.

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## Pender Island Junior Sailing Association

 PIJSA will offer CanSail Level 1 and 2 courses the weeks of July 15 - 19, July 29 - August 2, Aug. 5 - 9, and August 19 - 23. A CanSail Level 3 and 4 instructor has yet to confirm, but if we have no qualified instructor, FunSail will be offered using Lasers and Bytes during the last two weeks given above. Level 1 and 2 courses use Pirate boats, with three students in each boat, and the instruction and evaluation of all levels will be by our BCSail certified instructors.

Students in the Level 1 and 2 courses must be at least nine years old at the start of the course and 12 years old for the Level 3 and 4 or FunSail, and have completed Level 2. Adults do take the courses, but should be aware that sailing small dinghies requires some physical flexibility. All students must be able to swim with the aid of a PFD (lifejacket), which can be provided. Students in the

Level 1 and 2 course must participate in a capsizing exercise on day two in order to continue in the course.

As in previous years, registration for courses will begin May 1 for returning students and other household members, and May 15 for new students. The registration will be an online process required by BCSail accessed through our website: [penderislandjuniorsailing.com](http://penderislandjuniorsailing.com). Cost of courses has been increased to \$250 due to several cost increases over which we have no control. Payment is made through the registration site. Enquiries should be sent to [infopijsa@shaw.ca](mailto:infopijsa@shaw.ca).


Our Board members are: Bruce Waygood, Commodore, Tom Caston, Vice-Commodore, Rick Mudie, Treasurer, Allson Coffey, Secretary and Directors: Manfred Burandt, Carolyn Cartwright, Peter Hinton, Andrew

Mastalerz, Herman Nievaart, Fiona Percy, and Don Williams.

PIJSA is able to offer courses at a reasonable cost due to ongoing support from the Tru Value Spirit Board, CRD Parks and Recreation, Pender Island Yacht Club, Browning Harbour Pub and Marina, and other organizations from time-to-time, and volunteers who help each summer.

If you are interested in helping, or joining the Board, please contact [kbwaygood@shaw.ca](mailto:kbwaygood@shaw.ca).

*Bruce Waygood, Commodore*

**Pender Island  
Junior Sailing Courses**  
CANSail Level 1&2 | CANSail Level 3&4

Online registration for Level 1&2 courses in July & August and Level 3&4 courses in August begins May 1 for returning students and May 15 for new students.  
For details, see our report in this issue, visit [penderislandjuniorsailing.com](http://penderislandjuniorsailing.com) or contact [infopijsa@shaw.ca](mailto:infopijsa@shaw.ca)

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## Pender Island Otters Swim Club



Our last day of  
W i n t e r  
M a i n t e n a n c e  
Swim practice for

2024 is actually April 26, but that is because the Panorama Pool is closed for annual maintenance from April 1 - 25. We did extend our practice days through Spring Break to compensate for the lost days to March 29, but our summer session will start May 3, so there is little time between the “big break” and the summer registration.

In-between that, though, we do have our Annual General Meeting planned for April 7 (via Zoom invitation) at 7 pm. We will elect a new board for the coming year, and sort out executive positions. Current members will be sent the agenda, financial year end, proxy forms, and annual reports. To get more information, please contact us at [penderottersswimclub@gmail.com](mailto:penderottersswimclub@gmail.com). We do hope our current members will attend the meeting, and also consider nomination to the board of directors. We are really in need of people who have technical skills towards registration coordination and webpage management.

As to summer registration, we are hoping to continue offering our split summer offerings of half-price May/June and then also July/August, with the option to go right through the summer from May to August. Summer registration will be open by mid-April. Current members will receive a notice, but new members or others interested please go to our webpage at [www.penderislandotters.ca](http://www.penderislandotters.ca) and follow the link to summer registration.

And the good news is, that while we have to say adieu to Jack Savage as our Head Coach, at least for the summer, we do have Brett Bennett coming on board to fill that role, and welcome back Assistant Coach Jeremy Ellis. Do consider swimming through the summer and finding out what summer swim meets are all about. I will put the full swim meet schedule in the next report for those who are interested.

*Helen Lemon-Moore, President*

## PENDER ISLAND VETERINARY CLINIC

Dr. Gordon Oudman

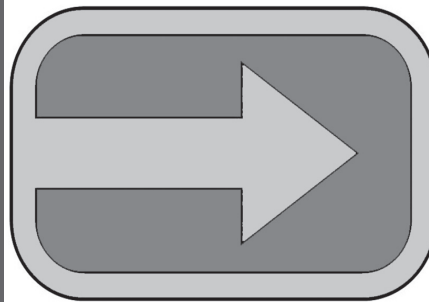
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## WEATHER OBSERVATIONS FOR FEBRUARY

	Average Temperatures			Extreme Temperatures		Precipitation		
	Max	Min	Mean	High	Low	Rain	Snow	Total
Magic Lake	9.0	3.8	6.4	13.5 on 1st	-0.5 on 27th	64.8	0.0	64.8
“Normal”	8.5	2.5	5.5	16.0 in 1991	-12.5 in 1989	67.8	7.4	75.2

February is still winter and some of our coldest weather has occurred in February, but winter 2023/24 is coming to an end and spring is in the air. We changed to daylight saving time early in March and the Spring Equinox also occurred in March. There was a flurry of snow on February 15 and again on February 27, but it disappeared almost as soon as it fell and there was not enough snow to register. The average temperatures in February were a little above average and dropped below

zero on only one occasion. The total precipitation in February was slightly less than average. It was nice to see spring flowers in February and blossoms opening on the apricot and peach trees. Some of our daffodils were earlier than usual. Our camellia was still not open at the end of February even though its first bloom was open in December. The garden is full of surprises.

You will be reading this in April which is always a difficult month for forecasting weather. It is not sure whether we are

starting summer or still in winter. April precipitation has varied from less than 10 mm to more than 100 mm with an average rainfall of 51.0 mm. We have even had April snow on two occasions.

The April temperature has rarely dropped below zero in all the time that I have been recording the weather.

*Malcolm Armstrong*

## NUMBERS PUZZLE MCA #41 BY MALCOLM ARMSTRONG

There are 27 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 54 empty squares and to solve the puzzle you must put one number 1 – 9 in each of these 54 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*

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

## COVER STORY



There are so many scenic places on Pender and one of my favourites is Roe Islet, accessible only when the tide is low. This particular day I luckily had it all to myself. I was sitting on the little white bench and this beautiful tree was directly in front of me, silhouetted against the sea and the sky, like a piece of natural sculpture. This is a perfect place to meditate and let the cares of the world disappear for a little while.

*Allan Gray*



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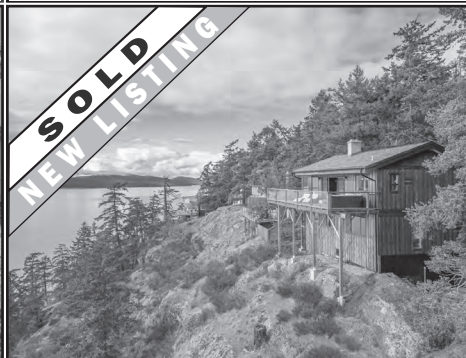
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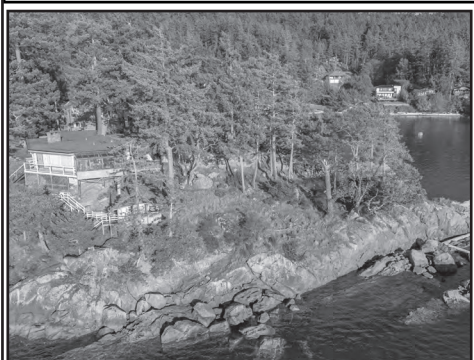


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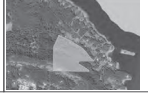


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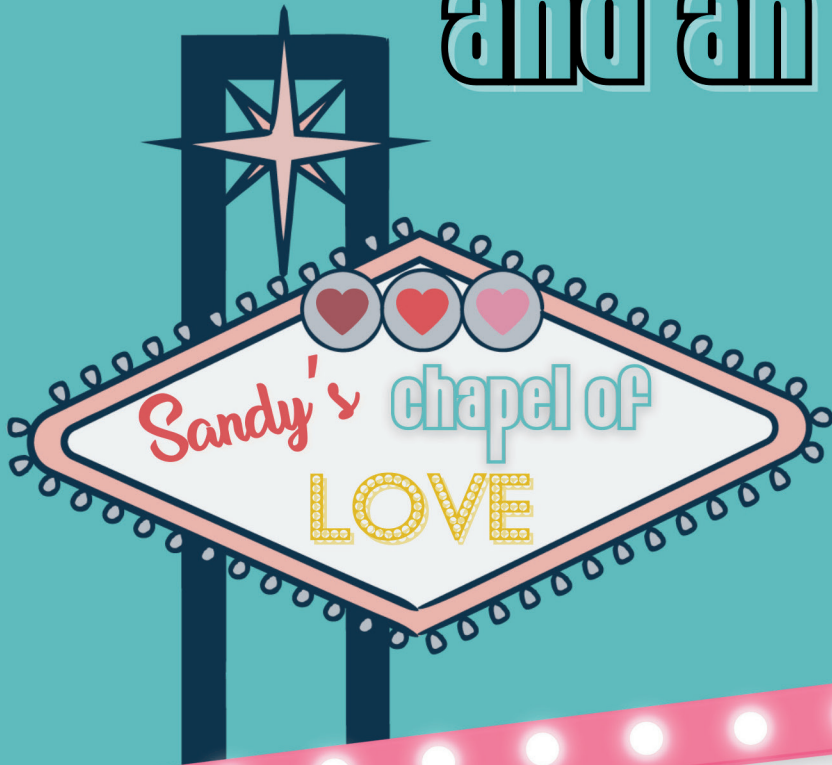
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