



ARTS

Andy Everson wants you to like his new exhibit at the Comox Valley Art Gallery. He really does. page B1



SPORTS

No snow for training? No problem for the G.P. Vanier girls' snowboard team. page B11

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Courtenay woman in anguish after son killed

Wanda Chow Black Press

BURNABY — Hannele Sairanen had a bad feeling talking with her son, Branson Sanders.

It was Nov. 27, 2011, only weeks before Christmas. She told him to come for a visit.

Whatever was troubling him at the time, she remembers thinking it would all be better if he came to see her in the Comox Valley.

"That was the last conversation I had with him."

From what Sairanen has been told, he was dead only hours later. Sanders was 20 years and four months old.

His severely burned body was found in bushes off Fareham Avenue and Elwell Road in Burnaby by someone walking their dog on Dec. 2, 2011. The location was near the George Derby Conservation Area next to Robert Burnaby Park.

Sanders graduated from Cariboo Hill secondary and grew up at Mulberry Place, a housing complex, both nearby.

The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team believes he was killed in a home in the 18000-block of 55 Avenue in Surrey and his body dumped where it was found.

Media reports have said it's believed Sanders was killed after a fight at a house party.

Two men, Shakib Shakib of Burnaby and Brandon Nandan of Surrey, both now 21, were arrested in March 2012 and originally charged with second-degree murder. That was raised to

first-degree murder and carrying out an indignity to a human body.

They pleaded guilty to manslaughter Dec. 5 at Surrey provincial court. Their sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 28.

A 17-year-old young offender was arrested in November 2012 and pleaded guilty on Dec. 4 to attempting to obstruct justice. He was originally charged with first-degree murder and accessory after

“It’s a joke. It’s a really bad, bad joke.”

Hannele Sairanen

the fact to murder. That offender, who has not been identified due to his age at the time of the crime, has a sentencing hearing set for March 18.

But for Sairanen, there can be no satisfaction in whatever sentence is meted out.

"It's a joke. It's a really bad, bad joke."

Sanders was born in Vancouver to Sairanen and her husband at the time, Kerick Sanders.

He was 22 months old when his parents separated and later divorced. He stayed living with his mom in Vancouver until he was about 10 years old.

Sairanen was moving to Gabriola Island and Sanders wasn't keen.

So he moved to Burnaby to live with his dad full-time at Mulberry Place, making regular visits to his

mom. "Branson was a city kid always," Sairanen said with a laugh. "He liked malls and going to movies."

Sairanen says they were close. She had since remarried and moved to Courtenay. On his visits Sanders would bring her CDs of music he thought she'd like.

"He had the best laugh and the best hugs. He was always very loving."

And it was unusual for him not to call.

"If two to three days go by and he doesn't call to check in, I'll be calling him. We were pretty tight."

So when she hadn't heard from him for several days in December 2011, she started to worry. She was calling Kerick asking him what was going on. But he had no idea.

Then came the knock on the door.

It was Dec. 5, 2011, eight days after she'd last spoken with her son. Courtenay RCMP officers arrived at about 10 p.m. to tell her Sanders was dead.

"It was like all I could do was scream," Sairanen recalled. "There weren't any real words, disbelief, it was like a horror picture show."

The officers told her it was being treated as a homicide. "When I heard those words, that was like, Oh my God."

It took some time for the initial shock to wear off.

"There's a couple months of my life there that are totally missing because I couldn't even speak after that for a long time," she said. "I went into this numb,

... see MOTHER ■ A2



COURTENAY RESIDENT HANNELE Sairanen is still trying to cope with the brutal murder of her son on the Lower Mainland in 2011. PHOTO BY RENEE ANDOR

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Island residents blast ferry cuts

Tom Fletcher
Black Press

VICTORIA — Hundreds of people gathered on the lawn of the B.C. legislature Tuesday to call for the provincial government to cancel its cuts to lower-usage ferry runs set to take effect in April. Among the speakers at the rally were Victoria Mayor Dean Fortin and Sheila Malcolmson, chair of the Islands Trust, the local government for the Gulf Islands.



JIM ABRAMS OF Quadra Island (left) listens as Victoria Mayor Dean Fortin addresses rally at B.C. legislature Tuesday.

PHOTO BY TOM FLETCHER/BLACK PRESS

Malcolmson told a cheering crowd that the taxpayer subsidy to BC Ferries has been overemphasized. She said since the B.C. Liberal government took office in 2001, ferry users have paid \$5 billion in fares, while taxpayers have subsidized the operation by \$1 billion.

Transportation Minister Todd Stone said he welcomes protesters exercising their freedom of speech, but the intention to cut \$18.9 million from low-usage routes was made clear before the 2013 election. The provincial subsidy to coastal ferries has increased by almost \$90 million over three years, and cost reductions are needed to keep fares from rising further, he said.

“There are too many sailings on the BC Ferries system with utilization rates in the low teens and single digits, and I think British Columbians support us in believing that is not sustainable,” Stone said. Opposition critics resumed their focus on the impact of ferry cuts in the legislature Tuesday. NDP leader Adrian Dix called on the government to do an economic impact study on tourism and other business in coastal communities.

Dix quoted Premier Christy Clark from her radio talk show in 2008, where she argued that fare hikes were reaching the point where they would produce net revenue loss.

North Island MLA

Claire Trevena, the NDP critic on ferries, noted that replacing the Queen of Chilliwack with the much smaller MV Nimpkish on the summer run from Bella Bella to Bella Coola has been greeted with dismay by tourism operators.

She suggested that given the lack of facilities on the Nimpkish for a sailing of more than nine hours, an ad campaign for the Discovery Coast ferry route might include the slogan, “coming soon, drinkable water.”

Mother still suffering

Continued from A1
numb place where, I can't describe it.”

And for months she had no idea how her son died. She was tormented with the wondering. “Oh my god, did they torture him? Did they burn him alive?” she thought.

During a phone interview, the one time Sairanen broke down was recalling what the coroner told her.

“She said, ‘You don't want to come see your baby.’ She said, ‘Just remember your son.’

By that time I had some idea that what happened to my son wasn't pretty.”

Once she learned some of the details, as grim and horrific as they were, “It was a weird comfort. At least I knew.”

But the nightmare hasn't ended for Sanders' loved ones.

His father, Kerick, moved back to his native South Carolina where his family is from.

He was devastated by his son's death. But

he also “knew that people knew more about what happened to Branson and were not speaking out.” He simply couldn't live in that environment.

Sairanen will be at the March 28 sentencing hearing in Surrey to get a look at her son's killers. But she's frustrated that there will be no trial.

Meanwhile, her son is never far from her thoughts. She's lit a candle for Branson every night since she learned of his death.



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MARCH SPECIALS

BEFORE AFTER

NIDES team qualifies for world championship

Renee Andor
Record Staff

A group of Navigate students were named provincial champions during this past weekend's VEX Robotics Championship at BCIT in Burnaby.

Navigate (North Island Distance Education School) Team 7842D has also qualified for April's VEX Robotics World Championship in Anaheim, Calif. Navigate teacher and VEX robotics coach Stewart Savard points out Navigate started building VEX robots just during the previous school year.

"I think we're kind of pinching ourselves," he says. "It was kind of a dream and our dream this year has come true."

Navigate had four VEX teams this year, Isfeld had three and Highland had two. One Isfeld team ranked higher than any other B.C. team at last year's world

championship and so had already pre-qualified for this year's world championship.

The qualifying Navigate team did so a couple of weeks ago at a provincial qualifying tournament at Gladstone Secondary School in Vancouver.

The world championship runs from April 23 to 26 at the Anaheim Convention Centre. At the secondary school level, the championship could attract as many as 400 teams.

Robots for VEX tournaments are made using bought components, which students then put together to create a robot designed to complete a specified task. Robots this year need to pick up small balls (buckyballs) and larger balls (similar size as beach balls).

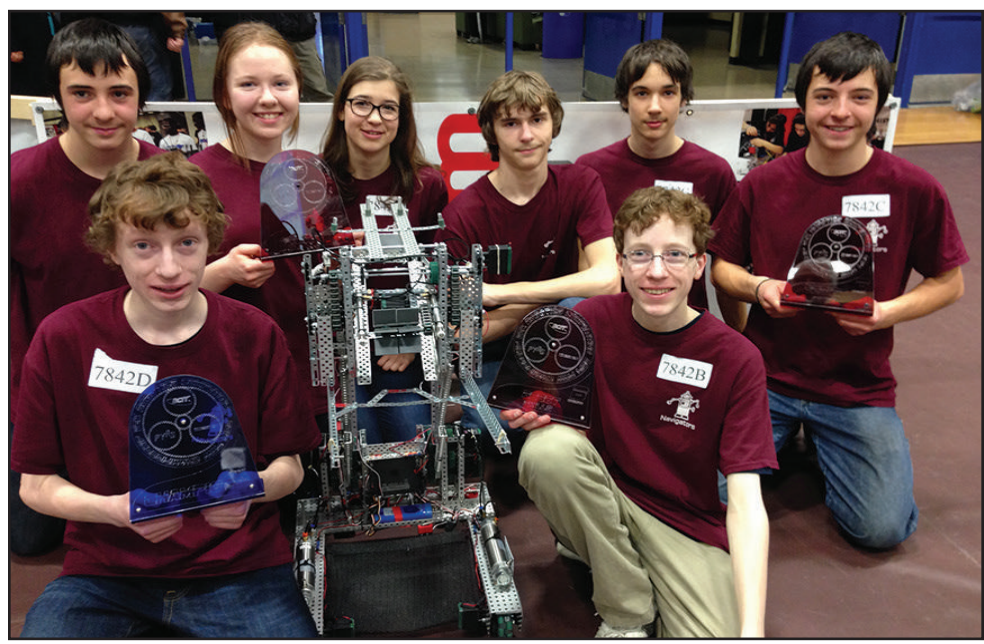
Teamwork is a large component of VEX robotics; students work together to build their robot but they also work with other teams

in three-team alliances at tournaments.

Because Navigate is a distance education school, students come from Cumberland, Courtenay and Comox, as well as places outside the Comox Valley, like Qualicum Beach and Mount Washington. So, says Savard, students don't simply meet after class like they do at other schools. Instead, they get together Friday evenings with some students joining in via technology.

"We use Skype and we just call it up on the big screens, and we can talk back and forth and show off ideas to each other," explains Savard, adding the setup imposes some limits on what the teams can do, and they must all physically meet sometimes to test their robots out on each other.

The Navigate and Isfeld teams will fundraise to help pay for travel to the



A GROUP OF Navigate (North Island Distance Education School) students are provincial VEX Robotics champions and will go to the VEX Robotics world championship in California.

world championship. Anyone interested in making a donation to Navigate can contact Stewart Savard

at Stewart.Savard@sd71.bc.ca, or call the school at 250-337-5300. To donate to Isfeld, contact Randy Grey

at Randy.Grey@sd71.bc.ca or call the school at 250-334-2428.
writer@comoxvalleyrecord.com

Call out for local farmers to supply two new hospitals

Jan Wilderom
Record Staff

Building the economy in Comox Valley, offering better food to the hospitals and helping the carbon footprint are just three benefits to an opportunity for Comox Valley farmers.

Business development consultant Sandra Hamilton knows a thing or two about B.C.'s economy. Hamilton is the former business manager for John Furlong, CEO of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

Hamilton realizes there is a problem with the economy in the Comox Valley, and she said there are big challenges in local agriculture.

"When I talk about agriculture infrastructure being lost, I am paraphrasing the farmers who talk

about the loss of a local distribution hub.

The decline in our local markets are due to the increased access to a more global food systems and has reduced the viability of making investments in local agriculture.

"(That) limits our ability to buy new machinery, take advantage of advances in agriculture and enjoy sufficient economy of scale to compete globally."

With new hospitals being built in Comox and Campbell River, Hamilton wants local produce to supply them.

"What I'm interested in is if we can make better use of our tax dollars to drive community development in the Comox Valley and rebuild the agricultural infrastructure that we've actually lost.



SANDRA HAMILTON WANTS local farmers to supply produce to new hospitals in Courtenay and Campbell River.

PHOTO BY JAN WILDEROM

"If we know exactly what the hospital needs year round and we strategically

know what to do together with the farming community, my belief is we can be

competitive."

Hamilton wants to gather all the farmers for a meeting March 18 to discuss this opportunity. She said the transportation of food is damaging the local economy.

"More than 96 per cent of our food arrives in a refrigerator, on a truck and on a ferry. That's crazy when you have a land mass the size of England and so few people living here."

Hamilton said she needs the support of the farmers in the community and if they do want the opportunity to grow food for the hospitals then she will completely devote her working time to making this possible. She said the first step is research.

"If the farmers say we're interested, we would like to ramp up agriculture in the

Comox Valley then the very first thing we need to do is find out what's the right model to increase our volume and can we increase volume at a competitive price point to the global supply chain."

Hamilton is doing research for the project with North Island College and she is working closely with Comox Valley MLA Don McRae, which she said will really help the development of the program.

Other hospitals are making the jump to local foods and it seems to be working for them, said Hamilton.

"The U.K. has got lots of examples of hospitals that have moved to a local food supply very successfully, and so does Ontario.

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TAP, Comox businesses support ill Record driver

Scott Stanfield
Record Staff

It was a normal Thursday morning for Darlene Sharcott as she made the rounds in Comox, delivering the *Record* to businesses in the downtown core.

Her route includes a stop at The Alberni Project, a war memorial exhibit at Comox Centre Mall where Lewis Bartholomew awaited with card in hand — a giant card with a whale on the cover. The inside displays signatures and wishes from 50 business owners surrounding the caption, Get Whale Soon!

The card, donated by Inkwell Stationers, was a gesture of appreciation for her service

and an expression of support for Sharcott, who has breast cancer.

“She was quite shocked,” said Bartholomew, himself a cancer survivor. “There seems to be an awful lot of that going around. I went through my own little battle once in 2007.”

“He followed me to find out who I delivered to,” said Sharcott, a single mother of three who delivers about 250 newspapers every Tuesday and Thursday.

She has walked four paper routes for most of the past five years. Along with providing a supplemental income to a disability pension, the job has its perks. Last summer, for instance, Sharcott

received a gelato on the house from one of her recipients.

“I love the downtown route. I know all the merchants. They’re so nice.”

She says another perk is being paid to exercise — an upbeat attitude that is helping her deal with her illness.

Sharcott, formerly a legal assistant and insurance agent, used to run a business at home, but illness prevented her from continuing the work.

When diagnosed with breast cancer in

October, she was surprised but not shocked or overwhelmed.

“Cancer’s not scary to me, because I’ve encountered it a lot. It’s just another illness to get through.”

Both her grandparents died from the disease, while her mother is a breast cancer survivor who volunteers in the oncology department at Burnaby General Hospital. Though nearing 80, her mother helped Sharcott through her first cycle of chemotherapy by hauling newspapers around town.

“She’s a real inspiration to me,” said Sharcott, who starts the second of four cycles of treatment Friday at St. Joseph’s General Hospital.

Because treatments are at week’s end, she has enough recovery time to walk her routes on Tuesdays, the “easy day” for delivery, in reference to the lighter of the two papers.

“It’s a matter of necessity,” Sharcott said about delivering newspapers during cancer treatments.

In other words: If you don’t work, you

don’t pay the bills. Along with delivering papers, Sharcott also drives for the *Record*. She hopes to continue delivering

through chemo treatments but will be unable to work during radiation treatments in Victoria.

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RECORD CARRIER DARLENE Sharcott is pictured at Comox Centre Mall with Lewis Bartholomew, founder and project director of The Alberni Project. Bartholomew is presenting her with a card of support signed by 50 local businesses. *PHOTO BY SCOTT STANFIELD*

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Coalition battling new recycling plan for B.C.

Critic alleges 'catastrophic' effect on community newspapers

Jeff Nagel

Black Press

SURREY — An alliance of business groups opposed to the new Multi Material BC recycling system are demanding the province halt the planned May 19 launch and go back to the drawing board.

MMBC, an industry stewardship group, is poised to take responsibility for curbside blue box collection — with more containers and material types collected than before — while charging businesses for the recycling of the packaging and paper they generate.

But it's been in a bitter fight with small business groups that complain they are set to pay punishingly high fees, which will then be passed on to consumers.

The battle took a new turn Monday, when the Canadian Federation of Independent Business and eight other associations launched a campaign in B.C. newspapers and online at rethinkitbc.ca to amplify the pressure on Victoria.

CFIB provincial affairs director Mike Klassen predicted job losses and some business closures as a result of the MMBC regulations and fees.

"This is public policy run amok," he said. "We are asking British Columbians to talk to the B.C. government to push the pause button on its reckless and red-tape-laden program."

B.C. Agriculture Council vice-chair Stan Vander Waal said farmers can't readily stop packaging strawberries and blueberries in plastic clamshells, because retailers insist that's what consumers want.

"We have to wear the cost," he said, adding MMBC fees will cost his Chilliwack farm \$60,000 to \$100,000 a year. "It goes directly against growing agriculture."

Canadian Newspaper Association chairman Peter Kvarnstrom, who is publisher of a paper in Sechelt, warned the new system will be "catastrophic" to B.C. community and daily

newspapers, resulting in job losses in an already-challenged industry and reduced service to communities.

The opposition groups say they support the aim of the program — to make generators of packaging pay to recycle it — but they dispute the fees and say multinational consumer goods firms like Unilever and Walmart control MMBC and are manipulating it to their benefit, not that of local businesses.

Most of the fees for container waste are double or even quadruple what businesses in Ontario pay to a similar agency.

Newspapers say they face a \$14-million-a-year bite out of their operations because of the 20 cents per kilogram they will pay on newsprint, compared to less than half a penny in Ontario.

They contend a high proportion of newsprint is already recycled in B.C. through blue boxes.

Kvarnstrom said newspapers are considering options to create their own newsprint collection system — a move that could also deprive MMBC of newsprint revenue and undermine the program's viability.

Magazine industry reps also warned small B.C. magazines will pay not only for their own paper recycling, but will also effectively subsidize big U.S. magazines like Harper's



MIKE KLASSEN

or Vogue that will be exempt from MMBC fees on magazines mailed into B.C.

Printers predict some orders will shift to presses in the U.S. or Alberta to skirt the fees, costing jobs in B.C.

MMBC managing

business is forced to join MMBC, adding groups like the newspaper industry are free to develop their own system.

"If they think there's a better way, I think it's important they put it forward."

Environment Minister Mary Polak said most businesses are exempt from the fees if they have under \$1 million of retail sales, generate less than a tonne of material or operate out of a single retail outlet, while generators of one to five tonnes per year pay flat fees of \$550 or \$1,200.

She said property taxpayers will save

"The public is largely unaware of the money that will come out of their pocket and ultimately go back to manufacturers. It's a licence to print money."

Corinne Atwood

director Allen Langdon said MMBC's higher fees are because they fully finance the program and ensure service for multi-family apartments and rural depots, in contrast to Ontario's more limited focus on single-family homes.

He said B.C.'s successful container deposit system also means there's less recyclable material left here for container stewards to collect and sell, so fees have to be higher to cover the system costs.

Langdon said no

money because MMBC will now pay for recycling collection that local municipalities previously paid.

"The City of Richmond will save \$1.5 million a year, Nanaimo will save just over \$900,000 a year and the list goes on," Polak said. "This is about shifting the costs from the property taxpayer to the people who produce the packaging and printed paper."

New recycling costs imposed by Multi Material BC will ultimately hit consumers through hidden price

hikes, critics say.

"The public is largely unaware of the money that will come out of their pocket and ultimately go back to manufacturers," said Corinne Atwood, executive director of the B.C. Bottle and Recycling Depot Association.

Unlike existing deposit-refund systems in B.C. on cans or electronics — which are subject to audits and transparent reporting — Atwood said MMBC can do what it wishes with its revenue, without accountability.

"It's a licence to print money," she said.

Atwood has lobbied to expand the deposit system to include milk cartons and other containers, from hair spray canisters to detergent bottles.

She argues the refunds offered would ensure a high rate of recycling through depots, as with beverage cans now.

"If you put deposits on things initially the consumer would pay a bit more, but the people who bring it back will get their money back," she said.

Instead, she said

MMBC's non-refundable fees on packaging generators will inflate prices with no recourse.

Atwood said she believes the government likes the new system because if MMBC fees drive retail prices higher, the province will collect more sales tax.

Existing bottle depots may be threatened because MMBC will also collect refundable beverage containers, she said, adding school teams and community groups that depend on bottle drives to raise money may also lose out if there's less to collect.



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Dix slams Liberal strategy

Scott Stanfield
Record Staff

Adrian Dix took a swipe Monday at Premier Christy Clark's government for "acting in a childish way" and intentionally provoking a teacher strike.

Speaking to reporters in Courtenay, the New Democrat leader suggests politics, not public interest, is determining BC Liberal education decisions on public education and negotiations with educators.

"The government is choosing not to even follow its own law," he said. "Their own laws talk about a limit to the number of special-needs students in classrooms."

The Comox Valley School District is preparing for possible job action after B.C. teachers voted in favour of a strike.

Dix notes about 80 local classrooms contain more than six special-needs students — though the law says no more than three — which creates challenges for both teachers and students.

"The students themselves, they don't get to do Grade 4 again while the premier messes around with the system," he said. "It's so disrespectful. It's contrary to what the premier said. You heard her all through the election campaign. She was about stability in education. About labour peace and



B.C. NDP LEADER Adrian Dix criticized Premier Christy Clark's government this week in Courtenay for "acting in a childish way."

PHOTO BY SCOTT STANFIELD

education. Now she's caught in court on the record by her own people saying that what she said was a lie."

The NDP says court transcripts show the B.C. government's chief negotiator admitted under oath the Province was trying to provoke a full-scale teachers' strike.

In a ruling last month, B.C. Supreme

rights in an ongoing dispute between government and the B.C. Teachers' Federation. Earlier in the year, the Province was ordered to pay \$2 million in damages for stripping teachers of their collective bargaining rights and failing to reinstate them when ordered by the court.

The decision followed last year's ruling that legislation interfered with teachers' bargaining rights, and deleted certain terms that prohibited bargaining to do with class size, composition and support for special-needs students — the same contentious issues since 2002, Dix said.

reporter@comoxvalleyrecord.com

FERRIES SCHEDULE

www.bcferries.com

VANCOUVER to NANAIMO Horseshoe Bay to Departure Bay		NANAIMO to VANCOUVER Departure Bay to Horseshoe Bay	
Effective Until March 31, 2014			
6:30 am	Daily	6:30 am	Daily
8:30 am	Daily	8:30 am	Daily
10:30 am	Daily	10:30 am	Daily
12:30 pm	Daily	12:30 pm	Daily
3:00 pm	Daily	3:00 pm	Daily
5:00 pm	Daily	5:00 pm	Daily
7:00 pm	Daily	7:00 pm*	Daily
9:00 pm*		9:00 pm	Daily
*Fri, Sat, Sun & Feb 10 only			
NANAIMO to VANCOUVER Duke Point to Tsawwassen		VANCOUVER to NANAIMO Tsawwassen to Duke Point	
Effective Until March 31, 2014			
5:15 am*	3:15 pm	5:15 am*	3:15 pm
7:45 am**	5:45 pm^	7:45 am**	5:45 pm^
10:15 am	8:15 pm^	10:15 am	8:15 pm^
12:45 pm	10:45 pm^	12:45 pm	10:45 pm^
*Daily except Sat & Sun ** Daily except Sun ^ Daily except Sat			
COMOX to POWELL RIVER Little River to Westview		POWELL RIVER to COMOX Westview to Little River	
Effective Until March 31, 2014			
6:30 am	3:15 pm	8:10 am	5:15 pm
10:10 am	7:15 pm	12:00 pm	8:45 pm

Schedules are subject to change without notice.
Schedule provided by the Comox Valley Record.

WINNING NUMBERS

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LOTTO MAX
01 06 07 16 22 31 33
Bonus 25
EXTRA 11 52 73 80

BC/49 649

Saturday March 8 2014

6/49
11 16 18 33 34 35
Bonus 28

BC/49
07 21 26 32 35 36
Bonus 37

EXTRA 07 31 39 57

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RCMP REPORT

Week of Mar. 4-10, 2014

On March 4th a report of a stolen vehicle was called into police by the owner. The vehicle was left running, unlocked, in front of the owners residence located on the 2300 block of Lake Trail Road in Courtenay. (2014-2573)

Police received a report of an abandoned older motorcycle on March 4th, being found on Lake Trail road near the Hwy 19 overpass. Shortly after receiving that report another report was taken of a motorcycle being stolen from a garage on the 4600 block of Cumberland Road in Courtenay. The motorcycle was returned to its owner. (2014-2553 and 2014-2457)

On March 6th a break and enter to a residence, located on 350 Powerhouse Road in Courtenay, was reported to police. The homeowner stated that the thief probably enter via the unlocked side door. Once inside they stole a phone and an iPad. (2014-2612)

Police took a report of a theft of a heavy stone bird bath and its base from a residence on the 1700 block of Grieve Ave in Courtenay on March 6th. The homeowner located the birdbath a short distance away but the base, that has a bird engraving on it, is still missing. (2014-2616)

On March 6th a report of a theft of two Trek mountain bikes was taken by the Comox Valley RCMP. The home owner reports that the two bikes went missing from a closed garage, which is situated on the 2600 block of Penrith Ave in Cumberland. One of the bikes is Red and White and the other is White and Brown and they are valued at \$4500.00. (2014-2622)

Police responded to a theft in progress at the Nelson Construction yard located at 3132 Grant Road in Courtenay on March

6th. Two males were attempting to leave with some scaffolding but were locked into the materials compound. One male fled but the driver remained on scene with his vehicle and was arrested. The police dog attended and a track was located and followed into Cumberland where the track was lost. (2014-2628)

On March 8th a report of a vehicle driving into a yard on the 1200 block of 21st street in Courtenay was called into police. The homeowner stated that the truck had driven over a bush and the driver had fled the scene. This investigation is continuing. (2014-2704)

The owner of Parker Marine called police on March 8th to report that someone had cut the chain link fence that surrounds the property and had stolen a 9.9 HP Yamaha motor from a boat that was in the compound. (2014-2708)

On March 9th police took a report of a theft of approximately 1000 liters of fuel oil from a tank at a residence on the 4700 block of Headquarters Road in Courtenay. The fuel oil was taken over the last several months. (2014-2740)

On March 10th police responded to a report of a home invasion at a residence on the 4600 block of Cumberland Road in Courtenay. The home owner stated that 3 or 4 men busted into the house demanding money. This investigation is continuing. (2014-2776)

If anyone has any information with regards to any of these investigation or other crimes, please call the Comox Valley RCMP at 250-338-1321. Should you wish to remain anonymous, please call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or text: cvcstips to crime.

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COMOX VALLEY CRIME STOPPERS

Working Together to Create a Safer Community

Maxwell Russell TUCK
DOB: 1993-07-10
173 cms, 64 kgs, Blue eyes, Brown hair

Warrant for:
Breach of probation
Comox Valley file # 2013-765

Warrants as of 2014-03-11

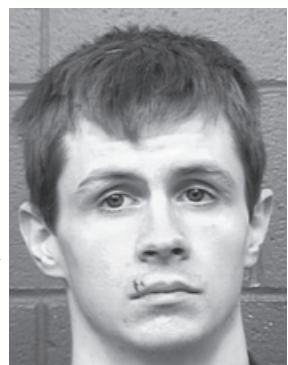
WANTED



Taylor James MUELLER
DOB: 1991-07-01
182 cms, 68 kgs, Blue eyes, Brown hair

Warrant for:
Breach of probation
Warrants in other jurisdictions
Comox Valley file # 2012 - 4414

Warrants as of 2014-03-11





SEA LION TANGLED Kiyo, a sea lion (centre) near Fanny Bay, was spotted last week with a cable wrapped around its neck. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada said the wound does not appear to be infected. A disentanglement was planned for this week.

PHOTO BY CTV VANCOUVER ISLAND

Support for Playfair

Scott Stanfield

Record Staff

It has only taken a few days to raise \$1,316 for Merville resident Donald Playfair in his battle against cancer.

His former Courtenay casino co-workers Lindsay McLaughlin, Sid Hamel and Barb Mills have initiated an online fundraising campaign to generate money for the 63-year-old, who is about to undergo a stem cell transplant at Vancouver General Hospital.

“He’s an absolutely amazing guy,” McLaughlin said, noting the benefits of social networking. “The feedback we’re getting is beautiful. You can’t say enough nice things about him.”

As of Tuesday, donations from 22 individuals totalled \$1,316. The goal is to raise \$5,500 to cover Playfair’s expenses after four months of treatment and recovery at hospital.

Playfair was diagnosed last fall with Myelodysplastic Syn-

drome, also known as pre-leukemia. While in hospital, he also needs to pay rent and bills at home. He lives on a monthly fixed income of about \$1,500.

The campaign is through YouCaring.com. To donate, click on www.youcaring.com/medical-fundraiser/dollars-for-donny/147212.

Playtime Gaming Courtenay (Chances) at 361 Hunt Rd. is hosting a burger and beer fundraiser March 19 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25, with \$17.50 of each ticket donated to Playfair’s fund. Those wanting to sell tickets can talk to Justin at the casino.

Courtenay Return-It Depot at 493 Puntledge Rd. is also chipping in by donating proceeds from patrons wishing to help Playfair. Ask for account No. 277 or specify the money is for Dollars for Donny.

reporter@comoxvalleyrecord.com

Birthday coming

Scott Stanfield

Record Staff

The City of Courtenay will kick off a year-long celebration of its 100th birthday next year with a New Year’s Eve bash this Dec. 31 at the Native Sons Hall.

Former Courtenay mayor Ron Webber is chairing a committee that is planning a host of events. A Homecoming Week June 26 to July 5 will include a family barbecue, tailgate party and neighbourhood block parties.

“I want to thank you, Ron, for all the work you’ve done,” said Mayor Larry Jangula, also acknowledging the efforts of Couns. Starr Winchester and Doug Hillian, who sit on the committee.

The committee has

Normal ferry service back

Little River, Powell River terminals upgraded

After two months and \$30 million worth of construction projects at local terminals, BC Ferries resumed regular operations Monday between Comox (Little River) and Powell River (Westview) and Texada Island (Blubber Bay).

BC Ferries has just completed replacements and upgrades to the marine structures at Little River and Westview terminals including wingwalls, ramps, aprons, dolphins and new foot passenger waiting rooms to continue to provide safe and reliable service for another 40 years. The projects were on time and on budget.

“These were very large and complex projects to undertake, which required as much pre-fabrication as possible to minimize the service interruption,” said Mark Wilson, BC Ferries’ vice-president of engineering.

“Knowing that the alternative service would have a big impact on our customers, our team did a lot of consultation ahead of time with our local Ferry Advisory Committee, community leaders and members of the public. Through this process we received

“Knowing that the alternative service would have a big impact on our customers, our team did a lot of consultation ahead of time with our local Ferry Advisory Committee, community leaders and members of the public.”

Mark Wilson

constructive input and feedback from ferry users, which ensured we had the best possible service in place during the dock closures.”

BC Ferries thanks its customers for their patience while alternate service was provided between Vancouver Island and Powell River, and Powell River and Texada Island.

Customer appreciation events will be held March 13 from 11 a.m.

to 2 p.m. at Westview and from 1 to 4 p.m. at Little River.

The next improvement for the Comox-Powell River route will

be a brand new vessel to replace the 49-year old Queen of Burnaby.

— BC Ferries

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applied to Heritage Canada for operating funds, and requested \$38,000 from the City. The latter is to plan and promote the Dec. 31 to Jan. 1 events. Part of the costs will help develop a centennial logo.

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Taekwondo Woo Kim - Tigers
Mondays & Wednesdays starting - March 31st - 5:00 - 5:45 pm
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A Look Back

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LAND OF PLENTY
A History of the Comox District

INTO THE HISTORY OF THE COMOX VALLEY

Early Mining in the Comox Valley (cont'd.): Union Growth, Collieries Railroads

Cont'd. from Feb. 20, 2014

During the years 1917 and 1918, coal production was high. The men returned after Armistice and were accused of bringing to Canada the influenza epidemic of that year. Contract miners were paid by the ton of coal produced. With contract work came pressure to get out as much coal as possible. Sometimes this meant ignoring safety measures such as adequate timbering. The labour market was overcrowded, so a miner could find himself fired for any hint of union sympathy.

The Great Depression hit the coal mines, again limiting the field for union growth. However, miners did gain an eight-hour day. In 1930, a local of the Mine Workers Union of Canada (MWUC) was formed in Cumberland. The MWUC affiliated itself with the communist Workers Unity League (WUL), which caused the MWUC in May of 1936 to be called "communist agitators."

Members of the MWUC then joined the United Mineworkers of America, which by 1936 had gained 50 per cent of the workers. On November 18, 1936, the UMWA signed an agreement with Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir) Ltd., providing for uniform day wages of \$5.50. The company had finally recognized the union.

Collieries Railroads

In developing Union Coal Mines in 1888, Dunsmuir sent two crews to Union Camp: one to open the mine, the other, which included gangs of 42 Chinese, to survey and build a railroad right-of-way to Hart's Point at Union Bay.

John Dick supervised this construction. The shipping of coal through Royston, the plan which the Union Coal Company had worked towards, was not feasible. Although the distance was short, Royston Bay did not have the water depth required by the deep-sea ships that would load the coal.

A plan to route the railroad to Port Augusta (Comox Bay) fell through when the owners of the

300 acres at Port Augusta, the Robb family, wanted an excessive amount of money for their land.

The survey crew marked out a roadway to Union Bay, the rights to which had been acquired by Dunsmuir when he purchased the Perseverance Coal Company. This main line emerged near the waterfront north of the Trent River, then ran parallel to the ocean to Union Bay, a distance of approximately 12 miles.

Extensions to this line occurred with regularity as new mines and new mining camps were developed. One spur extended from the Town of Union to Mines 3, 1, 2 and 4 with a narrow gauge line running from Scott's Slope at Comox Lake to Number Four Mine. All lines, with this exception, were standard gauge, compatible with the E&N Railroad, the logging railroads of Bloedel, Stewart and Welch, and Comox Logging.

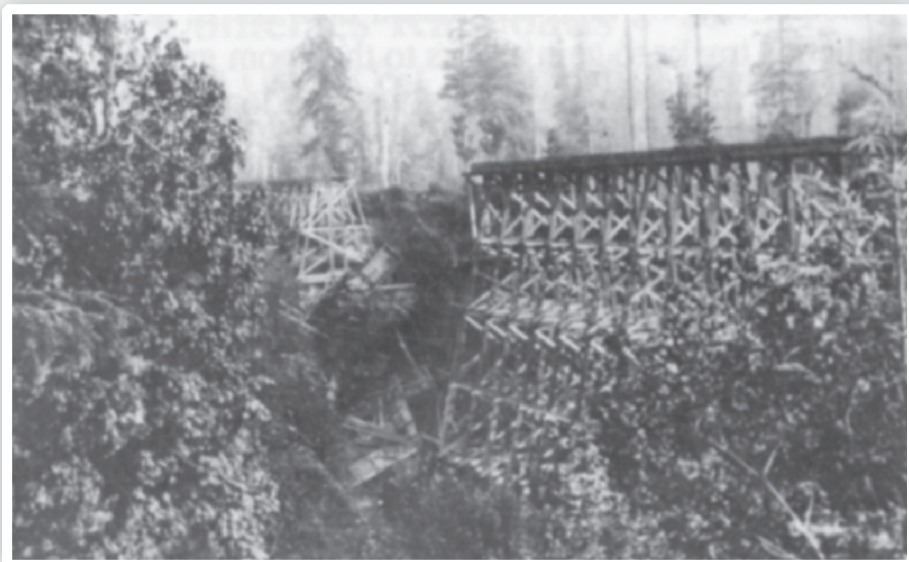
When Number Seven Mine was opened in 1902 on the Puntledge River, a line was built to it from the spur which had served Number Five Mine.

In 1911-12, this line grew to form a loop when Bevan and Puntledge Townsites were built. The loop continued directly towards Courtenay, touched the Gwilt Lumber mill, then turned east to join the old main line at Royston.

Bevan, Puntledge, Headquarters, the E&N Railroad and this loop line were built during the period from 1910 to 1914. A large network of railroads now linked the new townsites and Courtenay to the south end of Vancouver Island.

Near Royston, the Collieries Railroad joined with the Comox Logging Railway, thus allowing cars of coal to be placed on Comox Logging sidings loaded with the steam coal for use in their locomotives. A link with the E&N allowed passengers and freight to be exchanged between the Collieries and that line. This link, located north of Royston, was given the name Diamond Crossing.

A second link with Comox Logging was made at Bevan where a railway bridge was built across the Puntledge River, giving the logging company access to the timber lying between Brown's River



Trestle collapse at Trent River, five died. (1898)

Cumberland Museum

and the Puntledge River-Comox Lake triangle.

The railroad switchbacks above Brown's River became the roadway to the Forbidden Plateau Lodge. Because Comox Logging did not have a bridge across the Brown's River Canyon at this time, their railroad cars of logs were delivered to the Royston Dump by Canadian Collieries locomotives.

Another logging railroad crossed both the E&N and the Collieries tracks to gain access to the boom grounds located just north of Union Bay. This was the logging railroad of Bloedel, Stewart and Welch, which ran parallel, but to the southeast side, of the Trent River.

The Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir) railroad system was to move over 13,000,000 tons of coal from the mines to the Union Bay shipping port. The first annual report of this new owner of the Cumberland Mines, dated 1911, indicates that two large locomotives ran the main line with four other locomotives for switching. The railroad inventory included 100 steel hopper coal cars,

185 wooden hopper coal cars and 34 coaches, boxcars, flat and gravel cars. Total trackage at that date consisted of the 12-mile main line, and 18 miles of sidings.

One of the obstacles met in the construction of the Collieries railroad to Union Bay was the canyon of the Trent River. This was overcome by the construction of a very high wooden trestle which spanned the canyon above the present Island Highway crossing. Less than 10 years after its construction, the trestle was the scene of a spectacular accident. Rene Harding describes the scene well in an article published in the *Comox District Free Press*:

"On August 17, 1898, Number 4, the big new locomotive belonging to the Union Collieries, was ready to leave the Cumberland Mines for Union Bay, the shipping point, with 21 loaded coal cars.

The cab was crowded when she whistled in answer to a signal from Matt Piercy, the second brakie, perched on the rearmost coal car, his position as rear brakeman.

To be continued

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Birding tips from an expert

Russell Cannings has recently spent a year exploring every corner of the province to find almost every kind of bird that resides in British Columbia.

In so doing, he set a record of 373 species in a year.

This experience has resulted in a useful guide compiled and written with his father, Richard Cannings, to where to find birds in B.C., Birdfinding in British Columbia.

Russell Cannings will present a one-hour slide lecture at the monthly meeting of Comox Valley Nature at the Filberg Seniors Centre on March 16 from 7 to 9 p.m. He will be on hand to sign copies of his book after the lecture.

The province has recognized the many contributions made by Richard Cannings, and his brothers Sydney and Robert, to our understanding of our natural history.



BIRDER RUSSELL CANNINGS took this photo of a flammulated owl.

Russell is a young graduate of UBC whose first publication promises to further his family's legacy to our understanding of this province's exceptional flora and fauna.

He is an avid young birder from the Okanagan and has worked as a field biologist

throughout British Columbia for the past 10 years. He is attending Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo, where he hopes to acquire a high-school-teaching degree (in History of all things!).

He is also a regular birder from the Avocet Tours, and runs

the BC Bird Alert — a provincewide blog on the latest rare bird sightings.

Comox Valley Nature is a non-profit society affiliated to BC Nature consisting only of unpaid volunteers. CVN fulfils its educational mandate by hosting monthly lectures, organizing free weekly guided hikes for members, and a free monthly walk open to the public. The society also undertakes a variety of environmental projects.

Cannings' lecture is free, though a \$4 contribution from non-members is appreciated.

New memberships are always welcomed.

Anyone interested in this lecture or participating in CVNS activities can also contact CVN at <http://comox-valleynaturalist.bc.ca> or Loys Maingon at 250-331-0143.

— *Comox Valley Nature*

Lowering stress for executors

Most executors, when asked if they would ever take that task on again, answer with a resounding "no." Although honoured when first appointed executor, many quickly realize they lack the legal know-how to properly administer an estate when called upon.

Most Canadians are either named as executor in a will or have a will of their own in which they've named an executor.

As executor, certain duties must be performed, within a certain timeframe and in a specific order. Vehicle ownership must be transferred, terminal tax returns filed, taxes paid (including the possibility of capital gains tax), property transferred, accounts closed, bills paid and accurate records kept.

The average estate

in Canada takes 18 months to settle. Even a little planning by the testator (writer of the will) now can make a big difference to the

seminar presenter and Assurant Life of Canada district manager.

"That's why we are thrilled to be able to provide this important

"It never ceases to amaze me how often a death in the family is the spark that ignites the underlying flame of sibling rivalry or perceived parental favouritism."

Kevin Holte

executor later when called upon.

"Executors, usually at a very emotional and stressful time in their lives, need to complete a task they have never done — or did once 20 years ago. They are required to find and gather specific documentation, know who to contact and where the government offices are, pay for numerous fees ... for many, it is daunting," says Kevin Holte,

information, information that can save families unnecessary headaches and estate settlement costs.

"It never ceases to amaze me how often a death in the family is the spark that ignites the underlying flame of sibling rivalry or perceived parental favouritism ... add money to the mix and the executor can be looking at a Molotov cocktail of stress," says Holte.

"I've seen a lot of

preventable confusion — just a little bit of preparedness can go a long way in making things easier for the loved ones."

Dennis Richardson is a certified pre-planning consultant who has been assisting families in the Comox and Courtenay area with their cremation or burial pre-arrangements.

With decades of experience in the banking sector as well as an advocate for executors and easy estate settlement, he is enthusiastic about a seminar March 18 at 2:30 p.m. at the Courtenay branch of the Royal Canadian Legion on Cliffe Avenue.

"The goal is to ensure everyone ends up with a grateful executor and not a frazzled one," Holte summarizes.

— *Toneff Funeral Services*

How to DIY @ local libraries

Teen Tech Week is celebrated across Canada.

This year the country is celebrating from March 9 to 15. The 2014 theme invites teens to DIY@your library.

Branches will open their physical and virtual doors to teens and showcasing all of the great non-print resources and services that are available to teens and their families at Vancouver Island Regional Library.

At the Courtenay, Comox, Cumberland and Hornby Island

branches teens are invited to tell us their favourite DVD, CD and eBook and enter a draw to win an iTunes gift card.

In addition, on March 15, a member of the Comox Valley Camera Club will teach teens how to use digital cameras for 'selfies' or portraits.

This is a free workshop at 10:30 a.m. at the Courtenay Library at 300 Sixth St. in downtown Courtenay. It is open to teens aged 12 to 17. Call 250-334-3369 to reserve a place.

Teens are invited to visit their local library and to log onto www.virl.bc.ca to learn more. Teens can also check out our Tumblr blog that hosts content and links tailored specifically for young adult literature. Visit <http://virlibraryteens.tumblr.com> and look for reviews, events, graphic novels, pop culture links, and much more!

For more information, contact the Courtenay Library at 250-334-3369.

— *Courtenay Library*

Blitz being held for books

Comox Valley Book Friends are having a book blitz day to collect donations for their annual sale April 25 to 27.

A book blitz will be held April 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The location for donations and also for the sale is 260B Tsolum Rd. in Courtenay, which is the big yellow building behind Value Village. Look for the signs!

Book friends would be happy

to receive your donations of books (in good condition), CDs, DVDs, puzzles and games on these days and they are also collecting every Wednesday morning until the sale in April. Please, no National Geographics, Readers Digest condensed or encyclopedias.

For pickup of larger loads, call Jim at 250-339-5350.

— *Comox Valley Book Friends*

creative employment ACCESS SOCIETY

Creative Employment Access Society salutes the following Safe Harbour certified locations for welcoming diversity and taking a stand against discrimination.

Adult Learning Centre 1507A McPhee Ave.	Cumberland Village Bakery 2747 Dunsmuir	North Island College 2300 Ryan Rd.
Alano Club of Courtenay 543 6th St.	Eatmore Sprouts 2604 Grieve Rd.	Nowicki & Rae 243 4th St.
Ansley & Company Inc. 306 - 576 England Ave.	Ecole Puntledge Park Elementary 401 Willemar Ave.	Public Health Nursing 961 England Ave.
Aspen Park Elementary 2250 Bolt Ave.	Excel Career College 203-1995 Cliffe Ave.	ReXall Drugs 1604 Cliffe Ave.
Atlas Café 250 6th St.	Florence Filberg & Evergreen Seniors Centre 411 Anderton Ave.	School District #71 - School Board Office 607 Cumberland Rd.
Avenue Bistro 2064 Comox Rd.	Highland Secondary School 750 Pritchard Rd.	Seeds Natural Foods 2733A Dunsmuir
Canada Safeway 1551 Cliffe Ave.	Hornby Island Credit Union 4325 Shingle Spit Rd.	Service BC 2500 Cliffe Ave.
Canadian Red Cross 464 Puntledge Rd.	House of Colour 249 5th St.	Shamrock Veterinary Clinic 1896 Guthrie Rd.
Church Street Bakery 221A Church St.	International Student Program - S.D. #71 805 Willemar Ave.	The Job Shop 103-555 4th St.
Community Living BC 107 - 555 4th St.	Immigrant Welcome Centre Unit C - 1001 Lewis Ave.	The LINC 300 Old Island Hwy.
Comox Recreation Centre 1855 Noel Ave.	Job Options 301 - 910 Fitzgerald Ave.	Too Good to Be Threw Thrift Store 367 6th St.
Courtenay Elementary 1540 McPhee Ave.	John Howard Society of the North Island 1455 Cliffe Ave.	Union Bay Credit Union 313 McLeod Rd.
Comox Medical Clinic 100-1695 Comox Ave.	Lake Trail Middle School 805 Willemar Ave.	Union Street Grill & Grotto 477 5th St.
Comox Valley Airport 1250 Knight Rd.	Laughing Oyster Books 286 5th St.	Valley Care Medical E310 8th St.
CV Chamber of Commerce 2040 Cliffe Ave.	Lewis Centre 489 Old British Hwy.	Valley View Elementary 2300 Valley View Dr.
CV Community Justice Centre C450 8th St.	Lighthouse Community Branch Credit Union 1 - 6996 West Island Hwy, Bowser	Vancouver Island Community Connections 4 - 1351 McPhee Ave.
CV Family Services 1415 Cliffe Ave.	Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School 1551 Lerwick Rd.	Vancouver Island Regional Libraries Comox: 1720 Beaufort Cumberland: 2724 Dunsmuir
CV Family Services - Healthy Families Program 1507 McPhee Ave.	Marigold Natural Pharmacy 100 - 576 England Ave.	Volunteer Comox Valley C450 8th St.
CV Head Injury Society 102-254 Simms St.	Mudsharks Coffee Bar 244 4th St.	Zocalo Cafe A208 5th St.
CV Nursing Centre 615 10th St.		
CV Transition Society 202 - 576 England Ave.		
Courtenay Medical Assoc. 201-1350 England Ave.		
Cumberland Hotel 2714 Dunsmuir		
Cumberland Museum 2680 Dunsmuir		



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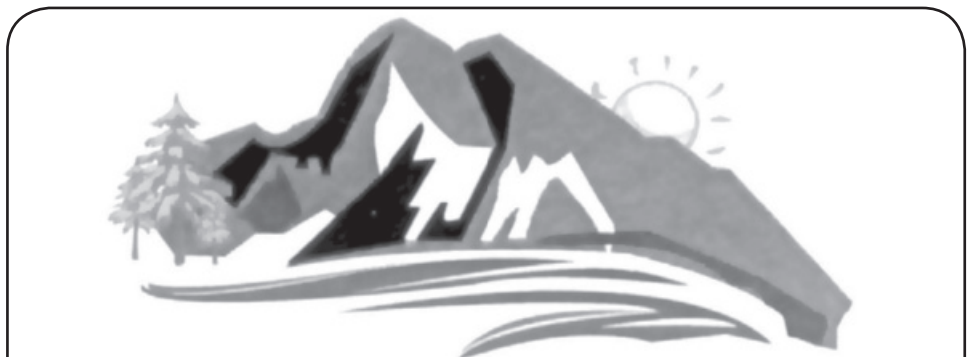
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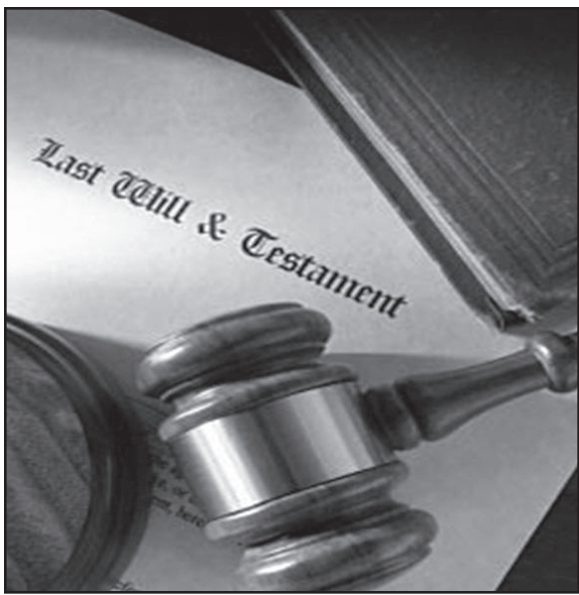
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IT'S BEEN ESTIMATED that more than half of adult Canadians have yet to make a will.

Having a will is a very good idea

Could making a will help you live longer? Could donating to charity add years to your life?

While it might not seem possible to definitively answer those questions, research has shown that people who make a will do live longer and that people who donate to charity live longer lives too. But this is not quite the same as saying that living a longer life is a direct effect of making a will or by charitable giving.

"It's really a mystery that we can't explain," says Heather Warren, a Gift Planner at the human rights charity Amnesty International. "It may be that making a will brings peace of mind and reduces anxiety, which adds time to a person's life. But it could just be that people who make wills tend to lead healthier lives than people who never get around to estate planning."

Warren goes on to say that there are plenty of other good reasons to make a will.

"Making a will ensures your wealth will be distributed as you wish after you're gone," she says. "A will also spares complications and hardship for your loved ones. And remembering your favourite charity in your will is a powerful and simple way to leave a legacy to a good cause."

Despite all the good reasons for having a will, it would seem that many of us have yet to do so. It's been estimated that more than half of adult Canadians have yet to make a will. Many wrongly believe that a making a will is complicated and expensive.

"It's best to use a lawyer to make sure your will is properly drawn up," says Warren. "But making a will is easier and more affordable than you might think."

A free information package on what to include in wills is available from Amnesty International at 312 Laurier Ave. East, Suite 250, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 1H9.
- www.newscanada.com

Retirement can be viewed as a series of stops-and-starts. For example, stop scheduling your life around work hours and start going with your personal lifestyle flow. Stop stressing about your morning and evening commutes and start driving when you want. Stop worrying about project deadlines and start engaging in personal interest projects and pastimes on your own timelines.

Tax planning is one thing that definitely should not stop when your employment stops. Post-retirement tax strategies are vital to maintaining the retirement lifestyle you want for all the years of your retirement. Start with these three income-protecting objectives:

1. Always take full advantage of all the direct tax deductions available to you.
2. Keep your net income and taxable income low enough to avoid such potential pitfalls as the Old Age Security (OAS) clawback or losing out on the age credit and possibly the GST/HST credit.
3. Ensure your monthly cash flow is not eroded by increases in the cost of living and that all your investments will last a lifetime.

In keeping with these three objectives, here are some other important post-retirement tax-reduction and income-protection strategies:

- Plan Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) withdrawals: Withdrawals from investments held in your RRIF are fully taxable – so manage your taxable income by withdrawing only amounts that are required.
- Reduce taxes through tax efficient asset allocation: Keep fully-taxable, interest-generating investments inside a tax-deferred Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) or RRIF as long as possible while

Post-retirement tax strategies



keeping assets that are more tax-efficient and those that generate capital gains or Canadian dividends outside your registered plans.

- Take full advantage of

Pension Plan (CPP/QPP) income with your spouse: When your spouse has a lower CPP/QPP entitlement and is in a lower tax bracket.

“ Post-retirement tax strategies are vital to maintaining the retirement lifestyle you want for all the years of your retirement. ”

all available tax credits and deductions: Don't forget the age credit for those aged 65 and older, the pension income credit and medical expense credit.

- Reduce your taxes by splitting Canada or Québec

• Contribute to a spousal RRSP: You must convert your RRSP to a RRIF no later than Dec. 31 of the year in which the owner attains age 71.

Talk to your professional adviser about smart tax-

planning an investment strategies that make sense for your retirement – like investing in a Monthly Income Portfolio (MIP) that can protect your income against inflation and generate stable and reliable income distribution (outside your RRIF or RRSP) and potentially higher long-term growth – so you'll continue to have the income you need for all your retirement years.

Daryl Thompson, Consultant, Investors Group Financial Services Inc. 250-338-7811. daryl.thompson@investorsgroup.com

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What simple steps can you take now to avoid them?

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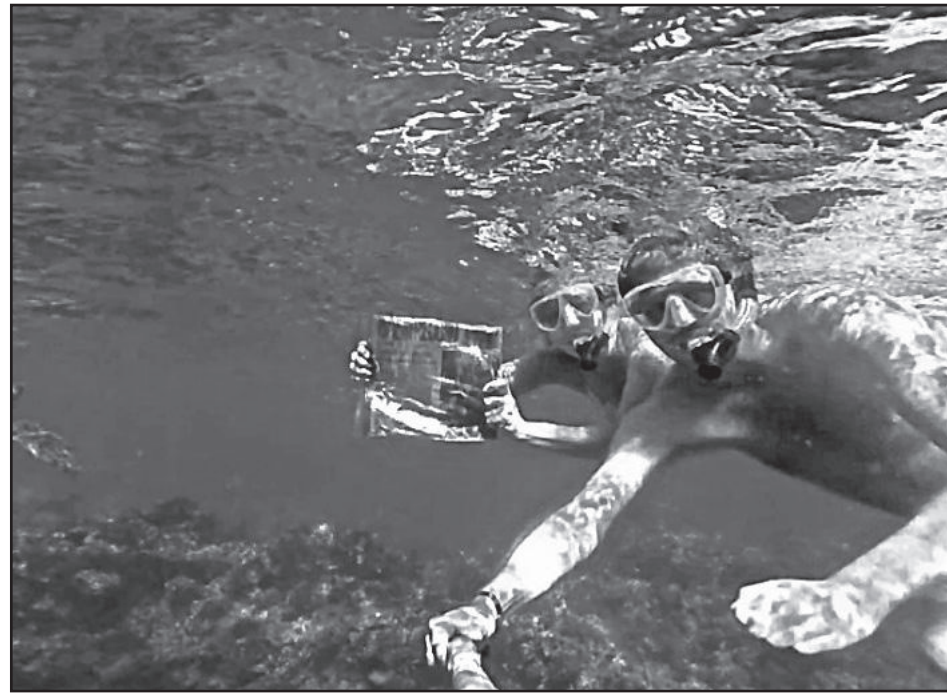
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TAKE US ALONG



BERNIE STAV, TRICIA St. Pierre, Lesley Stav and Ronald St. Pierre with the *Record* after a relaxing day at the beach in the Dominican Republic.



COMOX VALLEY RECORD readers Devin Forbes and Jolene Verboom holding the Jan. 7 "lack of snow" issue while snorkelling over a reef with a green sea turtle swimming by off the south coast of Maui, Hawaii. The green sea turtle was on the verge of extinction a few decades ago, but has made a comeback with the help of wildlife and turtle protection programs.



ON CHRISTMAS DAY on the island of St. Kitts, Cheryl and Dan McMahon shared a copy of the *Comox Valley Record* with the energetic Home Boys Masquerade Band which, in their characteristic peacock feathered headdresses, entertained visitors to Port Zante as part of the local folk tradition.

WHEN IT COMES TO SPREADING THE NEWS, readers of the *Comox Valley Record* are number one. They enjoy packing a copy of their favourite hometown newspaper with them as they travel the globe to celebrate special occasions, visit friends and family, enjoy a relaxing vacation or see some of the world's many historical and geographical landmarks. Take us along on your next trip and send your photo to sports@comoxvalley-record.com. or drop it off at our office.



DR. PHIL AND his assistant Michelle Kirk caught up on the hometown news while taking some extra training in Las Vegas in November.



THE COMOX VALLEY Record gets the boot in Lac Drolet, Quebec at the world famous Royer Boot Factory with Henri Royer, Steven Royer and Liz Royer.

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Specials in Effect until Tuesday, March 18th, 2014

Bursary helping young farmers to get started

Money helped local farmers to add greenhouse and seeder

The Birds and the Beans Farm will purchase new farm equipment this winter in preparation for another great year of farming thanks to the Good Earth Bursary.

Last year, Comox Valley Farmers' Market vendors Simon Toole and Heather Mills initiated a new bursary for farmers. Their intention was to help take a bit of a bite out of season startup costs.

Along with Good Earth's contribution, many customers and fellow vendors added to the fund. Farmers were then

asked to apply by sharing a little about their operation, and their plans for the coming year.

The Birds and the Beans foursome (Kelsey, Jay, Natasha and Foster) described how keen they were to find out how much more they could grow with the addition of a new greenhouse and seeder funded by the bursary as well as an earlier start to the season.

"We are so thankful," a representative from the farm says. "This bursary helps us with our early-season cash flow, allowing us to invest in a greenhouse, which will provide a space where we can start transplants, grow warm-season crops in the summer, and greens in the winter."



JAY IS ONE of four people at the Birds and the Beans Farm who are overjoyed about a Good Earth Bursary from the Comox Valley Farmers' Market.

"This vastly increases the productivity of the shoulder seasons, bringing the Comox Valley fresh food earlier in the spring and later into the winter."

"Our first year was so amazingly productive; we are excited to see what we can do with a little more experience, an earlier start, and a few extra capital assets. So stay tuned, and we look forward to feeding you fully!"

Their plan is to grow more fabulous vegetables; everything from arugula to zucchini: exciting salad and braising greens, beets, carrots, and roots galore, peas and beans, onions, garlic, kohlrabi and broccoli and cabbage, summer and winter squash, and much more. As well as a

strong crop of winter/cold hardy vegetables, beans and grains to extend their season at the Comox Valley Farmers' Market this fall and winter.

Farmers' market president Hubert Gravouille is enthusiastic about the bursary, and the new farmers.

"It is fabulous to see young people starting to farm in the Valley. With the age of most farmers well above 50, it is vital that we cultivate and support up-and-coming farmers."

"The Birds and the Beans clearly demonstrated their skill and commitment to farming in their first year and are much-deserved of this bursary."

— Comox Valley Farmers' Market

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The Comox Valley RCMP is a proud supporter of the Special Olympics B.C. program and the wonderful work they do with so many in our community.

Local Special Olympic athletes, coaches and families have been busy preparing for the Summer Games this July in Vancouver.

The Comox Valley RCMP is selling raffle tickets on an official Vancouver Canuck hockey stick, signed by the

entire team.

At only \$5 a piece, they will be gone fast and only 150 tickets will be sold.

They are available at the Comox Valley RCMP detachment at 800 Ryan Rd. in Courtenay.

Funds raised will help with sports equipment, training and travel expenses.

The winning ticket will be drawn at a hockey scrimmage for the detachment and friends at the Comox Valley

Sports Centre Rink 2 at 1:30 p.m. on March 29.

For more information, stop by or call the RCMP detachment at 250-338-1321.

— Comox Valley RCMP

AUX. CONST. WOODS proudly handles a Canuck hockey stick being raffled to raise money for the Special Olympics. He's flanked by local athletes Max Porcher (left) and Jake Hooper.



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Sportage SX Luxury shown*

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All about tomatoes

Series of tomato growing workshops in Black Creek

Local farmer Arzeena Hamir will give a tomato-growing workshop March 17 at the Black Creek Community Centre from 7 to 9 p.m.

This workshop is for people who have grown tomatoes for a very long time and have had issues come up, as well as new gardeners who have never grown tomatoes.

Topics will include starting tomatoes from seed, indoor, outdoor and container tomatoes, soil, pests and disease control, and varieties to grow in our region.

You must pre-register for the workshop. Call 250-337-5190. Check www.bccaonline.ca for more info and more workshops by Hamir.

Hamir runs the 26-acre Amara Farm, (in the Grantham area of the Comox Valley) which produces 50 different veggies and fruits. She holds masters in agriculture, sits on the board of the Comox Valley Seed Savers, and is active in ALR and GMO issues.

The Black Creek Community Centre is offering a series of workshops with Hamir. For more information on this and other workshops, visit our website at bccaonline.ca or call 250-337-5190.

— Black Creek Community Centre



FARMER ARZEENA HAMIR will discuss tomato seeds during a workshop March 17 in Black Creek.

Dine Around ending soon

Tasty meal deals during fourth annual campaign

Families looking for a fun night out should consider the \$17 creative menus at five area restaurants including Delicados, the Westerly Family Restaurant, the Zocalo Café & Bistro, Smitty's Restaurant and the Griffin Pub during this year's fifth annual Dine Around the Comox Valley.

Each Dine Around menu includes a choice of appetizer, entrée and dessert for \$17.

"We are definitely seeing a lot of Dine Around traffic in the West-erly Family Restaurant, which is wonderful," says Linda Bridgman, sales and convention services manager at the Westerly Hotel and Convention Centre.

"The value for the price has certainly been a hit with families and it's great that they have a choice of places to go, giving one a chance to experience something new, something familiar and maybe something twice."

What's being served until the annual campaign ends Sunday:

- Delicados: With the philosophy that simple flavours make the best meals, start with Delicados-styled nachos followed by house favourites — enchiladas or a spinach burrito with a side soup or greens and paired with a drink of your choice. Dessert: Pecan cake.
- The Westerly Family Restaurant: Start with a house-made soup or artisan green salad. For a main course, try

prosciutto-wrapped chicken, poached haddock, or beef and ale stew. Dessert: chocolate cheese cake with berries.

- Zocalo Café & Bistro: Appetizer: Start with a lamb Kofta kebab with tahini sauce followed by Chevre, pesto and red pepper ravioli, garlic butter sautéed seafood medley and butternut squash puree. Dessert: House-made carrot cake with raspberry ambrosia coulis.
- Smitty's Restaurant: Start with a cup of Chantal's famous seafood chowder, soup of the day, or salad.

your main course, the popular dishes include the Santé Fe chicken quesadilla, onsite roast turkey dinner or honey barbecue burger.

Dessert: Ice-cream Sunday.

- Griffin Pub: Start with a house-made soup or Caesar salad, followed with a choice of chicken Amaretto fettuccini or hand-breaded and seasoned hunter schnitzel. Dessert: chocolate caramel cheesecake or house-made carrot cake.

For more information, visit www.comoxvalleydinearound.com, call 1-855-400-2882 or join the conversation using #DineAroundCV on Facebook or Twitter.

• • • Anyone who completes a survey after visiting a participating restaurant is entered to win the prize of dining out for the year.

To sign up for the newsletter, visit comoxvalleydinearound.com or go to the Vancouver Island Visitor Centre Facebook page.

— Tartan Group

The BC SUPERSELLERS EVENT

They can't leap tall buildings in a single bound, but there are plenty of reasons the Civic, CR-V and Accord are best-sellers* in BC.



#1 SELLING COMPACT CAR IN BC

2014 CIVIC DX
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MSRP \$17,185** includes freight and PDI
Model shown: FB2E2EEX



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Model shown: RM3H3EES



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*The Civic, CR-V and Accord are the #1 selling retail compact car, compact SUV, and intermediate car respectively in BC based on Polk 2013 Dec YTD report. #Limited time lease offer based on a new 2014 Civic DX model FB2E2EEX. **1.99% lease APR for 60 months O.A.C. Bi-weekly payment, including freight and PDI, is \$84.63 based on applying \$600 lease dollars. Down payment of \$0.00, first bi-weekly payment, environmental fees and 50 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$11,000.90. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. 120,000 kilometre allowance, charge of \$0.12/km for excess kilometre. †Limited time lease offer based on a new 2014 CR-V LX model RM3H3EES. †1.99% lease APR for 60 months O.A.C. Bi-weekly payment, including freight and PDI, is \$133.83 based on applying \$1,000 lease dollars. Down payment of \$0.00, first bi-weekly payment, environmental fees and 50 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$17,897.90. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. 120,000 kilometre allowance, charge of \$0.12/km for excess kilometre. ‡Limited time lease offer based on a new 2014 Accord LX model CR2E3EE. ‡1.99% lease APR for 60 months O.A.C. Bi-weekly payment, including freight and PDI, is \$123.56 based on applying \$1,050 lease dollars. Down payment of \$0.00, first bi-weekly payment, environmental fees and 50 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$10,002.80. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. 120,000 kilometre allowance, charge of \$0.12/km for excess kilometre. ***MSRP is \$17,185 / \$27,685 / \$25,685 including freight and PDI of \$1,495 / \$1,995 / \$1,995 based on a new 2014 Civic DX model FB2E2EEX / 2014 CR-V LX 2WD model RM3H3EES / 2014 Accord LX model CR2E3EE. PPSA, license, insurance, taxes, and other dealer charges are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. WE'VE GOT IT! Prices and/or payments shown do not include a PPSA fee, registration fee of \$30.31 and ten registration agent's fee of \$5.25, which are both due at time of delivery. #71C12W12** Offers valid from March 1st through 31st, 2014 at participating Honda retailers. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid only for British Columbia residents at BC Honda Dealers locations. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. Terms and conditions apply. Visit www.bchonda.com or see your Honda retailer for full details.



PETER PHILLIPS AND Matthijs Bruining from RBC present a \$10,000 KidStart donation to Colleen Ross and Steve Ayers from JHSNI.

With faith, kids can do it all

“When you believe in kids, they can do anything,” states the RBC Foundation’s website.

As part of its commitment to investing in kids and youth, RBC Foundation recently made a generous donation of \$10,000 to KidStart.

KidStart is a volunteer-based mentoring program offered by the John Howard Society of North Island (JHSNI). This award-winning program connects vulnerable children and youth ages six to 18 with positive adult role models in the Comox Valley and Campbell River.

Each child in KidStart has different reasons for needing support.

The loss of a family member, challenges at school, or stresses at home are all examples of why a child may need a mentor.

Matthijs Bruining, RBC branch manager, said KidStart is a good fit for the foundation’s funding goals.

“Children and youth are a priority for the RBC Foundation. KidStart aligns well with our belief that kids are our future. The program increases young people’s self-esteem and helps them make good choices,” Bruining said.

Peter Phillips, RBC account manager for business and commercial markets, is a KidStart mentor.

“I volunteer with KidStart because I can encourage a young person,” Phillips said.

KidStart depends on donations, grants, and fundraising. In addition to the \$10,000 donation, RBC also gave \$500 to KidStart this year to recognize Phillips’ volunteer contribution. If an employee volunteers for a community cause 40 or more hours per year, the bank will donate up to \$500 to that charity.

Vicki Luckman, JHSNI’s Comox Valley KidStart manager, said the agency is thrilled

with RBC’s donations.

“RBC’s support for KidStart is making a significant difference in the lives of local children and youth. We’re hearing from families that their children are experiencing improved relationships with family and friends, increased connection to community, and improved academics since entering the program.”

KidStart is looking for volunteer mentors as well as donors. There are more than 35 children aged six to 18 in the Comox Valley waiting for volunteer mentors to spend three hours a week with them.

To find out more about becoming a volunteer mentor or making a donation, contact Wendy Thurlborn, Comox Valley KidStart co-ordinator at 250-338-7341 or wendyt@jhsni.bc.ca. Visit JHSNI on the web at www.jhsni.bc.ca/kidstartchampion.html.

— John Howard Society of North Island

New help for military personnel

A simpler way to access information about morale and welfare programs and services for Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members, veterans and their families is now available online.

The Morale and Welfare Services Directory at www.cfmws.com/YourServices is a user-friendly online resource. It provides a

detailed catalogue of all programs offered by Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services (CFMWS) to the military community.

“The Morale and Welfare Services Directory is a one-stop shop that will help take the guesswork out of service eligibility,” said Comm. Mark Watson, director of General

Morale and Welfare Services. “Many of our community members may not know about the services that are available to them, and this resource gives them a simple place to find the answers.”

Upon arriving at the website, CAF members, veterans and their families simply select the category that best matches them. They

will be directed to a list of services with links to learn more about the individual program or service.

To meet the needs of eligible members, CFMWS provides an extensive collection of programs and services on bases and wings across Canada, abroad and online including casualty support management, transition services, deployment support, family services, financial services, fitness and sports, recreation and retail services.

While all the military community are eligible for some services, many Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services programs are tailored to meet the needs of particular community members and are available only to select patrons.

and mapping system used for the dispatch of 49 fire departments covering a geographic area of approximately 60,000 square kilometres.

The North Island 9-1-1 Corporation provides an emergency communication link between our citizens and visitors and the emergency responders serving our geographic area.

For information on the North Island 9-1-1 Corporation visit the website at www.nisl911.bc.ca.

— North Island 9-1-1 Corporation

Budget settled by 9-1-1

The North Island 9-1-1 Corporation, the regional emergency communications service provider on northern Vancouver Island and in the Powell River area, has adopted a 2014 operating budget of \$2.3 million.

The corporation also approved capital equipment expenditures of \$357,000 funded from reserves.

The operating budget is used to pay for the agreement with the RCMP to provide initial call answering for 9-1-1 calls and for operating and maintaining a fire dispatch

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<p>2012 HONDA Civic LX</p> <p>1.8L, I-4 Cyl, 5 Speed C13-4295A \$14,590</p>	<p>2005 HONDA Civic LX-G</p> <p>1.7L, I-4 Cyl, Automatic A14-4337B \$7,800</p>	<p>2003 HONDA CR-V EX</p> <p>2.4L, I-4 Cyl, Automatic C13-4236A \$8,990</p>
<p>2011 HONDA CR-Z</p> <p>1.5L, 4 Cyl, 5 Speed, Manual Z11-3706 \$20,800</p>	<p>2011 HONDA Odyssey EX</p> <p>3.5L, V-6 Cyl, Rear DVD D14-4312A \$27,990</p>	<p>2006 VOLKSWAGEN Jetta TDI</p> <p>1.9L, I-4 Cyl C13-4346A \$12,800</p>

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Quantities and/or selection of items may be limited and may not be available in all stores. No rainchecks. No substitutions on clearance items or where quantities are advertised as limited. Advertised pricing and product selection (flavour, colour, patterns, style) may vary by store location. We reserve the right to limit quantities to reasonable family requirements. We are not obligated to sell items based on errors or misprints in typography or photography. Coupons must be presented and redeemed at time of purchase. Applicable taxes, deposits, or environmental surcharges are extra. No sales to retail outlets. Some items may have "plus deposit and environmental charge" where applicable. ©TM The trademarks, service marks and logos displayed in this flyer are trademarks of Loblaw's Inc. and others. All rights reserved. © 2014 Loblaw's Inc. *we match prices! Applies only to our major supermarket competitors' flyer items. Major supermarket competitors are determined solely by us based on a number of factors which can vary by store location. We will match the competitor's advertised price only during the effective date of the competitor's flyer advertisement. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES (note that our major supermarket competitors may not). Due to the fact that product is ordered prior to the time of our Ad Match checks, quantities may be limited. We match identical items (defined as same brand, size, and attributes) and in the case of fresh produce, meat, seafood and bakery, we match a comparable item (as determined solely by us). We will not match competitors' "multi-buys" (eg. 2 for \$4, "spend x get x", "Free", "clearance", discounts obtained through loyalty programs, or offers related to our third party operations (post office, gas bars, dry cleaners etc.). We reserve the right to cancel or change the terms of this program at any time. Customer Relations: 1-866-999-9890.



ARMY CADETS SIT in a Buffalo aircraft during a recent tour of 19 Wing Comox.

Cadets inspect base

Rick Yurkewich
Contributor

19 WING COMOX — Royal Canadian Army Cadets from the Comox Valley, Port Alberni, Nanaimo, Powell River, and Campbell River gathered March 8 for a rare and exciting opportunity to tour Canada's West Coast air force base.

Approximately 100 cadets were treated to a tour of the base during the Canadian Forces Familiarization Day, where they got a chance to explore the behind-the-scenes happenings of the busy air base.

They enjoyed a tour of the fire hall, where they were invited up on the massive airfield fire trucks, learned about firefighting techniques and various firefighting tools. They also toured 442 Transport and Rescue Squadron's hangars, where they sat in the cockpit of the famous Cormorant helicopter and Buffalo aircraft.

The cadets had an educational tour of the military police building, where they learned about the tools of the

trade of police work and were also thrilled to witness an interactive demonstration by members of 19 Explosives Disposal Flight and their bomb disposal robot "tEODor."

Some lucky cadets also had the opportunity to suit up in an actual bomb disposal suit and go through a brief exercise. For lunch, cadets were treated to surprisingly tasty military rations, also known as MREs (Meals Ready to Eat).

Despite the soggy weather, the cadets were grateful and happy to engage in this informative tour of our local military base.

Exciting opportunities like these are available to our army cadets because of generous community involvement, federal government support and community contributions through fundraisers such as the April 12 Tag Day.

Recruitment for army cadets is ongoing. If you have a youngster aged 12 to 18 who would be interested, call 250-339-8211, extension 7995, for more information.

— 1726 Royal Canadian Army Cadets

Fossil talk at city museum

A co-author of West Coast Fossils will present a lecture about fossil amber and also the large fossil mammals of the ice age.

The lecture by Graham Beard will be at the Courtenay and District Museum and Paleontological Centre on March 16 at 1:30 p.m.

Learn about the amazing preservation of insects and plants in amber that are formed from fossilized tree resin.

Beard will explain the fossilization process and the many different types of specimens found in amber. Graham will also explain how to identify true amber from fake amber by determining the specific gravity.

After the presentation he will be happy to confirm if you have

LECTURE

a real amber gemstone or if you have been unlucky to have acquired a fake.

Amber has been collected, traded and prized by humans since Neolithic times, some 13,000 years ago. Learn about the fictional theory about DNA found in a mosquito that leads to the movie Jurassic Park and ask, could DNA be captured in the cells of fossilized animals in the future?

In contrast to amber, Graham will present the fossils of the Ice Age; mammoths, mastodons, giant sloths that were travelling to Vancouver Island via a land bridge less than 20,000 years ago.

What happened to these large ice age mammals? Were they pushed to extinction by the Ice Age or did man kill the last of them off for food?

Learn about the scientific study on near perfectly frozen specimens of mammoths. Are there teams of scientists trying to resurrect extinct species or is this just more science fiction? Come learn about our paleontological history.

This presentation is sponsored by the Vancouver Island Paleontological Society and the Courtenay and District Museum and Paleontological Centre.

Call Dan Bowen at 250-897-5026 or Pat Trask at 250-334-0686.

— Courtenay and District Museum and Paleontological Centre

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Convoys recalled

The Alberni Project Museum and Memorial in the Comox Centre Mall announces its annual Coins For Convoys Campaign.

Donations of spare coins are solicited to support the museum and its acquisitions for 2014, the Year of the Veteran. Every cent donated represents one nautical mile across the Atlantic Ocean from Halifax, Canada to Portsmouth, England.

A Battle of the Atlantic map will be on display in the museum during the campaign with a corvette convoy making progress across the ocean. The TAP Facebook page will also be posting updates of

the convoy's voyage to and from Canada.

Come into the museum and drop your coins into the bucket and see how your pennies, dimes and loonies help save the people of the U.K. during the Second World War. Large folding money donations buy your own ship!

Join in the fun and learn about our naval history and help support this Comox museum.

For more information, stop by TAP near the south entrance at the Comox Centre Mall, call 250-339-4322 or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/TheAlberniProject. — The Alberni Project



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*See store for details. Hot Buys & Final Markdowns excluded. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Sale ends March 24th, 2014 or while supplies last.

The K'ómoks Estuary 2014

Keeping it Living

The Return of Abundance

An Art & Literature Awareness & Fundraising Campaign to give everyone the opportunity to contribute to the preservation and restoration of the K'ómoks Estuary. This year includes a sponsorship drive and special events.

Breaking News

Project Watershed thanks the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) through North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA) program for their support of our Blue Carbon initiative!



Be Our Guest

Join us for our **Keeping It Living Sponsorship Gala** at the Comox Valley Art Gallery on April 25th. The Gala will feature our **Keeping It Living Art Collection** showing in the George Sawchuk Wing of the Art Gallery from April 16th to May 3rd. The Collection consists of the 5 original estuary inspired artworks acquired through our Keeping It Living Art Competition since 2009 to aid in the restoration and protection of the K'ómoks Estuary.

The evening will showcase 5 short performances, including one by Voices Three, to help us reflect on the issues associated with our estuary and our work to protect and restore it as well as to inspire attendees to contribute to our cause through our world class art sponsorships. Other highlights for the evening will include Blue Moon wines, Natural Pastures cheeses and a mini silent auction. In lieu of an entrance fee we will be exchanging community way dollars for Canadian at the door. There are only 100 'spots' available so please RSVP online at www.keepingitliving.ca to ensure your attendance.



Help us reach 100!

Our target this year is to have 100 individuals and businesses sponsor our work in the estuary through a financial contribution to Project Watershed of \$100 or \$125 respectively. In return, Project Watershed will recognise this support by offering one of the limited edition prints showcased below to display in your home or place of business. Businesses will also receive public acknowledgement in the newspaper, on our website and during our Keeping It Living Sponsorship Gala.

We do have a range of other sponsorship opportunities available from \$5 to \$1000. You can sponsor us online using PayPal or by coming into the Conservation Centre at 2356a Rosewall Crescent with cash or cheque. Sponsorship material will also be available through the Comox Valley Art Gallery shop from April to August. More information is at www.keepingitliving.ca

Sponsorship Prints \$100 - 50 limited editions



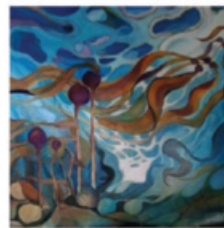
2012 - "Morning Mist" by Rena Rogers



2010 - Bev Byerley



2011 - Jennifer Weber



2013 - Shirley Dickie



2014 - Martha Ponting

ESTUARY and ECONOMY

From the past and into the future the K'ómox Estuary supports the economy of the Comox Valley. Rena Roger's photograph captures a moment for us to reflect on this. Archeological work suggests a substantial First Nation community existed on the shores of the Estuary for over 1400 years. This community relied on the productivity from the land around the Estuary as well as the water, as natural estuarine dynamics creates rich farmland. This farmland is still used today and remnant First Nation stakes bespeckle the mudflats supporting agriculture, agri-tourism and potentially archaeo-tourism. Project Watershed is committed to develop a bid for National Historic Status and the protection, education and tourism that could accompany this.

www.keepingitliving.ca



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Ladies Day Sat March 15 from 12-5
- Spring Break Kids Camps March 17-21

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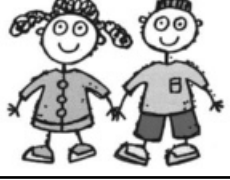


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Saturday April 5, 2014 starting at 1pm

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SPRING REGISTRATION

Some exercise every day keeps the doctor away

Remember the saying, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away"? Unfortunately, that's just not enough in the case of children and teenagers. Scientific research confirms that in addition to a healthy diet, we have to do one hour of physical exercise every day of the week in order to ensure proper development and overall good health.

But between school, homework, and spending time with friends, it's not always easy to fit physical activity into their busy schedules. Nevertheless, it's crucial to find a way to include some movement or sports in their daily lives. This can be done with a few small changes that will barely be noticed by children.

In the morning, encourage them to walk to school, if it is feasible, instead of catching the school bus. They will not only benefit from the fresh air but they'll also be more attentive in the classroom. At lunchtime, register them in a sports program offered at their school. Swimming, basketball, and track and field, for example, are all sports that expend a lot of energy.

Organize some family sports activities in the evenings and on weekends. Parents can set the example to help their children understand the importance of physical exercise. Register for some classes that all the family can attend if this is within your means. If not, take advantage of the sports facilities in your

municipality.

If children are overweight or have a fragile state of health, it is very

important to adapt to their reality. Choose amusing activities, without a competitive element, and you'll

have a better chance of maintaining their interest and enjoyment for much longer.

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SPRING REGISTRATION

1,000 reasons to do a sport



PARTICIPATING IN A SPORT can help boost a child's academic success.

Sports are so much more than just good fun. Getting involved with sports leads to physical fitness and robust health. For children, its benefits include healthy weight maintenance and improved blood circulation and cardiovascular health. Best of all, participation in sports has also been shown to have a beneficial effect on academic success.

Scientific studies have demonstrated that participating in sports activities has a positive impact on school dropout rates. This can be explained in terms of an increased sense of confidence and belonging. Physical activity also improves one's ability to concentrate. When students are more concentrated in the classroom, the learning process is facilitated.

Children who participate in a sport on a regular basis also have improved lifestyles, including better sleep habits and diet. These students tend to opt for healthier foods, avoid smoking, and get better rest at night. In general, their moods also seem less volatile, which makes them much more pleasant to live with!

The social aspect of team sports should not be forgotten either. On a team, children learn to

communicate better and integrate themselves into a group environment. For those who could benefit from learning better social skills, playing a sport can help them build friendships and learn to deal with disappointment.

Even though participating in sports activities can increase the risk of injury for children, the benefits they gain greatly surpass the risks. However, it is important that children enjoy their chosen sport, so giving them the opportunity to try a few different activities is definitely the right way to go.

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SEASON OPENING DAY

Saturday April 26th

10:00 am - 2:00 pm | Comox

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May 23-25

Lewis Park
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August 15, 16 & 17

Any Two for Tennis
Mixed Doubles
June 20 - 22

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August 29 - 31

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PLEASE ENLIGHTEN ME as to why seniors are complaining about their fixed incomes? As a senior myself, I am delighted with the fixed income I receive from our government (CPP and OAP). It's ample to provide food, utilities and gas for me and my wife. Will it pay rent or a mortgage, no, but whose fault is that? We don't even get the full amount most do, as we didn't receive the income they did. By the way, no complaints. I believe there are millions if not billions in our world today who would love to be on a senior's fixed income and medical such as what we have here in Canada. No, we have not worked for the government in the civil service or in any union with all the benefits and a pension plan throughout our working years. What we did do is we lived within our means, which means no money = no buying or borrowing, nice and simple. Why are seniors today still paying rent or mortgages? Have you listened too often to those ads that state "don't let the equity in your homes tie you down?" We've come through the best years money-wise this country has ever seen or probably will ever see again! Just put yourself in the position of our young people today as they are looking at \$300,000 plus mortgages! We were encouraged back in the 1960s and forward to put a little aside for retirement, but it looks like you took the borrowing lifestyle and holidays instead. And now you want the rest of us who planned ahead to "fix" your decisions! I do recognize there are exceptions and I'm all in for helping those who are truly in need but sorry, I'm not in for helping those complaining about their fixed income not keeping up with inflation and their lifestyle. To you young people out there, get out of debt ASAP and then stay out. Life will then be much more content and enjoyable.

THE SPORT OF curling deserves support in the Comox Valley. An Olympic sport with the first ice in the Valley. I'm voting NO to the \$1.9-million project, because democracy is much more

important than a curling rink. CVRD directors are offering public input through the Alternate Voting Process. Not voting means approval. It's the way of the future — to leave the apathetic public out of the approval process. I'm not giving up my right to vote. I'm filling out the paperwork and delivering it to the CVRD office.

THE RYAN ROAD Saga: I am surprised at the number of articles regarding the use of the two lanes going up Ryan Road. The sign at the bottom of the hill stating "Keep right except to pass" is and has been outdated the past 10 years. It was put there before NIC, Lerwick connector, Home Depot, Thrifty Shopping Centre, Crown Isle, Costco, the auto dealers and the soon-to-be-hospital that are now there with more to come. The City of Courtenay just hasn't had the time and manpower to remove it yet! Also, there is another sign that most people forget (including myself) and it's also against the law, "Maximum Speed Limit 60 km". I personally have driven up and down the Ryan hill daily the past 20 years and have yet to encounter a driver driving less than 60 km per hour in the left lane, so what's the fuss all about? Perhaps when the City of Courtenay removes the sign at the bottom of the hill, then it wouldn't give the idiot drivers the right they think they have.

MY SINCERE APOLOGIES to the driver of the pickup truck traveling from Anderton to Pritchard on Guthrie Road on a Friday around 6:30

p.m. When you changed lanes and slowed down after crossing Anderton, I thought you were turning left into the shopping centre so I stayed in the right lane — planning to change lanes after you'd made your turn. When I realized you were not turning left, I made a split-second decision to accelerate and pass you instead of hitting the brakes in front of the car behind me. I assure you that I did not intend to drive aggressively and was not trying to cut you off. We were both reacting to the unexpected appearance of a jaywalker, who is not going to live much longer if he/she continues to meander across busy roads in the dark! The configuration of this intersection is a chronic problem because it requires through traffic travelling both directions on Guthrie to immediately change lanes after crossing Anderton. I can't imagine why the Town of Comox spent thousands of taxpayer dollars to rebuild this intersection with such a serious design flaw!

THE CVRD HAVE been leaders in reducing landfilling in Cumberland, encouraging recycling, encouraging responsible dumping with a minimal \$4 fee. Keeping 5,000 tons per year of wood waste and gyprock out of the landfill — the equivalent of 10,000 additional resident's solid waste. We ask them to stay on track, and continue the good work that has been going on for years. We are the converted. We recycle, compost — we got the message. How can it possibly cost more to process less garbage when we are all doing the right thing? Do the right thing,

CVRD administrators — be more efficient and look at other options. Challenge MLA Don McRae and his government to pay for costly upgrades, but don't penalize your responsible customers! (Editor's note: Big changes are brewing for recycling in B.C. See story in the March 13 Comox Valley Record or on the News Section of this website.)

GOOD TO SEE BC Hydro carrying out maintenance with low lake levels. The Comox Valley Water Board needs to take note of who the Comox Lake "water hog" really is. BC Hydro uses as much lake water in one day as all 40,000 Comox Valley water customers use in three months! Why is the CVRD leaning on Comox Lake water customers with high bulk water cost and surcharges?

A HUGE THANK you goes out to all the filmmakers who submitted films to the fourth annual Cumberland Mountain Film Festival and to the enthusiastic volunteers who donated their time and energy to this year's event. Over 40 raffle prizes were donated from generous local business' including: Cumberland Crate Company, Atlas Café, Valhalla Pure, Seeds Market, Darkside Chocolates, Dodge City Cycles, Riders Pizza, ELM, Blue Toque Sports Swap, Trail Bicycles, The Broken Spoke, Riders Pizza, Tarbell's Deli, Sew What I Sew, Be, Avenue Bistro, Simon's Cycles, Mar's on Main, Gourmet Girls, Island Mountain Rides, Wee Dee Apparel, Alley Cuts, Virgin Hair, Rusty Rooster, the Guerilla Food Company.

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COURTENAY'S NEIL WOODROW is again serving on the VIREB board.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Woodrow returns to VIREB

Courtenay's Neil Woodrow is among the returning directors who will serve on the 2014 Vancouver Island Real Estate Board.

Duncan realtor Blair Herbert was sworn in as VIREB president at the organization's

AGM last month in Nanaimo. Jason Finlayson, also a Duncan-based realtor, was installed as president-elect for 2014. Cholese Begin from Campbell River is among three new faces to join the board.

"Our new board is comprised of some very talented individuals who have a shared passion for advancing professionalism in the real estate industry, and we are confident that this group will do a fantastic job in lead-

ing the organization," said VIREB executive officer Bill Benoit.

Departing board members Guy Bezeau, Jennifer Merilees and Heather Parker were recognized for their dedication and service over the past year.

Community Connections accredited

Vancouver Island Community Connections has, for the first time, been accredited by CARF for a period of three years for its community employment, community housing and community integration programs.

CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation) is a non-profit, international accrediting body that promotes optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process.

Vancouver Island Community Connections Inc is a for-profit organization with offices in Courtenay. It has been providing employment, housing and integration programs in the Comox Valley since 2005.

This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization, showing substantial conformance to CARF standards. An organization receiving a three-year accredi-

tation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process. It has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site

visit its commitment to offering programs and services that are measurable, accountable and of the highest quality.

For additional information about VICC, directors Lesley Gibson or Carol Gjesdal can be contacted at 250-338-7201.

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DJIA	16351.25
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S&P TSX 60 (XIU)	20.64

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Cdn. Oil Sands	21.48
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Report ranks B.C. number two

Survey results from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business reveal dramatic differences in how confident small businesses are that their provincial governments have a vision

to support entrepreneurship and small business.

Respondents in Saskatchewan were by far the most confident, followed by British Columbia and Alberta respectively.

"British Columbia placed a strong second for overall small business vision, and ranked second or third across a range of topics," said Mike Klassen, CFIB BC director of provincial affairs.

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Listen to your elders

When people yearn for "The Good Old Days" it's difficult not to roll your eyes.

Yes, there was a simpler time when kids were sent out the door to "go play" without much fear. A time when your work couldn't follow you everywhere.

Those who lived in that supposedly more simple time are too often dismissed by those who live in the fast lane now, people who embrace science and technology as the new god.

That's a mistake.

First Nations people get it. They embrace elders and turn to them to shape their decisions in these fast-paced times.

After a discussion this week with two fishermen who have been working the waters around B.C. for a combined 100 years, we have less confidence in the techies and scientists who determine what, and how many, can be harvested from the sea.

Wally Piatocka, 79, put down his cellphone before he pulled no punches. He told us the federal government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans has mismanaged the fisheries. He said the DFO does not listen to the oldtimers.

That's a mistake.

Piatocka knows more about what's in the ocean around here than any biologist armed with the latest in sonar or DNA samples. He understands the trends of, say, the herring, year over year. He can look at the snow levels in the mountains, the water level of the rivers, and tell you what kind of year it will be for fishing.

It seems a shame, a real waste of valuable resources, to have a man like Piatocka feel like his input is not welcome. Perhaps it's time for the DFO to consider — for real and not just a public relations exercise with representatives from various 'associations' — an advisory panel of knowledgeable oldtimers.

Parksville-Qualicum Beach News

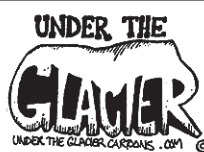
Record Question of the Week

This week: Seventy-two per cent of respondents said they are concerned about ocean acidification. Next week: Should BC Ferries be brought back under control of the Transportation Ministry? Visit www.comoxvalleyrecord.com and vote on the mainpage.



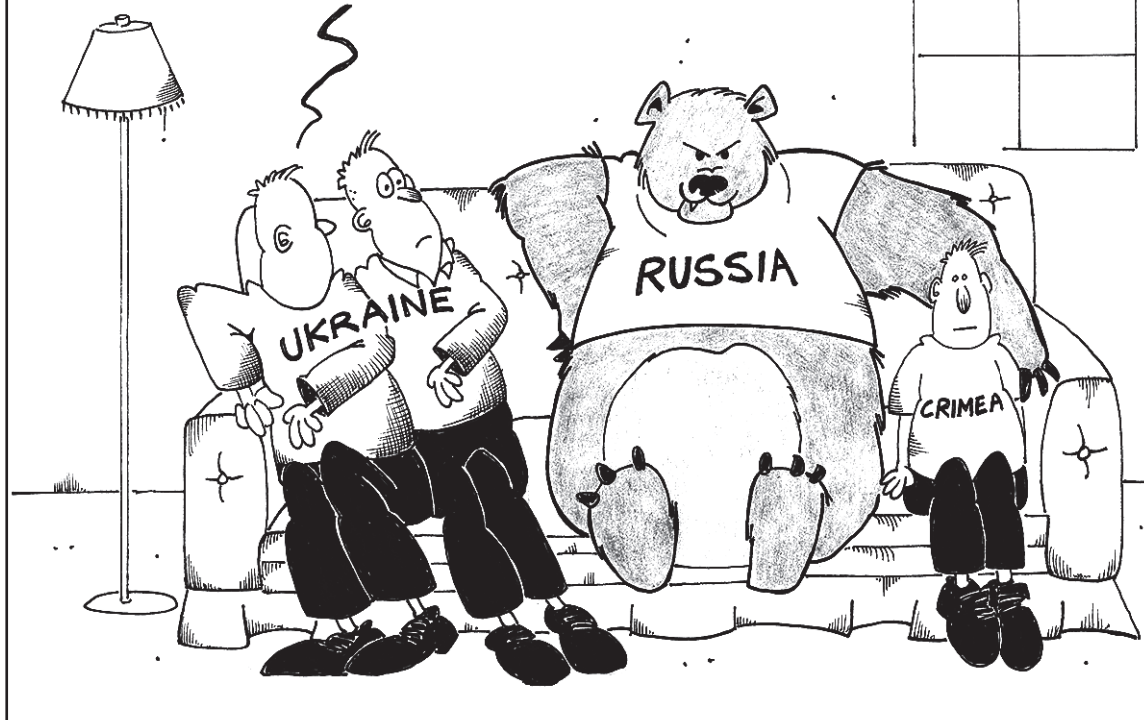
People longing for something Scottish will be able to see some dancing, the only part of the local Highland Games to survive.

Something seems fishy about the new Multi Material BC recycling system, which is being slammed by a coalition of opponents.



THE UNWANTED GUEST...

WHO INVITED HIM?...NOW
HE'S NEVER GONNA LEAVE...



Seahorses, mermaids next?

Dear editor,

It is amazing to me that after numerous public meetings, several writing campaigns and a petition signed by more than 400 area residents expressing their strong opposition to the expansion of aquaculture in Baynes Sound that the Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLR) is still considering granting an application for an aquaculture tenure in an area of northern Baynes Sound so enjoyed for its natural beauty and recreation.

This application, (MFLR File: No. 1413722), which takes in an area of the Sound between the shoreline of Craigdarroch Beach and Sandy Island Marine Park (Tree Island), has gone through several permutations over the past couple of years.

Initially it was for farming geoducks, then it was changed to one for "ranching" sea cucumbers. Now, according to applicant Mr. Eric Gant, he wants to "experiment" with cockles, scallops, oysters and horse clams. What's next, seahorses and mer-

“ Island Scallops has had to lay off 30 per cent of its workforce and now CEO Rob Saunders says he is looking for support from the government. Will this be yet another case where the taxpayer is left to foot the bill? ”

Robert Macdonald

maids?

If the dramatic failure of Island Scallops' 2010, 2011 and 2012 crop, where an estimated 10 million scallops died, tells us anything it is that we must find out much more about what is going on in our oceans before allowing any more aquaculture in the area.

Island Scallops has had to lay off 30 per cent of its workforce and now CEO Rob Saunders says he is looking for support from the government. Will this be yet

another case where the taxpayer is left to foot the bill?

Our provincial government is allowing this to happen. Granting Mr. Gant his tenure gives him the opportunity to try his "experiment."

This is a huge area, 81 hectares of some of the prettiest waters around. Mr. Gant boasts of a venture that could generate millions, yet Island Scallops CEO Rob Saunders says they are not sure they can survive.

Who is right?

Experiments are best done in the lab under controlled conditions, not in the waters of our Sound and not if there is a chance the taxpayer will have to pick up the tab when things go wrong.

Comments on the application close March 15. Please take the time to write to the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resources.

Mr. Steve Thomson is the cabinet minister responsible. Let him know your thoughts.

Robert Macdonald,
Royston

Stop increasing aquaculture

Dear editor,

Sustainable or seastainable?

How is increasing the number of shellfish aquaculture tenures and experimenting with wild species in Baynes Sound working with Mother Nature?

It certainly isn't addressing the real problem. Industrializing Baynes Sound by increasing aquaculture tenures may in fact feed into the problem, ultimately creating its own demise.

The problem is CO2 emissions. As long as we base our economics on fossil fuels and mass production of products to be shipped to faraway markets, CO2 will rise.

The answer lies in the first of the three Rs — Reduce!

This includes how we market. If food is mass produced and shipped abroad, then the positive loop of CO2 emissions is reinforced. It is time to change this model if we hope to survive.

Aquaculture can learn from land-based farming. The industrialization of farming has not only increased greenhouse gas emissions but has also resulted in inferior food.

People are returning to small local farms for their chickens, eggs and vegetables as the food tastes better and it has higher health benefits. Although we seem to always have a dollar value for marketing our industries, there is no price tag for health.

Let's fix the real problem and not add more problems into this complex equation. It is time to stop the expansion of aquaculture and avoid risking Baynes Sound with experiments.

Why not let the ocean rest from our human egos? We have yet to prove we can perform better than Mother Nature.

Sue Vince,
Royston

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Drop letter off at 765 McPhee Ave. in Courtenay or e-mail to: letters@comoxvalleyrecord.com or Mail to: 765 McPhee Ave., Courtenay, B.C. V9N 2Z7
Be sure your letter includes a signature and phone number

Can we trust Victoria to protect parks as parks?

Dear editor,
The Comox Valley Conservation Strategy Steering Committee has written to Mary Polak, the B.C. minister of the environment, to request the withdrawal of Bill 4, legislation to change the BC Parks Act.

The mandate of the BC Parks Act is to "protect representative and special natural places within the province's Protected Areas

System for world class conservation, outdoor recreation, and education." The government has been entrusted to preserve these areas as parkland for current and future generations.

At present the B.C. government is proposing legislation under Bill 4 that will allow our parks to be used as corridors for pipelines, transmission lines and resource roads. The

legislation, if passed, would allow the issuing of park use permits to conduct "feasibility studies," which are now included under the definition of "research projects."

The proposed legislation defines a "feasibility study" as research that can include the following:

"... the feasibility of the location, design, construction, use, maintenance, improvement

of a road or highway, pipeline, transmission line and telecommunications project."

Bill 4 will also allow feasibility studies for "a prescribed project or a project in a prescribed class of projects," leaving the door open for any type of project to be considered.

The legislation would allow feasibility studies to be used to "inform a decision of the Lieutenant

Governor in Council or the Legislature in relation to the boundaries of the protected area," allowing parks boundaries to be changed to accommodate industrial activity.

Research is necessary for acquiring information which can be used for improving management of park assets.

"Feasibility studies" can lead to the withdrawal of park land and is contrary

to the aim of protecting park lands.

This proposed legislation puts into question the whole purpose of the Parks Act. The trust that B.C. citizens have in the role of government to manage park lands is in jeopardy.

David Stapley

Editor's note: David Stapley is the program manager of the Comox Valley Conservation Strategy steering committee.

Thoughts about Comox rezoning

Dear editor,
Re: Proposed park dedication and rezoning.

I attended the March 5 open house in respect to the proposed park dedication and rezoning and have concerns as follows.

1. The Comox OCP supports a "comprehensive park system that provides natural habitat and wildlife connectivity as well as active recreation opportunities for the community." The intersection of Comox and Anderton is very

"A number of years ago, the car wash had a soap spill. The suds in the creek were as high as the neighbour's garage roof ... he has a picture of it."

Joyce Hallowell

busy and potentially dangerous. Encouraging more deer crossing in this area does not make sense, neither does adding even more pedestrians and cyclists to the mix.

2. Carthew Creek is not a natural fish habitat — it is a

runoff. Chlorinated water and soap from the nearby car wash runs into it. A number of years ago, the car wash had a soap spill. The suds in the creek were as high as the neighbour's garage roof ... he has a picture of it. You can check

the creek almost any day and see evidence of soap. Never seen a fish, though.

3. If Carthew Creek must be protected, a chain link fence would do the job. An easement on either side would suffice ... this is done in Courtenay and seems to work well.

4. An off-street "trail" would be next door to us and the increased pedestrian and cyclist traffic (and probably skateboarders) would interfere with the "quiet enjoy-

ment" of our property.

5. If the current proposal is carried out, it is obvious the Town would have to purchase the property at 1995 Comox Ave. at considerably more expense to the taxpayers. The Town has already spent \$650,000 on 1988 Beaufort Ave., and acquiring 1995 Comox Ave. to facilitate the "off-street" trail would cost as much or more. That's well over a million taxpayer dollars for something nobody really needs or wants.

6. 1988 Beaufort Ave. should be sold and the funds put towards a sidewalk on the south side of Comox Avenue connecting Ellis and Rodello. This is not just a matter of convenience but a matter of safety for those residents who must use the intersection on a regular basis.

Joyce Hallowell, Comox

'Things great the way they are'

Dear editor,
The B.C. Teachers Federation says there are over 41,000 school teachers in the federation.

Strike vote results from March 6 show that only 29,301 teachers voted, with 26,051 voting yes for strike action. This leaves 14,949 teachers, or

36.46 per cent, who seem to be happy with the way things are.

The way things are is that the average teacher compensation in B.C. is \$89,000 per year (\$70,624 in wages, \$18,000 in benefits), two weeks off at Christmas, two-week spring break, lieu days, a pension

plan that B.C. taxpayers pay 16.13 per cent of salary into, having July and August off, and a taxpayer-funded benefits plan.

With the Alberta Teachers' Federation recently agreeing to a four-year contract of zero per cent increase in the first three years, and a two-per-cent

pay raise in the fourth year with a cash bonus, and with the announcement March 7 that Staples will close 225 stores, these 14,949 are saying, "Things are great the way they are."

"We are lucky to be working."

Joe Sawchuk, Duncan

Is there a better path to the ocean?

Dear editor,
As we continually get bombarded with commercials highlighting the benefits of the Enbridge pipeline and

how they are there to protect nature, I still have this burning question:

Has no one looked at a map of B.C.

lately?

Why would you want to end the pipeline at Kitimat and then take a long and narrow path out to

open ocean when you could just carry on the pipeline a short distance to the Skeena River near Prince Rupert?

From this location there is a closer and direct path to open ocean.

It seems absurd that Enbridge should risk taking a ship through such narrow channels from Kitimat, putting the entire B.C. coast in peril of an oil spill, when they could easily navigate the waters near Prince Rupert.

Kevin Marston, Comox

Data for pH hard to come by

Dear editor,
I enjoy reading Ralph Shaw's Outdoors column and I share his concerns about increasing ocean acidity and its increasing effect on shellfish (and other essential organisms that are too small to be noticed).

All of our chemistry students will know that the pH Mr. Shaw refers to, is measured on what is called a

"logarithmic" scale.

That simply means that a change from a pH of 8.2 (normal) to the currently reported 7.2 is a tenfold increase in acidity.

I tried to find some other local data at the University of Victoria's Venus site (<http://venus.uvic.ca/data/data-plots/>) but pH data doesn't appear to be available.

P. Rankin, BSc, MSc., Comox

CASH REWARDS

Crimestoppers will pay cash rewards for information leading to the arrest of persons involved in criminal activities in the Comox Valley.

CALL 1-800-222-TIPS(8477)

Bylaw's toothless

Dear editor,

On Feb. 11 a dog entered my yard on camera chasing a neighbour's cat.

The end result is the dog got my cat and killed it.

I phoned the City of Courtenay and told the bylaw officer what happened. Animal control showed up three days later on Friday, looked at the video then said they would be in touch. Since then, I have located the dog for them but nothing has been done to date.

Now, they have a bylaw in place for dangerous dogs. Section 10 says that a dangerous dog would be impounded and the owner fined no less than \$500 and no more than \$10,000.

What I'm hoping to see is that a dangerous dog is out there and something be done so no one else has to go through this.

Lorne Halme, Courtenay

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK



BIRDS' EYE VIEW This spectacular photo was captured while the photographer was working on the dock at Goose Spit. E-mail your Picture of the Week submissions to editor@comoxvalleyrecord.com. PHOTO BY ALLAN SAWCHUCK

Lions in malls selling signs

Members of the Comox Valley Monarch Lions Club will take to malls in March to promote their 911 Reflective Address Sign project.

People have a choice having their address numbers laid out vertically or horizontally. The blue reflective address sign with white reflective numbers are so reflective day or night that emergency services personnel and volunteers don't need to struggle to locate your address when you call for help.

A community and fundraising project by the Monarch Lions, the 911 Reflective Address Signs are recommended by emergency services everywhere.

Often, address numbers in rural areas and developments can be difficult to find. If emergency response people have to drive down a road two or

three times to find a house, it could be too late to save a life.

It's not just for emergency responders; an easily visible address also helps delivery services, taxis and friends find your home easily.

All the money raised from this project goes directly back into the community. Monarch Lions members thank everyone who participate in this important project. You are truly helping Lions make a difference in our community

The CV Monarch Lions will be at Comox Centre Mall on March 28 and 29. They will make your customized 911 Reflective Address Sign while you wait.

You can order your 911 reflective address sign today at www.911reflectivesign.ca or call 250-338-9602.

— *Comox Valley Monarch Lions Club*

Berwick passes

Berwick Comox Valley has once again passed its B.C. Senior Living Association accreditation process with flying colours, and earned the association's prestigious Seal of Approval.

To qualify as a "sealed" community, the organization must subject itself to rigorous review of its operations in five major areas: resident services, staff training, safety, infection control, and assisted living.

BCSLA members who participate in this program do so to show a commitment to their clients to provide stan-

dards of excellence, integrity, leadership and true passion for their residents.

Berwick Comox Valley has been a member of BCSLA since its opening in May 2006, and a "sealed" community since the program was introduced in November 2009.

For more information about BCSLA or the Seal of Approval, visit www.bcsla.ca or call community relations manager Linda Rutherford at Berwick Comox Valley at 250-339-1690 or www.berwickretirement.com.

— *Berwick Comox Valley*



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COMOX VALLEY RECORD

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014

COURTENAY, B.C.

Everson hopes you will 'like' his new art exhibit



RENOWNED
COMOX
VALLEY artist
Andy Everson
skillfully blends
pop culture
with his native
heritage.

Paula Wild
Record Arts

Facebook. People like it or hate it.

But with an estimated more than one billion active users, there's a lot of liking going on. And if you're social network savvy, those "likes" can add up to much more than the click of a mouse.

An excellent example is the Idle No More design First Nation artist Andy Everson created one morning for a protest later that day. Within 24 hours it had been shared 1,000 times worldwide.

On March 14 Everson will open "Like? Indigenous Musings in a Digital Age" in the contemporary gallery of the Comox Valley Art Gallery. The reception

runs from 6 to 9 p.m.

"The exhibit is sort of a takeoff of a Facebook page," explains Everson. "I play with the idea of 'liking' things on Facebook and the worth and value of acceptance in the cyber world."

Everson fuses traditional Northwest Coast art forms with modern themes such as the Olympics, Star Wars and Storm Troopers to create a variety of two-dimensional work, wearable art and sculpture.

"The show includes a number of pieces that were born on Facebook," Everson says. "Sometimes I create something, put it up on Facebook and gauge the reaction."

"Sometimes I'm poking fun at pop culture, other times I tackle more serious topics such as trea-

ty issues and pipelines.

"It's amazing the way art gets around now on social media," he adds. "It's very different than it was even five years ago."

"And using pop culture to address serious topics seems to resonate with people and move across cultural boundaries. The digital age opens so many possibilities and ways to interact with people who would never step foot inside a gallery."

A Comox resident for most of his life, Everson was named Nagedzi after his grandfather, the late Chief Andy Frank of the Kómoks First Nation, and gained a rich love of and interest in his heritage from his grandmother, Margaret Frank.

He's formed a native linguistics

company, a traditional First Nation dance troupe and has travelled throughout Canada, the U.S. and abroad as a cultural ambassador for native people in Canada.

By a quirky twist of fate, even though his artwork is shown in galleries throughout Canada and the U.S., "Like?" will be his first formal art opening.

Joining Everson in the contemporary gallery is Hands of the Next Generation, a group show of work created by youth at the Wachiay Friendship Centre who received instruction from Everson and printmaker Andy MacDougall.

Also opening on March 14 is Riverway, paintings by Martha Jablonski Jones; Maple Pool

United & But Enough Art, Eat!, photographs by Ron Pogue and art from Project Watershed's Keeping it Living estuary collection.

Everson will be present at the opening on March 14 and is giving an art talk at the gallery on April 12 at 11 a.m. "Like" runs until May 2.

The Comox Valley Art Gallery is at 580 Duncan Ave. in Courtenay and is open Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm. For more information visit www.comoxvalleyartgallery.com or www.andyeverson.com.

Paula Wild is a published author and regular contributor to the Comox Valley Record's arts and entertainment section. www.paulawild.ca.



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Snowbird tribute to Anne

Anne Murray announced to the world May 2007 she was embarking on her final tour, retiring to a life of golf and leisure.

Murray was the first Canadian female solo artist to go No. 1 on the American Billboard chart, sell a gold record in Canada and the U.S. — and was the first woman, and first Canadian — to win album of the year.

Anne has received a jaw-dropping 24 Junos, along with four Grammys over her 40-year career.

This Girl Next Door from Nova Scotia, has sold 54 million albums with 33 No. 1 singles.

Billboard Magazine, the music industry bible, has ranked her No. 10 on their list of 50 greatest adult contemporary artists ever. She has her own star on Hollywood's walk of fame as well in Canada.

Now it's time to present a long-overdue tribute to Canada's Songbird.

This multi-media show will take you back over four decades of hits, career highlights and songs like Cotton Jenny, Could I Have This Dance? What About Me? Daydream Believer and the one that started it all — Snowbird.

Fellow Nova Scotian Laura Gillespie and her amazing band Topaz together complement and deliver a genuine reproduction.

Snowbird is a cavalcade of non-stop hits



FELLOW NOVA SCOTIAN Laura Gillespie presents a tribute to Anne Murray on March 23 at the Sid Williams Theatre.

and imagery that will instantly transport you through time.

Songbird, the story of Anne Murray's career, comes to the Sid Williams Theatre on March 23, starting at 7 p.m.

For more details about the production, visit www.snowbird-annemurraytribute.com.

For more details and to get tickets, visit www.sidwilliamstheatre.com, visit the Sid

ticket centre at 442 Cliffe Ave. from Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or phone 250-338-2430, extension 1 (toll-free: 1-866-898-TIXX (8499)).

— Sid Williams Theatre



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VIMF has free workshops

Vancouver Island MusicFest began the Music In The Schools program in 2013.

This year it includes public workshops open to anyone who wants to attend.

“It’s a simple concept,” explains MusicFest’s artistic director Doug Cox. “We have all these great performers coming to the Valley to do shows and they also happen to be great teachers.”

“We started last year with the idea the VI MusicFest Concert Series would pay some of the performers to perform in the schools for the kids with hopes of inspiring the children and show them that there are so many possibilities for them within the arts. If we were able to do that for even one kid — then it is worth it.”

This year, MusicFest also began their annual bursary program and will award three high school students with bursaries for secondary studies in any arts performance or production discipline.

Another aspect of VI MusicFest’s Community Outreach initiative is the addition of a new public workshop series to the program.

The first free workshop will be a creative writing workshop with singer-songwriter Linda McRae. Linda has been doing workshops all over the U.S. and Canada including workshops in prisons and schools. She recently had the distinction of even doing a workshop at Folsom Prison that was very well received.

The Linda McRae free creative writing workshop will be held at the Holiday Inn Express in Courtenay on April 5 from noon to 3. Registration is limited for this event and will be accepted on a first-come basis at www.eventbrite.ca/e/vancouver-island-musicfest-presents-creative-writing-workshop-w-linda-mcraetickets-10360256807?ref=ebtnebregn.

McRae will also perform in concert at the Cumberland Hotel on Friday April 4. Tickets are available at the Cumberland Hotel or at www.islandmusicfest.com.

The second free workshop takes place Tuesday, April 8 at 8 p.m. at the K’ómoks Band Hall. Sugar & Gold — The Story Of The Underground



LINDA McRAE PERFORMS April 4 at the Cumberland Hotel, then offers a free creative writing workshop the next day.

PHOTO BY DOUG LANG

Railroad In Canada — features Diana Braithwaite and Chris Whiteley.

This is a 50-minute, interactive, lively performance that is perfect for all ages. The performance includes storytelling, songs, and slides, all telling the history of the Underground Railroad in Canada, the story of the first black settlers.

This is a free, perfect-for-all-ages event, open to the public.

Advance registra-

tion is available at [www.eventbrite.ca/e/musicfest-presents-](http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/musicfest-presents-diana-braithwaite)

diana-braithwaite. — Vancouver Island MusicFest

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INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED PERFORMER, instructor and scholar Farima Berenji will be at the Abbey in Cumberland this Friday for dance, sufi whirling and a Persian New Year celebration.

Dancing poetry in motion

Sacred and traditional dances welcome spring

This Friday, the Abbey Studio in Cumberland presents Poetry In Motion, an evening of dance performances, sufi whirling and Persian New Year celebra-

Noruz, aka Persian New Year, falls on spring equinox and marks the return of spring.

The evening will start with sacred and traditional dances to welcome spring featuring performances by special visiting guest Farima Berenji, Victoria-based Taiya Curle and Comox Valley dancers Cathy Stoyko and Arcana Dea dance.

Following the dance performances, with Farima's guidance, we will learn personal and spiritual Sema (sufi whirling) as well as other turning practices, while listening

to sacred poetry and music.

Farima travels worldwide to perform, teach dance and spread wellness. Her love and passion for dance and history has led her on an extraordinary life-long journey throughout the world, from her home countries Iran and Azerbaijan to other neighbour-

“ She hopes to guide people to the historic beauty and richness of the Silk Road culture and to help people find their inner bliss through dance, music, and sacred healing. ”

ing Silk Road countries such as Armenia, Kurdistan, and Turkey.

Farima is strongly connected to spirituality and healing and is under the guidance and teaching of Mevlana Order Sufi master and dervish Dr. Rahmi Oruç Güvenç of Turkey.

For more info about Farima, visit farimadance.com. (For those interested Farima will also teach Persian classical and

Afghani dance workshops on Saturday and Sunday that same weekend.

Detailed information can be found at cathystoykodance.blogspot.com.

Feel free to bring and share a poem, snacks or drinks and percussion instruments to jam. Please wear white or light-coloured clothing and wear socks or soft-soled shoes.

All ages are welcome. Doors open at 6:30; performances start at 7:30 and the Sema gathering goes from 8:30 to 10.

For more information, call Cathy at 250-218-0704 or e-mail cdstoyko@uniserve.com.

The Abbey Studio is at the corner of First and Penrith in Cumberland.

— Abbey Studio

St. Paddy's Day Weekend

St. Patrick's Day, March 17, is a national holiday in Ireland, so the Irish are delighted that it falls on a Monday this year.

That is not so good for Canadians wanting to celebrate Paddy's Day, so Celtic Cargo Cult invite you to join us on Saturday or Sunday for St. Patrick's Weekend! (If all goes to plan, next year we might suggest St. Patrick's week).

You can catch David Somers and Celtic Cargo Cult at Zocalo Café this Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. There is no cover charge.

On the corner of Cliffe Avenue and Fifth Street in Courtenay, Zocalo provides an ideal intimate setting in which to enjoy the band's original music and arrangements of traditional and contemporary Irish songs.

In addition to its mouth-watering desserts and coffees, it also has a licensed dining menu with beer, wine and liqueurs. An Irish pub night in a family-friendly setting!

The weekend continues with a 2 to 6 p.m. show at the Comox Legion on Sunday, March 16. An Irish pub afternoon in a grown-up friendly setting.

The band consists of singer/songwriter David Somers (guitar/vocals), David Hext (bass/vocals), Chris Manuel (lead guitar) and "Bootless" Bob Henderson (drums).

Celtic Cargo Cult brings a fresh feel and a distinctive sound to old world music. From ballads to high-energy Celtic rock, their shows will stir your soul and move your feet.

— Celtic Cargo Cult



CELTIC CARGO CULT is David Somers, Chris Manuel, David Hext and, hiding behind the drums, Bob Henderson. If St. Patrick's Day Weekend goes over well this year, the Cult might return in 2015 with an entire week.

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Romeo and Juliet Broadway Stage Production, starring Orlando Bloom; Sun, Mar 16: 12:55

Divergent PG: Violence; Thu, Mar 20 8:00pm

Need for Speed 3D PG: Coarse language, violence; Nightly: 6:40 & 9:30; Wknd Mats: 3D 12:30 & 2D 3:25; Mon - Thu Mats: 3D 1:45

Lego Movie 3D G: No warning; Fri - Wed: 6:50; Wknd Mats: 3D 12:45 & 2D 3:15; Mon - Thu Mats: 3D 1:55

That Awkward Moment 14A; Fri - Wed: 9:20

Mr. Peabody & Sherman 3D G: No warning; Nightly: 7:10 & 9:25; Wknd Mats: 3D 1:00 & 2D 3:35; Mon - Thu Mats: 3D 2:15

300: Rise of an Empire 3D 18A: Explicit violence; Pass restricted until Mar 21; Nightly: 7:00 & 9:25; Sat Mats: 3D 1:40 & 2D 4:05; Sun Mat: 2D 4:05; Mon - Thu Mats: 3D 2:05

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ARISING FROM A newspaper ad, the Mystic Valley Voices choir is celebrating its 10th anniversary.

Ten years of soulful singing

In celebration of 10 years of soulful singing, the Mystic Valley Voices invite you to greet the return of spring.

The choir welcomes you to a day of drumming, chanting and food March 22 at the Little Red Church in Comox.

The music that Mystic Valley Voices creates is an ancient form of repetitious singing called chanting. Practised for centuries as a way to purify

human consciousness, chanting is seen as a pathway to spiritual enlightenment.

"We don't have any particular religious theme," says chantmaster Oliver Clarke. "We include chants from the Tibetan, Hindu, Christian traditions as well as contemporary Wiccan and earth-based selections."

Clarke, who has been singing in choral groups and theatre since he was a teenager, says Mystic Val-

ley Voices evolved out of a newspaper ad he placed looking for people who would be interested in a chanting recording project.

In 2004, the CD Circle of Souls was released and 10 years later, the choir of 30 members is still going strong and includes novice singers to choral veterans.

The group has made appearances for the Unitarian Fellowship, the Centre of Spiritual Living, the Therapeu-

tic Gardening Society and Elder College.

Festivities begin at 3:30 with drumming and chanting, which is free. A sumptuous light dinner will be served by Tria Catering and Gourmet treats from 5:30 to 6:30 and evening singing with the Mystic Valley Voices from 7 to 9:30. Dinner and evening singing can be purchased together.

Reservations for dinner should be made by March 20. Tickets are available online at www.mysticvalleyvoices.org or contact Oliver Clarke at 250-218-1688. Cash only at the door.

— Mystic Valley Voices

Met returns to Rialto

Tragic romance by Massenet on screen this Saturday

The Metropolitan Opera presents Massenet's Werther at the Rialto Theatre this Saturday at 10 a.m. Director Richard Eyre returns to

the Met with a new staging of Massenet's tragic romance, starring Jonas Kaufmann and Eléna Garanéa in their first Met performances as the brooding poet Werther and his unattainable love, Charlotte.

Lisette Oropesa sings the role of Sophie, Charlotte's sister; David Bizzié makes

his Met debut as Charlotte's fiancé, Albert; and Jonathan Summers is Charlotte's father, Le Bailli.

Alain Altinoglu conducts the first new Met production of the opera in more than 40 years. Tickets are on sale now at the Rialto.

For more information, call 250-338-5502.

— Rialto Theatre

Festival of films thrived

The fourth annual Cumberland Mountain Film Festival, held Feb. 27 and 28, was a huge success.

Tickets were quickly sold out to an eager crowd who enjoyed a selection of outstanding short outdoor sports and adventure films from Vancouver Island. This year, 34 films were submitted and the festival judges selected 16 to be shown at the festival.

The festival raised a record \$3,100 for the Cumberland Community Forest Society (CCFS).

The CCFS (cumberlandforest.com) is dedicated to purchasing the privately owned forest lands that surround the Village of Cumberland for the benefit of all. This forest is home to many flora and fauna, wetlands, heritage landmarks and hiking and mountain biking trails.

The CCFS has purchased over 150 acres of this forest and is working hard to raise another \$1.2 million in the next 24 months to purchase three more parcels of second-growth forest. Support for this initiative is rapidly gaining momentum and this is one of many events aimed at helping CCFS.

What's HAPPENING

AVALANCHE BAR & GRILL presents House Ten85 DJs live music starting Saturdays at 9 p.m. FMI: 250-331-0334 or www.georgiastraightjazz.com.

BILLY D'S PUB offers music by Jill Martini on Friday nights from 8 to 11.

COMOX VALLEY ART GALLERY offers three exhibits beginning with opening reception March 14, 6 to 9 p.m. Andy Everson in attendance. Discover Art Saturday for families every second Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. FMI: www.comoxvalleyartgallery.com or 250-338-6211.

COURTENAY LITTLE THEATRE presents On Golden Pond from April 10 to 17. FMI: www.courtenaylittletheatre.com.

DENMAN READERS' AND WRITERS' FESTIVAL July 17 to 20. FMI: www.denmanislandwritersfestival.com.

FLYING CANOE WEST COAST PUB has jam nights Thursdays, a DJ and dance Friday nights and karaoke Sundays at 9 p.m.

GRIFFIN PUB north of CFB Comox hosts Jazztet on Sundays from 5 to 9 p.m.

JOE'S GARAGE features Comox Valley Uke Jam on second Tuesdays of each month. Ukulele instruction at 7 p.m., jam at 8 p.m.

KING GEORGE HOTEL has open jam with Pete and Jamie from the Jagsters every Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m.

MEX PUB has a Rock 'n Country Jam 'n Dance hosted by Outlaw Fever on Tuesdays (except the first Tuesday of the month), starting at 9 p.m.

PEARL ELLIS GALLERY presents members' spring show and sale. Opening reception March 15, 1 to 4 p.m. Free admission at 1729 Comox Ave. FMI: www.pearlellisgallery.com or Facebook.

PLEASURE CRAFT THEATRE presents an improvised soap opera every Monday in March at Cumberland United Church at 7 p.m.

POTTERS PLACE features work by Sue Emerson in March at 180B Fifth St. in Courtenay. FMI: 250-334-4613 or www.thepottersplace.ca.

WAVERLEY HOTEL jam night with Brodie Dawson and friends Thursdays. Bluegrass Brunch on Sundays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. FMI: www.waverleyhotel.ca.

Thursday, March 13

LUCAS MYERS in one-man show called Hello Baby! at Sid Williams Theatre, 7:30 p.m. FMI: 250-338-2430 or sidwilliamstheatre.com.

Friday, March 14

LUCAS MYERS in one-man show called Deck at Sid Williams Theatre, 7:30 p.m. FMI: 250-338-2430 or sidwilliamstheatre.com.

DES LARSON at Waverley Hotel. at Waverley Hotel. Tickets at Bop City, Waverley, 250-336-8322 or cumberlandvillageworks.com.

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ANNIE HANDELY and ERIN JUNKALA at the Grotto, 7 p.m.

XLR8 at Whistle Stop Pub, 9 p.m.

FORBIDDEN JAZZ TRIO at Zocalo Café, 7 p.m.

HUMMER at Mex Pub, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 15

RADICAL REELS TOUR at Sid Williams Theatre, 7:30 p.m. FMI: 250-338-2430 or sidwilliamstheatre.com.

MARY MURPHY at Little Red Church to launch CD, 7:30 p.m. Tickets at Laugh-

ing Oyster, Marigold Pharmacy, Courtenay Curves, Blue Heron, Red Carpet, www.marymurphy.ca and at door.

POETRY IN MOTION dancing at Abbey Studio in Cumberland. FMI: cathystoykodance.blogspot.com.

CELTIC CARGO CULT at Zocalo Café, 7 to 9 p.m.

GRANT LAZLO at Waverley Hotel. Tickets at Bop City, Waverley, 250-336-8322 or cumberlandvillageworks.com.

RIALTO THEATRE presents Met Opera, 10 a.m. FMI: 250-338-5502.

XLR8 at Whistle Stop Pub, 9 p.m.

Sunday, March 16

CELTIC CARGO CULT at Comox Legion, 2 to 6 p.m.

Wed., March 19

NATHAN TINKHAM and **GRANT SIMPSON** at house concert in Cumberland, 7:30 p.m. FMI: Karen at 250-218-1689 or homeroutesvi@gmail.com.

TERRY GLAVIN, SARAH DE LEEUW and **GRANT SHILLING** will read from their books, Fanny Bay Hall, 7 to 9 p.m. FMI: 250-335-1157.

Saturday, March 22

COMOX VALLEY CAMERA CLUB holds Imagefest at Sid Williams Theatre. FMI: www.comoxvalleycameraclub.org or www.sidwilliamstheatre.com/events.

JOHN MANN at Cumberland Hotel. FMI: www.islandmusicfest.com.

MYSTIC VALLEY VOICES drum, chant and sing at Little Red Church, 3:30 to 9:30 p.m. FMI and tickets: www.mysticvalleyvoices.org or Oliver Clarke at 250-218-1688.

Sunday, March 23

LAURA GILLESPIE presents Snowbird (songs of Anne Murray) at Sid Williams Theatre, 7 p.m. FMI: 250-338-2430 or sidwilliamstheatre.com.

Wed., March 26

STEVE DAWSON at Cumberland Hotel. FMI: www.islandmusicfest.com.

Friday, March 28

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL "best of the fest" in Stan Hagen Theatre at North Island College, 7 p.m. Tickets by e-mailing strathconawilderness@gmail.com. FMI: www.strathconapark.org.

March 30

SID WILLIAMS THEATRE SOCIETY screens film Homebound: The Incredible Journey. FMI: www.sidwilliamstheatre.com.

Friday, April 4

LINDA MCRAE at Cumberland Hotel. FMI: www.islandmusicfest.com.

Thursday, May 8

RON JAMES at Sid Williams Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 11

SID WILLIAMS THEATRE SOCIETY screens film Disney's Aladdin. FMI: www.sidwilliamstheatre.com.

Saturday, June 7

ELEVATE ARTS FESTIVAL in downtown Courtenay. FMI: www.elevatethearts.com.

Friday, July 11

VANCOUVER ISLAND MUSICFEST at Comox Valley Exhibition Grounds. FMI: www.islandmusicfest.com.

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Three writers reading as part of Fanny Bay series

Another great evening of author readings is coming March 19 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Fanny Bay Hall.

Writers Terry Glavin, Sarah de Leeuw and Grant Shilling will present their work.

• The Ottawa Citizen's bio for Glavin states that he "has worked as a reporter, columnist and editor

for a variety of newspapers.

His assignments in recent years have taken him to Afghanistan, Israel, the Russian Far East, the Eastern Himalayas, China and Central America."

Glavin's work has garnered many awards including the Hubert Evans Non Fiction Prize for The Last

Great Sea: A Voyage Through the Human and Natural History of the North Pacific Ocean, which was published in 2000. In 2009, he won the B.C. Lieut.-Gov.'s Award for Literary Excellence.

• de Leeuw has a PhD in Cultural Historical Geography and works as an associate professor in the Northern Medical Program

at the University of Northern B.C. in Prince George. Sarah also has a BA in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from the University of Victoria.

As one might guess from this education combination, she is a well-published academic, but de Leeuw is also making her mark in other writing genres.

She has published

three books to date including a memoir Unmarked: Landscapes Along Highway 16 (2004).

She won the CBC Literary Award for creative non-fiction in 2009 with her work Columbus Burning. Her first book of poetry, Geographies of a Lover, published in 2012, won the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize for the best work of poetry by a B.C. author.

• Shilling has an extensive list of publications to his credit and at one time was the editor and publisher of the Gulf Island Gazette.

He lives in Cumberland and works as an outreach worker for the Comox Valley's homeless community.

Shilling's two books reveal his love for surfing and his thoughtful nature; The Cedar Surf:

An Informal History of Surfing in British Columbia was published in 2003 and Surfing With the Devil: In Search of Waves and Peace in the Middle East was released in 2012.

Shilling is writing a book about Fanny Bay artist George Sawchuk, which will be released this summer.

This work is being sponsored by the BC Arts Council and will build on previous publications by Shilling about Sawchuk.

The Fat Oyster Reading Series is presented by the Fanny Bay Community Association with assistance from the Canada Council for the Arts.

The Fanny Bay Hall is at 7793 Island Highway. For details, phone 250-335-1157.

— Fanny Bay Community Association



WHEN I'M 64 Comox Probus women recently entertained an appreciative audience of men and women with their stellar play-reading of *When I'm 64* by Comox playwright J.S. Hill. The play tells the stories of women in transition in the present-day Comox Valley. Starring actors (from left) Joan Collinge, Isabel Thomas, Carol Nisotski, Gaynor Bereza, Audrey Yates, Jean Gray, Betty Donaldson. Sound is by Terry Penney. Congratulations are also in order to another Valley cast who gave two sold-out performances in Victoria last month and were invited back to give six performances next July.

PHOTO BY TERRY PENNEY

Lamb will show you how to draw

One of the most useful foundation skills you can have is drawing, which is simply an ability to communicate your ideas visually via the basics: paper and pencil.

Drawing doesn't have to be precise and laboured, but it helps to be able to see and interpret correctly. And it doesn't hurt to know a few tricks to avoid and correct mistakes.

If you've had some basic training in drawing or even if you've just practised a lot on your own, you're probably ready to hone your skills to the next level.

Starting March 18, local artist and teacher Sandra Lamb will run a six-week afternoon class geared to review the basics, upgrade skills and dive into new challenges.

Because the class size is limited, Sandra will customize the lessons according to student preferences. Topics likely to be included are perspective, negative/positive spaces, foreshortening, portrait and figure

proportions, body language, centre of gravity, shading, composition and more.

Much of the practice will involve working from photographs, but some still life and possibly a live portrait will be included.

Sandra has been

teaching in the Valley for over 15 years, always with amazing groups of enthusiastic students, old and new. A Few Tips for Better Drawing class will take place in the Aquatic Room at the Sports Centre in Courtenay.

The time is Tues-

days from 1 to 3:30 p.m. from March 18 to April 22. Call Sandra for more information at 250-337-5487 or e-mail her at sandra@twolambs.ca.

A brief recap is available on her website at www.twolambs.ca.

— Sandra Lamb

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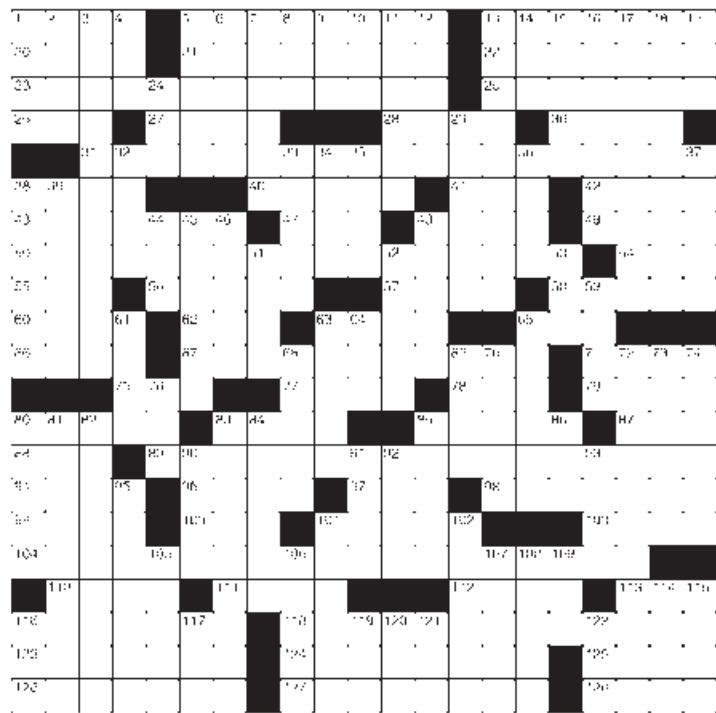
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SUPER DUPER MOVIE



- 33 Sagan and Sandburg
- 34 Swedish retail giant
- 35 Happen on
- 36 — -pedi
- 37 Tryouts
- 38 Key with two sharps
- 39 Dee Dee or Joey of punk
- 44 Nest egg fund, briefly
- 45 Acts indifferently
- 46 Lamprey hunter
- 48 Quite — off (far)
- 51 Information
- 52 Swedish port on the Baltic
- 53 Start-up loan org.
- 59 Net 'zine
- 61 Asian desert
- 63 In tune
- 64 Veneration
- 65 Most inactive
- 68 Wee bits
- 69 Hilary of the violin
- 70 "Star Wars" critters
- 72 Anaheim's NHL team, formerly
- 73 Concurs
- 74 Canada's Trudeau
- 76 Giants great Mel
- 80 Japanese poem
- 81 Colorful carpet with a cut pile
- 82 Part of a U.S. election map
- 83 Cyber-junk
- 84 Llama kin
- 85 Politico Palin
- 86 — Canals
- 90 "Movin' —" (old sitcom theme song)
- 91 Agony
- 92 Nuptial band
- 93 Ex-senator Sam
- 95 Floodgates
- 101 — the dirt (gossiped)
- 102 Actress Anjelica
- 105 Terrify
- 106 Neon —
- 107 Strict
- 108 Entertainer Midler
- 109 Mo. in spring
- 114 "MADtv" bit
- 115 Non-U.S. gas brand
- 116 iPad extra
- 117 Plastic film thickness unit
- 119 Suffix with rocket
- 120 Nero's 1,011
- 121 Lemur's kin
- 122 "When — good time?"

- ACROSS**
- 1 Army vehicle
 - 5 Outlines of plans
 - 13 Peyote-producing cacti
 - 20 Climax
 - 21 Makes a call to a radio talk show, e.g.
 - 22 "No, really!"
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 25 Tanning booth fixture
 - 26 "Help!," asea
 - 27 — sci (college maj.)
 - 28 "— be silly!"
 - 30 Latin jazz great Puente
 - 31 Riddle, part 2
 - 38 Prescription specification
 - 40 "— Whoopee" (1929 hit)
 - 41 Three R's org.
 - 42 "When all — fails ..."
 - 43 Feeling of vague illness
 - 47 Stimp's TV pal
 - 48 Env. notice
 - 49 Muckraker Jacob
 - 50 Riddle, part 3
 - 54 Busy little insect
 - 55 Note hastily
 - 56 Relative of a gazetteer
 - 57 Submission encl.
 - 58 Elaine on "Seinfeld"
 - 60 Blood type, briefly
 - 62 Mount, as a jewel
 - 63 Full of a certain grain
 - 65 The "sum" of Descartes
 - 66 Total change
 - 67 Riddle, part 4
 - 71 "Do I need to draw you —?"
 - 75 Future man
 - 77 Sanctioned
 - 78 Pointy tool
 - 79 1958's Best Picture and Best Song
 - 80 Nun's garb
 - 83 Totally fulfill
 - 85 Pumps, e.g.
 - 87 Coll. senior's test
 - 88 Rock's Rose
 - 89 Riddle, part 5
- DOWN**
- 1 Spielberg film
 - 2 Tunnel effect
 - 3 Deprived of strength
 - 4 Home animal
 - 5 Tape holder
 - 6 — Vista, California
 - 7 "Not just the physical" medical philosophy
 - 8 Cut off
 - 9 Intersected
 - 10 Blond shade
 - 11 Linked (with)
 - 12 "Did — that make sense?"
 - 13 Plant to kiss under
 - 14 Tall bird
 - 15 Actress Berger
 - 16 Gun barrel statistic
 - 17 Eastern Turkey native
 - 18 VIP vehicle
 - 19 Motor oil additive
 - 24 Sgt.'s inferior
 - 29 Thirds of thirds
 - 32 Lab gelatin
 - 94 Don of talk radio
 - 96 Short slumbers
 - 97 Balloon filler
 - 98 More thickest
 - 99 Richard of "Moonraker"
 - 100 Thurman of "Jennifer 8"
 - 101 Shore of "Up in Arms"
 - 103 The Big Board: Abbr.
 - 104 End of the riddle
 - 110 Bic Round — (pen brand)
 - 111 Actresses West and Clarke
 - 112 How-to part
 - 113 Operate
 - 116 Chile's — Desert
 - 118 Riddle's answer
 - 123 Russian ruler before Anna
 - 124 Ship overseas again
 - 125 Downhill gear
 - 126 Market before officially launching
 - 127 Poet — Rich
 - 128 Regarding

Puzzling... Fun by the Numbers:

Here's how it works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

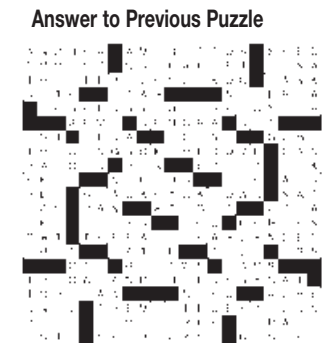
SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES

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

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

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

- 73 Concurs
- 74 Canada's Trudeau
- 76 Giants great Mel
- 80 Japanese poem
- 81 Colorful carpet with a cut pile
- 82 Part of a U.S. election map
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HOROSCOPES

MAR. 16 to MAR. 22, 2014
The luckiest signs this week: Aquarius, Pisces and Aries

- ARIES**
You have to organize an event for lots of people, either at work or for some form of social activity. People seem to feel rather nervous around you.
- TAURUS**
Stress and anxiety seem to be upsetting your health quite a bit. Don't let yourself be overwhelmed by feelings that aren't yours. Some kind of therapy would do you good.
- GEMINI**
You could take up an interesting challenge that makes you feel particularly proud of yourself. Some people will try to discourage you, but perseverance is the key to your success.
- CANCER**
If you're thinking about moving in the near future, you're sure to take a few steps towards your goal this week. A member of the family seems rather demanding.
- LEO**
There are lots of comings and goings this week. You may be stuck in traffic or have some difficulty in finding the place you're looking for.
- VIRGO**
At work, you may do a few hours of overtime, for which you'll be generously rewarded. Some kind of training helps one of your biggest dreams come true.
- LIBRA**
You're someone who usually likes to weigh the pros and cons before coming to a decision. You're sure to be under a bit of pressure to make a choice.
- SCORPIO**
Returning to school would be a solution to your professional problems. Try to see things in a long term perspective in order to surmount all the efforts that will be required.
- SAGITTARIUS**
You receive a few invitations from friends for an enjoyable outing. It's important to take advantage of this sort of occasion if you haven't been out in a while.
- CAPRICORN**
Time is a rare commodity! At work or elsewhere, you are in charge of all the emergencies. It's not always easy to reconcile work and a busy family life. Just take it easy and do your best.
- AQUARIUS**
You may decide to go on a trip on the spur of the moment. It may be your employer who sends you to the other end of the country in order to satisfy a client.
- PISCES**
There are lots of emotions to manage, and you won't have any other choice but to remain impassive in order to handle the situation. You could find a solution to a financial problem.



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Classes start soon

Innisfree gearing up for spring and summer

Spring is just around the corner and there is plenty to get excited about this season at Innisfree Farm. After extensive training at Kew Gardens in London, owners Chanchal Cabrera and Thierry Vrain are very pleased to announce that Innisfree Farm has achieved international recognition as a Botanical Garden with a specialty in food and medicine plants. Watch for lots of changes over the next few years, starting this season with an even greater emphasis on education.

Have you always wanted to grow a garden but don't know where to start? Are you curious about identifying local plants, and

harvesting berries and barks for food and medicine? Maybe you enjoy good food and good conversation or maybe you are looking for love? If you said yes to any of these then you need to pay a visit down to the farm.

Starting March 22 with the first of the Holistic Gardening series, and March 24 with the first of the Beginning with Herbs series, then continuing almost every week through late fall, you'll find something on offer that is exciting or interesting or delicious — or all three!

The Holistic Gardening series with Master Organic Gardener Connie Kuramoto will teach you everything you need to know for a successful harvest this year. From seed selection to soil amendments, from sheet mulching to making compost, these short

and simple classes are designed to demystify gardening and get you started growing food.

The Beginning with Herbs series runs three times this year and will empower you to take better care of yourself and your family with natural medicines. Including practical recipes, herb walks and medicine making, this is a great way to introduce herbal medicine to your life.

As well, the farm shop opens on Saturdays in July, August and September with a wide array of herbal products as well as delectable fresh vegetables. This year we will also be offering afternoon teas in the gardens.

For more details, dates and registration for any of the above offerings, go to www.innisfreefarm.ca or call 250-336-8768.

— Innisfree Farm



INNISFREE FARM WILL offer education this summer with plenty of different topics to choose from.

Meltdown, call for help

This morning on our way out the door, my seven-year-old daughter began to freak out about misplacing her favourite coat and she would not calm down. I ended up yelling at her. This, of course, made things worse. She really seems to hold this in her heart. I tried to explain that there are things that happen (like misplacing coats) which may be upsetting but that we do not need to add to this by worrying about it and throwing fits. Her coat will be found (which it was).

She was sniffing as we walked to school and made a comment about being bad. It eats me up to see her suffer and it eats me up to think that I contributed to it. When she spins like a top, I spin like a top. Somehow we need to get off this merry go round. I do not know why she does this and I do not understand why I seem to get caught up in it. Any thoughts?

Wow. Sounds like a stressful morning for both of you. What you describe is something that I believe most parents can relate to in one form or another. Your daughter's behaviours and reactions are both a response to, and attempt at coping in, a moment when she is overwhelmed. Your reaction is also a response to being overwhelmed in the moment and an attempt to cope

CONSULT A COUNSELLOR



or regain some control over the situation. The problem with these responses is that they are often ineffective and leave us feeling disappointed and upset with ourselves once we have calmed down. From the sounds of your letter this is something that both you and your daughter are experiencing.

As stress increases, our ability to cope often decreases. In young children, their ability to cope with something that they experience as stressful varies. At times they are able to manage without a problem. At other times it can seem like the reactions come out of nowhere and that there is no warning. This can be your child's experience as well. When this happens your child is often unable to think, listen or respond in any coherent way. Their behaviour can seem irrational, manipulative and disruptive to us — hence our angry and frustrated responses.

It is often helpful to recognize that this behaviour is a call for our help. They are not being deliberately dis-

ruptive and uncooperative in these moments, but rather they are unable to cope for any number of possible reasons and they do not have access to their skills for managing in that particular moment. During these 'freak outs' or 'meltdowns' they are not able to think or respond rationally. The most helpful thing we can do in these moments is step back, make sure they are safe and reduce as much stress as we can in that particular moment until they can cope again. This often means reigning in our own frustration, staying calm and trying to slow things down.

Neither we nor our children can solve problems effectively when we are overwhelmed. The time to problem solve and address the behaviour occurs in those moments later when your child is able to re-engage rationally with you and is demonstrating an ability to cope.

To ask a question of the counsellors, for a response in future columns, e-mail info@pacifictherapy.ca. Consult a Counsellor is provided by registered clinical counsellors Nancy Bock, Diane Davies Leslie Wells, Andrew Lochhead and Sara-Lynn Kang at pacifictherapy.ca & consulting inc. It appears every second Thursday in the Record.

ODLUMBROWN.COM

Q: What advice do you have for investing in the Stock Market?

A: • Develop a long-term investment plan with your Investment Advisor that reflects your risk tolerance and investment objectives. This plan will help allocate your assets to reflect a comfortable weighting in the stock market during good and difficult times.

- Do not let your emotions dictate your investment decisions. Make decisions based on rational reasoning and not on the latest media story, since news changes daily.
- Diversify your portfolio to reduce investment risk. This is a proven strategy for successful long-term investing. By staying invested in good companies and collecting dividends, you increase your chances of prospering over the long-term. By selling during panic-driven market lows, you can almost guarantee a loss.
- While market downturns are difficult to tolerate, the market gains that follow are often swift and unpredictable. For example, if you had invested in the S&P/TSX Composite Index from December 1996 to December 2006 your total return during that period would have been 159%. If you missed the 10 best days, your return would have been 74%. If you missed the 20 best days, your return would have been 26%. In equity investing, no one knows when those 10 or 20 best days will come. But the act of wading in and out of the market increases the likelihood of missing them.

Do you have an investment-related question?

Ask us at kpantuso@odlumbrown.com and watch for answers in every Thursday edition of the *Comox Valley Record*.



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Kevin Pantuso, Investment Advisor
kpantuso@odlumbrown.com
Tel 250-703-0637

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Seeds saved in Svalbard Global Seed Vault

Finally. Spring is coming. I am seeing some things happening in the garden...now that the snow is disappearing.

What was with all the snow in February? Oh, wait...we have had snow in this month before. Checking back through my photo files, I see we had February snowfalls in 2005, 2007 and 2011. I likely have recorded images dating back even earlier.

So this year's dump was not an isolated event. Nor may it be the last for this year. Here in Black Creek, we have had isolated hailstorms on April 23, April 30 and May 1 in various years since 1998. Not as bad as Calgary's July hailstorms but still depressing.

These weather hiccups play havoc with our plants. Can you remember back to how warm it was in January? According to the weather records I keep for our garden, the temperature high aver-

DUCHESS OF DIRT

LESLIE COX



aged a degree and a half warmer in January 2014 over January 2013. The temperature low averaged almost a full degree warmer too. I had plants starting to break bud...whole new leaves developing on others.

My Smyrniun olustrum plants, (alexanders or black lovage as it is more commonly called) are one of the first to produce bright green leaves in late winter. This year, in January, they were close to a foot tall. Earliest they had ever popped out of the ground.

And then the cold snap hit on February 7. Wasn't that a slap in the face by Old Man Winter? Froze the fresh green growth on my alexanders to the point the leaves shrivelled up



PHASEOLUS COCCINEUS 'PAINTED Lady' flowers can help attract pollinators to your garden.

and died.

I like this plant's connection to the ancient Romans who used it medicinally as well as a food source. Doing my little bit to keep this plant going in perpetuity.

Speaking of which... and just to change the subject just a little... just read where another 20,000 seed species have been added to the Doomsday Vault.

Who knows what the Doomsday Vault is? Don't feel badly if you don't. John didn't...

although that shocked me a bit. How could he not? (A sign he tunes me out, perhaps?)

Properly called the Svalbard Global Seed Vault, it is owned by the Norwegian Government and is located roughly 1,300 km from the North Pole.

Buried over 100 metres into a sandstone mountain that is located outside of any possible earthquake activity and where the permafrost guarantees cold storage, this vault is capable of holding

seed packets from 4.5 million plant species.

With the addition of these latest seeds, there are now over 800,000 plant species stored in the Vault. Most of these came from Japan...an attempt to save some of their unique plant species in the wake of the 2011 earthquake and resulting tsunami. The damage done to the nuclear plant at Fukushima and its far-flung consequences was a wake up call.

The preservation of our plant species, particularly our food crops, is something we should all be thinking about. So... as you are planning this year's garden, consider sowing some heirloom vegetables and flowers. (We need the flowers to attract the pollinators!)

Also consider participating in our very own Comox Valley Seed Bank. Be a curator of a seed variety and save its seeds for perpetuity. Contact me at duchessofdirty@telus.net for more information on

this.

Seed saving isn't just fun. It is a very worthwhile cause.

Leslie Cox co-owns Growing Concern Cot-

tage Garden in Black Creek. Her website is at www.duchessofdirty.ca and her column appears every second Thursday in the Record.

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Don't bother complaining in court

You've just received a traffic ticket and that fact hasn't shed any sunshine on your day. It's bad enough that this has happened, but from your point of view the officer was less than gracious when they issued it to you. I'll dispute the ticket and tell the court exactly what I think may cross your mind as you consider your situation. Surely the justice will see my point and give me a break!

Fast forward to your trial and your opportunity to give evidence on your own behalf. You

BEHIND THE WHEEL

TIM SCHEWE



start to tell the justice how badly you were treated at the roadside only to find that your testimony is being brought to a halt.

The justice asks that you confine your evidence to the circumstances of the traffic violation, not the officer's manner of serving the ticket. He or she is not interested in the

officer's demeanor, just the facts of the case. If you are not happy with the officer that is a matter for you to take up with others.

The proper authorities for receiving any complaint of a police officer's conduct in British Columbia is either the police force that the officer belongs to or the Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner. Their job is to listen to your complaint and resolve it.

Remember, roadside interactions are often recorded today. This will support you

if you are truthful and the recording has been made.

For more information about this topic, visit www.drivesmartbc.ca. Questions or comments are welcome by

e-mail to comments@drivesmartbc.ca. Tim Schewe is a retired RCMP constable with many years of traffic law enforcement experience. His column appears Thursdays.

RURAL COMOX VALLEY OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW Notice of Public Meetings

Please join us at our second round of public meetings to discuss

March 13, 2014 9:30 am - 11:30 am • CVRD boardroom, 550B Comox Road, Courtenay
Aging in place: Meeting the needs of rural seniors

March 13, 2014 6:00 pm • Black Creek Community Hall, 2001 Black Creek Road
OCP policy alternatives presentation

March 14, 2014 3 pm - 6 pm • Union Bay Hall - Bill Wood Room
Union Bay LAP: Let's talk about options!

March 15, 2014 10 am - noon • CVRD boardroom, 550B Comox Road, Courtenay
OCP policy alternatives open house

March 15, 2014 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm • Oyster River Fire Hall, 2241 Catherwood Road, Oyster River
Saratoga Miracle Beach LAP: Let's talk about options!

Stay tuned to the CVRD website at www.comoxvalleyrd/ruralOCPreview for an online survey to be posted March 12th, 2014.

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Chimo gymnasts swarm the medal podium at Surrey competition

-- SEE PAGE B21

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COMOX VALLEY RECORD ♦ SPORTS EDITOR: EARLE COUPER ♦ THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014

B11

Vanier girl snowboarders win bronze at B.C.s

In what can only be described as a truly bizarre season, the G.P. Vanier girls snowboard team came home from the BC Alpine Provincial Championships at Whistler/Blackcomb sporting bronze medals around their necks.

With the lack of snow early this season at Mount Washington, the local high school racing season came to an abrupt end in January. The Vanier team, however, decided to move forward and after the mountain reopened, with only one gate practice, they represented Vancouver Island at the provincial championships last week.

The boys' ski team placed a respectable 12th place in a highly competitive field. Vanier's top placing went to Blake Stotzer who sat in 22nd place after day one and finished 23rd in the province after the second day of competition. Maite Duhaime was the lone girls' skier to represent Vanier and she placed 60th in her first appearance at the pro-



THE VANIER PROVINCIAL team, left to right: Andrew Young (coach), Kelsey Barton, Madi Gold, Bryanna Maclaren, Keely Orrick, Brian Cherry, Maite Duhaime, Blake Stotzer, Nik Dunn, Ken Erikson (coach).

vincials.

The week, however, belonged to the girls' snowboard team. Madi Gold led the way on the first day of competition placing fourth in the Giant Slalom, setting the girls up in third place after day one. Kelsey

Barton picked up the slack on the second day placing fifth in the Terrain Giant Slalom and ensuring the girls a podium finish.

Keely Orrick and Bryanna Maclaren rounded out the girls' team, earning points both days which

ensured the bronze medal for Vanier.

What impressed coaches Ken Erikson and Andrew Young the most was the fact that all four Vanier girls placed in the top 40 riders of the province – this in spite of the fact that they

had not raced this season and had just one gate practice.

The Vanier alpine team extends their heartfelt thanks to Mike Manera and the snow school at Mount Washington.

In spite of the early sea-

son conditions, the mountain made every effort to accommodate the three local schools in their efforts to run practices and to hold extra practices after the local racing season was called to an end.

– G.P. Vanier

Panthers down Glacier Kings 4-2 to even series

Earle Couper
Record Staff

The Peninsula Panthers pounced on the Comox Valley Glacier Kings for three unanswered first-period goals and skated to a 4-2 victory Monday night at the Panorama Recreation Centre.

The win evened the teams' best-of-seven Vancouver Island Junior Hock-

ey League second round playoff series at 2-2. Game 5 went Wednesday night in Courtenay, with result unavailable at press time.

Alex Milligan was a one-man wrecking crew for the Panthers, tallying three goals, while goalie Joey Karrer, making his first post-season start, picked up the win and first star honours as Peninsula out-shot Comox Valley 38-25.

Michael Hails took the loss.

The Panthers grabbed the lead just 40 seconds into the game courtesy of second star Milligan, who added his second at 11:10 to make it 2-0. Zack Smith netted the winner at 16:05. Eric Margo got the visitors on the board at 1:49 of the second period with an unassisted tally.

The Yetis cut the lead to 3-2 at 12:25 of the third

when Ali Gotmy lit the lamp. The G-Kings pulled Hails in favour of the extra attacker with just over a minute to play, and Milligan finished off a break-away by dumping the puck into the empty cage to seal the deal.

There were only four minor penalties called, with the Icemen going 0-for-3 on the power play and the Panthers 0-for-1. Former

Glacier King Rylan Ball contributed two assists to the win and was the game's third star.

Game 6 goes March 14 in Peninsula and Game 7 if necessary is March 15 in Courtenay, with game time 7:30 p.m. at Comox Valley Sports Centre Arena #1.

ICE CHIPS The defending VIJHL champion Victoria Cougars lead the other semifinal series 2-1

over the Campbell River Storm with Game 3 played Wednesday ... the VIJHL playoff champion advances to the Cyclone Taylor Cup (B.C. Jr. B championship) April 9-12 in Nelson ... the B.C. winner goes on to the Keystone Cup (Western Canada Jr. B championship) April 17-20 in Abbotsford ... playoff scores in Scoreboard, B21 ...

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Physiotherapist



JADE PAGANELLI, PEYTON Meiers, Emma Cullen, Meghan Taylor, Jane Schaffhauser.

Champs on ice

The Comox Valley Skating Club is presently home to three Vancouver Island Region champions.

At the recent VI Region Championships, Jane Schaffhauser won the Senior

Bronze Girls event and Emma Cullen won Pre-Juvenile Girls U14.

That added two more titles to the one won by Jade Paganelli in Juvenile Girls U11 at an earlier provincial event. Jane and

Emma are now off to Kelowna to compete at the "Pond to Podium" Super Series STAR-Skate Final.

Also representing Comox Valley at the VI Region Championships were Aaliyah Melanson, Milan Huisamen, Michael Robert, Jade Paganelli, Peyton Meiers, and Meghan Taylor.

The next big event for the skating club is the "Big Time Fun Under the Big Top Skating Extravaganza" with two performances on April 5. Tickets are available now.

For information on the skating show and other skating club programs go to comoxvalleyskatingclub.ca.

- Comox Valley Skating Club



MILAN HUISAMEN, MICHAEL Robert, Aaliyah Melanson.

Valley snowboarders impress

Comox Valley slopestylers turned in solid performances at the Burton U.S. Open in Vail, Colorado on the weekend. Darcy Sharpe of Comox was sixth in men's while Spencer O'Brien of Courtenay was second in women's.

In women's, Olympic champion Jamie Anderson of the U.S., was the winner with 87.55. Just back from the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics O'Brien,

the defending event champion, displayed some impressive 720's and a switch 540 to place second at 80.00. Isabel Derungs of Switzerland was third at 71.90.

In men's, Olympic bronze medallist Mark McMorris of Regina continued a superb season on Friday winning the gold medal. McMorris, Canada's first medallist at the 2014 Sochi Games last month, took

the gold earning his best score on his second of three runs at 87.50.

Olympic silver medallist Stale Sandbech of Norway was second at 87.20 and Maxence Parrot, from Bromont, Que., was third at 84.30.

Along with the X Games and Dew Tour, the U.S. Open is one of the major events on the snowboard season.

- Canada Snowboard

Wolves capture hoops jamboree

On Wednesday, March 5, the Robb Road Wolves won the Elementary Basketball Jamboree at Vanier Secondary School.

The team of 15 Grade 7 boys played a total of four elimination games before narrowly defeating Queneesh in the finals.

Robb Road's Matthias Smith proved to be an incredible defence player, helping shut down Airport in the first game.

Valley View was unable to stop the line of Logan, Thomas, Joe Ben and Gabe in the second game.

The third game was dominated by Robb Road's power line of Ian, Cassius, Christian, Alistair and Matthias.

The final game was

extremely close and thanks to the clean play and constant determination of captain Thaskanani and his linemates Liam, Mason, Liam and Jacob. Robb Road was able to prevail.

It was clear during timeouts and halftime that coach Pavola had instilled a positive team climate and willingness for her players to give their all.

Thanks to all the teams that competed in a hard-fought tournament and to Larry Street for organizing the event.

- Robb Road Wolves

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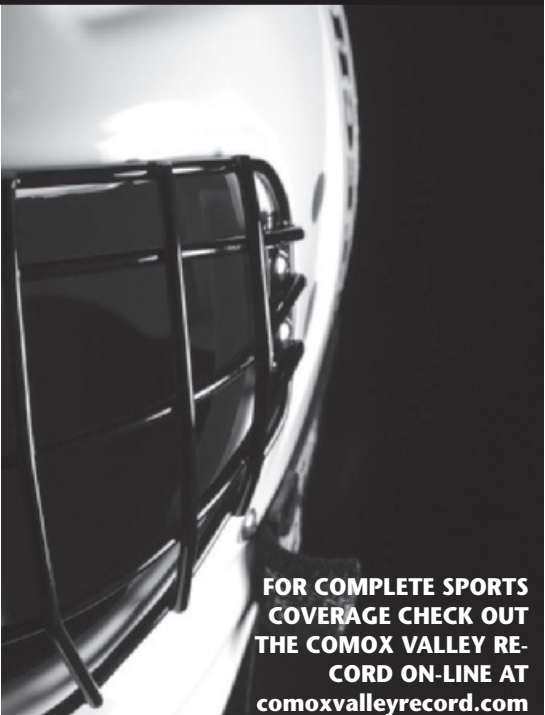


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The Record is pleased to recognize Kyla Gytenbeek for her excellent work in newspaper delivery to homes in the Comox area.

Kyla is 15 years old and attends Gateway Academy.



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COMOX VALLEY RECORD

Vauxhall Adam



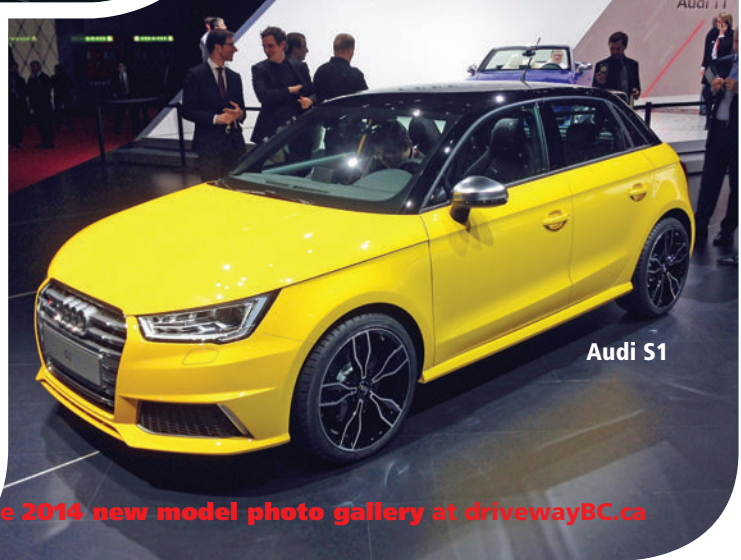
Mazda Hazumi hatchback



Citroen C4 Cactus



Honda Civic Type R concept



Audi S1

Visit the 2014 new model photo gallery at drivewayBC.ca

Cracking Canada's small car conundrum

GENEVA, Switzerland - Small cars are huge here in Europe, if not in size certainly in numbers. Everywhere you turn, it seems there is either a **Ford Fiesta** or an **Opel Astra** (the General Motors subsidiary) about to cross your path. If it is not those examples, there are any number of other similar sized economy cars from the likes of Citroen, VW, and Peugeot buzzing by. Micro cars such as the tiny **Smart**, with which we are familiar, and even smaller vehicles zip into roadside parking spots where previously only a motorcycle would park.

My two-prong mission at the Geneva Motor Show was to view small cars we might see sometime soon and others we never will see but wish we could! Then ponder whether small cars will ever catch on here in the way they have in Europe.

There was something familiar about the first car I encountered in the giant Palexpo show buildings. Ah yes, a European version of the trusty **Honda Civic** - Canada's hottest seller in that market segment. I am sure Honda Canada would sell more if they resembled the very hot Type R concept, which is destined to be a racer. Yes, the new North American Civic is sportier than the last generation but the Euro versions always seem that bit sharper in design.

Next up was the **Mazda Hazumi hatchback**, expected successor to the current Mazda2 and



“While there is a greater acceptance of smaller vehicles in our cities, people outside urban areas have more ground to cover and so are tempted by larger vehicles.”

Keith Morgan

likely to adopt the same numeric moniker. The concept vehicle has an all-new 1.5-litre SKYACTIV-D diesel engine.

Citroen no longer sells in North America though periodically we hear rumours of a return by the French manufacturer and its home rivals, Peugeot and Renault. Their lines are so different to the often indistinguishable small cars we get. Some of the French creations are positively funky and I found myself gawping at such an example in the new **Citroen C4 Cactus**. It's designed to challenge the likes of the Ford Focus and the **VW Golf**. It uses lightweight materials extensively, including an aluminum hood, which means it sips gas. The rubberized pads along the side would be perfect for people

who regularly have close encounters with garage doorframes! General Motors looks to penetrate the difficult younger buyer marked with its **Opel/Vauxhall Adam**. It's dressed up in interesting colours but it's what is under the hood that makes it really interesting. It has a variety of bigger engines as options but its smallest engine is a new 1.0-litre, three-cylinder gas engine, mated to a six-speed manual transmission, with the pulling power of 1.6-litre power plant. Fuel consumption is expected to be a miserly 4.5 L/100 km (combined city highway). It may show up here in some form but right now GM has more than its fair share of small cars.

So far, I've looked at econo cars at the lower end of the market. No point in me offering price details because all Euro cars are substantially more expensive than the same examples sold here in Canada.

Finally, I cast a close eye over the **Audi S1**, which is a hot sportback version of the popular A1.

It comes with a 228hp 2.0-litre turbocharged gas engine capable of hitting 100 km/h in less than six seconds. I will reveal it will sell for more than \$40,000 in the UK. It's fast, it's a premium offering and I'll eat my hat if it shows up here.

All of the above have great fuel economy going for them and most are competitively priced. The common keys to their success likely come down to two key factors. Impressive fuel consumption numbers matter because fuel in Europe is substantially more expensive than here. And Europe is crawling with folks going about their daily duties on often far less land and road space.

While there is a greater acceptance of smaller vehicles in our cities, people outside urban areas have more ground to cover and so are tempted by larger vehicles, especially as a first family vehicle.

And the truth is that the advances in fuel saving technology means there's not a massive difference between the econo-cars and small family sedans. And perhaps a bigger factor is for "an extra \$20 a month, madam, you could have the roominess and utility of this car." A line heard in most dealerships, most days. And the sales people are not wrong.

keith.morgan@drivewaybc.ca

Confessions of a Curber...



Meet Walt. He lives with his wife and two teenagers in a quiet neighbourhood. He does his part as a member of the community. Walt goes to work every morning, provides for his family and chats with his neighbours. Walt has a secret. He doesn't rob banks. He's no Walter White from "Breaking Bad." But, his love for quick cash and high profits drive him to a sideline that makes us all a little less safe and costs some their savings. Walt is a curber.

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Question of the week:

Does fuel consumption play a major role in your car purchase decision? If not, what does?

Please explain why you have made that decision. Go to drivewayBC.ca to submit your answer.



Safety Tip:

Spring break is a popular time of the year for a getaway. If you're planning a long drive across the province, remember that winter tires could still be needed on certain highways. It's also an ideal time to get a qualified mechanic to check your vehicle's suspension and steering.



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The diminutive Fiat 500 goes big

by Alexandra Straub

The Fiat 500 is cute but might not be the most practical choice as a family vehicle.

Sure, it has room for four, a peppy personality (even with its base 101-horsepower engine), but accessing the rear seats isn't the easiest and the cargo room is minimal.

Enter the all-new-for-2014 Fiat 500L: The "L" stands for "large" so those interior volume deficiencies listed with its pint-sized sibling are no more.

Dimensionally, the L is 27 inches longer, 6 inches taller in height and in width and there's an extra 42 percent when it comes to inside space.

But wait, there's more. Literally.

The L comes with two additional doors to allow for easy access to the rear seats. And room for five passengers.

It loses a little bit of its pinch-the-cheeks cuteness but its practicality makes up for it.



“Perhaps what really stands about this compact car is just how much people room there is inside.”

Alexandra Straub

In the driver's seat, you have an almost unadulterated outward visibility. The 500L features a segment-exclusive glass from the A- to D-pillars that provide nearly 360-degree panoramic views.

Parking is easy because you can pretty much see out of all four corners. And the 500L – even with its “large” designation – still fits comfortably into urban settings.

Driving the 500L, I noticed it doesn't have quite the same amount of panache as the 500 Turbo. Granted, it's a heavier vehicle.

But to still keep some of the driving fun behind the wheel, Fiat has outfitted it with a 1.4-liter MultiAir Turbo engine that provides 160 horsepower, 184 lb.-ft. of torque.

It's also available with two transmission options. Firstly, there's a 6-speed manual. Then there's an available 6-Speed Euro Twin Clutch “automatic.” The latter of the two costs an additional \$1,450 and came equipped on my 500L Lounge trim.

To be honest, this dual clutch transmission was my least favourite part of the vehicle. It felt as though the gearing was off or it had some sort of gremlin inside causing a rau-



2014 Fiat 500L Lounge



2014 Fiat 500L Lounge instrument cluster

See 'Fiat' on page B15

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driveway

Five sport utes worth a long look



2014 Ford Explorer Sport EcoBoost



2014 Toyota 4Runner



2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee



2014 Range Rover

By Ian Harwood

With the Vancouver International Auto Show just around the corner, I thought I would share my list of exciting new SUVs that are available.

Tough to nail down just one but I am sure one of these would spark some interest.

2014 Ford Explorer Sport is a performance version of its popular SUV. The headlights and taillights have been blacked out

to give it a sporty appearance. 20-inch painted and machined wheels allow room for the larger brakes that help it stop faster and improve performance when towing. The engine is an impressive 3.5 litre, twin turbocharged EcoBoost V6, producing a whopping 365 horsepower and 350 pound feet of torque with a 6 speed automatic transmission. To say this is quick off the line is an understatement. The Explorer also features a terrain management system that lets you select between sand, snow, mud, or hill descent.

2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee Summit equipped with a 3.0L EcoDiesel V6 engine putting out 240 hp and 420 lb ft of torque with

an 8 speed transmission delivers excellent millage while provide exceptional comfort. Natura-Plus leather faced seating, wood trim with copper accents, and a 19 speaker, 825 watt Har-



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Ian Harwood

mon/Kardon audio system keep you relaxed and alert. Up to date safety features such as enhanced accident response system, blind spot monitoring system, backup camera, engine immobilizer, hill start assist, and all speed

traction control are just some of the many features this vehicle has to offer to keep you safe. Excellent value.

Starting at \$60,895 **2014 Jeep Cherokee** is a completely redesigned five passenger SUV that has a front end that will stand out from the crowd. A seven-slotted grille and razor thin headlights makes the Jeep truly unique. The engine is a 2.4L Tigershark Multiair straight 4 cylinder delivering 184 hp and 171 lb ft of torque mated to a 9 speed automatic transmission. It can tow up to 2000lbs. The trail rated Trailhawk version has an active drive lock 4x4 system with 4 low gear and a rear-locking differential. It also features a neutral mode for flat



2014 Jeep Cherokee Limited

towing behind an RV. Sport 4x4 \$25,895 TrailHawk \$30,895 **2014 Range Rover Sport** is not just another luxury SUV; it is a fully capable off-road vehicle. The engine is a 510 horsepower, supercharged 5.0 litre V8 that puts out 461 lb-ft of torque @2500 RPM with a 6 speed automatic transmission. This transmission features Command Shift that actively responds to your driving habits and road conditions by reconfiguring the shift patterns for optimum

drivability in all situations and is mated with a 2 speed electronically controlled transfer case. Four wheel electronic traction control, hill descent control, and four corner air suspension with terrain response not only makes this vehicle maneuver well on the road but can take you on some of the roughest back roads British Columbia has to offer.

\$125,575 **2014 Toyota 4Runner** is as rugged and bold as they come. A legend in the off-road community, this 4run-

ner does not disappoint. Powering this truck is a 4.0 Litre V6 dual valve timing V6 engine that produces an impressive 270 hp and 278 lb ft of torque. The 4Runner has 2 rows of seats, with an optional 3rd row, available on the upgrade and limited packages. An available sliding rear cargo tray holds up to 200 kg and comes in very handy when camping. The Toyota 4runner hugs the road and the bucket seats hug you. It is very comfortable to drive and you feel safe driving it.

Confessions of a Curber

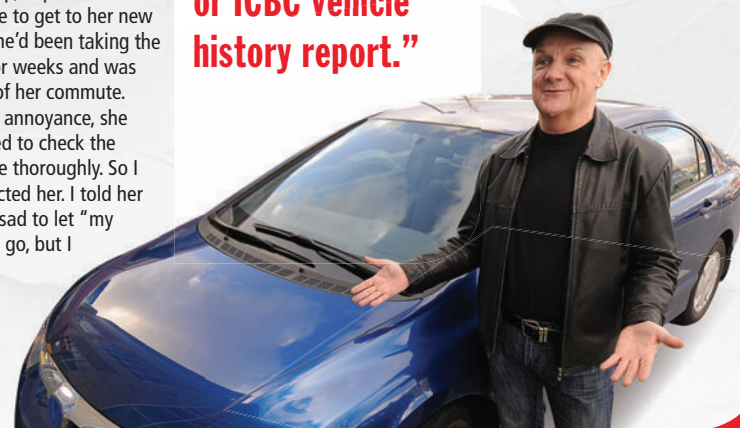
I was itching to sell another car. I'd spent my first cash quickly. The new TV looked great in my living room. So I scrounged the dealer lots in my neighbourhood. I found the perfect car at a small dealership not far from my house. Gray with four doors. Everything was still intact, but it was priced low. The dealer gave me the car's history right away. It had been in three accidents over its lifetime. Nothing too major, but damage was done and repaired. I couldn't spot the repairs. So, I happily bought it and registered it. I didn't want my wife and kids to know what I was up to, so I parked it around the block. I knew it would be gone in a few days. This time, I used Kijiji and Craigslist. "Car for sale. Served me well, but wife wants a new car. Accident and damage free. Looking to sell fast, low price. Cash only. Call cell for info."

I got a text message from a woman across town. I told her I'd meet her at a nearby gas station and would throw in a free tank of gas. She was thrilled. When I met her, she told me that she needed a cheap, dependable vehicle to get to her new job. She'd been taking the bus for weeks and was tired of her commute. To my annoyance, she wanted to check the vehicle thoroughly. So I distracted her. I told her I was sad to let "my baby" go, but I

wanted to keep my wife happy. She nodded sympathetically. As she handed me the money, she asked if the vehicle was in any accidents. Now, I'm not a good liar. So I simply said, No. It's her fault for not asking for a CarProof or ICBC vehicle history report. That seemed to do it. She was pleased and drove away with a smile on her face. As for me, I went home with a fat wallet. A few days later, I got a text: "Got CarProof report. Three accidents?!?!? Need money back now!!!" I panicked. But not for long. I was getting good at this. I just got a new cell number. She didn't know my name - that old fake ID worked great. And she had no idea where I lived. Finding me would wear her out. I was in the clear. But will I be so lucky next time?

*Curber - An individual posing as a private seller, but selling vehicles for profit as a business. A curber often misrepresents the history and condition of a vehicle. Curbers offer none of the protections the law provides for purchases from a Vehicle Sales Authority licensed dealer.

“Now, I'm not a good liar. It's her fault for not asking for a CarProof or ICBC vehicle history report.”



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The sure-footed and dynamic Lexus RX 350 F-Sport

continued from page B17

6-speed unit. By adding two more gears this new model really jumps away

from a stop and pulls very well to highway speeds. Two extra gears make a world of difference, helping to bring the engine to life and improving fuel economy. The suspension has also been modified to include a sport tuned dampers and springs. I could certainly tell this RX is different, in some city conditions, the ride can be very choppy and not what typical Lexus buyers would expect. The up side is that open road driving is much more sure-footed and dynamic. When the RX is thrown off-centre the top heavy nature of the RX shows its head, the centre of gravity feels much higher than some of the other sporty models in this class.

The Lowdown

- Power:** 3.5L V6 with 270hp
- Fill-up:** 11.2L/7.7L/100km (city/highway)
- Sticker price:** \$46,150-\$55,400

Verdict

The RX350 is the best seller in the Lexus line for good

reason. It offers the same interior space as a mid-sized sedan but sits higher for greater outward visibility, comes standard with all-wheel drive and has a high resale value. The RX 350 F-Sport takes all the goodness of the regular RX and makes it a bit more aggressive, especially in the acceleration front. Potential buyers would be well advised to drive both the regular model and this sportier version to see if you can live with the choppy ride, it really is dramatic.

zack.spencer@drivewaybc.ca



2014 Lexus RX 350 F-Sport



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Wise customers read the fine print: *, †, ‡, §. The Motor Trend Truck of the Year Sales Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating dealers on or after March 1, 2014. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. All pricing includes freight (\$1,695) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees, other dealer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Dealer trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell for less. *\$7,000 in Consumer Cash Discount is available on new 2014 Ram 1500 models. \$8,500 Consumer Cash Discount is available on new 2014 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4. See your dealer for complete details. †\$1,500 Ram Truck Loyalty/Conquest Bonus Cash is available to qualified customers on the retail purchase/lease of any 2013 Ram 2500/3500 models (excluding Cab & Chassis models) and 2014 Ram 1500 (excluding Reg. Cab models) and is deducted from the negotiated price after taxes. Eligible customers include current owners/lessees of a Dodge or Ram pickup truck or any other manufacturer's pickup truck. The vehicle must have been owned/leased by the eligible customer and registered in their name on or before February 1, 2014. Proof of ownership/lease agreement will be required. Additional eligible customers include licensed tradesmen and those working towards Skilled Trade certification. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. ‡4.29% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the new 2014 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 model through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Example: 2014 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 with a Purchase Price of \$26,888 (including applicable Consumer Cash Discount) financed at 4.29% over 96 months with \$0 down payment equals 2.08 bi-weekly payments of \$31,787. ‡Based on 2014 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption ratings. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. 2014 Ram 1500 3.6L V6 4x2 and 8-speed transmission - Hwy: 7.8 L/100 km (36 MPG) and City: 11.4 L/100 km (25 MPG). Ask your dealer for complete EnerGuide information. §Finance Pull-Ahead Bonus Cash and 1% Rate Reduction are available to eligible customers on the retail purchase/lease of select 2014 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram or Fiat models at participating dealers from March 1 to 31, 2014, inclusive. Finance Pull-Ahead Bonus Cash will be deducted from the negotiated price after taxes. 1% Rate Reduction applies on approved credit to most qualifying subvented financing transactions through RBC, TD Auto Finance & Scotiabank. 1% Rate Reduction cannot be used to reduce the final interest rate below 0%. Eligible customers include all original and current owners of select Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram or Fiat models with an eligible standard/subvented finance or lease contract maturing between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2016. Trade-in not required. See dealer for complete details and exclusions. §Starting from prices for vehicles shown include Consumer Cash Discounts and do not include upgrades (e.g. paint). Upgrades available for additional cost. ††Best-selling based on R. L. Polk Canada, Inc. 2014 CY new vehicle registrations for retail sales of large Heavy Duty/Super Duty pickups. †††Heavy Duty/Super Duty pickups. ††††Heavy Duty/Super Duty pickups. †††††Heavy Duty/Super Duty pickups. 2500 and 3500 Series for GMC and Chevrolet Trucks. 2500 and 3500 Series for Ford Trucks. †††††Based on longevity of entire Ram large pickup segment compared to all competitive large pickups on the road since 1988. Longevity based on R. L. Polk Canada, Inc. Canadian Vehicles in Operation data as of November 1, 2013 for model years 1988-2013 for all large pickups sold and available in Canada over the last 25 years. †††††Based on 2013 Automotive News full-size pickup segmentation. †††††The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.

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Chimo gymnasts swarm podium at Surrey meet

There are many ways to be involved in Chimo Gymnastics. In the recreational gymnastics program there are classes available for toddlers on up to adults with some terrific opportunities for teens with Parkour and High School gymnastics, all are available through the Comox Recreation Guide.

For those wanting to become a little more involved in exploring gymnastics skills there is the Pre Competitive program. Chimo Gymnastics' competitive program is the next step in developing our gymnasts.

Competitive athletes are categorized into the

age groups Pre-Argo, Argo, Tyro, Novice and Open and by numerical levels from Level 1, the first level in Provincial gymnastics, to Level 5, the highest level before reaching the National category.

There are approximately eight competitions a year for the competitive team and most have just completed their second of the season at the Carol Lenz Memorial Invitational, Feb. 28 to March 2 in Surrey.

During this first meet off of Vancouver Island this competitive season Chimo brought home three first place overall finishes, several more podium fin-



KAYLEE GUIGNARD WON P3 Open.

ishes on individual apparatus and some great personal accomplishments in challenging themselves by

testing out new skills in competition.

Relative newcomer, Ariadne Greckus, challenged herself in the

P2 Argo category. This age group and level is always a very large category and Ariadne gained valuable experience in competing at this level. Kira Magor's second place balance beam routine placed her on top of the podium, winning gold in the P2 Novice category.

In Hannah Vall-evand's second competitive year she topped the podium in first place overall thanks to her winning vault and floor routine in the P2 Open category. The P3 Novice category is another very large and competitive group that saw Sophia Mossie achieve fourth place for her bar rou-

tine and finish in the top third of the group with a very respectable seventh place overall.

The P3 Open category saw three Chimo athletes competing together. Fresh off her BC Winter Games success, Kaylee Guignard scored first on vault, bars and beam and won her category. Isabella Pelletier joined her on the podium in third place.

Thanks to hard work and great coaching, a number of gymnasts have moved up a level this year and are challenging themselves with new skills. Josee Jalbert achieved her goal of competing her new skills in her first

Level 3 competition in the Lower Mainland. Lauren Carr won the floor category with her strong tumbling skills and was fourth on vault to finish sixth overall in P4 open.

Sawyer Sturam stayed consistent across all four apparatus to solidly take fourth place overall in the P4 Open category. Kaylee Guignard, Josee Jalbert, Sophia Mossie and Isabella Pelletier received the second place team award for their session.

Next up are the BC Artistic Provincial Gymnastics Championships in Kamloops from March 14-16.

- Chimo Gymnastics

score board

HOCKEY

VANCOUVER ISLAND JUNIOR LEAGUE

2013-14 Playoffs (best-of-seven series)

Round One

Comox Valley defeats Saanich 4-0

Round Two

March 4 (Game 1) Peninsula 2 @ Comox Valley 0

March 7 (Game 2) Comox Valley 3 @ Peninsula 0

March 8 (Game 3) Peninsula 0 @ Comox Valley 4

March 10 (Game 4) Comox Valley 2 @ Peninsula 4

March 12 (Game 5) Peninsula @ Comox Valley 7 p.m. Sports Centre #1

March 14 (Game 6) Comox Valley @ Peninsula 7:30 p.m.

If needed

March 15 (Game 7) Peninsula @ Comox Valley 7:30 p.m. Sports Centre #1

C.V. SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

DODGEBALL

Recreational - Monday

A Tier

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Young Guns	5	0	0	10
CV Marine Misfits	4	1	0	8
The Fighting Amish	4	1	0	8
Vicious & Delicious	4	1	0	8
10 Phat Kids	2	3	0	4
Ball Busters	2	3	0	4
Chuck 'N' Duckers	1	4	0	2
Blazing Balls	0	5	0	0

B Tier

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Team Excellence	4	1	0	8
Not In The Face	3	2	0	6
Shoot to Thrill	3	2	0	6
Chocolate Thunder	2	3	0	4
Firing Squad	2	3	0	4
The 5 D's	2	3	0	4
Mount Then Wash	1	4	0	2
Thorns & Roses	1	4	0	2

Intermediate - Wednesday

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Those Guys	7	0	0	14
Lightning Dogs	6	1	0	12
Thundercats	5	2	0	10
Piggy Back Attack	4	3	0	8
Grease Balls	3	4	0	6
Dodge Fathers	2	5	0	4
The Ballistics	1	6	0	2
Super Attack Squad	0	7	0	0

INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

Wednesday

A Tier

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Return to Sender	13	0	0	26
Amp TNT	11	2	0	22
Spike TV	6	5	2	14
Planet Volleywood	6	6	1	13
Around the Block	6	6	1	13
Just the Tip	4	8	1	9
A*Team	2	8	3	7
Set to Kill	0	13	0	0

B Tier

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Show Us Your Tips	12	1	0	24
Ancient Mariners	10	3	0	20
Thrillbillies	6	6	1	13
Strike Farce	6	6	1	13
Net Assets	6	6	1	13
Served On Ice	6	7	0	12

Bumplestitskin	4	8	1	9
Getting Tippy	0	13	0	0

BADMINTON

Friday A Tier

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Smash 'N' Grab	15	1	0	30
Sonic 'N' Tails	13	3	0	26
Supreme Court	12	4	0	24
Racquet Fuel	10	6	0	20
Break. Bad-minton	10	6	0	20
Super Suzies	7	8	1	15

Friday B Tier

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Rusty Racquets	7	9	0	14
The Racqueteers	7	9	0	14
Bad Birdies	6	10	0	12
Les Merchants	4	11	1	9
Birdies	4	12	0	8
Angry Birds	0	16	0	0

INDOOR SOCCER

Thursday A Tier

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Los Lobos	5	0	0	19
AFC United	3	1	0	6
Epic	2	1	1	5
Super Mario Strikers	2	3	0	4
Blue Toque FC	1	2	1	3
Extra Games	1	0	0	2
Smells Team Spirit	1	3	0	2
Untouchables	0	5	0	0

Thursday B Tier

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Free Lions	5	1	0	10
Gen Y	3	1	2	8
Subs Bench	3	1	2	8
The Ballsacs	3	2	1	7
Balls to the Walls	2	3	1	5
TC Valley Collision	2	3	1	5
Toepunters	1	4	1	3
The Offside	1	5	0	2

FLOOR HOCKEY

Tuesday

Team	W	L	T	Pt
Lockout All-Stars	6	0	1	13
EDS Trashers	6	0	1	13
Dekes of Hazzard	5	2	0	10
Shut Your 5-Hole	3	3	1	7
The Jets	3	3	1	7
Flying Squirrels	3	4	0	6
No Regretzkies	3	4	0	6
Puck Offs	3	4	0	6
Puck Hunt	0	6	1	1
U Puck On Me?	0	6	1	1

10-PIN BOWLING

CRYSTAL LANES

Tuesday Night Mixed

Team	QTR	YTD
King Pins*	9	216
The B.U.F.F.*	4	211
EZDUZIT	11	202
Screaming Eagles*	12	202
Bucking Awesome	9	183
U.K. Plus	4	177
Ryan's Pizzeria	10	159
Team 8	1	17

*quarter winners

Team

High Scratch Game Screaming Eagles 822 **High Hcp. Game** Screaming Eagles 1009 **High Scratch Series** Screaming Eagles 2297 **High Hcp. Series** Screaming Eagles 3128

Individual

High Scratch Game Robert Rodgers 205, May Inrig 198 **High Hcp. Game** Bill Schoen 243, Mark Hallam 243 Lorna Carlson 251 **High Scratch Series** Robert Rodgers 556, Lennai Chickite 476 **High Hcp. Series** Bill Schoen 654, Linda Brooks 660

Congratulations Lorna Carlson bowled a Seniors 50 POA Game (156), Seniors 145 Game (156) ... Sandy Hinkley bowled a Seniors 145 Game (149) ...

8-BALL

C.V. POOL LEAGUE

Team	RW	PT	GW
Breaking Bad	75	2901	205
Rack-No-Phobia	73	2986	226
Misspent Youth	73	2865	211
Drive By	72	2683	218
Scratch	71	3026	225
Chalk-A-Holics	70	2967	226
Choc-O-Lot	69	2945	216
4 Men & A Lady	64	2771	184
Classics	62	2871	195
Team Cuddles	61	2783	198
Who's Counting?	57	2634	162
Chalk-N-Awe	53	2739	182
Balls In Hand	51	2723	178
The Breakers	45	2587	157
Chalk One Up!	41	2560	145
Cue-Tease	39	2520	136
Mex Hookers	26	2266	109
Darn Winians	23	2187	107

RW-rounds won; PT-points; GW-games won

Player of Year Standings

Player	GP	Pts
Ostwald, Werner	56	97.9
Horton, Rob	70	88.2
Douglas, Ron	48	86.2
Caton, Bernie	88	83.4
Kellogg, Jim	48	81.6
Stewart, Wayne	84	80.3
Larabee, Bill	82	79.4
Ferguson Brian	72	74.9
Robinson, Shane	67	73.3
Mynott, Kris	28	72.5

SPORTS RESULTS

E-MAIL TO:

sports@comoxvalleyrecord.com

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COURSE	CODE	DATES	DAYS, TIMES	# OF CLASSES/COST
FoodSafe Level I	TFS-010	Mar 22	Sat : 8:00 - 4:30 pm	\$95.00
Marine Advanced First Aid & CPR C	FAC-084	Mar 24-28	Mon-Fri: 8:30-4:30 pm	5/\$560
Intermediate Digital Photography	GENI-2725	Mar 25-Apr 22	Tue: 6:30-9:30 pm	5/\$215
Red Cross Emergency Medical Responder- EMR	AET-020	Mar 31-Apr 11	Mon-Fri: 8:00-5:00 pm	10/\$795
Red Cross Standard First Aid with CPR Level C	FAC-021	Aor 12 & 13	Sat & Sun: 8:30-4:30 pm	2/\$150
Emergency Child First Aid with CPR Level B	FAC-010	Apr 26	Sat: 8:00-5:00 pm	\$90.00
FoodSafe Level I	TFS-010	Apr 26	Sat : 8:00 - 4:30 pm	\$95.00
Occupational First Aid Level 1	OFA-010	May 1	Thu: 8:30 - 4:30 pm	\$90.00
Occupational First Aid Transportation Endorsement	OFA-015	May 2	Fri: 8:30 - 4:30 pm	\$100.00
CPR Level C with AED	HRT-011	May 3	Sat : 08:30 - 2:30 pm	\$60.00
Sage 50-1 (formerly Simply Accounting)	CPA-015	May 3 & 4	Sat & Sun: 9:00-4:30 pm	2/\$295
Occupational First Aid Level 3	OFA-030	May 5-16	Mon-Fri: 8:30-4:30 pm	10/\$710
Occupational First Aid Level 3 Renew	OFA-032	May 12-16	Mon-Fri: 8:30-4:30 pm	5/\$585
Marine Basic Frst Aid & CPR C	FAC-082	May 24 & 25	Sat & Sun: 8:30-4:30 pm	2/\$165
Red Cross Standard First Aid with CPR Level C	FAC-021	May 29 & 30	Thu & Fri: 8:30-4:30 pm	2/\$150
Occupational First Aid Level 1	OFA-010	May 31	Sat: 8:30-4:30 pm	\$90.00
FoodSafe Level I	TFS-010	May 31	Sat: 8:00-4:30 pm	\$95.00
Plein Air Painting	GENI-1538	June 2-5	Mon-Thu: 1:00-4:00 pm	4/\$125
Occupational First Aid Level 2	OFA-020	June 3-14	Tue & Thu: 6:00-10:00 pm & Sat: 8:30-4:30 pm	10/\$585
Introduction to Abstract Painting	GENI-1573	June 5-26	Thu: 6:00-9:00 pm	4/\$125

For more information, call 250-334-5005 or visit www.nic.bc.ca/continuingeducation

Pacific herring spawn huge gift from nature

When I try to wrap my head around the profound implications of the Pacific herring spawn in our local waters I have difficulty finding words to describe the magnitude of this huge gift from nature.

It is not my purpose to be critical of the harvest of the roe from the spawning fish, but I do suggest that the continued narrow use of such a profound resource is reflective of a society that has lost touch with the importance of these fish as food for people on a planet that is increasingly being challenged to feed everybody.

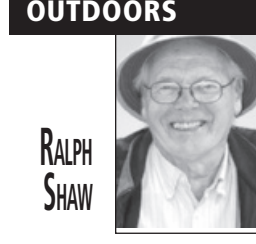
Pictured with the column are two mature herring. The fish on the left is a male, which is used for fertilizer, animal and fish meal but not used as people food; the fish on the right is a female and the exposed roe you can see from the body cavity is all that is used as food from it – the rest goes to the same use as the discarded males. The cured roe sells primarily in Japan at similar prices we pay for caviar in the sturgeon fishery. The 2014 Strait of Georgia roe herring fishery and spawning events have been happening in local waters off Tree Island and adjacent waters of Point Holmes and up the shoreline to at least Seal Bay for the past few days.

I am told there are other locations in Lambert Channel and the south coast of Hornby Island.

Regardless of the



THE FISH ON the left is a male herring, the one on the right is a female herring. The male is not used as people food; only the female's roe is used as people food. PHOTO BY RALPH SHAW



OUTDOORS

RALPH SHAW

number of spawning events, it is a gigantic life-renewing event for the herring and a survival event for the many animals, fish and birds that depend on this significant fish migration to replenish their fat and nutrition reserves depleted over the winter. It also helps the predatory species get in good health for their respective breeding cycles.

On two occasions I watched the fishery in progress from the shore. A sky full of circling eagles, huge numbers of other sea birds,

large pods of Stellar and California sea lions and the controlled movement of seine and gillnet boats make for a futuristic scene of managed chaos we associate with some far-out movie scenes.

When looking at the sea lions in the water it is easy to underestimate the size of these large predators.

The average mature Stellar sea lion male weighs in at close to a ton (2,000 pounds), and the females weigh up to 800 pounds. California sea lions are smaller at 500 to 600 pounds for males and females at 200 pounds.

Add to this mix hundreds of harbour seals that weigh in at approximately 200 pounds for adults you have a huge predator stock of mammals that are impacting the her-

ring at many levels.

Add to the mix the whales, salmon and other predator species it is a feast where the whole community of nature turns up.

The last time I walked the beach to watch the event you had to be impressed by the win rows of herring eggs that had washed in on the high tide. I took pictures of one concentration of spawn that was about 30-feet wide, at least a foot thick in many places and it stretched down the beach for hundreds of yards. At places it was just a few feet wide, but at others it was as I described it.

I am told that some of this roe that goes back out on the tide will hatch as long as it stays cool and wet. During the act of spawning and fertiliza-

“ I took pictures of one concentration of spawn that was about 30 feet wide, at least a foot thick in many places ... ”

tion of the eggs, the sea turns white from the profusion of male sperms in the water.

To witness the superabundance of eggs on the tide lines gives another dimension to this miraculous spawning event that is part of the rhythms of nature in Area 14 waters.

As I write, we are at the beginning of spring break for our schools: I suggest a great family venture to view some of the elements of this migration of natural life would be an extended trip along

local beaches.

I recommend starting your journey as far north as Miracle Beach Park and travelling south to at least Parksville. It could take a couple of days to travel the area covered by the spawn. Take cameras, binoculars, sunscreen and warm clothes.

Ralph Shaw is a master fly fisherman who was awarded the Order of Canada in 1984 for his conservation efforts. In 20 years of writing a column in the Comox Valley Record it has won several awards.



A Big Thank You!

from the
Courtenay & District Fish & Game Protective Association

for making our
Annual Banquet Fundraiser a huge success!

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| Art Knapps Plantland | Great Canadian Oil Change | Shaw, Ralph |
| Artisan Wood to Work | H & H Enterprises | Shoppers Drug Mart |
| Atlas Café | Hartman's Auto Supply | Sid Williams Theatre |
| Bamboo Gardens | Highwayman Pub | Slegg Lumber Ltd. |
| Bartle & Gibson Co. Ltd. | Home Hardware Central Builders | South Country Feed and Supply |
| Baynes Sound Oyster Co. Ltd. | Hot Chocolates | South Hollow Gallery |
| Baynes Sound Seafood Shop | Hub Barton Insurance | Strathcon Industries |
| Berry, Jim - Reliable Auto Body | Hyland Precast | Stubbs Island Whalewatching (T.Cove) |
| Blackfin Pub | I Hos Gallery & Gift Shop | Sublime Fashion Collection |
| Bloomfield Flats Cedar Furniture | Imperial Welding Ltd. | Sunwest Auto Center |
| Booster Juice | Ironside Contracting | Sunwest RV |
| Bosley's Pet Food Plus | J.R. Edgett Excavating Ltd. | Superstore |
| Boston Pizza | Jack'd Clothing | Supreme Convenience |
| Brecks (Quebec) | Jacobson, Ria | Tayco and OK Paving |
| Brian McLean Chevrolet | Joe Klassen Restaurant | The Butcher's Block |
| Buick GMC Ltd | John's Bedroom Barn Foam Warehouse | The Home Depot |
| Brodie, Neil | John's Your Independent Grocer | The Inkwell |
| Browns River Holdings | Kal Tire | Thompson, Ralph |
| Buckley Bay Beachcomber | Komox Grind Coffee House | Thoughtful Paws |
| Budget Brake & Muffler | Larface Canada Inc. | Thrifty Foods |
| Butchart Gardens | Lefeber Jan W., Denturist Comox | Tireland |
| Cabela's Canada | London Drugs | Toews, Bill Dr. |
| Canadian Tire | Lordco Parts Ltd. | Torbram Electric Supply |
| Capilano Suspension Bridge | Lucky Lager and Bud Light | Toscano's |
| Chinook Forest Products | MacKenzie, Jan | Tria Fine Catering |
| Cliffe Ave Husky | Mac's Oysters Ltd. | True Dimension Hair Design |
| Cloverdale Paint | Marine Harvest Canada | Tuppers Home Health Care |
| Coast Environmental | Marinus, Pete and Linda | Tyee Marine |
| Coastal Community Credit Union | Mark the Gold Guy - Courtenay Pawn | U.B. Dive |
| Comox Community Center | McElhanney Associates Land Surveying Ltd. | Union Bay Market |
| Comox Taxi | McQueen R, Woodcraft | Uptown Yarns |
| Comox Valley Marine Ltd. | Merit Home Furniture | VFH Productions Ltd. |
| Complete Auto Clinic | Midland Tools | Valhalla Pure Outfitters |
| Cork & Caps | Mike Hamilton Logging Ltd. | Van Isle Veterinary Hospital |
| Costco | Modern Hair Design | Vancouver Aquarium |
| Courtenay Heating & Sheet Metal Ltd. | Monte Christo on the River | Vancouver Island Enterprises |
| Dalron Home Leisure | Nancy Morrison Stained Glass | Vancouver Island Insurance Center |
| Ducks Unlimited | Northern Ropes | Victoria Royals Hockey Club |
| E.B. Horsman & Sons | Ocean Pacific Marine Supply | Vision Works |
| Early Bird Café | ONO Work & Safety | Visual Sound AVU |
| Edible Island Whole Foods | O'Toole Rick | Walmart |
| Ecol Electric | O'Toole, Terry | Water Pure & Simple |
| Eggiman, Gail | Pacific Coastal Airlines | Weaver's Leather |
| Elcor Holdings Ltd | Pam's Specialty Chocolates | West Coast Home Theatre |
| Eldorado Upholstery | Paradise Park Parksville | Westburne Electric |
| Eldorado Upholstery | Parker Marine | Whiskey Point Resort |
| End of The Roll | Parkside Storage - Jamie Edwards | White Spot |
| Extreme Runners | Jaime Edwards | Woodform Interiors |
| Fanny Bay Inn | PetroCanada | Woofy's |
| Fanny Bay Oysters | Pharmasave Comox | Your Home Shoppe |
| Fifth Street Florists | Pilon Tool Rentals | Zybovovsky, Ray |
| Finneron Hyundai | Pinch and Reid Accounting | |
| First Insurance | Plates Eatery | |
| Flight Centre Courtenay | Prince of Whales Whalewatching | |
| | Portuguese Joe's Fish Market | |

“We apologize if we missed anyone!”

Field hockey league growing

The Comox Valley Field Hockey League (CVFHL) is excited to announce the start of spring registration for the 2014 season, April 8 to June 26, open to ages eight years and up, male and female.

This year the focus of the CVFHL will be on encouraging families to participate in this exciting sport that can provide those involved with many associated benefits including fitness, team building skills and community interaction.

In addition, opportunities do exist for youngsters, who excel in the sport, to receive academic scholarships to play for university teams in both Canada

“ This year the focus of the CVFHL will be on encouraging families to participate in this exciting sport ... ”

and the USA.

The CVFHL is looking to expand and strengthen the league in anticipation of the new artificial turf that will be built and completed in Comox Valley by the fall of 2014.

Having this turf in the Comox Valley will continue to enhance and solidify the league's current success in the sport against other well-established teams on Vancouver Island and the Mainland.

Last year, the Comox Valley ladies team won

the Masters Tournament in Victoria and the Westerly Tournament in Nanaimo. The junior ladies team had a very successful year as well.

To learn more about both the outdoor and indoor sport of field hockey, visit the CVFHL website at www.comoxvalleyfieldhockey.ca.

To register for the 2014 field hockey season (April 8 to June 26) contact the Lewis Centre at 250-338-5371 from March 1 to April 1.

Who can register: women, men, girls and boys ages 8 to 68+. Cost: adults \$75, juniors (born in the years 1996-2001) \$45, youths (born in the years 2002-2006) \$15.

Practices at Queenesh Elementary School field: Tuesdays 5:30- 6:30 p.m. (ages 8 to 68+ Learn to Play and Build Skills).

Scrimmages at Queenesh Elementary field: Thursday 6:30- 8 p.m. (ages 13 and above).

Equipment needed: Mouth guard and shin pads. Field hockey sticks will be provided by the CVFHL on loan at no additional cost.

– Comox Valley Field Hockey League



THE COMOX VALLEY Regional District and Tim Hortons teamed up once again to provide active fun on New Year's Eve at the free family swim and skate at the sports centre where close to 1,000 people participated. As the event sponsor, Tim Hortons' Jennie Brocklehurst, Lynda Brocklehurst and Chantel Anderson presented a cheque to Jennifer Zbinden (far right), CVRD manager of recreation services. Event attendees donated more than 210 pounds of non-perishable items for the Comox Valley Food Bank.



SQUARE 1 TRAVEL & Cruise manager Louise DeArmond (right) presents Rosemary Williams of Kitty Cat PAL Society with donations from fundraising in December. Generous clients donated cash as well as food and other items for the cat rescue society. Wendy Harris of Square 1 organized the successful event.

Community Service

What is your group up to?

The *Comox Valley Record* wants to recognize the many events that make our community a better place to live.

Submit photos and information to:

In Person: 765 McPhee Ave., Courtenay;

By Mail: Comox Valley Record, 765 McPhee Avenue, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 2Z7;

By e-mail: sports@comoxvalleyrecord.com

Mark submissions to the attention of Earle Couper and be sure to include a contact name and phone number.

Due to the volume of submissions, photo prints cannot be mailed back. Please pick them up within two weeks of publication. We cannot guarantee their return.



THE CASCADIA LIQUOR Store, as part of their year-round community fundraising, assisted the Comox Valley Sonshine Club. Left to right: Jen Jones, Cascadia manager Jeff Lucas, Sonshine Club organizer Ed Shymko and Carolyn Mulvaney.



BRANCH 160 COMOX Legion presented a certificate of appreciation to 1726 Canadian Scottish Regiment Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps for their participation in the Legion Candle Light Vigil held the night of Nov. 10-11. Fred Maniak of the Comox Legion Poppy Committee presents the certificate to Corp. Cadet Commander W.O. Hugh Park and Major Larry Jefferies Commanding Officer.



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of Federal Retirees (FSNA) Vancouver Island North Branch presents a \$500 cheque to the Comox Bay Care Society. Pictured is Helen Boyd, coordinator of the Care-A-Van Program and Bill Turnbull, FSNA Branch president.

COMOX VALLEY RECORD

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS
FUNERAL HOMES

Did You Know?

Rosemarie & Kent Roduck
Owners / Funeral Directors

When deciding whether services should be non-traditional our philosophy is to make every ceremony unique and creative.

When someone we love and care for dies, we need to deal with one of the most important events of our lives. Denying the death or hoping that the less we do, the sooner the feelings will pass, does not make it so.

The most important part of our service is the time spent in discussion with the family to learn about the person who's died and to create a ceremony that is relevant and truly reflects who that person was and how they lived their life.

Every life is deserving of acknowledgement of its contributions.



Comox Valley
FUNERAL HOME
CREMATION AND RECEPTION CENTRE
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COURTENAY
250-334-0707
comoxvalleyfuneralhome.com

Your Community, Your Classifieds
bcclassified.com
1-855-310-3535

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS
DEATHS

Wayne S. Metrick

With much profound sadness we announce the passing of Wayne S. Metrick on Sunday, March 2nd, 2014. Wayne, after an incredible 1 year battle with the ravages of ALS, surrendered to be with the Lord. Wayne was born Jan. 3rd, 1947 and was a kind, gentle man, with a heart of compassion founded in faith.

He was employed as a log scaler, in the B.C. Logging Industry for 2 decades. He was proud to live in Cumberland and was active in the community through service clubs and support groups. If Wayne met you and you needed help, he would be there for you spiritually/financially/or emotionally. Wayne was an active and long term congregant at St. George's United Church on 6th Street in Courtenay. The "Church" was a big part of his life and he was particularly proud of the social programs of St. George's including the "Soup Kitchen" and the "Pastor's Pantry." Wayne was the church cleaner for 15 years and also faithfully prepared the elements (bread/wine) for communion.

Wayne...you are greatly loved and will be missed. It is a lesser world without you but now you are pain free and united with your mother Minnie again! Praise God!

A celebration of life will be held Wednesday, March 26, 2:30 pm at St. George's United Church in Courtenay.

Comox Valley
FUNERAL HOME
CREMATION & RECEPTION CENTRE
250-334-0707
www.comoxvalleyfuneralhome.com

"The song is ended, but the melody lingers on..."

Leona Pezzot

Leona Pezzot, 99 years young, passed away in Courtenay, B.C. on March 9, 2014. Leona was born in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan on Feb 1, 1915 into a family of 9 siblings. Leona is predeceased by her husband Antonio Pezzot at 100 years young.

She is survived by her sister Irene in Alberta and all of her children: Winnie, Walter, Barbara, Phil, Ernest, Wilfred, Kenneth, Myrtle, and Raymond. "Lee" & "Tony" have created such a life legacy with 5 generations that there are far too many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren to list.

Leona had many active interests such as Lionesses, Old Time Fiddlers, Square dancing, fishing, camping, and local ballgames. She & Tony were incredible, professional gardeners who nourished many others for years with food and brightened our world with flowers. She was a lovely soul, generous, and always present at family and community functions to give a helping hand.

A celebration of Life will take place at a later date so she can be reunited with Antonio and dance together once again when flowers are blooming in the garden.

*A light from our family has gone
A voice we loved is still
A place is vacant in our home
No-one can ever fill*

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CREMATION & RECEPTION CENTRE
250-334-0707
www.comoxvalleyfuneralhome.com

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS
IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of
Andrew "Red" Harvie
Apr. 15, 1921~Mar. 16, 2012

Remembering Red who left us two years ago.
*"Your memory is our keepsake,
With which we'll never part.
God has you in his keeping,
We have you in our hearts."*

Love, Bog and family

Shirley Ann Harrison
Sept 29, 1942- March 6, 2014

Shirley passed away peacefully at home surrounded by Family. She will be sorely missed by her beloved husband George; children Ruth, Chuck, Patrick, Jeanie, Walker; mother Ruth and step-father Edward Sr; brothers John and Edward Jr, sister Elizabeth; grandchildren Lisa and Jason.

By Shirley's request there will be no service. Donations may be made to the Red Cross.

Funeral Services
250 338 4463
www.tonefffunerals.com
"where your family comes first"

Elizabeth (Betty) Wilson
1927-2014

With deep sadness we announce the passing of Betty on March 4. She will be sadly missed by her son Wayne, daughter Maureen, grandchildren Mike, Melissa and Rachel. She will also be missed by her brother Art, extended family, and friends too numerous to list.

Betty was born on Denman Island and later went to work at her brother Gordon's logging camp where she met her husband of 54 years. Betty and Trueman raised their children on their own logging camp until 1968. They moved to Coquitlam and then to Comox in 1974 where they spent many happy years until Trueman's death in 2004. Since then Betty lived a very active life enjoying her bowling friends, her times at the Courtenay Legion and Sunday brunches with her group at the Whistle stop.

A gathering of family and friends will be held at the Courtenay Legion March 23 at 1 pm.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS
IN MEMORIAM

~In Loving Memory~
WAYNE LYON
May 16 1967 - March 15 2003

*Your life was a blessing
Your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure
Can't believe it's been 11 years.*

Love, Mom, Dad,
Crystal, Lisa, Tara,
Family and Friends

Kurt Erich Wilms
August 14, 1929- March 5, 2014

Kurt Erich Wilms passed away on March 5, 2014. Kurt was born in Ober Pritschen KRS, Fraustadt Germany on August 14, 1929. In 1953, not knowing a word of English, he decided to move to Canada. He boarded the Anna Salen and sailed to Quebec, from there he traveled across the country by train to Saskatchewan. Kurt started working for a german speaking family on a large farm in Davin. This is where he met Eleanor and in 1956 they were married.

Later Kurt worked as machinist at IPSCO until 1966 when the family took a vacation to B.C. to visit friends and they quickly fell in love with the west coast. During this vacation Kurt applied for and got a job at Fletcher Challenge in Campbell River, the family quickly returned to Regina to pack their belongings, say their Good Byes, sell their house and that very same week moved to B.C. permanently, making their home in Black Creek. When not working on their hobby farm Kurt enjoyed curling, fishing, vacationing in Hawaii, and in his retired years he mastered the art of making wine from any fruit or berry he could.

Kurt is predeceased by daughter Doreen and son-in-law Richard, brothers Max and Walter and sister Martha. Kurt is survived by his wife Eleanor, daughter Sonya (Larry), grandsons Brian and Craig (Heather), great-granddaughter Ashlynnne, brother Heinz (Louise), niece Angelika (Erich) and sister Elsie.

We wish to thank Julia Steele, Dr. Curtis and Greg Oksanen for all your knowledge and support.

PIERCY'S
~ MT. WASHINGTON
250-334-4464
www.piercysmtwashingtonfuneral.com

COMING EVENTS

CALL FOR ENTRIES
12TH ANNUAL
Kitty Coleman Woodland Art & Bloom Festival. Fine Art and Quality Crafts Juried Show. Presented in a spectacular outdoor setting May 17, 18 and 19 Applications for Artisans at woodlandgardens.ca 250-338-6901

Comox Valley & District BRANCH OF THE BC SPCA NOTICE OF A.G.M 2014
Thursday March 27, 2014 from 5 pm - 7 pm
At: 1668 Ryan Road E. Comox, BC
All active BCSPCA members are welcome to attend. More info on meeting please contact Peter Hehl at 250-339-7722

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS
CELEBRATIONS

THE FAMILY of Lilian Whitehead invites you to the Comox Legion, March 22, 2-4 pm for refreshments and to wish Lilian a happy 90th birthday. No gifts. Donations may be made to the S.P.C.A.

WE INVITE You to Attend Gospel Meetings Every Sunday 3:30-4:30 PM at the Lions Den 1729 Comox Ave., Comox Everyone Welcome

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Joseph's GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
YOUR Gift in Memory Of a Loved One
Raises funds to enhance and support quality health care in our community hospital.
Please send your donation to:
2137 Comox Avenue
Comox, BC V9M 1P2
250-890-3046
VISA/MC Accepted
A tax receipt will be issued.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS
INFORMATION

DID YOU KNOW? BBB provides complaint resolution services for all businesses and their customers. Look for the 2014 BBB Accredited Business Directory E-edition on your Black Press Community Newspaper website at www.blackpress.ca. You can also go to <http://vi.bbb.org/directory/> and click on the 2014 BBB Accredited Business Directory

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DEATHS

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Later Kurt worked as machinist at IPSCO until 1966 when the family took a vacation to B.C. to visit friends and they quickly fell in love with the west coast. During this vacation Kurt applied for and got a job at Fletcher Challenge in Campbell River, the family quickly returned to Regina to pack their belongings, say their Good Byes, sell their house and that very same week moved to B.C. permanently, making their home in Black Creek. When not working on their hobby farm Kurt enjoyed curling, fishing, vacationing in Hawaii, and in his retired years he mastered the art of making wine from any fruit or berry he could.

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We wish to thank Julia Steele, Dr. Curtis and Greg Oksanen for all your knowledge and support.

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Campbell River Division Divisional Accountant (12-month contract)

International Forest Products Limited (Interfor) is a growth-oriented lumber company with operations in Canada and the United States. The Company has annual production capacity of more than 2.2 billion board feet and offers one of the most diverse lines of lumber products to customers around the world. For more information about Interfor, visit our website at www.interfor.com.

Interfor is currently recruiting for a **Divisional Accountant (Mat leave coverage)** at our Campbell River Operation. The successful candidate will be responsible for assisting the CW Controller in all financial aspects of the operation, including the collection, processing, analysis and reporting of monthly, quarterly and annual financial information which is accurate, concise and effective to management.

Major Responsibilities:

- Prepare financial month ends, forecasts, financial statements, and other corporate reporting and auditing requirements.
- Management of accounting and administrative staff, creating a culture of excellence, and ensuring the development of team members for growth and succession.
- Responsible for initiating and creating improved processes to facilitate business improvement.
- Provide accounting and financial support to senior operating management, forestry and engineering staff.
- Work on ad hoc requests and special projects as created by senior management.

The ideal candidate will possess the following preferred qualifications:

- Professional Designation (CGA, CMA, CA)
- Knowledge of IFRS and Financial systems
- Ability to support efforts of operating management in achieving business objectives

To express interest in this opportunity, please apply online at www.interfor.com/careers

We appreciate the interest of all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

All applicants offered a position must successfully complete a pre-employment background check.





HELP WANTED



HELP WANTED



HELP WANTED

PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR

Walcan Seafood Ltd. is a privately owned, family oriented business located on Quadra Island overlooking Discovery Passage. We are a seafood processing facility that produces a variety of custom products for international markets; and starting our 40th year of business. Our payroll is more than 100 people with seasonal peaks of 175. We now have an opening within our accounting department for a dynamic and energetic payroll professional.

Duties and Responsibilities: Responsible for the payroll and related duties including but not limited to: processing bi-weekly payroll, respond to employee/fisher inquiries, administer benefits, prepare T4s and ROEs, reconcile payroll accounts, prepare job costing analysis, answer telephones, and other office duties as required.

Qualifications: The candidate must be approachable, and able to work independently and as part of a team. Possess 2 years of payroll processing experience, Canadian Payroll Association certification or willing to obtain, proficient with computers and Microsoft Office, a great attitude, and ability to maintain a high degree of confidentiality. Post-secondary education in Accounting or Business Administration would be an asset; we are willing to train the right person.

If you are interested in this career opportunity, submit your cover letter and resume to Michelle McElroy at apply-admin@walcan.com, by April 15, 2014.

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, we will only contact those selected for an interview – no phone calls please.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS & OTHERS

NOTICE is hereby given that Creditors and others having claims against the Estate of Alfred Raymond Stazicker also known as Raymond Stazicker also known as Raymond A. Stazicker, deceased, formerly of 2250 - 6th Street East, Courtenay, BC V9N 7R9 are hereby required to send full particulars of such claims to the undersigned Executrix c/o Holland Cameron, Barristers & Solicitors, 1779 Comox Avenue, Comox, B.C. V9M 3L9, before the 11th day of April, 2014 after which date the Estate assets will be distributed, having regard only to the claims of which it has notice.

Kathleen Bruce
Executrix of the Will of
Alfred Raymond Stazicker
also known as
Raymond Stazicker also
known as
Raymond A. Stazicker
c/o Holland Cameron
Solicitors for the Estate
1779 Comox Avenue
Comox, B.C. V9M 3L9

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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Town of Comox Community Centre invites written applications for the position of a **Part-Time Recreation Programmer**.

For complete details, please go to our website at: www.comox.ca and click on "Employment Opportunities".

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



NOW HIRING

Western Forest Products Inc. is an integrated Canadian forest products company located on Vancouver Island that is committed the safety of employees, the culture of performance and the discipline to achieve results.

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FORESTRY CLERK Port McNeill (Term – 15 months)

Detailed job postings can be viewed at www.westernforest.com/business-value/our-people-employment/careers

We offer a competitive salary and a comprehensive benefits package.

If you believe that you have the skills and qualifications, and want to experience the special West Coast lifestyle reply in confidence to:

Human Resources Department
Facsimile: 1.866.840.9611
Email: resumes@westernforest.com



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGALS

ADVERTISEMENT

To: Devin Babcock and Michael Boulianne

TAKE NOTICE THAT on February 21, 2014 an order was made for service on you of a Notice of Civil Claim issued from the Courtenay Registry of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in proceeding number 08647 by way of this advertisement.

In the proceeding, the Plaintiff claims the following relief against you: damages and loss suffered as a result of a motor vehicle accident that occurred on October 8, 2011 at or near the intersection of Lerwick and Ryan Road in the City of Courtenay, British Columbia.

You must file a responding pleading/response to petition within the period required under the Supreme Court Civil Rules failing which further proceedings, including judgment, may be taken against you without notice to you.

You may obtain, from the Courtenay Registry, at 420 Cumberland Road, a copy of the Notice of Civil Claim and the order providing for service by this advertisement.

This advertisement is placed by the Plaintiff, Michael Justin Droski, whose address for service is c/o Bush & Company, 101-1350 England Avenue, Courtenay B.C. V9N 8X6

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

LOOKING TO hire and train 3 new Realtors. Apply to Earl Costello or Gregg Hart - Royal LePage in the Comox Valley. 250-334-3124

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

EXPERIENCED COUPLE needed to manage mobile home park in Port Hardy. Some small equipment experience necessary. Home provided + \$3000/mo. Send resume: giuliu.inv@telus.net 33010 5th Ave, Mission, BC, V2V 1V5.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

AL-ANON/ALATEEN - Concerned about someone's drinking? Contact 1-888-4ALANON (1-888-425-2666). www.al-anon.alateen.org

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
If you want to drink, it is your business; if you want to Stop it is ours. Ph: A.A 250-338-8042
Call Any Time 24/7

AVAILABLE in Comox. Incall sensuous massage for men. Details and contact info at www.CVmassage.com

AWARE SENIOR vegetarian wishes to correspond with a conscious lady. An interest in spiritual growth, and holistic healing a plus. Please reply to Drawer # 4556 C/O Comox Valley Record 765 McPhee Ave. Courtenay.

Nar-Anon are you affected by someone's use of drugs, we can help. Wed. Group 7:30pm at 280-4th St. Eureka Support Society contact Jack 334-3485. Fri. Group 7:30pm, Komok's Health Centre, 3322 Comox Rd. Call Rene 334-2392.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PERSONALS

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARETAKERS/ RESIDENTIAL MANAGERS

RESIDENT MANAGER
Experienced residential manager couple required for mid-sized building in Campbell River. Min 5 yr exp.
Email:
bcrentals50@gmail.com

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FIREARMS TRAINING & C.O.R.E.
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Course starts:
Fri. Mar. 21 6pm-10pm
Sat. Mar. 22 8am-noon

C.O.R.E. continues
Mar. 24, 25, 26.
6pm-10pm

Two pieces of ID required.
For info contact:
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2nd Hand Military Store
250-337-1750
Tyee Marine
250-334-2942

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The Lemare Group is accepting resumes for the following positions:
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HELP WANTED

EXPERIENCED COUPLE needed to manage mobile home park in Port Hardy. Some small equipment experience necessary. Home provided + \$3000/mo. Send resume: giuliu.inv@telus.net 33010 5th Ave, Mission, BC, V2V 1V5.

Editor COMOX VALLEY RECORD

The award-winning Comox Valley Record has an opening for an editor in their newsroom. The successful candidate will possess an attention to detail as well as the ability to work under pressure in a deadline-driven environment.

As well as editing copy and paginating pages, we are looking for a high energy individual who expects to generate quality stories for all types of publications including specialty supplements. You are totally versed in social media and would enjoy the challenge of integrating video news stories as well. Knowledge of Canadian Press style is vital.


As editor you will have the ability to lead and direct the editorial staff in a team environment. The ability to organize copy and supervise the production of multimedia journalism.

Having a proven track record of turning around well-written, fact-based, concise content quickly for posting online that day - with collateral (text, photos and video).

Please forward your cover letter and resume by March 20th, 2014

Black Press is a well-established, nationally-recognized community newspaper group with more than 150 community, daily and urban papers located in B.C., Alberta, Washington state, Hawaii and Ohio.

Please forward resume to:
Zena Williams, Publisher
COMOX VALLEY RECORD
765 McPhee Avenue, Courtenay, BC V9N 2Z7
email: publisher@comoxvalleyrecord.com



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Substitute Instructor(s), English Language Program

Comox Valley Campus

Please go to <http://careers.nic.bc.ca> for further criteria, required qualifications and information on how to apply to posting #100673.

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Front Store Manager

at The Comox Pharmasave

Successful candidate will need the following credentials

- management experience preferred
- self-motivated with a positive, professional attitude
- good attention to detail
- outstanding customer service skills
- strong team player
- excellent organizational skills

Deadline for applications is March.25th.
Apply via fax, email or in person

Attention: Jacquie Nichol and Kevin Ruston
jn.ps265@shawbiz.ca
Fax 250 339 2343

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250-331-1071 or 250-650-3226

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HELP WANTED



Corporate Services Assistant

The Village of Cumberland is seeking a talented and hard-working individual to fill the permanent position of Corporate Services Assistant. The qualifications and experience necessary for this position are available at the Village Office and at www.cumberland.ca by searching "careers". Please send your resume to mmason@cumberland.ca no later than 10:00 a.m. on Wed, March 26, 2014. The Village thanks all applicants for their interest; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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HELP WANTED

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HELP WANTED



Corporate Services Assistant

The Village of Cumberland is seeking a talented and hard-working individual to fill the permanent position of Corporate Services Assistant. The qualifications and experience necessary for this position are available at the Village Office and at www.cumberland.ca by searching "careers". Please send your resume to mmason@cumberland.ca no later than 10:00 a.m. on Wed, March 26, 2014. The Village thanks all applicants for their interest; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

TRADES, TECHNICAL

AUTOMOTIVE Technician needed immediately in Vernon BC. We are a busy independent shop doing all types of diagnosing, maintenance and repairs. Wages are \$25/hr but negotiable. We are located in the desirable North Okanagan.
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The Company operates full phase logging and a camp based at Kendrick Arm on Nootka Island. The normal shift is 14 days on and 7 days off. Please fax resume to 778-441-1191 or email dmartin@nootkasoundtimber.com

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WHEELCHAIR LIKE New. Breezy 20x16 (short). New \$2370 asking \$800. Call 250-923-8836 in the evening.

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TRADEWINDS
1600 Comox Ave.

TWO BEDROOM nicely renovated suite - spacious and modern. Excellent location in central Comox - walking distance to everything. In suite storage. New designer kitchen. Large dining room. Resident social room. Elevator and security entry. Well maintained and managed, mature adult building. **ALSO ONE BEDROOM & DEN.** Call Greg @ 250-339-1222.

WESTWATER
60 Anderton Ave.

TWO BEDROOM renovated suite. Ensuite, Jacuzzi tub, fireplace, in suite washer/dryer. New appliances. Walking distance to downtown. Well maintained and managed quiet, mature adult building. Resident social room. Indoor scooter parking. Elevator. **Also One Bedroom.** Call John @ 250-703-2264.

BRANDYWINE
675 Cumberland Rd.

LUXURY TWO BEDROOM CONDO. Very spacious corner suite. Unique floor plan. Nicely appointed with in suite washer/dryer, full sized appliances. Very well maintained, mature adult building. Security entry. One of Courtenay's finest. Three blocks from downtown. No pets. Call David @ 250-338-0267 or John @ 250-703-2264.

HYCROFT
1835 Cliffe Ave.

LARGE ONE BEDROOM bright and spacious. Recent renovation. Very attractive. Quiet, mature adult building. Central Courtenay. Security entry. Call David @ 250-338-0267.

BERKSHIRE MANOR
825 Harmston Ave.

CORNER TWO BEDROOM spacious and recently renovated. Unique floor plan. Full sized appliances. Private deck. In suite storage. Security entry. Quiet, well maintained mature adult building. Call David @ 250-338-0267.

FAIRMONT
432-11th Street

A VERY SPECIAL TWO BEDROOM in mature adult building three blocks from downtown. Fresh, recent renovation. All new appliances. Unique, bright corner layout. Security entry. Large private deck. This is a very attractive and unique suite. Call David @ 250-338-0267 or John @ 250-703-2264.

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APARTMENTS

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1 and 2 Bedroom suites available. One of the best values in Courtenay. Unique floor plans. California kitchens. These bright, modern suites are available in quiet, secure building.
Call Sharon 250-338-7449

WILLOW ARMS APARTMENTS

1252-9th St., Courtenay
Spacious 2 & 3 bedroom suite in a quiet family oriented building with secure entry and manager on site. Walking distance to schools, bus stops, and downtown. **Reasonable rent includes heat, hot water, stove, fridge, carpet and drapes.** No pets, two rental references and security deposit required.
For viewing please call Donna
250-334-9667

CONDOS

VANRIDGE MANOR

123 Back Road, Courtenay
Features 5 appliances, wall-to-wall carpet, blinds, gas fireplaces - gas included in rent. Low hydro. Children welcome. Quiet, well-maintained 2 bedroom condos. Ideal location, walking distance to Superstore and North Island College. No pets.
Call 250-703-2570

BEECHER MANOR

1045 Cumberland Road
BRIGHT AND SPACIOUS 1 & 2 bedroom condos available close to downtown. 2 bedroom unit features 1.5 baths. This quiet, well maintained building suits mature adults. Bus stop is conveniently located out front. **Small dogs accepted** with pet deposit.
Call 250-334-9717 to view

RUTHERFORD MANOR

1075 Edgett Road, Courtenay
1 & 2 bdrm suites available. Reasonable rent includes stove, fridge, dishwasher, carpet, blinds and storage room in suite. N/P, security deposit and 2 rental references req'd.
call Donna 250-334-9667 to view

ST. BREADES

146 Back Road, Courtenay
FEATURES: Fridge/stove, dishwasher, washer/dryer, Quiet, clean building. Pet friendly. 2 bedroom condos. Ideal location, walking distance to SuperStore and NIC.
Call 250-338-7449

PACIFIC COURT

1520/1540 Piercy Ave, Courtenay Available immediately 1 & 2 bedrooms available in clean, quiet building with on-site manager, close to town, schools, and bus. Stove, fridge, blinds and carpet. **In-suite storage with washer and dryer. Small pets welcome.** Rental references and security deposit required. **To View, Call 250-871-3431**

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MOUNTAIN VIEW Manor- 125 Centennial Dr, Courtenay. 1 & 2 bdrms, secure entrance, ELEVATOR. 250-334-2800.

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ROYSTON 600SQF 1 bdrm, 1 + 1.5 bath, 5 appls., carport, storage shed, utilities not included. N/P, N/S, Avail. Apr 10, \$900/mo 250-890-3308

HOMES FOR RENT



250-897-1611
Licensed Professionals
www.pennylane.bc.ca

CLOSE TO DRIFTWOOD MALL 3 bdrm, 1 bath rancher, 5 appls, fenced yard with sheds, garage, laminate floors, newly renovated, N/S, small pet neg. w/ref, Avail Immed. - \$1,175/mth

CENTRAL CTNY 3 bdrm & den, 2 bath, 4 appls, fam rm, 2 gas F/P's, carport, partially fenced, N/S, pet neg. w/ref. Avail. Apr. 1 - \$1,200/mth

FANNY BAY: 1 bdrm and loft, large sun deck and carport. NS/NP. \$800. (250)335-1300

UNION BAY. April 1st. 3-bdrm ocean view. 1 bath, 4 appliances. Wood heat, bsmnt, yard, small pet only with deposit. Security dep & ref's req'd. \$900./mo. Call (250)335-3123.

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910 Fitzgerald Avenue Corner Fitzgerald & Eighth
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For details phone 339-1222 or 339-0490

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APARTMENT/CONDO

1510 Anderton Rd 3 Bed 2 Bath N/S 5 Appliances \$1100/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

APARTMENT/CONDO

1905 Coleman Rd 3 Bed 2 Bath N/S 5 Appliances \$1300/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

APARTMENT/CONDO

1130A 2nd St 3 Bed 1 Bath N/S N/P 4 Appliances \$1000/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

HOMES FOR RENT

2105A Urquhart 2 Bed 2 Bath N/S 5 Appliances \$1050/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

HOMES FOR RENT

17-158 Back Rd 2 Bed 2 Bath N/S N/P 4 Appliances \$775/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

APARTMENT/CONDO

8-1720 13th St 2 Bed 1 Bath N/S N/P 5 Appliances \$775/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

HOMES FOR RENT



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Courtenay, BC V9N 3P6
Phone (250) 897-1300
Fax (250) 897-1330
Interior viewings for the following vacancies are by approved application and appointment only.

APARTMENTS

303-1912 Comox Ave 2 Bed 2 Bath 6 Appliances \$1200/mth Avail. Immed.

Duplex/Townhouse

1130A 2nd St 3 Bed 1 Bath N/S N/P 4 Appliances \$1000/mth Avail. Immed.

2105A Urquhart 2 Bed 2 Bath N/S 5 Appliances \$1050/mth Avail. Immed.

7-158 Back Rd 2 Bed 2 Bath N/S N/P 4 Appliances \$775/mth Avail. Immed.

8-1720 13th St 2 Bed 1 Bath N/S N/P 5 Appliances \$775/mth Avail. Immed.

HOUSES

1905 Coleman Rd 3 Bed 2 Bath N/S 5 Appliances \$1300/mth Avail. Immed.

MOBILE HOME

1510 Anderton Rd 3 Bed 2 Bath N/S 5 Appliances \$1100/mth Avail. Immed.

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ROOMS FOR RENT

ROOM-FOR-RENT in house - affordable. Older female pref. N/S, N/D. Call 250-871-3160

RENTALS

APARTMENT/CONDO

2 Bed 2 Bath 6 Appliances \$1200/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

APARTMENT/CONDO

2105A Urquhart 2 Bed 2 Bath N/S 5 Appliances \$1050/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

HOMES FOR RENT

7-158 Back Rd 2 Bed 2 Bath N/S N/P 4 Appliances \$775/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

HOMES FOR RENT

1130A 2nd St 3 Bed 1 Bath N/S N/P 4 Appliances \$1000/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

APARTMENT/CONDO

8-1720 13th St 2 Bed 1 Bath N/S N/P 5 Appliances \$775/mth Avail. Immed.

RENTALS

TOWNHOUSES



250-897-1611
Licensed Professionals
www.pennylane.bc.ca

BRAIDWOOD MANOR ground flr 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 3 appls, patio, res. pkg., N/S, cat ok. Avail. Immed. - \$725/mth

BRAND NEW 1 & 2 bdrm suites above commercial, 1 bath, F/S/W/D/micro, res. pkg., N/S, No pets. Avail. Immed. - \$700 & \$850/mth

PARKSIDE 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 5 appls, undergrd pkg, balcony overlooking the river, hardwood floors, N/S, No pets, Avail Immed. - \$1,200/mth

WALK TO COLLEGE 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 5 appls, patio, res. pkg. N/S, No pets. Avail. Immed. - \$850/mth

ROSEWOOD TOWNHOUSES 2 bdrm, 1 bath townhouse, F & S, coin laundry, basic cable incl., N/S, No pets. Avail. Immed. & Apr. 1 - \$725/mth. Call Res. Mgr. 250-334-8602.

CAMELOT COURT 2 bdrm, 1 bath townhouse, 5 appls, gas F/P, res. pkg, storage, N/S, no pets. w/ref. Avail. Mar.17. - \$800/mth

TRUMPETER'S LANDING 2 bdrm & den, 2 bath, 4 appls, balcony, undergrnd pkg, storage, N/S, No pets. Avail. Apr. 1 - \$1,200/mth

BRAIDWOOD MANOR ground level 2 bdrm, 1 bath, F & S, coin laundry, patio, res. pkg., N/S, No pets. Avail. Apr. 1 - \$700/mth

MAPLEWOOD MANOR 1 bdrm, bath, F & S, coin laundry, balcony, new flooring & paint. Avail. Apr. 1 - \$650/mth

CENTRAL CTNY 3 bdrm & den, 2 bath, 4 appls, fam rm, 2 gas F/P's, carport, partially fenced, N/S, pet neg. w/ref. Avail. Apr. 1 - \$1,200/mth

SENIOR ASSISTED LIVING

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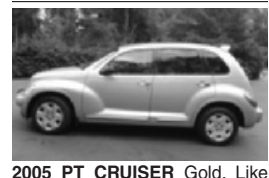


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Mountain centre gets 'shoes

The Vancouver Island Mountain Centre (VIMC) at Mount Washington has acquired 24 pairs of new snowshoes thanks to a grant by ViaSport British Columbia.

Snowshoeing is one of the fastest growing and most inclusive winter sports in Canada and the VIMC uses them as a form of transportation for all of their winter outdoor adventure programs ranging from Team Building and Evening Snowshoe Hikes by headlamp to their Intro to Winter Skills and Intro to Biathlon programs.

"The support from ViaSport BC over the past two years has been nothing short of phenom-

enal. This is the third grant that we have received from ViaSport BC that has allowed us to expand existing programs and develop new ones based from our breathtaking sub-alpine environment," said VIMC manager Andrew Scherck.

"Having our own program-specific equipment allows us to keep our program-related costs down (half-day programs starting at \$19.50/person), which in turn allows us to continue to offer great outdoor adventure programs at inclusive prices."

This winter has been a challenge with the dry weather and temperature inversions in the alpine, but the snow is back and

the Vancouver Island Mountain Centre is hoping to have a steady need for their new snowshoes.

The non-profit V.I. Mountain Centre provides group accommodation for up to 40 people, full kitchen and dining facilities, ample parking, amazing views of Mt. Albert Edward, plus meeting rooms and the VI Mountain Fitness Centre.

Find the VIMC at Mount Washington at the end of Nordic Road across from Raven Lodge and Strathcona Park's Paradise Meadows. Visit vimountaincentre.com for more information.

- Vancouver Island Mountain Centre



THE COMOX VALLEY Triathlon Club's annual Youth Triathlon Clinic runs Tuesdays from April 1 to May 20. Register March 15 at the Aquatic Centre from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. or contact Lynda Magor at 250-941-3579.

COMOX VALLEY WORSHIP DIRECTORY

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(March 16)
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While you're not looking, this is what's happening to BC's world renowned recycling program.

Well, lookie here.

One minute you have a perfectly good Blue Box recycling program. The next, something new and rather questionable is being put in its place. And they thought they'd get away with it right under your nose, without telling you or asking your opinion.

That's definitely not democracy in action.

The BC Government, elected by us to represent our best interests, has decided to offload the costs of recycling to big multi-national corporations. To implement this new plan, they've set up an association that doesn't really seem to hold the environment, local jobs, or the municipalities that run the Blue Box program, close to its heart.

Perhaps that's why some of our local elected officials are using the word "scam" to describe how the new program is being set up. It's also perhaps why several of BC's municipalities refuse to jump on board.

That's gotta tell you something.

Now it's your turn to let Premier Christy Clark know what you think. Contact her today to say that dismantling an already-working recycling program to replace it with something that few people think will be as good, is a bad idea.



What's going on here?

Email Christy Clark at premier@gov.bc.ca or call **250-387-1715**. For more info, visit RethinkItBC.ca. **#RethinkItBC**.

This Message is brought to you by:



Road Runners set to host CV Race Weekend

The annual Comox Valley Race Weekend (March 22-23) is fast approaching.

It starts with the 5K Fun Run on Saturday morning. The Fun Run is the graduation for participants of the 5K Running Clinic but it is also open to all members of the public.

Next is the Pasta Banquet on Saturday evening, featuring the music of Helen Austin, and guest speaker Lucy Smith. Finally, on Sunday, is the Comox Valley RV Half Marathon.

For more information on any of these events, visit cvrr.ca.

Meanwhile, the Road Runners turned in some torrid times at the third race in the FrontRunners Island Race Series, the Cedar 12K, in February. Despite temperatures hovering close to zero at race start time, 419 athletes braved the start line.

The cool temperatures, some snow and ice on the route, the unusual distance, and the hilly nature of the course made for extremely difficult racing conditions, but it didn't hold the athletes back and there were many exceptional performances.

The overall winner was Logan Roots of Victoria in a time of 40:33. The first Comox Valley Road Runner was Brad Crowe, who placed 8th overall and set a new personal best of 43:44. This also earned him 3rd place in his very difficult age category.

The next local finisher was Mike Bridges, who also placed 3rd in his category with a time of 47:38. Hot on his heels was Wayne Crowe (Extreme Runners/Asics) in 47:40, again earning 3rd place in his category. The Road Runners continued to file in in rapid succession with many excellent performances.

Les Disher finished in 47:46 and placed 2nd in his category. He was followed by Roger Plamondon, winning his age category with 48:09.

Next was Keith Wakelin, who finished 4th in his category in 48:15. Kevin Park was right behind in 48:33, earning 8th in his cat-

egory. Danny Keyes placed 3rd in his category, in 49:15, just ahead of Wille Scott, who finished in 50:49 for 10th place in his category. Hans Gane also had a great run,

finishing in 50:55 and placing 6th in his category. CVRR coach Kathy Rung had an excellent start to her season, finishing 4th in her category in 51:31. Mar-

ion Bryan also had a strong run, finishing in 53:00 and earning 5th in her category. Roslyn Smith continues to excel, winning her category and setting a course record of 55:24.

Angela Plamondon followed close behind, finishing 3rd in her category with a time of 56:02. Rick Martinson finished in 1:00:40, with Kindle Parsons finishing 8th

in 1:02:03. Next came husband and wife Sharon and Darrell Fisher, with Sharon leading the way in a time of 1:04:21, and Darrell finishing strong in 1:06:38. Tom Munro

had a great run, and finished 8th in a time of 1:10:28. Chris Robinson also ran well, finishing in 1:14:40 and 16th in his category.

- Comox Valley Road Runners

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