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MARCH 2009

Volume Four, Number 2

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Pardon My Pen

George Campbell
on humour

Class in glass

Creating your
own jewels

What's on at VIU?

Course calendar inside

Focus on education

Life, and learning

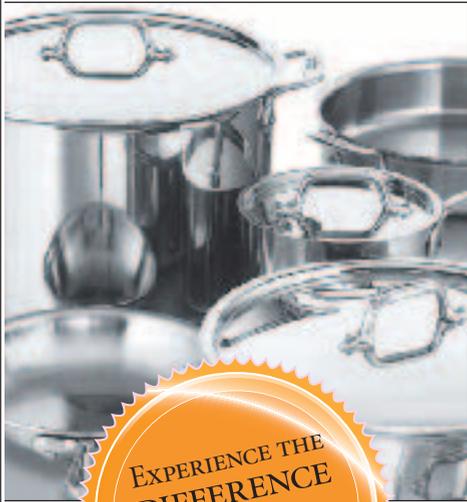
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7

16

38



CONTENTS: MARCH 2009

- 6 Reader mail**
Thanks for remembering Bob
- 7 Art of speech**
Part of Performing Arts Festival
- 9 Focus on Education**
Reports from local schools
- 13 Pauline Galinski**
Tribute to an education pioneer
- 15 Tai Chi**
Don Morrison changed his life

- 18 Skier has Olympic dreams**
One turn at a time
- 29 Guru shares marketing tips**
PR Women in Business hosting
- 30 Spotlight on Women**
Meet some business leaders
- 32 From glass to gems**
How to with Laura Kew
- 38 ORCA Bus**
Making a splash on the road

EVERY ISSUE

- 5 Inside this issue**
Lifelong learning
- 6 Kudos**
White, Carlson & the Mall
- 8 Pardon My Pen**
George Campbell's take on life
- 16 For Art's Sake**
Arts a good investment
- 22 Explore Powell River**
Quilts and quilting
- 23 Point of VIU**
Financing your education
- 25 Blast from the Past**
How PR got seniors' housing
- 28 Business Connections**
Changes on the business scene
- 36 Family Matters**
Doing the right thing

The school is the last expenditure upon which America should be willing to economize.

—Franklin D Roosevelt (1882–1945)
American president



Students in the carpentry program include Vancouver Island University student Eric Leachman and Brooks dual-credit student Austin Rycroft.

Photo by Sean Percy



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We welcome feedback from our readers. Email your comments to isabelle@prliving.ca, or mail it the old-fashioned way to PR Living, 3932 Manitoba Avenue Powell River, BC V8A 2W6

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THIS ISSUE

KIM BARTON-BRIDGES

is with Success by 6 and has been tasked with fundraising for and interim coordination of the ORCA Bus. She is also involved with Understanding the Early Years Initiative.



DAWN MACLEAN enjoys her work at Vancouver Island University, teaching Adult Upgrading, managing the writing centre and coordinating ElderCollege. Her two children keep her entertained in the car as they rush from one activity to another.

JANET MAY

appreciates the fine arts scene in Powell River. She has seen many students grow through their participation in the Festival of the Performing Arts, and has been a competitor herself.



SEAN PERCY is a Powell River native, who started his career with the Powell River News in 1990. When he's not busy hiking or diving with his family, he's the associate publisher at Powell River Living.



BARB REES loves writing, photograph, exploring Canada with her husband Dave and making a difference in the world, one person at a time. She is the author of RV Canada On A Dime And A Dream and founder of Powell River Festival of Writers. dreambg1@shaw.ca



JOHN SMAIL and his family came to Powell River in the late 1960s. Straight out of journalism school, Smail was hired as editor of the Powell River News and Town Crier. Later, after moving to the Vancouver area, he worked as a photographer/copywriter for heavy equipment companies. He returned in the late 1980s as the owner/operator of a bed and breakfast. He now serves on the boards of several non-profit societies.



OUR COLUMNISTS

George Campbell
Pardon My Pen
8



Jessical Colasanto
For Art's Sake
16



Kim Miller
Business Connections
28



Isabelle Southcott
Family Matters
36



The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically... Intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education.

— Martin Luther King, Jr (1929-1968) American civil rights leader

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Powell River Living IN THIS ISSUE

We are always learning

March is such a great time of year in our community. Not only do we get to enjoy budding flowers and chuckling at the snowy misfortunes of our more easterly fellow Canadians, but we also get to celebrate the accomplishments of a wonderful education system.

For School District 47 it is education month and this year they, along, with the rest of the province, are celebrating Excellence in Education.

In Powell River, we don't have to look far to find many success stories. Students are achieving in academics, the trades, the arts and in physical pursuits. Their hungry minds are learning, learning, learning as they soak up new experiences, ideas and information. And they are well fed by a variety of excellent programs here.

In addition to all the traditional courses presented by local schools, educators are also pushing the boundaries of "regular" school. As illustrated on our cover, School District 47 and Vancouver Island University offer a hands-on approach for trades training because, as we know, not everything can be learned from a textbook.

On Page 7 of this issue, you can read about another educational opportunity that is expanding horizons for both youths and adults in our community. The Powell River Festival of the Performing Arts challenges people to step outside their comfort zone by standing up in front of audiences and adjudicators to speak, sing and play. Stop by March 13 to 25 and take in some of the performances — maybe you will learn something, too.

Marketing is something that business people can never learn enough about, and Powell River Women in Business are offering a special educational opportunity with marketing guru Mary Charleson. Check the story on Page 6 and the details on Page 32 to learn more about how you can learn how to better position your business.

The centre pages of this issue contain the calendar of courses and events coming up at Vancouver Island University's Powell River campus.

Clearly, the education opportunities here are limitless. Why? Because education isn't a one shot deal. Opportunities abound to be a lifelong learner. Learning new things is fun!

Some people are scared of making mistakes but that's how you learn. I love the following quote by psychologist Alfred Adler (1870–1937) because it exemplifies learning so well:

What do you first do when you learn to swim? You make mistakes, do you not? And what happens? You make other mistakes, and when you have made all the mistakes you possibly can without drowning—and some of them many times over—what do you find? That you can swim? Well, life is just the same as learning to swim! Do not be afraid of making mistakes, for there is no other way of learning how to live!

Think of your life as a stack of building blocks. Each experience builds upon the previous one. We learn something every day. Every day at school teaches us something new. Every music lesson, every swimming lesson, even the time that mom taught us how to set the table properly expanded our minds and our potential. Keep stacking the blocks.

And in this issue, we welcome our newest columnist, George Campbell. George's many articles have always been fun and well-read so we felt it was time to give him his own spot in every issue. Look to page 8 for his first *Pardon My Pen* column. [PR](#)



Isabelle Southcott, Publisher • isabelle@prliving.ca



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KUDOS Powell River

Outstanding Aboriginal artist

Local Haida Artist, **April White**, was honoured at a gala celebration on January 27 in Vancouver. Her business Wind Spirit Art & Gallery was selected as an Outstanding Achiever in the Aboriginal Business of the year in the two to ten person enterprise category. This year marks 15 years at her Marine Avenue location, where April's Wind Spirit houses exhibit space, frame shop, print-making studio, and centre for marketing and distribution.



Hon. Michael de Jong, Minister of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation with April White.

Community Achievement Award

Powell River's **Joyce Carlson** was one of 45 outstanding British Columbians who were named on February 20 as recipients of the sixth annual BC Community Achievement Awards by Premier Gordon Campbell and Keith Mitchell, chair of the British Columbia Achievement Foundation.

Carlson, publisher of the *Powell River Peak*, was recognized for being a leader in her community and a committed volunteer. Serving with the United Way, the Festival for the Performing Arts, the 2007 Disability Games Society, and the Powell River Aajoomixw Spirit of BC Community Committee, Carlson is a driving force involved in the fabric and future of her community.

TC Mall Merchants help kids

Congratulations to the **Town Centre Mall Merchants' Association** on the success of their penny drive! A friendly competition to collect money for the Variety Club's Coins for Kids campaign resulted in \$1069.10 being raised.

If you know of an item for the Kudos Powell River column please tell us about it by emailing isabelle@prliving.ca, or calling 604 485-0003.



We welcome feedback from our readers. Letters may be edited for length. Letters can be sent to isabelle@prliving.ca, faxed to 604.485.8381, or mailed the old-fashioned way to *PR Living*, 3932 Manitoba Avenue, Powell River, BC V8A 2W6

Dear Powell River Living,

I was, for many years, a neighbour of Mr and Mrs Bob Blackmore. While I can understand not having any ceremony or service when he died, as it was what he wanted, it seemed a shame that a person who lived the life he did with so many adventures and stories to tell should just drift away. Your article in last month's Powell River Living brought closure to a life lived to the fullest. It was nicely done. Thank you.

Lawrence Skinner
MACGREGOR AVENUE

Pass the Hat for the CAT

The goal is to have Powell River's CAT Scan bought and operational in 2009. POWELL RIVER LIVING supports the Pass the Hat for the CAT campaign. We will keep you updated on the progress. In the meantime, can you help?



TOTAL AS OF
28 Feb 2009
\$1,666,751

Foundation Office
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To make a donation, please mail your cheque to Powell River General Hospital CAT Scan Campaign, 5000 Joyce Ave, Powell River, BC, V8A 5R3

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2,000,000
1,000,000
500,000



(THREE)-GRAND DONATION: Brooks Secondary principal, Kathy Rothwell, along with Jim Palm (right) presents cheque for \$3000 to Peter Maitland, a member of the CAT Scan Fundraising campaign. The funds were partial proceeds from the Banff Mountain Film Festival event held at Brooks in 2008.

Coming up...

March is Kidney Awareness Month

During March, volunteers are out in force educating people about kidney disease and raising funds to fight it. Did you know that each day about 14 Canadians learn that their kidneys have failed and that their survival depends on daily dialysis treatments or a kidney transplant? Your donation will help with these treatments.

In 2008, the Kidney Foundation received \$5,000 raised by volunteers who went door-to-door canvassing for donations in Powell River. When they visit you, please give generously.

To learn more or to volunteer, contact Kim Miller, the Powell River & area coordinator. She is at 604 414-0024 or at the Chamber office, 604 485-4051.

The hardest minutes: A personal challenge

Powell River Festival of Performing Arts

By Janet May

She was terrified, waiting for the bell. When it finally signalled, she climbed the stairs, strode to centre stage and introduced her poem. Lillian Clutterbuck was only six years old when she gave her first performance at the Powell River Festival of the Performing Arts. At that young age she learned an important lesson: the hardest minutes are the ones spent waiting to go on stage.

She realized that she got great satisfaction from delivering good entertainment to an audience.

At 14, Lillian is preparing for another wait beside those stairs. "It's still nerve racking," she confides, "but I know that once I start I will be fine."

Speech Arts coach Liz Brach believes that Lillian's lesson is a most important one.

"There are so many jobs that require you to be able to give a presentation or speak in front of others." Liz, herself, remembers singing on stage as a child. Afterwards she thought, "That was really scary, but I did it!"

Thanks to that early experience, Liz now finds courage to speak up in front of large groups. She also volunteers her time at Assumption School coaching students during their lunch hour. She has 47 students entered in the various speech arts categories this year. She says that some of the students work really hard and take it seriously. They usually do well in the Festival. But most of her students do it for fun and they really enjoy themselves. Either way it is a great experience.

Liz works with Lillian on her delivery of three different spoken entries: a lyric poem, a Shakespeare monologue and a piece of humorous prose. Lillian likes to make the audience laugh.



LET THE SHOW BEGIN: Lillian Clutterbuck says once she starts speaking, performing at the festival is fine; it's the waiting to begin that's tough.

"I sometimes start laughing myself during practice" she giggles. Her favourite entry this year is Titania's monologue from the Shakespeare's comedy "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Last year she performed a similar piece and was selected to go the BC Festival of the Performing Arts, where she and 15 others performed and were critiqued. Lillian and the others spent eight hours with the adjudicator, learning about enunciation and delivery. She enjoyed it so much that her goal is to be selected again this year. "What I learned last year will help me in my performance this year," she declares. Lillian is clearly one of the students who takes speech arts seriously.

Speech arts is more accessible than most of the festival categories. Most of us could get up on stage and deliver a poem or prose to an audience. It would be a challenge that contributes to personal growth, the way running a half marathon contributes to our health.

I know of what I speak. Some years ago, while watching students prepare for festival, I was inspired by their courage and daring. I felt I should challenge myself too, and I prepared a recitation of "The Cremation of Sam McGee." I know now what it is like to stand at the bottom of the stairs and wait for my turn to deliver my best. The challenge was made sweeter by the fact that the competition was my husband!

I recommend the experience. As you watch and support this year's festival line-up, consider performing yourself, next year. Lillian's lesson can be yours. **RL**

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Powell River Living PARDON MY PEN

By George Campbell

A good sense of humour

A tight ropewalker has a good sense of balance. He must have. If he can walk along a suspended rope without falling off while he is tight, just imagine what he could do if he were sober. I, myself, have a lousy sense of balance. If I get above the third rung on a ladder I have a tendency to fall off. I also have a poor sense of direction. I can get lost wandering from the kitchen to the bathroom. I do, however, have a great sense of humour. If one is constantly stumbling and falling over one's feet, whilst getting lost and refusing to ask directions, one needs a good sense of humour.

It helps if one's wife has a good sense of humour, too. Fortunately mine does, although it does sometimes wear a little thin when it comes to my refusing to ask for directions when we are lost. Especially if she is fielding a call from nature at the time. "Never mind asking for directions," she will say testily, "Just find me a bathroom. And you better be quick about it."

My wife fields a lot of calls from nature. Especially when we are driving. I have always suspected that her bladder is somehow connected to the odometer on the car. Drive her anywhere over five kilometres and she has to go. It is one of the mysteries of womanhood, just as refusing to ask directions is one of the mysteries of manhood. These are two things husbands and wives have to accept about each other if their marriage is to endure. Ours has endured 58 years, which is not bad when you consider that I get lost on an average of twice a week. A good sense of humour on both our parts has helped.

There is some controversy attached to how one goes about getting a good sense of humour. One side says we are born with it, the other that it must be learned. If it must be learned, just how does one go about studying it? Mark Twain said that studying humour is like dissecting a frog. When you finish your studies you may know a lot more about what is, or is not, funny, but you will still end up with a dead frog.

Mark Twain said a lot of funny things. That was because he had a good sense of humour. A person gifted with a good sense of humour is able to see the funny side of almost any situation. Take the case of the guy condemned to die before a firing squad. When asked if he'd like to have a last cigarette before he was blindfolded and shot, he replied, "No thanks, I'm trying to quit."

A person with a poor sense of humour is said to have an under-developed funny bone. For those unfamiliar with human anatomy, the funny bone is the large bone of the upper arm that attaches the elbow to the shoulder. The proper name for this bone is the humerus, which is why it is called the funny bone. So, if you want to know if someone has a good sense of humour or not, just check out the size of his or her upper arm.

It is okay to occasionally lose your sense of balance, and it is all right to once in a while lose your sense of direction. But—never, ever, under any circumstances, lose your sense of humour. After all, "he who laughs, lasts," and we pretty much all want to do that. 



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By Don Fairbairn

School District 47's Director of Instruction



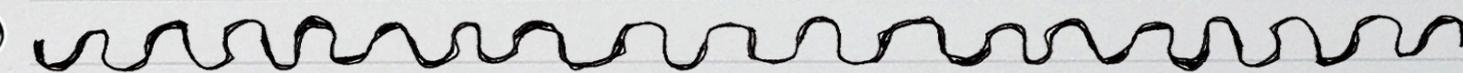
EACH YEAR THE Ministry of Education designates a week in March to highlight the accomplishments of the schools and districts throughout the province. This year's theme is Celebrating Excellence in Education, and School District 47 Powell River is pleased to mark this occasion. Each of our schools has highlighted the programs and goals they have undertaken this school year in their pursuit of excellence in education.

The idea of excellence in education has traditionally focussed on academic achievement. This is still considered to be the most important role that the education system fulfills but what a school does goes far beyond that boundary. Schools are well aware that within the core educational academic programs there is also an obligation to address the needs of the whole student. You will note evidence of that in each of the reports the schools have submitted.

Strategies to develop a sense of community and to make students feel part of that community are apparent in all our schools. At the elementary level schools strive to develop a positive culture for their school community and the rights and responsibilities that go along with that. Efforts to extend the school culture to wider community connections

are evident in the relationships that have been developed with parents and other local partners. The secondary schools expand on these themes to focus on service and leadership programs within the school and to the larger community. Environmental awareness instruction and action groups are common and growing from Kindergarten to Grade 12 as schools strive to do their share in educating the students as well as the community at large about many of important ecological issues. A wide variety of curricular and extra-curricular programs are offered in trades, fine arts, practical arts and athletic activities to enable students to not only find their niche in the school community but also to develop interests and skills with real applications for today in school and the years beyond.

Our schools have, for a number of years, had the needs of the whole student as a prime focus for instruction. They are well aware of the overriding need to structure learning situations that are not only current but also promote growth in the social, emotional, recreational and academic realms. Powell River School District schools will continue to strive for excellence in meeting the wide diversity of learning needs of our students.



Grief Point Elementary

Jacque Scholtz ☺ PRINCIPAL

OUR SCHOOL CONTINUES to have a strong academic and fine arts focus.

In addition to holding monthly recognition assemblies, we have an Honour Roll Ceremony three times a year, and an end-of-year Awards Ceremony. We have maintained our Grade 6 Band Program, and instituted a full year of strings in Grade 5. Band and choir students can increase their musical repertoires by adding a jazz element.

In January, our school became a member of the prestigious national program, *Learning Through the Arts* — everyone benefits from these visual arts sessions.

Continuing with our social responsibility goal, we have added a green goal so that all students are introduced to the environmental issues we face. Students are educated on sustainability issues in which they can participate at school and in the community. Some examples:

- Visual arts, using recyclables, to assist students to connect environmental actions to diminishing resources.
- Established recycling as an impetus for composting and delivery to a local garden.
- Leadership students on Green Teams hosting contests to increase litter-free lunches.
- Informative presentations by community organizations such as BC Hydro on reducing power consumption and *Plastics in our Environment* with Janet May on eliminating the use of unnecessary plastics.
- Grade 7s mentoring kindergartners on salmon habitats — Lang Creek Project.
- Student surveys to measure environmental awareness.
- Christmas concert, *Santa Goes Green*, with strong sustainability messages.

learn

study



Edgehill Elementary School

Kristen Brach ☺ PRINCIPAL

EDGEHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL is proud of its students.

Guests say they feel welcome from the moment they walk through our doors. Our school motto, "We take care of ourselves, we take care of others and we take care of our place," reflects our belief in educating students in social responsibility as well as academic subject areas.

Our school goals are to improve reading comprehension and problem-solving in math. Staff have promoted school-wide initiatives including using *Reading Power* to teach comprehension, weekly math problem solving lessons, and have hosted the District teachers for model math lesson sessions. These initiatives have shown significantly improved results in both areas.

In addition to social responsibility and academic focusses, we have extra-curricular activities that make our school fun. There is the Grade 7 leadership group, volleyball, basketball, soccer, floor hockey, track & field and cross-country. We also have the *Red Cedar Readers* club, a mountain biking club and *Destination Imagination*.

Everyone at Edgehill experience an environment that is rich in academic, social, and personal growth opportunities.

Texada Elementary School

Carol Brown ☺ PRINCIPAL

TEXADA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in partnership with the Texada Island Heritage Society and the support of School District #47 celebrated learning this year by helping to create a Museum and a Fine Arts Centre in our formerly closed old elementary school.

In June, we utilized our Fine Arts Centre to produce banners for *Kathaumixw*, and when I say banners, I mean 20 foot long by six foot high banners! Texada, Henderson, Kelly Creek and Edgehill banners proudly hung for the world to see.

This fall our original curriculum, *My Island, My History, My Home*, explored the origin and history of Texada over a 14 week period of lectures and field trips. Mr. Clarence Wood received a *Partnership in Learning Award* from the BCPVPA for his part in this endeavour.

Our current project is working with the Historic Society to celebrate *Legacy of Learning* week on February 20 with a Heritage Literacy Day, lunch and museum tours.

We eagerly look forward to this summer when we join with TASC to host the first ever Texada AeroSpace Camp July 9, 10, 11 to celebrate 100 years of aviation in Canada.



Henderson Elementary School

Jamie Burt 😊 PRINCIPAL

HENDERSON ELEMENTARY TRULY is a community school.

We pride ourselves in welcoming families and community members and having them be a part of our students' formal education.

Henderson is the oldest elementary school in Powell River with many of our Townsite neighbours having been Henderson students themselves. In some cases there are three generations of families who have attended our school!

Parents and guardians participate in many school events such as our *Terry Fox Run*, *Literacy Days*, coaching sport teams, attending assemblies, volunteering and running our *Breakfast for Learning* and *Hot Lunch* programs.

The addition of our *Strong Start Centre* this year has allowed families of pre-kindergarten

children to experience our positive school culture as well.

We are proud of the academic gains our children have made in reading. This has been a school focus and we can now see the results. Last year Henderson swept first place in the District's annual Read for the Top Competition.

Henderson students learn much more than core academics; staff teach and model life skills needed to make good choices. Children have opportunities to learn, to do, to succeed, to fail, to take risks, to develop new relationships in a safe, caring and respectful environment.

Henderson students and staff care about themselves, they care about others, and they care about the environment. It is a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Oceanview Jr. Secondary School

Frank Radcliffe 😊 PRINCIPAL

WITH THE GRADE 9 students moving to Brooks Secondary, Oceanview is now a Grade 8 only school. The school's primary goal is to provide a learning environment that would best serve as a transition between elementary and high school.

The benefits of having a one-grade school are many, as are the challenges. One of our greatest challenges is to have the students connect with their school. Our hope is that giving students the opportunity to be successful in numerous areas will enable them to better connect with their school. For this reason, Oceanview staff have developed an action portfolio that recognizes student participation in Service, Achievement, Healthy Living, Environmental Stewardship and Personal Challenge. The portfolio allows students to keep track of their activities and record their personal bests.

Environmental Education is important and a number of initiatives are underway. All students have the opportunity to participate in the recycling and composting activities. As well all students will take an Environmental Studies course which teaches the fundamentals of issues like global warming and energy and resource use.

Oceanview also has a group of dedicated students, the *OV Green Team* who communicate online about environmental and research issues. They are assembling an action plan to make their school and world a more environmentally responsible place.

Oceanview staff and students are working toward the goal of getting all students to Strathcona Park Lodge to participate in three days of environmental activities. We hope this will further connect students and they will continue to support one other through high school.

OK



Kelly Creek Community School

Bill Bailey 😊 PRINCIPAL

LAST YEAR AT Kelly Creek Community School we wanted to create a celebration around our goal to improve student writing. We began writing an anthology of student fiction arising out of an illustration by children's author, Chris Van Allsburg. Every child wrote a story based on this illustration and then we worked together in buddy classes during the year to edit and refine each piece of writing for a final, bound publication of all stories, which was distributed to the students last month.

For the unveiling of our *Mystery Anthology*, we invited parents to join us, and we all dressed up as storybook characters. We spent 30 minutes reading to each other from the anthology. Students took great delight in reading their own and each other's stories aloud in small groups. At the end of the day, all students took home their own copy of the anthology to enjoy.

Kelly Creek is a designated community school. A group of dedicated individuals bring the community together to support our children and programs. Our small size allows us to come together for activities where lasting bonds are formed through work together in literacy, the arts or sporting activities.

teacher

Brooks Secondary School

Kathy Rothwell ☺ PRINCIPAL

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION is multi-dimensional and holistic. It is more than striving to have students perform 'up to standard.' It encompasses a love of learning, critical thinking, thoughtful questioning, aesthetic appreciation, lively curiosity, personal creativity, development of physical health and interpersonal competence.

As the only secondary school in the community, Brooks is constantly challenged to provide as many opportunities as possible for young people to excel.

Academically, the graduating class of 2008 walked off with more than \$100,000 in scholarships and bursaries. Over 60 students went on to university or college; another 90 continued work in trades or dual credit courses, and more than 300 students were recognized in our most recent honour roll.

Brooks offers a dual credit program where students are able to earn both high school and post-secondary credit in many disciplines, both academic and technical.

Our sustainability group has been acknowledged provincially for the work being done in the area of greening the planet and the jazz band and choir returned with a number of medals from the Surrey Jazz Festival. Those who watched the musical performance of *Fiddler On The Roof* will agree the talent and hard work of the cast and crew was excellent.

Last year's digital film school class captured five medals competing provincially and Culinary Arts students who competed in Skills Canada on Vancouver Island also brought home medals.

Brooks' athletes display their excellence in everything from curling to basketball. Fitness is an important component of our curriculum at Brooks and is reflected in our teams who are strong contenders regionally and provincially. Competing at the provincial level this year are the senior boys' volleyball team, the gymnastics team and our swim team.

Excellence extends beyond school and community. We have four students on international exchange and we have twinned with a German school where several of our Grade 9 students will travel this summer for a two-week stay at an acclaimed school in Tuttlingen. Their students will visit us in turn in October.

We are proud of our students. They are confident young people who are good ambassadors for Powell River.



Trades & Technical Programs

Troy Marshall

Program Coordinator



SCHOOL DISTRICT 47's Trades & Technical Programs is something to be proud of.

Since it began four years ago, student enrolment has doubled. New trades programs have been added to the five original ones offered. The district is considering academic programs such as psychology, early childhood education, digital film school, applied business technology, community support worker and professional golf management.

Powell River was selected as one of six sites in Canada by

the Society for the Advancement in Education for a case study on innovative career path programs for aboriginal people aged 15-25.

Four years ago very few school districts were doing much in the way of trades and technical programming. SD47 asked Malaspina University-College (now Vancouver Island University) to partner with them and that has become the most successful model in BC. Many other districts visit Powell River to see how they are doing it.

The five trades programs

SD47 offers are Cosmetology, Automotive Service Technician, Carpentry, Culinary Arts and Welding.

School District 47's success rate is in the 90% range consistently and they are attracting almost 30% of their Grade 12 class.

Last month graduation ceremonies were held for the fourth year automotive service technician program. Of the 18 graduates, four were SD47 students and all are working locally.

Danny Carto is at El's Auto Tech; Richie Hourd at

Quality Parts; Troy Lawson at Massullo Motors; and Tim Guilette is at Dox Auto Tech. They are the first group of students to finish their inter-provincial apprenticeship training.

The District has students finishing its welding program and going straight into employment. SD47's dual credit programs at the high school level are designed to provide student credits in the high school graduation program as well as post-secondary credits.

Pauline Joy Galinski

A woman who made a difference

By Isabelle Southcott

Pauline Galinski was a dynamic woman who got the job done. She served Powell River School District for over 40 years in a variety of capacities including chair of the district's board of education for 15 years and as a teacher for 25 years. Pauline always focused on doing what was best for the students and never lost sight of her target: students and education.

Pauline was born on January 22, 1932 in Vancouver. When she died on February 10, she was 77 years old

At her Celebration of Life, words such as committed, strong, dedicated, visionary, pioneer, forward thinking, well-respected, master teacher and loyal were used to describe Pauline.

Yes, Pauline was all of that and more.

Pauline Galinski made a difference. She made a difference

to her children Paul and Lise, to her five grandchildren, to her husband Hank and daughter Kerry, both who predeceased her, to her many students, to Powell River's education system, to the BC Teachers' Federation (of which she was a life member), to the BC College of Teachers (of which she was a founding member), to the Powell River and District Teachers' Association (she served as president for three years), to her friends, family, colleagues, those she mentored, and even those who disagreed with her.



There's no denying the fact that Pauline commanded respect. She was always well turned out, organized and in control. There was a reason she was called "The General."

"Pauline had a presence; when Pauline entered the building or when she had something to say people stopped and people listened," said Jay Yule, Superintendent of Schools.

Pauline wasn't quite 18 years old when she left her home in Ladner for her first teaching job in the isolated community of Beaverdell, BC. There found herself teaching all subjects to Grades 7 to 9 students plus a few correspondent students.

There was no running water, no electricity and no central heating. Temperatures dipped to 40 below in the winter and the ink froze in the inkwells. They couldn't write before noon. But Pauline, a city girl, thrived and blossomed. "It was a wonderful beginning to a teaching career," she told Powell River Living in 2006. Pauline married Hank, who was in the army, and they started a family. Hank was posted to Germany in 1965 and Pauline and their children spent three years overseas with him. When they returned they moved to Powell River. Tragedy struck the family when Kerry, who had contracted meningitis the first time in Germany, lost a second battle with the disease in 1971 and died in hospital.

Pauline was driven, and gave tirelessly to her community. She got involved; she served. Pauline had no time for whiners and told people to get involved and be part of the solution — not part of the problem.

But Pauline also had a strong sense of fair play and justice.

"She once said to me, 'I am here for the children and I'll be damned if anyone is going to stand in my way,'" said Jay.

Yes, that was Pauline. Exciting, exhausting and results-oriented. She was a woman who didn't suffer fools and wasn't scared to say what she thought.

The life of a politician and school board chair can be controversial. It isn't a popularity contest, but Pauline stayed the course, keeping what's in the best interest of the students within her sights. >>

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➤ I got to know Pauline through the dogs. I was training my English Setter at Dogwood Kennels with Ann Seale, and West Coast ACCESS (Animals for Community Care and Emotional Support Society) needed another board member. I guess Pauline thought I was a likely candidate and so she invited me to a meeting. “Our meetings are fun,” she assured me. “We drink wine, have snacks and talk while we work.”

She was right. It was fun and we made things happen. You couldn't be around Pauline and not make things happen.

But there was another side of Pauline that the public didn't know. The side she saved for her family and close friends such as Ann Seale.

Pauline and Ann met in the early 1970s through the Powell River Trail Riders. Pauline was president at the time and show manager.

Pauline's daughter Lise was riding and so were Ann's daughters, Kim and Marie. Ann had a barn and ring on her

property and all the kids hung out there.

The two women shared a love of animals and a love of children. “Our friendship was so different from our normal working lives,” Ann explained. The pair would hang out together on Saturday nights and unwind. Their Saturday night visit soon became a ritual and so they dubbed it Saturday Night Live. When Ann, who is a professional dog trainer, wasn't looking, Pauline would delight in slipping some hot buttered popcorn to Ann's prize dog Mamba.

Ann's daughter Marie would confide in Pauline and Pauline's daughter Lise would confide in Ann.

Pauline was one of the founding members of West Coast Access, one of many great ideas that was born during *Saturday Night Live*.

Pauline was also a member of the Powell River Garden Club and I was told of a time when she stood up at the front of the room and told people a new executive was needed and they'd better get on with the job or else! The roles were quickly filled.

Mayor Stewart Alsgard said Powell River has lost a great person but Pauline's legacy will endure through the accomplishments she has left behind.

“Pauline truly dedicated her life to bettering the lives of others. She lived a purposeful life and brought education, leadership, integrity and accomplishment to those with who she had contact.”

At the inauguration of the new City Council and School Trustees on December 2, 2008, the audience spontaneously gave her a standing ovation. Although we know that Pauline didn't seek fame or fortune, I'm glad the community was able to let her know that evening how much she was appreciated.

Alsgard spoke about Pauline's character and how the best measure of character is not the behaviour that brings us to crisis but the manner in which we face it.

Pauline's Celebration of Life was both sad and joyous as we acknowledged the end of an era. Pauline Joy Galinski, it was a joy to celebrate someone who led such a meaningful life, and to pay tribute to someone who indeed has made a difference. 

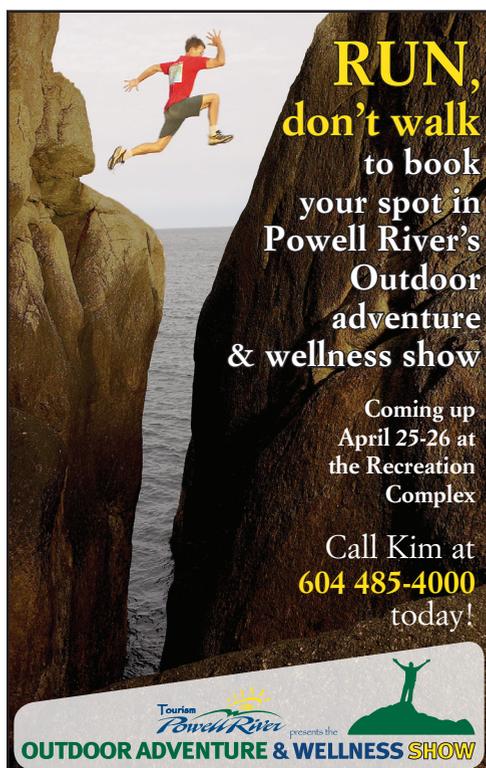
Coming up

Festival of Writers

Calling all writers, those who would like to write, or anyone who just loves books!

You're invited to the Powell River Festival of Writers on March 27 and 28. Author Anthony Dalton shares his stories from around the world in *Adventures of a Writer* and explains why research is vital in *Getting it Write*. Sylvia Taylor, an award-winning freelance writer, editor and speaker will teach you how to write memoirs or family history.

Get tickets from Breakwater Books or by calling Barb Rees at 604 485-2732. You must register in advance. The festival takes place at the CEP Local 76 Union Hall, 5814 Ash Street in Townsite. Visit www.festivalofwriters.com for more.



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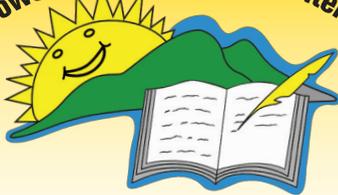
 

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Change your body

Tai Chi changed Don Morrison's life

By Isabelle Southcott

Don Morrison's near-death experience in 1991 led him to take stock of his life.

"It made me think that if I had died would I have been satisfied with what I had done with my life?"

The answer, he discovered, was "no."

Determined to change, Don quit drinking and instead of just thinking about Tai Chi he walked into the Taoist Tai Chi Centre in downtown Vancouver.

Taoist Tai Chi is a practice of 108 movements designed to gently stretch, move and lubricate the entire body internally and externally. "It's becoming sensitive to your body's movements, needs, likes and dislikes," Don says, adding this includes everything from food and exercise to your environment.

"Taoism means change and that is the one constant in life so as you do Taoist Tai Chi things will change in your body."

For instance, Don discovered that his muscles and tendons became more flexible as he practiced the art of Tai Chi and as he

learned and remembered the set of moves he meditated and became more aware of his body.

Master Moy Lin-shin, founder of the International Taoist Tai Chi Society, was heir to the practices of the traditional Chinese internal arts. His teachings combine knowledge of the Taoist classics with training he received in China and Hong Kong. Master Moy immigrated to Canada in 1970 and founded the Taoist Tai Chi Society of Canada.

"Tai Chi is an internal art and the strength and the health benefits are internal," says Don explaining that movement comes from your spine.

Tai Chi has helped Don focus and



BEING FLEXIBLE: Don Morrison practices Tai Chi for an hour each day.

change the total direction of his life. "When you are doing Tai Chi you are open. Your body works as a unit instead of just individual muscles, you cannot be divided."

Don began listening to his heart and became sensitive to other areas of his life. He left Vancouver for Powell River and exchanged the life of a professional painter for that of an organic farmer.

"As you open up your body things come up. You feel better when you do it and your body responds."

Beginner Tai Chi classes start in October and February at the United Church. Continuing classes are held on Saturday and Wednesdays. For more info, call 604 483-8939. **RL**

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Powell River Living FOR ART'S SAKE

By Jessica Colasanto

Investing in arts a wise economic choice

You may have heard about Brandeis University's recent reaction to the current economic climate: they decided to close their Rose Art Museum and sell off the artwork housed within it. Ironically, the museum had been operating autonomously, in the black, since its opening in 1961.

The plan backfired for multiple reasons, and the University is still reeling from the fallout of its decision, which underscores an important point: the arts aren't superfluous. The arts can't be cut without consequences. And when times are tough, the arts become even more vital to a community. Not only do we turn to the arts to lift our spirits, but the parallels between cultural occupations (jobs servicing or generated by the arts) and a healthy economy have been well documented.

So when a new gallery opens, it's not just the arts community that benefits: our community as a whole reaps the rewards.

Tourigny and Marce, Wood Artisans, have opened their doors to Powell River. This unique venue in Edgemoor produces intricate, hand-crafted pieces showcasing wood in all its glory.

In fact, March marks the one year anniversary of this gallery, and to celebrate,



QUARRY STORM: This ethereal image was photographed by Mischa Brooks-Thoma on Texada Island. It is part of the newest exhibit at the Tourigny and Marce Wood Artisans gallery.

Tourigny and Marce are launching their 2009 collection this month. They have invited several other local artists to participate, presenting a collaboration that will feature the gallery's intimate relationship with wood. Beautiful woods and burls from the Powell River area are provided by "Doctor Wood", George Ouellet of CompuWood. Included in the show are carvings

from Bob Brackenbury, garden art from Ron Hilleren, and photographs by Mischa Brooks-Thoma and Graham Lavery which have been framed by the wood artisans.

Surrounded by a manicured, eclectic garden, this yellow house at 5287 Manson Avenue welcomes locals and visitors alike. You are encouraged to stop in whenever you see the gallery sign out front. >>

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➤ Investing in the arts is a wise choice for a community. The ArtReach program at the Academy of Music offers a new chance to do just that, while investing in the future as well: a series of three workshops, open from children ages six to 12, will be held on Saturday mornings, March 14, 21 and 28 from 10 am until noon. An emphasis on creating imaginative inventions using recycled and natural materials will be led by guest artist/instructors in an exciting variety of art activities. Participants will be introduced to contemporary artists working in new ways with recycled materials. Sculpture, painting and drawing materials will be included. The fee is \$20/workshop; register for one or all three by calling 604 414-7020.

Fortunately, our community's commitment to the arts is indisputable, and is evident in events such as the Powell River Festival for the Performing Arts. Organized by our Rotary Club for the last seven years, this is the 65th year that the festival has given a supportive stage to amateur performers of all ages. You can catch band, instrumental and speech arts performances at the Max Cameron Theatre, while vocal, strings and piano sessions will be held at the Evergreen Theatre. This year's Grand Concert is at 7:30 pm on March 25; for more information, visit www.PRrotary.org. 

Do you have an upcoming art event? Let us know about it via email to arts@prliving.ca.

Coming up...

Expose Yourself!

The second annual Expose Yourself is billed as an exhibition for exhibitionists. This night of fun, fantasy and celebration of sexuality comes up Saturday, March 28 at 6251 Yew Street below the Rodmay Hotel. It runs from 7:30 pm to midnight.

Local artists as well as returning guest exhibitors, show off their new art, all with an erotic twist. Many of the pieces will be for sale, so if your bedroom needs a little spice, bring your cheque book.

InkFected Tattoo & Body Piercing will be showcasing provocative body art, and check out the Cloud Nine demonstration corner. Manzanita Restaurant will be shucking Okeover oysters at the Oyster Bar. Enjoy the silent auction and drink specials.

Organizers are still looking for spoken word or other performers and music. Find out more by calling 604 483-1979 or email ArbutusOils@groundswell.ca.

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Sat, Mar 10 • 10 AM – Noon

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Tea-for-Two with Origami

Sat, Mar 7 • 10 – 11:30 AM

Special one-on-one activity for grandparent and child. Recommend K-gr 4. Share the challenge of creating unique origami art projects and enjoy a Japanese tea party complete with rice crackers. Includes everything for a fun morning together.

Living Off the Sea: Oyster picking & clam digging

Sat, Mar 14 • 10 AM – 4 PM

Join us for a delightful and informative day out on the beaches of Okeover Inlet where the nutrient-rich waters are home to an amazing array of intertidal marine life. Clam & oyster identification, where; how and when to harvest. Hands-on afternoon of picking and digging plus, quite possibly, eating.

Luck of the Irish Ice Carnival

Tues, Mar 17 • 6:30 – 8 PM

It's new and it's different. Try your luck at the Putting Green, with Potato Bowling and Capture the Leprechauns. Fun and prizes for the whole family.

Bunny Express

Fri, Mar 27 • 10 – 11 AM

Special preschool class (parented). A fun-filled hour of special Bunny themed activities including... crafts * story * games * music * snack * and egg hunt.

Discovering the Masters – Art classes

In these classes children will have the opportunity to learn about some of the greatest artists of the past while doing hands-on activities. All supplies provided.

Van Gogh: Starry Night

Age 5–7 yrs Wed, Apr 8 • 4–5 PM

Rubens: Chalk Light Faces

Ages 9–12 yrs Wed, Apr 15 • 4–5 PM

Seurat: Pointillist

Ages 7–12 yrs Wed, Apr 22 • 4–5 PM

Magritte: Big Shoe

Ages 8–14 yrs Wed, Apr 29 • 4–5 PM

Great Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11

This special event is for children ages 10 and under. There will be egg hunting areas designed by age group. Enjoy the entertainment and face-painting, fun for the whole family. **Egg Hunt starts 10:30 am, rain or shine.**

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Local skier has Olympic dreams

On the mountain

By Isabelle Southcott

Amanda Birtig was just 18 months old when mother Brenda first put a pair of skis on her and introduced her to Mount Washington and skiing.

"My mom was a ski instructor," explains 15-year-old Amanda.

Amanda went through Mount Washington's Mountain Kids program and then the Nancy Green program. When she was nine, she was introduced to racing and K Stars, a progressive competitive racing program. Today, Amanda is in her second year of the K2 program and races for Mount Washington's ski team.

The granddaughter of former MLA Harold Long can't imagine a life without skiing. It has been a big part of her existence for as long as she can remember.

Even though it hasn't been a great winter for skiing on the coast, Amanda managed to get in more than 60 ski days between July 2008 and the end of January 2009.

When asked how, she smiles.

"I went to Austria with my team for three weeks in October," she explains. "The skiing was really good; there were lots of other racers from across Austria training there."

Amanda's short-term goal is to make the BC development ski team this year. Her long-term goal is to make the national ski team and then the Olympics.

"That one is pretty big," she says.

But it is big goals like the Olympics that keep this young skier going as she travels to Whistler and Seymour to compete in Super G and Slalom races.



RACE DAY CONCENTRATION: There's nothing like the rush of competition. In mid-January 15-year-old Amanda Birtig competed at Mt Washington, just one step towards her big dream.

When the BC Provincials are held in March at Red Mountain, Amanda will be there. If she qualifies there, she'll be at Silver Star when the Nationals are held and then she'll be "back at Whistler if...," she says.

"If what?" I ask.



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Children born in 2000
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2009 track season
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Club practices are
Tuesdays and Thursdays,
5 to 6:30 pm at the track.

For more info, call Marnie at 604 485-7587

➤ “If I keep skiing the way I’m skiing,” she smiles.

Amanda pauses and pulls up a photo album on a laptop she has set up on the dining room table. She clicks on a group of photos taken of her at a recent race. Her father, Tor, points to a photo of his daughter and it’s easy to see how proud he is of her by the casual banter they share.

Determination and a love of powder keep this young lady on the mountain and outside in the cold, fresh air as she strives to qualify for the next race. 



IT'S SNOW MUCH FUN! Not everyone's a racer, but all find fun on the ski hill. From left are Powell River's Katie Dohm, Alex Southcott and Philip Dohm.

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AREC 001 S09R01 • Ursula Medley \$149 + GST
4 sessions: Th, Apr 2-16; 7-9:30; & Sa, Apr 25; 10-4

Design Perfect Pants

Design pants, capris, bermudas and shorts for an exciting new summer wardrobe! Home sewing machine and some sewing experience required.

ARPE 001 I09R01 • Sabine David
6 sessions: Th, Jan 22-Feb 26; 7-9
\$109 + \$15 lab fee + GST

Commercial Marine Courses:

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- Small Non-Pleasure Vessel Safety • Apr 20, \$205
- Small Vessel Operator • Apr 21-23, \$508
- Marine Basic First Aid • Apr 24 & 25, \$239

Cashier Training Workshop

Using electronic cash registers, learn the essentials needed to work as cashier.

SWCT 001 S09R01 • Laurie Smith \$249 + GST
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Mandatory for people working in the upstream oil and gas industry. Prepare for a job in the oil fields.

QHTS 001 I09R01 • George Martin \$249
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A must for kitchen staff and dining room attendants, and worthwhile for anyone who handles food. Course is online but exam must be taken on campus. For more info see:

<http://pr.viu.ca/onthejob/foodsafety.asp>

QFOO 001 C09W01 \$79

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Foodsafe Level 1

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QFOO 001 I09R01 • Dan Glover \$95 + \$17 lab fee
2 sessions: Tu & We, Apr 21 & 22; 8:30-1

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Certification exam required for wait staff and bartenders. Includes "L" License for supervisors or special events.

QSRV 001 I09R01 • Liz Webster \$129
1 session: Th, Apr 23; 9-3:30

Occupational First Aid – Level 1

Learn to provide life-saving first aid skills to workers in industry as required by WorkSafeBC.

QOFA 001 I09R01 • Debbie Ivanic \$89
1 session: Fr, Apr 24; 8:30-5:30

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Course Calendar at a glance for:

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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The talents of Powell River's quilters
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The 2009 Celebration of Quilts show takes place on March 21 & 22 at Dwight Hall.

Point of VIU

Be smart about financing your education

By Dawn McLean

It's no secret that we are facing difficult economic times. Given that the costs of education are increasing, it can be daunting to plan for a post-secondary education. At the end, we all want a good job—and it is a good idea to research the career possibilities. Arming oneself with information is the best possible strategy for anyone planning on pursuing an education in a trade, technology, university or college.

If you are coming directly from high school, you are in the best position to access scholarships, awards and bursaries. Not all are grade-based; many focus on community involvement, school events, and sports. Often, you can be eligible for special scholarships if you have a parent in a union or a grandparent who has been in a war. If you've achieved high marks, you could be entitled to provincial scholarships. There are district awards as well that many students don't even realize are available. Contact your school to find out more about your Passport to Education—there could be up to \$1,000 available for use within five years of completing high school. Useful websites on financial aid include Student Awards Canada at www.studentawards.com and Scholarships Canada at www.scholarshipscanada.com.

Carol Sansburn, Educational Advisor at the Powell River campus at VIU, suggests that people often need support as they navigate through what might seem an overwhelming process. "It's key not to put up barriers. People often assume they

won't be eligible for financial aid. We can provide information as we guide you through the process in a supportive way." Carol says that adults who need to upgrade their high school education may be eligible for grants through ABESAP—Adult Basic Education Student Assistance Program. "You don't have to pay back a grant, and this can help offset costs for application fees, student fees, transportation, some daycare costs, and, with ABESAP, even textbooks." Contact Student Services at VIU at 604 485-2878.

Connie Guenther, Service Coordinator at North Island Education Foundation Services, makes regular trips to Powell River to provide free information sessions. "I think that if people are planning on returning to school and have been on EI in the last three years, their best bet is to come to one of these info sessions. Held at the PRREDS office on Duncan Street, they are open to any Canadian citizen and are free." Here, people can check out the opportunities of retraining and learn about the services available. A toll-free number is available: 1-866-334-8288.

Government student loans are also available, both from the provincial and federal governments. These depend on the parents' income for a dependent student, and do not have to be paid back until the student completes the program. Student Aid BC supports an excellent website that will help students find out more about this option: www.StudentAidBC.ca

Of course, you can always visit your bank or credit union for a line of credit or loan. Ask about getting a preferential student rate for a loan. So if you don't have a nice tidy educational nest egg, take heart: you can still find ways to buy the books and pay the tuition. You still might need to develop a fondness for Kraft Dinner or noodle soup as you live within your budget, but think of it as brain food. **RL**

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"We have some challenges. We are an old mill town. But we also have the water and the mountains and affordable property and lakes and the canoe route and trails and parks and accessibility. We have so much potential."

*Paul Nassichuk
Parks Foreman*

"Community beautification starts at the grassroots level with simple concepts like keeping our homes and businesses clean while enhancing the beauty of our community by adding enhancements such as planters and gardens. These small steps not only go a long way toward making our city a better place to live, they also enhance property values."

*Aaron Pinch
City Councillor*

Beautifying our city

It's more than flowers and trees

Benefits of beautification are many and varied

As Powell River shifts from its reliance on industry, beautification of our community will become an increasingly important part of the City's infrastructure.

Often when we think of infrastructure, we think of water lines and pavement. Indeed, those things are critical to our community.

But when someone thinks about moving here, or when a tourist rolls off the ferry, underground services and roads aren't the first thing they see.

"They see how store fronts look, and if there are flags and banners and color and flower beds," says Paul Nassichuk, the foreman of the City of Powell River's Parks Division.

Nassichuk is passionate about beautification, and not just because it's part of his job. He has also volunteered on salmon enhancement and green space projects.

Not only does beautification make Powell River a more attractive place to visitors, it makes it a nicer place to live, he said.

"The City has put a lot of effort into beautification efforts recently, including planting trees, expanding parks, putting more money into sports fields, and starting a banner program," said councillor Aaron Pinch.

Trees have been planted in the Townsite and at Mowat Bay and DA Evans park.

Willingdon Beach trees have been trimmed to improve visibility and increase sunlight in the park, and the old arena site has been cleaned up.

More shrubs will be planted and landscaping done this spring.

In the coming weeks, residents will begin to notice even more of the Department's efforts, as park gardens and green spaces, such as the King Street corner at the top of the Wildwood Hill, burst into bloom.

Nassichuk says the forward thinking of the

people of Powell River to vote for Millennium Park is a sign that residents are putting more importance on the beautification efforts.

His passion for improving the appearance of the City reflects that of his boss, Bill Reid, the director of Parks, Recreation and Culture. Reid has a degree in ornamental horticulture.

While working for the District of West Vancouver, Reid led efforts to compete in the national Communities in Bloom program, winning at the national level and going on to international competition.

"Communities in Bloom is a tried and true method," said Reid.

Judges of Communities in Bloom look at everything from flower beds to sustainability.

He doesn't think Powell River is quite ready to enter Communities in Bloom competition yet, but that is his goal.

"We've been chipping away at it," he said.

In the meantime, the Communities in Bloom criteria is an excellent set of goals for Powell River's beautification projects, said Reid.

The City doesn't have to look far for a good example.

"The Townsite has beautification up and running," said Reid. "And the Garden Club does garden tours."

"But more can be done," he said.

"There's so much untapped potential here," he said. "Generally, homeowners take pride in their homes. We want to ensure that continues and everybody is involved."

But other work needs to be done, too, so he's hoping for more money for Parks in the upcoming city budget.

The main highway through town is narrow, he says. He'd like to see bullnoses at the crosswalks to begin creating a streetscape along Marine Avenue.

"Yes, it costs money," said Reid. "But it's not going to get any cheaper."

It looks as though Council is also behind beautification efforts. Mayor Stewart Alsgard has created a new portfolio—Communities in Bloom—and assigned it to Councillor Pinch.

Things you can do to help beautify Powell River

- Take pride in your own yard
- Mow the lawn
- Landscape around your house
- Keep your home or business painted
- Keep the moss off the roof
- Sweep the curb and gutter
- Be responsible for your boulevard
- When you walk in the park, take a bag and pick up garbage
- Donate a bench, tree or picnic table to the Parks Department

VISIT www.powellriver.ca FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Sunset Homes Society: Housing for seniors

By John Smail

Fifty years ago a parcel of four building lots on Westview Avenue at Kamloops and Kemano (then Bezo) Streets was given to the community by the late Olive and Alphonse Devaud to build housing for needy seniors.

Since that time, seniors' non-profit accommodations have continued to grow there, and all of it, from conception, negotiations, to finding the cash, providing governance, right down to the changing of light bulbs, has been done by local volunteers.

The first sod for the first seniors home built in Powell River, the 12-unit Centennial Homes, which fronts on Westview at Kemano, was turned by Mrs. Devaud and Reeve Ray Weaver, June 15, 1957. Units rented for \$30 a month. It was a BC Centennial (1958) project and the down payment came from a donation of \$6,000 from the municipality, doubled by the provincial government, which left a \$3,000 shortfall to meet the 10% down payment needed for the mortgage. The shortfall was raised by public subscription: a donation from Moose Lodge, bingo games, the Legion, and a membership drive at the Powell River Exhibition.

Centennial Homes opened September 1958, and was fully occupied by November 1 that year.



Ten years later, the finishing touches were being added to a new 40-bedroom seniors home, The Olive Devaud Residence, directly behind the Centennial Homes. Total cost, excluding furnishings, was \$260,000. This was raised through a municipal grant of \$25,000, a provincial grant of \$85,500 and \$20,200 from the Senior Citizens Society. Rent for each bedroom was \$100 a month and the new Powell River Sunset Homes Society governed the building. Neither project would have been possible without the full support of the community and community

fundraising efforts, as more funds were needed for furnishing and kitchen and laundry equipment. A favourable long-term, low interest mortgage, made the home self-supporting.

In 1967 there were an estimated 1,000 senior citizens in Powell River. (2006 Census shows 3,605 age 65 and over, with 85% of them living alone.)

At the time, Miss Amanda Gerhardt of the local seniors citizens society said, "So many of our senior citizens want to continue to have their own separate units which they can look after as they did their former homes." »

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➤ Another decade later the headline in the *Powell River Town Crier* read: Olive Devaud Home expansion may top \$1 million. Society chairman Terry Herrewig thought the cost might grow to \$2 million. In the end the home would grow by almost two-thirds. In the first phase, once the provincial government approved the architect's plans, accommodation would be expanded by 47 beds.

Financing was the domain of the government and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Repayment would be made from the operating budget, and then subsidized by about \$10 per day per bed.

Health ministry assistance residence manager Jacquie Campbell was quoted as saying: "Considering the state of confusion of other similar projects in the province, we should be ahead of the game." Other organizations proposing intermediate care facilities had experienced turmoil when dealing with government subsidies, she added. "We're looking forward to this with confidence, not trepidation."

Treasurer Dick Bull added, "None of us knew the first thing about operating a home. And we are now regarded by provincial authorities as being one of the best operated homes in the province." The expanded residence was opened Friday June 19, 1981.

There were 77 people in residence,

just three under maximum occupancy. Residents had use of a solar greenhouse built by Arthur Van Der Est, a gardening project, exercise, swimming, lunches and tours in the Rotary wheelchair van.

Provincial Government replaces hospital boards

Just over 10 years ago as the result of the NDP provincial government's new legislation, the PR Hospital Board ceased to exist, and the PR Sunset Homes Society lost its governance status over the Olive Devaud Residence. The duties of both were taken over by a government-appointed Community Health Council (CHC). This happened just as The MacGregor Memorial Housing Society, an independent society within Branch 164 Royal Canadian Legion, had voted to team up with the Sunset Homes Society to fill their similar mandates of providing non-profit housing for seniors. Despite the government's new legislation, Sunset Homes maintained that it still owned the residence, and the land left to the community by the late

Olive and Alphonse Devaud. But in practical terms the legislation had left the Society property rich and cash poor. An examination of accounts showed there was about \$3,000 in the bank, and a small mortgage on Centennial Homes, now its sole responsibility.

The reverse was true of the MacGregor Society, which had saved \$164,000 over the years from bingo games, an annual boat raffle, and the sale of three rented trailers, but owned no land beyond that on which stood its clubhouse.

Through its newly appointed CHC, the provincial government became the virtual owner of all provincial hospitals and continuing care homes and the lands on

"Through [the]CHCs, the provincial government became the virtual owner of all provincial hospitals and continuing care homes and the lands on which they stood."

which they stood. The official line was that the change was necessary in the name of efficiency. Other agendas were mooted by the press and public. The fact is, the move had increased the government's property holdings, and its ability to borrow money. ➤➤



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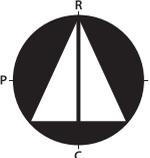
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➤ A few boards across the province saw that, and the deeper danger of the government's change, and different political agendas take precedence. So they fought back. One board on Vancouver Island took its case to court. The government lawyer argued that having paid mortgages for the upkeep and improvement of the hospital, the government therefore owned a stake in it. The judge was reported to have asked the lawyer if she had driven to court in her own car, and if the government had paid her a mileage allowance for wear, tear and fuel. When the lawyer said "Yes!" The judge rejoined with, "And do you think the government now owns part of your car?"

The atmosphere of friendly cooperation between the provincial health authority and PR Sunset Homes had changed. When the Society opposed the province's claim of ownership it was threatened by the new Vancouver Coastal Health board that if it re-possessed the OD Residence, those patients who opted to remain would be denied the financial assistance and supplements they enjoyed. While that same tax-financed aid would travel with clients who agreed to move to one or other of the Ministry's choice of locations, such as the Glacier Apartments. The Society would

also inherit the balance (\$1.6 million) of the mortgage the government acquired for the Olive Devaud expansion.

Land ownership negotiations were held and the Sunset Homes Society prevailed. Sunset Homes Society lawyer, Milda Karen Byng prepared a contract of the negotiated agreement which leaves ownership of the OD Residence and the four-lot parcel of land in the hands of the PR Sunset Homes Society. We later learned that had ownership remained with the new provincial Liberal government through its CHC, the Olive Devaud Residence could have been sold and become Powell River's first private hospital.

In the background was a legion of local supporters of the PR Sunset Homes and its fight for the Devaud property ownership, and their names go unsung.

With land ownership decided the MacGregor Society voted to transfer its assets to the Sunset Homes Society.

After the contract had been signed, the late David Gillespie, a Legion member on the Sunset Homes board, did most of the financial negotiations with the Community Health Council. As a result the Sunset Homes was able to add another \$80,000 to the \$164,000 contribution by the MacGregor Society.

Some time later, the Sunset Society's new chairperson, Myrna Leishman, working with treasurer Donald Swaitlowski, acquired another \$100,000 in the form of a charitable donation from the Real Estate Board of British Columbia.

With our down payment plus cash in hand, The Sunset Homes board called for local builders to tender plans and costs. Two were received. The board chose a design by John Spick, who would work with builder Jim Agius as contractors. Spick produced plans for the first two buildings to be named MacGregor Lodge, and was additionally contracted to build a scale model that is now in Jim Agius Construction offices. Phase 1 has six one-bedroom units, and four two-bedroom units. Phase 2 has seven one-bedroom units and four two-bedroom units.

The Sunset Homes Society is now paying for a feasibility study to build on the last vacant lot, on the sloping section of treed land directly behind the Olive Devaud Residence.

When the Olive Devaud Residence is returned to the Sunset Homes Society, it will probably revert to its original purpose of providing a residence for needy seniors. **RL**

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Powell River Living BUSINESS Connections *By Kim Miller*

Spring is in the air (ignore the mini-snowfall last week)! It is time to get outside, clean up the debris, pick up, spruce up and clear away the winter gloom. The Chamber is encouraging everyone to look around and see where you can add some colour, plant a few bulbs, some greenery or hang a flower basket. Lets all do our part to make our community look beautiful.

Andra and Bill Garret have taken over the helm of the **Town Centre Mall Merchant's Association**. The couple, who own **Split Endz Salon** are the new president and vice-president of the association. TC Mall is a busy place these days as **Shoppers Drug Mart** will be moving into new quarters in the mall this year and an energy audit is underway.

Powell River has a new doctor: **Dr Vidushi Mittra Melrose** completed her residency in Alberta and moved to Powell River to join **Dr Dan Lafferty** in his practice.

Wendy Pelton just opened **Options For Life**, a business that offers individual, couple and family therapy as well as life coaching. It is located in a quiet and private, wheelchair-accessible setting at 8080 Gunther Road. Wendy has 11 years of experience and brings confidentiality, understanding, support and humour to facilitate each client. Call 604 485-6664 for more information.

Quality Foods' kitchen, bath, home décor and coffee shop, *A Step Above*, is now open in **Crossroads Village**. Quality Foods is the newest member of the Marine Avenue Business Association and the Chamber of Commerce. Even though the business is not located on Marine Avenue, the company wanted to demonstrate its commitment to the entire community.

Grooming by Lou Anne has changed hands and its name. Jessica Medford is the new owner of **Dog Gone Grooming & Boutique** and she is offering expanded services.

Congratulations to Brenda Neall from **Down To Earth Clay Works** who just held her grand opening at 2107B Mahood Road, just off Brew Bay Road. Brenda says: "It's wonderful, the community has really embraced my new store and I am busy making new pieces of unique style and flaire." Brenda can be reached at 604 487-0970 or visit her website at www.downtoearthclayworks.ca

Congratulations to Lindalu Forseth who has been involved in Community Futures' Self-Employment Program. This program has assisted her in creating a business that is strong in all areas such as marketing, sales and customer service. Lindalu has just opened **Malaspina Soap Factory** as a home-based business on Invermere Street and if you check out www.malaspinasoapfactory.ca you will find a list of locations where Lindalu will be selling her products. This business idea came about because she has the type of skin that is incredibly allergic to commercial soaps. "I have made my own bath products for years," she said. Lindalu's soaps are broken down into three lines: Eau de Natural, Divine Scents and For The Kids. Lindalu can be contacted at 604 485-2281

Centsible Too has a new owner and a new name. Shirley Lundstrum has vintage collectables and furniture. The business, located in the Rodmay Hotel, is now called **Charlie Rose**. Baked goods, beverages and light lunch fare are coming soon. You can contact Shirley at 604 483-3326. 

Do you have any changes within your business you want Powell River to know about? New managers, new owners or are you moving locations? Starting a new business? Call the Chamber office at 604 485-4051 and I will get your info into the next issue of Powell River Living. If you are interested in receiving monthly updates and community event invites, send me your email address and I will add you to our list.

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It takes passion, commitment and business acumen to own a business. These traits can be found in women all over the world and some, including Powell River women, are using them to build their own businesses.

There are more than 850,000 businesses owned by women in Canada, contributing more than \$18 billion to the economy each year. And the number of women entrepreneurs is growing, which is why groups that champion women entrepreneurs, such as Powell River Women in Business, are vitally important.

Women learn early how to balance careers and families. They know how to manage the many facets of family life while juggling a career, social life and finding time for themselves. Skills such as these lend themselves to the running of a business because successful entrepreneurs need to know something about a wide variety of things in order to run a small business.

“One aspect of running a business is marketing”, says Vancouver marketing

specialist Mary Charleson who will be in Powell River on March 25 to speak on *Trends, tips and takeaways—Savvy marketing advice for women*.

“I have a real interest in helping women succeed in business,” says Charleson, who holds an MBA in marketing and teaches at City University of Seattle and the University of Phoenix and is a member of the Canadian Association of Professional Speakers.

Charleson, who has conducted interviews, research, and consultations with a broad range of businesses, has taken the four areas she considers critical for business women to understand about marketing, and weaved them into a series of stories to illustrate learning points. Her presentation will include:

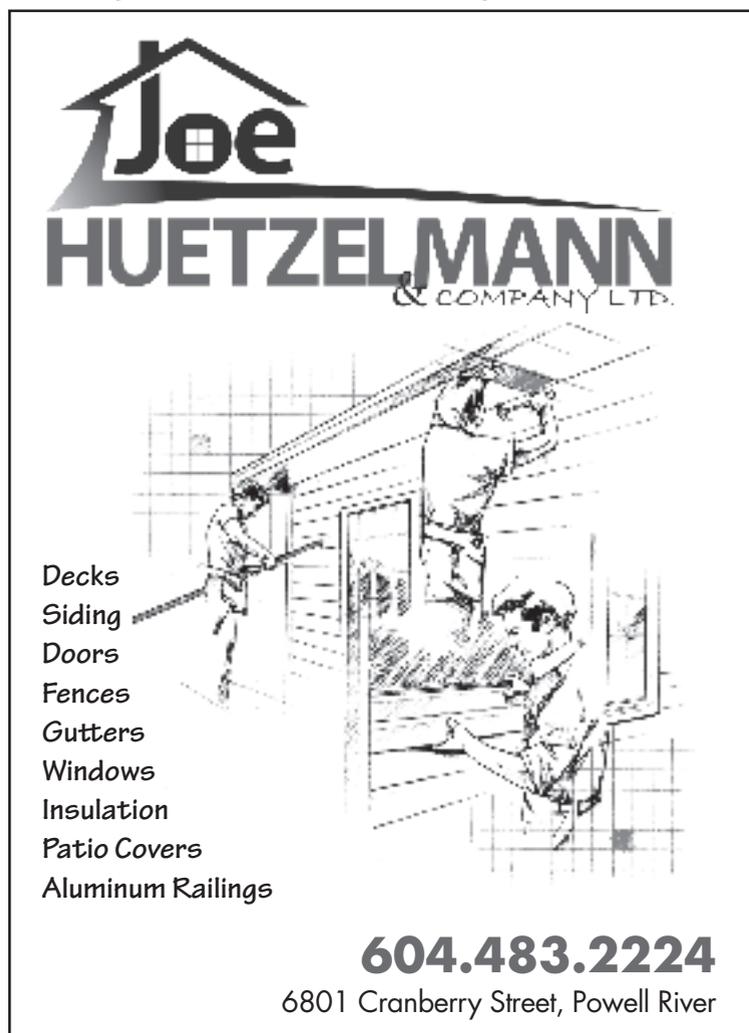
- Connecting with women: Why it's important for all businesses.
- Social responsibility: How doing good is good for business.
- E-Marketing: How to harness the

power of digital marketing.

- Recession marketing: Five trends to watch, and how to leverage opportunities.

“Whether you’re a mompreneur, a boomer woman re-launching, coming from a small business or a corporate background, Charleson makes a complex subject simple, and delivers information in a way that women learn, through storytelling, humour and actionable advice,” says Isabelle Southcott, a member of Powell River Women in Business who, along with the Powell River Chamber of Commerce, is presenting this special event.

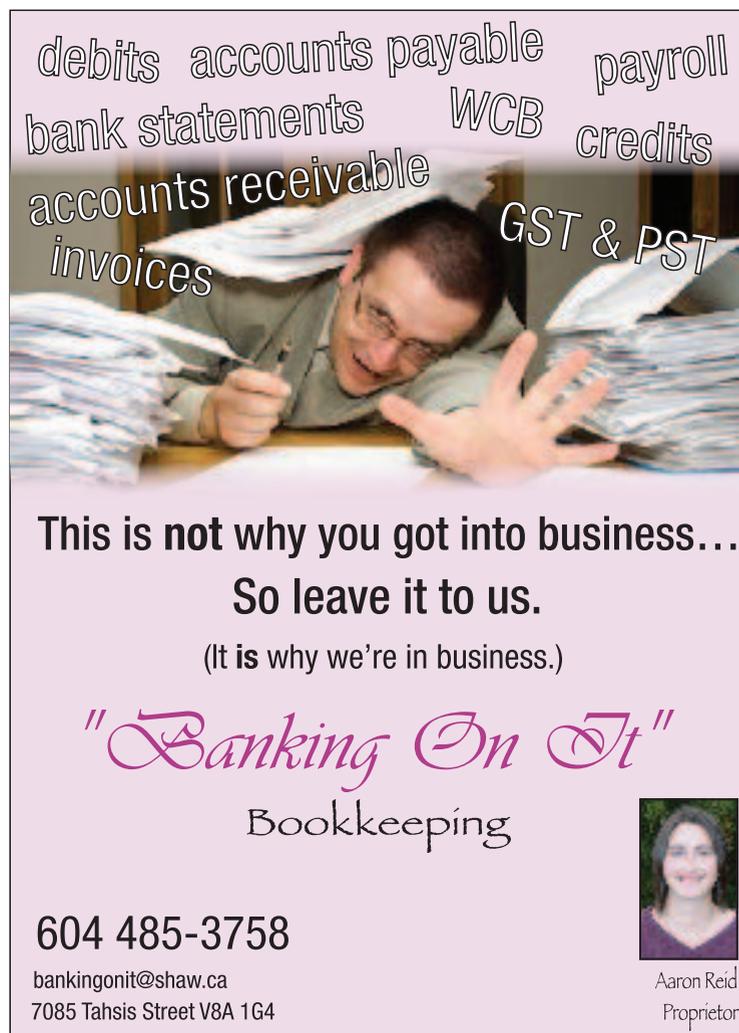
Charleson will also bring DVD copies of her other presentations: *Marketing to Women*, filmed at the Canadian Women in Communications and *Effective Advertising: Use your precious budget wisely*, filmed at the Burnaby Board of Trade. These DVDs will be available for sale at the event. Mary’s book, *5-Minute Marketing*, will be coming out in Spring 2009. [PR](#)



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SPOTLIGHT

on Women in Business

Powell River Living magazine recognizes the importance of the contribution women make to our economy, and to the fabric of our community. Here we shine a spotlight on women in business, showcasing the diversity of business activities of Powell River's business women. There are, of course, many more, but here we introduce you to a few of our favourites....

Eve Camenzind

Since purchasing **Your Dollar Store With More** seven years ago, Eve has run her business like her household: all staff are involved in the decision-making processes



and everyone helps each other out. An avid school volunteer and outdoor enthusiast, Eve is connected and committed to the community and so is her business.

Linda Whitely

Linda Whitely opened **Beyond the Bed** in January 2006 after 30 years in dentistry! "It was time to follow my passion before it was too late. I have never regretted the decision," she says, "adding, "personal service is my objective... something that



is lost in the big box stores. My goal is to keep the stock fresh, vibrant and current with fashion."

Shelley Halliday

Shelley Halliday has lived in Powell River for two decades and spent several years in the non-profit sector before finding her niche as General Manager of the **Powell River Town Centre Hotel**. She credits her success to a belief in personalized service and recognition of each guest's individual needs.



Isabelle Southcott

Isabelle Southcott is the founder of **Powell River Living** and co-founder of Powell River Women in Business. Through her business, **Southcott Communications**, she has organized trade shows and brought high profile guest speakers, including Peter Legge, to Powell River.



She has two sons, a Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever and is a member of Powell River Toastmasters.

Jacquie Dawson



Jacquie Dawson, the Theatre Manager at **Max Cameron Theatre**, is a recent transplant to the Powell River arts community. She has an extensive background in theatre and production management for opera, ballet and music. Her list of successes includes the Metropolitan Opera Live series, the International Guitar Festival and the ballet production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

Lindalu Forseth



Lindalu Forseth is a native of the Sunshine Coast, but moved to Calgary at a young age and is thrilled to be back. Lindalu got into making bath and body products due to allergies to commercial products; she has now turned her passion into her business, **Malaspina Soap Factory**. Lindalu is also an artist, wood carver and pyrographer who taught for Lee Valley Tools in Calgary prior to her move to Powell River.

Powell River Women in Business is an organization that educates, supports and provides networking opportunities for women who own or work in a Powell River business. To learn more about the group, please email bonnie@prliving.ca or call 604 485-0003.

Nicki Lister

Nicki Lister grew up in Powell River and has been a part of the **A&W** Family for 20 years. Having the opportunity to raise



her family in Powell River and continue her involvement with A&W as a franchisee with her husband Matt has been a rewarding experience.

Nicki is committed to helping the community through her business anyway possible. Supporting the arts, local hockey teams and the youth of Powell River are always a priority.

Jennifer Blampin

Jennifer Blampin believes that as a woman, mother and partner, you are naturally involved in business. Our excellence is in the human

being that we are and not what we do. Jennifer instructs meditation and is a natural



health consultant. She is a sales associate with **Powell River Living** and thrives on assisting businesses in this community.

Nicole Belanger

Nicole Belanger of **Nicole's Embroidery & Design** still enjoys creating and

embroidering your logos herself for your personal, business and sports needs on all types of clothing. She is introducing *Hi-Viz Kidz*, a highly reflective clothing for children.



Janice Olfert

Heather Tours celebrates its 5th anniversary in March. Owner/operator Janice Olfert says that her regular tour clients are not only the mainstay of her business,



they are fabulous, fabulous people. Without them, she is not afraid to admit, "this would just be another job."

Karen Skadsheim & Amy Sharpe



Since opening in the summer of 2007, owner Amy Sharp and Service Manager

Karen Skadsheim have thoroughly enjoyed making **Manzanita** the place to go in Powell River for great local food and good times. Their hard work seems to be paying off because Manzanita took home a *2008 Horizon Business Award* and their cast of admirers continues to grow.

Marie Rumley



Marie Rumley was born and raised in Powell River, and is well-known for organizing the Terry Fox run for 15 years. She spent 17 years in banking before taking her position as Branch Manager for **St John Ambulance** in Powell River five years ago. "I am passionate about my career — it allows me to be a part of the business world while still promoting health and safety in the community."

Sharon Jackson

Sharon Jackson has lived in Powell River for 34 years. She opened the **H&R Block** tax services 32 years ago. In those years she has been a support to several charities. She loves her work, her clients and likes to help people save money.



Mariah Sheridan

Mariah Sheridan moved here to start a family with her fiancé less than two years ago. Mariah realized her dream of opening a **Dance Studio**



last fall, and has had a great first year! As well as being a stay-at-home mum during the days, and a business owner in the evenings, Mariah is also playing a lead role in *Far Off Broadway's* production of *Chicago* this spring.

Caitlin Bryant



Caitlin Bryant, part owner of **Trendzessence**, has been honing her community development, promotional and volunteer management skills over the last few years, coordinating successful events like *It Just Makes Cents Fashion Show*, *Expose Yourself* and the *LCS Craft Fair* at the Italian Hall, to name just a few.

Turning glass into gems

How to, with Laura Kew

By Barb Rees

Glass artist Laura Kew goes to work so she can play in her studio, which also serves as shop, on Marine Avenue. That is where I went for her jewellery-making workshop. Surrounded by light shining through blue, green and purple glass it was like walking into a garden of summer colour.

I've had a lifetime love affair with coloured glass and I can't walk over a bit of glittering glass on the beach without stopping to pick it up. Now there I was, finally being given the

chance to create something beautiful out of bits of glass. For the next couple hours, four of us chatted and created under Laura's careful tutelage.

But first we needed a lesson in glass. We were using dichroic glass, originally utilized in the aerospace industry and later adopted by artisans. Each piece has two or three spectrums of colour. No two pieces are the same, but the magic is in the heat.

We started with little black squares on which we painstakingly >>>



FROM ARTIST TO STUDENT TO JEWEL: Laura Kew helps people learn how to create their own glass art, turning tiny pieces of coloured glass turn into beautiful jewellery and other pieces in workshops at Pacific Reflections.

Powell River
Women in Business
"Women empowering women in business."



Trends, Tips & Takeaways

Savvy marketing advice for women

Are you reaching your target market? Is your message being heard? How do you market in tough times?

Hear Mary Charleson speak on **Trends, Tips & Takeaways: Savvy marketing advice for women**. Mary Charleson holds an MBA in marketing and teaches at City University of Seattle and the University of Phoenix. She writes a monthly marketing column for Business in Vancouver and is a



Please join us for dinner and a special presentation...

Wednesday, March 25 at 6 pm at the Shinglemill Restaurant

member of the Canadian Association of Professional Speakers. Past engagements include Canadian Women in Communications and Burnaby Board of Trade.

Small independent businesses and organizations face a unique challenge: how to use limited advertising funds in an effective manner. Mary Charleson's presentation addresses your marketing plan and takes an in-depth look at media choices and shows you how to set objectives and use your funds wisely.

Tickets include dinner and Mary's presentation. Seating is limited. **Reserve yours today** to avoid disappointment. Call Bonnie at 604 485-0003 for your ticket. Tickets are \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members.

Brought to you by **Powell River Living Magazine** and the Powell River **Chamber of Commerce**.

Contact Bonnie • bonnie@prliving.ca • 604 485-0003 to attend

Finally... a networking and marketing group just for women in business

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► laid tiny pieces of coloured glass. Every person had her own designs and colours in mind. I soon realized mine were mostly blue or green so I made a conscious shift to find different hues. Miniscule bits of glass were glued into place and then topped with a clear cap. Every person's work was laid on special paper that would turn to ash in the kiln but protect the glass from melting to it.

After we left, Laura put our creations in the kiln. She heated it up slowly over several hours to 1000°C for 15 min until the heat went through the glass. At that point she "ramped it up" to 1450°C when the glass started to flow and become one. A bit of glass trivia: Did you know the nature of glass is such that it will only spread out to a quarter inch no matter how many pieces you stack?

In a couple days I went back to find sparkling gems lying in the kiln. The next step was to glue jewellery fixings on the backs and voila! I went home with several pendants and pairs of earrings. They will make great gifts if I can part with them. Now I'm hooked on turning glass into gems, and look forward to taking another class.

Laura Kew started Pacific Reflections in 2007. She sells supplies, teaches classes, sells wholesale to other shops and does commission work. For a brief period of time we can experience the freedom to create whatever we want just like Laura does everyday she comes to work to play. Check out her shop at 4690 Marine Avenue, and to sign up or learn more about upcoming workshops, call 604 485-7475 or visit www.pacificreflections-glassworks.ca. 

The history of glass

Though natural glass has existed since the beginnings of time, stone-age man is believed to have used cutting tools made of obsidian. According to Pliny (AD 23-79), Phoenician merchants transporting stone "discovered" glass accidentally in the region of Syria around 5000 BC. He tells how the merchants rested cooking pots on blocks of nitrate placed by their fire. With the intense heat of the fire, the blocks eventually melted and mixed with the sand of the beach to form an opaque liquid. The exact origins of the process of glass making are unsure, but it is thought that it first appeared in Mesopotamia about 3000 years BC, probably as a result of experimenting with glazes for pottery.



The **Powell River Association for Community Living** is seeking **applicants for casual employment** in both adult and children's services. Please apply if you have:

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Dr Dan Lafferty would like to welcome **Dr Vidushi Mittra Melrose** to Powell River. He is very pleased that she is joining him in medical practice effective immediately.

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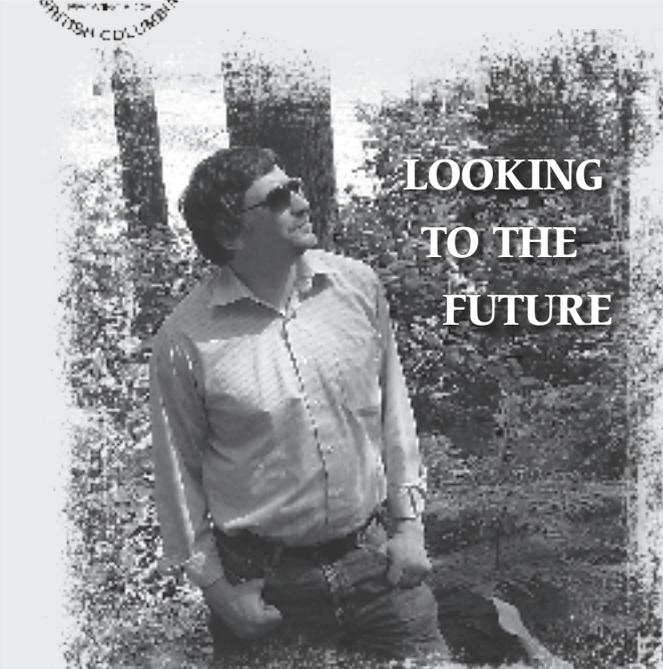
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Powell River Living FAMILY MATTERS

By Isabelle Southcott

Doing what is right isn't always easy

Being a parent isn't an easy job but it is the best job I've ever had, and, given the opportunity, I'd do it again.

There are moments in every parent's life when their heart swells with pride over something their child has done. I am no exception.

A couple of weekends ago, we went to Vancouver Island to ski at Mount Washington. Alexander, my nine-year-old son was skiing with his nine-year-old cousin and doing what nine-year-olds like to do: hang out without mom or auntie hovering over them. So I was still skiing down the mountain when my nine-year-old did something that I'm very proud of.

Alexander spied a lift ticket in the snow. He bent down, picked it up, and after examining it closely realized it was unused. This ticket had an expiry date of April 2009 on it. It was worth almost \$65 but Alexander didn't think twice about the money, instead, he did what he knew he must do. He turned the lift ticket in at the ticket booth because he thought someone may have lost it. Alexander didn't shove the ticket in his pocket; he did the right thing and turned it in.

When I reached him at the bottom of the hill he reported the incident to me quite matter-of-factly. I gave him a quick hug and told him I was proud of the choice he'd made.

We skied for a few hours and then stopped for a quick break. It was a beautiful day, blue skies, warm, and we were skiing. What more could you ask for?

The boys were hungry so we took a break and bought Beavertails. I took a bite of Alexander's without thinking what was on it and he exclaimed: "Mom, you owe me \$100."

I looked at his Beavertail and realized that yes I did. On January 1, I told the boys I would not eat any chocolate until my birthday weekend in March. I'd made this deal as I needed to lose the weight I'd gained over the holidays.

Ouch. A hundred bucks to each of my sons. Double ouch! But a promise is a promise; I wrote out a cheque despite Alexander telling me it was okay, that I could have another chance. Parents lead by example and I needed to put my money where my mouth was!

The following day we went swimming at the Wave Pool in Comox. My 11-year-old son Matthew was first in the family change room. He bent down and picked up something from the floor. It was a \$20 bill. "Cool," he said with a big smile. He'd never found \$20 before. This was a big deal. Bigger than a penny. Bigger than a quarter. It was \$20, and \$20 is a whole lot of money to an 11-year-old.

A moment later there was a knock on the change room door. "Excuse me," said a woman. "My son was just in that change room and he lost \$20. Did you happen to find \$20."

I was silent. It was not my place to say anything. I did not look at Matthew but rather, waited. I didn't have to wait longer than a nanosecond. Without hesitation Matthew opened the door of the change room and handed the money he'd found to the woman. "Here," he said, "I found it under the bench."

The woman thanked Matthew and walked away.

I smiled at Matthew and told him how proud I was of him for doing the right thing. He shrugged his shoulders the way 11-year-old boys will do when their mother gets mushy but I could tell he was pleased. He too had done the right thing. [PR](#)





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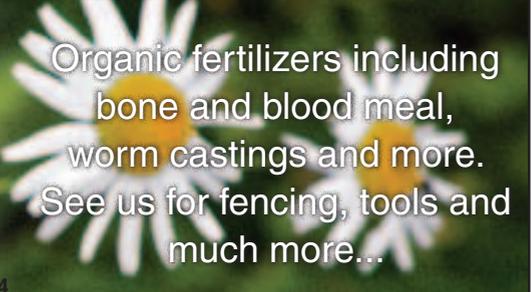


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Powell River Living COMMUNITY Calendar March 2009

March 4: Faith Lutheran Church Soup Supper at 5:30, Lenten Worship 6:30. Theme: By His Stripes: Healing Wounded Relationships. Topic: The Destructive Pattern of Invalidation.

March 4, 18 & 25: Taize style service at the Anglican Church in Townsite, 5:30 pm. Everyone welcome. For more info call 604 483-4230 or 604 487-0750.

March 5: International Women's Day. An evening of stories of women in our community. Refreshments & desserts. River City Coffee, 7-9 pm.

March 5: Celso Machado, master of ritmos brasileiros, virtuoso guitarist and percussionist. 7:30 pm, Max Cameron Theatre. World music with a Brazilian flavour. Tickets or more info: contact the Academy of Music Box Office, 604 485-9633. Tickets also at the door day of the performance.

March 12: Want to hear some great speeches? Come on out to Sunshine Speakers Toastmasters Club Speech Contest at 7 pm in the lower board room at School District 47 on Ontario Ave.

March 11: Messy Church at the Anglican Church in the Townsite. Everyone welcome. 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. For more info call 604 483-4230 or 604 487-0750.

March 14: Seedy Saturday. Powell River's annual seed exchange and community garden fair, 10 am-3 pm. Community Living Place. Admission \$1. Children free. Call Kevin Wilson 604 483-9052 for more info.

March 14: Second Saturday Jazz Vespers at St David & St Paul Anglican Church in Townsite. For more info call 604 483-4230 or 604 487-0750.

March 21 & 22: Celebration of Quilts 2009 quilt show at Dwight Hall. Sat-10 am-8 pm, Sun-10 am-4:30 pm. For more info contact Val Almas, 604 483-3109 or valalmas@telus.net.

March 27 & 28: Annual Writers Festival. Workshops and readings. www.festivalofwriters.com. For more info call Barb Rees at 604 485-2732.

March 27: 7-9 pm PR Health Network and PR Community Foundation present Katolen Yardley, Medical Herbalist, A Holistic Approach to Cancer Prevention at Powell River United Church (corner of Duncan & Michigan).

March 28: Expose Yourself... is a an exhibition of erotic art from 7:30 to midnight at 6251 Yew Street, below the Rodmay in the Townsite.

Sunshine Speakers Toastmasters: Interested in communication, leadership and public speaking? Toastmasters meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7 pm in the School District office boardroom on Ontario Ave; and at noon on the 1st & 3rd Thursday. Guests welcome. Barb Rees at 604 485 2732; Kevin Wilson at 604 483-9052.

Women in Business: Want to make a good impression on clients/customers? Women in Business is the place for you. A networking group for anyone working in or owning a business. Call Bonnie at 604 485-0003 or 604 414-3981.

Alcoholics Anonymous: 8:30-9:30 pm. Fridays at the United Church basement, Saturdays at PR Hospital Boardroom, Sundays at the Alano Club. For more info call 604 414-0944, 604 485-5346, 604 483-9736. Texada Island - 604 486-0117.

Powell River Community Resource Centre: 4752 Joyce Ave. Info sessions, 10-11 am. Free; open to everyone. For more info call 604 485-0992.

Sundays: Faith Lutheran Church Services and Sunday school, 10 am

Mondays: Bike ride at Suncoast Cycle, 6 pm

Tuesdays: Family Place Toddler Time drop-in 10:30-noon. Parent-child drop-in, 12:30 pm-4:30

Tues & Thurs: Bike Ride starting at RCMP parking lot, 6 pm

Second Tuesday: Living with Cancer Support Group, 1:30-3:30 pm at Breakwater Books, Alberni St. All cancer patients, survivors and loved ones welcome. Info 888 229-8288.

Second Tuesday: Parkinson Support Group (Jan to June & Sept to Nov), 1:30 pm, Trinity Hall of the United Church. For more information call 604-485-5973.

Fourth Tuesday: Powell River Garden Club meets at 7 pm at Trinity Hall, United Church.

Wednesdays: Family Place. Garden group 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, call 604 485-2706. The Open Space parent led family programs, 12:30 to 2:30 pm. Parent child drop in 12:30-4:30 pm.

Thursdays: Parent/child drop-in, 12:30-4:30 pm. Parent/Child Mother Goose Program (0-1 year).

Fridays: Parent child drop in, 12:30-4:30 pm Rhythm Circle Time (3-5 years)

Now to Aug 31: Free unlimited access to drop in swimming and skating for all Grade 5 Powell River students. Grade 6 students are offered 10 free drop in swim or skate admissions. Both offers are valid until August 31, 2009. Bring in your birth certificate or report card for verification.

Community calendar provides free listings for non-profit organizations and our advertisers. To include your event, email bonnie@prliving.ca before the 20th of the month.

Coming up...

Stanley Cup coming to Powell River

Sports fans: Add March 17 to your calendars, because the Stanley Cup is visiting! ScotiaBank's Celebration of Hockey Tour brings the Cup to Powell River. Have your photo taken with this iconic piece of hockey history at the ScotiaBank branch on Alberni Street from 2 to 6 pm on Tuesday, March 17. And look for Brad Bombardir's name etched on the Cup from when he was with the cup-winning 2000 New Jersey Devils.

Want to learn to...

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- ⌘ Speak in front of a group
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- ⌘ Give tactful, useful feedback
- ⌘ Overcome nervousness
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Success by 6

ORCA Bus now on the road

By Kim Barton-Bridges

More than four and a half years of dreaming and planning has come to fruition! Details of the refit of the ORCA Bus “On the Road with Children’s Activities” have been reported over its development through articles in the pages of this magazine, so at this stage it is really exciting to give an update on what’s happening on the bus.

The bus is bringing learning and fun, free of charge, to areas where children and families have difficulty accessing early childhood development programming.

We are fortunate to have such a fabulous group of volunteers involved with this project. Currently, we have a roster of 11 drivers and 22 helpers. The drivers, under the direction of Don Edwards, come from a variety of backgrounds and their

Mondays

9:30 to 10:30

Kelly Creek Community Church

11:00 to 12:00

“The Hill” (second left right after the Eagle River Bridge, on Eagle River Road)

Wednesdays

9:30 to 10:30

Sliammon Child Development & Resource Centre

10:30 to 11:30

Ahms Taow Building, Sliammon

Fridays

10:00 to 12:00

Lund Community Hall

There will be no service on Monday, March 9th, as it is a School District #47 Pro-D day.



BOOKS ON THE BUS: During the first week on the road for the ORCA Bus, toddlers and parents got on board with fun and learning.

enthusiasm is contagious! Many of our helpers are retired teachers or early childhood specialists. If ever there were a project that the whole community could call its own, this is it! It is heartwarming to see the volunteers gather excitedly at 8:30 in the morning to get ready for the day. Snacks are lovingly prepared, slippers have been knitted to keep little feet warm, the bus is loaded with resources and the excitement builds as the ORCA Bus gets closer to its destination. For one to two hours, bus visitors enjoy stories, activities, songs, puppets, healthy snacks and visits from local agencies providing services to children and families.

The schedule for March is on this page. We hope to ex-

pand programming to include visits to Texada soon. Please don’t hesitate to contact Kim at 604 485-2132 or Rita at 604 485-6271, ext 2244 if you have a particular outlying area in mind that would benefit from an ORCA Bus visit. Preference is given to a stop where facilities are accessible.

We have also been working with Sliammon on an intergenerational and cultural exchange project. This exciting new project will work with families, elders and youth to develop seasonal theme boxes and programs to share the richness of the Sliammon First Nation with children and families across the community. The ORCA Bus will be one “vehicle” for this cultural exchange.



FRIENDLY DRIVER: Don Edwards is one of the extraordinary volunteer drivers who pilot the bus to five different locations each week.

mitted financial support and the business/organization through our attractive sponsorship recognition package. Splash, our ORCA Mascot, could be the star attraction at your next staff event! Please contact Heather Gordon (604 414-3939) or Kim Barton-Bridges (604 485-2132) for more information, or for fabulous volunteer opportunities. Or visit the ORCA Bus Blog at powellriverorcabus.wordpress.com for photos and updates! 

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