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Want to know more about the show? See story on Page 27.

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— Nicholas



Heritage Week
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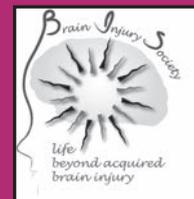
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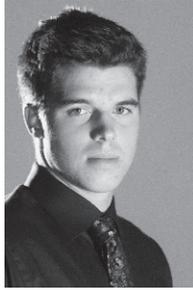


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PUCK LOVE • We asked three Powell River Kings stars...



Brian Rideout

How are hockey and love similar?

At times it can be your best friend or your worst enemy, but you wouldn't trade it for the world!

What did you learn about love from hockey?

That nothing is ever perfect; there are going to be some rough patches along the way, but never quit working and things will always come around in the end.



Ryan Scarfo

How are hockey and love similar?

Not everyday do you smell the roses. It is the team that overcomes adversity who will make it to the end together.

What did you learn about love from hockey?

When your love for something is taken away from you it makes you appreciate it much more when you have it back!



Jeff Smith

How are hockey and love similar?

They both require a lot of commitment and dedication which can pay off in the end.

What did you learn about love from hockey?

I learned that I wouldn't be able to live without either of them.

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Writers were busy last month

ON THE COVER

Hockey coach and professional ad sales rep Suzi Wiebe's two favourite pieces of footwear.

Photo by Sean Percy

Powell River Living CONTRIBUTORS



JOHN CARTER moved to Powell River eight years ago with his childhood sweetheart after a chance encounter with a Powell River resident who was visiting England.



DAVID PARKINSON was the coordinator of the Powell River Food Security Project until retiring last month, which makes sense, given that he is a formally trained linguist who worked in software for seven years. He is currently exploring other opportunities, but will keep his hand in the local food scene.



SUZI WIEBE'S love affair with hockey dates back to mac and cheese TV dinners with her dad and brother while glued to Hockey Night in Canada. The days of ferrying her own kids to and fro from the rink have passed, but now she coaches female hockey every Wednesday. Both Suzi and her husband still lace up their skates each week before going out on the ice to chase the puck around.

A life without love is like a year without summer.

Swedish Proverb

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We welcome feedback from our readers. Email your comments to isabelle@prliving.ca, or mail to Powell River Living, **7053E Glacier Street**, Powell River, BC V8A 5J7
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Powell River Living IN THIS ISSUE

The heart knows

When you love deeply, you grieve deeply.

That goes for people and pets. Anyone who has lost a spouse, friend, parent or child knows this. Anyone who has lost a beloved family pet also knows how painful it is to say goodbye.

Last month, local celebrity Ruby Duck died. Ruby was a special duck who lived with Maria and Ken Glaze. Ruby touched many people through Maria's amazing photos which were posted on her Facebook page. Ruby's friends delighted in her adventures and looked forward to the next installment. But sadly, there won't be a next installment.

As many of us grieved over Ruby's death, I reflected on what this Muscovy duck had done for me and others. She had created a community by bringing us all together to celebrate Maria's photos and her adventures. When I looked at a new Ruby photo, I felt like I was checking in with family.

Ruby reminded us that we are all connected.

On a global scale we are connected to this earth. We are also connected on a Powell River scale. Surrounded by ocean, we are a ferry dependent community.

And at no time has this been more apparent than now with the renos taking place at the Westview Terminal. While the work is being done, ferry schedules have been modified. One would expect some inconvenience when their kitchen is undergoing a

renovation because they know, at the end of the day, they will have a better product. The same can't be said for the service BC Ferries proposes for us come April. Renovate then reduce service and increase prices? Locals are so unhappy about what the provincial government is doing to our ferries and our future that they staged a rally here in January. See story on Page 22.

Love makes the world go round and some couples are just meant to be. When Judi Tyabji and Gordon Wilson fell in love, their relationship made headlines. The couple, who chose love over politics, are just as much in love today as they were all those years ago. In May, they will celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary. Don't miss their story on Page 8.

Our Everyday Heroes series continues on Page 20 with Captain Hal Ross of the Canadian Coast Guard, Powell River station. Hal, who retired last month, was with the Coast Guard when I first moved to Powell River to work for the Powell River News 20 years ago.

I Made the Move this month features Teresa Harwood-Lynn and Ben Fairless, a couple who moved here less than a year ago from the lower mainland. The couple have met many people and made lots of friends in a very short time. Don't miss their story on Page 23.

February is the month of love. Celebrate it with your sweetie or if you don't have a sweetie, maybe Cupid will find one for you.

Happy Valentine's Day everyone! 



Isabelle Southcott, Publisher • isabelle@prliving.ca

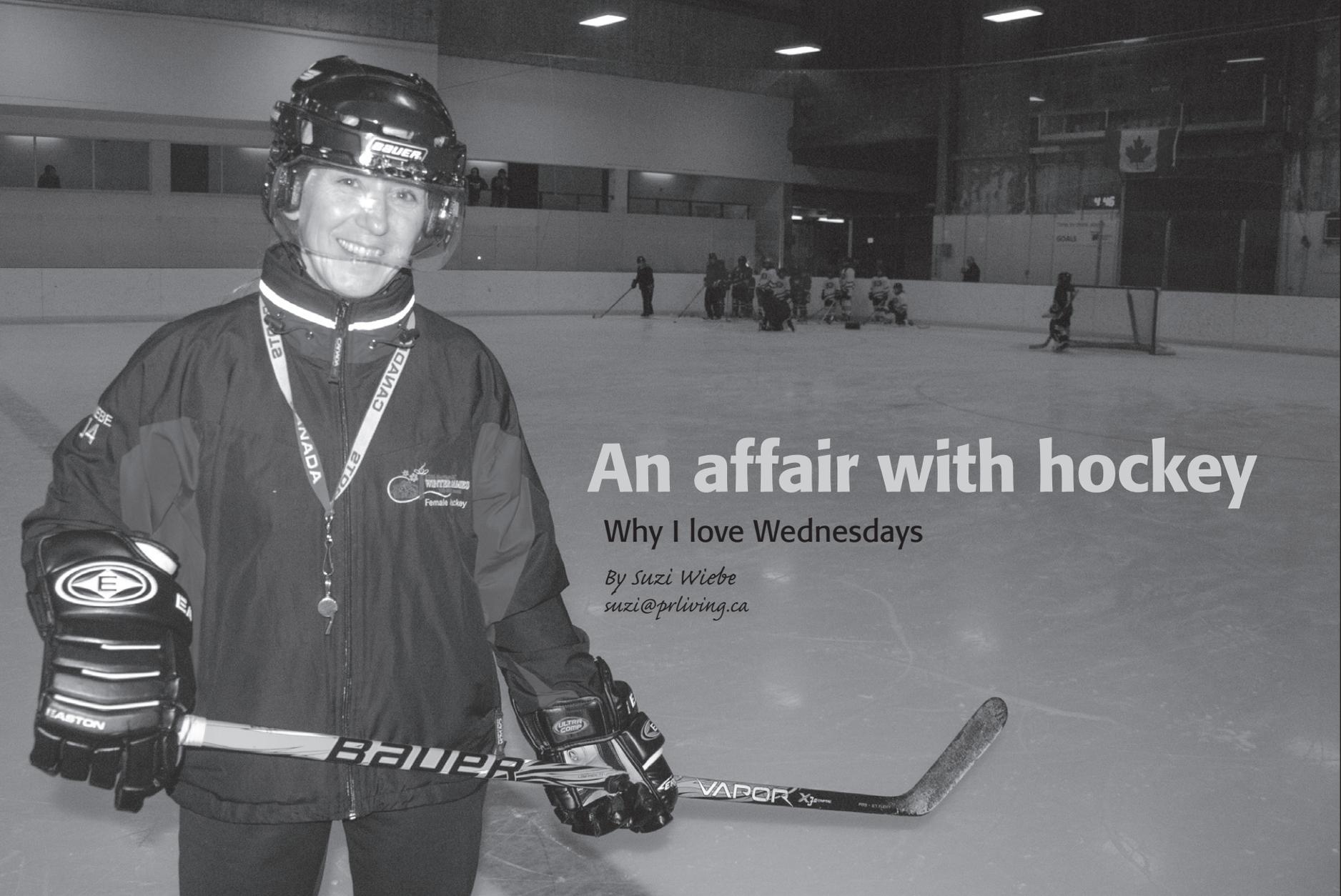


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An affair with hockey

Why I love Wednesdays

By Suzi Wiebe
suzi@prliving.ca

HOCKEY HERO: For three decades, *Powell River Living's* own sales rep Suzi Wiebe has fostered women's hockey, as a player, coach and mom.

It's Wednesday. I know what you're thinking... so what? For me, it's the day that I get to exchange a favourite pair of high heels for my favourite pair of hockey skates.

I love hockey. I love the team work and I love to skate. On Wednesdays, I coach a girls hockey team alongside three women – Jodi Mastrodonato, Traci Abbott, and Barb Parnham. On Sundays, I play defence for the Powell River Ice Cats. That's when we – a group of teachers, moms, business owners, and medical professionals, plus me, a sales rep – forget about work and laundry, and hit the ice.

Since I started playing hockey 30 years ago, I've often been alone, or nearly alone, in women's dressing rooms at various arenas as I've moved around BC. But I'm thrilled that since I first laced up, so many more women and girls have found their passion and power on the ice.

Because I play and coach, I've had the privilege of an up-close view of the transformation in the sport – from minority to mainstream.

I was ecstatic when Hayley Wickenheiser, a four-time Olympic hockey champion, was chosen to be Canada's flag bearer at the Sochi Olympics opening ceremonies (February 7). That she was chosen demonstrates how important women's hockey is to Canadians, and that Canada's female hockey program is successful. It's easy to forget that the International Olympic Committee admitted women's hockey just 16 years ago, in 1998.

Just as inspiring, here in Powell River, are the hours I spend each Wednesday afternoon coaching the Lockerroom Pit Bulls –

a 34-member girls hockey team, ages six to 17. Last year we had one ice time; this year we have two. It's a sign of the growth of local girls hockey here, which started five years ago with just 12 girls. Some players are well into their teens before they decide to try hockey. Some play because it's in their DNA, others, because it's social. Some got tired of watching their siblings so joined because they had to be at the arena anyway. Regardless of why, they drag that gear to the rink at least once a week.

The girls are fiercely competitive. With their "Try, and try again" attitude, they understand team, and team work. I consider myself lucky to coach them. They remind me it's just a game; breathe, smile, laugh. Every week they teach me to have patience, to be understanding, that respect goes both ways, and what a high five really means.

Whatever their reason for joining – Olympic dreams or building friendships – these girls are a part of something great.

"Play hockey because you want to; Never leave home without your gear; and you'll be surprised at the amazing people you meet along the way."

-Suzi Wiebe

My own hockey story started in the 1960s with TV dinners in the living room with my Dad watching hockey night in Canada. We flooded the backyard and skated until the Calgary winter froze our toes. I wasn't a hockey player then; my brother was. I was a competitive figure skater.

It wasn't until I turned 20, and was living in Salmon Arm, that a buddy on my fastball team asked me if I would be interested in playing hockey. "It's just a bunch of girls that get together," she said. That was the beginning of the affair, which has so far lasted through three decades and nine teams.

I loved to watch hockey and I knew the basic rules, but my only skill was that I could skate. I borrowed gear and skates (that were two sizes too big). I didn't care. I was hooked!

In those early hockey-playing days, I also had two kids and I could hardly wait to sign them up. When my son and daughter started playing, I signed up for a coaching course. Later, I became a referee (once! That's another story...)

We were a family of four, with everyone playing hockey, coaching, and refereeing.

Gratifyingly, female hockey was on the rise. There were more and more girls playing with the boys in minor hockey in Salmon Arm and we had enough interest to start our own program. We started that first year with eight. By Christmas

break we had 15, by January we had 25, and were looking for a second ice time. I couldn't stop smiling! There was also enough interest to start a women's team.

Because my RCMP husband gets transferred, we brought our hockey skills with us to each new town: 100 Mile House, Revelstoke, and to Powell River.

During our time in 100 Mile, we hosted the BC Northern Winter Games. We didn't have a female team so I set out to gather enough female players to qualify for our zone so we would have a host team.

It didn't take much convincing; they seemed to come out of nowhere.

My daughter and I played together on that team – the youngest and oldest players (14 and 41) – and my husband was an assistant coach.

We won gold!

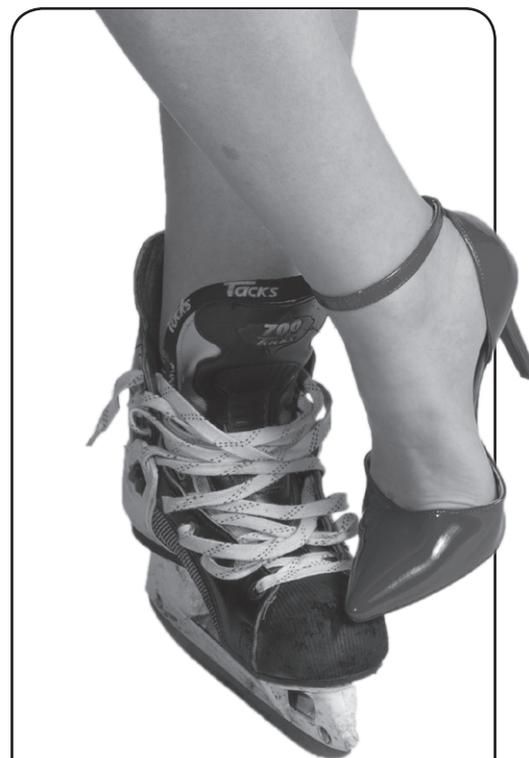
This was a highlight for me. It wasn't just the medal. It was also a symbol of how far women's hockey had come since I first picked up a stick.

As a player, coach and mentor, it's been my role and my privilege to help set up girls hockey, arena by arena, for over 30 years, so new generations can fully experience the passion and power of the game.

Hockey is our national sport. Now, as these girls prove each week at the rec complex rink, anybody can play it. And that is why I love Wednesdays. **PR**



GIRLS ON ICE: Suzi Wiebe, with fellow coach Jodi Mastrodonato, explains a drill to a squad of her Lockerroom Pit Bulls during a practice at Powell River's rec complex rink. While women's hockey may seem mainstream now (think Hayley Wickenheiser at Sochi), Suzi's personal experience is a compelling reminder of just how recently the sport has blossomed in Canada. Women's hockey was first played at the Nagano Olympics in 1998; in Powell River, the Lockerroom Pit Bulls started in 2009 – with just 12 girls. Now, there are 34.



SUGAR AND SPICE – BUT NOT ON THE ICE

When I walk into the Hap after work on Wednesdays, I'm in my work clothes. Usually that means business attire: styled hair, a fitted blazer, skirt and heels. With, of course, a bulky duffle bag full of drills, skates and a helmet. Plus my stick.

Once, I rushed into an arena after a gala, wearing a floor-length, burgundy velvet gown, and my hair in a sweeping up-do. Even in my party heels, I could still heft my bag and stick – transforming from sleek to sporty in the dressing room.

It's always quite a scene. But it's one I hope gets repeated more and more.

I'm a girly-girl. Always have been. As far as the sport of women's hockey has come over the past 30 years, players still have the reputation for being tough and tomboyish, off the ice, as well as on it.

For the girls I coach, I hope that will change. By the time they're adults – and expressing their femininity any way they wish – I hope they'll be able to tell people they play hockey without the typical reaction I've received: "Hockey? Really? Like, girl's hockey?" As though "girl's hockey" were a lesser sport than "real hockey," as played by boys and men.

Instead, I hope they'll be able to walk into any party or networking event, and say, "I play hockey." And the only reaction they'll get is admiration.

"Hockey? Cool. Me too." **PR**



A made-in-BC love story

When passion meets politics

By Isabelle Southcott
isabelle@prliving.ca

MEANT TO BE: THEY DISCOVERED THEY SHARED THE SAME BIRTHDAY: JAN 2. JUDI WAS BORN IN 1965 AND TURNED 48 THIS YEAR. GORDON WAS BORN IN 1948 AND TURNED 65 THIS YEAR.

In 1987, Judy Tyabji was a beautiful 22-year-old woman passionate about politics, and working as a fundraiser and organizer for the Liberal Party.

"I had my political science degree and I wanted to change the world," she remembers.

Gordon Wilson, on the other hand, wasn't exactly a Romeo: a geography professor at Capilano College in North Vancouver, with a little pig farm on the Sunshine Coast. He was also running for leadership of the party.

Halloween 1987. That year, Judi attended the party convention where Gordon surprised members by being acclaimed as BC Liberal Party leader.

He stepped onto the stage wearing a tweed jacket, a pair of oversized glasses, sporting a thick moustache, his bangs down well past his brows, without even cracking a smile, Judi recalls.

"He outlined the most sensible, serious platform for BC that I have heard. I turned to my young Liberal friends and said, 'What do you think?' Someone said: 'This guy needs a makeover.' I thought,

"This guy gets it!"

Judi found herself connecting with Gordon's ideas. "He was the absolute opposite of anyone I would find attractive, but everything he said made sense."

Fast forward to a Young Liberals reception. They met again two weeks later, and Judi monopolized him for most of the evening. "It was like I'd re-met my best friend. That was when he asked me to be his representative in the Okanagan. He didn't care that I was an ethnic, pregnant female from the interior. All he cared about was what was coming out of my mouth."

Judi: "I think I am in love with you and I don't know what to do about it. I know it is an impossible situation."

Gordon: "Leave it with me. I know you have to catch a flight, I'll get back to you and we can talk about this further."

That was the day Judi told Gordon that she loved everything he stood for but no one would listen to him because of what he looked like.

It was time for a makeover. The geeky professor was transformed into a political powerhouse.

Their professional relationship grew. Judi ran in a byelection in the Okanagan in 1988; Gordon helped her campaign, and she did well. Her new baby Kaz was in the stroller, and they went door-to-door, with Gordon telling stories and jokes the whole time. It was then that she discovered his sense of humour.

"I was always so comfortable with him," she says.

Three years later, Judi was married to Kim Sandana and pregnant with her third child Tanita, when she was elected in Okanagan East and Gordon was elected in Powell River-Sunshine Coast in the big Liberal breakthrough of 1991.

Her marriage, however, wasn't going well. Judi says she knew she couldn't remain with Kim so she began working on her exit plan.

One day, late in the summer of 1992, Judi realized that she was in love with Gordon. "I could talk to Gordon about anything. He was the first person that I wanted to talk to about everything. I'd been working with him for years at this point but the emotions I felt for him were



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STILL IN LOVE: Judi Tyabji-Wilson and Gordon Wilson at home on their cozy waterfront sheep farm south of Powell River.

like breathing. We had never been anything but colleagues and friends but I thought — I can't breathe without him."

Judi didn't know what to do, but doing nothing was not an option. "It was driving me to distraction. It was the background noise to everything. To the tooth fairy visiting. To me organizing a kids birthday party."

She thought it would pass. She talked to her sisters. They told her she needed to find a way to be happy.

So Judi booked an appointment to talk to Gordon. It was a busy time. He was fighting the Charlottetown Accord, and both were on the road a lot. But Judi was determined.

"I said, 'I'd like to have a chance to talk to you for ten minutes before I get my flight.'"

Just what was she thinking?

Before that point, the two had never kissed. Never held hands or been on a date.

"I thought if I told him how I felt he'd help me get rid of this problem. That together, we could find a place for me to put my feelings."

Their ten minutes together finally arrived.

"Gordon and I sat in this rental van. He was in the passenger seat, turned around, looking at me, sitting in the back seat. I said, 'I think I am in love with you and I don't know what to do about it. I know it is an impossible situation.'"

Gordon's expression didn't change. "Finally he said, 'Leave it with me. I know you have to catch a flight, I'll get back to you and we can talk about this further.'"

So Judi flew back to Kelowna where she continued to extricate herself from her unhappy marriage.

Two weeks passed. She didn't hear from Gordon.

Judi was sure Gordon was trying to figure out a gentle way of saying he was flattered, in a politically-correct manner, and let her down gently. Then he phoned and asked her to meet him in Vancouver the next week.

After their work meetings, as he drove her to the south terminal, he diverted to have their talk on the banks of the Fraser River.

A fairy tale wedding

Gordon and Judi were married on May 22, 1994 in Hatley Castle, now part of Victoria's Royal Roads University.

When the guest list grew from 50 to 300, they needed a bigger venue but couldn't afford it. So when a friend suggested Hatley Castle Judi thought it was worth a try. They were told yes.

Judi remembers handwriting the wedding invitations out because there was no money for printers. She remembers scouring second hand shops, and finally finding the perfect silk dress. She remembers discovering two beautiful pink dresses for her bridesmaids in that same shop. She remembers the movie set designer who took care of all the flowers.

The couple was overwhelmed by the outpouring of kindness from friends and even people they had never met who made their wedding day so special.

It was Judi's childhood dream to look like a princess on her wedding day, and on that day she did. Twenty years ago this spring, she married her prince in a castle.

“He said, ‘My wife and I have been going to counselling for four years, we’ve been living in separate rooms for two years. I haven’t been dealing with this because I haven’t had a reason to. But now, you’ve given me a reason. If you are serious, I know we can make this work. I’ve been in love you for years. I fell in love with you during the byelection of 1988 but I never thought you’d feel the same way.”

They were in love, but this fairytale isn’t without twists and turns and heartaches.

Gordon was still party leader. Before 1991, there had not been a single Liberal MLA elected since the 1970s. Party insiders had tried to remove him twice before but had been unsuccessful. This time, they used his relationship with Judi to damage his credibility.

Judi and Gordon tried to manage the situation while maintaining privacy, but that didn’t work. In February 1993, their relationship became public and a media storm erupted.

By the time the headlines were finished with Gordon and Judi, Gordon was removed as leader of the caucus and forbidden from speaking in public. Judi was told not to show up for the opening of the legislature.

Gordon called a leadership race. In short, Gordon Campbell won, 4,141 to Wilson’s 531.

“If I feel badly about anything, I feel badly that me falling in love with Gordon Wilson denied BC a really good premier.”

The day Campbell won the leadership, Gordon and Judi left



20 YEARS ALREADY: in 1994, Gordon and Judi married at Victoria’s Hatley Castle. “If I feel badly about anything, I feel badly that me falling in love with Gordon Wilson denied BC a really good premier.”

the party he had built. In the end, love conquered all, but love also had a cost. Judi’s ex-husband filed for full custody of their children and got it.

“Gordon and I had nothing but debt when we got together. We lost everything. I had a fold-out couch in the back of my constituency office and sometimes we’d sleep there with the kids. It was tough. I remember buying milk on my Petro Canada card, but I’ve never felt loved like that before or since. That someone actually understood me and loved me anyway.

“He’s my best friend. He’s always there for me and yes, we’ve had a lot of obstacles but we’ve had so much fun. I didn’t realize how lonely I was until he and I were together and then I wasn’t lonely anymore.

“If you can find that person, the rest is just stuff.”

According to Gordon: “The test of a good relationship is when things get as bad as you can imagine they can be and you don’t take it out on each other and can still find comfort in each other and are still a team then you know it was meant to be.”

On May 22, 2014, they will celebrate their twentieth wedding anniversary. **PR**

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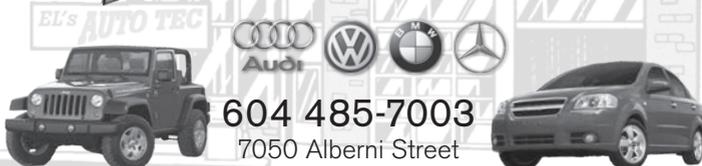


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Hearts in the sand

By John Carter

AGES APART: ACROSS FOUR DECADES, TWO COUNTRIES AND THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, LOVE ENDURED. NOW, POWELL RIVER IS HOME TO THESE TWO SWEETHEARTS.

Wendy and I have always been drawn to the sea, which was one reason we chose to retire in Powell River eight years ago. We often spend hours on a local beach collecting sea glass and shells.

On Christmas Eve we were sole custodians of this paradise when I saw Wendy drawing something on the sand. It was a large heart enclosing the words “Wendy Loves John Always.” It transported me to a magical time nearly sixty years ago, when as young teenagers, we did the same thing on our local beach on England’s Cornish coast.

Wendy Paradise walked into our church youth club one evening in 1956. She was 14 years old. I was nearly 16 and totally mesmerized by her. She was tall for her age, and her soft blue eyes and gentle nature evoked an overwhelming desire to be a part of her life. I loved her from that first moment with a passion that persists till this day.

We loved the simple pleasures of cinema, ballroom dancing, and walks after church on a Sunday. We loved the beach and spent hours exploring rock pools, sunbathing, swimming, or lying together among the marram grass that defied nature to



FIRST LOVE: John Carter fell in love at first sight, but it took nearly 40 years before they were married.

flourish in the soft sand that formed the dunes.

We would scan the clear blue sky for the skylarks, flying higher and higher till they disappeared into the blue. The larks would vanish, but the song continued like the lingering taste of a favourite treat.

It was on that beach that Wendy would draw hearts in the sand with the words, ‘Wendy loves John Always.’”

While Wendy’s Mum trusted me, her Dad objected, which led to several breaks in our relationship.

Then in 1958 I joined the Royal Air Force and moved away. Eventually, under the pressures of family and distance we met and married other people. But we never forgot each other.

In 1962 Wendy emigrated to Canada and we lost touch. I remained in Cornwall.

Thirty one years later, my father phoned me to say Wendy had called on him whilst on holiday in Cornwall. She was staying at a local hotel for the next few days.



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We arranged to meet and have the day to catch up on each other's lives.

The day dawned with fog but I would arrive on time. I could not remember when I last felt so relaxed. I even stopped to buy a single red rose.

Wendy was wearing the horse brooch I gave her on her sixteenth birthday. She still had the little black and white photo of us taken in her garden, before I left to join the Royal Air Force.

It seemed she had scarcely changed and we hugged and cried before seeking some respite in a local coffee shop. Then, as if ordered by some ghost of the past, the piped music nostalgically played the Conway Twitty song "It's only make believe." It was the last record I had given Wendy some 30 years before.

Then, we went to 'our beach' where we walked hand in hand along the sand with

A Sweet Proposal

"I had called at a bakery for lunch and spotted some beautifully decorated Valentine cakes. When I asked if they could write, "Wendy, will you marry me?" on a cake and I would pick it up a little later, they were surprised but did it.

I presented it to Wendy when I returned home and she really had to say yes or there would be no cake."

the late spring sunshine sparkling through the almost imperceptible waves.

We shared our lives that morning and, whilst we never talked of the future, we knew we still loved each other.

When I revealed I was a heavy smoker and had smoked two packs a day for some 35 years, she said, "I wish you wouldn't."

"Why?" I asked. "Because I can't bear the thought of you dying before me, and I don't want any part of a world that doesn't have you in it somewhere."

I threw my cigarettes and lighter in the sea that day. I've never smoked since.

I wandered down the beach alone for a few minutes. Glancing back, there she was, drawing a heart in the sand with, "Wendy loves John Always." We laughed and watched as the incoming tide dissolved our proclamation.

Within a few months Wendy came back to England. On Valentine's Day 1995, I proposed. Finally, after 31 years apart, we married in our home town.

Now here we are 20 years later, on another beach in another country, older and greyer. But the love we have for each other will never be eroded, not even by the sands of time. **PRL**

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Powell River Living BUSINESS Connections

By Kim Miller • office@powellriverchamber.com

By now the Horizon Business awards are over but I would like to congratulate all the finalists and the winners.

There are changes in the beauty business. Andra Garrett, Karla Duff and Joanne Sigouin have opened a new salon called **Scizzors Salon and Body Works** on Glacier Street. This is a full service salon for men women and children including esthetics. It is open Monday to Saturday from 9:30 am to 5 pm and until 7 pm on Fridays.

Michael Wall is the new Manager of Community Services for the Powell River Regional District. Mike is the owner/builder of Savary Island Resort and has operated a technical consulting business for over 20 years. He has broad experience in all areas of community service including parks, recreation, fire protection, water, solid waste, and transportation.

Success By 6/Orca Bus has two new coordinators. **Elise Statham and Lisa Rowbotham** are job sharing the position and will continue to build upon the strong foundation already there. Mark the evening of February 27th in your calendars for their annual 'Who's Smarter than a 6th Grader?' event at Westview Elementary School.

Good news for the **Let's Talk Trash Team**. Team member Inger-Lise Burns reports that The Let's Talk Trash team will continue on for 2014.

After almost seven years, **David Parkinson** stepped down as the coordinator of the Powell River Food Security Project. His replacement, **Vanessa Sparrow**, has a solid background in community development and health promotion, and has been a keen vegetable gardener and home cook for many years. She helped to build a number of community gardens in Australia and Vancouver, and worked for several years at The UBC Farm, teaching kids how to grow their own food. She currently runs the Young Adult Community Kitchen, a youth cooking program at the Community Resource Centre; and is working with School District 47 to build several food gardens at local schools. 



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1. Tell us in 500 words or less why she should be considered for the award.
2. What is your association with the nominee?
3. Include your contact information: name, email and daytime phone.

Category A • Influential Business Woman Award

Include with your submission the following information about the nominee: Name, company, job title, telephone and email address.

Award Criteria

- Has been in business/workforce for at least two years
- Has demonstrated professional integrity
- Has provided exceptional customer service
- Has proven to be valuable to the community

Category B • Influential Woman Award

For non-profit community organizations

Include with your submission the following information about the nominee: Name, organization, title or role, telephone and email address.

Award Criteria

- The organization is a not-for-profit organization.
- The organization has existed for at least two years.
- The services or programs meet a community need and make a significant contribution to Powell River.
- Programs are innovative, sustainable and measurable.

Email nominations to info@prwomeninbusiness.com or drop them at Beyond the Bed or Relish Interiors

Completed nominations must be received not later than 5 pm, March 31, 2014

Sponsored by Powell River Living Magazine

1,162 toques for babies

Powell River responds to refugee crisis in Lebanon

By Isabelle Southcott • isabelle@prliving.ca

Everywhere I go these little hats show up,” says Kathie Mack as she ushers me into her office at Coast Realty. “Look at this note.” She hands me a small scrap of paper lying on top of an ivory toque. “I did it! Dawn.”

Kathie moves the little toque off her computer. “Dawn,” she says, “hasn’t knit in years.”

When Kathie Mack launched *Toques for Babies* late last year she had no idea it would take off the extent that it has.

It all started in December when her daughter Terra MacKinnon, a field officer, with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), sent her a message outlining the plight of refugees in Lebanon.

Across Lebanon, 120,000 refugees – including children and infants – live in flimsy tents, and were enduring snow storms.

Terra explained how humanitarian agencies were distributing blankets, heating stoves, fuel and other items to refugees in advance of the storm. “We just don’t want

any babies to die,” Terra told her mother, noting that when temperatures plummet, it is the very young who succumb first.

“I asked Terra: ‘What can I do to help?’” “She said, ‘Why don’t you knit some hats?’” Kathie thought about it. Knowing how slow she was at knitting, she figured it would take quite a while for her to knit a couple of toques so she decided to ask for help.

“It was around Christmas, a time that is hard for a lot of people, and I know that when you make something and give it away, you feel a lot better.”

Some people adopted ‘toques for babies’ as a family project. A grandmother taught her grandchildren to knit over the holidays – and produced two toques.

Great Balls of Wool was quick to help out by letting all their knitters know about this project. The store also became a drop off site for finished toques.

“I thought that if we had 200 [hats] this project would be a success, but then I thought we might make one thousand,” says Kathie.



(By the end of January, Powell River knitters had knit 1,162 toques.) “I know that Powell River has a generous spirit; I wouldn’t have started this if I hadn’t known that.”

Terra is overwhelmed by the response. “Powell River is a little town with a big heart,” says Terra. “The sense of community extends beyond the town itself and is strong enough to embrace those literally on the other side of the world. That is pretty special.”

“For refugees, forced to flee their homes and everything known to them, it can feel like everyone including the heavens above has forsaken them. I’m looking forward to distributing the toques and letting refugee families in Lebanon know that people in Canada care about them and made these hats because they wanted to help. That care is probably the most warming part of all,” she says.

Coast Realty, Aaron Mazurek, Warren Behan, and Brad Leggett and other individuals have donated shipping costs. [PRL](http://www.prliving.ca)

Take a Look and Come take Part		February 2014			Happenings at the Recreation Complex	
Registration or information (604) 485-2891		<i>Be Mine</i>			On line registration www.powellriver.ca	
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<p>2</p>	<p>3 *Weight Room Ladies Welcome</p> <p>Mondays & Wednesdays</p> <p>Feb 5—Mar 3</p> <p>11—Noon</p>	<p>4 Childminding</p> <p>Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays</p> <p>8:45—11:15 pm</p>	<p>5 *Line Dance Adult/Senior</p> <p>2—3:30 pm</p> <p>*Kundalini Yoga</p> <p>6:15 pm</p>	<p>6 *Line Dance Adult/Senior 6 classes</p> <p>7—8:30 pm</p>	<p>7 McSwim 7—9 pm</p> <p>Get your ticket early!</p>	<p>8 Teen Skate</p> <p>8—9:30 pm</p> <p>Powell River Idol</p> <p>7:00 pm</p> <p>Evergreen Theatre</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Free Swim</p> <p>Free Skate</p>	<p>10 Family Day</p> <p>Swim 12—4 pm</p> <p>Skate 1:30—3 pm</p> <p>Free Admission</p>	<p>11 Seniors Free Day</p>	<p>12 Seniors FREE Skate</p> <p>11—12:30 pm</p> <p>*Guitar Lessons 6:30pm</p> <p>*Youth Weight Room Orientation 4:15 pm</p>	<p>13 Line Dancing</p>	<p>14 Valentine Pre-School Party 10—11:30 am</p> <p>Valentine Skate 7:30—9 pm</p>	<p>15 Powell River Film Festival Feb 14—22</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Storytime Yoga & Art 5 classes</p> <p>10:45—11:30 am</p> <p>*Front Crawl Tips & Techniques 5:30 pm</p>	<p>17 *Story Time Yoga & Art 5 classes</p> <p>10:45—11:30 am</p> <p>*Front Crawl Tips & Techniques 5:30 pm</p>	<p>18 *Youth Aqua Fit</p> <p>Ages 13—15</p> <p>5:30—6:15 pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 *Belly Dance—Intermediate</p> <p>7:15—8:45 pm</p>	<p>21 *Parent & Tot Swim Lessons</p> <p>10:15 & 11 am</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24 *Fall Prevention</p> <p>Classes 2—2:45 pm</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 *Drawing with Ink</p> <p>6 classes 7—8:30 pm</p> <p>*Drawing—Try, learn, improve</p> <p>10—11:30 am</p>	<p>28 *Weight Room Orientation - Adult</p> <p>11—noon</p> <p>Rock the Rink</p> <p>7—9:30 pm</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>Festival of the Performing Arts February 26—March 6</p>						

Picturing Powell River

Camera Club seeks shooters



From experts to enchanted newbies, photographers of all skill levels are welcome at the Malaspina Camera Club. They meet the third Wednesday of each month at 7 pm in the community room at Westview Elementary (February, that's the 19th). Expect outings, seminars, critiques and congeniality. Visitors are always welcome! Contact: Niels Voss (604-485-6963) or Steven Grover (604-485-5333). Background photo: Dave Glaze. Top row: Christa de Beaupre, Gerry Chabot. Bottom row: Niels Voss, Tom Rost, Doug Hudson, Steve Grover, Patty Hudson.

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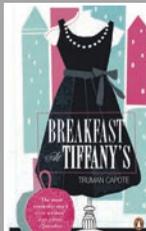
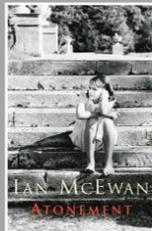


Library love-birds Sarah Bonsor and Lawrence Behan

When Lawrence and I were dating long-distance, we talked about favourite books as a way to get to know each other. I found out one of his favourites was *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. He was surprised that I hadn't read it. A few days later I

received the book in the mail... Now as a family, we use the library once or twice a week. We use books, electronic books, DVD's, CD's, and audio books. Our daughter has been in the summer reading program. We just really love libraries.

Like love? Sarah and Lawrence recommend:



Books: Ian McEwan's *Atonement* (Sarah) and Truman Capote's *Breakfast at Tiffany's* (Lawrence); **Film:** *Groundhog Day* (Sarah); **Music:** John Coltrane's *A Love Supreme* (Lawrence); **Poem:** *Who Goes with Fergus?* By W.B. Yeats (Lawrence). All available at the PRPL.

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Townsite is where it's at!

Heritage Week: a gift to the community

By Ann Nelson

Every year the Townsite Heritage Society musters its travelling show to take the heritage preservation message out into the community during Provincial Heritage Week, which is February 16 to 22. It's an opportunity to share some of the wealth of photographic images this community is uniquely endowed with, and a chance

to capture old-timers' stories, while engaging newcomers in the stories of their newly chosen hometown.

This year, the society and author Karen Southern have a brand new "act" in their travelling show: the introduction of the first volume in the *House Histories and Heritage* books.

An opportunity to work with an expert from the BC Heritage Branch in 1991 on evaluating and inventorying Townsite's surviving buildings inspired Karen to compile images and information to be used by families researching their roots and historians gathering facts. Karen collected data and photos throughout the nineties and shifted into high gear when the heritage society secured a BC Heritage grant in 2001. She planned to be able to have the book into the community's hands in no time. However, she and her stalwart band of volunteers were suddenly awash in new information, more photos, and better stories. Clearly, this

was a much bigger project than she'd ever dreamed!

Karen began to wonder when she should stop gathering stories, which photos to leave out and how had this turned into nearly 900 pages? Karen, who has other published historical books to her credit, wondered where the money would be found to actually print this book. Fortunately, digital publishing has advanced so it was feasible to produce the book in three volumes and to print pretty much on demand, paying for future copies from past sales with the initial seed money provided by Townsite Heritage's fundraising. However, all of Karen's work on this book had been done in the "old school" format and computer programs, which meant that every last photo, sentence and page had to be re-done in order to fit this new digital world. A new band of volunteers and experts, including patient technical wizards who unravelled the whole project and re-knit it into

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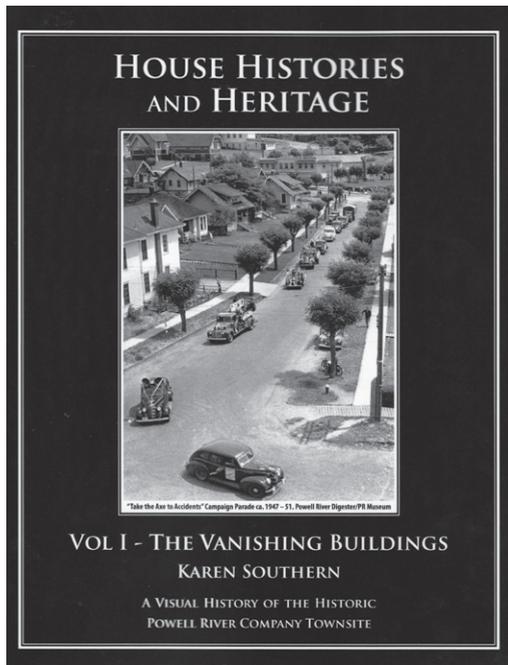


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a finished product that we can all be very proud of, came to the rescue. As Karen said in her acknowledgements: it may take an entire village to raise a child, but it definitely takes an entire community to produce a book like this.

When you get to flip through the pages of this first Volume, *The Vanishing Buildings*, you'll be amazed at the sheer volume of photos and data: for every single building that's disappeared, whether in Riverside or Balkan Village, tent town or Lutzville, the orchard houses or the staff houses that are now on Redonda and Manson Avenues, there are notes on all the recorded residents, stories about many of them, photos of the houses and the people and town in which they lived and worked and played. Surprising, too, are the numbers of families all sharing some of the houses while waiting for their own house to be built, or living for years in a wooden floored and walled tent while waiting to share a house. It gives an entirely new perspective on the sense of community that was fostered in those early years, and the strong bonds of friendship and neighbourliness.

Volume II will be devoted to the stories of the people



who lived and worked in all the buildings in "Old Town:" the area from the mill to Cedar Street and from Arbutus to Aspen. You'll meet the lady who used to like to describe her house as being "...at the corner of Kirk, Kirk and Kirk," what we call Church corner, now; you'll get a picture of the busy commercial core of the Townsite and all the people who provided goods and services for this isolated community; and the everyday doings of "downtown" and the grand events in Dwight Hall.

In Volume III, the story of the Townsite will be completed with the homes and buildings in "New Town," from Aspen to Hemlock.

So, come celebrate Heritage Week with a gift to yourself of a splendid book and an exciting voyage into our shared past. Pick one up at the Townsite Heritage Society, the Powell River Historical Museum or Breakwater Books today. [PR](#)

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DARLING DUCK: Was she listening? Last spring, Maria Glaze read a book about Ruby, to Ruby. The Muscovy duck passed away January 18.

Local celebrity dies Ruby Pearl was more than a duck

By Isabelle Southcott
isabelle@prliving.ca

Ruby Pearl may have been a common Muscovy duck to some but to her many friends and fans, she was far more than that. Ruby was killed by an eagle on January 18.

“No matter what was going on in my life, Ruby was a bright little light that shone each day for the past year,” wrote Maria

Glaze, Ruby’s closest human, who shared the duck’s antics with an international audience on Facebook, children’s books, art cards and calendars.

“Her first visit to the pond was one year ago today and since that time, her curiosity and playfulness were irresistible.”

Ruby became a member of the Glaze household in early 2013. Maria and Ruby quickly bonded.

Soon Ruby was tapping on the skylight

to get into the house and flying at the screen door. Maria and Ken’s dogs accepted Ruby as another member of the family and began playing games with her.

Maria worried about eagles, raccoons, owls and other animals harming Ruby. They put a floating doghouse on her pond and would bring her inside on cold winter nights. Ruby liked to help around the house and even checked out Maria’s computer to see what she was

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Ruby Duck was a Powell River Facebook sensation and media star. She was charming—as boisterous and mischievous as a Beatrix Potter character.

saying about her! When Ruby became broody and began laying, her eggs were photographed and shared with friends.

A photo of Ruby graced the cover of the May 2013 issue of *Powell River Living*; the story inside revealed her life with the Glaze family. She was also featured on Shaw TV.

Maria, who is an excellent wildlife photographer, took hundreds of photos of Ruby. The duck had her own Facebook page and her many fans, including me, looked forward to her daily postings.

Ruby came into Maria's life when her sister, Antonia Huysman, was battling cancer. Antonia told Maria that Ruby's

posts of Facebook made her smile and she looked forward to them. Sadly, Maria's sister lost her battle with cancer, and died on September 3rd.

Vancouver Sun editorial cartoonist Graham Harrop and his partner Annie met Ruby last year. Graham was so taken by the duck that he created a Ruby Duck cartoon.

The Glaze family was grieving when I called, but Ken shared a few thoughts.

"She was an angel who came into our lives. She brought so much light and delight into so many people's lives and changed our world in so many ways."

As one Ruby's friends so eloquently

posted on her Facebook page: "How can one shed tears like this for the life of a duck you ask? When that duck is so sweet and you get to share the personality and adventures through beautiful photos and news, you can't help but feel connected."

Herb Daum said: "I never got a chance to meet Ruby in 'person', nor Maria. I am grateful to Isabelle for meeting Ruby via her magazine coverage, and for Maria's touching contributions on Ruby's Facebook page.

"Interesting how a duck can so deeply touch the lives of many people. Ultimately it serves to remind me that indeed we are one." 

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Everyday Heroes

After 30 years, the captain says farewell

By Isabelle Southcott
isabelle@prliving.ca

Captain Hal Ross, officer in charge of the Canadian Coast Guard station Powell River, worked his final shift last month before retiring from a 30-year career.

Hal, who spent 25 of those years working in Powell River, grew up in Steveston. "I was a fisherman," he says. "I'd been deck handing a boat since I was 13."

He's always loved the ocean and was an avid diver. "I was certified by Jim Willoughby at Willoughby Divers Den on Fourth Avenue in Vancouver in 1972," he recalls. (Willoughby, a pioneering instructor, taught thousands to dive before retiring in Powell River.)

Much has changed since Hal first joined the Coast Guard. "I started at the Kitsilano base and bounced around a bit from there." Hal came to Powell River 25 years ago as a crew member and later became the officer in charge.

There are some searches Hal will never forget. One involved a towboat heading south toward Pocahton Bay 15 or more years ago. "The towboat crew saw this plane crash right in front of them," recalls Hal.

It was a long and complicated search that took place at night. There were three young men on the plane when it went down.

"The plane crashed in 1,000 feet of water. We had a cruise ship searching, two Labrador helicopters and one Buffalo fixed-wing dropping illumination flares in a pattern that gave the seven fishing vessels helping us out a path of light to search."

Hal and the Coast Guard did a massive search but no one survived.

Not every call is as deadly. One summer, there was a fire in Grace Harbour. A refurbished fishing vessel with about 2,000 litres of diesel on board caught fire. "It was boiling fuel on fire. We had columns of solid white flames that were 100 feet high," recalls Hal. "I said don't fight the fire. Just let the fuel spill burn out. It was inside the boat." The fire burned all night long. "It was a spectacular fire," he recalls. Nobody was injured.

Another memorable event earned his crew the Ian Fraser Award, which is given by Vancouver's Conway Club on merit to "the most notable rescue with an emphasis on initiative, seamanship and courage.

"Everything that could go wrong did go wrong," says Hal recalling that search. "A water taxi was taking some loggers to camp near Vancouver Bay in Jervis Inlet. The driver fell asleep and they plowed into a bluff. The loggers all slammed into the seat in front of them or the windshield and they all had broken legs or were beaten up pretty bad.

What Capt. Hal Ross will miss? The *Cape Caution*, a 47-foot self-righting motor life boat that he calls the 'Cadillac of boats.' What he won't miss? "Being called out at 2 am when it's storming outside."

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“The weather was bad, winds were blowing at 50 knots and no aircraft could get in. There was no cell phone coverage and poor radio communication. It was one of the worst weather scenarios imaginable.”

It was up to Hal’s crew and the Cape Caution and a hovercraft to get in, stabilize the men and get the out to hospital. “We went back to secure the scene. Then six hours later, the RCMP took over.”

Funny incidents, too, take place, such as the time a local couple forgot to turn off their microphone and everything they said could be heard on the radio. It was a problem because it could block out a May Day call so the Coast Guard had to find the boaters and ask them to turn off their mike. Hal found the culprits in Attwood Bay, Desolation Sound and pulled up alongside the dock. Lo and behold, it was people he knew! “Look,” said the man. “The Coast Guard is here.”

The woman then said: “I wonder what they want?”

Hal replied, “I just want you to turn off your radio John.”

And then this funny look came over John’s face as he realized what had happened!

Changes in technology mean the boats the Coast Guard uses now are like Cadillacs, says Hal. “I remember sitting in the Cape Caution for the first time and thinking, ‘I’ll never learn this how to operate this boat.’” But he did.

It’s been a great ride for Hal and one that he recommends for others who love working on the ocean. “There are lots of opportunities with the Canadian Coast Guard.”

Hal says the best part of the job is all the independence he’s had. “When you go on patrol for the day, you can feel like a tourist with someone else paying the fuel bill.”

The worst part of the job are the fatalities. **RR**

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Schools step up on fitness

Not your grandma’s gym class

Exercise improves creativity and brain health. But most Canadian children and teens don’t get nearly enough of it. More than half of students aged five to 17 risk failing to grow and develop as well as they should, simply because they’re not active enough.

Blame screen time. In fact, for every hour of exercise the average young Canadian gets, they watch more than four hours of TV.

However, School District 47 is helping students fight back against the couch.

Of the 850 students who attend Brooks

Secondary School in Powell River, close to 600 take a physical education course.

“All of our Grade 8, 9 and 10’s are in phys ed courses,” said Tony Rice, Physical Education Department head at Brooks. Phys Ed is optional in Grades 11 and 12.

Recognizing that not all students enjoy traditional gym classes, Brooks expanded its programming far beyond what most adults will recall from their high school days. In 2006, new electives such as Soccer and Personal Fitness for Grades 11 and 12 were added. The secondary school also offers an innovative Grade 10 ‘physical ed-

What the schools are doing

Introducing students to different sports and activities and teach them the basics.

It is then up to the individual to decide whether he or she likes it or not.

“It’s intimidating to try something new and something you might not be really good at, but how many things are we good at the first time?”

ucation for personal growth’ class - for the sweat suit-averse - which helps students identify agreeable exercise, to sustain lifelong fitness.

“If you can find something that kids can really buy into they’ll be excited to be there and get more out of it,” said Tony. “The idea is to find something they enjoy and are comfortable with and turn that into a life long activity.”

Physical education and health courses alone are not enough to counteract an inactive lifestyle. Schools, families and students need to work together to ensure student success.



Want to learn more? Contact us. • School District #47
4351 Ontario Ave, V8A 1V3 • 604 485-6271 • www.sd47.bc.ca

What can parents do?

Just play with them

“Participate in play with your kids. Get involved with them. Don’t underestimate the value of unstructured play. Go for a walk, play catch, get your kids off iPads and computers,” says Tony Rice. Support your children.



What can kids do?

Create goals

Use the programs that are available in school and the community. “If being physically fit was easy, we’d all be physically fit. We all have to start somewhere. Create short term goals so you feel like you are accomplishing something and reward yourself when you reach them,” advises Tony.

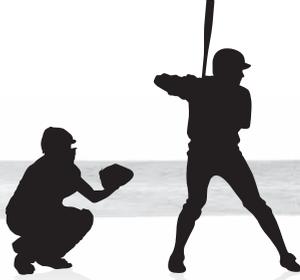


Ferry Fury

Powell River rallies against cuts, fare hikes

Hundreds of Powell River residents attended a ferry rally at Westview Terminal on a chilly Saturday in January to push back against BC Ferries service cuts. The never ending increase in fares is killing coastal communities. MLA Nicholas Simons (top left), municipal councillor Debbie Dee (right), Regional District Chairman Colin Palmer and Texada Island's Sandy McCormick were among those who shared their concerns.





Powell River Minor Baseball Association
2014 REGISTRATION
 Sat, March 1 & Sat, March 8 @ 10 am – 2 pm
 Recreation Complex — Lower Foyer

Open to boys and girls ages 5 – 18 yrs (as of Jan 01, 2014)

Please bring your child's birth certificate and three cheques for each player: registration fee, uniform deposit and volunteer fee.
Late registration fees will apply after March 31.





For more information, contact
 Danielle Quinney • nogray@hotmail.ca

Powell River Living

I Made the Move

Couple happy they threw caution to the wind

Ben Fairless and Teresa Harwood-Lynn originally thought they would retire in Sechelt, but after their first visit to Powell River in October 2012 they began to reconsider.

At the time they were living in Port Coquitlam; with Ben's retirement from Canada Post looming in the not too distant future he was ready to pull up stakes and move. Teresa however, working for the government by day and a hypnotherapist by night and weekends was not so sure she could get a transfer or that her budding hypnotherapy business could flourish in a smaller community. In March 2013 they decided to throw caution to the wind. Teresa put in for a transfer and it was approved six weeks later. They soon purchased a house with a suitable space for Teresa's "hypno studio." Ben retired and the couple made the move.

Why did you choose to move to Powell River?

Ben • I've always wanted to live in a smaller community.

Teresa • We came to visit a few times and found the community to be very warm and welcoming.

How did you first hear about Powell River?

Ben • As a Greyhound bus driver working out of Vancouver in the 80's I took a charter trip out to Powell River. At the time I thought this is the kind of town I should live in.

Teresa • A number of years ago a coworker was telling me her father had retired to Powell River. My response was "where?" That was the first time I recall hearing about Powell River.

What surprised you about Powell River once you moved here?

Ben • The extent of trails, lakes and old railway beds.

Teresa • I have never lived in a small community before so was surprised to find just how often you run into the same people.

What made you decide to move to Powell River?

Ben and Teresa • We came to Powell River as part of our vacation in October 2012. We were so taken with the beauty and energy here that we came back in November, February, March, May.....and then in July to stay!

What is your favourite place in Powell River?

Ben and Teresa • We are still exploring all that Powell River has to offer. We love the hiking and mountain bike trails. We love our house and the fantastic views of the sunsets.

What would make Powell River a nicer community?

Ben • Assurance from BC Ferries that we won't be isolated.

Teresa • More sustainable employment for our youth.



UNDER THE SPELL: Ben and Teresa find the opportunities available in Powell River hypnotic.

What are Powell River's best assets?

Ben and Teresa • The availability and vast array of all the indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities

If you were mayor what would you do?

Ben • Get re-elected!

If you were a fly, which wall in town would you like to inhabit?

Ben • I'd like to be a fly on the wall at a meeting between the Sliammon First Nations, Catalyst, The City of Powell River and the Provincial and Federal governments talking about closed containment fish farming.

Teresa • I'd like to be a fly on the wall at the Powell River Regional Economic Development Society. **RL**



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February is Toastmasters month!

Want to improve your communication, leadership and networking skills – and have fun? Join Toastmasters!

Powell River leaders City Councillor **Maggie Hathaway**, School District Superintendent **Jay Yule**, Brooks Secondary School Vice Principal **Shannon Behan** and Powell River Living Publisher **Isabelle Southcott** all joined Toastmasters to improve their skills.

You could too.

Open House

Toast to the Coast
Toastmasters
 Tuesday, February 11, 7 pm
 Oceanview Education Centre

Regular meetings
 Every Tuesday evening
 7 to 8:30 pm
 Oceanview Education Centre.
 Guests are always welcome.

For more information
 contact Isabelle Southcott at
 604 485-0003 or 604 483-9229
 or isabelle@prliving.ca



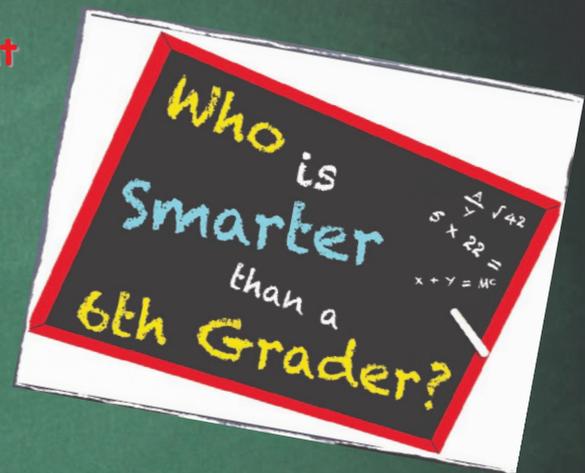
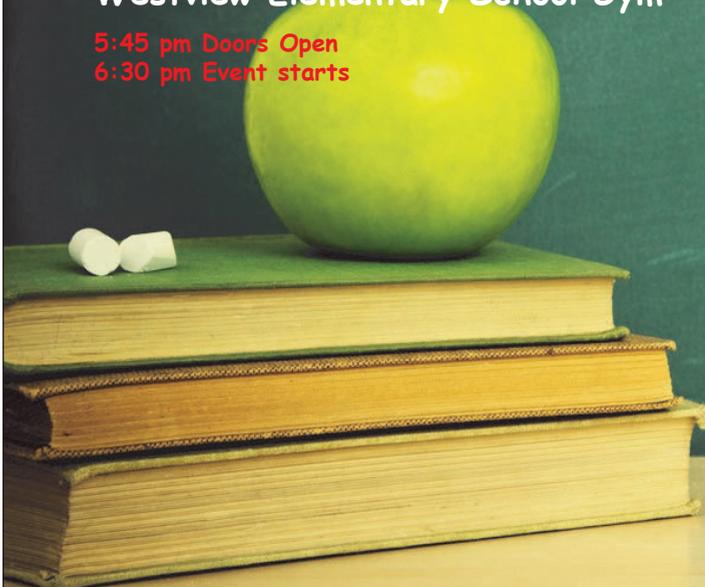
Who is Smarter than a 6th Grader?

An Evening of Family Fun & Entertainment
 in support of the ORCA Bus Community Project

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Westview Elementary School Gym

5:45 pm Doors Open
 6:30 pm Event starts



A community night of family fun as local celebrities challenge the Grade 1– 6 curriculum with the HELP of our Grade 6 students!

Tickets on sale at Breakwater Books and United Way!
 Tickets: \$10/Adults \$8/Child or Seniors

For more information regarding this event or how you can become a sponsor, please contact the Success By 6 coordinator at 604-485-2132.





Garbage Schedules

Not sure when the curbside garbage gets picked up at your house? Garbage routes and schedules for 2014 are available at City Hall, or download them at www.powellriver.ca/content/2014-garbage-schedules

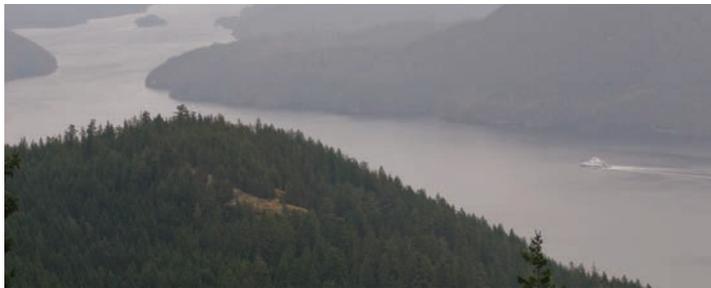
Dog Licenses



Do you have a license for your dog? All dogs living within the City of Powell River are required to wear a current license. Licenses cost \$24 if paid before March 1, or \$30 after that. Replacement tags are \$5. Please clean up after your dog. Clean-up bags at dog friendly parks can be found at Larry Gouthro Park, 3 locations on the Seawalk, entrance to Willingdon Beach Trail, Sunset Park, Lindsay Park, Old Arena Site, Henderson Park & Grief Point Park.

Council Meeting Schedule

Regular Council meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of the month at 7 pm in Council Chamber at City Hall. Regular Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 1 pm and the third Thursday of the month at 9 am in Council Chambers. Agendas are available at City Hall or at www.powellriver.ca. If you to appear as a delegation at a Council or Committee of the Whole meeting, please contact the City Clerk, Marie Claxton, at 604-485-8603.



Shuttle to Saltery Bay

During the ferry terminal closure, a free transit shuttle service is in place between Westview and Saltery Bay, and on Texada Island. For more details, pick up a Rider's Bulletin on board or check out the customer alert on the Powell River page of www.bctransit.com.

Building?

I want to put an addition on my house or build a shed.

What do I need to do?

Before you start, contact Planning Services at City Hall or call 604-485-8614. Staff will help you ensure that your project is properly permitted.

I need a criminal records check

Forms for Criminal History Checks are available from the Finance Department at City Hall or at powellriver.ca/content/criminal-history-check. The completed form and proof of payment must then be brought to the RCMP office where it will be processed within one to two weeks for a basic check. Vulnerable Sector Checks may require additional time for processing.

Criminal History Check Fees:

Non Volunteer	\$30.00 plus GST
Volunteers*	\$10.00 plus GST
Indigent Persons**	No Charge

*Volunteers must provide a letter from the organization they are volunteering with, identifying them as a volunteer. The letter should be on the organizations' letterhead and signed by the president or executive member of the organization. **Indigent Persons must sign a Declaration of Indigence (available at City Hall)



The rewriting of the City's new Sustainable Official Community Plan (SOCP) is now complete after more than one year of extensive public consultation and community participation. During the process, the City hosted open houses and neighbourhood visioning forums for citizens, community organizations, and business and industry representatives to create a unified community vision. Key planning issues, societal trends, and priorities were identified based on the principles of sustainability, and brought forward in consultation with the Tla'amin First Nation, the Powell River Regional District and School District 47. The final process resulted in the establishment of planning objectives and policies for a new SOCP that is intended to guide Council in their decision-making on future development and land use in the City of Powell River for years to come.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for **February 13th, at 6:30 pm** at the Evergreen Theatre, Recreation Complex, 5001 Joyce Avenue. This will be an opportunity for the Mayor and Council to hear the public's opinion on the new SOCP. For more information or to view the Bylaw, visit the City's website at www.powellriver.ca or contact the Planning Office at 604 485-8612.

Bylaw Enforcement & Animal Control

The goal of Bylaw Enforcement is to gain voluntary compliance with the City regulatory bylaw requirements using the following means: inform, educate and as a last resort, enforce. Bylaw Officers are given the task to investigate complaints received from the public about alleged violations of various municipal bylaws, such as *Animal Control*, *Noise Control*, *Business Licensing*, *Zoning*, and so forth. The Bylaw department will receive complaints in various ways: by phone at 604-485-8600, by email info@cdpr.bc.ca or in person at City Hall. Anonymous complaints will not be accepted.

Who's on Council?

Mayor Dave Formosa	dformosa@cdpr.bc.ca
Councillor Russell Brewer	rbrewer@cdpr.bc.ca
Councillor Debbie Dee	ddee@cdpr.bc.ca
Councillor Maggie Hathaway	mhathaway@cdpr.bc.ca
Councillor Myrna Leishman	mleishman@cdpr.bc.ca
Councillor Chris McNaughton	cmcnaughton@cdpr.bc.ca
Councillor Jim Palm	jpalm@cdpr.bc.ca

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604-485-6291

Money Month

Invest like the best

In February, the investment scramble is on, to prepare for March's income taxes. Citizens have until February 28 to maximize their RRSP contributions. Here, two of Powell River's investment experts offer their top tips:

For those of us who don't think much about investments, what should we consider in February?

Cory Carr, Investors Group

Most people think they need their money saved up already to invest. But RRSP loans allow you to invest today, but pay it off over a couple of years. That can really jump-start a plan.

Garry Anderson, Bank of Montreal

The best thing is to start a continuous savings program, where money gets deducted from every paycheque. It could go into a savings account, or an RRSP, or something else. Not as many people do it, as should do it, though quite a few do. February is a great time to start doing that, though you can really start any month. It's never too late to start paying yourself.

What actions should experienced investors consider taking in February – with your help?

Garry Anderson

Seeing an investor is like seeing a doctor: you should always get a second opinion. I even recommend my own clients get a second opinion. Also, too often, seasoned investors have no idea what they're paying in fees – no idea. So February is a good time to investigate that.

Cory Carr:

They need to be looking at their portfolio allocations and where they're putting their money. Can the portfolio use some tweaking? There's been so much growth over the last two or three years. It's a good opportunity to reassess for risks and opportunities.

Time...
to think about retirement.



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Contest alert **Don't miss *Deck!***



Powell River Living challenges you to enter our **home renovation story contest!**

Send us your home renovation story... dream or nightmare!

Maximum 500 words plus a photo (if you have one) by **March 7** to isabelle@prliving.ca

Winners will be published in the April issue of *Powell River Living* and online.

Questions? Call Isabelle at 604 485-0003 or email isabelle@prliving.ca

Need inspiration? See our story about a rat infestation, on Pages 36 and 37 of our *Winter Living* issue.

Home improvement therapy for adults

Did you ever begin a home improvement project only to find there was more involved than you originally thought?

Don't worry; you're not the only one!

Meet Cliv, a meticulous single parent who moves to a small town looking for a new start after suffering a huge financial hit in the recent recession. His attempts at self-sufficiency and adopting a back-to-the-land lifestyle are hijacked by a bad house buy and soon, he enters the world of home improvements.

On February 20 and 21, the Max Cameron Theatre presents *Deck or How I Instigated Then Overcame an Existential Crisis Through Home Improvement*.

Through Cliv, you'll embark on a "darkly hilarious" journey where you'll meet Corey, the charismatic, free-wheeling, free-living carpenter who offers to lend Cliv a hand.

Soon Cliv begins to lose his grasp on reality and is consumed by suspicions of Corey's true motives.

Deck examines the fine line between

perfectionism and obsession, chaos and freedom and why a piece of 2x6 lumber isn't really two inches by six inches.

During the performance, audience members come up onstage and help build a deck.

Theatre manager Jacquie Dawson says all the wood used will be raffled off at the end of the performance. "Every ticket holder can enter to win," she says.

Deck is written and performed by Lucas Myers. Myers has built a reputation for creating one-person performances and touring productions locally, nationally and internationally.

The show comes with a warning: "Power tools, physics and partial nudity." This performance is not suitable for children.

Home improvement project make people hungry. "There will be brats, beer and fresh pretzels available for purchase both nights of this event," said Amy Sharp. Doors open at 6:30 to provide plenty of noshing time before the show starts at 7:30 pm. **RL**

Ready, set, grow Get on your gloves; it's Seedy Saturday

By David Parkinson

Back in 2006, the Powell River Farmers' Institute started an annual seed swap as a way of strengthening local agriculture and encouraging people to preserve heritage seeds.

Now in its ninth year, the main attraction at Seedy Saturday continues to be the seed exchange. Local growers save their seed and bring it with them to swap for other seeds. If you don't have seed saved, you can buy up to ten packets of local seeds for 50 cents per packet. You can also swap seeds for books at our book exchange, where we recycle books on gardening and farming and food preservation.

Members of the local chapter of the Master Gardeners Association of BC will be there to answer your garden-related questions. Catch up on Powell River's vibrant food and farming scene with community organizations, local growers and garden shops. Learn about a new seed-saving workshop and the new community seed-bank project that recently received funding with the Farmers' Institute.

We'll have workshops on growing better seedlings, saving seeds, building soil,



SEED SAVIOUR: Author and seed saving activist Carolyn Herriot brings her basket of tips to Seedy Saturday.

beekeeping, combating the spotted-wing drosophila, and incorporating poultry into your food garden. There will be activities for the little ones, thanks to Powell River Family Place.

We'll close off the day with a presentation by Carolyn Herriot, 'How to Save Seeds

SEEDY SATURDAY

MARCH 8, 2014

9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Powell River Recreation Complex

Swap or buy local seeds and gardening magazines and books. This year's event includes a special 1pm presentation by food activist and garden writer, **Carolyn Herriot**, plus six gardening workshops, demonstration tables, seedy vendors, children's activities, and refreshments for sale. General admission is \$2, children under 12 admitted free. Information? Contact Wendy: wd2006@shaw.ca

to Grow Local Food.' Carolyn has been an avid seed saver for over 20 years with her own seed company in Victoria, Seeds of Victory.

In September, she spoke passionately about the need to take control of our seeds to the Powell River Garden Club. She is also the author of *The Zero-Mile Diet: A Year-Round Guide to Growing Organic Food* and, most recently, *The Zero-Mile Diet Cookbook: Seasonal Recipes for Delicious Homegrown Food*.

Carolyn's talk will be free with admission and will take place at 1 pm in the Evergreen Theatre. **RL**

Feb 7
Mat the Alien
and The Librarian

at Studio 56 Tix: \$20 @ Ecosentials, Rapid Edge and Rockit Music.

Feb 7
Chamber ensemble
Trio Accord

Based in Vancouver, Mary Sokol Brown (violin), Andrew Brown (viola), and Ariel Barnes (cello), play concerts that have been described as “enchanting,” “exhilarating,” and “extremely moving.” At the Academy of Music at 7:30 pm.

Feb 8
Yarn and fibre
buy / swap / sell

Come to buy sell or trade wool, materials, books, magazines, patterns — anything to do with textiles. The event takes place in Creative Rift’s new workshop space at the back of the store. 1:30 Creative Rift

Feb 8 & 9
Medieval Workshops

The Shire of False Isle presents beekeeping, DIY adhesives, Ukrainian Easter egg-making, and other classes at Kelly Creek School. Must register. See falseisle.antir.sca.org/WintersEnd or email jdharcus@telus.net.

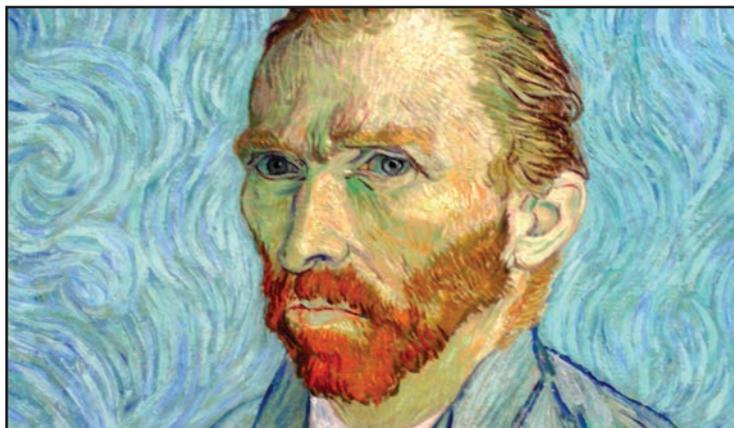


Bee seeing you at the winter faire.

Feb 8
Dvořák’s Rusalka

The great Renée Fleming returns to one of her signature roles, singing the enchanting “Song to the Moon” in Dvořák’s soulful fairy-tale opera. 10 am to 2 pm. Tix Adults \$25 Senior \$22 Youth \$15 @ Breakwater Books, The Academy of Music Box Office and at the Max on the eve of performance.

Powell River Living COMMUNITY Calendar



Are you planning to Gogh to the library’s art tour?

Feb. 8
Powell River Idol

This popular event livens up winter as young stars compete in the 11th annual event. Evergreen Theatre at the Recreation Complex. 7 pm. \$15 adults, \$10 kids under 10. Tix at Breakwater, Taws and Rockit Music.

Feb 10
BC Stat! Family Day

Rec complex is offering free skating 1:30 to 3 pm, and free swimming noon to 4 pm.

Feb 11
Art: A Historic Tour with Lowell Morris

Join local artist Lowell Morris for a visual trip through time! See the works of the masters and learn about the lives of the artists, from Da Vinci to Van Gogh and on through the 20th Century. At the United Church (6932 Crofton Street), 7 to 9 pm.

Feb 11 and 12
PR Film Festival in schools

Feb 12 to 16
Powell River Film Festival

Films include documentaries Arctic Defenders, Desert Runners, Gore Vidal: The United States of Amnesia, Oil Sands Karaoke, and When I Walk. Dramas include Felix, Gabrielle, Le Weekend, The Patience Stone, Philomena, and Wadida.

Feb 14
Valentine’s Day

Pre-school Valentine’s Day party at the pool 10 to 11:30 am; Valentine’s skate 7:30 to 9.

Feb 14
Love Slam

Poetry & performance art show, fundraiser for CJMP @ Studio 56 Gallery

February 15
Trace and Paint a Friend
Grades 1-4 Who needs a stencil when you’ve got a life-sized friend? Come in teams of two. A Powell River Public Library event.

Feb. 15
Beer, Burger and Bluegrass for Therapeutic Riding
@ Carlson Club 6 pm. Live music with Scout. \$15 per person. Tickets available at Rockit Music, the Riding Club, and through Max Pagani at Coast Realty.

Feb 15
Attraction, Images by Ryan Kurylo

Art exhibit at Studio 56

Feb 16
Adventures in Film Camp
See the one-minute films produced by youth from around Powell River and BC during the two-day film camp! 10:30 am, at The Patricia, free.

Feb 20 and 21
Deck, hilarious one-man show at the Max

How I Instigated Then Overcame an Existential Crisis Through Home Improvement. Written and performed by Lucas Myers 7:30pm Max Cameron Theatre, Brooks Secondary School Please note: This performance is not suitable for children. Tix \$24/Adult, \$20/Senior, \$10/Youth (no under 13 due to adult content).

Feb 20
Haiku Workshop

Local authors Bob Butkus and Allan Brown will share some of the history of Haiku and some writing techniques. Please register at the library, by calling 604-485-8668 or on the Library website (powellriverlibrary.ca).6:30 pm.

Feb 22 – March 6
70th Powell River Festival of the Performing Arts

Dance, voice, speech, band and instrumental music, and other performance: the annual two-week free event is taking place at the Max Cameron, the Evergreen Theatre and James Hall (at the Academy) Schedules will be available soon. The Grand Concert is coming up March 8 (for a very affordable ticket price).

Feb 26
Pink Shirt Day against bullying

Feb 28
Pow Town Ink Club

Get down and inky on the last Friday of every month with fellow manga heads, comics creators and story scribblers. Do a group warm-up, talk about your favourite comix, get feedback on your own projects, share ideas and draw to your heart’s content. This club is perfect for graduates of the Library’s Go Graphic series or for teens who are already drawing and writing their own strips. 3:30pm - 5:00pm @ the Library.

Feb 28
Rock the Rink

Live music at the skating rink 7 to 9:30 pm.

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What's up? POWELL RIVER



FAMILY FUN!

Once again, Family Literacy Day was a smashing success. We're not quite sure who had more fun when Mayor Dave Formosa read and acted out scenes from The Little Red Hen at this year's Books Before Bed Pajama Party.

LOOKING FOR INFO

Grant Workman is working on a website that remembers Powell River's fallen WWII soldiers and is looking for information and photos about the late John (Johnny) McClelland Bell. If you have any information please contact Workman at 928 314-4353 or yumasnowbirds@shaw.ca or at pruhoww2.weebly.com



Leading Air Craftsman (LAC) Bell was killed when Stranraer aircraft #916 crashed in Stuart Channel, off Crofton, British Columbia. Bell is buried in the Cranberry Cemetery, Powell River.

Bell was a flight engineer (R162924) with the Royal Canadian Air Force. He was killed in a flying accident on July 18, 1943 at the age of 26. He was with the Squadron #3, Operational Training Flying School, Patricia Bay, British Columbia. He was born on March 2, 1917 and was the son of William and Kathleen Bell of Vancouver.

ON TARGET

A new group of Sino Bright students arrived in Powell River last month. While here (til Feb. 20), they attend Brooks Secondary School, go on field trips and are exposed to a variety of activities including archery.



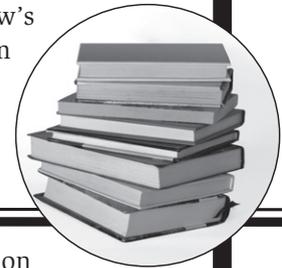
PEARL REVIEW

A new collective of book lovers dedicated to supporting local published authors will meet Saturdays at 3 pm beginning February 8.

Meetings for The Pearl Review will be held at The Hub until Ecosystems completes renovations.

The Powell River Live Poets' Guild has joined The Pearl Review and will roll its meetings into the Review's agenda. The Youth Peace-Poem Competition will also move under this umbrella.

For more info email Eva van Loon at mettalaw@gmail.com or 604 483-4940.



BREAKING THE ICE

Powell River's Graham May continues to draw attention to environmental issues, this time through the inaugural conference of the youth arctic coalition called Breaking the Ice. Graham, who is a director of the organization putting on the conference, has been passionate about increasing awareness about environmental issues since he was a student at Brooks. He is now attending Mount Allison University in New Brunswick.

Sweetheart feature of the month

Couples massage

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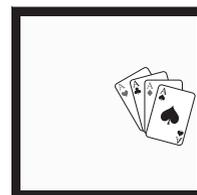
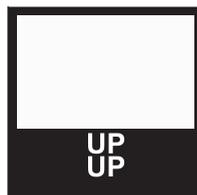
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Puzzle River™

Guess the hidden saying, phrase or word(s) suggested by the pictures!



Last issue's answers:

- Like father like son
- Love is blind
- Many care called, few are chosen



Solutions in next issue... or visit our website www.prliving.ca

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Inbox

We welcome feedback from our readers. Letters may be edited for length. Email isabelle@prliving.ca, or mail letters to *PR Living*, 7053E Glacier Street Powell River, BC V8A 5J7.

December rocked

Kudos to you all. The December issue rocks from the cover on through and I love the funny 2014 predictions! May some of them actually come true!

Tracey Ellis

Simons for UN leader

Without a doubt, always love each and every edition. Couldn't resist posting this on my FB page:

The "14 Predictions for 2014" (Dec. 2013) in *Powell River Living Magazine* are brilliant and funny. The best one in my opinion is #12: "MLA Nicholas Simons skips the whole MLA-to-Premier Minister thing. Instead, he replaces Ban Ki-moon as Secretary-General of the United Nations, and a great peace settles over all the lands." I could totally get behind that! Thank you Nick, for all your hard work and for all you do for us and our communities. (And thanks *PR Living*...such a fun article!)

So many great things to read ... and topped with this twisty article. Thanks so much!

Malerie Meeker

Toronto Star: watch your back

You've outdone yourself! Your "14 Predictions for 2014" are witty, topical and spot on - they should be reprinted in Toronto newspapers! Your picture of Ray Sketchley and Heather Farrell-Sketchley looks as though it has been photographed at the North Pole!

Thank you!

Jan Grants

Paramedic's work recognized

Impactful article ("Everyday Heroes: Falling tree changes paramedic's future" Dec. 2013). It carries the visceral quality of our work and lives together, the little and occasionally big differences made for 'people we know and love'.

Thanks very much.

Rob Southcott

BC Emergency Health Services
Powell River

Clarity, please!

I would like to clarify and expand on an article called "Age in Place: What you can do to stay home longer" that appeared in the November issue.

It is true that I do have an outside stair lift and it was new this summer however it replaced one I had for several years that would no longer work.

The main floor of my two-storey home has a living room, dining room, kitchen, bedroom, study and bathroom. The downstairs has a utility room, shower room, family room and two bedrooms.

My husband, Leonard, and I moved to Powell River for the opening of Oceanview Junior High School. We chose Powell River because I had taught in Dawson Creek with the late Mike Kinahan who was by far the best principal I had in my 39 years of teaching. It was also good to get away from the snow and the cold.

Neither my husband nor I ever taught in an elementary school. Another Mr. Bradley did teach at JP Dallos but that was many years ago.

I purchased a perimeter walk in bathroom/shower combination five years ago. Stephen Cantryn of Custom Tile and Marble recently retiled the wall around the bath/shower area for me.

When one lives alone, transportation can be a problem. Without the Handi Dart I would not be able to remain in my comfortable home and enjoy my beautiful pond and garden. Wally, our regular driver is outstanding as a driver, always cheerful, helpful and thoroughly dependable. The

young ladies who dispatch at the office are also efficient and friendly. The paramedics are appreciated and the lady who does my cleaning and gardening is a real gem.

Now if we could only get a doctor who is interested in geriatric medicine, I would be even more content.

Pauline Bradley

Bad news, bears

I read with interest the article expressing a local woman's discomfort with the large bear population that now lives in Powell River ("Too Close for Comfort: Backyard bear scares unnerves residents" Nov. 2013). I do not believe that we have taken their habitat and that we have to accommodate them so they can be comfortable. There are many thousands of kilometres of "bear habitat" where they can live undisturbed. We humans would also like to have a patch where we can live relatively undisturbed.

The bears are here for a few reasons. There are no predators. They have a veritable smorgasbord of tree fruits, gardens, garbage, and compost within the city, where they can very easily dine to their hearts content. Why would they leave? Instead they stay here among us, and reproduce in this relative Eden for bears! We, in the meantime have to accommodate them at every turn. Although attacks by black bears are not common, they DO happen and can be deadly to very serious. Bears are destructive to our gardens and tree fruits, garbage and compost, and frighten and possibly threaten our families and children.

I believe that bears within city limits, especially those who have taken up living here should be killed. If they begin to see humans as dangerous, they will move back into normal bear habitat, and let us feel free once again to enjoy our own backyards. The situation will only worsen with time and more bears having families who will enjoy the great food source that we are to them. I doubt this will be a popular view, but to me it is only common sense.

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We shop at Mother Nature because...

Three generations of the Peters family shop at Mother Nature, and it's not just because they love spoiling their pets.

"I got my first dog of my own when I moved out two years ago," says the youngest, Sadie. Boomer, her Pit Bull- American

Bulldog cross, suffered from allergies. "So I had to find a place that sells quality dog food."

She didn't have to look far. Sadie's mother, Stef, started shopping at Mother Nature as a child with her mother, Penny, when the store first opened in 1983.

"I've known (store owner) Ron (Pfister) for ages," says Penny. "I like to support a locally owned business. And he has really good food for our dogs." Her Shitzu Japanese Chin cross Tucker, seems to agree.

While all three women say that Mother Nature has the best pet food at reasonable prices, they have individual reasons that keep them coming back to the store.

Stef's huge Rottweiler-Mastiff cross Koda is nine years old, and needs some specialized food. "The staff here give lots of good advice."

Stef is also an up and coming gardener, and she says the professional advice from staff at Mother Nature has been invaluable in helping her set up gardens.

"I come here for my plants in the spring. And I'm into orchids, and Mother Nature has the best orchids in town. They know how to take care of them, so they're healthy and they last," says Penny.

And Sadie has a tankful of other reasons to visit Mother Nature, in addition to stocking up on supplies for Boomer: "I have an 80-gallon fish tank, and the people here have been so helpful in setting it up. And all the fish are from here."

Over the years, the three have also found other reasons to visit the store.

"They have added all this stuff," says Stef, with a wave at the gift section of the store. "A lot of our Christmas presents and birthday presents come from here, too."

“

The staff here give lots of good advice.



From left to right, Stef (with Koda), Penny (with Tucker), and Sadie (with Boomer).

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