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- June 20: Gala Grand Opening Concert
- June 21: Symphony Concert: Week 1
- June 25: Student Chamber Music Concert*
- June 27: Guest Artist Chamber Music Concert
- June 28: Symphony Concert: Week 2
- June 29: 'Sail to the Symphony' Matinée

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Saturday, May 11, 11am

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Sunday, May 19, 11am

qathet ArtRaven Youth Project

Shinrin-yoku forest walk, meet at bike park

Friday, May 24, 7pm

Chris Cran Artist Talk

May 24-26

Chris Cran Painting workshop

All levels. Register at artpowellriver.com/current-projects/

Friday, May 31, 7pm

Reception: Feast of Lachesis & Grant Awards

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Red-winged blackbird

Male: black with red and buffy yellow epaulets. Female: streaked brown. Habitat: marshes, bogs and small ponds in transition (starting to become grown over). Range: Widespread from sub-arctic Canada to the tropical swamp lands of Central America and Cuba.

I am paddling my canoe across a small lake. I have my tripod, Hasselblad camera with two lenses because I never know what will show up in nature. Also, a few pieces of plywood to stop me from sinking into the bog. The lake is teeming with dragonflies and all kinds of small insects. I was lucky to find this nest not far from where I got out of my canoe.

The babies were about a week old and very hungry. The mother fed them mostly dragonflies, as you can see in the photo. Wetlands are amazing for the natural world and support a vast amount of life forms. Cranberry Lake is one example.

~ Rod Innes 



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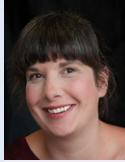
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ON THE COVER

Ravens are ubiquitous in qathet. They're the subject of the winner of the Quickie contest (Page 6), the name of the youth art initiatives at The Art Centre, and they come to life under artist Lowell Morris' hand.

Art by Lowell Morris



CONTENTS

MAY 2019

PRL's "Quickie" Winners

Stories about ravens and cats

6

Made in Powell River

Lowell Morris' pet portraits

11

Weird weather

Too dry and maybe too hot

13

Homemaking Gone Wild

A Mother's Day memoir

15

Making murals with MS

Big goals and numb hands

17

I Made the Move

Retirees roll into town

18

A Growing Concern

Pickled peppers

19

Best of Powell River

Last month to vote!

20

Business Affairs

Wildwood Pub opens

22

May Events

Spot prawns, art, wheels

23

Summer Planner 2019

Invite out-of-town guests for fests!

34

Take a Break

Reverence & Crossword

36

Last Word

A bittersweet Mother's Day

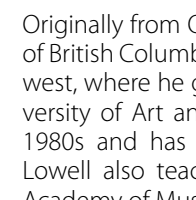
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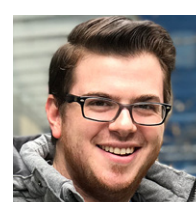
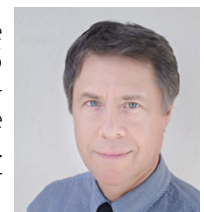
Since 1966, **NANCY HOLLMANN** has enjoyed teaching band, choir and theatre arts in Powell River. "I have taught all ages and it seems fitting to be teaching adults at this time of my life," she said. "The difference now is that I can participate! With the Belles I am playing piano, singing and giving direction, all at the same time! It's a blessing."



ALICE MCNAIR was born and raised in the Stillwater / Douglas Bay area of Powell River. She left town after graduating from Max Cameron and worked in Alberta until her retirement. She is delighted to be back to the old family home and living on the coast again.



Originally from Quebec, the beauty and nature of British Columbia drew **LOWELL MORRIS** west, where he graduated from Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver in the 1980s and has been creating art ever since. Lowell also teaches flute at the Powell River Academy of Music.



Born and raised in Powell River, **ANDY RICE'S** lifelong passion for music led him toward a Bachelor of Music degree from Capilano University in 2012. After several years gathering 'street smarts' as an educator, journalist and touring musician he's become in demand as an arts administrator, juggling his time between Vancouver, Powell River and various Canadian cities through his work with the British Columbia Choral Federation, Canadian Chamber Choir, Townsite Jazz Festival and Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy (PRISMA).



PUBLISHER'S MESSAGE

Plants, pets, portraits, parenting and puppy plans

By the time you read this, the lilac hedge not far from my house will be in bloom. This marks the ninth spring that I have enjoyed its deep purple blossoms and have snipped a few for my kitchen table. Their sweet fragrance reminds me of how blessed I am to live here. I smell sunshine and fresh air in the crisp, white sheets I pull in from the line while Canadians on the other side of the country fight floods. I think of the changes and seasons and how they influence our lives.

Inside this issue of *Powell River Living* magazine you'll find *Home Grown*, our annual food and agricultural publication. What started as a seed 10 years ago has grown into a much-loved annual magazine filled with stories, news, photos, listings and info on how and where to find local food. It has changed but at the same time, it has stayed true to its roots.

Powell River Living is handing out pumpkin seeds this month with Mother Nature and Springtime Nursery. We encourage people to grow pumpkins and create pumpkin people in the Townsite this October. We'll

also be doing our annual giant pumpkin competition at the Fall Fair.

Cats, dogs, ravens, cougars. We love our pets and go to great lengths to protect them from predators. This year, we challenged local scribes to write stories about animals in the inaugural "Quickie" writing contest we put on with the Powell River Public Library. More than 30 people ranging in age from six to 80-something tackled the topic of animals and came up with everything from disappearing kitties and ducklings to the death of a pet – all written in less than three hours. We're pleased to share the winning entries with you in our annual pet issue. The stories can be found on Pages 6 to 9.

Artist Lowell Morris has been doing pet portraits for years and his art work of special family pets can be found hanging on the walls in homes all around Powell River. Lowell is our "Made in Powell River" feature this month and his drawing of a raven graces the cover of this issue. See Page 11 to read his story.

A lovely memoir by Alice McNair on Page 15 talks

about growing up "up the tracks" in Stillwater. She recalls her mother's efforts to reclaim a bunkhouse into a family home and how, anxious to follow a new trend in decorating, painted their ceiling with the Macbeth tartan.

This is the final month to get your BEST of Powell River entries in. All you have to do is answer at least 15 questions and you could win a Pollen sweater or a Zodiac tour of Desolation Sound with Terracentric Adventures.

And finally, Last Word is by me. It's about change, and how, although we can prepare for change on an intellectual level, it can still catch us off guard on an emotional level. When Alex, my youngest son, left home last month, he was ready, but I wasn't. "You still have Hunter," he said, teasing me. Yes, I do still have the dog. And if all goes according to plan, we'll have another duck toller later this summer.

Isabelle Southcott
ISABELLE SOUTHCOTT | isabelle@prliving.ca

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HOW TO PAINT A RAVEN



There is a family of ravens nesting in the southwest corner of our property, in one of the towering hemlocks that crowd that border. We admire and respect the ravens, with their extraordinary intelligence, bold coal plumage and animated voices.

We even loved them for a while.

Then we added ducks to our farm.

Our Muscovy duck hens are nature's patient and committed mothers. First they select a nesting spot and then pull out the soft feathers from their tail and wing tips, with which they carefully line their nest. They sit on their secluded clutch of 12 to 18 blueish ivory eggs for 41 days, leaving it once a day to poop and then hurry to one of our ponds to splash and dive. After preening their feathers they gobble down their duck pellets, drink some water and waddle hastily back to their nest.

Lacey was our maternal paragon; lovable, snow white and a prodigious egg layer. Her down-lined nests under a pile of boulders were deep and warm. When Lacey emerged from her rocky site she determinedly bathed, ate, drank and returned. She did not dally with the other ducks or dabble in the gardens for grubs.

Returning to her nest she entered the small entrance and started peeping her duckling lullaby to her waiting eggs. It was enchanting to hear. Then one joyous day, Lacey proudly paraded her newly-hatched ducklings across the pasture.

If you look up the word "adorable" in the dictionary you will see a picture of a freshly hatched duckling – or at least you should. Ducklings take your breath away with their tiny webbed feet, their fluffy yellow and black feathers, the way they look like they are walking with their hands behind their backs and their bums sticking out. The tiny babies, round as pompoms, were so vulnerable as Lacey led them across the pastures, down to all the ponds and into the gardens. The ravens spotted the ducklings on their periodic flyovers and I could hear the two adults discussing this new development with their caws and gurgles.

It was Hal who spotted one of the ravens, in the early afternoon, with a black and yellow shape in its giant curved beak.

I am so grateful that I didn't view the duckling's death or see it in the raven's beak, as I had observed duck eggs grabbed by ravens in the past.

To see a helpless duckling dangling from that black maw would have killed something in my soul.

The ravens flew off, back to their nest, to feed their newly hatched chicks and returned the next morning for a second duckling. And then a third.

Enter to win!

Powell River Animals Photography Competition

- This contest is hosted by the Library. Winners will run in *PRL* Magazine and be displayed at the Library following the contest.
- The deadline is noon, June 7.
- Submit one photo only to mmerlino@prpl.ca, with your full name, address and phone number
- Larger than 2MB, please
- Landscape orientation
- Judgment based on subject matter, composition, detail and lighting.
- 12 finalists will be selected.
- See prpl.ca for full contest details and prizes!



Lacey kept her babies out in the open and exposed, her only fault as a mother.

Let's unpack my feelings for a moment. Rationally I understand that we built our farm on this wild, forested land, where ravens have lived forever. We chose to bring in ducks, doves and chickens, fowls that all birds of prey relish. I understand that ravens need to feed their chicks and that cuteness shouldn't be a factor in who gets to eat, but man, those ducklings were sweet and simple and it broke my heart that they were being snatched.

We were harbouring a grudge against our corvid neighbors after the "Plucky incident." Hal had noticed the ravens in the dog pasture next to the house, acting suspicious. One bird hopped into the pallet-walled dog house, encouraged by the throaty cackle from its mate. Hal leaned over and peered into the dog house, startling the raven who flapped a rapid retreat.

The floor of the dog house was blanketed in brown feathers. In the corner where the pallets joined, a bald bloody back of a chicken could barely be seen. The terrified chicken had been attacked while enjoying a siesta in the dog house, and had wedged herself into the gap in the pallet wall.

Hal gently pried the chicken out and was astonished to see that it was still alive after its mauling. We caged the little survivor in the house for several days and gingerly dabbed antibiotic cream on her torn back. We called her Plucky, a name she deserved as she made a full recovery and soon returned to chicken land.

We knew the ravens would be back. They knew our schedules and what opportunities our departing vehicles provided. We didn't want to kill the ravens - we just didn't want to share our fowl with them.

Especially the ducklings.

We bought a racoon-sized trap, covered it in hay and

disguised it to look like a duck nest, complete with plaster-of-Paris duck eggs. The ravens were wary, then intrigued. They flew off with three of the fake eggs without triggering the floor plate that would slam the trap opening shut. We imagined them, in their tree top nest of sticks, determinedly hammering their impressive beaks against the stone-like eggs.

Hal drilled a hole into one of our last two plaster eggs, which were only available at Easter, sold for children to paint. We were losing our supply. He screwed in an eye bolt and wired it to the floor plate, set the trap tension to hair trigger and put the trap on the tack room roof, outside of the studio above the barn.

On the third day, Hal was interrupted from his stall-cleaning task by a percussive slamming over his head. Taking the stairs two at a time, Hal stepped on the tack room roof and was coldly regarded by an ebony eye even darker than its plumage.

A large and healthy raven filled the racoon trap and lifted the trap off the ground in its frantic bursts of flapping.

Together we surveyed the raven, first elated and then aghast...now what?

Neither of us could bear the thought of killing it, trapped and terrified, in that cage. We decided to relocate it, with the hope that its mate would eventually leave the area as well. I came up with the idea of marking the raven, so we would know if it returned to our farm. Hal was a hard sell on this suggestion and reluctantly sprayed a spot of white paint on the raven's tail. We drove the raven 28 kms away, as far as we could drive in Powell River, without being stopped by the ocean. We covered the cage in a blanket to keep the canny raven from seeing where it was going.

At a small seaside campground, vacant in the late

winter, we propped the cage on the tailgate, had one last admiring view of the beautiful black and a bit white raven and opened the cage.

The raven hesitated, sensing danger and then erupted from the cage and in three sweeping wing beats, disappeared over a fog draped cedar. We congratulated ourselves on our cleverness, resourcefulness and ingenuity as we drove home.

The raven was there, waiting for us, perched in the giant fir. [PR](#)



"THE QUICKIE" ANIMAL STORY WINNERS

The first ever "Quickie" story contest sponsored by *Powell River Living* magazine and the Powell River Public Library was held on March 9. Contestants were asked to write a story that had to do with animals, pets, or wildlife and include Powell River.

Twenty-five brave souls rose to the challenge, writing 35 long and short stories in just three hours. The youngest writer was six years old. Stay tuned for next year's contest.

YOUTH SHORT

Winner
StanLee Cat
by Scarlett Roberts, 6

Runner-up
Terror at Night
Isabella Colasanto

YOUTH LONG

Winner
Moving On
Maya Laramée

Runner-up
The Sheers House
Sophia Taves

Runner-up
Jim the Black Bear
Saverio Colasanto

ADULT SHORT

Winner
There is no love
Paddy Treavor

Runner-up
My Giraffe
Teresa Rice

ADULT LONG

Winner
How to Paint a Raven
Colleen Mudry

Runner-up
Jim
Deb Calderon

Runner-up
Call of the Wild
Deb Calderon

There is no love

BY PADDY TREVOR

There is no love deeper than the love a six-year-old girl has for her first pet and no grief more tragic than a child experiencing their first significant loss in life.

And in the first six months of 2016 my daughter, Cielo, experienced both.

You would think it would be a sad story, a six-year-old girl losing her first kitten, Bow-Bow, to a cougar in the backyard of our Powell River home. And in the moment, it was heart-breaking seeing that profound and total sadness in her eyes when I told her, but in the end, I learned what a strong, resilient and insightful person my daughter was, even at that tender age.

I returned home, about a week after Bow-Bow had gone missing, ripped apart by blackberry thorns after another fruitless search of our Wildwood neighbourhood, and Cielo sat me down.

"Papa, you can stop looking for Bow-Bow," she told me. "He is a brown blob in the bush".

"What do you mean Sweetie?" I replied.

"He is cougar poop Papa. He's not coming back. I am sad, but it is life and the cougar cannot take him from my heart."

If only I could be so mature. [PRL](#)



Adult "Short" winner Paddy Trevor and his daughter Cielo

StanLee Cat

BY SCARLETT ROBERTS, 6,
YOUTH "SHORT" WINNER



Hello I am writing about StanLee the cat cat. Sometimes StanLee licks me then bites me to play. He is five years old. Stan the Man, that's his nickname. Sometimes he goes on the table.

We got him at the BCSPCA in Powell River. He had surgery on his leg. I love him because he is playful and he is so cuddly. I love that we have StanLee as a cat cat. [PRL](#)



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Moving On

BY MAYA LARAMEE

You were perfect. Simpleness pulled at your heartstrings to make like a harp. You sang an elementary melody so soft that only you could hear it. Finding that ray of golden sun that would only shine for one minute, soon to disappear behind mourning clouds, your eyes were wide and unbroken. Your eyes were green. I'm trying to recall if that is a correct fact. Part of me believes it isn't.

I don't dare look at a picture of you, so I'll try to picture the colour of your eyes by memory alone. Although it's been so long, I fear I can't recall even the colour of your eyes.

Two months before it happened, you were in my car. You were cowering in the back of the cage, eyes glowing although dimmed by the darkness of the cage. You were scared. Still scared, I am, that you are not okay. Now,

"Two months - that's barely time to get to know someone - barely time to love someone. Yet still, I loved you. I still do.... I never truly forgot, though, perhaps I just moved on. Although, moving on isn't very good either."

- Maya Laramée

with your tiny paws buried beneath the dirt, and your body at peace, I believe I must have taken your light for granted. I believed that you would keep emitting those golden rays forever.

But you flickered - I wasn't there when that happened, I never got a chance to say goodbye. It was a freak accident, they say,

One out of a thousand, they say. And yet, somehow, you were that one.

Two months - that's barely time to get to know someone - barely time to love someone. Yet still, I loved you. I still do. Damn the calmness that rested within your purr. Damn the dresser on which you loved to sleep. Damn your curiosity, the way you never worried about anything. You enjoyed every moment as it was. Cursed I am, with the tainted luck that runs through my metal veins. Cursed with the love that you spread out, I ache for the time I can join you.

You were in a box. It was a cardboard box, small, to fit your tiny body. Your eyes were closed, and your fur was still silky and long. If I hadn't known better, I would have thought you to be taking a nap. But you weren't. I shouldn't ever make that mistake - your fur wasn't as silky, as smooth, and your face didn't look as alive as it once did. Pieces of you were missing, such as a heartbeat, a pulse, or blood running through your veins.

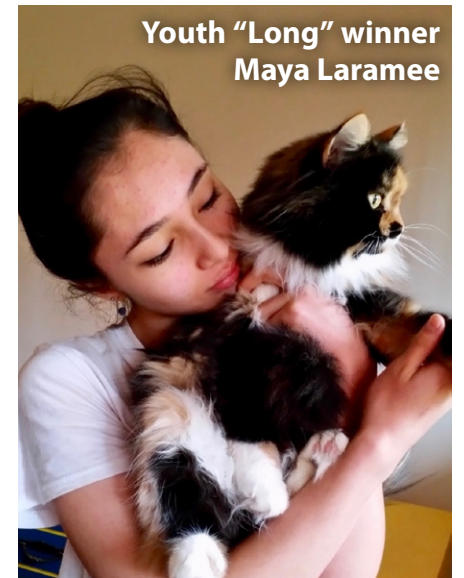
I wonder, only sometimes, if maybe it's bad that I forgot. I forgot about you. I never truly forgot, though, perhaps I just moved on. Although, moving on isn't very good either. Some part of me knows you aren't here, but I have left the mourning and suffering behind in the dirt you lie under. I suppose that's what moving on is.

Suffocatingly okay with it after two

weeks, I forgot what day you left after three weeks. At four weeks, you were replaced. If I'm being honest, I couldn't actually replace you, because you're irreplaceable. No heartbeat is the same, no eyes are the same, and no love is the same.

Mourning you was the best I could do, and really, one should try their best. But it wasn't the very best. I surely could have done better. I could have been suffocated for a year with your passing. That would have been better. Maybe it was best that I left that pain behind.

If you were fine with me moving on, maybe it was okay. **RL**



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Do your first year of post-secondary at home



There's a way to save money and get a start on your post-secondary academic education thanks to a partnership between School District 47 (SD47) and Vancouver Island University (VIU).

The program lets students take university courses *tuition-free* at VIU, in Grade 12 and until they're 19. Not only can students save money on tuition, they can also save money on lodgings because they can live at home in Powell River.

Jim Palm, School District 47's Career Coordinator, expects 40 to 50 students to take advantage of this opportunity. SD47 leads the province in the percentage of students taking university courses while in high school.

"There seems to be more and more interest in taking advantage of these offerings all the time, said Jim, noting the program is entering its fourth year. "Students are staying at home and getting their feet wet with first-year university courses."

Students who take full advantage of this program can take up to six courses tuition-free, a value of \$2,713. They only have to pay for four courses themselves to complete their first year of post-secondary arts education.

"Even if you don't know where your interests lie, it's still a good idea," said Jim.

Many students spend thousands of dollars on tuition, books and living expenses at out of town post-secondary institutes and come home with accumulated debt and no more idea of what they want to do than when they left a year earlier. The School District's partnership program lets students explore their interests, work at a part-time job, and live at home without racking up a huge debt load.

Ethan Balzer is one Powell River student who took advantage of the dual-credit academic program. In Grade 12, Ethan took the Business Applications course and the following year he took English and Psychology for two semesters at VIU. "I had no idea what I wanted to do," he told *Powell River Living* "but I knew I wanted a baseline."

While continuing his studies and living at home, Ethan worked at MCC as a shipper/receiver and saved his money.

"It was a make-money year and a career research year," he said. "I had an interest in computers, so I looked at BCIT's (BC Institute of Technology) Computer Information Technology Program and it appealed to me."

Ethan submitted both his high school transcript and his VIU transcript. "It was a competitive-entry program and I think the VIU transcript really helped me get in."

Ethan also secured one of eight co-op slots in the program. He did an eight-month co-op with Teck Resources, a mining company with headquarters in Vancouver, and worked for them for another four months after that.

"I lived with my grandparents in Vancouver and paid them rent," he said. Last summer, Ethan got a summer job with SD47 and accepted a full-time job as a network and systems administrator with the School District when he graduated from BCIT in January.

"I saved every penny I made while working at MCC and was able to finish school debt free. The dual credit program allowed me to work and figure out what I wanted to do for a year without losing the momentum from school," said Ethan.

"Classes at VIU are 30 students maximum with some only having 20 or so students in them," said Jim, "and, we have a greater percentage of dual credit students in those classes than adult learners," he added.

Completing the first year at home gives students who are interested in attending BCIT or another program an advantage, said Jim.

"Many of these programs put an emphasis on adult learners," he said, explaining that students who do a year of post-secondary locally become an adult student applicant. The "mature student," status gives applicants an edge when applying for further post-secondary education over a student coming directly out of Grade 12.

"I had no idea what I wanted to do... but I knew I wanted a baseline."

- Ethan Balzer, a now BCIT-grad who took free VIU courses through SD47

Academic classes at VIU PR, 2019/2020

Fall:

English 115
Philosophy 100
Sociology 111
Psychology 111
Anthropology 112

Spring:

English 115
English 125
Economy 100
Sociology 112
Geology 101
Psychology 112

VIU classes at Brooks:

Computer Applications 100
Music 100



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Locals' love for pets breeds portrait biz

Artist Lowell Morris and his wife Sandra Tonn moved to Powell River 12 years ago. He's originally from Montreal, but moved to BC many years ago to study art at Emily Carr University.

Lowell's interest in drawing started as a child when he had a special fascination for drawing whales, especially their elegant lines. "My brothers and I had pet gerbils when we were growing up—wonderful little animals—so I learned early on what a difference having pets can make in your life!" he said.

What's your product?

Lowell • I create custom paintings and drawings of pets (and people and nature). The portraits are done from a photograph provided by my clients. Both the drawings (black and white and colour) and the full-colour acrylic paintings are done in a realistic, highly detailed style.

Where did your idea come from? When?

Lowell • I started doing custom art portraits when in art school. The school had a bulletin board for the public to post job opportunities for art students, and that's where I found my first portrait commissions. The idea grew from there, and I have continued since.

What kind of support did you receive?

Lowell • Community Futures in Powell River was very

supportive with their business program. My family and friends have always been supportive of my visual art and my wife insists I spend time using and sharing what she calls my gift.

Was it successful immediately or did it take some time?

Lowell • Word of mouth by happy clients has been the most help in my success.

What surprised you when you brought it to market? Did you make changes?

Lowell • What surprised me when I brought the portrait business to the market was that so many of the commissions for a pet portrait are from clients wanting a surprise gift for someone special who has a special pet. I'm also continuously surprised at how touched, often to tears, my pet owner customers are to see their beloved pet captured as a subject of art. It's very rewarding work.

How has your business changed since it launched?

Lowell • Living in beautiful Powell River motivated me to start drawing and painting nature, such as birds and sea life, as well as local and other BC-nature scenes, so I've branched out into making and selling prints and greeting cards. They are available in stores around town, and online through my website, www.lowellmorris.com

"I'm... continuously surprised at how touched, often to tears, my pet owner customers are to see their beloved pet captured as a subject of art. It's very rewarding work."

- Lowell Morris, artist

Who are your customers?

Lowell • Mostly people wanting a unique and special gift for a pet owner in their life and also pet owners themselves reach out to me. I've even done legacy portraits of special pets who are no longer alive, but are often thought about and very much missed. My customers are also people who have a loved one they want rendered in a drawing or painting, such as a wedding portrait, for a Mother's Day gift, or to remember someone by.

How do you market?

Lowell • Over the years I've used a combination of traditional print marketing, such as print advertisements and

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posters, combined with online and social media marketing. My website has been a good marketing tool.

Tell us the story of your biggest oops moment.

Lowell • An “oops” moment was really an oops that lasted a few years when I switched my art studies and career to performance art. I did quirky, experimental performance pieces in avant-garde art galleries. I’m happy to be back working with what I consider are my strengths, drawing and painting.

Why do you choose Powell Rive as your base?

Lowell • My wife and I moved here for the nature—we love to hike, kayak and camp. We also moved here for the music. I teach flute at the Powell River Academy of Music and we love to attend the Academy concerts, as well as PRISMA, and bands at Cran Hall. Once we got here, we

quickly found ourselves also grateful for the amazing community.


Who’s on your team?

Lowell • Just me, although my wife, Sandra, has an excellent eye to objectively critique my artwork for any necessary touch ups or improvements, so she has become a part of the creative process.

What advice do you have for others who want to make & sell stuff from Powell River?

Lowell • Follow your heart and your talent. The Powell River community is very supportive and will respond.

What’s your next project?

Lowell • I’d like to be busier doing portraits and selling my greeting cards online and in stores outside of Powell River, so I will work to up my marketing efforts. I’m also working on a graphic novel for children. 



A PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AND A YOUNG DOG: Emily Carr University grad Lowell Morris (right) has found a niche taking commissions for pet portraits (left).

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Summer wildfires?

Likely.

Mass evacuation?

Not so much.

May is usually the beginning of wildfire season in south coastal BC. Because qathet had such a dry March, the chatter about the upcoming fire season was particularly noisy. On Facebook and in backyards, locals wondered about a mass evacuation: if a fire swept across Powell River, are there enough boats to carry all 20,000 of us safely across the water?

Ryan Thoms heard those concerns; he gets calls all the time. Here are three things qathet's manager of emergency services wants locals to know.

First, fires do not sweep across mature coastal rainforests, in the way that they do in BC's interior, California, or Fort McMurray. Except in light fuels such as slashes or cured grasses, or on steep slopes, fires move more slowly here, making a mass evacuation very unlikely indeed. The region never saw a wildfire burn from one end to the other. But before modern firefighting techniques, residents did suffer from many large neighbourhood-scale fires. Fires still happen frequently but around the community they mostly are extinguished at a small size. In the back-

A HISTORY OF LOCAL WILDFIRES

What: Ryan Thoms from qathet Emergency Services will share information about the history of wildfires in our region and how this knowledge impacts our emergency preparedness.

When & where: 7 pm, Friday, May 10, library

BROOM BUSTERS

What: Community effort to remove Scotch Broom, an invasive species and fire hazard

When: 10 am, Saturday May 11, and every weekend in May.


Where: Find out more at www.broombusters.org

country we still see some fires grow to significant sizes.

Second, fires are unfortunately still very common and can spread quickly over short distances threatening public safety and causing devastating damage to homes and neighbourhoods. Respecting fire bans and being extra careful with activities that can start a fire is very important.

Ryan hopes locals will take advantage of the 2019 FireSmart Program offering free assessments and even rebates for homeowners to keep their homes safe from blazes. We still have lots of room for improvement when it comes to FireSmarting our homes and properties.

Third, Ryan notes that locals should make their own home and neighbourhood-level evacuation plans, in the event that a fire or hazardous material spill, or other safety concern, happens near you. The regional emergency service is working with stakeholders throughout the region to improve the region's evacuation plans but you should not depend on your governments to figure out things like keeping sufficient fuel in your car, or having an emergency kit packed, or knowing how to get out of your second storey safely. Most importantly, if an officer comes knocking on your door saying it's time to evacuate, just do it.

"And while we're talking about fire please consider we have 8 fire departments working across our region to keep us safe every day. If you've got the time, volunteering for your local FD will give you excellent training and is a great way to contribute to our community." 

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(Mother's Day is May 12. Don't forget.)

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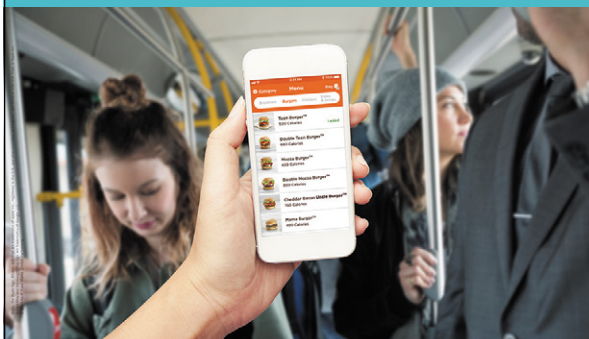
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Corner of Wharf St and Willingdon Ave

WHAT'S UP



GIANT PUMPKIN SEEDS: Kindergartners at Henderson School packed hundreds of seeds in April for *Powell River Living's* second giant pumpkin-growing contest. Get your own seeds, free, at Mother Nature or Springtime Garden Centre.

Food bank moves

The Powell River Action Food Bank has moved! Last month the food bank opened at a new location just a few doors away from their previous location, says Food Bank Manager Savanna Dee. "The new space is half again as big as the old space," she said adding that they outgrew where they were. "We had to expand to help our clients. We were happily overwhelmed with food donated by our farmers last year and needed more room to offer people fresh and frozen foods."

One farmer alone, Aaron Mazurek of Terra Nostra Farm, donated food valued at over \$13,000. Farmers who donate can take advantage of the 25% provincial farm tax credit, said Savanna.

The Food Bank received grant money from Food Banks BC and Food Banks Canada to purchase new refrigeration units – and bought a new fridge and a new freezer. The local food bank now has four units to store food, which means they can give clients better quality and a wider variety of food than they were able to in past years.

Local grocery stores have been generous in donating good food which can be frozen and used. It's a win-win, said Savanna because it helps people in need and helps keep food out of landfills.

The Powell River Action Food Bank serves 400 people a month and is open every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm except between Christmas and New Year's.

Tennis teen is tops

Sonia Skobkareva recently represented BC at the Rogers Indoor U16 National Championships in Montreal. Sonia, a 15-year-old Brooks Secondary School student, is coached by Gary Winters, head coach at the Powell River Tennis Centre. She began playing tennis when she was six and trains 10 to 12 hours a week during the winter months. Both Sonia's parents Igor and Svetlana, play tennis – in fact they first met while playing tennis at the same club in Russia in 1998.

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May 12 is Mother's Day

Home-Making Gone Wild

BY ALICE MCNAIR

Our home was on a logging road that had replaced train tracks in the early 1950s, but people still referred to us as being “up the tracks,” since it was on the outskirts of the once-bustling little hamlet of Stillwater.

In the first part of the century, the community boasted a hotel, a pier for the union steamships, and a dance hall. While much of this was gone before I was born, there were still reminders of Stillwater's past glory, such as the tennis courts behind the old hotel and a large mechanic's shop. The huge brass bell that announced the beginning and ending of each school day at Stillwater School had previously been on the last locomotive to haul logs from the woods to the water.

In the 1950s, many people had moved away and the logging company houses had started to disappear. My father's parents had moved as well and the house they left behind—the house my father had grown up in—was used as a bunkhouse for several years and was barely habitable. Nonetheless, after my parents were married, they were given the old house up the tracks to live in. It was still owned by the company, but they could do with it what they liked.

My mother set out to return it to a family home. Her first task was to paint the dining room royal blue. People from all around as far away as Lang Bay and even Powell River, oohed and aahed over how beautiful and elegant it looked. My grandfather bought them an antique dining table, six chairs, and a hutch from an estate sale in town.

Sadly, the furniture was shipped up to the logging camp at Lois Lake and it stayed outside in the rain until it could be moved. My mother refinished the pieces with



DOMESTICATING STILLWATER: Alice McNair (*above right*) remembers Norah McNair (*above left*), her fiery, ambitious, artistic mother. In the 1950s, Norah set out to rejuvenate a crumbling bunkhouse for her family (*top*).

lots of elbow grease and lemon oil until it looked regal in our logging camp home with the royal blue walls.

I had my third birthday party around that table and remember all my little friends dressed up for the occasion. The cake was like a wedding cake with two round tiers. The top tier was smaller to accommodate little two-inch-high dolls, one for each attendee. These dolls were dressed in little white crocheted outfits complete with hats. Each had a different colour trim around the skirt of the dress and the brim of the hat. My doll, of course, had royal blue trim to match the dining room walls.

There were very high ceilings in the kitchen and my

mother was anxious to copy the new trend of painting a plaid ceiling, except she wanted a tartan, which was even more complex and detailed.

It was the Macbeth tartan, mostly royal blue with black, green, red, and yellow woven throughout. Like her royal blue dining room project, she had many people drop by to check on her tartan ceiling progress, although she didn't get as many oohs and aahs.

It wasn't until she got the last light-yellow line drawn to complete the ceiling that she realized it didn't look as good as she had hoped. She painted over it with a bright yellow, making the space feel warm and cheery. All that work for nothing! But she didn't care because

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"When she was learning to sew, she sometimes became quite frustrated, cursing and swearing a great deal."



ALICE IN A FRILLY FROCK: Handmade by Mom.

she wanted what was best for her house and she would not settle until she found it.

My mother also learned how to sew on a sewing machine in that house. She became an amazing seamstress and could later sew coats, suits, christening dresses, and curtains. But when she was learning to sew, she sometimes became quite frustrated, cursing and swearing a great deal. My father told me he had to throw his hat into the room before he entered, as he didn't know what state of anger my mother would be in. I didn't understand what he meant, but I knew not to bother my mother when she was struggling with a sewing project.

Once a month my mother and I would leave Stillwater for an adventure into civilization to go shopping—one our favourite things to do. These trips "uptown" were well planned, right down to our coordinated wardrobes.

I hated wearing the prissy little outfits Mom made for me, but I knew that was the price I must pay to explore the Powell River Company Store with all its wonderful nooks and crannies. There were displays that tickled the imagination, such as the camping display complete with a tent and sleeping bags, as well as the grocery store with its stacked tins – unheard of vegetables on the lower level.

But my favourite area was the jewelry section with its sparkling necklaces and rings I wished I could touch to enjoy even more. These precious items were in a locked glass case away from my prying hands. I would watch adults ask to see a piece of jewelry and then freely give my comments about how it looked with whatever they were wearing.

My mother would spend hours, it seemed to me, looking through those big pattern books for her next sewing project. Then she would chat to the clerk and select material from one of the many bolts neatly lined up on several shelves. When one was chosen (never my favourite one) there was that familiar sound of ka-thump, ka-thump, ka-thump as the bolt was unraveled and measured along the table. Even the scissors, when the material was being cut, made a distinct and decisive sound scissors did not make at home.

Being uptown made everything seem better to me. My mom was happy and recharged and I got to talk to lots of people and see many new and exciting things I would have fun thinking and dreaming about for the next month.

But the best thing about being uptown was going home to our little painted house up the tracks.

Alice McNair is a member of the Seniors Memoir Writing group at the Powell River Public Library.



May is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month

Making murals through her good days and her bad days

MS is an autoimmune disease of the central nervous system that damages and eventually destroys the protective covering surrounding the nerves causing reduced communication between the brain and nerve pathways.

Despite the fact that her hands go numb at times, Christine Cote keeps painting because that's what brings her pleasure.

The self-taught artist paints large

outdoor murals that hang on the fence of her property, near the Open Air Market.

"My goal is to make a calendar by 2020," she told *Powell River Living* magazine. She mostly paints wildlife and farm scenes and is inspired by the Powell River outdoors. So far, she has completed eight murals, with a goal of one a month. "I guess I'd better get a move on!"

Christine was 16 years old when her uncle presented her with a set of acrylics.

"I'd paint on drift wood and scrap

wood that my father was throwing away," she recalled. She took art lessons and continued creating, but the demands of work and motherhood meant she had to put her passion on the back burner for a while.

"But now that I'm retired I have time," she smiled.

When looking at the murals she's completed so far, she can see how much she has improved since she began.

"My mobility is slowing down - I have

some good days and some bad days," she said. "But I do something that gives me pleasure."

She works out of her father's shop and her husband, George Oele, works out of his own shop creating burl tables, shelves and other furniture out of wood scavenged out of Powell Lake.

"He does his thing, I do mine and then we meet for coffee or lunch in the house!"

You can view Christine's artwork at 4242 Myrtle Avenue. [PR](#)

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Laisha Rosnau, author of *Our Familiar Hunger*. Nominated for the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize



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New retirees roll into town

Craig and Linda Rudd were both born and raised in British Columbia. Craig was born in Vancouver and lived in Cranbrook, Victoria and then settled Maple Ridge in 1969, while Linda was born in Burns Lake in a First Nations family and moved around to many other places in BC with her parents and siblings before settling in the Lower Mainland.

Other than a short time in commercial fishing Craig has worked in the automotive industry. Craig and Linda lived in Maple Ridge, while owning and operating a tire store in Port Moody for 40 years. Craig has been involved in motorsports, hockey, politics and enjoys golfing as well. Linda has enjoyed exploring her heritage and family. She is proud to have been able to be a stay-at-home Mom for the most part, raising children and enjoying grandchildren and now great-grand children.

They both have had many good times camping in earlier days, boating and now traveling, especially to tropical destinations and ocean front locations in BC.

Why did you choose to move here?

Craig & Linda • We love the ocean and hoped to retire by the water. Craig's sister and brother-in-law (Brenda and Will van Delft, who were featured in *I Made the Move* in June 2013) moved to Townsite seven years ago and his parents moved to Powell River three and a half years ago. We

liked Powell River and chose to be close to elderly parents, to help care for them and enjoy more time with them and family and all that Powell River has to offer.

When? Where from?

Craig & Linda • We arrived in Powell River last September from Maple Ridge.

What surprised you once you moved?

Craig & Linda • As we had visited Powell River quite a few times already, we knew a bit of what to expect, but we were so pleased with the welcoming and helpful spirit of the people. We were surprised by the amount of quality eating establishments in a community of this size.

Where is your favourite place here?

Craig & Linda • We enjoy Palm Beach, Willingdon Beach and all oceanfront spots. Because we have not had enough opportunity to explore a lot, we often end up at the seawalk enjoying the views, sunsets, wildlife and friendly people.

What would make Powell River a nicer community?

Craig & Linda • Wow, it is a pretty nice community already, otherwise we wouldn't have come. Although, it would be nice to see some infrastructure repair and updating. The condition of some of the roads leaves a bit to be desired in some locations.

What challenges did you face in trying to make a life for yourself here?



THEY KICKED OUR TIRES: Former Maple Ridge tire store owners Linda and Craig Rudd moved here to enjoy their retirement and live near their family. They're looking forward to their first round of Powell River summer festivals (see Page 34 for a full list).

Craig & Linda • Not much really. Possibly realizing that shopping for things would not be as easy or have the variety as in the Lower Mainland, therefore planning differently. The most significant challenge though was missing friends and family that we left behind, but we have family here, have settled into a great church and are starting to make new friends here, too. On a less serious note, as a retired tire store owner, winter and snow were very important, but not anymore.

If you were mayor, what would you do?

Craig & Linda • As Craig has been involved in politics previously we realize that what we "would do" and "would like to do" are often two very different things. We would like to see a beautification project along Marine to make it more of a destination area to stroll and welcome visitors. Store fronts, lighting, planters and benches etc. And to upgrade and repave some of the very worn streets.

What are Powell River's best assets?

Craig & Linda • The beauty of the views over the water, water life and the peaceful nature of the area. We are looking forward to the many events that take place here, such as the Blackberry Festival, Logger Sports, markets and arts events. Powell River has much to offer. But, the best asset is the people.

What is your greatest extravagance?

Craig & Linda • Eating out periodically at one of the many friendly restaurants enjoying the food and often views too, or a refreshment and treat at River City Coffee surrounded by friendly people.

Which talent would you like to have?

Craig & Linda • More arts skills, musically or otherwise might be nice. Will have to see what retirement brings us in such a place of talented people as Powell River. **RL**

Know someone who should be in IMTM? Contact isabelle@prliving.ca



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Pick a pint of pickled peppers



Since I was a young kid, I have never liked pickles. In fact my younger sister's only recourse to my incessant teasing was to grab a pickle from the fridge and chase me screaming through the house with it. Man I hated that I was so weak to the vinegar-soaked cucumber. Nowadays, I tolerate pickles, but the weird thing is that I adore other pickled products: beans, asparagus, beets, carrots, cabbage, and peppers.

My absolute favourite pickled product that we make from the garden is pickled

hailing from Italy called "Etna." It seems well-adapted to growing here in Powell River, and it consistently outperforms the other hot and sweet peppers we grow. Etna is hot, but not too hot, has a nice deep red colour and good intense flavour that bodes well for pickling. We have also used cayenne peppers with fantastic results.

If you like adding a little zip to your food, or want to make some great homemade Christmas gifts this year, I would highly recommend pickling a few peppers to spice up those cold wet days in winter.



A growing concern

BY JONATHAN VAN WILTENBURG | jonathan_vw@yahoo.com

chillies. They are wholly addictive, and add more depth and complexity to pizza, eggs, curry, salads, soup, pasta or avocado toast. The real beauty is the recipe has just three simple ingredients and the product far outweighs the effort it takes to make. When we have guests over, they just can't get enough of the stuff. We finished our last jar a few months ago and I am looking forward to this year's crop. Of late, our top pepper producer is a small hot pepper

Growing Chilli Peppers

It's all about timing. Peppers in general are slow to grow, so seeds must be started in early February. For most home growers it is much easier just to purchase plants unless you have the proper greenhouse set up to accommodate such a long indoor growing season. Furthermore, it is very important not to plant them outside too early in spring. Planting them out too

TOP PRIORITIES IN THE GARDEN FOR MAY

Stay on the weeding. Get out there every 2 weeks and do a quick scuffle by hand or preferably hoe to prevent any new weeds from establishing. This will pay dividends in the months to come

It is very important to keep watch on the greenhouse temperature. Keep the temperature somewhere around 25°C.

If you have not already started, harvest your rhubarb and asparagus for the next 6 weeks or so.

Keep seeding your crops of salad greens and herbs such as dill and cilantro. Aim for every 3 weeks to ensure a harvest all season long.

When overnight temps warm up to 10°C, plant out the hot weather crops such as tomatoes, peppers, beans, eggplant, squash, pumpkins, melons, cucumbers, ground cherries, and cape goose berries.

Begin staking up some of your perennials that need support to look good. Peonies, phlox, delphinium, lupine, etc.

Prune back your early flowering shrubs such as lilac, heather, daphne, forsythia, some of the viburnums, osmanthus, ceanothus, witchhazel, kerria, daphne, and sweetbox.

Set some time aside to work in the areas of the garden you can't stand working in. We all have these spots in the yard. You will feel good about it after it is done.

Deal with the Himalayan blackberries now. Cut down existing thuggish canes, then use a mattock or pick to dig out the crown (woody base) of the plant. This is hard nasty work but satisfying.

Now is a good time to go around and fertilize anything that can use a boost. Use a well-balanced organic fertilizer.

Finish pulling off the dead flowers and seed heads off all your spring bulbs. Resist the urge to cut the foliage back until it has either died back or turned a manky yellow. These plants need this foliage to collect energy for next year's blooms.

early in the cold will cause stunting and the plants will sit idle for a large part of the growing season. I tend to plant ours out sometime in early June when the weather is good and warm. Plant out the peppers to 45 cm spacing.

Chilli Peppers are easy to grow and if you plant them in a warm location with moist, well-drained, rich soil, they will romp along without much fuss at all. They need regular watering throughout the summer and good feeding. I have grown chillies with success in the greenhouses, both in containers and in the ground. However, as with most crops, I prefer to plant in the ground as the flavour intensifies and the pest and disease issues diminish. In the past I have put a cloche over the plants in the beginning of the season, and often I put down large paving stones that act as heat sinks and mulch around the plant. As the fruit develops it is important to stake your plants to prevent them from toppling over.

It is also important to note that not all the hot peppers will ripen at the same time. I would recommend a minimum of four plants to guarantee you will have enough fruit to fill a small canning jar at one time. [PR](#)

PICKLED CHILIES

(Recipe by Matt Chamberlain)

2 part Rice Wine Vinegar

1 part sugar

Chillies

Combine the rice vinegar and sugar into a small saucepan in the amounts you plan on pickling, and bring to boil. We usually pickle one or two small 250 mL jars at a time, so 2 cups vinegar to 1 cup sugar is usually plenty.

While waiting for the brine to boil, finely chop up enough hot peppers to fill your small canning jar. (You may want to wear gloves for this!) Don't worry about removing the seeds; it adds extra heat and colour (remember, this is supposed to be really easy). Pack the chopped peppers into a small clean sterilized canning jar.

When the sugar vinegar brine has boiled, pour it piping hot over the packed chopped peppers until the liquid covers them. Pop on the sterilized lid and let them cool until the jars seal. If you have brine left over you can save for the next pickling session or use it to make a salad dressing.

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3 Sizes
3 Discounts

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5 lbs bag - \$3 off

Cat:
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POWELL RIVER LIVING'S FOURTH ANNUAL BEST OF POWELL RIVER CONTEST

Let locals and visitors find the hidden gems only you know about! Write in your answers – serious and humorous – before May 30 for your chance to win groovy prizes. Note: One entry per person. You must answer at least 15 categories.

Or enter at powtownpost.com/bestofpr

Enter to win: **A Pollen Sweater**
or a **3.5 hour Zodiac tour of Desolation Sound with Terracentric for two.**

Star Individuals

The Most 'Powell River' Person of the Year

Best local politician

Best volunteer

Best-dressed man

Best-dressed woman

Best local celebrity

Best curmudgeon

Best Facebooker

Civic Pride

Best neighbourhood

Best block

Best local souvenir – free

Best local souvenir – paid

Best unofficial 2019 city slogan

Best festival

Best event

Best tourist attraction

Best protest movement

Best scandal

Best washroom

Best-looking storefront

Best sports team

Best local animal

Best reason to move here

Best reason to stay away

Arts

Best book by a local author

Best local band / musician

Best place to watch live music

Best place to shake your booty

Best visual artist

Best slam poet

Best gallery

Best local designer: clothing or jewelry

Best piece of public art

Best local Web site

Food & Drink

Best home cook

Best cocktail

Best local beer, cider, kombucha or wine

Best fish & chips

Best other local seafood dish

Best burger

Best patio

Best view

Best salad

Best free food



Best ice cream

Best dessert

Best appetizer

Best take-out

Best buffet

Best meal under \$10

Best restaurant for a quiet conversation

Best server (name)

Best veg-friendly restaurant

Best coffee scene

Best coffee for drinking

Best pizza

Best kid-friendly restaurant

Best brunch

Best prepared food at a Farmers' Market

Best farm-fresh produce at a Farmers' Market

Best price on groceries

Best produce

Best butcher

ST

ll River



Best bakery

Best liquor store

Best convenience store

Best food intolerance

Retail & Service

Best gifts

Best gardening store

Best men's clothing

Best women's clothing

Best realtor

Best financial institution

Best insurance

Best home furnishings

Best hardware store

Best sporting / outdoor goods

Best thing you've found at a local garage sale

Best gas station

Best thrift store

Best used book store

Best educator

Best extracurricular for adults

Best extracurricular for kids

Best plumber

Best electrician

Best carpenter

Best general contractor

Best non-food booth at a Farmers' Market

Medical, body care and healing

Best massage therapist

Best GP or Nurse Practitioner

Best dentist

Best pharmacy

Best marijuana or vape store

Best hair salon

Best spa services

Best hair guru

Best spiritual experience

Best spiritual leader

Best work-out

Best yoga

Outdoors & Tourism

Best beach

Best place to run

Best hike with kids

Best hike for a sweat

Best mountain bike trail

Best dog park / area

Best garden

Best place for swimming

Best hotel

Best B&B

Best place to park an RV

Best place to pitch a tent

Best zunga (rope swing, not beer)

Best diving spot

Best hut on the SC Trail

Best fishing spot

Best mushroom spot

Best blackberry patch

Best place to enjoy the rain

Best place you've "kissed"

Industry

Best made in Powell River

Best aquaculture operation

Best logging operation

Best fishing operation

Best construction company

Best transportation company

Best computer / digital services

Who are you?

Name

Email

Phone number



Bring this form to the PRL office by May 30, 2019 or fill it out online at powertownpost.com/bestofpr

Sign here... and there

Professional sign makers Craig McCahan and Jennifer Geertsma closed their shared SignPro business last month and have each opened their own sign shop.

Jennifer reopened J&D Signs, the business she previously owned, and is now located at 4476A Marine Avenue above the bowling alley and beside Blue Steel Imaging. She can be reached at 604-578-0510 or signs@jdsignspro.com.

Craig has remained at the 7053F Glacier Street location and opened Designer Signs in the space where SignPro was previously located. He can be reached at 604-344-0246 or email him at designersignspr@gmail.com

Both businesses specialize in custom indoor and outdoor vinyl and graphic signs.

New biz floats your boat

Having lived in Powell River for the last two years, owner Fraser Martyniuk noticed a need for reliable mobile marine services, so he started Pacific Spirit Marine to serve the boating community here. Fraser has been building his skill and experience in the BC marine industry for the past 20 years, working as a charter boat base manager, mega-yacht refit technician, marine videographer, charter skipper, marine electrical technician and sailing instructor.

Pacific Spirit Marine does repairs and installations, maintenance, yacht management, and generally taking care of the boats of people who live out of town or can't do it themselves. Most of his work is on boats in the 20-60' range, but he also works on mega yachts. Visit pacificspiritmarine.com or call 604-413-0959.

Wildwood Pub open

The Wildwood Public House is now open. Owner John Wright, of punk band NoMeansNo fame, and his team have created an artistic look inside the old Red Lion Pub at 5987 Lund Street. Custom made tables and furniture were handcrafted from local wood and some artistic pieces were created by minority shareholder Colin Macrae.

General manager Adam Ackerly says the pub has 14 beers on tap from the Sunshine Coast and Vancouver Island, and hopes to eventually have Wildwood's own brew to add. Pizza is the mainstay of the menu, and a 620,000 BTU gas

BUSINESS AFFAIRS



WITH
SEAN PERCY
sean@prliving.ca

fired stone pizza oven is a centrepiece of the building. Chef Deja Frenette is excited to serve fresh-made pizza and buns from the specialty oven, which can cook a pizza in about three minutes. The pub had been opened for a few special events earlier but opened to the general public late last month. The pub's license allows minors with their guardians until 10 pm for family dining.

Done Like Dinner

Done Like Dinner, a new meal kit delivery service, is now open in Powell River. Owner Kat Richards says the service will provide locally sourced organic food whenever possible.

Delicious recipes with all the fresh ingredients you need to make a fabulous dinner will be delivered to your doorstep. To sign up visit donelikedinner.ca, send a note to donelikedinner@shaw.ca or call 604-414-9865. Choose the number of servings and how many meals you want per week, then sit back and wait for recipes and pre-portioned ingredients ready to cook to arrive at your door.

New Fire Rescue Captain

Captain Mick Adam has hung up his turnout gear from a well-established career of keeping our community safe. He was our senior Captain with over 30 years of service and was very well respected for his training standards with staff and his no nonsense attitude for assuring the public safety, said Powell River Fire Rescue Chief Terry Peters. "Captain Adam responded to thousands of calls over his career and made a difference for the better for each and every incident not only as a firefighter but as a leader."

Fire Fighter Kevin Culos replaces Captain Mick Adam and takes over the D shift platoon.

"Kevin has worked his way up through the department and was a natural fit to take the lead as an officer for the

department. Kevin is a long time Powell Riverite and is known for his helicopter style of leadership where he can place himself into any situation and deal with emergencies effectively and efficiently. He also shares rope rescue technician training as did Captain Adam and will be taking over the lead role to make sure other firefighters keep up their skills."

Third Crossing takes leap

Third Crossing Society is now a company. The Third Crossing Society was dissolved at the April 17 AGM, as directors resolved that the best way to proceed was by incorporating a company. The formal notice put forward said: "The Third Crossing Society is to be wound up prior to December 31, 2019."

All interested parties will be given an opportunity to acquire shares in the company in due course. If you have any questions call Gary Fribance at 604-487-0821 or email him at gfrib@telus.net

Sports Doc in new joint

Dr. David Mann has moved to #11-4312 Franklin Street, between the Powell River Living office and Papparazzi Pizza. A former emergency-room doctor, David now specializes in sports medicine and particularly musculoskeletal problems.

The sign outside says PR-MSK Sports Medicine, and most of the work he does comes from referrals from other health providers. He was formerly sharing space with OnTrack Physio. The move puts him beside the office of another physiotherapist, Kevin Turpin, who also used to be at OnTrack. David's wife, Wendy Mann, a former geologist, has been pulled from retirement to work in the office with David.

New Chamber board

The Powell River Chamber of Commerce held their annual general meeting and election of officers on April 25. The 2019/2020 board of directors is: president Telis Savvaidis of Snickers Restaurant; vice president Katya Buck of Villani & Company; treasurer Michelle Silvester of First Credit Union; past president Cory Carr of RBC.

Directors: are Ernie Burden, Catfish Creative; Peter Harvey, Sea Panda Productions; Paul Galinski, Infinity Multimedia; Kim Wall, Coast Radio; Linda Wegner, Words of Worth; Pat Hull, RONA; Kelly Keil, Powell River Peak.

TPR new exec

Tourism Powell River held their annual general meeting on April 24 and elected a new board of directors. They are president Jock McLauchlan of Stillwater Beach House; vice president Kat Richards of Stillwater Paddleboards; treasurer Ann Nelson of Patricia Theatre; and secretary Eagle Walz. Directors are: Jesse Newman, Sunshine Coast Shuttle; Ann Snow, SunLund Campground; Dikran Zabunyan, Town Centre Hotel; Jim Barr, Festival Seekers; and Isabelle Southcott, *Powell River Living* magazine.

Banking on home

Banking on it Bookkeeping has returned to its roots at 7085 Tahsis, the home of owner Aaron Reid. But the business is still offering all its bookkeeping services. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the office at info@bankingonit.ca or call 1-877-677-4566.

Upstairs downstairs

It's upstairs for the Powell River Chamber of Commerce office in the A Frame on the corner of Wharf Street and Willingdon Avenue and downstairs for The Powell River Store.

The Chamber office moved upstairs last month and The Powell River Store, owned by Blue Steel Imaging's Sherri Wiebe, has taken over the downstairs of the A Frame. Sherri opened on Easter weekend and has been busy ever since. She has a wide array of tourist gifts and souvenirs as well as items for locals. The Powell River Store is open Thursday to Monday while the Chamber office is open Monday to Friday.

Chamber manager Kim Miller can be contacted at 604-485-4051 or emailed at office@powellriverchamber.com

Tix for Biz Women

Tickets for the Influential Women of the Year Awards dinner are available at the Nutcracker Market or call 604-223-7732 but hurry, you have only until May 7 to get them. The Women in Business gala is May 15 at the Town Centre Hotel. With 84 nominees in four different categories, Business Woman of the Year, Employee of the Year, Home Based Business Owner of the Year and Volunteer of the Year, the gala will celebrate some of this community's most awesome women! [PRL](#)

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Get your pumpkin seeds now!

This fall, Powell River hosts two fun pumpkin-related events. Pick up **free seeds** now at Mother Nature, Springtime Nursery

or the *Powell River Living* office.

Watch for details in upcoming issues of *Powell River Living*.

POWTOWN
PUMPKIN
PEOPLE
FESTIVAL

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LIVING**

The Great Pumpkin
Growing Contest

**MAY 3 TO 5
WEEKEND**



Trash Bash
Hike for Hospice
E-couture Fashion Show
Tyler Bartfai CD release
Family Barn Dance

**MAY 10 TO 12
WEEKEND**



Mother's Day
FCU 80th Anniversary
Move 4 Health Day
Doug & The Slugs
Cougar Day - books

**MAY 17 TO 20
LONG WEEKEND**



Victoria Day Monday
Art Raven Youth Project
Texada Beach Clean-Up
Del Riviera & The Co-Conspirators
Soda Crackers

**MAY 24 TO 26
WEEKEND**



Lund Seafood Festival
Ages & Stages
Bike Rodeo
Skate Jam
Soapbox Derby

Much more is happening in May. See Pages 24 to 35.

Bloom in *May*

5 spring things to celebrate

1. FCU at 80

BC's first credit union is celebrating 80 years this month and you're invited. Celebrate community investing and cooperative financial services on May 11. See ads on Page 9 & 18.

2. Mom

It's Mother's Day on Sunday, May 12. Take her out for a meal at The Shinglemill (see Page 36) or The Boardwalk. Whatever you do, make sure she knows how much you appreciate her.

3. Fresh, local seafood

Spot prawn season opens May 9 - buy bags of the wiggly crustaceans on the wharf daily. On May 25 and 26, \$2 gets you on the shuttle to the Lund Seafood Festival, where you can enjoy prepared and fresh local catch, music, and much more.

4. End-of-life care

The annual Hike for Hospice takes place May 5. In just a few short years, Powell River's passionate and compassionate hospice crew has manifested significant end-of-life support. Come on out to celebrate and help fund their work.

5. Bashing Trash

May 4, gather garbage from forests and beaches and dispose of it for free at Willingdon Beach - lunch included! On May 18, Texada Island volunteers are cleaning its beaches. [PR](#)

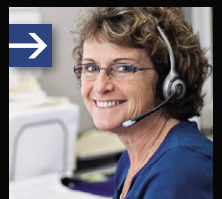
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Information fairs

Thursday, May 2

Job Fair

2 to 5 pm, ARC Community Centre. Bring your resume and connect with local employers, apply for jobs, and take part in on-the-spot interviews!

Seniors Community Resource Fair

11 to 3 pm, Recreation Complex

Saturday, May 4

Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

11 to 2 pm, Timberlane Track. Community picnic to meet local wildfire crews, fire fighters and FireSmart representatives. Fun activities for the kids, great resources to protect your home and community from wildfire. See ad on Page 35.

Tuesday, May 7

SafeTeen Presentation

6 pm, Tla'amin Salish Centre. For all parents and caregivers. Learn about bullying, peer pressure, social media, sex and relationships. 604-485-6968

Wednesday, May 8

Community Forum on Education

4 to 6 pm, Brooks. Everyone is invited to offer input for the District's Improvement Plan.

Shelter Point Park Longhouse

5 pm, Shelter Point Park, Texada. Please join qathet Regional District, Denise Smith from Tla'amin Nation and archaeologist Colleen Parsley of Aquilla Archaeology to learn more about the proposed construction of a longhouse pavilion at Shelter Point Park in 2020. Learn about the cultural significance of Shelter Point Park, about the history of the 'big houses' on this site, and about plans for cultural protection and education at the park

Friday, May 10

A History of Local Wildfires

7 pm, Library. Ryan Thoms from qathet Emergency Services will share information about the history of wildfires in our region and how this knowledge impacts our emergency preparedness.

Friday, May 24

Ages & Stages Free Family Event

10 to 2 pm at the Rec Complex. All children ages 2 to 5 and their families are welcome. See ad on Page 12 and story on Page 31.

Thursday, May 30

The Art of Healthy Living Seminar

Noon til 8 pm, Club Bon Accueil. Vasayo. See ad on Page 35.



Plan your Big May Dates

Saturday, May 4

May the Forth

Star Wars Day

May 6 to 12

National Nursing Week

Sunday, May 12

Mother's Day

Wednesday, May 15

Women in Business Awards

5:30 pm, Town Centre Hotel

May 19 to 25

Local Government Awareness Week

See ad on Page 33.

Monday, May 20

Victoria Day

May 25 & 26

Lund Seafood Fest

May 27 to June 2

Bike to Work Week

Monday, June 3

SD47 pro-d day

Books

Friday, May 3

Read to Dogs

3:30 pm, Library. Ages 5 to 10

True Crime Author Eve Lazarus

7 pm, Library

Saturday, May 11

Cougar Companions: Bute Inlet Country and the Legendary Schnarrs

2 pm, Library.

Grant Lawrence & Friends: An Evening of Stories & Songs

7 pm Max Cameron. Tickets at The Peak and Nancy's Bakery. A CBC Radio Special featuring *The Cougar Lady Chronicles* and more.

Wednesday, May 15

BC Book Prize Nominees readings

7 pm at the Library. With Darrel J. McLeod, author of *Mamaskatch: A Cree Coming of Age*, and Laisha Rosnau, author of *Our Familiar Hunger*. See ad on Page 17.

Food, Forests & Gardens

Saturday, May 4

Wildwood Plant Sale: Edible & Ornamental

10 am to 4 pm, 6407 King Ave. Wildwood Ecology Labs

Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale

1 to 3 pm, Curling Club

Trash Bash

9:30 am, Willingdon Beach

Friday, May 10

A History of Local Wildfires

7 pm, Library. Ryan Thoms from qathet Emergency Services will share information about the history of wildfires in our region and how this knowledge impacts our emergency preparedness.

Saturday, May 11

Cookies by the Pound, Tea & Plant Sale

11 to 1:30 pm, United Church.

Saturday, May 18

Texada Beach Clean-up

11 to 3 pm, 4th annual. Gillies Bay RCMP Station. Hosted by BJ's on the Beach.

Saturday, May 11

Broom Busting

Broombusters.org for locations. Cuts will take place every weekend until the end of the yellow bloom. Starting time is 10 am. Stay as long or little as you like. tpeters@powellriver.ca for info.

May 25 & 26

Lund Seafood fest

Tuesday, May 28

Garden Club: Red Plants

Cranberry Seniors Centre, with speaker Dan Mosquin. Red Reveries.

Saturday, June 1

Veg Fest

Townsite Market. Vegan food, vendors and speakers.



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for any occasion



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mens wear

604 485-9493 In the Town Centre Mall

May

Fitness & Outdoors

Saturday, May 4

Free family swim

2 to 4 pm, Rec Complex. Sponsored by United Way

Mondays, May 6, 13, 20 & 27

Sober Sports

6 pm, Christian School outdoor court. See ad on Page 29.

Sunday, May 5

Hike for Hospice

11 am Willingdon beach

Friday, May 11

Move for Health Day

6 pm, Westview Elementary Gym. See ad on this page.

May 27 to June 2

Bike to Work Week

See Ad on Page 9 and story on Page 30.

Saturday, June 1

Free family swim

2 to 4 pm, Rec Complex. Sponsored by United Way

Sunday, June 2

Rotary Golf Tournament

Myrtle Point Golf Club, \$125 per golfer. See ad on Page 8.

June 15

Sports Hall of Fame Induction Dinner

Hap Parker. See Page 31.

Wheel Weekend



Bikes • Skateboards • Go-Karts May 25 and 26

Saturday, May 25

Townskate Jam

Noon til 5 pm, skate park by the Rec Complex. \$5 entry fee. Live music, beginner and advanced contest, prizes.

Sunday, May 26

Soapbox Derby

On Barnet Street, ages 7 to adult. One day only. Kiwanis Club of Powell River.

Sunday, May 26

Bike Rodeo

10 til 1 pm, First Credit Union parking lot. Free. BYO Bikes, learn bike safety, free hot dogs and drinks, win prizes - including new bikes and helmets.

Monday, May 27

Bike to Work Week starts

See ad on Page 9.

Fundraisers & Sales

Saturday, May 4

Kiwanis Garage & Marmalade Sale

10 am - 1 pm, 4943 Kiwanis Ave

Sunday, May 5

Hike for Hospice

11 am Willingdon beach

Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale

1 to 3 pm, Curling Club

Tuesday, May 7

Show and Tell: Antiques, Collectibles and Mementos

Lang Bay Hall

Saturday, May 11

Declutter for a Cause

9 til noon, Royal LePage on Joyce, beside Tourism Powell River. Royal LePage is collecting gently used items (not clothing or

books) until May 10. The event supports Powell River's Grace House.

Flea Market

10 til 1 pm, Arc Community Centre

Cookies by the Pound, Tea & Plants

11 to 1:30 pm, United Church.

Tuesday, May 14

Cops and Hops

4 to 8 pm, Townsite Brewing. Red Serge Photo Booth, games, and more. For Cops for Cancer. See Page 16.

Saturday, May 25

"Le Carnaval"

Noon til 3 pm, École Côte du Soleil. Carnival fun for the whole family! Games, face painting, bouncy castle, silent auction, cake walk, food and much more.

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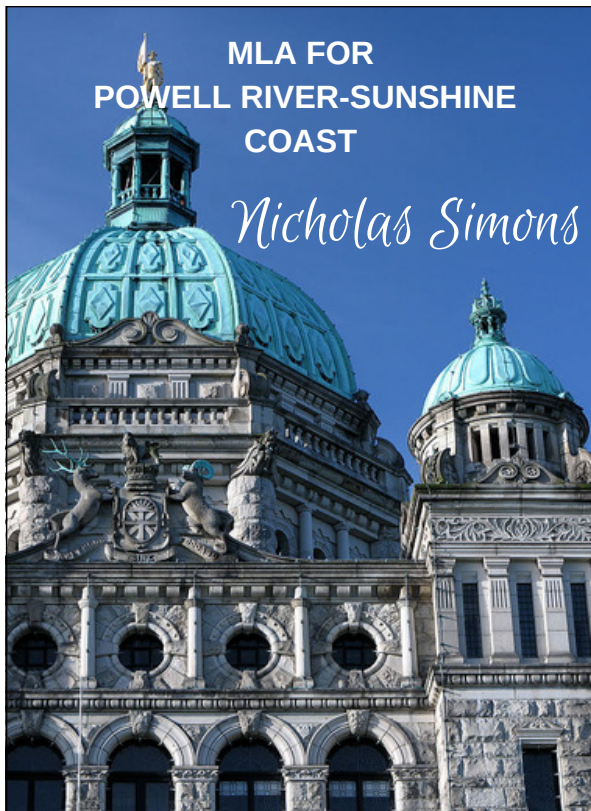
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Arts & Music

Saturday, May 4

Reception: Sabrina Upton

Noon to 6 pm, Turadh Gallery at the Townsite Market. Refreshments provided. Show continues to May 12. See ad on Page 37.

E-couture Fashion Show

6:30 pm, Dwight Hall

Scout Mountain

7 pm, Legion

Sunday, May 5

Tyler Bartfai Album Release Show

2 pm, The Patricia

Monday, May 6

Leenie Bennett and Graham Strang, in concert

7 pm, Townsite Brewing

Thursday, May 9

A Tribute to Ween

8 pm, McKinney's

May 10 to 12

Something Cool group art exhibit and sale

Studio Curious

May 10 to 18

eCouture Exhibition

The Art Centre

Saturday, May 11

FCU 80th anniversary celebration dinner and dance

6 pm, Dwight Hall, \$30. A semi-formal event featuring dinner by Dave Bowes and music by The Timebenders. See ad on Pages 9 and 18.

Doug & The Slugs + Jim Byrnes

6:30 pm, Evergreen

Leenie Bennett and Graham Strang, in concert

7 pm, Texada Island Inn

Musical selections for Mother's Day

4 pm, Powell River United Church. Led by the sibling duo, Michael Coey and Brenda Pielle.

Tuesday, May 14

EnsemBelles Final Concert

7:30 pm, James Hall. See Page 29 and ad on Page 17.

Friday, May 17

Caleb Hart '11' Album Release

9 pm, McKinney's

ArtRageous Saturday goes Eco

11 am, The Art Centre. Bring in your old clothes for transformation. See ad on Page 2.

Saturday, May 18

Big Fancy the Legendary Loser

8 pm, McKinney's

The Soda Crackers

7 pm, Cran Hall

Sunday, May 19

Del Riviera and the Co-Conspirators

7 pm, Cran Hall. Stories/ memoir/ poetry coupled with live improvised music on accordion and piano.

qathet ArtRaven Youth Project

11 am, Shinrin-yoku forest walk, meet at bike park.

Tuesday, May 21

Academy Spring Sing

7:30 pm, James Hall. \$19. Tickets online and at the Academy of Music.



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A whirling shaman of clatter and grief and fun and intent she invites us for percussive play. With our tap tapping, Lachesis sounds this fate with strange incantations. What is this amusement of cultural clichés? Find out May 31-June 25 at The Arts Centre Public Art Gallery. Opening party, May 31, 7 pm. 6975 Alberni, Suite 215.

Friday, May 24

Chris Cran Artist Talk

7 pm, The Art Centre

Saturday, May 25

Chris Cran Workshop: The Art of Possibilities

Visiting Artist Workshop. 10 am, The Art Centre

Tuesday, May 28

Evrytt Willow, Francesca Mirai & Charlie Birch in concert

6 pm doors, McKinney's. \$10

Friday, May 31

Feast of Lachesis opening party and Grant Awards Reception

7 pm, The Art Centre. See photo, above. Show continues through June 25.

Ben Kyle & Lukah Bouchard

Cran Hall

May 31 to June 2

Laszlo Tamasik Year End Performance

Evergreen Theatre

Sunday, June 2

Shoreline Dance Academy: "Beginnings"

2 pm, Max Cameron Theatre

June 7

PR animals photo competition deadline

See prpl.ca for more



Star student returns for PRISMA 2019

Harpist Taylor Fleshman will open the festival with a rare concerto

BY ANDY RICE

It's a bit like watching an eaglet leave the nest.

At least, that's how I feel every June when the Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy (PRISMA) crowns its newest concerto competition winner.

The deal is: if you win, we'll fly you to Russia for a week with maestro Arthur Arnold and the Moscow Symphony (MSO). Or, if you prefer, \$1,500 cash. (Nobody ever takes the cash.) And then we brace ourselves to say bye-bye birdie for the foreseeable future as you spread your wings and make music elsewhere around the world.

This year, however, our 2018 winner, Taylor Fleshman will be circling back to Powell River for a triumphant landing. Almost 12 months to the day since her jaw-dropping performance in the final round, the American harpist will once again be front and centre on

the Evergreen Theatre stage to give us a career update like no other.

Alexander Mosolov's "lost" 1939 harp concerto will be on the program, though understanding the significance of that choice will require some additional backstory.

Let's just say that Fleshman got a little more than she bargained for this past January, when it came time to collect her grand prize.

Arnold and the MSO had initially made plans to record a CD for the Naxos label, featuring some of Mosolov's other works. The repertoire was chosen, funding was set, and soloists were on board. That is, until one dropped out at the last minute.

Remembering that Fleshman was set to join the orchestra anyways, Arnold had a brilliant idea. Mosolov had composed a little-known harp concerto, and if anyone was up for the task of putting it to tape for the first time, it was the 22-year-old student at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music.

"For a student to get that opportunity is kind of

PRISMA 2019

What: Nearly two weeks of concerts, master classes and events performed by the visiting students and guest artists of the Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy.

When: June 17 to 29

Where: Throughout Powell River. Don't miss the free annual event PRISMA on the Beach, June 22, at Willingdon

Learn more: prismafestival.com

unheard of, but Taylor absolutely deserved it," said Arnold. "I totally trust her musicianship, and as it turns out she was the right choice. She was so successful at filling the shoes of a soloist."

Though far from a household name today, Alexander Vasilievich Mosolov (1900-1973) was once touted as the "experimental head" of Soviet avant-garde music. His 1927 composition, Iron Foundry (which remains his best-known in the Western world) is a prime example of



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this. But to be experimental and boundary-pushing was a dangerous thing, and by 1937 he had been expelled from the Union of Composers and arrested on accusations of anti-Soviet propaganda. He was granted release in 1938, though altered his style significantly to be less modernist and more upbeat. Most of his works, by then taking influence from Central Asian folk music rather than Soviet politics, were performed only once or twice, and then shelved.

For example, his Concerto for Harp and Orchestra, which premiered 80 years ago at the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory. By all accounts it should have become one of his signature works, but after an initial performance featuring famed Russian harpist Vera Dulova and maestro Aleksandr Gauk, it was soon forgotten.

The scores and parts that were used in 1939 were untraceable. Only Mosolov's original manuscript could be found and Arnold and a local composer worked for

**“Performing Mosolov’s
concerto in his home
country was rewarding
on an entirely new
level.... It will be
exciting to see how
the PRISMA Festival
Orchestra, which is
comprised of many
different backgrounds,
interprets this rare
composition”**

- PRISMA harpist
Taylor Fleshman

months to convert it back into a readable format before it could be performed again.

“We had to start from scratch,” said Arnold. “Finally, at the beginning of this year we were ready to rehearse.”

Fleshman arrived in Moscow on January 21 and within 24 hours was recording parts at Mosfilm Music Studios. Four days later, she joined the MSO for the first performance of the piece since 1939. (Fittingly, at the Conservatory's Great Hall once again.)

“Performing works by Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky, and others in the United States is a great treat but performing Mosolov's concerto in his home country was rewarding on an entirely new level,” she said.

“Throughout the process, I learned much more about the culture, history,



NO ONE TAKES THE \$1,500:

Taylor Fleshman in Russia, after winning the 2018 PRISMA Concerto competition. Winners have a choice of cash or travel. Taylor's choice resulted in an unprecedented surprise opportunity.

and musician's style and approach that I was able to bring to the piece. Being fully immersed into that lifestyle opened a new door into the music that would not have been possible otherwise.”

Because Gauk and Dulova elected to scrap the Gavotte for their 1939 premiere, Fleshman is actually the first harpist to have performed all four movements of the Mosolov concerto in their entirety.

“It was such a tremendous opportunity and almost surreal to play in the same hall where Vera Dulova premiered the work,” she said.

“While I catered to the Russian style and preserved its historical significance, it also had my own musical interpretations. The piece has now taken a big step with its collaboration of different cultures and will take an even bigger step when performed in Powell River.”

Fleshman will take the stage with the PRISMA Festival Orchestra at the Gala Opening Concert on June 20 at 7:30 pm. She and Arnold will also visit the Powell River Public Library on June 15 at 2 pm for a panel discussion about their experiences in bringing Mosolov's harp concerto back to life.

“It will be exciting to see how the PRISMA Festival Orchestra, which is comprised of many different backgrounds, interprets this rare composition,” said Fleshman. “I am really excited for them to experience Aleksander Mosolov.”

If you had to pick just one concert to join us for this year, I'd encourage you to come and watch our American eagle as she touches down in Powell River once again. You never know when she'll be back to the nest!



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EnsemBelles go out with a bang

BY NANCY HOLLMANN

Mona said, "I have a strong desire to sing with a small group of women, and I think that you should direct it."

I said, "I'm tired of directing. I want to rest awhile."

Mona said, "You will miss the music and the people so we are going to call some women together and see what happens."

After a little bickering and some friendly persuasion, Mona got her way! We began with seven or eight singers. Over the past 15 or 16 years, there was a lot of coming and going and perhaps 26 different women have been a "Belle" for a time and then found something else to do. Finally, the mixture has jelled and become a solid 16 singers.

The EnsemBelles love to sing for others and have sung at the Extended Care Unit, Willingdon Creek and



ENSEMBELLES FINAL CONCERT

When: May 14, 7:30 pm
Where: James Hall, Academy of Music
Admission: By donation. All money will go into the kitty of the Academy to help with maintenance of the building and the pianos.

END OF AN ENSEM ERA: The 16-member EnsemBelles performed at The Powell River Festival of Performing Arts (top) as well as many other venues, including Extended Care, Willingdon Creek and Kiwanis. The social choir celebrated their end of year party with cake, of course. Above, choir leader and pianist Nancy Hollmann, benched.

Kiwanis, as well as participating in the Festival of Performing Arts. The group at one point was even recommended for the Provincial Festival. However, mostly we love to rehearse.


As one member put it, "Tuesday nights have been an oasis. It's an easy going group of women and sometimes I am tired and I arrive in my PJ's! Then, in spite of being tired, we just sing, laugh, share jokes and stories and go home refreshed."

Another member said, "We are an all-ages group (early 30s to mid-80s) of like-minded women who love to laugh and sing and have fun together."


And, a third singer said, "Ever since I heard the 'Nun's Chorus' in 'Sound of Music' I have adored the sound of women's voices together. Being able to sing with women, even for two short years has taken me to a place for which I have been searching for 40 years. I am blessed to be graced by the soul-sounds of 16 sisters from another mother."

Deciding to end our Tuesday night habit has been a very difficult one. However, when two of our members had a serious stroke within the space of one month, and when other illnesses in family members became difficult to handle, the decision was made to hold a final concert/party and to remember a wonderful time with music.


Mona Stewart has truly been the inspiration for the group. We meet in her party room, use her wonderful piano and she is the keeper of the library. She taught us a very cheeky warm up piece, and has allowed us to use her facilities to make tea each Tuesday.

She even invented the name! So, thank you Mona. We would not, could not have done it without you. You're absolutely correct...it was a wonderful idea and as another member said, "My Tuesday nights will be times that I will cherish for the rest of my life." 

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WELCOME



Alena Devlin

Powell River Living is happy to welcome Alena Devlin as our new Accounts Receivable clerk. Alena is the busy mom of three small children, runs an online home business, and writes a lifestyle mommy blog. Originally from the Cowichan Valley, Alena moved to Powell River 14 years ago after meeting her husband Robert. Alena loves to spend time outdoors with her family enjoying all the bounty that Powell River has to offer, from hiking the Sunshine Coast Trail and camping in the backcountry to being on the water. Her financial and marketing background will be a great asset to both our accounting department and our social and online media platforms.

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Bike to Work and School Week 2019: May 27 to June 2

Gas prices got you down?

Go by
bike!

BY KERRY JONES

This event had its beginnings in Victoria in 1995, when a group of commuter cyclists, who wanted to raise the profile of commuter cycling, organized the first event.

The event has grown to include communities all over BC and the website is changing to GoByBikeBC which includes everything from running errands by bike to children cycling to school.

Between May 27 and June 2, Powell Riverites young and old will have an opportunity to participate in Bike to Work and School Week.

This is the tenth year that the Powell River Cycling Association has hosted this fun event, and we are happy to see that numbers have grown each year. Last year, we had 690 riders who collectively rode 6556 kilometres.

Last year we introduced a bike safety class for Grade 4 students. The children watched a short video before going outdoors to practice their riding skills at each of three pre-set stations. We plan to



IN GEAR: Cavan Behan, left, sets out on a ride with his class at James Thomson Elementary. Bike safety in schools is part of Bike Week. In the centre, the 2018 bike celebration at the Library. At right, Frank Chrinko from Suncoast Cycles working on bikes beside the First Credit Union staff who put on a Bike Week pancake breakfast. See ad on Page 9 for more, and watch for more info coming about this year's events.



offer this program again this year.

Additionally, on May 26, prior to Bike to Work and School Week, the Rotary Club of Powell River will be holding its annual Bike Rodeo and the Powell River Cycling Association volunteers will assist. There will be prizes and refreshments for participating children.

We invite both adults and students

BIKE WEEK

What: Bike to Work and School Week, or Go By Bike BC. A week of events encouraging locals to commute by bike

When: May 27 to June 2

Register: at www.gobybikebc.ca

(schools) to register and track their kilometres cycled during Bike Week. It's a great way to have fun, get some exercise and improve your health – and perhaps win prizes. The Powell River Cycling Association is hoping to inspire people, young and old, to choose a healthy lifestyle and get out and try cycling for enjoyment as well. **PRL**

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WHAT'S UP EVENTS

Celebrate the ocean's bounty at the Lund Seafood Festival May 25 to 27 (above)!

Sunday's fishing derby, which was to be a new event associated with the festival, was cancelled due to the new non-retention of Chinook regulations from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Fortunately, the Salish Sea still offers plenty to eat: oysters, crab, spot prawns, side stripe shrimp, and much more.

BC Transit is offering a special \$2 shuttle Saturday and Sunday.

For the full event and shuttle schedule, see the Web site at lundbc.ca. Here's a taster, though: Fisher's Frolic (Friday night only): \$24 per person at the Lund Hotel for a seafood feast, music, Best Fisher Costume contest and more. Saturday and Sunday: seafood booths; artisan booths; restaurant specials; a lunch cruise with Beyond the Road Adventures, a seafood appie cruise with Pristine Charters; cooking demonstrations; music; a zodiac tour with Terracentric Adventures; restaurant specials; and more.

Ages & Stages for preschoolers

This fun and informative event for children ages 3-5 and their siblings follows the developmental ages and stages that a young child goes through, and gives families the opportunity to meet the local experts on child

development. Professionals from 15 different agencies participate to promote the health and well-being of Powell River children. This year the event focuses on the Social Emotional development of young children, which the Early Developmental Instrument of BC shows as extremely vulnerable in Powell River. We know that children with strong social skills in their early years are more likely to have success in school, and in life. Parents will learn strategies to assist their child in emotional regulation, social and outdoor play, healthy relationships and nutritious eating habits. Each child participates in some great activities, enjoys some tasty snacks, and will receive an age appropriate book. Parents can work with child developmental experts to fill out the Ages & Stages Questionnaire to assess their child's overall development. There are door prizes donated by local businesses, and a chance to climb aboard the Orca Bus and a fire truck! For more information, contact Laura Kew at 604-483-4042 Ext. 203.

- Laura Kew

Respect your red plants

The Powell River Garden Club will meet the fourth Tuesday, May 28 at the Cranberry Seniors Centre. The speaker is Daniel Mosquin and his presentation is "Plants for the Colour Red, or Red Reveries". Daniel is a photographer, educator and botanical consultant employed at the UBC Botanical Garden in Vancouver as

a Research Manager in the Faculty of Science. Red in plants is readily associated with a suite of phenomena, such as ripe fruit, autumn colours and bird pollination. This presentation explores those topics and more in detail. An illustrated overview of the types of pigments that cause red in plants is also shared. Visitors welcome - tea/coffee, exchanges, and interesting garden information.

- Denise E. Hayes



Hike for Hospice

The Powell River Hospice Society (PRHS) is holding its 5th annual Hike for Hospice on Sunday, May 5th at Willingdon Beach Trail. The hike is a national event that brings communities together to raise funds for local hospice care. Hospice is a philosophy that focuses on



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comfort and quality of life for those with a life-limiting illness. Hospice volunteers are compassionate, non-judgemental listeners who provide social, emotional and spiritual companionship as well as caregiver support and respite. Volunteers visit those at home, in hospital, or at Willingdon Creek Village or Evergreen Extended Care. PRHS also offers confidential grief support.

All the proceeds stay in Powell River to support such programs as our Caregiver and Grief support groups and Advance Care Planning workshops.

The family event begins at 11 am with a barbecue, music and warm-up under the Rotary Pavilion.

For more information, to donate or to create a team, visit: prhospice.org.

- Anna Byrne

Del Riviera in concert



I am celebrating one year, surviving the cancer and surgery that took my larynx away. I lived in muted silence for three months after surgery. I taught myself to speak again through the miracle of a speech prosthesis embedded in my throat but lost my singing voice.

Even though I continue to deal with challenging residual damage, if I let my mind hover above the physical

world, I can deal with my life in a beautiful way. The mind is everything, in terms of how we navigate the cognitive, emotional and spiritual world. It is very malleable. Beauty, life and love still exist beyond the veil of suffering!

I am a musician. I am a composer. I am a story teller. I am an improviser. Though the singing voice is gone, I have found alternative ways of presenting myself as a performer.

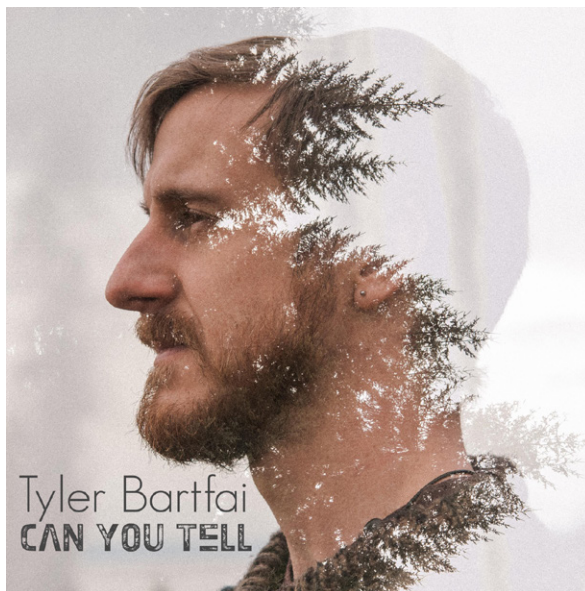
Through the use of recorded and live voice, I will tell my stories while improvising live soundtrack on

accordion and piano. This will be the beginning of a larger multi-media concept I am working on.

On May 19th, 7 pm at Cranberry Hall, I will be sharing the bill with The Co-conspirators, as they wind their way across Canada, promoting their CD release, "Shadowing the Organ Tuner". They are a Montreal band playing modern folk music, the core being Katherine Simons and Will Richards. Check them out on Band Camp, YouTube and Facebook.

Admission is pay what you can.

- Del Riviera



Bartfai CD release

Tyler Bartfai is celebrating the launch of his debut EP at the Patricia Theatre on May 5th at 2 pm. Tyler is a singer-songwriter from Powell River, who focuses on writing emotionally driven songs over a canvas of acoustic guitar. His influences range from blues, to folk to pop, from artists such as John Mayer, JJ Cale, Eric Clapton, Jason Mraz, and Jack Johnson. He'll be joined on the night by Austin Parise on bass, Lyell Woloschuk on drums, and Noah Martinig on electric guitar. The night will also feature special guest opener Shaun Rawlins.

Tyler's EP 'Can You Tell' will be fully released on May the 7th. The album itself was produced by Juno award winning producer and musician John Webster, and features some of the coast's finest session players. More information on the EP and the release show can be found at www.tylerbartfaimusic.com

Golfers: can you beat \$10,000?

The Rotary Club of Powell River Sunrise is once again pleased to be hosting our second annual charity golf tournament. This year's event is being held on June 2 at Myrtle Point Golf Course. Much like last year, the tournament promises to be a great day of relaxation and fun. Along with hole-in-one prizes, there will be two food stations available on the course and this year we are excited to be able to offer a feature hole in conjunction with Relay Rentals and Townsite Brewery.


Last year's event was a tremendous success because of the support of the community and together we raised over \$10,000 that went directly back into the community. This year we are happy to be partnering up with Staff Sergeant Rod Wiebe and Cops for Cancer.

We have already had a very strong response, and registration is underway. If you would like further information on how you can donate or to enter a team, please contact Vivica Watson 604 483 8697

- Vivica Watson

Volunteer Opportunities

For a full selection of current volunteer opportunities and to apply as a volunteer, please visit unitedwayofpowellriver.ca

• **Island Dreams Dinner & Dance** is looking for a Set Up and Tear Down Crew! Join us in helping put on a Tropical themed Dinner & Dance event for the community! This is a Dinner & Dance Fundraiser for Children's Hospital this May 25th at the Italian Hall in Wildwood. It is a tropical themed event with a silent auction, 50/50 raffle as well as a buffet dinner and live band. We will need volunteers to help us set up and take down the event. All proceeds will go to BC Children's Hospital. 




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May 19-25, 2019

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PRISMA

June 17 to 29
www.prismafestival.com. PRISMA at the Beach: June 22, Star Wars

National Indigenous Day

June 21
At Willingdon Beach

Canada Day Celebrations

July 1
At Willingdon and Fishing Derby.

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Savary Triathlon

July 20
www.savaryislandlandtrust.org

Texada Blues and Roots Festival

July 27 & 28
www.texada.org

Savarystock

July 27
www.savaryislandlandtrust.org

Filberg Festival

August 2 to 5, Comox
www.filbergfestival.com

Texada Sandcastle Contest

August 3 & 4
www.texada.org

Edible Garden Tour

August 4

BC Day

August 5

Blackberry Fest

August 11 to 18, street party
August 16

Arts Alive in the Park

August 17 & 18
www.powellriverartscouncil.ca

Run the Rock

August 25
www.runtexada.ca

gathet Studio Tour

August 24 & 25
www.powellriverstudiotour.com

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sunshinemusicfest.ca

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Summer 2019

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Club Bon Accueil

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Ages: 6 to 10

When: All summer long

Club Bon Accueil, Powell River

www.clubbonaccueil.com

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Ages: Preschool to 18

www.prpl.ca



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Ages: 3 to 5 and 6 to 12

When: All summer long

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Art, cultural learning, and camp activities

ties

Ages: 9 to 12; if there is enough interest, a second week for ages 7 to 9 will be offered.

When: July 15 to 19

Outdoor Learning Centre

powellriverartscouncil.ca



Reading & Rec

Literacy and math-based program

Ages: SD47 students in K to Grade 4,

and others for a fee

When: July 8 to August 2,

8:30 am to 1pm

Westview Elementary School

SD47.bc.ca



July 15-19 Ages 9-12

Powell Lake Outdoor Learning Centre in Haywire Bay Regional Park

\$575 +GST for meals, transportation & lodging

A 5 day adventure in artmaking, cultural learning & fun, outdoor camp activities

powellriverartscouncil.ca

The Art Centre
Powell River Pubic Art Gallery



French Summer Camp

Ages 6 to 10

\$125/week/child, \$100/second child

Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30 July 2 til August 30
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Connect from inside

Return to Reverence ~ working with elements of the natural world

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Not everyone is able to spend time immersed in the natural world, or perhaps have only limited access, yet cultivating a connection is often deeply yearned for. A sense of seasonal rhythms or tracking the subtle essences of plants, getting to know how cedar supports differently than devil's club, or even discovering when the medicine of the ocean is needed rather than that of rain - can all be done within our home space should we need. To be honest, bringing nature closer to us in-doors has a powerful impact on our well-being.

With Spring in full swing we are naturally more inclined to reach out to the vibrancy around us and either begin, or deepen, our relationship with Nature. We can do this from within our homes or even offices in a few ways.

- **Keeping a "nature table"**. This is great to do with kids who love to collect pebbles, pick up pine cones, or bring home flowers and becomes an ever changing sample of what is current outside.

- **A plant or stone or feather to dream with.** One might find this on the walk from house to car, maybe in a parking lot, or on a stroll along the sea wall. Tucking it into your pillow case and setting the intention for it to influence your dreaming is a



WHEN YOU CAN'T IMMERSE IN NATURE: Bring nature inside.

potent way of connecting.

- **Opening our windows**, even if it's a little cool or rainy, helps us feel the weather, freshen the air in our homes, and brings in the smells, sounds, light of both day time and night time. We can observe changes evolve on trees and plant life along with repeating cycles in the sky.

- **Visualizations and meditations** that ground our energy, or cultivate rest in a beautiful place in nature, drawing on all of our senses and making it as real as we can brings balance to our nervous systems and can be done even if sick in

bed or unable to be outside.

- **Houseplants.** Tending to them and being close to their aliveness is a proven mood elevator.

- **Get an app.** Yep! Counter intuitive perhaps, but apps that track the moon phases or constellations are fantastic ways to keep in touch with the cosmos. Add in tracking your moods, energy levels, ease of dreaming, or menstruation as they correlate to lunar cycles or diving into the legends and myths behind constellations as they appear in the sky - and you have deepened the experience. [RL](#)



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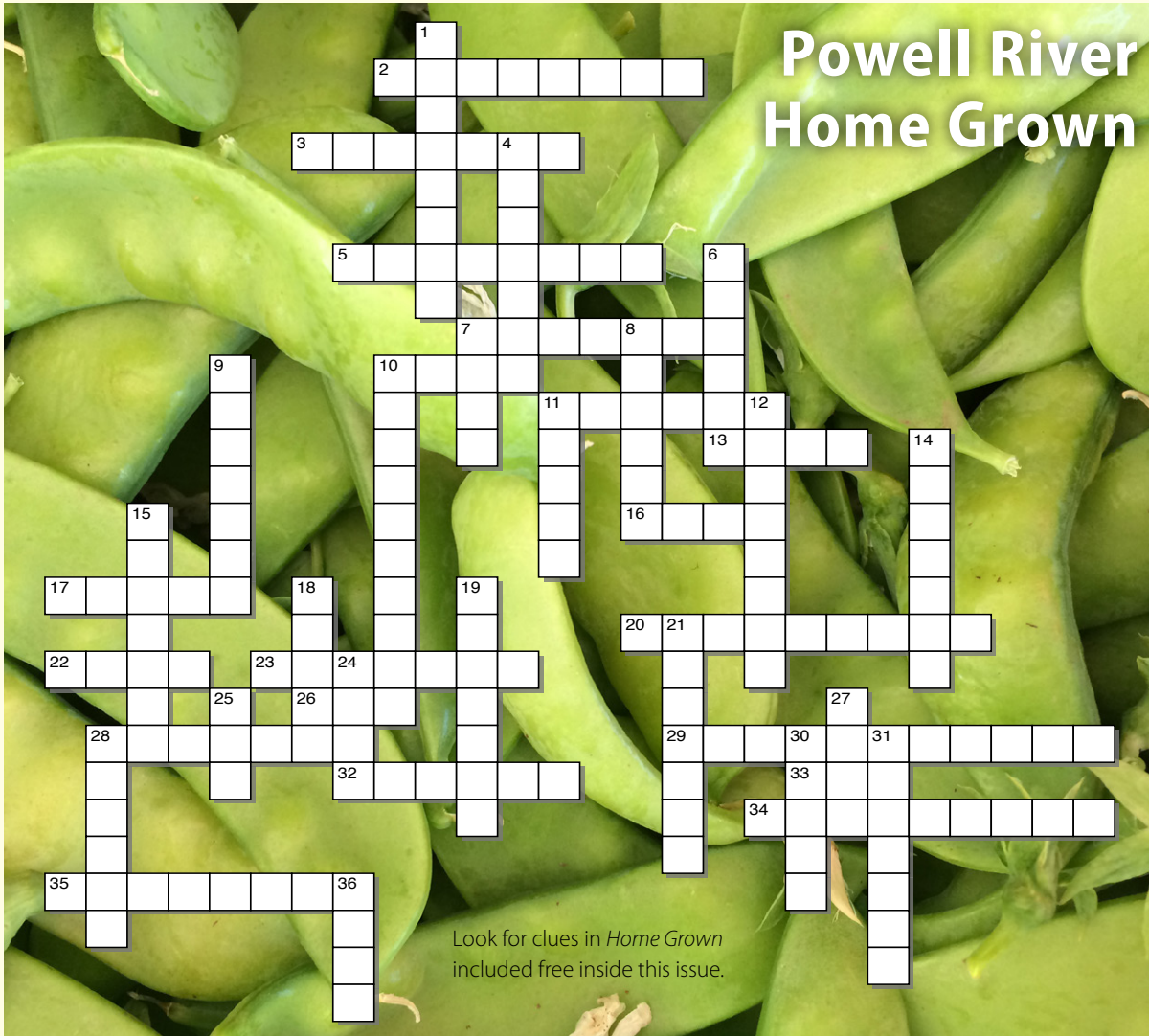
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Powell River Home Grown



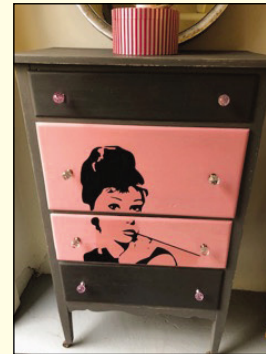
Look for clues in *Home Grown* included free inside this issue.

Across

- 2) Fun guy to have in the kitchen
- 3) Broken down waste turned to humus
- 5) Garlic growers, soon with pumpkin patch
- 7) Offspring of one in sheep's clothing
- 10) Contrary to Dory and Bruce, fish are this
- 11) Where farmers and buyers meet
- 13) Boat 'n' dine adventure goes beyond
- 16) Cover cackleberries
- 17) Blackberry gets its own street
- 20) Mollusks and crustaceans
- 22) Drink to put a hop in your step
- 23) Paradise and Windfall's certification
- 26) Stop, or Maywood farm doing well
- 28) First farmer's nationality
- 29) Farm raising Berkshires near the rocks
- 32) Most seafood for this, or a ship leaving harbour
- 33) Quonset or footballer's call
- 34) Farm by a waterway
- 35) Farmer's Gate on the way to Lund

Down

- 1) Powtown People fest needs these
- 4) Lund Fest's new middle name
- 6) Deer, grouse seeker or mushroom grower
- 7) Hydroponic store symbol
- 8) Shane's PR shrimp have this on their side
- 9) Grocer outlet for some local farms
- 10) Fern top or farm
- 11) Keeps water in, weeds out
- 12) Upper deck feed store
- 14) Vegan Festival, abbr
- 15) Farmer's bounty
- 18) Good ground at Firma or Nostra
- 19) Big salmon or warm wind
- 21) Paradise Valley hill farm
- 24) Jason will examine shroom's, not Kelly
- 25) Meal kit delivery co, acronym
- 27) Coast Berry's main crop colour
- 28) Savary, Texada, Edible, but no man
- 30) Little pigs or McLean Rd chickens
- 31) Lasting forever seed
- 36) Urban farm ___ acre



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Turadh fine art is pleased to present the work of **Sabrina Upton**, May 4-12. Join us for the opening reception Saturday, May 4th, noon - 6 pm. Beverages and snacks provided.

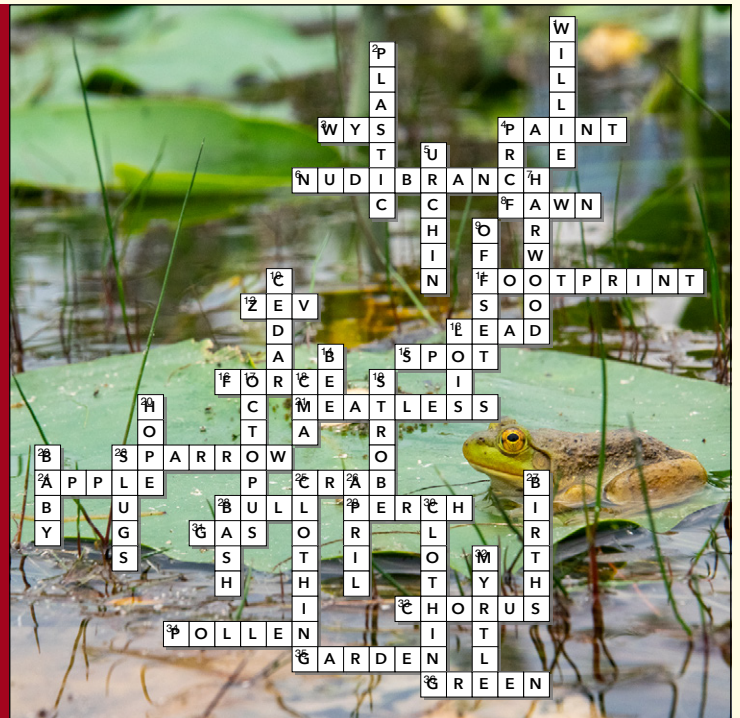
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Solution for last month's puzzle: Powell River Green



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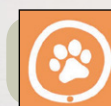
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2019



2001

Happy Mother's Day, she sobbed

Do you ever stop being a mother? I thought about this a lot lately as I watched my youngest son Alex prepare to leave home.

He needs me. He doesn't need me.

"Mom, can you throw laundry in for me tonight, so I can pack my stuff in the morning?" he asks. He is on his cell phone, doing some last-minute visiting before he leaves. I am happy to do this for him. He still needs me, I think.

For more than 22 years my identity has been wrapped up in motherhood. The day my first son was born, in 1997, I became a mom. A year ago, my oldest left home. I missed him, but it was okay, I still had my youngest. Last month, my youngest left.

I knew this day was coming. I had 20 years to prepare, 20 years of wonderful adventures, but still, I wasn't ready. I wasn't prepared for the emptiness I felt, for my own tears and the shifting landscape beneath my feet.

I can only compare this emptiness to how I felt when, soon after my divorce, the children would leave my new home to spend time with their father. All of a sudden, my busy, crazy, noisy home would become deadly quiet and I didn't know what to do with myself. After a few torturous weekends, I decided to get a dog.

Who am I now my that children are all grown up? I'm not sure.

My heart filled with happiness as I watched Alex drive away in the little green Honda he used as a pizza delivery car. My little pilot, heading for BCIT's commercial pilot program.

My baby is gone.

Not so long ago, I would sit with him in the old, green rocking chair beneath the picture window and watch my favourite weeping birch dance in the summer breeze on the shores of Cranberry Lake. I remember his soft, downy head and the sweet smell of baby. I can still feel the sunlight warming us. I loved watching him sleep; safely curled up in my arms. This tiny little human who belonged to me. I knew then that I would do anything and everything to protect him. I was utterly and

completely overwhelmed by all the feelings of motherhood that my own mother must have experienced.

For days, I vacillated between feelings of happiness and joy and sadness and loss as Alex prepared for the next chapter of his life. I'm happy for him, truly I am, but I also found myself crying for no apparent reason.

They say change is good but like anyone who is in the middle of a shift, I say change is hard. I wonder if my mother felt the same way when I left home?

Motherhood is memories and milestones. I think back to when Alex was a toddler and how he didn't like me out of his sight. I was worried that he had to check in every minute with "Mom, I love you." Separation anxiety? Maybe, they said. It's just his way of knowing where you are. My doctor told me not to worry, he won't be doing it by the time he heads off to college. She was right.

I am not ashamed to admit that I cried when he graduated from pre-school, but I was not alone. It was the end of an era. I watched with pride as he grew and climbed new mountains. More memories.

Christmas concerts, camping trips. A broken arm. The tooth fairy and hockey tournaments. A new puppy. Teenagers raiding the fridge. A late-night phone call: "Mom, a deer ran out in front of the car and I hit it. What do I do?" These are the ages and stages of the journey my son took me on. Times together as he prepared to fly.

And then it all speeds up. Like a train on a track going faster and faster, you can see where it's going - it's a good place but you wish it would slow down so you can enjoy the ride just a little bit longer but of course you can't.

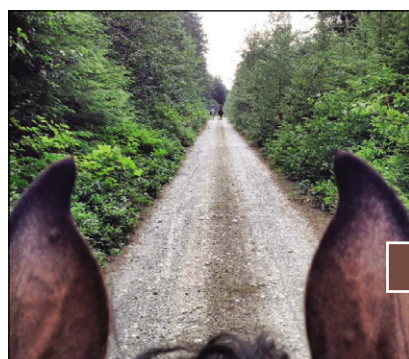
Graduation was next. An exciting time, but then it's done. Another memory.

Gone is the boy and in his place stands a young man I barely recognize. He's the same but he's different. Bigger, older, wiser, but still, my little boy. He texts me to say: "I love you Mom," and lets me know how he's doing. He still gives me hugs. But he no longer needs me like he used to.

Being a mom is hard. It's also the best job there is. Happy Mother's Day. . 

Last Word

BY ISABELLE SOUTHCOTT

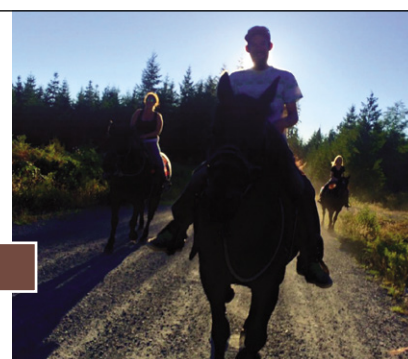


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T&R IN THE COMMUNITY

Students mine info on quarry field trip

Perched on a granite boulder at the edge of the T&R Contracting rock quarry, 12-year-old Safiyah Dyck is watching something that most people in Powell River never see - mining in action.

Far below, Andrew Messner has just poured a load of rock - recently blasted from the sidehill - into a huge sorting machine. From there, various sizes of rock leave the machine on different conveyors. Safiyah has her eyes on the big cone crusher where rock is accumulating in a massive hopper. She can see quarry operator Kyle Robert. It's too far away for her to see, but he flips a switch and the machine grumbles, clouds of dust fly and it begins grinding up the rocks, to the delight of the Grade 7 students gathered around the lip of the quarry. They're on a field trip to the West Lake Quarry, getting lessons in geography, math, science, ecology and more.

The kids from Corey Gordon's class at Henderson Elementary learn about stripping overburden, drilling rock, explosives (a predictably favourite topic for pre-teens), machinery, rip rap, gravel, road base, and why Powell River is blessed to have such valuable, hard rock so close to town. They also learn that hard rock is hard on machines, and a big part of the job for Kyle and Andrew is keeping the machines running, and repairing them when they break.

Safiyah says she hadn't really thought about how much gravel is in everything around her, from concrete walls to paved roads.

"He explained how it works, and then we watched it and it was just the way he explained it," she said, as she ran her fingers through piles of crush created at the quarry.

Kyle and Andrew are more comfortable breaking and sorting rock than teaching a class of tweens, but they know the subject well and love their jobs, and it shows. Between the big machines and their animated explanations, they keep the attention of the kids.

Watching the field trip is Bonnie Robinson, who runs the West Lake public products yard for T&R Contracting, a company that she owns with her husband and two other partners.

At the end of the tour, Bonnie hands out T&R swag and treats to the class, as



she tours them through the garden centre, where their parents can buy soil and mulch for their gardens.

The garden centre is Bonnie's pride and joy, and an increasing part of the business, as it's the only place in town to find Salish Soils composts and soil mixes, along with a variety of mulches and garden products.

The biggest part of the business is still rocks - of all sizes. From huge boulders fit for a breakwater to the "fines" dust that packs

down with gravel on industrial roads, the quarry rock is the foundation of the T&R Contracting business. Mixed with sand from the company's Block Bay pit, it forms a variety of aggregate products, including 3" road base, 3/4" road mulch and navijack used in concrete.

While some of the details may have been lost on the Grade 7 class, they all have a new appreciation for rocks, sand and gravel, and the people who make it.

Top right: Safiyah Dyck checks out some of the gravel that comes from the Block Bay pit.

Top left: The class gathers around to view the machinery in the West Lake Quarry.

Centre left: The Grade 7 class from Henderson at West Lake Quarry.

Bottom left: Kyle Robert explains how the cone crusher works.

4 great companies, 1 easy call

Dan and Bonnie Robinson, Shaun Gloslee, and Raeann Hanson operate T&R Contracting from the headquarters in Paradise Valley next to Valley Building, but the secret of their success is that there are actually four companies across which they can share their equipment and workforce.

T&R Contracting focuses on clearing, digging, prepping and providing sand & gravel. **Shaun Gloslee Excavating** focuses on road building, land clearing, site services and trucking. **Coast Hydro Excavating** does underground construction with accurate and low-impact water drilling. **Rural Septic Services** does pumping of septic tanks, RVs and boats, installation of septic systems, repairs, Porta-Potty and hand wash station rentals, and grease trap cleaning. All can be reached by calling 604-485-2234.

Out and about in the community: Frank McCorkell



Even if you've never been to the T&R Contracting yard in Paradise Valley near West Lake, you've certainly seen the equipment and staff of T&R and its partner companies around the community. That's because the company does much more than make rock and gravel products. They also use those products and an array of excavation and construction equipment in providing land development services and yard works.

"Basically, if it's moving dirt, we're interested," says T&R equipment operator Frank McCorkell. It's a broad statement, and accurate, if simplified. Frank should know. Each morning at 7 am, he meets briefly with the T&R team before heading out on the job which might be digging holes for septic tanks, clearing a property, creating a driveway, building a rock or lock-block wall, installing drainage, or doing an estimate for a property owner.

With 23 years of road-building experience, Frank is one of T&R's lead staff, and along with the four owners, is often the face of the company.

"Sometimes people don't know what they want to do with the property, and so I will run different scenarios until we hit on something they like. We customize a lot of yard work."

From literally digging through the quarry with customers to select a feature lawn ornament boulder, to digging through product catalogs for ideas to design a landscape, Frank is just one of the faces of T&R Contracting helping customers get a project from concept to completion.

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