ne hundred and sixty students from eighty countries perform One World 2013. The Pearson College UWC community brings One World to the Greater Victoria stage for two shows only on March 23. One World has become Pearson College UWC’s signature community event and is one of the College’s many traditions of celebrating diversity, collaboration, creativity and last but certainly not least – courage.

“After each performance I find myself in awe of our students – many of whom had never performed on stage before One World,” shares David Hawley, College Director. “I will forget about the number of people present, internalize the piece, and send the message I am supposed to send to the audience,” says second-year student, Rutendo from Zimbabwe.

One World is a collective – and enormously bonding – experience, with all students working together during the spring to create and produce all aspects of the performance, including choreography, lighting, sound, costumes and writing and performing. Coming together to share in a challenging, yet ultimately rewarding, creative experience is one more way that Pearson students learn to live, study and work together. Through this ability to link people and communities through harmony, “One World is an opportunity for us to express our creativity and celebrate the diversity of Pearson College UWC with the Victoria community,” shares second-year student Kristina from Canada.

Staged at the Royal Theatre in Victoria, One World truly embodies the vision of the college that education is a force to unite people, nations and culture for peace and a sustainable future. As the show unfolds, the transformational nature of a Pearson College education clearly comes to light. So much so that many theatre goers leave convinced that Pearson College UWC is a performing arts school. While not true – it is certainly a wonderful testament to the quality of the production and the inspirational experience!

“I offer tremendous praise to the staff, faculty and students who drive the production of the show and to our generous event sponsors, host families and college donors who provide full scholarships for all students to attend Pearson based on merit and not their ability to pay,” says David. “This year, 160 students from eighty different countries – including every province and territory in Canada – will be sure to entertain and enchant theatre goers.” In addition to wonderful performances each year, audiences can look forward to perennial favourites such as the South African Gumboot Dance, Ukrainian Dance and the One Hundred Voices Choir.

You are invited to be inspired through One World 2013 – a celebration of diversity through music, stories and dance. Questions about the event can be emailed to events@pearsoncollege.ca. Tickets can be purchased through the McPherson Box Office.

The Event Details

- Saturday, March 23, 2013
- 2:00 pm matinee
- 6:00 pm evening performance
- Adults $23, Seniors and Students $18, Children $15
- Staged at The Royal Theatre in Victoria, BC
- Order tickets through McPherson Box Office: 250-386-6121 or online: www. rmts.bc.ca
- Proceeds support the Pearson College UWC scholarship fund.

Calling all Musettes – Past and Present

The Muse is twenty years old and we would like to get as many of the people who worked on The Muse as possible to join us in a reunion/celebration of the paper.

If you were a regular contributor, proofreader or editor, please contact The Muse editors at metmuse@shaw.ca and give us your contact information so we can organize it for sometime in July.

Important Dates

(for on-going events in Metchosin, check Events on page 16)

Mar 02  Wild ARC showing at Metchosin Art Gallery – opening party .....................................................see p. 8
Mar 08  Investing in the USA Market Seminar ...........see p. 6
Mar 09  The West Coast Blues Doctors Concert ..........see p. 7
Mar 16  Kem Luther speaking on biodiversity of Metchosin .....................................................see p. 8
Mar 21  A Journey of Discovery and Renewal – Memories of the South Seas.....................see p. 10
Mar 23  Pearson College One World, ........................................see p. 1
Mar 24  MCA Services Auction ...........................................see p. 14
Mar 24  Fireproof Metchosin ........................................see p. 5
Mar 29  Northern Gateway Presentation .......................see p. 2
Apr 05  Michael Jones, Cello Concert .........................see p. 9

The 2012 Finale (see more pictures from 2012 on page 12).
Hear Metchosin’s Contribution To The Northern Gateway Hearings

Seven people from Metchosin were among the 274 who presented their views to the Joint Review Panel for the Northern Gateway pipeline in Victoria. They will present their submissions to the Independent Assessment Panel on March 29 at 7:00 pm at the Community House.

As so little was picked up by the media from individual submissions, it has been very difficult to learn anything of what anyone said, other than working through the proceedings on the internet.

Recognizing the human spirit is something that I have witnessed here at Metchosin Technical Centre. As a teacher I have observed all forms of learning; my favourite is self-discovery.

This exciting project will give teachers the opportunity to work in an interdisciplinary manner and bring about a whole new way of learning; my favourite is self-discovery.

For example, this month we had elections at Metchosin Tech and the most surprising thing that I witnessed was the students who ran in the election. The campaigning, speeches and voting made this month very interesting and educational. Our new MTC elected Prime Minister Liam O’Brien and his executive council Ian MacPherson, Nick Craggs, and Christine churchill. These students were proud of themselves for constructing, designing and painting First Nations drums with artistic support from Denise Duch and Jennifer Kivari. The finished products look fantastic!

For community service MTC staff and students, with the co-operation of the RD Parks, did our monthly beach clean-up. This month we worked on Witty’s Beach and are looking forward to doing another beach next month. You are welcome to come and join us at Taylor Road Beach on March 25 at 2:00 pm.

I would like to extend a big thank you to Lauren Herdman from Chatters who took the photos and handed our monthly newsletter to the editor. I would like to extend a big thank you to our students and volunteers for following the guidelines that reveal the human spirit – curiosity, wonder, spontaneous delight, or any experience that reveals the human spirit.” – e. e. cummings

Letters from Metchosin Technical Centre

"Once we believe in ourselves we can risk curios-

ity, wonder, spontaneous delight, or any experience that reveals the human spirit.” – e. e. cummings

Lauren cutting Josh’s hair

I just came to Metchosin Technical Centre this month. So far, it is the best school I’ve ever been in and I hope to be here by next year. We do a lot more fun stuff like; riding every day (or some physical activity), making drums or having an election. We go on field trips every week, which is not only fun but educational. I enjoy the partnership with the little buddies at Hals Hegelson. They worship us because we are awesome. There is just no fun of lack of fun at Metchosin Tech and the most surprising things can happen like getting your hair cut at school! I can’t wait for the next month really is something new every day. Like today we’re going to go for a walk on the Galloping Goose preparing for the Times Colonist 10k run; our team is called the My-Power Tools. I am going to run with the team.

Josh York, Grade 9 MTC student

Muse Photos

Muse Subscriptions

We can mail the Muse to you each month for $20 a year if it is to be posted to a Canadian address, and $25 a year if you wish it posted to a United States. Please send your payment and mailing address to c/o E. Carlson, 4985 La Bonne Road, Victoria, BC, V9C 4C5.

METHOSIN MUSE AD RATES

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Josh York, Grade 9 MTC student

“Never be afraid to expose a weakness in yourself. Exposing a weakness is the beginning of strength.” -Robert Anthony

Hello Metchosin. It has been a good month here at Metchosin Technical Centre. This last month we had the exams near the end of January. We, grade nines, got the week off as we had our midterms the week before. We had a Science, Math and English midterm. Two of them were on the same day and one the day before. The trickiest one was Math.

We also made First Nations drums; this is my third time so I get to keep it. Just for your information, the First Nations’ rule is you have to give away the first item you make of wood. The stretching and tying of the skin on the rim was difficult. Then we had to wait a week to let it dry. My design was a bear paw but instead of the main paw I had an image of a bear. My drum is going to be in Celebrating Student Success night at Spencer Middle school at the end of February.

We had a mock election at school this week. I was part of the Green Party; I was running for grade 9 Mayor position. I found out afterward that I got eight votes. I have terrible stage fright, so I talked very fast.

Continued on page 12
Dealing with Differences

JOANNE CHALLENGER

On February 4, Hans Helgesen students had the privilege of listening to a very special speaker talk about differences. Michael Bortolotto knows all about being different. He has cerebral palsy, which makes it hard for him to control the muscles in his hands and other parts of his body. It also makes it difficult for him to speak, and he can be hard to understand at times. But the message that he brings makes it well worth listening to.

During his visit Michael spoke with each class about his life experiences. Students heard how he was bullied as a child because of his speech and the way he walked. They also heard how he came to accept his own differences and move past supposed limitations. When other people thought that he would never be able to accomplish skills like driving a car or speaking to an audience, Michael didn’t let negative thinking get in the way of pursuing his dreams, and through persistence, determination and focus he was able to achieve many ‘impossible’ goals.

On his website Michael notes, “I’m tired of people saying ‘I can’t’. That’s taking the easy way out. And the easy way out is actually the long and hard way out, because you pay for it somewhere down the road.”

In addition to speaking publicly about differences, Michael Bortolotto has written a book The Truth About Apples and Pineapples for children in the four to eight year old age group. The objective of the book is to teach the reader to respect and help others by looking beyond differences to understand the value within each person.

“I want to teach people to look beyond their size, their height, past their physical limitations, and see what’s inside,” notes Michael.

On Behalf of the Birds

BEVERLEY HALL

On Metchosin Day last year I picked up a brochure from Ann Nightingale at the Rocky Point Conservatory booth, titled Bird Death Pipes. It describes how hollow metal and plastic pipes and at least five to ten feet tall that contained the remains of over 200 birds.

After reading this article, I took a wander around our yard and discovered a four-foot tall, six inch PVC pipe leaning against the house with the rakes. I lifted the pipe and out fell a desiccated bird. I was horrified and could not help imagining how that little creature had suffered, trapped in a six inch PVC pipe leaning against the house with the rakes. I lifted the pipe and out fell a desiccated bird. I was horrified and could not help imagining how that little creature had suffered, trapped inside a six inch PVC pipe leaning against the house with the rakes.

Birds trapped in pipes die a slow death. It is a widespread problem that kills millions of birds worldwide. Forty-five species of birds (and several species of lizards and small mammals) have been documented being trapped in all types of pipe and at diameters that kills millions of birds worldwide.

Conservatory booth, titled

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What Is BCERMS? – How To Manage An Emergency

DAVINE KIRWAN

British Columbia, like many other provinces in Canada, has its emergency programs under the auspices of a comprehensive management scheme. In BC this scheme is the British Columbia Emergency Response Management System – BCERMS for short.

BCERMS provides a framework for a provincial government response to all emergencies and disasters. It ensures a coordinated and organized response and recovery to all emergency incidents while simultaneously ensuring agency autonomy in the context of coordinated response efforts.

British Columbia Governments Interagency Emergency Preparedness Council, in response, developed a comprehensive ‘all hazards’ provincial emergency operating system for BCERMS to operate within. This system is based on the Incident Command System or ICS and has been adopted as the standard for emergency site management.

ICS is an effective system for managing emergencies – a model for command, control and coordination of emergency response to an emergency site. It is a means of coordinating the efforts of agencies and resources as they work together toward safely responding to, controlling and mitigating an emergency incident.

Because emergencies and disasters do not recognize boundaries or areas of responsibility, agencies must be able to work cooperatively with each other under an organized response structure while simultaneously maintaining full responsibility and authority for their jurisdictional and legal roles.

The model has proven effective for responding to all types of incidents: parades, concerts and celebrations; single and multi-agency law enforcement incidents; fires, hazmat and multi-casualties; multi-agency incidents; wide area search and rescue; air, rail and ground transportation accidents; private sector emergency management programs; oil spills; natural hazards or disasters and even pest eradication programs.

The response goal priorities are, in descending order, to:
1) provide for safety and health of responders
2) save lives
3) reduce suffering
4) protect public health
5) protect government infrastructure
6) protect property
7) protect the environment
8) reduce economic and social issues.

Hence the need for a comprehensive management scheme.

Under the ICS model, the first and essential requirement is to have an Incident Commander (IC). The IC is responsible for all incident activity. Once this position is filled, in the event of an incident, the process is underway.

The ongoing management of the incident is then broken down into four primary functions: Operations – Dealing with the Now; Planning – Planning for what is to come; Logistics – Getting the resources needed; Finance/Admin – Paying the bills. The IC fulfills all functions until he/she assigns the responsibility to another person. The model expands only on a functional requirement.

The ICS is expandable from very small routine operations into a large organization capable of responding to very large incidents that cover many square miles or involve multiple communities or jurisdictions. This is referred to as modular in organization and having a manageable “span of control” (i.e. the number of resources or organizational elements that one supervisor can manage effectively). If existing manpower exceeds the recommended span of control, another level of management is needed.

Regardless of the number of levels of management added or the number of functional requirements added, the ICS structure maintains a unified chain of command – there is an orderly ranking of positions in line of authority with a clear line of supervision. This ensures each person receives direction from only one person. An integrated communication plan is implemented using common terminology that is standard and consistent.

BCERMS is a comprehensive management scheme and with the ICS model provides a way of coordinating the efforts of agencies and resources as they work together toward safely responding to, controlling and mitigating an emergency incident. The model has varying levels of positions to fill the roles needed for the various functional requirements. As in any organization, people are needed to fill these roles. If you think you might be interested in learning about the roles and possibly filling one of them, please talk to Stephanie Dunlop, our Emergency Program Coordinator. As well, keep watching the future issues of The Muse, where the various roles and their requirements will be featured. Maybe a role will be perfect for you!
Ninth Annual Fireproof Metchosin Day – Sunday, March 24, 2012

Once Again it is Time to Fireproof Metchosin! Help prevent forest fires in your neighbourhood this summer by removing broom and gorse from the roadside in front of your property. A careless toss of a cigarette could spell disaster if it lands in a dense patch of broom or gorse.

It is preferable if all broom/gorse/blackberry bushes are burnt or composted on site, but they can be brought to the Fire Hall. If you have any concerns about burning on your property, please call the Fire Hall at 250-478-1307 and they will answer your questions. Generally you should keep the fires small (no larger than six feet in diameter), and away from trees and other flammable materials. Keep a source of water nearby to douse any unexpected flare-ups.

Photographs for Muse
Take lots of photos, and send the best to the Metmuse@shaw.ca. The best photo of this year’s Broom Bash will be used to advertise next year’s Big Broom Battle. You might even find yourself on the cover!!

Broom And Gorse Removal Tips
• Pull if the stem diameter is smaller than a pencil.
• Cut below the surface to the first sideways root on larger plants, very large plants can be cut higher, older broom plants will not usually re-sprout. Gorse is more likely to re-sprout and should be cut to 5 cm below the soil.
• Cut dead plants to ground level or pull if very loose.
• Minimize disturbance to the soil. The greater the soil disturbance, the more seedlings will germinate.
• Wear welding gloves, goggles and impervious clothing to work with gorse, as it has vicious spines which are difficult to avoid.

The Community House has two broom pullers for rent although you should be aware of how much soil disturbance these might cause. If there is a good deal of bare soil, you might consider seeding over with grass seed or native plants to reduce the number of broom and gorse seedlings that can survive.

Call Heather at 478-5155 to reserve.

Roadside Pickup
This year we are again offering roadside pickup on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 26 and 27, but ONLY of broom/gorse or blackberry bushes. Any wooden planks, heavy branches, furniture or other trash will be left at the roadside. Piles must not exceed eight feet by eight feet, but you can have several piles. Just make sure they are off the road. Very large piles require a backhoe to pick them up, which also means extra labour for traffic control, and becomes too expensive for the District to absorb.

To take advantage of this offer, please call the Fire Hall at 250-478-1307 and leave your house number and a telephone number, so that the Works Crew can plot the most efficient pickup routes.

How well you retire depends on how well you plan today.

How you prepare can determine when and how well you’ll be able to retire. That’s why it’s important you take time to get the answers to your retirement questions now.

Join us for our When Can I Retire? 5 Steps toward a Better Retirement seminar.

You’ll learn:
• The five questions you should ask yourself to prepare for retirement
• How much income you need for retirement
• How much you should be saving today to help you realize your retirement goals

We can help you prepare for the retirement you want.

You’ll learn:
• How much you should be saving today to help you realize your retirement goals
• How well you retire depends on how well you plan today.

When: March 28, 2013 FROM 7-9PM
Where: Metchosin Community House

Call Kimberley at 250-391-1308 by March 20, 2013 to reserve your seat for this event.

Refreshments and light snacks will be served.

Lance J Connaroe
Financial Advisor
3218 Jacklin Road
Suite 106
Victoria, BC V8N 6X5
250-391-1308
www.edwardjones.com
Member – Canadian Investor Protection Fund
Edward Jones – When you need more than just a number
Metchosin Equestrian Society – Annual Stirrup Cup Ride

The start of the Stirrup Cup Ride

ELLEN DEWAR

The Metchosin Equestrian Society (MES) held its annual Stirrup Cup Ride on Sunday, January 6 and eleven riders turned out for the event. The ride started at the community riding ring, with a stop at the Kerr residence on Tiswilde for hot cider and other goodies provided by Nadyne Kerr and Wendy Chartrand. From there the riders proceeded along Tiswilde and up the Lusse Way trail trail over to the Dewar’s barn on Eales Road. Here the group enjoyed mulled wine and treats provided by Ellen Dewar and Suzanne Longpre. The horses were all relaxed and munched on some hay while the riders visited and enjoyed the lovely day. Kathy Atherton and Bev Bacon also brought more munchies to this stop, including some Cherry Brandy which was a favorite of one of our founding members of MES, Sonja Young, who passed away in January 2010. Bev Bacon read a poem she had written and everyone toasted to the memory of Sonja for her contributions to MES and the Metchosin community, especially in the area of our wonderful trail system. The poem to Sonja follows:

Sonja Young

died too young.

It’s a shame.

No one’s to blame.

It’s a shame.

Sonja Young

died too young.

It’s a shame.

We also remembered one of our youngest members, Amanda Zinger, who sadly died in 2011 at the young age of 24, and will always be remembered and missed by the Metchosin horse community. Other important contributors to our organization and trail system include Sandra Martin, Sue Watt, Mary Moss, Jill Armstrong, Penny Woodworth, Shari Epp and Kathy Atherton, not to mention many others. We are grateful to so many people with foresight in our community.

The Metchosin Equestrian Society was formed in 1988 to provide riding opportunities, to oversee and maintain the Municipal Riding Ring, to establish a permanent trail system in Metchosin, and to represent the interests of horse owners to Metchosin Council. We also organize trail rides, fun shows, clinics and lectures.

Please consider joining MES to support trails and horses in Metchosin. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. usually at the Metchosin Community House. Your membership in our society helps us maintain our community’s precious trail system. No horse required! Fill out the Contact Form on the website at mesmetchosin.org or call Heidi 250-391-7511 or Ellen 250-474-4704 for more information. We are also on Facebook.

Investing in the USA Market Seminar

DEBBIE COOPER

Free Information session on investing in the USA Real Estate Market, Friday, March 8, 7:00 pm at the Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Road. Debbie Cooper, a stay at home Mom in Metchosin, will share her ten years of experience in investing in the USA Real Estate Market. It all began with a Mom’s desire to stay home with her kids. Debbie, a fifteen-year Government employee took the Government buy out package and ran for a chance to stay home with her kids. With Victoria’s Real Estate prices becoming so outrageous, Debbie began to look across the water to the USA for her Real Estate investments. Six years later she has replaced her Government income in USA Real Estate investments and there has been no looking back.

Debbie will share her thoughts on the USA Real Estate market coming back? Where are the hot spots to invest, and where are Canadians investing?

She welcomes all first time home buyers that are having trouble buying Real Estate in Victoria. Her motto, “If you can’t afford to buy in Victoria, buy somewhere else!” Debbie will be announcing information about a super week-end in Phoenix AZ, for people who want to learn more about investing in the USA. To register contact Debbie Cooper, debbiecooper@shaw.ca, or 250-857-4677.

Shop Locally

And tell them you saw it in The Muse
Local Seniors Participate in Age-Friendly Focus Groups

David Richardson

A number of local seniors had an opportunity last month, to participate in an evaluation of the province’s age-friendly community program. Rosemary Lawrence, Provincial Coordinator of the Seniors’ Health Living Secretariat, facilitated two focus groups on February 12 at the Community House in the afternoon, and in the Council Chamber in the evening.

The purpose of the sessions was to determine the effectiveness of the program for local governments and the impact of local actions on the lives of older residents. Specifically, the evaluators asked participants to comment on local age-friendly initiatives and to focus on the eight features used by the World Health Organization to assess age-friendliness. These features are:

- Outdoor spaces and public buildings
- Public transportation
- Housing
- Social participation
- Respect
- Civic Participation
- Employment and volunteering
- Information
- Community support and health services

Participants were asked whether they took part in any of the events organized by the Seniors’ Information and Resource Centre (SIRC) during October 2012 (Seniors’ Month in Metchosin) and if so, how they would assess their value.

Participants mentioned the Community Kitchen, the Wellness Fair, the Metchosin Home, Companion, the Alzheimer’s work-shed and the Driving seminar. All participants commented positively on these events, stating that they were of great value, a lot of fun and informative.

There was general awareness among participants of the SIRC and its mandate and most knew it had recently moved to a new location at the Metchosin Arts and Culture Centre.

The group told the evaluators that the opportunity to participate and the participation levels among Metchosin seniors have increased since the age-friendly initiative started in 2011. They emphasized that the opportunity to participate, “to get out and meet people,” has a direct impact on health and well-being. One participant made a reference to the Apple Festival, with the comment: “How could that event not have a positive impact on health?”

Participants stressed that the opportunity to participate is especially valuable for people who live on their own and for people who are temporarily laid up as a result of illness or an operation. Many expressed concerns about the lack of housing options for people wishing to downsize or move from remote properties. There was general agreement, that when that time comes most will reluctantly leave Metchosin.

There was considerable discussion on the limited public transit in this area and the degree to which local seniors are reliant on cars. Although many of the focus group participants were in their late eighties and early nineties, all still had valid driver’s licences.

“If we weren’t drivers we couldn’t live here,” said one participant.

Asked to summarize their discussion, participants identified housing options, transportation and help with property maintenance as the three biggest age-friendly community challenges in Metchosin.

The results of the focus groups will be combined with similar discussions being hosted in other communities, compiled into a report by the Seniors’ Living Secretariat and sent back to the District.

Beat the Winter Blues with the Blues Doctors, March 9

Nasreen Janmohamed

The MCA Music Program kicked off the year with a piano recital by Natessa Verbrugge on January 13. Over eighty people crowded the hall at St Mary’s of the Incarnation Church for a wonderful afternoon of virtuoso piano. Thanks again to Natessa for the generous donation of the proceeds to the Metchosin Community Association.

Our next concert, an evening one this time, will be on Saturday, March 9 at 7:30 pm at the Metchosin Community House and will feature the West Coast Blues Doctors who promise to beat the blues with the blues. Here is what the West Coast Blues Doctors say about themselves:

“We are the West Coast Blues Doctors. Our medicine is the blues. From the down home country blues of Robert Johnson to the sounds of BB King, from the urban blues of Muddy Waters to the upbeat sound of James Brown, the West Coast Blues Doctors are both enlightening and moving, a feast for the eyes as well as the ears.

“A West Coast Blues Doctors performance is designed to heal and restore and incite your soul better than any Medicine show tonic. Whether it’s the Swinging of the thirties, the post-war Chicago Shuffle or Rhythm and Blues of the sixties, the music will bring you out of your seat and onto the dance floor.

“We are veteran musicians of Uncle Wiggly’s Hot Shoes Blues Band, Out Of The Blue and Soul Station, with the credentials to diagnose a crowd. The West Coast Blues Doctors prescribe a musical practicum that will give your ears some of the best medicine they have had in ages.”

The band consists of Norm Piercy on bass and vocals, Scott Ramsay on saxophone, Sherri Clayton on drums and band leader Mark Comerford on guitar and vocals. All are veteran musicians whose lives have been steeped in music. Mark and Norm, both born and raised in Victoria, have opened for Muddy Waters as members of Uncle Wiggly’s Hot Shoes Blues Band and have been inducted into the Victoria Music Hall of Fame. Scott, raised in the Fraser Valley, has a rich history of playing saxophone with a variety of bands and has recently joined the West Coast Blues Doctors. Winnipeg native Sherri began drumming at the age of fourteen in a Scottish pipe band and practiced by playing on upside down rubber maid buckets in the familiar tent trailer and imitating Ringo Starr! She has gone on to get an impressive education in music and continues to study advanced snare drum technique with a drum guru in Los Angeles.

The Blues Doctors are sure to give us great music in a fun atmosphere. We’ll make sure there’s room for dancing! Refreshments will be available for purchase at intermission. As always, tickets are $15 for adults and $5 for students/children and may be purchased or reserved by calling the Metchosin Community House (250-478-5155) and at the door. All tickets proceeds go to the musicians.

Be there or be blue!

Attention Metchosin Residents!

Earth’s Option

Now you don’t have to drive into Victoria for cremation or burial services, we come to you! All arrangements are made in the comfort of your home, in person or by Skype, no need to leave Metchosin. All pre-arrangements can be fully transferred at no cost to you. We are contracted providers to the Memorial Society of BC. For more information, call or visit our website at www.earthsoption.com

Earth’s Option – Cremation and Burial Services

(778) 440-8500

10 Raleigh Lane Victoria, BC V9B 0A2

SIRC (Seniors Information and Resource Centre) is now open for business!

Come celebrate the first day of spring and our move to MACCA in the corner right ground-floor room of the old Metchosin Elementary School, with its own ground-floor entrance facing the Broken Paddle. Lots of parking available. And come to our

• OPEN HOUSE - Thursday, March 21 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Remember SIRC is open Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Call for information (250-478-5150) or drop by.

Your Farmers’ Market “Old Barn Books” are available for sale at SIRC.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Computer Use and Assistance Workshop
Late March, date to be announced
Call 250-478-5150 to register and get further info

Community Kitchen
This popular event is being repeated in early April
Call 250-478-5150 to register now and get further info

SIRC DE METCHOSIN — COME AND CHECK US OUT

From the left: Gaetan Linnaea, Marj Vachell, Anne Greenwood, Margie Humphreys, Audrey Jenkins, Doris Truscott, Esme Estin and in background, Stephanie Dunlop.
WANT A PROFESSIONAL ON YOUR SIDE?

With our MOMENTUM PROGRAM we will help get you moving to your next home!

• Getting Your Home Ready for Sale
• Educating You About Real Estate Prices
• Helping You Make Smart Real Estate Decisions
• Negotiating the Best Buying and Selling Price for Your Home

As a fellow Metchosinite, I know our market! Give me a call at 250-744-0775.

Jane Johnston, M.Ed.
Personal Real Estate Corporation
www.BriarHillGroup.com

IS YOUR CURRENT MORTGAGE RATE TOO HIGH?
Take advantage of the historically low rates now available.

Getting into a lower interest rate can potentially save you thousands of dollars. Give me a call to discuss your options.

Sandy Higgins, Accredited Mortgage Professional, MBABC, CAAMP
Office: 250-658-9315 • Cell: 250-589-9244
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www.sandyhiggins.ca

The Mortgage Centre
Sandy works for you, not the lenders.
The Mortgage Centre – Island Properties
New address: 890 Short Street, Victoria BC V8X 2V5
www.ipmortgages.ca

JAME LYNN CUTFON

be the beauty and abundance of Vancouver Island is not only distinguished by picturesque ocean landscapes and snow peak mountains but also the magical wildlife that inhabit our lush woodlands. Instinctively, many Canadian artists find creative inspiration in the animals that inhabit our natural world. Using a variety of mediums and methods, local artists express their distinct perspectives of our breathtaking wildlife. Fair Fauna: A Benefit for Wild ARC, exhibited at the Metchosin Art Gallery (MAG), will remind viewers to not only respect and protect our wildlife but to also encourage artistic viewership and personal interpretation.

Wild ARC, a ten acre rehabilitation centre located in the heart of Metchosin, was built in 1997 by the BC SPCA to house injured and orphaned animals. Due to the nature of the organization, it was established as a separate branch in 2002 as it only houses wild animals that will eventually be released into the wild. This wonderful animal-loving community has treated over 22,000 deserving patients and will continue to protect, preserve, and rehabilitate more with your help. The MAG’s Fair Fauna intends to raise awareness as well as funds for this neighbouring non-profit organization. Through the generosity of the community, Wild ARC can provide special care, medical supplies, food, and housing for their special patients. Fair Fauna, exhibiting the diverse works of dozens of south island artists, features exceptional paintings, sculptures, photographs, and drawings. By including such diverse artists as Rachel Evans, Ashely Bowes, Richard Wong, and Jim Jenkins, Fair Fauna encourages a range in interpretation from both its artists and viewers. In addressing the scope of artistic representation of animals and the biodiversity of the south island, the MAG intends to promote awareness of the varying needs of our beloved wildlife. Please join your community from February 28 to March 31, 2013 at the MAG in support of our furry and feathered friends at Wild ARC. Do not miss the opening party, held on Saturday, March 2 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

Special guest speaker, Kem Luther, will be discussing the biodiversity of Metchosin on March 16 at 1:30 pm at the gallery.

The Metchosin Art Gallery is located at 4495 Happy Valley Road and is open Thursday to Sunday from noon to 5:00 pm. For more information about programming, submissions, volunteering, and membership please visit www.metchosinartgallery.ca

The MAG is excited to announce the establishment of two new committees dedicated to fundraising and event planning. The gallery welcomes anyone who is interested in contributing their time to this cause.
Preparing for Spring

I t is still too wet to do much in the out-
doors, but seed starting is under way for
many of us. If you do not have a
greenhouse, a sunny windowsill is better
than nothing, when the weather runs hot
and gardening must take place. Leave the toma-
toes in the package until mid-March, though,
and will certainly look for them again. We ate
kale, chard, Japanese greens of various sorts,
and will certainly look for them again. We ate
remember I tried the grafted tomato plants,
Tomatoes get leggy and growth slows if you
do not plant them early I can hear
eating them in early June.
Road years ago, always had peas in the
will start peas under it in early March.

Mr. Willson, who gardened on Morland
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will start peas under it in early March.
In 1977, following a difficult period in his personal life and on unpaid leave of absence from his position as Dean of the Careers Programs at Capilano College, Charles Priester set sail from San Diego on a sixteen month sailing trip to the South Seas.

Charles had bought his boat Galadriel in San Diego and had spent months preparing for the voyage. She was a Cal 39 with a small diesel engine, simply equipped, with no electronics on board, not even a radio, with compass, sextant and chronometer the only navigational instruments available – the same as used by Captain Cook.

The voyage was “magic” for Charles and, relying on his own skills to sail the 15,000 nautical miles, including solo sailing, helped to restore confidence in his own abilities and the solitude gave him time to recover from personal setbacks and to review his life and its direction.

He set sail from San Diego with a completely inexperienced crew of three farm kids from West Virginia who had never been on a boat, but proved to be quick learners, and after twenty-seven days at sea they made a safe landfall in Hilo on the Big Island of Hawaii. The crew was reduced to two when one of them succumbed to the charm of the Islands and in particular to that of a black-haired local beauty.

Charles will tell of his experiences in visiting the remote Marquesas Islands, Tahiti, Bora Bora, Tonga, American Samoa and other smaller islands. He will show photographs of these exotic South Sea islands that thirty-seven years ago had not been so overwhelmed by tourism and easy access as they are today.

When Charles flew back home to Vancouver he left Galadriel in Hawaii, and sometime later met Valerie Cochran, a young professor at Capilano College, now his partner and editor of The Muse. He invited her to accompany him when he brought the boat home. Valerie, who had never done any sailing, bravely accepted the invitation, and was seasick the whole way from Hawaii to Point Roberts!

There is no doubt that Charles will give a fascinating and very personal presentation on his South Seas adventure and all are welcome to this free event at the Community House.
Andrew Glenn was born in Adelaide, South Australia. The son of a diplomat, he grew up in Australia and Switzerland and later pursued a career in international defence relations in both Australia and New Zealand, before emigrating to Canada in 2004. For as long as he can remember, Andrew has been creative and has pursued his interests through a variety of media including short-story writing, poetry and visual arts. Andrew now lives in View Royal where he paints full-time.

Artist’s Statement – “My current work includes a re-imagining of popular icons who have helped shape modern culture and society as well as a contemporary take on still-life and urban spaces. My style fuses realism with impressionism to present familiar personalities and situations in bold, non-traditional colours, bringing a new and exciting energy to the image. The resulting effort seeks to produce vibrant, uplifting pieces that transcend reality yet remain easily identifiable.”

For more information, view Andrew’s website at: www.andrewglenn.info.
Letters from Metchosin Technical Centre continued

However, as my quote states, weakness is the beginning of strength, so I guess I am getting strong! We had a Prime Minister, Premier, and the Mayor represent the three levels of government and the three grades. The winners were Charlie from my group for Prime Minister, Liam for Premier and my friend Nick for Mayor. We did this to understand politics better. After the ballots were cast, there was one vote from a tie and I learned that if people don’t vote, it can make the difference between winning and losing. Well this is all that’s been happening.

Signing off till next month.

Alex Jensen, grade 9 student

"The ballot is stronger than the bullet.” — Abraham Lincoln

This month here at Metchosin Technical Centre we have made drums. The drums were just frames and skins and we strung them and designed a first nations Coastal Salish design and painted them. The first drum you make you have to give to someone. Originally, I was going to give my drum to a man who influenced my life. My Grandpa passed away three weeks ago and now I have to give it to someone else. I designed a fish and am giving it to my Dad.

We had an election at MTC and an all candidates forum. Our Prime Minister is Charlie, Premier is Liam and Nick is the grade 9 representative that won the Mayor’s race. I was the scrutinizer which means that I counted the votes and made sure that the election was fair. I thought it was cool. There was only one vote difference between the winner and the second place in the Prime Minister’s race. Every vote counts!

Bryan Wickheim, Grade 9 student

One must learn by doing the thing, for though you think you know it, you have no certainty until you try. - Aristotle

This month at Metchosin Technical Centre we have been organizing and running an election. We had four parties: Green, NDP, Conservative and the MTC Communist party. The leaders of the party were from grade 11. I was the leader of the Green Party and we had an extensive platform regarding environmental issues like opposing the Northern Gateway Pipeline, exportation of raw logs from BC and legalization of cannabis. We went to the Municipal Hall and had an all candidates forum where we all spoke about our party’s platforms. I was the leader of the Green party and was elected the Prime Minister of the school. I thought the process was a good learning experience and provided insight into the political process. I think if I wanted to be a politician I could do it, but I would rather be an activist. However, I feel you can do more damage or good inside the system because you have more power. I would also like to thank the Municipal hall for having our school over and using the hall.

Charlie, Grade 11 student

This school is fantastic. We do the craziest stuff here, for example, today we had an election and an all candidate forum. We went to the Metchosin Municipal Hall and I watched the candidates talk about how they would improve our school and the issues their parties are fighting for. I personally had a good friend run for the Metchosin Technical Centre NDP party and he was elected by a landslide, with over fifty percent of the popular vote. I know this because I was part of the election committee that counted all the ballots after the polls closed. The first thing we did was open the ballot box and sorted the grade 9, 10 and 11s into their own piles. Then we tallied all the ballots, taking out all the spoiled ballots first. The surprising part of the election was that the Prime Minister only won by a single vote. Every vote counts!

Josh Van der Kolk Grade 10, student
Looking happier, just before release
Photos by Christina Carrières, AHT

BC SPCA Wild ARC – Lesser Scaup Rescue

Christina Carrières, Senior Wildlife Rehabilitator

A male Lesser Scaup was rescued by a Duncan SPCA staff member on January 4, 2013, and transferred to the BC SPCA Wild ARC for rehabilitation. Scoups, a species of diving duck that spend most of their time on the water, are common winter visitors to BC. This Scaup ran into trouble when he was attacked by a hawk, and was suffering from several puncture wounds to the neck area as a result.

Designed for an aquatic life, Scoups’ feet are very delicate and their legs are set far back on their body, making walking on land difficult. If they spend excessive periods of time on land or on hard surfaces they develop severe sores on their feet or on their belly. On initial assessment, Wild ARC rehabilitators noticed that the Scaup had feet sores in addition to his neck wounds, and were very worried that these sores were too severe to heal completely.

Once the Scaup was stabilized, he required surgery to repair the neck wounds. The surgery was successful, but because of the resulting sutures the bird had to be housed in a specially designed cage to prevent pressure sores and feather damage during his time off the water. The Scaup’s feet sores were still a major concern – when seabirds develop such sores, it is often a death sentence for them. This is because the skin is very thin, so even minor abrasions can lead to exposed bone, and infection often follows. Fortunately, the highly skilled rehabilitators at Wild ARC were able to perform an additional surgery on the bird’s feet to treat the affected areas and allow them to heal. The Scaup also needed assisted feedings to sustain his good body condition, as often seabirds and diving ducks are reluctant to eat when in captivity.

Following two weeks of intensive care consisting of antibiotics, antifungal medication, probiotics, pain control, homeopathic remedies and wound care, the Scaup required an oil bath in order to clean his soiled feathers and allow the bird to restore his waterproofing. The Scaup was then transferred to a tub where he could now be kept on water and allow his feet to heal with the help of water therapy, while having the opportunity for mild exercise.

Almost a month after the Lesser Scaup was rescued, he was finally ready to move to an outdoor pool where he could acclimatize to the outside temperature and complete his healing process while minimizing the stress of captivity. The wounds inflicted by the hawk were completely healed by that point, and the foot sores were well on the mend.

Two more weeks went by before the Scaup’s condition was assessed and judged to be ready for release. On February 18, the Lesser Scaup, now fully recovered from his injuries, was released at the Duncan Fish Hatchery where he paddled down the waterway to join dozens of other local birds, free to explore the coastal waters once more. Seabird rehabilitation is very intensive and requires professional training. If you would like to support Wild ARC’s efforts in caring for our many wild patients like this Lesser Scaup, please visit our website at wildarc.com for a list of ways you can help.

Jam Session Concludes on High Note

JC JAM DOG

Local jammer B-Daddy, with the help of other jam artists like Momma Kath, KK and NicO, along with many enthusiastic groupies, recently pulled off the sweetest jam session ever held at the House.

The gig started with B-Daddy bringing in some out-of-town stars, The Sevilles, from Arizona. These Orange County choppers were the main attraction of what became a get-down, choppin’, slicin’, pity, juicy, boiling time for all. Sweet!

Local jammer, Larry “The Knife” Hildreth, displays his prowess at the fine art of slicing pith from rind and separating the pits to use for marmalade. Over twenty people from Metchosin, Colwood, Langford and Sooke got a demonstration of how to prepare the oranges, the fine art of slicing the rinds, extracting the pits to use for the pectin and the detailed steps of soaking, simmering, boiling and canning the marmalade.

A wonderful community event with the added bonus of several jars of homemade marmalade for all the participants. Sweet!

Translation for you types who don’t speak the new hip-hop talk: Brian Donnery, with the help of Kathleen Sutherland, Kyara Kahakaulau and Nicole Lalonde, recently organized a marmalade jam making session at the Community House as part of the Guest Chef series. Brian brought in a case of special Seville oranges from Arizona.

Our thanks to The Market on Millstream Road for their help getting the case of oranges. Over twenty people from Metchosin, Colwood, Langford and Sooke got a demonstration of how to prepare the oranges, the fine art of slicing the rinds, extracting the pits to use for the pectin and the detailed steps of soaking, simmering, boiling and canning the marmalade. A wonderful community event with the added bonus of several jars of homemade marmalade for all the participants. Sweet!

Free at last!
The Metchosin Community Association is gearing up for the third annual Metchosin Services Auction taking place on Sunday, March 24 at 2:00 pm at the Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Road.

Our unique collection of services and skills has once again been made possible through the generosity of local experts who have donated their time and training to our fundraiser. You will be able to bid on the home-services that you need, offered by trades-people and professionals who you recognize.

Go to www.metchosincommunityhouse.com, follow the “Services Auction” links and view the list of practical, money-saving, local services up for bids. You will find great bargains.

The excitement of bidding will be managed on two levels: first on-line bidding from March 1 to March 22 and second live auction bidding held at the Metchosin Community House, on March 24 between 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

The 2013 Metchosin Services Auction listings will be open for perusal and initial e-bids starting March 1. Keep watching the web site as new donations continue to come in and offers continue to grow. Be the first to get your purchase offers placed by bidding on-line.

For the grand finale, join the fun, excitement, and friendly competition of the live auction on March 24, when our lovely, experienced and cutting-edge Auctioneer, Laura Gramada, guides the crowd through the final bidding wars.

If you have a service you would like to donate, please email jim@rjchallenger.com.

For further details go to www.metchosincommunityhouse.com.

**Sold! To Paddle No. 43**

**BETTY HILDRETH**

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**Westcoast Tire and Wheel Ltd.**

Over 30 years of service on the South Island.

**Millar’s Automotive**

**Volkswagen Specialist**

Factory Trained

27 yrs experience

Other Makes Welcome

Tel: 250-391-0588 Fax: 250-391-0587

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The “NOT” so Little Tire Shop

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For further details go to www.metchosincommunityhouse.com.
Fire Hall Call-Outs

The Fire Chief has advised that they will not be able to meet the deadlines for submission for The Muse and has suggested we no longer report on a monthly basis. Therefore the Fire Hall Call-Outs will no longer appear in The Muse.

RCMP Call-Outs JANUARY 15 – FEBRUARY 13, 2013

BY CPL. BRIAN KERR, CENTRAL SAANICH POLICE

Jan 15 Happy Valley Road – Complaint of theft of a licence plate.
Jan 16 La Bonne Road – Complaint of suspicious vehicle, not located.
Jan 17 Glen Forest Way – Complaint of a disturbance.
Jan 18 Sooke Road – Complaint of erratic driver, patrols failed to locate suspect vehi-

John Horgan MLA Juan de Fuca

Standing up for our Rural Communities

Please contact my office if you need help with any provincial government issue.

CLASSIFIEDS

$10 per 25 words to go in this monthly paper which is mailed to every Metchosin household. Envelopes are provided at Metchosin Country Store.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month and can be dropped off at Metchosin Country Store.

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METCHOSIN RAISED CHICKEN, LAMB & PORK, Processed in fully inspected facilities. Call for info.
250-478-9628.

FOODSAFE – LEVELS 1 AND 2, MARKETSAFE AND WHMIS – Classes taught by certified instruc-
tors. See website www.hospitalitytrainingplus.com for information or contact Evelyn on-site group classes.
250-474-5596.

LENS

Cookies Critter Care Metchosin’s Professional Pet-Sitter and Dog-Walker since 2006. Fully Insured, Bondable and First Aid Certified. Cookie 250-415-9035. Comes highly recom-

ledonated. For more information call 778-265-4940 or www.pawsitivek9.ca.

ACOMMODATION

FOR RENT – Colwood!

$10 per 25 words to go in this monthly paper which is mailed to every Metchosin household. Envelopes are provided at Metchosin Country Store.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month and can be dropped off at Metchosin Country Store.

FOR SALE

METCHOSIN RAISED CHICKEN, LAMB & PORK, Processed in fully inspected facilities. Call for info.
250-478-9628.

FOODSAFE – LEVELS 1 AND 2, MARKETSAFE AND WHMIS – Classes taught by certified instruc-
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DIRECTORY OF ORGANIZATIONS

The following is contact information for not-for-profit organizations, but fuller descriptions are given in the “Directory of Metchosin”, available at the Municipal Hall and the Community House. Brief articles highlighting special events should be mailed to metmuse@shaw.ca by the 15th of each month, as should any amendments or additions to this list.

AIR CADETS
250-590-3690

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF BC

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL METCHOSIN (APRM)
250-478-2387, www.aprm.ca

BADMINTON

BILSTON WATERSHED HABITAT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
250-478-2387, www.bilstoncreek.org, ikmcken@islandnet.com

‘CHOSIN CHATTERS TOASTMASTERS’
info@chosinchatters.org, www.chosinchatters.org.

CRD PARKS
250-478-2387, crdparks@crd.bc.ca, www.crd.bc.ca/parks

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA (Metchosin and Colwood)
250-478-5484

LA LECHE LEAGUE CANADA
250-727-4384

METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE
250-478-5155, mchouse@telus.net, www.metchosincommunity-house.com

METCHOSIN COUNCIL
250-474-3167, www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/meetings, mayorandcouncil@metchosin.ca

METCHOSIN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
250-478-1307; Ham operators call in on 146.550. POD members can call FRN (Family Radio Service) radios: Channel 1 with “0” privacy tone

METCHOSIN EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY
250-391-7511, exchanging@shaw.ca, www.mesmetchosin.org

METCHOSIN 4H CLOVERBUDS
250-478-4677, debbiecooper@shaw.ca

METCHOSIN GARDEN CLUB
250-298-7877

METCHOSIN HALL SOCIETY

METCHOSIN HIKING CLUB
250-478-4778

METCHOSIN MUSEUM SOCIETY
Pioneer Museum 250-382-1989; School Museum, 250-478-5447

METCHOSIN PONY CLUB
250-727-3595

METCHOSIN PRESCHOOL
250-478-9241, metchosinspreschool@gmail.com, www.metchosinspreschool.wordpress.com

METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE
250-478-2210

MT. MATHESON CONSERVATION SOCIETY
250-642-0238

POD LEADERS
250-474-3966, MetNRP@shaw.ca.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Branch 91
250-478-5484, tandinw@icloud.com

SCHOOLS CANADA
14th@jandeluca@victorianscouts.ca

SEA CADETS
250-478-7813

SENIORS’ INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE (SIRC)
250-478-5150, msirc@shaw.ca

TOPS
250-590-3100

WEST SHORE ARTS COUNCIL
250-478-2286, info@westshoresarts.org, www.westshoresarts.org

WEST SHORE COMMUNITY BAND
250-474-3999

WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION

CHURCHES

BAHAI FAITH
250-514-1757

GORDON UNITED CHURCH

HOLY TRINITY REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH
250-727-3722

OPEN GATE CHURCH

PILGRIM UNITED CHURCH
250-478-2533, pilgrimuc@shaw.ca, www.pilgrimunited.ca

ST. MARY OF THE INCARNATION—ANGLUCAN CHURCH OF CANADA
250-474-4119, www.stmarysmetchosin.weebly.com

WEST SHORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WESTSONG COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE SALVATION ARMY

WestShore Chamber of Commerce member

Email: bythewave@msn.com

PHOTO BY Marnie Gordon

Alzheimer Society of British Columbia

WestShore Chamber of Commerce member

We Care.

Metchosin Equestrian Society

Metchosin Community House

Metchosin Community House