



Metchosin Muse

metchosinmuse@gmail.com www.metchosinmuse.ca

Great Horned Owl Siblings Reunited

Erin Ryan, BC SPCA's Wild ARC

How these two owlets fell out of their nest remains a mystery – did they fall out because of strong winds and rain? Was the nest a little rickety after years of re-use? Or were they accidentally pushed out by a rambunctious sibling? We may never know, but one thing was clear, they were too young to be outside the nest.

Thankfully, a kind member of the public found these Great Horned owlets on the ground and brought them to Wild ARC for care. It's a miracle neither of them were injured after a long fall! During their brief stay in care, these two were the perfect patients. Each of them had a healthy appetite, and were very feisty with staff – a good, healthy sign for a wild baby.

A wild baby's best chance of survival is with its family. Luckily for these two, their nest was still intact right above where they were found. The parents were observed continuing to visit the nest, caring for a third baby still there. This was a promising sign that reuniting them with their family was still possible. Wild ARC staff assessed the situation and consulted with a local arborist to ensure they would be safe to

return. Our experts constructed a new false nest, to ensure the babies weren't likely to fall out again. When appropriately placed, the parents can continue to care for all the babies.

Jeff Krieger of Alternative Wildlife Solutions works very closely with Wild ARC, and has years of experience with reuniting and rescuing wildlife. Jeff worked closely with an arborist to ensure everyone was safe climbing the tree while the babies were returned. The efforts of everyone involved paid off, and the young owlets were successfully reunited with their parents!

Although reuniting babies with their families is ideal, these reunions take a lot of work. In addition to the specialized care and diets they receive during their stay at Wild ARC, reunions have to be carefully planned to ensure success. This includes consultation with the wildlife rehabilitators, and any other necessary experts such as veterinarians, arborists and witnesses. Often, the actual reunion means one or more rehabilitators attending a reunion at dawn or dusk, to match the biology and behavior of the parents.



Owlets in the care of Wild ARC. Photo by Wild ARC staff

Remember – finding a baby animal doesn't always mean they're in trouble. If you're ever unsure if a baby needs help, or need advice on wild animals, contact Wild ARC at 1-855-622-7722.

Second Annual Summer Outdoor Leadership Day Camps at Pearson



Happy campers (above) and camp frolics (below) from last year. Nikola Mende photos



Brian Geary, Communications Director, Pearson College

This summer, the campus of Pearson College UWC in Metchosin will again take on a younger vibe with Pearson Experiences Summer Outdoor Leadership Day Camps for six- to fourteen-year-olds.

Located on the traditional territory of the Sc'ianew First Nation along Pedder Bay, the Pearson campus provides acres of green space, adjacent forests, safe water access and all the amenities for an awesome childhood experience this summer.

"I can't think of a more exciting location for a day camp," said Angela Gatari, Community Events & Partnerships Manager

and Dean of Students. "We promise a unique setting and an exceptional experience based on our decades of cross-cultural leadership learning and supervised outdoor experiences for young people."

During week-long day camps running from July 4 to August 5, kids from across southern Vancouver Island will participate in activities such as hiking, kayaking, sports, arts and crafts, drama, dance, leadership and team building, unique cultural celebrations, and much, much more on campus.

"Parents and guardians will also be able to choose from a variety of safe, supervised educational field trips and other optional adventures such as supervised kayaking on Pedder Bay and swimming sessions at our indoor pool," added Gatari. Families can find out more and register at <https://www.pearsoncollege.ca/leadership-day-camps/>.

For busy families, options for campers also include before- and after-camp care, upon-request hot lunches and snacks and three pick-up and drop-off points around the region.

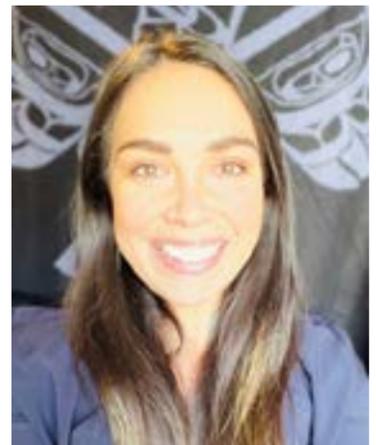
"We anticipate several camp leaders and counsellors will be drawn from current students on campus, including international students, who will enrich campers' experience through cross-cultural learning opportunities," said Gatari. "Many also

have kayak and watercraft safety certification, first-aid training and emergency response experience as part of our curriculum here at Pearson."

Pearson is known as one of 18 United World Colleges around the world – and the only UWC in Canada. During the school year, Pearson hosts two hundred 16- to 19-year-old students from across Canada and around the world, and is the site of a number of summer activities such as a full slate of outdoor weddings and events.

College Update

We'd like to share with you the good news that Rebecca Beauchamp has officially started as Pearson College UWC's Director, Indigenous Initiatives and Engagement.



Rebecca Beauchamp

LESTER B. PEARSON
COLLEGE OF THE PACIFIC

UWC

Metchosin Muse

Email metchosinmuse@gmail.com Web www.metchosinmuse.ca

CO-EDITORS

Allen Jones, 778-265-6385
Johnny Carline, 250-474-4601
metchosinmuse@gmail.com

ADVERTISING

Jennifer Burgis, 250-881-8280
j.burgis@telus.net

DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Joan Kew

DISTRIBUTION CO-ORDINATOR

Barrett Fullerton

EVENTS

metchosinmuse@gmail.com

MAILING ADDRESS

c/o L. Spiller
4741 Lisandra Road
Victoria, BC V9C 4G1

AD DEADLINE

The 15th of the month for month-end publication.

ACCOUNTS & CLASSIFIEDS

Linda Spiller, 250-590-0168
amuselinda@gmail.com

Classified Ads

\$15 for up to 25 words per edition.

Deadline: 15th of the month.

Payment in advance preferably by e-transfer. Contact Linda at amuselinda@gmail.com or 250-590-0168.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND HOW TO SEND COPY

All articles and advertisements are due by the 15th of the month. Please send copy as an email attachment using Microsoft Word, text or RTF to: metchosinmuse@gmail.com. Do not send PDFs. Photos should be high resolution and be in jpg or tif format only. Typewritten or handwritten copy may be acceptable if you have no computer access; please call Linda at 250-590-0168 for arrangements. All submissions may be edited for length, style and suitability of content and language. Submissions are accepted on this understanding. Please visit our website for more information: www.metchosinmuse.ca

ABOUT THE MUSE

The *Metchosin Muse* is a local non-profit, arts, interests and activities publication, produced by the *Metchosin Muse* Society. The opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors, not the paper. The *Muse* endeavours to promote respectful and open dialogue in the community and aims to interest a broad cross-section of the residents of Metchosin and Beecher Bay.

CURRENT CIRCULATION:

2700

The Muse's Brilliant Leslie Eaton Moves On

Johnny Carline

Leslie Eaton has been responsible for the design and layout of the *Metchosin Muse* since March, 2018. For those four years, she brought not only unbounded creativity and talent but also a flexibility and willingness to work with a team of volunteers who had limited expertise in the technical aspects of producing a newspaper. That collaboration has been sweet and has produced many innovations in the look of the *Muse*. Columns bending around photographs, the two-page photographic 'centre spread', 'ghost silhouettes' occasionally serving as backdrops to articles, creative graphics with suitable messages filling blank spaces, and the selective use of colour, are some of the innovations to which Leslie has made a major contribution and for which she deserves much credit.

Leslie's talents doing freelance work have been recognized as far away as New Zealand, where a magazine received a national award for the work that she did for them. So, it was probably inevitable that a local organization

(in this case the Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services), with the ability to use Leslie's talents full time, would discover her and steal her away from her part-time work with the *Muse*.

It is particularly satisfying for me that the last issue on which Leslie and I collaborated was last month's (April) edition which I think really reflected her talent and commitment. This was recognized in some of the feedback we received and which is published in this edition under 'Letters to the Editor'.

We are, of course, delighted for Leslie and we wish her well in her new position. We are just as delighted that Leslie will be joining the ultimate group of proofreaders, known as the Eagle Eyes, who every month give the *Muse* one last review to correct the errors the rest of the team have missed. We are pleased that she will not be leaving the *Muse* family altogether.

Serendipitously, just as life provided a career opportunity for Leslie, it also created a space in the life of her predecessor Joan Kew, allowing her to return to the *Muse* after a four-year absence.



Leslie Eaton has moved on to work at the Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services.

Joan Kew was responsible for the design and layout of the *Muse* for the four years prior to Leslie's arrival (2014 to 2018) and has resumed that role, beginning with this edition. We feel fortunate indeed to have such a valuable colleague rejoin us just at our moment of need and we look forward to working with Joan again and, together, continuing to creatively improve the quality of the community's *Metchosin Muse*.

Letters to the Editor

The *Metchosin Muse* welcomes letters to the editor, of not more than 200 words. Your letter may be edited for style or length. Please email your letter to metchosinmuse@gmail.com (with electronic signature if possible). An address and telephone number are required but will not be published. Letters to the editor express the views of the writer who is solely responsible for their content.

Letters to the Editor on the April Edition

My sincere thanks and appreciation to each and all for an outstanding April 1 issue. From the perfect choice of front page, to page two letters, page three Editor's Musings and Editorial Policy remarks and onto the remarkable two-page centre spread about Mary Hill, then to articles celebrating Bob Mitchell's life – and more – I was inspired and uplifted. The best of the *Muse* and the best of our community were both brought forward in this issue.

My particular thanks (and admiration) for the exceptional graphics work in the centre spread.

Morgan Yates

around the planet, from Mary Hill to the Ukraine, your decisions about layout and space successfully highlighted the community spirit, work and creativity of this municipality. And, what a month to publish your first "colour" edition.

This monthly paper is an important, community-strengthening tool. Thank you!

Carol Carman

Thank you all for April's edition. It was one of the BEST! Sooooo clever and funny. Especially the loo as a property tax depository. Although housing alternatives are a topic close to my heart!

Betty Hildreth

Congratulations to you and your team for this month's excellent and comprehensive issue of the *Muse*! With so much happening in Metchosin and

Editor's note: see the article "The Muse's brilliant Leslie Eaton moves on", this page.

Visit our website! www.metchosinmuse.ca

The *Muse* website provides a quick way to access Metchosin's monthly newspaper, and it allows those with vision challenges to magnify the .pdf files to a comfortable reading size. The current issue and issues from the past year are there, along with contact information and information for submissions, advertisers, and deadlines.

Muse Subscriptions

We can mail the *Muse* to you each month for \$35 a year if it is to be posted to a Canadian address. Please send your information and cheque to the Head of our Subscriptions Department:

Joan Bradley
10 Bradene Road
Victoria BC V9C 4B1
Tel: 250-478-3451

Or you can email us at: metchosinmuse@gmail.com



METCHOSIN MUSE AD RATES

Display Ad Sizes	1-5 Issues	6-11 Issues
Business Card	\$53.00	\$42.00
2col x 4" (4x4")	\$84.00	\$68.00
1/6pg	\$105.00	\$84.00
1/4pg	\$158.00	\$131.00
1/2pg	\$305.00	\$263.00
Insert (8.5 x 11")	\$280.00	n/a
Banner	\$105.00	\$90.00
Full Page	\$600.00 – no additional taxes	
Subscription per year	11 issues	\$35.00

Discount on 6–11 issues. Full payment in advance of publication

Camera-ready ads only in PDF format; full payment in advance. We will happily recommend an ad designer with reasonable rates to create your ad. For more information please contact Jennifer Burgis, 250-881-8280, email j_burgis@telus.net.

Classified Ads
25 words or less \$15
Deadline: 15th of each month.
Payment in advance preferably by e-transfer. Contact Linda at amuselinda@gmail.com or 250-590-0168



Phone cards • Movie rentals •
Galloping Goose sausage • Locally made meat and fruit pies • Bakery items • Fresh produce and cut flowers • Hardware and Grocery •
• Prepared sandwiches • Fresh brewed coffee •
You need it, we have it!



Monday to Friday – 6:30 am to 9:00 pm
Saturday – 8:00 am to 9:00 pm
Sunday – 8:00 am to 9:00 pm

VISA, Mastercard, Interac

Phone & Fax: 250-478-2405



Juan de Fuca
VETERINARY CLINIC

250-478-0422

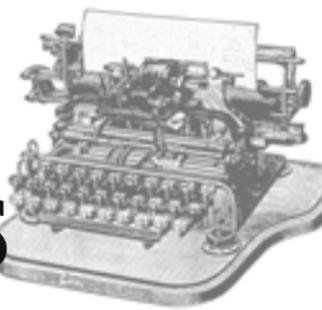
Compassionate, professional, courteous care.

Your pets... our family



Caring for pets in the Westshore since 1981. We are proud to be members of this growing community.

Editor's Musings



Allen Jones

We have had a mixed start to spring in Metchosin: blossoms and hail, flowering bulbs and strong wind, not to mention the unusually low temperatures.

BC Health advice on April 6 made masks non-mandatory but advisory for groups of people. Vaccination certificates are also no longer required in non-medical locations. Organisations are tentatively planning events for the coming year and we should see the Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale again at the Community House on Happy Valley Road. Guest speakers are coming back to the Metchosin Community House but Rough Voices will not be heard for some time yet. Also returning to the Municipal Grounds is the Metchosin Farmers' Market. It will reopen at 11:00am on May 8, running until 2:00pm, 'rain or shine'. Not having a Metchosin Day for this year, a 'Festivus' is being planned for July 1 with MACCA and other groups brainstorming to provide entertainment. More information should be available in next month's issue of the *Muse*.

After a two-year wait, cruise ships are appearing on the

horizon and the economy is reported to be rebuilding despite the crazy gasoline prices. An unfortunate side effect of COVID and lack of affordable housing seems to be the shortage of staff for low wage employment. This was evident in the temporary closure of My-Chosen Café for a few days in April and recycling boxes left waiting for several days.

The Metchosin Budget Team has finalised their recommendations for the coming financial year. See report in this issue – spoiler – property taxes are going up.

On the international stage, affairs in Ukraine are horrifying to view in the comfort of our homes. There is serious talk about having a concert in Metchosin to provide some financial aid to those whose lives have been shattered by the onset of war in their home country. Tragically, Ukraine is not the only part of the world where people are in dire need of the necessities of life and we should be thankful that we are still insulated from most of the world's problems.

P.S. In order to have letters and articles considered for the June issue, please note our deadline of May 15.

Metchosin Lych Gate on the Move

Allen Jones

The lych gate, which was donated to the Museum Society and erected at the entrance of the Schoolhouse Museum, was moved to a new resting place on April 14.

With the help and expertise of Chris Van de Water and lift driver Ben Nelson, it was carefully relocated to form, after some work, an entrance gate to Charles Knighton's Flower Power garden at the corner of Witty Beach Road and Metchosin Road. This is the property of Wendy Mitchell and follows efforts to save the gate by moving it to a location in the village area.



Above: The new resting place for the historic gate. Allen Jones photo



Left: Ben Nelson on the move. Stacey Weir photo

SOOKE PHILHARMONIC
Orchestra & Chorus

Holst
Mozart
Dvorak

Yariv Aloni, Conductor
Alex Chernata, Clarinet

Saturday, June 11 @ 7:30pm
St. Mary's Church in Metchosin

Metchosin Mighty Garage Sale

To support the Metchosin Community Association and the programs it hosts at the Community House
4430 Happy Valley Road - 9 am to 3 pm - No early birds
Entry by Cash Donation



Saturday, May 28
First Choice of the Best Bargains and Silent Auction

Sunday, May 29
Clearance Cheapest Prices

Donations

We need your unwanted 'stuff' including antiques, collectibles, toys, clothing, books, furniture in reasonable condition, small appliances in working order, tools, sporting goods, china and household goods.

Donations can be dropped off at the tents beside the Community House daily, starting Saturday, May 21st through to Friday, May 27th from 10 am to 2 pm
New! Drop off until 7:30 pm Thursday!

Please no mattresses, exercise equipment, TV's, sofas, stuffed armchairs, old shoes, soiled clothing, microwaves, computers, entertainment units, BBQs, large appliances, cribs, car seats, luggage, skis or magazines

Sale and Auction

On Saturday and Sunday, come and browse through the big tents for furniture, electronics, sporting goods, yard goods, tools, housewares, collectibles, clothing, antiques and mystery stuff. Also visit the Chic Boutique for high end, quality, gently used items at bargain prices.

On Saturday, be sure to participate in the silent auction held inside the Community House for a chance to get some of the choicest donations.

Entry to the Mighty Garage Sale is by cash donation at the gate.

All proceeds from the event go to support the Metchosin Community Association and their programs.

For more info call 250-478-5155

Thank you for supporting the Metchosin Community Association!

Please Note:

All events shown in the *Muse* this month are subject to change or cancellation due to new COVID regulations or precautions. Readers are advised to check prior to attendance.



Council News

MAY 2022

COVID-19 Update – Municipal Operations

The District of Metchosin Hall continues to be closed to the public until further notice. Wherever possible, business functions and services will continue, by telephone, email, virtual meetings and by appointment (if absolutely necessary).

Council Meetings

Please note, beginning April 25, all Council meetings and Council Standing Committee meetings will be held in person in the Council Chambers.

The Provincial Health Officer (PHO) Orders on Gatherings and Events exempt local governments (including meetings and public hearings), therefore there are no longer restrictions for local government meetings, including restriction of in-person attendance at open meetings.

In-person attendance will be on a first come, first served basis until at full occupancy of 80 persons. The public is not required to wear a mask; however, we encourage the use of masks as an enhanced safety measure to support the health and safety of staff and the public.

Council and Standing Committee meetings will now be live streamed from the Council Chambers. Residents will be able to watch recorded meetings via the new District of Metchosin CivicWeb Meeting Portal. The new Portal provides details about District meetings, agendas, minutes, and the ability to search documents and watch meetings online. You can also sign up for electronic updates from the Portal. Live streaming from the Council Chambers will replace the Zoom video conferencing meeting platform.

If you have any questions, please contact the District at 250-474-3167, or email: info@metchosin.ca

2022 Property Taxes

Metchosin residents should expect to receive their 2022 property tax notices in early June. If you have not received your notice by mid-June, please contact the municipal office. Taxes are due on Monday, July 4, 2022.

Claim Your Home Owner Grant

If you are eligible for the Provincial Home Owner Grant, please claim this grant by the due date to avoid penalty on that portion of taxes. Municipalities can no longer accept Home Owner Grant applications. Complete the application online at www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant.

Deferment of Taxes

Eligible BC residents can now renew their applications and apply online to the property tax deferment program. Municipalities will no longer accept deferment renewals or new applications. The new, secure online application will lead to reduced application review and approval times. Find out more at www.gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment.

Speculation Taxes

Please note that the District of Metchosin is not involved with the implementation nor the collection of speculation taxes. For information on this Provincial tax please contact the Minister of Finance or go online to: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/speculation-and-vacancy-tax>

Metchosin 2022 COVID Grants-in-Aid

Metchosin's 2022 Grants-in-Aid process was advertised in the March *Muse*. Applicants have been invited to make presentations at the Finance & Environment Committee meeting on May 9. The Finance and Environment Committee will determine its recommendations at the June 6 meeting and forward these to Council for consideration and approval at Council's June 13 meeting. Council will adopt the recommendations at its Council meeting on June 13.

Public Works

Public Works will be working on road sweeping. Please be careful and use caution around the District trucks. Mowing will start at the end of May and early June. Line painting of the District roads will take place in early June.

Council Meetings for May 2022

Meeting dates and times for the upcoming month. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers unless otherwise stated. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, meetings are subject to cancellation. For updated information, please refer to the website at www.metchosin.ca.

Finance & Environment Committee	May 9
Council Meeting.....	May 9
Planning Committee.....	May 16
Parks Committee.....	May 16
Public Works Committee.....	May 16
Council Meeting.....	May 30

Metchosin Municipal Hall

www.metchosin.ca 250-474-3167 – info@metchosin.ca

Metchosin's 2022 Budget

Andy MacKinnon, Finance Chair

The task of preparing Metchosin's annual budget begins each September, reviewing our municipality's five-year Financial Plan and gathering information from all departments about their anticipated expenditures for the following year. This is followed by a series of public meetings of Metchosin's Finance & Environment Committee, where we receive input from community members, and consider drafts of the next year's Capital and Operating Budgets. Public meetings of our Committee took place on November 2 and November 16, 2021, and February 1, February 15, March 1, March 15, and March 22, 2022. The draft budget was presented to the public for input at a Virtual Open House on March 28, at which Committee members were in attendance and received comments from the public. Metchosin's 2022 budget is the same one that was presented at the Open House, with a tax increase of 5.9%.

On March 15, Council also reviewed the 2021 surplus and recognized that specific parts of this surplus should be allocated to specific reserves in accordance with established policies.

At the April 4, 2022 Finance & Environment Committee meeting, the Committee directed staff to prepare two bylaws: a Five-year Financial Plan Bylaw, and a Tax Rates Bylaw, to generate revenue to fund 2022 requirements.

In compliance with the Community Charter, Metchosin must state three policies explicitly in the Financial Plan Bylaw. As in the past the District has stated those policies as follows:

- The objective and policy on the proportion of total revenue that is proposed to come from each funding source for the planning period is to maximize non-tax revenue.
- The objective and policy on the distribution of property value taxes among the property classes that may be subject to the taxes for the planning period is to establish a tax rate for non-residential classes which is comparable or slightly lower than the average of other West Shore municipalities.
- The objective and policy for the use of permissive tax exemptions for the planning period is to consider permissive tax exemptions to support social, educational, environmental, and recreational services in the community or on a case-by-case basis.

Each year's budget process is a bit different. This year's was the longest process I've been involved with, largely because there were two budget items that had a fair bit of uncertainty associated with them. We're anticipating that a number of our current staff will be retiring or otherwise leaving us during the next fiscal year, and so we need to set aside funds for recruitment and retention. We will also be paying more for policing in Metchosin, but until negotiations are completed, we won't know just how much more.

I'd like to thank all of the Metchosin staff who helped in developing our 2022 budget, with special thanks to our Financial Dream Team of Sam Weller and Allison Swanson. And thanks to our diligent Finance & Environment Committee, and to all of the Metchosinites who joined us for our meetings and offered valuable insights.

Richard's
LANDSCAPING & EXCAVATING
SINCE 1984

Complete Bobcat, Trucking & Mini Excavating Services

4604 Morland Road, Metchosin, B.C. V9C 4E2
Locally owned & operated since 1984

Free Estimates 250-478-2980

Custom low maintenance landscapes
Boulder walls and rockeries
Selective land clearing • Rockhound
Concrete/rock breaker • Stump & brush removal
Driveways/R.V. parking • Culverts • Drains
Top soil, bark mulch, sand and gravel

CONTRACT OR HOURLY RATES

NUMA FARMS NURSERY

Hedging & Special Orders

OPEN 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Tues to Sat
Closed Sundays, Mondays and most Statutory Holidays
3459 Luxton Road, Langford
250-474-6005 or Email numafarms@shaw.ca

Do you have some free time and want to be involved with the MCA's largest fundraiser of the year, our Mighty Garage Sale?

Please call 250-478-5155 and join in on the fun!

Metchosin Firefighters' First Bike Auction



Barb Sawatsky

I was curious about the many old bikes and bike parts that frequently appear in the Metchosin Community House metal bin. It had me wondering if they should be reported to the RCMP in the event that a 'chop shop' was operating in Metchosin. It turned out that Jacob Lamb, one of Metchosin's fire fighters, has taken on the RCMP Bike Program, formerly run by the Langford Fire Department. Teaming up with the S.J. Willis Burnside Alternative Education Centre through School District 61, unclaimed stolen bicycles are shipped to Victoria where they are given to the Bike Program for the Applied Skills class. Their teacher, Jack, said the students "gain a positive experience away from a classroom

Members of the Bike Program for the Applied Skills class at S.J. Willis School. Left to right: Jack, Lucas, Jacob Lamb, Ashtyn, Quinn and Shane. Barb Sawatsky photo

and are given a chance to learn new skills and work in a real world setting."

This is Jacob's first year with the program and he feels that it is a good fit for the students and the Metchosin Fire Department (MFD). "Students are required to rebuild two bikes. One bike they can keep for themselves, the other is to be donated to the Bike Auction as a fundraiser for the Metchosin Fire Fighters' Fund."

Don't miss the first MFD Bike Auction which will take place in the parking lot behind the fire hall the same day as the opening for the Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale: Saturday, May 28. Viewing starts at 10:00am and the sale of bikes is scheduled for 11:00am with the entertaining duo of brothers David and John Kirby as auctioneers.

Sunset Comes to Sunrise Machinery

Mark Atherton, Chair, Parks and Trails Advisory Select Committee

"Do you want this done quickly? Or do you want me to help you?" said Bob Elliot, our first Trails Coordinator, to Harold Perepalkin, just starting out with his new mini excavating business in 1996. This established the formula for Bob's working relationship with Harold and that of the five Trails Coordinators that followed until Harold's sale of his business and retirement last month. At 78 years old many of us would consider it time!

Harold sold heavy equipment for Butler Brothers for 20 years and then did the same for Finning Canada. He wanted something different when he moved to Metchosin and decided to specialize in mini excavating under the "Sunrise Machinery" banner. At 39" wide (expandable to 48") with rubber tracks his machine had a soft footprint that could get into tight spaces. Yet his buckets could efficiently move lots of material and the machine could lift up to 800 pounds. It could do everything the big machines do - just at a much smaller scale.

Bob and Harold's first project was to turn an undeveloped right of way connecting Sweet Chestnut Road and Liberty Drive into a usable trail. A rock outcrop in the middle presented an expensive challenge that Harold and his wife Maggie overcame by donating an 86-foot sliver of land off their adjacent property to provide a route around the rock. Rock drills, blasting and rock hauling are expensive so it's safe to say the District saved a lot of money which they recognized by presenting the Perepalkins with a nice plaque stating their appreciation.

Harold's been our go to for trails work for 26 years. All of our trails have felt the footprint of his

mini excavator and dump cart. New trails were grubbed out and ditched by his excavator with his dump cart hauling in surfacing material a cubic yard at a time. Established trails were repaired from time to time to re-establish ditches and repair culverts. New roadside trails have been the latest focus with the most recent one being completed by Harold and volunteers alongside Pears Road last year.

The District has always received good value for the money invested in the parks and trails. The Parks and Trails Advisory Select Committee has provided leadership and volunteer labour while the Trail Coordinators have provided operational direction. Harold's hourly rates can best be described as "family and friends' discount rates" as they were lower than other operators and travel time was never billed for work in Metchosin. Harold even reduced his rate by 50% once when budgetary constraints were an issue and he and the volunteers wanted to get the job done. The best reduction we have ever received was 100% for a trail around Buckbrush Swamp, which Harold took upon himself to complete.

Wild ARC has also benefited. Harold has always refused payment for the horses, mules, donkeys, and other large animals he's had to inter on short notice. "Just make a donation to Wild ARC," he says, "and I'll be happy." Wild ARC should be happy too as Harold has had the call dozens of times over the years. My own sad experience was six hours from diagnosis to injection to interment on a cold February night thanks to Harold's quick response and ability to make a hole large enough to fit a horse.

Many Metchosin residents and institutions have had Harold sculpt their properties. Pearson



Harold Perepalkin at work. Al Herde photo

College has had rock walls built in tight spaces and tenting sites constructed on the side of a hill, while many residential properties have felt the delicate touch of Harold's machines working on their special projects.

We've all had memorable career highlights. Harold's was lifting a portable outhouse while working for BC Parks and having it slip out of his machine's grasp spilling the contents on everybody standing in the drop zone. What was memorable for Harold would have been characterized as a real shitty day by several others!

Parks and Trails is going to miss having access to Harold and his machines but he assures us he's still available to provide advice.

Many thanks to a Metchosinite who is a legend in his own right and exemplifies all that is best in our community. We wish him and Maggie well in his retirement.

TIMBERHAWK
HOMEBUILDERS LTD.



CUSTOM HOMES
RENOVATIONS
CARPENTRY
DESIGN
GENERAL CONTRACTING

250-590-2377

TIMBERHAWK@GMAIL.COM



ANGUS STEWART
CHRIS FRANG
METCHOSIN OWNERS



ENERGY STAR QUALIFIED BUILDERS

Located Beside the Red Barn at Latoria Walk
115-611 Brookside Rd.

I.D.A.
LATORIA
PHARMACY
Your Friendly Neighbourhood Pharmacy

Call 250-590-7012

We proudly offer full prescription services, free delivery, immunizations, and the level of service and expertise you should expect from your community pharmacy

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 930-6 Sat 10-4

Metchosin Baha'i Community
Friendship / Love / Service / Joy

What is one of the foundational counsels of the Baha'i Faith?
To 'Possess a pure, kindly and radiant heart'

If you have a question call or text it to one of the numbers below.
For information on the Metchosin Baha'i Community please call or text:
Mona at (250) 514-1756 / Doug at (250)858-2053 / Bahai.org

MY-CHOSEN
Café
250-474-2333

Come in and experience our quaint country atmosphere and our hearty portions of great home-cooked foods!

Tuesday - Sunday 11:00 am - 8:00 pm | Closed Mondays

MY-CHOSEN PIZZA
Pickup after noon, delivery after 4pm
250-474-5576

Tue & Wed: 4-9 pm | Thu-Sun 11 am-9 pm | Closed Mondays

Check our website for updates! www.mychosencafe.com
Corner of Happy Valley and Metchosin Roads

www.metchosinmuse.ca

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BETH DICKMAN

June 3, 1923–February 22, 2022

Our mom Beth Dickman (nee Ethel Elizabeth Klassen) passed away peacefully in her Metchosin home of 70 years, just short of the age of 99, on February 22, 2022.

Ethel was born in a hamlet near Hepburn, Saskatchewan on June 3, 1923, the fourth child of Peter Klassen, a school teacher, and Mary Klassen (Runge) the daughter of a nearby farm family.

Beth's father immigrated to Regina, Saskatchewan at 16, leaving his Mennonite farm family in what was then part of the Russian Empire (now southern Ukraine). Her mother's family, from a village in what was then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire (now northwest Ukraine) eventually reached Odessa, Saskatchewan around 1900, perhaps by way of Weisenberg, Austria, where her birth was recorded in 1896.

They were among those of many origins who looked for refuge in Canada as a result of political strife, displacement, starvation, and trauma. Perhaps that is why Beth's lifelong belief and passion was for the pursuit of peaceful ways to resolve age-old conflicts, through education, understanding and active participatory democracy. She was undaunted by status or power, and seemed fearless to engage anyone who she felt could make a difference on issues of importance.

She would come to the defence of all people facing violence, oppression or prejudice (not to mention, as a lifelong vegetarian, all living creatures ... her "don't step on any bugs" phase was difficult in the countryside). Her children would warn, though, that she didn't always seem such a pacifist, as her 'fighting spirit' meant she didn't give up easily, and could be a tad impatient with those not following her rapid-fire line of reasoning. Apparently she learned to debate from a Jesuit teacher of political science, which meant you seldom won an argument with her.

Her traditional father decided his youngest daughter would be educated when her only brother sadly died, and her father noticed Beth's school marks were better than his son's had been. This led to his sending her off on the train at 16 to the University of Saskatchewan with \$50 for tuition, where she supported herself waiting tables, and studied biochemistry for two years. She then moved to Toronto where she studied Law and Political Science. She also participated in the Women's Movement for equal rights, and equal pay. She was blind to the idea of a glass ceiling, and

relished challenging the status quo ... but was also very interested in the best techniques of child raising and education.

Future husband Jack came home from service in World War II with an appreciation for the fragility of peace, and with an interest in organic agriculture as practiced in England. In 1948 he ran for the CCF on a platform concerning workers' conditions and housing shortages.

A mutual friend introduced Jack and Ethel at a New Year's party in 1949. On their first date, Jack asked Ethel what her middle name was. She said 'Elizabeth'. He said "May I call you Beth?" She said "By the way, I'm not too keen about the name Jack either, can I call you John?" A whirlwind romance followed, and Beth and John married on April 16 at Trinity College Chapel, her alma mater, University of Toronto.

In 1951, looking to a milder gardening climate (and adventure, perhaps) they trucked their infant daughter and household goods across the continent to Victoria, settling on their Metchosin property in 1952.

All her life Beth continued being deeply involved in supporting and promoting a host of social and political initiatives, locally and beyond. She shared with John his respect for and protection of the natural and agricultural environment, and the communities dependent on these.

Among many crops and animals, Beth and John 'Metchosin-raised' their five children Alisa, Garth, Heather, Meredith and Tim; helped with grandchildren Jennifer, Tara, Natasha, Aaron, Braeden, Kyle, Alex, and cousin Peter; enjoyed the company of great grandchildren Lauren, Madeline, Lucas, Ella, Kattia, Sofia, Oliver, and Quinn; and Judy and Jeff who 'adopted' them as extra grandparents.

Beth's descendants and their various spouses and partners wish to offer their grateful appreciation and thanks to Drs. O'Connell and O'Connor, the Metchosin Seniors' Program, and the many kind, devoted people who supported Mom and family caregivers with home maintenance and attentive personal care, and also gave their warm affection and companionship to Beth as she became less able.

What does one take from Beth 'moving on' just as another dispute erupts in her historical place of origin? Perhaps it is 'I did what I could ... your turn now.'



Beth and John Dickman, with cat Snowflake and the amazing Hubbards, from the November 2007 *Muse*. Photo by Tony Austin

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to:

- Project Ploughshares Canada (sponsored by The Canadian Council of Churches): <https://ploughshares.ca/donate/>; or
- Interpares 'globalise equality': <https://interpares.ca/>

A Celebration of Life will be held at 1:00pm on May 15, 2022 at 4744 Rocky Point Rd. To be outdoors under canvas, but please mask for close quarters. Kindly RSVP to 1-604-536-7287 or jagroup@shaw.ca.



DO YOUR SHOES FIT PROPERLY?



Stop by for a **FREE** shoe fitting with a **Fit Expert** at Fronrunners Langford in Goldstream Village.

www.fronrunners.ca



☎ 250 474 7993

✉ ospreytrees@shaw.ca

OSPREY TREE SERVICE

Osprey Tree Service is a team of qualified arborists and forestry professionals who have been working in BC forests for over 35 years. Our collective knowledge and extensive resources mean that there is no job too big or too challenging for us to take on!

SERVICES INCLUDE

- REMOVAL
- PRUNING
- CHIPPING
- HEDGE MAINTENANCE
- QUALIFIED TREE RISK ASSESSMENTS (TRAQ)
- B.C. FIRESMART HOME ASSESSMENTS
- WILDLIFE TREE ASSESSMENTS
- DANGER TREE ASSESSMENTS



ISA, ITA & TRAQ
Certified Arborist

CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE TODAY

Insights into Bio-Medical Research – MCA Guest Speaker Series

Ric Perron and Marie-Térèse Little

Thursday May 5, 7:00pm,
Metchosin Community House
COVID protocol: proof of
vaccination not required; masks
optional but recommended

Insights into Bio-Medical Research – from the farm to academia

with Marie-Térèse Little, PhD

Who knew? Dr. Marie-Térèse Little is a bio-medical researcher and published scientist, a writer/ editor and small business entrepreneur, a wife, a proud mama bear of an 18-year-old first-year university student, a bee-keeper

and environmental pollinator champion, an eclectic and unapologetic ABBA /Bach/Vivaldi/ J&R Cash/Toto/Blue Rodeo/Hip/ J. Reeves fan, an aspiring cellist, a member of the most senior scientific advisory committee of the Canadian Cancer Trials Group at Queen's University, a passionate volunteer patient advocate, and a Councillor with the District of Metchosin. We can expect her to discuss everything (but politics).

Marie-Térèse holds a B.Sc. from the University of Victoria (1986) and a M.Sc. (1990) and a Ph.D. (1996) from the University of British Columbia. Marie-Térèse completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and a research associate fellowship with the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, both with appointments

at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts. As a staff scientist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Washington, Marie-Térèse worked on innovative pre-clinical and clinical trials for bone marrow transplantation. She has written over 50 peer-reviewed manuscripts and numerous peer-reviewed invited editorials, book chapters, and literature reviews. In Victoria, she is the founder and chief consultant at 4th Dimension Biomedical Research Communications and past Chair of the Clinical Research Ethics Board (Island Health).

Admittedly, Marie-Térèse's career path – from a Vancouver Island farm to two of the most renowned USA Cancer Institutes and then back to Vancouver Island – has been exciting, fun, arduous, and challenging. Serendipity, good genes, practical parenting, excellent mentoring, collaboration, a solid ethical grounding, volunteerism, and hard work all played a role in her success. Marie-Térèse's general areas of research interest include the study of development, the biochemical and molecular marvels that make the human body tick, and how this all relates to human disease when these biochemical/ molecular pathways are disrupted. This provided her with the perfect framework for the study of normal and abnormal haematopoietic (blood) stem cells and its application to human diseases such as leukemia. Come explore at the Community House.

Marie-Térèse will be fun and light-hearted. Promise. She knows how to make us laugh.



Marie-Térèse Little and daughter Sophia-Kathryn. Ric Perron photo

Westmont's Project-Based Academy Starts in September

Jason Bowers, Assistant Principal at Westmont Montessori School.

A multi-disciplinary project-based academy is Westmont's new innovative approach to high school education. Launching in September 2022, this program is set to prepare students for a rapidly changing future through a program that leverages multi-disciplinary project-based learning in real-life-based environments. High school students will not go to traditional classes that are subject-specific, but rather answer complex design challenges that uncover learning from a variety of curricular perspectives.

This high school project-based academy seeks to alter the high school experience to better prepare today's students for the realities of tomorrow. Students will have access to dynamic workspaces on- and off-campus, professional mentors, collaborative projects, an eight-acre Metchosin campus backing onto Witty's Lagoon Regional Park, an engaged and caring learning community, dedicated transportation options, and domestic and international travel opportunities to bring learning alive and make it real in a way that allows students to follow their passions and interests. This exciting four-year program will have yearly themes that will drive the project learning at each stage of the process. Students will engage in Grade 9, create in Grade 10, explore in Grade 11, and launch in Grade 12.

This unique program allows students to explore curricular and core competencies through real-life, collaborative projects instead of siloed courses separated from the community. Students will engage in eight-week projects on and off-campus with



Students at work. Ra Fontana photo

community partners and mentors from specific fields that can provide a professional perspective on the content being uncovered. Our goal is to make learning authentic and collaborative.

A key event for all high school students will be working as a Grade 9 to 12 team to create and facilitate an annual youth festival that will draw youth from across the region. This event will be designed for youth, by youth, and explore issues important to youth today.

The new approach has already found great support amongst families here on Vancouver Island. The high school project-based academy "is a model of what education should be like for all children in our province. Let Westmont be at the forefront of this change and demonstrate leadership in education," said Ana Ver Waddington, parent, and educator with over 15 years of experience.

www.metchosinmuse.ca

NDP

Proud to serve Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke



Randall Garrison, MP

#2-50 Burnside Road West, Victoria, BC V9A 1B5

250-405-6550

Randall.Garrison@parl.gc.ca

www.RandallGarrison.ndp.ca



... it's how you get there.

BBB Torch Award Winner - Community Service
Winner LCT Magazine Global Operator of the Year



Saanich and Cowichan Valley Wine Tours
Brew and Spirits Tours

Airport Transfers • Restaurant Transfers

Christmas Light Tours and Safe Event Transportation

Gift Certificates • A Perfect Gift!



Introducing our new Audi e-tron electric vehicles!



www.lalimo.ca info@lalimo.ca

250-391-9000

Making a difference with Responsible Investing

Ethical & Socially Responsible Investing

Portfolios built to match your investments with your values

Learn More



Keith Haigh
Financial Advisor
2244 Sooke Rd, Unit 110,
V9B 1X1
250.391.1655
keith.haigh@edwardjones.com

Edward Jones

Working for our community

Hon. Mitzi Dean
MLA, Esquimalt-Metchosin

250-952-5885

#104 - 1497 Admirals Road

Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca

MitziDean.ca



14th Juan de Fuca Scouting Group – Prepared for Fun!

BEAVERS

A Great Day Out

Markus Meyer

This month, the Beavers spent a Sunday morning exploring Fort Rodd Hill. They visited the various attractions at the park, including the Fisgard Lighthouse. They learned about how soldiers lived out at Fort Rodd Hill, the military history of the region, and what life in a lighthouse looked like. The Beavers took in all this learning while enjoying the beautiful outdoor scenery near the ocean. A great time was had by the scouters, the Beavers, and their parents!



Above: Metchosin's Beaver Colony with their leader and a good friend.
Left: Beavers on buoys.
Markus Meyer photos

*The Beavers' motto is
Sharing, sharing, sharing!*

CUBS

Cubs' Active April

Laura St-Jean, 14th Juan de Fuca Cub Scouter

Throughout COVID the 14th Juan de Fuca Cubs have been keeping busy. The year has brought many adventures, all the while having to remain separated into cohorts of eight, masked, and indoor only for some of the time. Last month, after two

years of such restrictions, they were finally able to celebrate their lifting by heading up to Mount Washington for a winter skills camp. Camp Gilwell in Courtenay provided much entertainment with fossil hunting, stilts, group skis, and the usual camp time fun. Once on the mountain, the youth tested their mettle by taking part in an



hour-long snowshoeing excursion, and ended the day with an hour of tubing. Such a great welcome back to a more normal way of life, full of fun and adventure!

A more recent activity had Cubs a little closer to home. They hiked down to Witty's Lagoon, learning to identify, and remove, invasive

species (Daphne and broom) along the trail, learning to identify some of our native trees and flowers, and picking up trash. They were rewarded with the most beautiful setting sun once down on the beach, and count themselves so very lucky to meet and play in such an amazing corner of the world.

Photos, above: Are we there yet? Curtis Becker photo
Left: Exploring Witty's at sunset. Laura St-Jean photo



The Canadian Path

To learn more about your local Scouts program, visit: scouts.ca

Beavers

Beaver Scouts (5 to 7 years old) experience diverse activities and a world of new adventures. Through nature walks, short hikes, tree planting, games, crafts and family events, Beaver Scouts gain valuable social skills while making new friends along the way. From camping to hiking and games galore, Beaver Scouts develop a respect for nature and others while exploring the world around them.

Cubs

With the Cub motto, "Do Your Best", girls and boys aged 8 to 10 take on new challenges with their Cub Pack, embarking on outdoor adventures and exploring a variety of fun activities like STEM projects and cultural experiences.

Scouts

Scouts aged 11 to 14 learn to blaze their own trail, delving into more leadership opportunities by planning adventures with their troop and giving back to their community in a meaningful way.

Venturers

Developing life skills to climb the mountain of their goals and reach their personal summit, Venturers aged 15 to 17 embark on greater expeditions and acquire real-world experiences that prepare them for future success.

Rovers

In a Crew of young adults aged 18 to 26, Rovers enjoy fun and challenging expeditions with their peers. Driving their personal ambitions with support from a mentor, Rovers are better prepared for success. The world awaits!

Volunteers

Volunteers are always welcome! Through passion and dedication, volunteers collectively donate over two million hours of their time each year along with other Scouters, providing youth with the opportunity to grow, to challenge themselves and to experience countless firsts. With their commitment to Scouting, volunteers help to bring a Vision of youth making meaningful contributions to creating a better world to live by lifting people, communities and neighbourhoods.

SCOUTS

Always Prepared

Joan Kew

The Scout motto, "Always Prepared," turned out to be very useful in mid April when the Scouts went to the Victoria Fish and Game Club. The first day they enjoyed archery, shooting, fishing, and sunshine – and the second day, they woke up to snow!



The Scouts also went to Sooke with their leaders for a day of learning about crabbing.

Teaching youth is one of the many rewards of being a leader in Scouting. Laura Ward photo



Keeping an eye on the BBQ. Duncan Blackman photo



Catch of the day. Duncan Blackman photo

VENTURERS AND ROVERS

Sebastien St-Jean Awarded Gord Reimer Memorial Youth Award

Curtis Becker

Gord Reimer was a very active volunteer in our community. Not only was he an active member of the Metchosin Search and Rescue, but he was also a respected member of the Scouting association among many other things. When he passed, his wife June and the 14th Juan de Fuca Group Committee members created the Gord Reimer Memorial Youth Award in 2002. This is an award that is nominated and voted on by the Scouting youth, for the member who has shown exceptional leadership, spiritual, service, and personal qualities throughout the year not only in Scouting but to the entire community.

We are very pleased to announce that our latest recipient of the Gord Reimer Memorial Youth Award is Sebastien St-Jean, Venturer Scout, who was just invested into the Rover Crew. Sebastien has been an active member of the 14th Juan de Fuca Scouting organization since he was eleven. He has participated in almost every local scouting event and is an active youth leader volunteer in the scout troop. When not Scouting, Sebastien is an active sailor. He is the administrator of his Rover crew and he certainly leads by example. Sebastien is thoughtful and kind to everyone. Congratulations, Sebastien!

Below: Sebastien receives the Gord Reimer Memorial Award. Laura St-Jean photo



On to Great Adventures!

Embarking on great adventures is what Rovers is all about. So once the clear skies appeared, a wonderful day greeted the about-to-be invested Rovers as they learned some trailer maintenance. Advisor Jason talked and taught about bearing checks and maintenance as some great TLC was given to canoes in preparation for a trip to the Sayward Lakes route in June.



Above: The newly invested Rovers, photobombed by their good friend Kota. Curtis Becker photo

Below: The Rovers cleaned canoes and prepared for their upcoming June excursion. They may have also had fun. Laura St-Jean photo





Mushroom image by Dana Nygard. Dana Nygard photo

2022 Art Nature Card Deck Spotlights Mushrooms

Memet Burnett

The Art Nature Card deck project, a joint project of Metchosin ArtPod, Metchosin Foundation, and 40 local artists and naturalists, follows up the two successful years of Art Bird Cards with a Mushroom deck for 2022.

To celebrate, you are invited to an afternoon at the stunning Bilston Creek Farm for the **Deck Unveiling and Artist Appreciation Event**, taking place on Sunday, May 15 from noon–2:30pm. Mark your calendars! This beautiful lavender farm and orchard once again opens its arms to us as they did two years ago at the start of COVID for our first bird deck – then, as now, we are so lucky!

Our event coincides with the summer opening of Bilston Creek Farm’s wonderful outdoor pizza oven, available with

other concession offerings and the farm’s retail store. **Be sure to pre-book your pizza online at Bilston.ca before the event!**

Come meet the incredible artists who created this year’s deck. Hear some mushroom stories from lead naturalists and best-selling authors Kem Luther and Andy MacKinnon. Take in the mushroom show-and-tell table and ask the naturalists your burning mushroom questions (bring a mushroom and try to stump them!). Wander the grounds looking for the 36 hidden mushroom illustrations. Tick them off on your personal mushroom checklist, then enter your finished list in a draw for prizes! Visit Bilston Farm’s lovely gift shop which features locally harvested lavender and honey infused treats, among other local hand-made items. Purchase a refreshing drink from Bilston’s outdoor drink stand. Pick up your own art card deck (selling

Why: Art Nature Cards: MUSHROOM Deck “Unveiling”
Where: Bilston Creek Farm, Metchosin
When: Sunday, May 15, noon–2:30pm but Bilston will be making pizza until 5:30pm
Who: Artists, families and friends, members of Metchosin Foundation, Metchosin ArtPod, and the adoring and enthusiastic public
What to bring: Weather appropriate clothes, a camera, a blanket to sit on in the orchard and eat your pizza, a vexing mushroom!
What not: Outside food is *not* allowed on the premises during weekend events

for \$25 each) maybe get your favourite artist to autograph their mushroom! There will be a group photo shoot for participating artists at 1:00pm!

RSVP to Event on Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/321469272247>

Metchosin is a fungi place to live ♥

METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

“Sustaining arts and contemporary culture where most of us experience it.”



FREE to the public.
POINT OF VIEW MAIN GALLERY
at the Metchosin Art Centre.

MY TRIBUTE TO WALTER DEXTER
Eight Paintings by Art Brendon

“Walter Dexter was one of my first formal art teachers. What I learned from Walter was ... an approach to visual art; that artists learn from all sources, acquire many influences, and that art-making wasn’t about the materials and mediums. These paintings are my concept of time and a place, non-objective and without a specific genre.

An art piece will explain itself and people will accept it or leave it. In visual art, similar to other art forms, music, dance, literature, movies and theatre, we choose what we like, which is often what we know. Non-objective art has a following, for me it’s like jazz.” – Art Brendon April 2022

Note to artists: Interested in showing in the POV@MACC?
 Contact: MACCAbookings@gmail.com

Shaping Spirit Studio
 Room #1034:
shapingspirit.etsy.com
Shiloh Music
 Room #1033:
shilohmusicstudio.com
Do It Yourself (DIY) Community Art Studio
 Room #2001:
metchosinartcentre.ca
Art Lab
 Room #2007: blairtaylor.ca

MACCA Office
 Room #1036:
info@metchosinartcentre.com
Point Of View (POV@MACC) exhibition spaces
 MACCA coordinator
 Art Brendon
ab@islandnet.com
Victoria College of Art
 Room #1030:
vca.ca

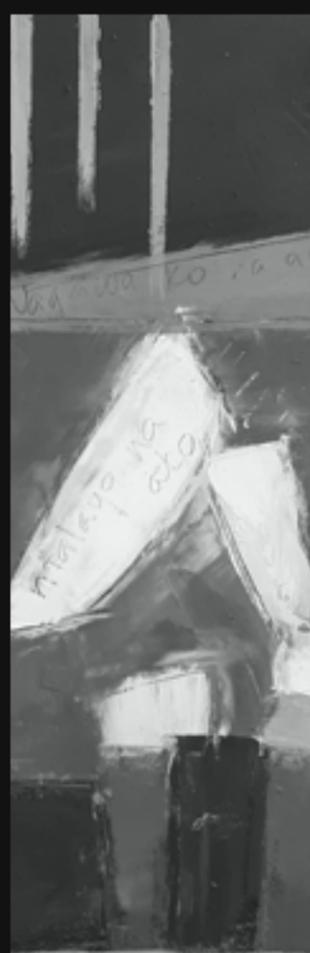
Huber Studio – The Written Word and Functional Art
 Room #1028:
charlahuber.com
Metchosin ArtPod
 Room #1031:
metchosinartpod.ca
Metchosin Seniors Resource Centre (SRC)
 Room #1047:
metchosinseniors.ca

f Follow us on Facebook today @MetchosinArts

METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE
 4495 Happy Valley Road – info@metchosinartcentre.ca
metchosinartcentre.ca

*Celebrate connectedness
 at Festivus on Canada Day
 in Metchosin!*

Keep your eyes peeled for more information.



Metchosin ArtPod presents:

Sub Text

The Message in Art

A juried Art Show with over
 20 Vancouver Island artists
 showing works which combine
 art with text.

On until May 29, 2022

Call for submissions to ArtPod’s summer show:

Field, Fish and Forests

Show runs June 3 to July 31 • Submission deadline: May 13

Links for events and submission details at metchosinartpod.ca



4495 Happy Valley Road, Metchosin, BC
metchosinartpod@gmail.com
metchosinartpod.ca

Hours: FRI–SUN 11 am–4 pm

f **ig** #MetchosinArtPod

Please Note:

All events shown in the *Muse* this month are subject to change or cancellation due to new COVID regulations or precautions. Readers are advised to check prior to attendance.

Summer Shows and Workshops at Metchosin ArtPod



View of the exhibition. Memet Burnett photo

Elaine Hughes

Our new exhibition, *Sub Text: The Message in Art*, has been going strong at the gallery throughout the month of April, including our well-attended Zoom opening and an excellent artist's talk by Metchosin's own Diana Smith, whose project "Abstract the News" is featured at the show. There is still time in May to take in the live exhibit during our usual gallery hours of Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Remember, we do have some very vulnerable staff who help us keep the doors open, so if you arrive and your host or hostess is masked we ask that you please do the same.

Right now there is also an Open Call to artists for the next show in June and July, entitled *Field, Fish and Forest*. The deadline for submissions is May 13. This show invites applications from landscape artists of all kinds,

seeking works inspired by the natural and rural vistas that surround us. Plein air, seascapes, rural scenes, wilderness, wildlife in the landscape or abstracted images of the land and sea in any 2D or 3D medium are all welcome. Our juror and feature artist for the show is national and international award-winning Canadian artist Eunmi Conacher, <https://eunmi-conacher.com>. Please refer to our website for submission guidelines at <https://metchosinartpod.ca/submission-guidelines/> for information on how to apply, entry fees and the like.

Our mushroom card project is also well underway! These are decks of flash cards with mushroom art on one side, and naturalist information on the other, designed to help people learn about the local natural world. The cards are currently in production and feature art by 36 different artists. We expect to have them on sale by the end of May.

There will be a launching event at Bilston Creek Farm on Sunday, May 15. The decks sell for \$25 and, as with the two previous decks that featured birds, the proceeds support the Metchosin Foundation as well as ArtPod itself. Once the cards go on sale, we expect to have an exhibit of the images in the Metchosin Arts and Cultural Centre's Point of View exhibit space, in the main hallway.

In the hallways at MACCA, facing the Seniors' Resource Centre and into the west hallway, is an ongoing exhibit by our Monday Portrait group. It is available for viewing whenever the building is open to the public, which of course includes ArtPod's regular hours. This is part of a new initiative to paint SRC members from the community every second week, and famous faces from around the world in alternate weeks. If you are an artist interested in participating in the portrait group, photos of a

weekly model are sent out Sunday evenings or Monday mornings to all portrait painters that have signed up. Create your portrait in any medium and have fun! Artists then email pictures of their portrait back to the organizer by the next weekend for circulation to the other painters, and posting to ArtPod's Facebook Page, generally on Mondays or Tuesdays. To sign up or for more details contact Diana Farrell at 250-888-9533, or dimark@shaw.ca.

There are also a couple of other events in the works. Once the *Field, Fish and Forest* show is up and running, we expect to have some type of opening event, either via Zoom or, COVID permitting, maybe even live at the gallery! Mark your calendars for Friday, June 3 at 7:00pm and look on our social media for more information closer to the date.

During the show we have at least one workshop planned. A one-day watercolour workshop,

instructed by ArtPod artist Elaine L. Hughes, will be offered in July. Elaine is well known from her teaching at the former Coast Collective and as a guest at the JdF 55+ activity centre, as well as many other demos and classes around town pre-pandemic. This will be a one-day workshop on creating Atmospheric Perspective in the Landscape, focusing on the use of hue, value, intensity and detail. It will run on Saturday July 9 from 10:00am to 4:00pm in the upstairs DIY Studio at the MACC. We are trying out Eventbrite for our registration so please look for the links in our Event listings on Facebook and our website. Cost is \$110. Any other questions? Email Elaine directly at darktee@gmail.com and see her work at <https://elhughes.artsites.ca>.

Music by Nature
A fully-integrated approach to learning music

Piano Lessons
Experience the joy and numerous benefits of learning to play the piano!

- All ages and levels of experience
- Beginners welcome
- Located near Royal Roads University

Free introductory meeting

For more information or to schedule a meeting, please contact Veronica Pemberton at info@musicbynature.ca or call (250) 474-2301

Metchosin Trivia Night

Niko Krusekopf

Are you looking to hone your Metchosin knowledge and trivia skills? Or do you just want to have a fun night out with friends and family? Consider joining us on Saturday, May 14 at 7:00pm at the Metchosin Community House for the first-ever, by donation, Metchosin Community House Trivia Night.

This trivia competition will be made up of teams of four and prizes will be awarded. Competitors can register as a team of four, or as individuals who will be paired with others to make a team. As space is limited, you are encouraged to pre-register, however, same-day registration is possible. This event will follow the current Provincial Health Officer guidelines in effect at the time. To register or for more information, please contact the Metchosin Community House at 250-478-5155 or mcahouse@telus.net.



Canada Day Festivus Planned for Metchosin

Not having a Metchosin Day for this year, a 'Festivus' is being planned for July 1 with MACCA and other groups brainstorming to provide entertainment.

According to Wikipedia, a "festivus" has been described both as a parody holiday festival and as a form of playful consumer resistance. Whatever it means to you, we can all agree that we deserve one right about now! More information should be available in next month's issue of the *Muse*.

'Chosin Pottery
4283 Metchosin Rd. 250-474-2676
Please call to arrange a time to visit.

Shop locally.
Beautiful Pottery for all Occasions.

www.chosinpottery.ca

Metchosin Muse – Your Local News Source
Fair • Balanced • Community Oriented
metchosinmuse@gmail.com

Prominent Environmental Advocate Speaking in Metchosin

Morgan Yates

On the evening of Thursday, May 18, internationally recognized environmentalist Tzaporah Berman will be sharing her views and experiences from decades of environmental advocacy and policy work, at an event hosted by Bilston Creek Farm.



Tzaporah Berman. Stand.earth photo

Bilston Creek Farm has partnered with UVic's John Albert Hall Lecture Series to organize A Conversation with Tzaporah Berman. There will be a Q&A section following the conversation. Facilitating this conversation will be local councillor and best-selling author, professional forester (retired) and professional biologist (retired), Andy MacKinnon.

This informative evening in Metchosin is being made possible with additional support from

both St. Mary of The Incarnation and the Metchosin Foundation.

For more than two decades the John Albert Hall lecture series, a joint initiative of UVic's Centre for Studies in Religion and Society and the Anglican Diocese of Islands and Inlets of British Columbia, has featured prominent thinkers speaking on topics related to the changing role of religion in contemporary society. For over one decade, the Metchosin Foundation has supported local environmental initiatives and related educational opportunities, such as this event.

Metchosin residents of a certain age may associate Tzaporah Berman with her strategic role in the campaign to protect the old growth forests of Clayoquot Sound. While this was an important early milestone in her work, she has been designing environmental campaigns and working on environmental policy in Canada and beyond for over thirty years. She is currently the International Program Director at Stand.earth and an Adjunct Professor of York University Faculty of Environmental Studies, the co-founder of the Global Gas & Oil Network and the former co-director of Greenpeace International's Global Climate and Energy Program.

Ms. Berman's recent speaking events and videos have focused not only on her experience in the environmental policy and advocacy realm, but also on her personal views and underlying sources of inspiration and motivation.

There is no cost to attend the speaking event, but seating will be available on a first come,

first served basis. Attendees are invited to arrive at 4:30pm, to mix and mingle. The speaking event itself is scheduled for 6:30pm to 7:45pm. For those wishing to enjoy some of Bramble's delicious food, pre-ordering via the Bilston Creek website will ensure that your favourite menu items can be reserved for you.

This author anticipates a provocative, engaging and energetic conversation on the evening of May 18. For more information, please visit <https://bilston.ca/collections/a-conversation-with-tzaporah-berman>



Old growth forest in Metchosin. Bev Hall photo

We ♥ Locals
The Metchosin Muse!

westmont
MONTESSORI SCHOOL
dynamic • independent • connected

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
for the 22/23 school year.

Placements available for grades 4-12!

We are committed to academic excellence in a caring learning environment.

www.westmontschool.ca | T: 250.474.2626 | info@westmontschool.ca

Dwarf Conifers – A Journey into Miniature

Dorothy King

Meeting at Metchosin Community House
May 18, 7:00pm
Garden Club Membership \$10/year or \$2 drop in fee

How many of us love the year-round joy of conifers? I know I do, especially in the winter when the green textures remind us beauty still exists in our gardens. So many times I have coveted a beautiful tree at the nursery but, upon closer examination of the description of the tree, I find it will be too big for the spot I have in mind. Regular pruning can be an option to curtail the size and make a lovely shape (think of bonsai) but, as experience has taught me, all it takes is one missed seasonal pruning to result in many years of catching up.

Enter the world of dwarf conifers! Imagine being able to have many wonderful conifers even within a tiny yard. Whether we seek to diminish our gardening footprint due to available space, our own

physical limitations, or because we are concerned about consuming less water and fewer resources in our shifting climate, dwarf conifers can be an answer to creating a beautiful space to enjoy in all seasons.

Bernie Dinter of Dinter's Nursery will be joining the Metchosin Garden Club at our meeting on May 18 to share his extensive knowledge on this burgeoning class of conifers. Many species that are known as full-sized trees also have dwarf forms. There is a variety of colour, texture and shape available within the dwarf category. Bernie will be reviewing the major conifer genera to enlighten us on what is available to enhance our gardens on a petite scale.

Bernie has been fully immersed in the world of gardening for pretty much his whole life. He is Island-born and probably 'helped' his dad while he was the gardener at the Shawnigan Lake School. His father started Dinter's Nursery in 1973. Bernie joined him after he graduated with a Plant Science degree from UBC in 1976. Bernie and his family have been helping us beautify our gardens for forty-nine years!

LIGHTHOUSE
Painting

Interior & Exterior
20 Years Experience

Clean Reliable & Local
WCB Insured • Free Estimates

1-250-509-0439 | shwnbrwn@icloud.com

941 Arden Rd.
Victoria, BC, V9C 4G3
Home: (250) 474-7403
Cell: (250) 514-7339

KIVARI AUTO REPAIR
A modern approach to car care with good old-fashioned service.
Kevin Kivari
Certified mechanic/owner/operator
k_kivari@shaw.ca
www.kivaristudio.com

Twinkie, how you have grown!

Sporting a stylish beauty mark, four-year-old Twinkie (left) at Parry Bay Sheep Farm is more than ready to lamb. Some of you may recall hearing of her – she was so small at birth that she wore one of John Buchanan's old socks to keep warm (below).
PS: Twinkie "twinked" April 23 – two lovely lambs!

Joan Kew photos

Five Ways to Camp More Sustainably

CRD Environmental Services

As the weather warms and camping reservations open up, we're all eager to get out and enjoy the great outdoors! We are blessed in the capital region to have access to exceptional recreation opportunities just beyond our front doors. Recent years have seen a steady rise in visitors to our region's parks and campgrounds and increased demand can lead to increased environmental degradation if we're not careful.

Here are five tips to help you enjoy your recreational activities while minimizing environmental impacts, ensuring our parks are protected and can be enjoyed by all for years to come!

Follow park regulations:

Research park user guidelines and rules before you head to your destination. Stick to designated campsites and trails, pick up after your pets and use designated washroom amenities. If none are provided, be sure to "go" at least 100m away from camps, water sources and trails (and then pack it out with you!).

Pack in and pack out: One of the easiest ways to reduce your impact when camping is to leave no trace. Reduce the amount of waste you create by using reusable containers, cutlery, water bottles, and coffee cups when possible. Sort and properly dispose of waste, recycling, and food scraps. If bins are not available, take your waste back out with you. Ensure that hazardous materials, such as propane and butane cylinders, are safely recycled at a depot such as Hartland.



Happy camping! CRD photo

Buy local, burn local: Check for fire bans. If fires are permitted at your destination, buy your firewood locally. It may seem like a good idea to bring your own firewood but this can **unintentionally spread invasive species** and diseases that can harm our forests. Leave any leftover wood behind for the next guests instead of potentially transporting invasive species back with you and please don't harvest wood from living or dead trees around the campsite – this has a big environmental impact!

Clean, drain, dry: Whether using a motor boat, sailboat, canoe, kayak or even a paddleboard, follow these three simple steps to avoid transporting aquatic invasive species: **CLEAN** plants, animals and mud from your watercraft, gear, boots, and pets before leaving a recreation

site (and before entering another). **DRAIN** all water from your watercraft and gear. **DRY** all parts of your watercraft and gear.

Respect local wildlife: Enjoy the local flora and fauna around you but be sure to keep your family (including pets) a safe distance from local wildlife and sensitive ecosystem areas. Do not feed wildlife and ensure that food and cooking supplies are secured so as not to attract them to your site.

Thank you for doing your part so that we're all able to enjoy the outdoors sustainably for years to come. Have a great summer and stay safe!

For more tips and information on regional parks, visit our website: www.crd.bc.ca/parks

A New Kind of Exercise in the Metchosin Village

Shannon Carman

There's a shameful admission I often make to women when they come to my Bellyfit class for the first time – and it's that I really, REALLY don't like exercising.

Like my fellow Bellyfit instructor Erin Van de Water, we were both raised in Metchosin, and both went to school at Metchosin Elementary, the building that we teach our classes in now. But unlike sporty Erin, who has always been physically active, I find exercise (jogging, sports, gym workout) tedious unless it's for social purposes. I've simply never been interested. However, I always have loved to dance.

When I discovered Bellyfit, a women-only fusion of belly dance, fitness, and yoga, I was suddenly motivated to move. I called up my friend Erin, who I knew shared my love of dance, and wanted to get more active after becoming a mom. We took our training together last year, and are now offering classes in Metchosin!

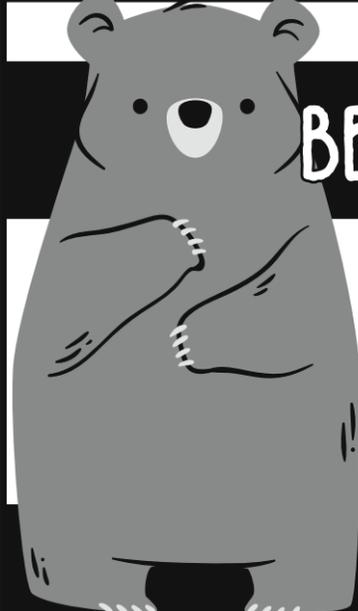
We love Bellyfit because it's a style of exercise open to all ages and abilities – we have women in our classes ranging from their teens to their 70s. We love it because the emphasis is on feeling GOOD in your body, building up your core, and incorporating movements that feel empowering and energizing. It's a good workout – no one leaves class without a sweat.

Classes run Mondays at 5:00pm and 7:00pm, Tuesdays at 9:00am, Thursdays at 9:00am and 7:00pm, and Saturdays at 9:00am. They are all in the DIY room on the Arts Centre side of the Old Metchosin School. Just come up the front stairs with a yoga mat, a water bottle, and a pair of sneakers! The first class is free to try, with drop-in options as well as punch cards available for returning participants. We'd love to meet you!

For more information, visit MetchosinBellyfit on Facebook, or email metchosinbellyfit@gmail.com.



Erin Van de Water and Shannon Carman. Taylor Mar photo



BE BEAR & COUGAR SMART!

For information about staying safe around wildlife, please visit the district website

www.metchosin.ca/content/wildlife-resources



Supporting Environmental Stewardship and Education in our Community

visit us at: metchosinfoundation.ca Registered charity

Bella Yoga Studio

Yoga in the Neighbourhood - Duke Rd W.

Yoga For All! Hatha Yoga! All Levels

Curvy Yoga* Ayurveda*
Yogalites* Workshops
Beginners Yoga & All Levels Welcome
Beautiful - Fun - Safe - Peaceful - Explore
Wellness - Enjoy - Release - Love

Beginners Yoga! All Levels
Mindful Moments - Come Explore
Hatha Yoga - & Move your body!




www.Bellayoga.ca
Georgia 250-391-0497 • Email georgia@bellayoga.ca

CRD Walks in Metchosin and East Sooke

May 1, 2022, 10:00am–2:00pm
Beginner Birding Basics – Witty's Lagoon Regional Park • Self-guided Walk • All ages
Witty's Lagoon Regional Park (Metchosin). Visit CRD Regional Parks naturalists at Witty's Lagoon Regional Park for a self-guided walk all about birdwatching! Follow the panels to learn about what to look and listen for when identifying the birds in the area. Drop by any time between 10:00am and 2:00pm. This walk begins near the information kiosk at the main parking lot off Metchosin Road.

May 7, 2022, 1:30–3:00pm
Exploring Indigenous Perspectives • Guided Adult Walk • 18 years+
East Sooke Regional Park (East Sooke). Join CRD Regional Parks cultural programmer Leslie McGarry for a walk at East Sooke Regional Park, and discover a human history spanning thousands of years. Learn about the cultural significance of plants, animals and the seasons and how First Peoples deeply respect, appreciate and celebrate gifts from forests, rivers, lakes and the sea. There is no fee for this program but **you must pre-register by May 3** as space is limited.

May 29, 2022, 11:00am–12:00pm
The Best Nest • Guided Walk • 5 years and under
Witty's Lagoon Regional Park (Metchosin). Spring is here and birds are busy! Bring your little ones and join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to discover nests and look for homes of hummingbirds, robins and more. Children will experience life as a small bird through story time, a forest ramble, and activities. There is no fee for this program but **you must pre-register by May 25** as space is limited.

To preregister for these walks please visit: <https://crdregionalparks.perfectmind.com>

Subject to change; check www.crd.bc.ca/about/events

METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE HOUSE HAPPENINGS

ONGOING PROGRAMMING

Mondays

Vancouver Island Health Authority Adult Day Program: 9:00am-3:30pm. **Pre-empted May 23 and 25 for the Garage Sale.** Contact Mobile program coordinator Ken Hillicke at 250-213-2440.

Knitting Café: The evening group will meet 7:00am-9:00pm, on the first and third Mondays monthly. For more info on the evening group – call Heather at 250-478-6590. Knitters of all levels are welcome.

Tuesdays

Drop In Painters Art Group: **Pre-empted May 24 for the Garage Sale.** This friendly and supportive group of artists and hobbyists meets Tuesday mornings 9:30am-12:30pm at the MCHouse. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to join the group please contact Arlene at 250-391-7905.

Knitting Café: Pre-empted May 24 for the Garage Sale. The afternoon group will meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays monthly 1:00-3:00pm – for more information on the afternoon group, call Nance at 250-478-7708 after 11:00am. Knitters of all levels are welcome.

Wednesdays

Vancouver Island Health Authority Adult Day Program: 9:00am-3:30pm (see Monday for details). Pre-empted May 23 and 25 for the Garage Sale.

Thursdays

Creative Rug Hooking: Finished for the season, returning on September 8.

Fridays

Weights and Measures: 9:00-11:00am weekly. **Pre-empted May 27 for the Garage Sale.** Weights and Measures is a new Metchosin weight loss and healthy lifestyle support group for anyone in the community. All Community House COVID safety protocols observed. Contact Nan 250-478-7688

Ukulele Gathering: 5:00-6:30pm, third Friday of each month. Tell all your ukulele-playing students, friends, and

relatives! Open to community members of all ages and levels of talent. If you would like to join the group please contact Margaretha at memetopia@shaw.ca. Bring: a ukulele, capo, tuner, music stand, and a few songs you are willing to share/lead/teach others with appropriate song sheets for others, if not from songbook below. Suggested songbook: *Jumpin' Jim's Daily Ukulele* (as a base resource to work from) if you have it.

EVENTS

Guest Speaker: Marie-Térèse Little, PhD. May 5, 7:00-9:00pm. Speaker Series on Insights into Bio-Medical Research – from the farm to academia. COVID protocol: masks optional but suggested. See article in this month's *Muse*.

Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale:

Sale dates are May 28-29, 9:00am-3:00pm.

Collection dates are: May 21-27, 10:00am-2:00pm and May 26, 10:00am-7:30pm.

If you wish to donate, please note that the following items cannot be accepted: Mattresses, exercise equipment, TVs, sofas, stuffed armchairs, old shoes, soiled clothing, microwaves, computers, entertainment units, BBQs, large appliances, cribs, car seats, luggage, skis or magazines. No early birds – sale starts at 9:00am sharp at the Metchosin Community House at 4430 Happy Valley Road. Entry to the event will be by cash donation at the gate.

Do you have some free time and want to be involved with the MCA's largest fundraiser of the year, our Mighty Garage Sale – please call 250-478-5155 and join in on the fun!

Art on the Walls: May – not on display the week of the Garage Sale. Doug Gilbert in collaboration with the Metchosin School Museum Society has compiled and organized a show of 18 historic photographs of Metchosin dating back to the early 1900s. They are hanging on the Community House walls for all to come and enjoy. Viewing times are Monday-Thursday 9:00am – 1:00pm. The Art on the Walls program offers the House as a wonderful venue for artists to show and display their works. For more information, call 250-478-5155.

Metchosin Community House

4430 Happy Valley Road Info: 250-478-5155

mcahouse@telus.net | metchosincommunityhouse.com

WESTCOAST TIRE and WHEEL Ltd.

since 1980

250-889-6161

or

250-642-4044

Open: MON-FRI
9:00am – 5:00pm

MICHELIN

Goodrich

UNIROVAL

4730 SOOKE RD. • VICTORIA
15 mins from Colwood Corners

www.westcoasttires.com

Nitrogen
Force Variance
Balancing



Seniors' Resource Centre

METCHOSIN

The Seniors' Resource Centre is operated by the Metchosin Seniors' Association. It is dedicated to helping seniors and their families with support, resources, and services. Our mandate is to keep Metchosin age-friendly. The Centre is open Tuesday through Friday from 12:00-4:00pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SENIORS' CENTRE WITHOUT WALLS ON ZOOM

The Metchosin Seniors' Association has received funding from the United Way BC to continue offering our Seniors' Centre Without Walls project. Along with our community partners and local residents, we are offering free events via Zoom that you can take part in safely from the comfort of your home. It is accessible by computer, cellphone or your landline. Details are on our website or by calling the centre.

HEARING ISSUES INFORMATION SESSION

Thursday, May 12 | 1:00pm on Zoom

May is Speech and Hearing Awareness month. Dr. Lisa Lopez, Audiologist, of Ocean Audiology in Langford, will host an information session on hearing issues such as hearing loss, hearing aids, testing, etc. It includes time for questions and answers. For details contact SRC.

Dr. Lisa Lopez



JANET GRAY AND CLARE LOWERY IN CONVERSATION

Tuesday, May 24 | 1:00pm on Zoom

In what promises to be a very lively and touching conversation, Clare and Janet will share stories of Clare's most memorable life experiences over her 90+ years, many of which have been here in Metchosin. For details contact SRC.



SENIORS SOCIAL

Friday, May 13 | 1:00-3:00pm at Metchosin Community House

Join us for coffee, tea and baked goods, conversation. Our thanks to the volunteers who serve refreshments, including our members and the Baha'is of Metchosin, and to the Metchosin Community Association, who provide use of the house. There is no social on May 27 due to the Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale (which we are all looking forward to!).

Metchosin Seniors' Resource Centre (SRC)

1407-4495 Happy Valley Road

250.478.5150 • info@metchosinseniors.ca

www.metchosinseniors.ca

WHEN YOU LAST THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR WILL,
WAS THIS MAN STILL GOVERNOR?



Richard Blaisbard

Is it time to review your will?

For a free consultation, call

Maclsaac & Maclsaac

250-478-1131

www.maclsaaclaw.ca | 2227 Sooke Road, Colwood

ICBC / Personal Injury / Civil Litigation / Family Law
Wills and Estates

CAN DO!

High Quality Colour Printing
Coroplast & Foam Board Signs
Hanging & Stand Up Banners
Wide Format Scan & Email
Building Plans
Laminating
Business Cards
Graphic Design
and SO much more...

Public Fax Service

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
8:00 am – 5:30 pm

250-478-5533

2811 Jacklin Road
www.westsideinstaprint.ca

CAN DO SINCE 1988 WESTSIDE INSTAPRINT

Janice Poulin Memorial Bench

Barb Sawatsky

Following Janice Poulin's death on April 13, 2021 her husband, Eugene, offered to have a bench installed at the Metchosin Community House (MCH) in her memory. Ivan Hoetzel of Classic Cedar Garden Furniture on Morland Road agreed to take on the project and over the winter months constructed a beautiful, sturdy cedar bench.

Prior to the installation of the bench, the family asked to choose the exact placing they knew Jan would want: opposite the set of south-facing doors at the House under the overhanging Ceanothus. Eugene and Jan's daughter, Janette, explained that, "Mom would bring Grandma to outdoor events but there would be nowhere for her to sit in a bit of shade so she could watch what was going on around her."

The informal bench dedication took place on April 13, 2022, one of our first sunny afternoons and exactly one year after Jan's passing. Janette thanked the approximately 40 friends and relatives who attended and shared some stories about her mom.

Representing the Metchosin Community Association (MCA) was Jim Challenger, who spoke of



The inscription by the newly planted bush. Barb Sawatsky photo

how much Jan is missed both as a participant and as an enthusiastic and hard-working volunteer. Arlene Welch and others from the MCH Arts Group attended with Arlene telling delightful stories of Jan's involvement in the group and drew attention to the double-blossom salmonberry bush that has been planted in her memory with a plaque attached to a rock at its base.

Thank you to the Poulin family from the MCA for this wonderful gift. Take time to find the bench, sit and rest a while . . . but not too long because Jan would have wanted you "to get busy and get something done."



The Poulin family cherish their memories. Barb Sawatsky photo

Metchosin Festivus 2022 – be there!
July 1; keep your eyes peeled for more information.

RCMP Call-Outs

MARCH 10–APRIL 5, 2022

Brian Kerr, OPS Support, Media Relations Officer, West Shore RCMP | GRC de West Shore

- March 10 **Sooke Road**
Vehicle stopped for excessive speed, driver charged, vehicle impounded.
- March 11 **Rocky Point Road**
Report of erratic driver possibly impaired, vehicle located off East Sooke Road, driver not located.
- March 12 **Pedder Bay Road**
Check well-being of two people sleeping in a vehicle, located and both found to be in good health.
- March 14 **Happy Valley Road**
Complaint of road rage, one driver given verbal warning.
- March 15 **Happy Valley Road**
Theft from vehicle parked by Galloping Goose Trail. Purse stolen. Investigation continuing.
Duke Road area
Landlord-tenant dispute, civil matter.
- March 16 **Neild Road**
Complaint of threats being made, reported for information purposes.
Rocky Point Road
Check well-being of person, one person taken to hospital under the *Mental Health Act*.
Sooke Road
Possible impaired driver, vehicle stopped and driver found to be sober.
- March 18 **Sooke Road**
Collision involving vehicle and motorcycle,
no injuries. Driver of motorcycle left the scene prior to police arrival.
Metchosin Road
Erratic driver, registered owner given warning.
- March 21 **Albert Head**
Disturbance, four youths located at beach and asked to leave.
Kangaroo Road area
Complaint of threats. Suspect given verbal warning.
- March 22 **Liberty Road**
Possible gun shots heard in area. Patrols failed to locate anything.
- March 23 **Happy Valley Road**
Minor collision but one vehicle left scene without exchanging information.
- March 24 **Matheson Lake**
Complaint of two dogs being pepper-sprayed. Suspect located and spoken to.
- March 25 **Kangaroo Road**
Erratic driver, registered owner given warning.
Sooke Road
Check on well-being of a person who was located and in good health.
- March 26 **Sooke Road**
Possible impaired driver, vehicle not located.
Glen Forest Way area
Person bitten by a dog, Animal Control following up.
- March 27 **Sooke Road**
Possible impaired driver, vehicle located in Colwood, driver charged with impaired driving and vehicle impounded.
Sooke Road
Check well-being of a person who was transported to hospital under the *Mental Health Act*.
- March 30 **Kangaroo Road area**
Dog killed by two cougars, Conservation Officer and Police searched area but cougars not located. Investigation continuing.
- April 1 **Kangaroo Road**
Complaint of large truck with insecure load.
- April 2 **Happy Valley Road area**
Complaint of possible fraud.
- April 3 **William Head Road area**
Check well-being of a person who was located and found to be in good health.
Sooke Road
Complaint of erratic driver, patrols failed to locate suspect vehicle.
- April 4 **William Head Road**
Abandoned vehicle found to be legally parked.
- April 5 **Sooke Road**
Tree down across highway causing a hazard.

Authentic Neapolitan-Style Pizza To Go
Fridays & Saturdays
3pm – 7pm
House-Made & Local Ingredients
Vegan & Gluten-Free Options
Order Ahead or Drive-Thru!

GLENROSA
FARM | RESTAURANT

5417 Rocky Point Road • 250-478-6186 • www.glenrosafarm.com

2022 Exhibition of Ceramic Art

SHAPE OF WILD

EXHIBITION & SALES
Sat - Sun May 28-29, 10 am - 5 pm

Metchosin Community Hall
4401 William Head Rd Victoria, BC
Info 250.216.7577

firedup.ca
Fired Up!
Contemporary Works In
CLAY

911 FOR ALL EMERGENCY CALLS

Moralea's Meadow – Spring Update



Barb Sawatsky

Protecting a grove of Garry oak trees and native plants near the Metchosin District office was a dream of Moralea Milne, a dedicated and respected Metchosin Councillor who died in 2018 but who is remembered by most as an avid environmentalist and protector of natural spaces. A sign with her motto, “The environment is the lens through which I view every decision,” is installed at the entrance to the Garry oak space, now named ‘Moralea’s Meadow’.

In 2019, Katy Nelson received permission and funding from Metchosin to restore the meadow as a tribute to her close friend Moralea who, years earlier, had planted native plants and shrubs in the area. A small group of committed volunteers meet on Tuesdays from 2:00–4:00pm doing hands-on, get-down-on-your-knees weeding and planting unless weather precludes. New volunteers are always welcome and encouraged to join them!

In early March, 2022, with gratitude to an excellent application written by Kristen Miskelly and filed by Bev Hall, they received a grant from Pollinator Partnership Canada. To celebrate, 17 people gathered on a sunny Sunday morning on March 27 and planted the many flats of 15 varieties of native plant species provided by James and Kristen Miskelly of Satinflower Nurseries. The Miskellys are welcome new residents to Metchosin. Their native plant nursery is located on Haliburton Road in Saanich. Not only were they present to help with the planting, but they encouraged their staff to join them, with five showing up as volunteers. Katy said, “It was a wonderful day!”

Everyone is welcome to visit Moralea’s Meadow, to sit on the bench and enjoy the peace and the birdsong, and read the thoughtful sign with the wording composed from input from her family and friends, outlining the life work of Moralea Milne.

Photos: Above, Sparky looks out for rabbits; Katy Nelson at work.

Bottom right: Volunteers at work in the garden.

Below: Moralea’s plaque.

Photos by Barb Sawatsky



Sharing Stories

Wyclife and Justin Francis

There were two beautiful sisters who lived together for many years in harmony in the village west of Victoria B.C. They helped one another whenever there was a need.

Met was very large and short and her favorite dress was light blue in colour. She enjoyed seeing people fishing, swimming, skydiving, kayaking, and canoeing. She was usually very kind and welcoming, but very violent sometimes. When she was calm, she enjoyed seeing huge cruise ships pass by, and on the days that she put on dark grey clothes, it was a sign that she was not happy, and she might be violent. Many people from all walks of life loved her dearly.



Illustration by Justin Francis

Chosin was tall and slim. Her favorite dress was a mixture of dark green and light green. She also had a dark brown dress, which she wore when she was not happy. During the summer she liked wearing the most beautiful dress decorated with a bunch of different flowers of different colours. She enjoyed seeing people walking, hiking, driving, and riding at times. She was very kind and loving. She always welcomed many people to stay at her place.

In 2021, there was a drought. It was so sunny and very hot, and the leaves on some trees were turning brown. The people in the village were very thirsty and sweaty. They asked Chosin to help them with some water to drink and to shower. Chosin told them that she was not able to help them, but she did have a sister called Met who could help.

They went to Met and, on meeting Met, they were welcomed. They drank and their thirst was no more. They showered and some were happy to swim too! “Thank you Met”, the people said.

When they were done, the Sun was getting hotter and they started sweating again. They asked Met, “What can we do, since we have showered and the heat is not cooling us down?”

Met told them to go back to Chosin. On arrival at Chosin’s place, they were welcomed and treated with love. Chosin seeing them hot and sweaty, knew what they wanted. She told them to rest under the trees. The people sat under the trees and were so happy since there was a cool breeze which cooled them down. They fell asleep enjoying Chosin’s place.

After seeing how people were struggling to find help, Chosin called Met, and talked about how they could help the situation. They both agreed to come together and call their place Metchosin.

Met is Ocean and Chosin is Mainland. The village is Metchosin.

Stepping out into Spring!



Solo greets the world for the first time with his mom, Belle. Tanya McLellan photo

Please Note:

All events shown in the *Muse* this month are subject to change or cancellation due to new COVID regulations or precautions. Readers are advised to check prior to attendance.