**John’s Journey to Hopeful Grape Success**

Barb Sawatsky

John Kelly’s vision of a vineyard was inspired by settings he has visited in Sonoma, California, and in France. His home and four-acre property at the end of Taylor Road have all the features he feels are perfect: a wide porch with steps leading down to a green lawn, then to grape vines, and beyond to an ocean vista. “The porch is pretty much where I spend my summer,” he tells me. No doubt. “I’m good with plants and have grown basil for years,” says John. Embarking on his journey to grape-dom in Metchosin, he “…put up deer fencing, planted 350 grape vines on three quarters of an acre, plumbed it with a drip irrigation system from my well to every plant and after one season, pretty much had a complete crop failure. Only five vines made it.” But because this is not just about results but is a part of his life’s journey, he was not about to give up on the dream. After more research, he contacted Paul Troop, an experienced propagator from Salt Spring Island, who looked at the site and pronounced it to be “a tough location” for grapes, what with the heat index and wind. However, Paul agreed to work with John for the next two seasons on a new planting.

Because “Metchosin drains through this property,” a “French drain” was put in in early June of this year. Around the end of the month a new variety of grape, Petit Milo, recommended for the micro-climate conditions of the property, will be planted.

Will John’s and Julie’s wine cellar eventually contain bottles of J&J Roadhouse wine from grapes grown in Metchosin? Who knows – it will take a minimum of three years before results begin to show. In the meantime, sitting on the deck with a glass of wine, watching their two dogs chasing rabbits off the property, John and Lorraine Buchanan’s sheep grazing the field next to the vineyard project, and the sounds of laughing kids and waves on the pebbled beach below, there could be worse ways to spend three years waiting for a harvest.

**Village Square – Some Thoughts**

Barb Sawatsky

With so much interest shown on Facebook about creating a village square in the heart of downtown Metchosin, a citizens’ committee was formed to push the project forward and to act as a clearing house for ideas. The inaugural committee meeting was held on May 29, at which time it was agreed that the group will proceed to gather information prior to presenting a draft to Council for consideration. As written in the minutes, it was apparent that everyone at the meeting strongly supported the vision of a “multi-generational community space which represents the richness of the Metchosin community identity.”

Now that the secret is out, rumours of School District #62 resolving to sell Metchosin Elementary School and the surrounding property can be reported as true. This sunny piece in the town centre could easily accommodate benches and picnic tables to be shared by all generations.

**“Important Dates” has moved**

The Important Dates and Events listing, as well as a Directory of Organizations for ongoing events, can be found on the back page of the Metchosin Muse.

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**PLEASE TAKE NOTE: CAMPFIRE INFORMATION**

Campfires are permitted, no larger than 2’ x 2’ in a contained fire pit, fully extinguished by midnight. No beach fires are permitted. Due to the High Fire Hazard rating, all open burning has been closed until further notice.
Call-Out to Brian Kerr

Sue and I would like to thank Brian Kerr for his commitment to keep our Metchosin community informed about local RCMP Call-Outs. Brian has been a long-term resident of Metchosin and started his coverage while a member of the Colwood RCMP and continued his coverage after leaving the RCMP and joining the Central Saanich Police detachment as a constable. My wife and I have a long connection with Metchosin having been past residents, originally starting in 1968 at Pedder Bay Marina and continuing as absentee land own- ers with a sustained interest in the community. Brian has kept us informed throughout his career. Although we do not reside in Metchosin, we are regular subscribers to the Metchosin Muse. We look forward to receiving our copy of local highlights and lowlights. I do hope that another police officer from the Colwood RCMP detachment will continue to keep all of us informed on local police activity. Again, we would extend good health and an enjoyable retirement to Brian Kerr. Thank you again and go relax and wet a line Brian, just make sure you don’t catch too many!

Kind Regards,
Sue and Rob Waters,
Windsor Terrace

Emergency Information Session: Disaster Emotional Response
Tuesday, July 19, 7:00 pm
Metchosin Fire Hall

What is a disaster? One can describe disaster with words such as catastrophe, tragedy, and calamity and the words make us think of such events as earthquakes, fires, and accidents. A disaster is typically unexpected, sudden, and overwhelming, and can range from small in scale to massively large, involving few to thousands of people. Do you think you know how you would behave in a disaster? Do you believe there is a right or wrong way to respond? Stress can affect many areas of functioning, and under- standing responses to disastrous events can help you cope with your feelings, thoughts, and behaviors.

At this information session we will discuss the physiological, emotional, cognitive, and spiritual responses to disasters. We will explain the basic concepts of psychosocial interventions, psychological first aid and resi- lience promotion.

Please join us on Tuesday, July 19 at 7:00 pm at the Fire Hall and learn what the critical aspects of a disaster are.

Summer Camp for Kids at Pearson College!

This summer, Friends Uniting for Nature (FUN) Camps are coming to Pearson College! FUN Society is a dynamic, youth-driven organization dedicated to making learn- ing about the environment, sustainability, and becoming an agent for positive change in the world.

FUN Society is a registered charity and accepts camp- ers who otherwise could not afford summer camps. Each year one third of all spaces are reserved for the scholar- ship program, filled through the nominations of third- party organizations such as school councillors and social workers. FUN Society truly believes that everyone should experience having fun in nature regardless of economic standing.

Valid until July 4 and August 26 the FUN Society will be offering eight weeks of camps at the idyllic Pearson College campus. Children and youth between the ages of 5-16 are welcomed. We are proud to be a part of the power of peer leadership uniting the age gap. Highlight activities include kayaking and canoe excursions, marbling, art workshops, t-shirt screen printing, nature watching boat trips to Race Rocks, an accordan- tion performance and songwriting workshop, lo- cal organic farm tours, fort building, plant identification, origami paper activities, and much much more! For more information, go to www.Funcamps.ca. For ques- tions or to volunteer, email Rose, the campus coordinator: rose.ricardofuncamps@gmail.com.

“[m]any! We are looking at summer camps this year and because we know, appreciate and trust FUN Camps, these are our first choice. I appreciate the smiling and encouraging faces of the N.C. leaders. I consider this process to be a great part of my children’s development of self.” — Jennifer Baily, FUN parent of seven- and nine-year-old girls
Mac Elrod
March 23, 1932–June 16, 2016

“I’ve had a good life and I’m ready to go.” – Mac, on learning the prognosis and place when such things were unusual, was a strong influence in his life.

He was raised in the Methodist Church, and met his wife, Norma Cummins, at a Methodist youth conference in Kansas. The Yankee girl from Illinois and the Southern boy from Georgia shared an altruistic zeal that long survived their adherence to traditional Christianity. While still in their early 20s the couple, along with their baby son, went to South Korea, which was a war zone from a devastating civil war. Mac taught the first generation of modern Korean librarians at Yonsei University, while Norma taught English and fostered war orphans. They returned to the United States after five years, with two more children in tow. In later years, Mac delighted in surprising Koreans with his command of the language.

While working and teaching in Nashville, Tennessee, Mac became involved in the civil rights movement and participated in non-violent workshops led by James Lawson, one of the leading workshops led by James Lawson, one of the leading figures of the movement. Mac’s and Norma’s activism continued through the 1960s with their staunch opposition to the Vietnam War, which led to their decision to emigrate to Canada with their (by then) five children. A sixth child was adopted shortly after the family moved to North Vancouver.

In Canada, Mac and Norma found a congenial home for their liberal religious beliefs in the Unitarian Church. He became a Unitarian Minister, and their Riverside home became a focal point for anti-war activism, with hundreds of war objectors passing through, receiving shelter, food and counselling.

Mac served as head of cataloguing at the University of British Columbia for two decades. After leaving UBC, he founded his own company, Special Libraries Cataloguing, which provided remote cataloguing services to special libraries around the world. With the advent of the internet, Mac became an internationally known figure in the world of library cataloguing and was active in online librarianship forums up until a few months before his death.

As his children grew up and some married, Mac invited all of them to live at the North Vancouver property, emulating the multi-generational compounds he admired in South Korea. But, since he invariably disapproved of such incidents like building codes and zoning bylaws, the district authorities finally intervened and Mac decided to move to Vancouver Island. He fell in love with a log home built by the late Bob McCulloch on Blinkhorn Mountain, and “Ty Mynydd” was his home from 1991 until his death. Mac loved the peace of the rural setting of Metchosin but also loved welcoming guests and telling anecdotes about the paintings and objects which filled his home. He graciously hosted numerous Unitarian meetings and potlucks at his home. He worked tirelessly on LGBT issues, organizing LGBT art shows at the First Unitarian Church of Victoria, as well as First Nations’ Art shows for many years. He sheltered and supported many war resisters. A portion of the property is now protected by the Habitat Acquisition Trust.

Mac had come out as a gay man in the 1970s and he gradually became more vocal concerning gay rights. He personally paid for the Acquisition Trust. He was vocal concerning gay rights. He personally paid for the Canadian Unitarian Council to be an intervenor in the 2004 Canadian Supreme Court hearings concerning same-sex marriage. He formed a number of significant same-sex relationships over the years. He and Norma lived apart but maintained their bond as well as their shared interests in politics, social issues, and literature.

In his final years, Mac’s eyesight began to fail and to diminish his zeal for attending live theatre, ballet and concert events. Another cause that animated his last years was drug policy reform.

So much regarding his insis-
Stairway to Heaven

Who said the stairway to heaven had go UP? The new stairs from Witty Beach Road down to Witty Beach – Metchosin’s own piece of heaven – are now completion!

For information on the official opening and when the stairs will be open to the public, contact the District of Metchosin at 250-474-3167 or check the district website: http://www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/
Parisian Café 2016

For two hours on a beautiful Saturday morning early in June, the courtyard in front of the Seniors’ Information and Resource Centre (SIRC) was transformed into a Parisian Café. By 10:00 am the tables were set, the coffee was ready, and the first guests began to arrive. Music, chatter, and laughter filled the air until past noon.

There is nothing like a special event to bring people together and this is exactly what the Parisian Café did. Throughout the morning old friends greeted each other and newcomers were welcomed. It was wonderful to see former Metchosin residents Bess Page, Brenda Smith, and Norm and Mary Gidney among the 100 people who attended. Connections were made and we were reminded (again) that the world is indeed small – Dar Churcher was thrilled to discover that the stranger sitting next to her was her print-making teacher at university in 1978. It had been almost 30 years since they last saw each other.

What fun to see Michael Boring playing a game of pétanque (boules) with an artist from France. Chris van de Water coaxed wonderful pets and palettes from Patisserie Daniel were laid out, and the first guests began to arrive. Music, chatter, and laughter filled the air until past noon.

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What fun to see Michael Boring playing a game of pétanque (boules) with an artist from France. Chris van de Water coaxed wonderful tunes from the piano and the Free Range Singers wandered through the tables serenading the guests. Lawrence, Francis and Joseph Barss circulated through the tables. The Parisian Café is made possible by the generous support of the following: Barbra Hop-kins – Independent Financial Advisor; Milton Carmace; Peter Chettleburgh, Capanura Com-munications; Jane Johnston, The Brier Hill Group at Remax; Makola ILBC Housing Society; Frank Mitchell; Metchosin Arts and Cultural Centre; Patisserie Daniel; and Pure Pharmacy.

The Gourmet Dinner returns!

Elegant, effortless, entertaining. Treat eight of your friends or family to a delicious five-course dinner served in your home! Tickets are now on sale and available from the SIRC office and at upcoming community events such as Metchosin Day. Only 220 tickets are sold so your chances of winning are excellent. Tickets are $20.

Do you need a ride?

If you need a ride to a medical appointment or to the grocery store please call the SIRC office, 250-478-5150. We have a roster of volunteer drivers happy to help. And if you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver, we would be pleased to tell you more about the driver program. Every lift helps!

Help around the house

If you need a plumber, electrician, or capable handyman (or woman), call the SIRC office 250-478-5150. We keep a directory of recommended service providers and would be happy to pass along their contact information to you.

Technologically challenged?

SIRC is pleased to offer one-on-one sessions to help you with your computer or other electronic device. Just call the office at 250-478-5150 to set up an appointment.
**Randall Garrison**

Critic for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, National Defence, LGBTQ Issues

2904 Tillicum Rd, Victoria, BC V9A 2A5 / M–Th, 10–4 or appt

250-405-6550 / Randall.Garrison@parl.gc.ca

www.randallgarrison.ndp.ca

We look forward to continuing to help constituents with federal government departments, programs and services.

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**Metchosin Producers Association**

**JIM MACPHERSON**

Sunday, and I forgot to take anything out for supper. So, I get myself over to the farmers’ market, go over to the Hut and eventually decide on lamb chops over a pork roast or a whole chicken, browse through the produce stalls and pick up salad greens, carrots, onions, new potatoes, and a fresh rhubarb pie for dessert. Almost done, I see the wine and cider vendors and buy myself a bottle of Island-made wine. And a freshly cut bouquet. Maybe I’d better get Rover a bit of a treat, too – maybe something from one of the craft shops.

Now, this is a Sunday dinner, all made possible by the Metchosin Producers’ Association (MPA) whose 45–50 members put on the Metchosin Farmers’ Market as a means of fostering community spirit and rural life. And it seems to be working. The Market draws in excess of 200 visitors every Sunday from across southern Vancouver Island, and as the number of vendors gradually increases, so do visitations.

The Metchosin Market is a Sunday market. Most other farmers’ markets in the CRD operate Saturdays or week-days. The Metchosin Farmers’ Market offers opportunities for the sale of locally produced wine and mead. This has helped to make the Metchosin Market even more unique for not all markets have this offering. Another plus for an imaginative and innovative executive has been the development of a Christmas Market, first held last year. This will be an annual event, with the 2016 event slated for December 4. Vendors who wish to sell at the market must belong to the MPA but volunteers who wish to help (rather than to sell) may also join the association. About half of the members reside in Metchosin. Other members live in Sooke, East Sooke, Colwood and even as far afield as Saanich and North Saanich.

Anything sold at the market must be locally made, produced or grown. Food vendors have to comply with VIHA requirements. This year there are 18 full-season vendors. Of these, eight sell produce while the remaining ten offer prepared foods and crafts. There are also 22 “drop-in” (not full-season) vendors. The MPA is self-financing through various nominal vendor fees and membership fees. From this revenue, members organize and lay out the market, arrange for paid entertainment, cover insurance costs and still manage to advertise and promote the market. A promotion with My-Chosen Café and the sale of gift certificates helps round out marketing.

The Metchosin Farmers’ Market would not be what it is without the Metchosin Producers Association, broad community support and the active support of Council.

The Metchosin Farmers’ Market has an active Facebook page where you can catch all the latest information on hours of operation (every Sunday from Mother’s Day through the last Sunday in October, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm), vendors, special events and tastes of things to come.

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**Metchosin Mighty Garage Sale 2016**

Bargain hunters flocked from across the region to the Metchosin Community Association 2016 Mighty Garage Sale, looking to find that once-in-a-lifetime gem of a bargain, or simply looking to fill a gap in the kitchen. Watch for a full report on the Garage Sale in the September issue of the Muse.

Photos by Barb Sawatsky.
CAROL CARMAN

The Metchosin Foundation President Chris Pratt welcomed Canadian journalist, environmental activist and former host of CBC’s All Points West radio program JoAnn Roberts as the feature speaker at their eighth Annual General Meeting on May 29 at St. Mary’s Church. Her speech titled “If Not Now, When?” was backed by an excellent PowerPoint presentation and ranged from a historical account on global climate change issues to steps that can be taken by Canadians and local community members to address the need for change.

President Chris Pratt recapped the year’s achievements, highlighting the success of the April Biodiversity weekend that attracted over 100 people to the teaching shelter, walks and displays in Witty’s Lagoon. In the sixth year of its biodiversity work, Metchosin hosts the annual longest-running BioBlitz in BC. This annual combination of public celebration and science research by taxonomy experts has yielded a database of over 2,000 species with a second BioBlitz only to Whistler. Targeted BioBlitzes this spring at Mathe- son Creek, Robert Head NPD property, and William Head Institution added about 120 new species including one extremely rare find.

Pratt noted that combining community education and awareness of the good science fits well within the Metchosin Foundation mandate of Healthy Lands, Healthy Waters and a Healthy, Caring Community. Preservation and stewardship of Metchosin ecosystems are also strengthened by the monthly Walk and Talk sessions featuring speakers on key ecological subjects.

The Metchosin Foundation and the Habitat Acquisition Trust (HAT) continue to work together to establish nature covenants on lands that are ecologically intact and unique to this region. Lands that straddle the Metchosin–Langford border on Humpback Road are the focus of work currently, and it is hoped that good news on this project will be announced this fall.

The opportunity exists for a partnership between the Metchosin Foundation and HAT to establish voluntary covenants on environmentally sensitive shorelines. Via our website and through other means, we are seeking interest from landowners who may wish to establish shoreline covenants.

Pratt also drew attention to the Valerie Cochrane Memorial Fund that was established in her honour by her husband Charles Priester to assist Pearson College students faced with family crises to fly home. It is modelled after a similar fund operating at McGill University in Montreal and is being managed by the Metchosin Foundation. Already two students have been able to address their family crises in person due to that fund’s existence. Typically, these loans are repaid generously when the student is able.

In March, directors convened a meeting to review the formation, constitution, past and current activities of the Metchosin Foundation to help plan projects and future directions. Many great ideas came forward and will form the basis for the work of the incoming board.

Vice-president Joel Ussery thanked Chris Pratt and Dan MacIsaac who have generously served their six-year terms with distinction and thus were stepping down from the Board. In thanks for their service, each was presented with potted blue-eyed grass-like (Sisyrinchium ida- loose), native to Metchosin, although not common here. Pratt was further surprised when a birthday cake with his name on it was wheeled out, and the enthusiastic audience sang a warm Happy Birthday.

The slate of new directors was at that point prepared and elected. Incoming President Carol Carmar, Treasurer Joel Ussery and Secretary Ken Luther are veterans of the foundation board. Three new board members were unanimously elected and welcomed:

• Jacqueline Clare – geographer with a background in ecology, cartography, GIS, and data management
• Mike Fischer – engineer with expertise in energy systems, energy efficiency, and software development for climate change research and a small-scale farmer
• Beverly Hall – environmental scientist, instructor and photographer.

The new board invites members of the public to come forward with ideas and suggestions for the future. The annual fee for membership in the society remains at $10.00. Please contact us by email to metchosinfoundation@gmail.com.

CAROLYN BARTKUS

Mayor Ranns on the APRM AGM

JIM MACPHERSON

“I really believe in the necessity of having the APRM in the community,” said Mayor John Ranns.

The occasion was the Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin’s AGM, June 15, which included a retrospective on the role of the APRM AGM, June 15, which included a retrospective on the role of the APRM in Metchosin over its 25-year history. Chris Moehr, a founding member, described the massive effort APRM members put forth in support of Metchosin during controversial issues are regional amalgamation and treaty issues. Centr Moun- tain may also come back. And there are undoubtedly other but unknown issues.

Mayor Ranns hoped that APRM would continue its activities working for a rural Metchosin.

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July/August 2016 • Metchosin Muse
The Opportunistic Owl

BARB SAWATSKY

I love going to Andy and JoAnne’s to buy eggs partly to pat Luca, the friendliest mule ever and to catch a glimpse of Gemma, the newest dog ever, partly to see their garden and projects, but what I love best of all is listening to their animal stories.

About two years ago, one early spring evening, Andy heard a racket in the hen house. Fearing raccoons, he ran down the path because, as he says, “if you have hens and you hear a chicken scream, it’s a noise you don’t ignore. And an entire coop of screaming chickens is a racket you’re not quickly to forget either.”

Although he keeps a light on in the coop during the darker months of the year, he couldn’t see anything but frantic chickens, some of them in the rafters. Turning around, he came face to face with a large owl which was sitting on the watering can. “I guess he was trying to decide which one to take. I tried shooing him away, smacking at him with the back of my hand but I thought he might bite me. I kept swatting at him and finally he jumped down, walked past me and out the door. Then he flew away.”

Now, this wouldn’t be much of a story unless you’ve seen the coop. It was formerly a tree house. The chickens have to walk up a steep ramp to get inside “so the owl must have just walked up the ramp behind them.”

Since that evening, JoAnne has cuss-crossed the top of the run with string. Not many weeks ago, a good neighbour phoned to say there was a bald eagle sitting on the fence eying the chickens and by the time Andy ran out, it had swooped through the string and was sitting on a hen. When Andy clapped his hands, it flew up and had a bit of a struggle getting airborne because its wings caught in the strings “but it managed to get out okay.”

And, surprisingly, the hen survived in spite of the eagle’s talons, which had penetrated her body.

Last week when I stopped for eggs Andy said, “you’ll never guess what! Two weeks ago there was another owl sitting on the fence looking at the chickens. The first one was mostly grey and white but this one was bigger and brown, so I know it wasn’t the same owl. It’s like word has gotten out.”

June’s Juncos

JUNE REIMER

All my hanging fuchsia baskets wittered over wonder-fully and I did a small amount of repotting, adding some soil and hang them up, one right outside my front door. A few days later I noticed a very green and large amount of moss in the basket! I took it down quickly to look out and flew a frantic bird, scolding rapidly at me from the shrubs below! I checked it carefully the next couple of days and it seemed I had frightened the busy birds away, but then on about day three or four sud-denly there were three eggs!

The parents did get used to the fact that every three days or so I might take a little look if they were not in the nest. However during their occupa-tion of the basket, I had wood floors put into the hall and living room, which were right there, at the front door! My installer was great and mostly used the back entry.

By the last week before flight, the parents began to be somewhat agitated about having to fly down the driveway with me or out the back or side deck, they would come and sit on the railing close to the windows and I am sure they were calling loudly to come and get that darn cat! Once they came down the driveway to find me where I was watering; sure enough, Oliver was outside! They also were quite upset when he was inside closed windows but sleeping within their sight on the sofa. They would sit beside him and squawk and scold him loudly! It seems they knew the babies would need to fly out soon and so suddenly the cat was a menace! I am pleased to report that all three survived and flew off as they should.
A Metchosin Moment

MAX VAN MANEN

I woke up at 4:00 am somewhat alarmed from loud banging noises on the balcony of the bedroom. I thought perhaps I was dreaming that a burglar was trying to scale the balcony but I knew that this would be quite impos-
sible. The third-floor balcony overlooked the lagoon and ocean of Witty’s Beach. However, the loud banging noises on the balcony continued. What could this possibly be? As I apprehensively opened the sliding glass door I saw a party of crows, in the dark of the night, a large owl frantically trying to squeeze under-
neath the glass. It was much too big to get out from under the glass panels and the small space was too awkward for the bird to lift itself off the deck and over the railing. As I cautiously stepped onto the small balcony the owl froze, as if glued to the glass it was pressing against. The same moment it turned its head full circle. The large eyes fixed on me. What did they see? They looked me straight in the eyes – an arresting sensation. I have never seen a great horned owl so near. I recall in a flash how my young son did not want to see the movie, The Secret of NIMH, because the eyes of the owl deeply disturbed him. Now these wild eyes were star-
ing at my naked appearance on the balcony.

The bird had somehow landed there. Is it young? It looked quite full-
grown – so large that it was instantly surprising. I was surprised at the huge span.

The whole event unfolded like in a dream a few hours ago in the dark of the night. As I recount the experience it occurs to me that I did not question for a moment that the bird was stressed and fearful. I felt a sense of urgency to reduce this panic and distress and I could not go back to bed and wait for the morning when a solution might present itself. But how appropriate is it to empathize with a creature that is so utterly different from we humans? Are emotive words like “stress,” “panic,” and “fear” appropriate for describ-
ing the state of being of an animal, or rather, as in this case, the state of being of a great horned owl? I could argue that the frantic movements of the bird let me understand that it felt trapped and confused.

Over the years I have rescued sev-
elar hummingbirds that have flown through the garage door opening and been trapped against the window. This rescue is now routine. I gently scoop up the hummingbird with my hands as it flutters up and down, and release it outside. I do sense that the bird is “panicked” as I scoop it up but it habitually flaps its wings in the air when I release it a moment later. Here again I use emotive words to describe what is going on in the tiny brain and body of a hummingbird. Is it appropri-
ate to empathize with wild birds like this? I don’t know. But this Metchosin moment has given me the richness of an encounter with nature’s enigma.

Editor’s note: Max has informed us that his nocturnal visitor managed to shift his nocturnal visitor managed to shift

• In a
• Creating
• Beauty is essential for well-being — unspoiled natural beauty and the man-made beauty of human-scale architecture and infrastructure.
• Human settlement can provide a net benefit to the natural ecosystem.
• Creating more renewable energy, more biodiversity and more resilience than existed before we arrived.
• In a true community of diversity by every measure.

We believe...

We believe in small, close-knit communities promotes both health and happiness.
• Beauty is essential for well-being — unspoiled natural beauty and the man-made beauty of human-scale architecture and infrastructure.
• Human settlement can provide a net benefit to the natural ecosystem.
• Creating more renewable energy, more biodiversity and more resilience than existed before we arrived.
• In a true community of diversity by every measure.

We believe in happiness by design.

SPIRIT BAY’S MANIFESTO FOR HUMAN HAPPINESS

Living in small, close-knit communities promotes both health and happiness.
Beauty is essential for well-being — unspoiled natural beauty and the man-made beauty of human-scale architecture and infrastructure.
Human settlement can provide a net benefit to the natural ecosystem.
Creating more renewable energy, more biodiversity and more resilience than existed before we arrived.
In a true community of diversity by every measure.

For the past 32 years the Metchosin International Summer School of the Arts (MISSA) has welcomed students and instructors to share in creative expression and exchange on the beautiful Pearson College campus. In 1984 a group of dedicated artists founded the school and five two-
week courses were offered. Over the years MISSA expanded its workshop selection and developed an excellent reputation for bringing in a faculty of acclaimed practicing artists. In recent years the MISSA workshops have expanded from five courses and 53 participants the first summer to almost 40 workshops and more than 350 students each year from around North America and as far away as Israel, Brazil, and Belgium.

The MISSA 2016 Faculty Lecture Series is open to the public and is an opportunity to view slide presenta-
tions of the instructors’ work and learn about their studio practices and creative processes.

Members of the MISSA 2016 faculty will discuss various aspects of their work, including methodol-
ogy, practice, and creative process. Open to the public, admission is by donation.

Lectures are at the Max Bell Auditorium on the Pearson College campus at 7:15 pm on the following dates:
Saturday, July 2
Wendy Skog – painting
Julie Paul – writing
Judy Wiedenbourn – ceramics
Andrea Sioris – photography
Lisa Geddes – painting
Mary Fox – ceramics

Monday, July 4
Julia Lowther – jewellery
Shary Bartlett – encaustic
Pauline Conley – painting
James Watkins – ceramics

Tuesday, July 5
Susan Low-Beere – painting
and ceramics
Jeremy Herndl – painting
Michelle Sioris – textile
Sarah Pike – ceramics

Saturday, July 9
Kathleen Raven – ceramics
Lorne Loomer – brushwork
Ying-Yueh Chuang – ceramics
Clive Powsey – painting
Ellen Starr – ceramics
Victoria Edgarr – printmaking
Laura McKibbon – ceramics
Maria Josenhans – painting
Loren Lukens – ceramics

Monday, July 11
Janna Vallee – textile
Pat Beaton – printmaking
Steven Hill – ceramics

Tuesday, July 12
Alan Burgess – ceramics
Pat Beaton – printmaking
Jan Edwards – ceramics
Samantha daSilva – painting

Please note: Schedule is subject to change without notice. For more information, please visit http://www.missa.ca/about/faculty-lecture-series-2016/.

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July/August 2016 • Metchosin Muse 9
Philip Manning Returns to the West Shore!

Heads up!

Metchosin’s Next Generation Dance is back to kick off your Metchosin Day weekend on Friday, September 9. Get your tickets after July 20 at the Metchosin Community House.

Metchosin-born violin virtuoso Philip Manning eagerly returns to his hometown, with a performance at St. Mary’s Church on July 9.

Manning’s musical talent was evident at a young age, from the moment he picked up a violin at age six. Now as a young adult, his musical accomplishments continue to impress.

He recently completed a Graduate Level Artist Diploma in Violin Performance at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, having been granted a full scholarship. He returned to Vancouver Island after winning his first two professional auditions – an extraordinary feat for a new graduate. Fortunately for local audiences, Manning chose the position with the Victoria Symphony which was awarded to him following a blind audition on May 3. “I couldn’t be happier to be back living and working in my favourite city in the world – Victoria, BC – and to be performing for my favourite audiences,” Manning said.

Manning is no stranger to musical competition; at the age of 18, he won the position of Featured Soloist at Victoria’s 2010 Symphony Splash, where he performed in front of an audience of 45,000. He was granted full scholarships to the Symphony Orchestra Academy of the Pacific in 2012 and to the intensive Violin Institute at Northwestern University in 2013. While in Pittsburgh, he won the Duquesne Concerto Competition and was Concertmaster of the Duquesne Symphony Orchestra. Manning was a finalist in the Canada Council of the Arts Instrument Bank Competition in 2015. He was accompanied by Braden Young, who will share the stage with him at the July 9 performance.

Manning and Young first met in 2006 as students in the Collegium Program for Gifted Young Musicians at the Victoria Conservatory of Music. Together with a cellist, they formed a trio and performed for five years, winning several awards and competing at the national level.

Young has been studying the piano since the age of seven. He recently completed his Master’s Degree in Collaborative Piano at the University of Toronto, and like Manning, has recently moved to Victoria to pursue music at a professional level.

Audiences can look forward to future collaborations between the talented young musicians. As a full-time member of the Victoria Symphony, Manning will be performing throughout the full season, beginning with the group’s summer concerts in July.

Audiences of the July 9 concert will enjoy a varied program of music, beginning with Beethoven’s Sonata for Violin and Piano in E flat Major Op. 12 No. 3 and Bloch’s Baal Shem. Following the intermission, Manning and Young will perform the Sonata for Violin and Piano in D minor Op. 108 No. 3 by Brahms, finishing with two movements from Piazzolla’s Histoire du Tango.

Braden Young

Conductor, Michael Klazek
Soloist, Cari Burdett, Mezzo Soprano
plus solo pieces featuring members of the Orchestra
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SPO

Sooke Philharmonic

Open-Air Pops Concert by the Sea

SUNDAY JULY 10
2:30 Gates open at 1 ED MACGREGOR PARK
Support Sooke Harmony Project and buy your lunch at the park (or bring your own picnic)
A Story of Pamir Road, Metchosin

JENNIFER BURGIS

Located adjacent to the Blaney Trail and Tower Point Regional Park is, perhaps, the shortest gazetted road in Metchosin. It reaches from the corner of Duke Road and Olympic View Road, just a short run to a lovely igneous beach below the end of the Blaney Trail. Google “Pamir Road, Metchosin” and you are instantly provided with some amazing data about this area’s biodiversity. An in-depth study of the cove at the end of Pamir Road was conducted in June 1975 by W.J. Noble and A.M. Crane. There are 40 records on file at the UBC Herbarium which identify the lichen species found here. The roadway is completely overgrown at this point in time. However, I digress, as this story started with an unusual find. While sorting through some black and white photos in a stored box of family memorabilia, I came across the photo of the barque Pamir. Out of my memory popped the connection with the name “Pamir.” When the Friends of Tower Point Regional Park were researching the history of the CRD purchase, a Tower Point neighbour told me about the short roadway and how it came to be called Pamir Road. Adjacent to the short gazetted roadway stands a fine, two-storey house on Duke Road built many years ago. It has a high bank and a stunning view of the islands and this cove of Parry Bay. The house has only had four consecutive owners. Prior to the current owner, the Gardiners owned the property. Henry Gardiner was a retired Royal Navy pilot. Mr. Gardiner petitioned the municipality to list the roadway as Pamir Road. It would seem that he had a great interest in merchant sailing ships. The Pamir was a four-masted barque of a famous line of German sailing ships, (Search Wikipedia and you will find great photos.) It was the last commercial sailing ship to round Cape Horn. In 1957 the Pamir sank off the Azores with only six of the crew and working sea cadets surviving.

Pamir Road was the family practice office of Dr. Pledger for many years after the Gardiners moved to a home on Kangaroo Road. Just to conclude the Pamir Road story, it was to my surprise that there is a Pamir Highway that was part of the Silk Road. It is currently classified as one of the most dangerous roads on earth. Much longer than our short roadway, the highway runs primarily through Tajikistan and is nicknamed “The Road from Hell!” Over 2000 kilometres and the second highest highway in the world, it is a true contrast to our tiny, although just as historic, Pamir Road in Metchosin.

Metchosin Community House
4430 Happy Valley Road
Email: mcahouse@telus.net
Web: www.metchosincommunityhouse.com

HOUSE HAPPENINGS

Ongoing Programs

Mondays
Vancouver Island Health Authority Adult Day Program – 9:00 am–3:30 pm. Contact Mobile program coordinator Ken Hilllucose at 250-213-2440.

Buddies – 2:45–4:30 pm during the school year. Returns September 19.

Pearson College Students Outreach. Returns in September.

Tuesday
Knitting Cafe. Monday meetings on hiatus July and August and will return on September 19.


Wednesdays
Vancouver Island Health Authority Adult Day Program – 9:00 am–3:30 pm (see Monday for details).

Garden Club Meetings – Returns in September.

Thursdays
Creative Rug Hooking. Returns September 1.

Community Potluck Lunch – Last Thursday of each month, 12:00–1:30 pm. All welcome.

Friday
Parent and Tot Program – 9:30–11:30 am. Calling all Metchosin tots! The Parent and Tot Drop-In program invites moms, dads, caregivers and their young children to join us Friday mornings for our community Parent and Tot program. Children will enjoy our new toys, books and craft opportunities. Parents will enjoy our relaxed, supportive environment, parent resource library and opportunities to connect with other parents and kids. We look forward to seeing you and your little ones. The house will be open and available to the group on Friday mornings in July and August, but without a paid coordinator.

Pearson Student TeaTime Drop-In. Returns in September.

Ukulele Gathering. The group will restart in September.

Events

Film Night – Returns in September.

Guest Speaker – Returns in September.

Metchosin’s Next Generation Dance – Friday, September 9, 8:00 pm–12:00 am. To kick off your Metchosin Day Weekend. Get your tickets after July 20 at the Metchosin Community House.

MCA at Metchosin Day – Sunday, September 11. Watch for notices announcing the friendly competitions sponsored by the MCA: Pie Baking Contest/Cake Baking Contest/Photo Contest (coordinated by the Metchosin Arts and Cultural Centre Association; contact: Art Brenton). Come visit the Metchosin Community House-sponsored Corn Booth for a steaming and delicious cob of Island fresh corn. When you are ready for rest and refreshment in a quiet setting, wander over to the Community House Tea Room. Each year the Metchosin Community Association is integrally involved in Metchosin Day. We are looking for an hour or two from volunteers who may be willing to assist in coordinating or helping with some of these activities:

• Set up and/or take down
• Strawberry Tearoom
• Photo Contest
• Pie and Cake Baking Contest
• Bake Sale (contest entries)
• Corn Booth
• Rest Area canopy

It is always great fun being involved in helping to make this community event the special day we’ve come to enjoy.

Check out the Metchosin Day website at metchosinday.ca or contact the Metchosin Community House Office 250-478-5155. See you at the fair!

Foot Care Program – The last Monday of each month a foot care nurse offers foot care services. Appointments are half an hour. Appointments are between 10:00 am and 2:30 pm. Please call 250-664-6810 to book.

Art on the Walls – July and August. 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. The works will be on display at the Community House for the month of March. Viewing times are Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–1:00 pm. The Art on the Walls program offers the House as a wonderful venue for artists to show and display their works. For more information please call the MCH at 250-478-5155.

Thanks to everyone who supported the Metchosin Mighty Garage Sale!
A Rocky Start for Baby Kingfishers

HEATHER SCHMITT

Summer at a wildlife rehabilitation centre like BC SPCA Wild ARC is never dull, with the continuous intake of so many patients in need of help. At this time of year between 20 and 30 injured or orphaned wild animals arrive each day, keeping the rehabilitation team of staff and volunteers busy from dawn to dusk (and beyond!).

While each patient who arrives is special, the very first day of June brought some particularly distinctive wild animals in need of help—a group of six nestling belted kingfishers. They were discovered huddled together in the rubble at the base of a dirt cliff, in the middle of an active gravel pit near Duncan. Kingfishers excavate nesting burrows high in earth banks, digging a metre or more into the bank before rounding out a hollow chamber in which to lay their eggs. In this case, digging from above with heavy machinery caused the bank to be disturbed, and part of it crumbled and gave way. The babies were later discovered in the resulting dirt pile, their nest no longer intact.

Luck was most certainly on these babies’ side, because other than some bruising on their heads and bodies they were unharmed from their rocky tumble. However, with the nest site completely destroyed and no way to recreate such a specialized structure, intervention was needed for these vulnerable youngsters. They were brought to Wild ARC for care, and will be cared for by the rehabilitation team until they are grown and ready for release back into the wild.

Rather than eating a formula or slurry like many other young avian patients at Wild ARC, these voracious seafood-eaters are already able to consume pieces of whole food items like smelt and shrimp. They regurgitate pellets of the indigestible bones and scales, much like owls cast pellets with the hair and skeletons of their prey. Kingfishers continue to do this as adults—these pellets can often be found under roosting and fishing perches, so keep a sharp eye out for evidence of kingfishers during waterside hikes.

Uncommon patients like this clutch of kingfishers provide both inspiration and challenge for Wild ARC’s rehabilitators. “It’s always refreshing when an unusual species arrives,” explains wildlife rehabilitator Marguerite Sans. “We need to make sure we know as much as possible about their natural life history, so it’s an opportunity to expand our knowledge. It also means the opportunity to get a little creative to ensure that they have a diet, enclosure setup, and enrichment materials that mimic as closely as possible their life in the wild.” Wild ARC regularly admits adult belted kingfishers for treatment (often after they have collided with a picture-window or glass balcony railing), but these nestlings have a different set of care needs as they develop and learn the skills they will need to survive. It’s one more new challenge that Wild ARC’s rehabilitation team looks forward to meeting.

The young Kingfishers feathered out. Photo by Christina Carrières

Where Is It?

In Metchosin, it’s not unusual to come across something a little different. With its history and diverse population, this is a great place to find uniqueness, whether in a person, place, or thing.

The Muse hopes to pull some of these treasures out of Metchosin’s closet for your enjoyment. If you can identify the location of the item featured below, send an email to the editor at metmuse@shaw.ca. The sender of the first email received that correctly identifies the person, place, or thing will receive a free coffee of their choice, compliments of the Broken Paddle Coffee House. We’ll let them know to expect you!

Nobody was able to identify last month’s mystery item, which was a Vortec—a fuel injector assembly for a six-cylinder engine. Our imaginative readers suggested it could be for milking cows, or for curling hair. All we can say is, “Ouch!”

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Ann’s Hands

CHIARINA LOGGIA

Ann Semple's hands are far from pretty. Knobby, painted, broken nailed, and roughened and reddened from years of dipping them in cold water and clay, they scream her passion — pottery. For over 40 years Ann has had a love affair with clay — kneading, slapping and shaping it into forms of beauty and function. Influenced by the nature and trees surrounding her Metchosin home and studio, she works textures and designs into her varied creations. The dragonfly is a signature motif, inspired by the many dragonflies that inhabit the creek behind her house. While much of her work is crockery for daily use, hence her studio's name, Clayfoot Crockery, she loves to create fanciful pieces like giant mushrooms, castles, dragons and other mythic creatures. Her mask series is enchanting, inspired by faces in the trees, myths, and legends. Each has its own story and personality developed in the firing. Many have, as Ann describes, wonky eyes, because she can't see straight.

Ann began having trouble with her vision in 2006, becoming almost completely blind by 2011. This was a devastating blow which changed her life and cut her off from her pottery work entirely. Thankfully, with a trial medication, she miraculously recovered much of her vision a year later. Her vision is still impaired but it imparts a new clarity and beauty to her work as she focuses less on decoration and more on form, glazing and colour. She has added brilliant, rich browns and reds to her palette of lovely cool greens and blues, and her crystalizing glazes add a rich, glowing patina to her pieces.

Ann's hands are not pretty, but they are imbued with a beauty that comes from nurturing her passion and honing her craft, at which she excels.

There will be two Ann(e)’s displaying their work at Stinking Fish Studio Tour. Guest artist Anne Krauss, an Anne with an “e,” is an accomplished jewellery maker who creates one-of-a-kind sterling silver jewellery which often includes copper and nine-karat gold elements. Anne learned the skill of silversmithing in England where one of her early creations was chosen for an award at the Goldsmith Hall Exhibition. After moving to Canada she graduated from the four-year Alberta College of Art program, where she became fascinated by the intricate patterns known as chain maille, that can be created by a simple jump ring. She is currently designing and making unique pendants using a variety of techniques to set semi precious stones, create textures and add embellishments.

Take the opportunity to see the work of both Ann(e)s on the tour which runs from Thursday, July 21 through Monday, July 25. 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. You can also learn more about how these artists work as Thursday, July 21, the first day of the tour, is “Demo Day,” where you can watch them in action. In fact, ask them questions any day of the tour! For more information on the artists, the tour and where you can watch them in action. In fact, ask them questions any day of the tour! For more information on the artists, the tour and the tour maps please visit http://www.stinkingfishstudiotour.com/.

You Can Make It Happen

METCHOSIN MUSEUM SOCIETY

We are all in favour of recycling, and most of us like to volunteer when we have the time. The next time you have a chance, check out Old Barn Books and see this happening. How do you find it? Go to the District of Metchosin Grounds, between the Fire Hall and the Riding Ring, and you will find the Metchosin Museum Society’s Pioneer Museum. The entrance to the museum is through Old Barn Books. It is here that your donations of used books are turned into cash that is in turn used to maintain and improve the display and storage of most of Metchosin’s history and artifacts, for both present and future generations to enjoy. The Metchosin Museum Society maintains two museums – Metchosin School Museum and Metchosin Pioneer Museum. Both museums are staffed with volunteers and would not exist if it weren’t for volunteers in past generations.

The used books that you generously donate are sorted and categorized by hard-working volunteers and are sold for $1.00 paperback, $5.00 hardcover. This raised $6277 last year, and $933 at the recent Metchosin Mighty Garage Sale. This would not happen without the many Metchosinites dropping off their used books in the bin at the Old Barn Books, and the dedicated volunteers. Drop in and see Volunteerism at work, preserving our past for the future.

Found on Facebook ...

Only in Metchosin would anyone read this and respond without laughing. (Or maybe not!) “Hey guys, we have a bit of a farm hiccup … 5 piglets running around loose somewhere. My husband moved them yesterday and they found a hole and escaped last night from the front field … 3 month old Tamworth X piglets (2 white, 3 brown). If anyone sees them, PLEASE CALL JEFF.”
Librarian Retires and Leaves Library Lion in Charge

DEBRA STOUTLEY

After more than 40 years of service to many schools and libraries in the Sooke School District and beyond, Mrs. Dale Morrison has retired. Over the years, you will see her at several district schools, in classrooms and most recently in libraries and the district resource centre. Her passion for books and learning resource is strong and it shows in the work she has done. She leaves the “library lion” to continue his travels through the district on his own!

Mrs. Morrison came to Hans Helgesen this year (and worked at three other schools as well) and made some big improvements in our library! She has also taken our library into the present day by culling books out that are more than 20 years old. Most public libraries keep books for only 10 years but schools keep books slightly longer; our library had quite a few books that were from the 1970s, a big purchasing time for schools. Our collection is now current and relevant to today’s students. We are grateful for all that work to modernize our library!

Libraries do not have full-time librarians any longer and the work of a librarian is always waiting. Travelling from school to school makes for interesting work. Mrs. Morrison has shared her learning and experience in all these schools. She also brought some of her friends along as volunteers to help revamp our learning garden.” said Mont learning garden is truly blooming!

Plans for the garden include the building of ten raised beds, the planting of numerous crops and seedling fruit trees, and the installation of a compost system. “We also have plans to include a small Paxtun and are partnering with local farms to mentor and support this initiative.”

We are so grateful to all the volunteers, families and community groups who are helping to revamp our learning garden” said Principal Magnus Hanton. “The support of so many people not only makes the project possible, it shows our students just what can happen when you work together and inspire action in others. That is perhaps the greatest lesson of all.”

While there is a lot of fun to be had by visitors to the garden, there is also an important educational component. The Learning Garden will build on the connections between healthy land use and our own health. Highlighting these connections and teaching life skills are integral to the culture of the school. At the heart of the garden there will be a student learning shelter – a covered space, hand built from local wood, that provides shade and shelter so that all students and visitors in the garden are able to take a break, reflect on what is around them, and have the opportunity and space to learn more about the ecosystems of southern Vancouver Island.

West-Mont Montessori School is proud of the community approach to the project and sees the learning garden as an integral element in providing a world-class Montessori education. As Principal Magnus Hanton says, “West-Mont is a very special school and we are delighted to be able to offer our students even more depth of connection to nature through our blossoming garden project.”

If you are inspired to support this great local project, West-Mont is happy and eager to hear from you! Contact Principal Magnus Hanton at principal@west-mont.ca.

Summer Learning Loss Is Real

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Metchosin’s New MFD Forestry Crew

BARB SAWATSKY

Extreme temperatures in April and May preceded more temperate weather in June but hot days and low rainfall are just around the corner. Dig two inches into your garden and you’ll be reminded that the ground is pretty dry, so don’t be complacent about the threat of fire over the next months. Living in the country, surrounded by forest, rain in the summer is a blessing and drought is feared.

“Where people live on property which meets the forest’s ‘it’s called the interface zone,’” says Metchosin Fire Chief Stephanie Dunlop, “and when a fire breaks out, our primary concern is saving homes. In the event of a forest fire, the first line of defence would be our regular firefighting crew. We depend on mutual aid from other districts to assist us, but these fires often require lots of manpower to control them.”

There are people who live here and are willing to wait when called but because of work and family commitments, they cannot carry a pager. They don’t want to be called in the middle of the night to go to a motor vehicle accident or to attend structure fires. To accommodate their schedules and to provide additional manpower in the event of a forest fire, a bush crew has been trained.

“We don’t have to participate at every Thursday night practice, but they still have to work under our department’s management system,” says Chief Dunlop. Adjacent districts are watching our unique model with interest. If it proves effective, it may become a regular program for people who would like to give back to the community without the more intense fire fighting program. For further information, email Chief Dunlop at firechief@metchosinfirce.ca.

Fire Department Call-Outs MAY 2016

May 01 Kangaroo Road – Alarm Bells – Residential
Rocky Point Road – Open Burn – General
Kangaroo Road – Motor Vehicle Incident (MVI)
No location noted – Medical
Albert Head Beach – Beach Fire
May 02 Windover Terrace – Medical
Rocky Point Road – Medical
Montreul Heights – Brush/Grass Fire
Rocky Point Road – Vehicle Fire
May 04 Rocky Point Road – MVI
May 05 Barrow Road – Open Burn – General
Taylor Road – Beach Fire
May 06 Metchosin Road – MVI
Suriacum Road – Medical
Rocky Point Road – Open Burn – General
No location noted – Beach Fire
May 07 Eagle Tree Place – Brush/Grass – Smoke Smell/Sighting
East Sooke Road – Brush/Grass – Fire
Mutual Aid – SFRes (Structure Fire Residential)
Spayside Road – Hydro – Fire
Mutual Aid – Assistance – RCMP
Mutual Aid – Brush/Grass – Smoke Smell/Sighting
Lombard Drive – Hydro – Lines Down
Mutual Aid – Alarm Bells – Commercial
Albert Head Beach – Beach Fire
Mutual Aid – MVI
May 08 No location noted – Beach Fire
May 09 Kangaroo Road – Brush/Grass – Smoke Smell/Sighting
May 10 Albert Head Beach – Beach Fire
Taylor Road – Beach Fire
William Head Road – Assistance – Misc Complainant
Albert Head Beach – Beach Fire
Metchosin Road – Open Burn – General
May 12 Rocky Point Road – MVI
Pears Road – Open Burn – General
May 13 Sooke Road – Medical
Sandgate Road – Beach Fire
No location noted – Assistance – General Public
Winstall Road – Open Burn – General
Rocky Point Road – Brush/Grass – Fire
May 14 Rocky Point Road – Assistance – Public Works
May 16 Albert Head Beach – Beach Fire
Taylor Road – Beach Fire
May 18 No location noted – Assistance – RCMP
Sooke Road – Assistance – Misc Complaint
Park Drive – Medical
May 20 Sooke Road – MVI
No location noted – Assistance – General Public
Kangaroo Road – MVI
May 21 Happy Valley Road – Assistance – RCMP
Pears Road – Open Burn – General
No location noted – Open Burn – Camp Fire
May 22 Taylor Road – Beach Fire
Rocky Point Road – Medical
Albert Head Beach – Beach Fire
Taylor Road – Beach Fire
May 23 Rocky Point Road – Open Burn – General
Trailer Road – Alarm Bells – Residential
May 24 Sooke Road – Medical
May 25 Albert Head Beach – Beach Fire
May 26 Sooke Road – MVI
Duttnall Road – Brush/Grass – Smoke Smell/Sighting
May 27 Meridale Road – Medical
May 28 Flesh Road – Assistance – BCAS
May 30 Albert Head Beach – Beach Fire
Meridale Road – Medical

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The Mortgage Centre – Island Properties
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www.smpmortgages.ca

CLASSIFIEDS

COOKIES CRITTER CARE – Metechnis’ professional pet sitter and dog walker since 2006. Fully insured, bondable and First Aid certified. Cookie, 250-415-9335.

COOKIES CRITTER CARE is collecting beverage containers, dog food, leashes, collars and toys for animal rescue. Call Cookie at 250-415-9335 for pickup.

HEATED POOL – Young professional couple, no pet, no kids, non-smoking. For further information, email Chief Dunlop at firechief@metchosinfirce.ca.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

WANTED

COOKIES CRITTER CARE is collecting beverage containers, dog food, leashes, collars and toys for animal rescue. Call Cookie at 250-415-9335 for pickup.

HEATED POOL – Local business to offer aquatic massage, therapy and aikido classes. Please call Kara 250-474-4622.

PASTURE Seeking pasture to rent on which to graze a few dairy cows producing real milk for local creamery. Contact Gordon Watson 250-654-0423, watson.gordon@gmail.com

HOME FOR RENT Seeking home for rent in Metchosin. Young professional couple, 2 years Metchosin residents, no pet, no kids, non-smoking.

Excellant references! Contact petra.heidenreichova@gmail.com or phone 778-967-3458.

LESSONS

FOODSAFE – LEVELS 1 and 2, MARKETSAFE and WHIMS - Classes taught by certified instructors. See website www. hospitalitytrainingplus.com for information or contact Kelly for on-site group classes. Call 250-474-5936.

SERVICES
**Important Dates and Events**

July 6  
Beach Seine (CRD Guided Walk) – Witty’s Lagoon

July 7  
Sandy Shore Explore (CRD Guided Walk) – Witty’s Lagoon

July 8  
Metchosin Karate starts up at Metchosin Hall. 
https://metchosinkarate.ca/  for more information.

July 9  
Philip Manning Concert  . . . . . . . . . .  p. 10

July 10  
Tanny Ragwort Day  . . . . . . . . . .  p. 4

July 17  
Westshore Triathlon  . . . . . . . . . .  p. 4

July 19  
Emergency Program Information Session:  
Disaster Emotional Response  . . . . . . . . . .  p. 2

Seals! Seals!  
(CRD Guided Walk*) – Witty’s Lagoon

July 21  
Marine Day (CRD Drop-in Event*) – Witty’s Lagoon

July 21–25  
Stinking Fish Studio Tour  . . . . . . . . . .  p. 4

July 22  
Metchosin Bandwagon: Rockin’ blues band Syzygy.  
Music: 7:00–9:15 pm  (kitchen and bar open at 5:30 pm).  
$5 donation and any tips go to the musicians.  
Metchosin Golf Course, 4100 Metchosin Road.

July 26  
Bear Necessities (CRD Guided Walk*) – Witty’s Lagoon

Aug. 27  
MISSA Faculty Lectures at Pearson College  
http://www.feastoffields.com/vancouver-island/

Aug. 28  
RASC Star Party  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .  p. 8

**Directory of Organizations**

**NUMA FARMS NURSERY**  
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gordonunitedchurch.ca

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OPEN GATE CHURCH  
250-590-6736  
www.opengatechurch.ca

Sensibly  
250-474-3167.

**SEA CADETS**  
250-478-7813

**SENIORS’ INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTRE (SIRC)**  
250-679-5150, macric@icm.com

**TOPS:** Take Off Pounds Sensibly  
Audrey 250-478-1352  
Marni 250-999-6675

**SWANWICK CENTRE**  
A centre for spiritual inquiry  
250-744-3534  
programs@swanwickcentre.ca  
www.swanwickcentre.ca

**WEST SHORE ARTS COUNCIL**  
250-478-2266  
info@westshorearts.org  
www.westshorearts.org

**WEST SHORE COMMUNITY BAND**  
250-474-3999

**WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION**  
250-478-8384,  
www.westshorerecreation.ca

**The following is contact information for non-profit organi-**  
**zations. Full descriptions are given in the “Directory of**  
**Metchosin,” available at the Municipal Hall and the**  
**Community House. Brief articles highlighting special events**  
**should be mailed to metmuse@shaw.ca by the 15th of each**  
**month, so they should be submitted or additions to this list**  
**are due by the 15th of the month preceding the issue date.”**

**Village Square, cont’d from page 1**

and could possibly be the site of a unique-to-Metchosin playground and picnic site. The fenced, grassy field in the downtown core, used now as an off-leash dog run, could also be used as a safe, off-leash kids run. The perimeter could easily accommodate a jogging track, a place for youngers learning to ride bikes or a path for wheelchair users who are un-able to navigate rough trails.

With the rich diversity of people who live here, much can be done to create a space which will benefit Metchosin- ites of all ages. Very impres- sive are the Metchosin Village Community Committee members and others in the community who have shown a willing- ness to donate time and la- bour, and to source materials and skills to work with Coun- cil towards making this dream into a reality. Their ethic is what has made Metchosin the strong community where we live and where we work for what we want.

If you have questions, sug- gestions or offers of assist- ance, please contact Shannon Carman, who has agreed to be the Village Square Commit- tee’s communications lead,  
at shannoncarmanre@gmail.  
com or at 250-415-7797. 
Kyara Kakahauwilia, Council rep- resentative for the proposal, 
can be reached at kyarare@  
metchosin.ca or through the Metchosin Municipal Hall at  
250-474-3107.

**ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF BC**  
250-382-2052,  
www.alzheimerbc.org

**EMERGENCY PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION:**

**METCHOSIN EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY**  
250-478-7571,  
exchanging@shaw.ca,  
mwesmetchosin.org

**METCHOSIN FOUNDATION**  
metchosinfoundation@  
http://metchosinfoundation.ca

**METCHOSIN 4-H**  
250-478-4677  
metchosin4h@gmail.com,  
http://metchosin4h.com

**METCHOSIN GARDEN CLUB**  
250-298-7877

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

**METCHOSIN PONY CLUB**  
250-727-3595

**METCHOSIN PRESCHOOL, a parent-run cooperative**  
250-478-9241,  
metchosinpreschool@gmail.com,  
www.metchosinpreschool.com

**METCHOSIN PRODUCERS’ ASSOCIATION**  
metchosinfarmersmarket@  
gmail.com

**METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE**  
250-478-2210

**M. MATHESON CONSERVATION SOCIETY**  
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