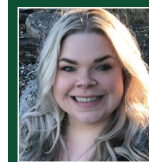




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Issue #49 Volume #7

January 19, 2024

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Inside This Week

Port McNeill receives fire
training centre funds.

... Page 2

Dyck takes on new Island
Health role.

... Page 3

Ragged Edge to cease op-
eration.

... Page 3

Celebrate Family Litera-
cy Week Jan. 21-28.

... Page 5

Great migration over
Vancouver Island.

... Page 7

A Brush with Henschel -
Breaking the Silence.

... Page 9



Three On Three

Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

Five North Island teams participated in a three-on-three volleyball tournament Jan. 13 in the old school gym in Port McNeill.

Coast Guard rescue

At approximately 1815 on Wednesday night, a 25-foot workboat travelling in Queen Charlotte Strait issued a may-day stating their windows had been smashed in by waves and the vessel was taking on water.

Weather conditions were very poor with two-metre seas plus a two-foot chop and wind blowing 20 knots on a very dark night.

The crew at the Port Hardy Lifeboat Station responded quickly with their fast response craft Port Hardy 1, and the larger enclosed vessel, CCGS Florencia Bay.

At the same time, a vessel of opportunity, the MV Coastal Server, heard the mayday call and turned around to head toward the area where the distress call was heard.

The last known position of the vessel was in the middle of Queen Charlotte Strait.

They spotted flares in the distance.

Continued from Page 1



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Port McNeill receives funding for new fire training facility

By Kathy O'Reilly

The Fire Chief's Association of British Columbia (FCABC) has given \$350,000 to the Town of Port McNeill for a live fire training centre.

The prefabricated centre will be located at the Port McNeill airport and consist of 3 x 40' steel containers, being two containers high by two containers wide. The bottom level will be two side by side containers, with a third on top creating an L shape. There will be an external stair from the ground floor to the exposed

roof of the Level 1 container. There will be two entry doors at ground level and two doors at the second level leading out onto the exposed deck over Level 1. Steel shutter windows will be included in each of the containers. The exposed deck above Level 1 will be covered with expanded metal for additional traction on frozen/snow days. A sloped roof prop will also be included. The structure will be equipped with propane burn rooms and indoor props that include a kitchen, and bed. There will also be a propane

prop controlled outdoor barbecue. This facility will provide an opportunity not only for Port McNeill Fire Rescue, but surrounding fire departments, to train in a cost-effective manner.

"The burn building being assembled by PMFD will be an excellent regional asset," said Regional District of Mount Waddington Chair and Coal Harbour Fire Chief Andrew Hory. "Great credit needs to go to Port McNeill mayor and council for having the vision and energy to imagine and commit to realistic and efficient training for their fire fighters," Hory said.

"Generously sharing that resource as they do and will is simply a continuation of their open willingness to partner with the entire North Island to help us all," he said.

"Speaking as a fire chief myself, special recognition does need to go to Chief Dean Tait as he exemplifies the commitment of the fire service and is determined to leave his hall and community better for his presence. This training facility is only the most recent example of his success at achieving that. The Coal Harbour Fire Department is "only realistic with the unwavering support of Port Hardy Fire Department and Port McNeill Fire Department, it does make all the difference - and when major capital improvements like this are achieved, it truly moves us all forward. I look forward to seeing it in use."

The centre is expected to be completed early this Spring.



Photo — Canadian Coast Guard

The Canadian Coast Guard Services's Florencia Bay transported four individuals who had been in the water for 45 minutes to Port Hardy where they were met by BC Emergency Health Services for further care.

Four rescued after 45 minutes in ocean

The fast response craft Port Hardy 1 was first on scene and began the search. They spotted a flashing light near the surface of the water.

The crew on Port Hardy 1 found four people huddled together in the water wearing lifejackets with lights. The people had been in the water for 45 minutes.

Port Hardy 1 pulled the people out of the water and began a patient transfer from the fast response craft to the larger, enclosed CCGS Florencia Bay.

Due to the weather and sea conditions this was a very challenging transfer between vessels, but it was necessary to get the four people into a warm, dry environment as quickly as possible.

Once the transfer was complete, rescue

specialists on board the Florencia Bay provided medical care to the four people who were suffering from hypothermia. The Florencia Bay transported the people to Port Hardy where they were met by BC Emergency Health Services for further care.

The people on the workboat used their VHF radio, flares, and life jackets with lights during the incident. Without this safety equipment, and the fast response by the vessel of opportunity MV Coastal Server, and of course the coordinated efforts of Coast Guard's Marine Communications and Traffic Services officers, the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre, and the Port Hardy Lifeboat Station crew, this incident might have had a much different ending.



Photo — Submitted

Giving Tree Success

Better at Home's The Giving Tree was a massive success. This year, 94 people (three of whom were kids) donated gifts to 118 seniors, four classrooms of elementary students made more than 100 cards; and eight volunteers helped deliver gifts in nine different communities.



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Leslie Dyck takes on new role at Island Health

Leslie Dyck, Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society's executive director, and Literacy Outreach coordinator is moving on.

Dyck has taken on a new role as Community Developer with Island Health.

Leslie started as Literacy Outreach Coordinator for MWFLS in 2019 and in 2022 took on the additional role of executive director.

These past few years, Leslie connected the society with many local, provincial, and national organizations, and she achieved significant funding from provincial and national sources to bring in new programs.

Some of her accomplishments include:

- She managed the local contribution to the national Lost & Found: Pandemic stories of discovery as told by kids in Canada, with Eagle View Elementary School.

- She led the Mount Waddington United Way Community Food Hub funding and team.

- During the pandemic, she

initiated innovative online learning.

- She led regional programs like Neighbourhood Small Grants and the BC Farmers Market Nutrition Coupon Program.

- In partnership with North Island College, she managed the education assistant/community support worker program funding, student recruitment and support.

- She hosted live learning events and literacy fairs and represented the organization at community events, all while supporting in-school reading programs at several North Island schools, and training One-to-One adult volunteers and Fostering Literacy youth tutors.

"Leslie has embraced her roles within Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society with a passion and work ethic that is admired and applauded by our Board as well as the communities she served. Leslie built communities that focused on literacy, learning, and healthy living. She strived to build literacy skills from

our youngest members to our seniors. Her vision reached many aspects of literacy with her creative programming, addressing a need for food literacy and security through initiatives like the United Way Community Food Hub, Seniors' Tea & Toast Project, online cooking classes, and Good Food Boxes," said Board Director Kathy Martin.

"Leslie has an inclusive leadership style that encourages all members of our Society to have input into programming. We wish her the very best in her future endeavours!"

"I am extremely proud of the work I have done on behalf of Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society over the last four years. In that time our organization has grown, we expanded our reach, and increased the number of programs we offer," said Dyck.

"We served our community well during the health crisis through innovation, creative problem solving, and hard work. I have heard many

times during my employment that our organization has made a difference in people's lives through the programs we deliver," Dyck said.

"I feel grateful for the opportunity and the trust that was put in me while leading this organization. We have a wonderful team of staff and board members who are passionate about literacy and addressing community needs," she said.

"I will stay on a little longer (very part-time in the executive director role only) while the search for a new executive director is happening.

"This will help with the transition and give support to the new incumbent in learning their multi-faceted role."

The mission of the Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society is to seek and support a full range of learning projects and programs identified by our communities in the Mount Waddington/North Vancouver Island region.



Photo — Submitted

Leslie Dyck has taken on a new role as Community Developer for Island Health.

End of an era as Ragged Edge to cease operations at the end of February

Ragged Edge Community Network Society (RECNS) will cease operation next month.

RECNS was incorporated in December 2005 as a not-for-profit society with a mandate to provide Internet service to un-served or under-served communities in Northern Vancouver Island and nearby areas.

Service to its first community was provided to Holberg in March 2006.

Over the past 18 years, RECNS has adapted to the many challenges presented by rugged terrain and spread-out population.

"We are proud of how many diverse, challenging and remote places we have been able to send our signal. We have done all this while keeping the cost of services to our customers at a minimum," said the board in a press release.

"Being a not-for-profit organization, our focus has always been on our customers' needs by repairing, upgrading and expanding to meet their ever-growing expectations."

An August 2023 press release announced an upcoming partnership with CityWest. CityWest is an ISP partnering with the Connected Coast Project.

Unfortunately, their timeline for moving into this area has

been significantly delayed. "Because of this delay and other competitive pressures, we found ourselves in a precarious business position and had to make some very tough decisions. So, given the difficult position and limited options, the Ragged Edge Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to cease operation on the 29th of February 2024," according to the press release.

"The dedicated Board, staff and contractors of RECNS have been privileged to serve our communities and it is with profound sorrow that the last days of RECNS are fast approaching. We sincerely hope our customers will not be faced with too many challenges establishing new Internet connections," they wrote.

"We thank our customers and all the people and organizations who have helped RECNS in so many ways over the years. Many have been valued friends of RECNS from our beginning and have watched and helped us grow.

"Thank you to the many people who have lauded RECNS for its ground-breaking history and legacy of success. Unfortunately, it is time to close this chapter in Internet history," the release continued.

"We have succeeded in reaching the unreachable."

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Tickets may be purchased at Café Guido, Island Dawn's in Port McNeill, and from Gail Neely in Port Alice.

Tickets: Adults/Seniors \$35 Students (to 17) \$10
For more information please phone 250-956-0452



editorial



A Purple Finch among the thorns.

Photo — Robin Quirk, Robin's Eye Photography



The North Island
EAGLE
Celebrating 'True North Island' Life



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— Our beautiful First Nation's eagle (kwikw) courtesy Nakwaxda'xw artist Davis Henderson
Cover eagle photo James O'Reilly
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Celebrate Family Literacy Week Jan. 21-28

By Trish Weatherall

The Province of British Columbia has proclaimed Family Literacy Week Jan. 21-28, 2024. Family Literacy Week is an annual BC campaign that recognizes the importance of family literacy. The week includes ABC Life Literacy Canada's Family Literacy Day, celebrated nationally each year on Jan. 27.

What is family literacy?

"Family literacy is the way parents, children and extended family members use literacy at home and in the community. It occurs naturally during the routines of daily life and helps children and adults get things done." – Hayden & Saunders, 2017

Let's have a family party!

This year's Family Literacy Week theme is "Let's have a family party!" It focuses on how literacy activities are part of planning and taking part in a family party.

"So much learning can happen while planning a family party, as a family – choosing a theme, making invitations and decorations and planning the food," says Sandra Lee, Executive Director of Decoda Literacy Solutions, BC's provincial literacy organization.

"Then, further learning during the party, through the games, stories, music and traditions. The activities promote bonding, social skills, cultural connection, positive associations and great memories."

LEGO Party in Port Hardy

Join Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society for a Family LEGO™ Party at the Port Hardy Civic Centre January 23 at 6 p.m. This is a fun evening of games and using your imagination to put together a LEGO creation as a team and then showcase what you've built. Every family receives a LEGO kit to take home! Registration is required through the Port Hardy Recreation. \$5 per family. Maximum 20 families.

The Great Big Buddy Read

Thursday, Jan. 25, join students across the province for The Great Big Buddy Read, wherever you are! It promotes reading out loud together by asking children to read with a buddy. This event will be hosted by elementary schools and families in their homes. To participate from home, take a photo of your child reading with a buddy (anyone can be a buddy) and post it to social media using the hashtag #GBBR2024.

Family Literacy in Canada

- Children spend five times as much time outside the classroom as they do in school, so parents and caregivers need the tools to support their learning.

~ The Read-Aloud Handbook, Jim Trelease, 2006

- Children whose parents are involved with them in family literacy activities score 10 points higher on standardized reading tests.

~The Effect of Family Literacy Interventions On Children's Acquisition of Reading: From Kindergarten to Grade 3, Conducted by Monique Sénéchal for the National Center for Family Literacy, 2006

- One year of parental education has a bigger positive impact on whether a son or daughter will attend a postsecondary institution than an extra \$50,000 in parental income.

~Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario, 2011

- A mother's reading skill is the greatest factor to affect her children's future academic success, outweighing other factors, like neighbourhood and family income.

~National Institute of Health, 2010

Photo contest

Decoda Literacy Solutions will run a province-wide online Photo Contest to encourage families to share their joy of connecting when putting on a family party. Post a photo of your family literacy activities on social media with #FLW2024Contest or email contest@decoda.ca. Individuals can win a Family Literacy Kit and classes can win a \$100 Indigo gift card!

Family Literacy resources

To learn more about Family Literacy Week 2024 go to decoda.ca. ABC Life Literacy Canada has more resources with the 'Let's have a family party!' theme, including an activity book, activity sheet, poster and bookmark at: familyliteracyday.ca

The Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society works with communities, schools and organizations to support literacy

and learning with free programs for people of all ages on North Vancouver Island. Learn more and donate at: mwliteracynow.wordpress.com.



Photo —Decoda Literacy Solutions

This year's Family Literacy Week theme is "Let's have a family party!" It focuses on how literacy activities are part of planning and taking part in a family party.

Are you planning any renovation or demolition projects?

WorkSafeBC's new regulations regarding the handling of asbestos waste has resulted in significant changes regarding the disposal of demolition and renovation waste at transfer stations and at 7 Mile Landfill. To get information regarding disposal of demolition/renovation waste, finding certified contractors and knowledge about asbestos that helps protect your family and co-workers, visit the Regional District of Mount Waddington's solid waste web page at:

<https://www.rdmw.bc.ca/regional-services/solid-waste/>

The following guidance documents can be found there:

- Disposal of Asbestos Waste at 7 Mile Landfill (Ver Jan 11, 2024)
- What You Need to Know When Bringing Waste to 7 Mile Landfill and Recycling Center (Ver Jan 11, 2024)
- Changes to the Disposal of Asbestos Waste in the Regional District of Mount Waddington (Ver Jan 11, 2024)

If you have questions, contact the Manager of Operations at 250 956-3301



Mount Waddington Learning Council has a new name

The Mount Waddington Learning Council and the Vancouver Island North Training and Attraction Society are joining forces to serve the needs of learners on the North Island, creating the Vancouver Island North Training and Attrac-

tion Society (VINTAS) Learning Council. Active in Mount Waddington region since 2017, the learning council has been stewarded by North Island College (NIC). NIC is actively involved in learning councils here and in the

Alberni Valley and Campbell River, where discussions have grown into exciting training programs such as market gardener, craft brewing, and seafood processing, and have created opportunities for skills training to take place along-

side major projects such as the Walyaqil Tiny Home Village. Donna Merry, regional manager at NIC Micalak-wila Campus in Port Hardy, is excited about this new collaboration, and looks forward to working with Dennis Dugas, newly elected chair of VINTAS, to ensure regional needs for ed-

ucation and training are met through effective collaboration, integration, planning, and resource sharing on the part of business, industry, institutions, and community. "The missions of the Mount Waddington Learning Council and VINTAS were similar. In our small communities, it strengthens us both to join together.

I look forward to the next meeting and to realizing the training potentials in our communities." The learning council meets 3-4 times per year. The next meeting is Feb. 2 at Community Futures in Port McNeill. Contact Donna Merry for more information at 250-230-1084 or Donna.merry@nic.bc.ca.



Photo —Christopher Knight

Salmon Sunset

A fabulous sunset viewed from Port McNeill on Jan. 15.



Photo —Robin Quirk, Robin's Eye Photography

Massive waves pummel the Alert Bay seawall.

January waves smash against Alert Bay sea wall

By Robin Quirk

Massive waves smashed against the seawall directly in front of the 'Namgis First Nation burial ground Jan. 11. Storm chasers were out taking pictures of the turbulent waters on this bright sunny day in the village of Alert Bay. Some of the waves appeared higher than the hydro pole. The wind was so strong it was hard to

stand let alone hold a camera. It was most exciting for those who ventured out in the storm. The wind chill factor was cold on the head, ears, and hands as well. Anyone walking or driving by this area were taking their chances of getting a good soaking. It was like the ocean was boiling and even one of the docks was literally turning and twisting.

We can help! Call Candice at Applewood - 250-949-7442 or cpetersen@applewood.ca

lifestyles&leisure

The great migration above Vancouver Island

Went beach combing this clear brisk January morning with Rosie my Australian Shepherd and thought “what a magical place Vancouver Island is!” A veritable treasure chest of breathtaking beauty tucked away on an Island 460-kilometre long and 100 kilometre wide. Lush green rainforests, spectacular wildlife, white snowcapped mountains, glaciers, rivers and estuaries all enveloped by 3,400 kilometres of rugged blue coastline splendour.

All in all, an inspiring day on the North Island to write about a place holding a lifetime of exploration possibilities for the naturalist and adventurer alike... Wonderful Vancouver Island.

The Island is a unique sparkling jewel of British Columbia, and the largest Island on North America’s Pacific Coast. It is steeped in first people’s history of Coast Salish, Nuuchah-nulth, and Kwakiutl tribal regions.

The topography is essen-



tially a mountainous land mass comprising of about 18 separately named ranges. 28 peaks have elevations over 1,900 metres (6,234 feet) above sea level. The highest peak is the 2,201 metre (7,221 feet) Golden Hinde located in the Strathcona Provincial Park’s Elk River Mountains.

Ranges are separated by natural valleys of colourful biodiverse ecosystems: Evergreen conifers, Maples, Alder, Dogwoods, and many other deciduous trees alongside pristine lakes; and of course, lowlands are major centres of people

populations.

Island mountains are an adventurer’s hiking and climbing dream... collectively known as the “Vancouver Island Ranges”.

Filled with natural trails and wildlife habitat, the system of ranges extends along the entire length of the Island forming part of the Insular Mountains... the parent range extending down Canada’s Pacific coast, from the Alaskan Panhandle, through Haida Gwaii, and eventually to the San Juan Ridge alongside the Seymour Range on the southern tip of Vancou-



Photo — Chris Patterson

A wayward traveller this Eurasian Widgeon is on a “Stop Over” on North Vancouver Island. Map, below, courtesy the American Bird Conservancy.



ver Island.

But did you know the Island is strategically located underneath North America’s Pacific Flyway?

Yes, Vancouver Island lies beneath one of the world’s greatest annual migration events! The Pacific Flyway... Twice each year, in the Spring and Fall, millions upon millions of migratory birds take to the sky over Vancouver Island and fly incredible distances, following the Pacific Flyway corridor that extends from the Arctic Tundra to South America’s southern tip of Chile and Argentina. The National Audubon Society estimates a billion birds use the Pacific Flyway each year.

Flying mostly at night and high above the Pacific Coast’s natural paradise of Islands, water courses, agricultural lands, marshes, lakes, and estuaries, are an estimated 350 migrating species: songbirds, birds of prey, shore birds, ducks, geese, cranes, herons, hummingbirds, and more.

It is efficient for birds to fly at night, the atmosphere is more stable, making it easier to head in the right direction, especially for smaller, slow-flying birds.

Some species are extraordinary migrators flying the entire Pacific Flyway’s 11,200 kilometres (7,000-mile) corridor, such as the Arctic Tern who holds the record for the longest annual migratory flight. To prepare for migration birds enter a state of insatiable hunger called polyphagia, causing them to eat constantly building fat stores for later energy use on their long journeys.

Others make nutrient refuelling stops along the way to their chosen warm southern wintering areas such as California or Mexico. Birds are thought to navigate by sight, stars, moon, and earth’s magnetic fields.

Many migrants fly nonstop and are thought to sleep in micro-bursts during flight by alternately shutting down sections of the brain to sleep.

Cycling sleep between the left, then the right brain as they fly allows birds to nap in the air, essentially sleeping on the wing. Isn’t this amazing!

The incredible penny weight Ruby Throated Hummingbird have been reported fly up to 2,100 kilometres (1,300 miles) nonstop to reach preferred wintering grounds, some crossing huge expanses of water such as the Gulf of Mexico.

Others make nutrient refuelling stops along the way

Continued on Page 9

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North Island Reflections



Random eddies in water tend to follow a circular route. In winter, ice crystals in this slower-moving water can gradually coalesce to form a circular “mat” of ice like these at Telegraph Cove. Photo by Alex Tungate. If you have a photograph you would like to share with our readers, please email it to publisher@northislandeagle.com.

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Photo — Submitted

The Tri-Port Wild team, with players ranging in age from 12 to 14, has a record of 5-1 so far this season. Their next home games are Jan. 27 and 28 at the Port Hardy Arena against Powell River (2:30-4 p.m. and 9:45-11:15 a.m.).

Tri-Port Wild hockey team off to great season start

The Professional Women's Hockey League (PWHL) is in the spotlight and gaining momentum.

If you want to see some action, however, you don't have to travel far.

There is a group of players and volunteers on the North Island that are busy showcasing female hockey.

The Tri-Port Wild team is composed of 14 area hockey players, with ages ranging from 12 to 14.

The Wild's practice consists of dry land and ice time in both Port Hardy and Port McNeill arenas each week. The team is in its third season. In the first season the Wild won their

playoff championship banner, and last year they won their U13 league banner.

The head coach of the team is Reed Allen. The assistant coaches are Nick Russell and Dave Sawyer. The program coordinator is Amanda Humphrey. The team captain is Madelyn Tolmie.

This season the Wild is competing against teams from Victoria, Nanaimo, Powell River, and Campbell River.

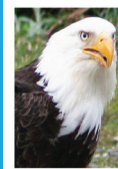
At time of printing, the team has a record of 5-1 this season, and will be pushing hard for the league and playoff banners again.

If you want to catch some action, the following home games are left this season:

- Jan. 27 and 28 - Port Hardy Arena vs. Powell River (2:30-4 p.m. and 9:45-11:15 a.m.)
- Feb. 10 Port McNeill Arena vs. Campbell River (12:30-2 p.m.)

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Breaking the silence at Telegraph Cove

Three fishermen were bustling around on the dock at Telegraph Cove as I throttled the POWERFUL 9.8 Mercury outboard (pushing my MASSIVE 14-foot skiff) down to “Dead Slow”. One was cleaning a large Spring Salmon while the other two took a passing interest in my boat. While I was tying up, one of them wandered over. Came the polite inquiry, “Have any luck?”

“Came back with a small one,” I replied.

Further inquiry, “What kind?”

I held up an 8 x 10 panel. “Watercolour”!

I had just been out to about as far as I dare to wander with my little outfit, the White Cliff Islets at the entrance to Knight Inlet. Striking out in the morning on an ocean that was a huge glass mirror, I was convinced it would be a serene day in an idyllic setting. Barrelling (as much as a 9.8 H.P. can barrel) across Johnstone Strait, zipping through Weynton Passage, over Blackfish Sound and passing Bold Head on Swanson Island, I reached the little White Cliff gems to the tune of thousands of sea birds and not a

A Brush with Henschel

by Gordon Henschel



few Sea Lions. I sketched and photographed amidst this cacophony for a couple of hours before a slight breeze came up, then made my way into the Broughton Archipelago to Twist Island where I pulled ashore and found a good vantage point to sketch Wedge Island with its imposing cliffs. I was now out of a wind that was becoming increasingly intrusive and making its presence known on Queen Charlotte Strait with some fairly impressive whitecaps.

It was 2 p.m. and I decided to delay a return home because by early evening this familiar summer west wind usually had a habit of dying down. The problem for small craft was that if it did not die down by then, you were in for

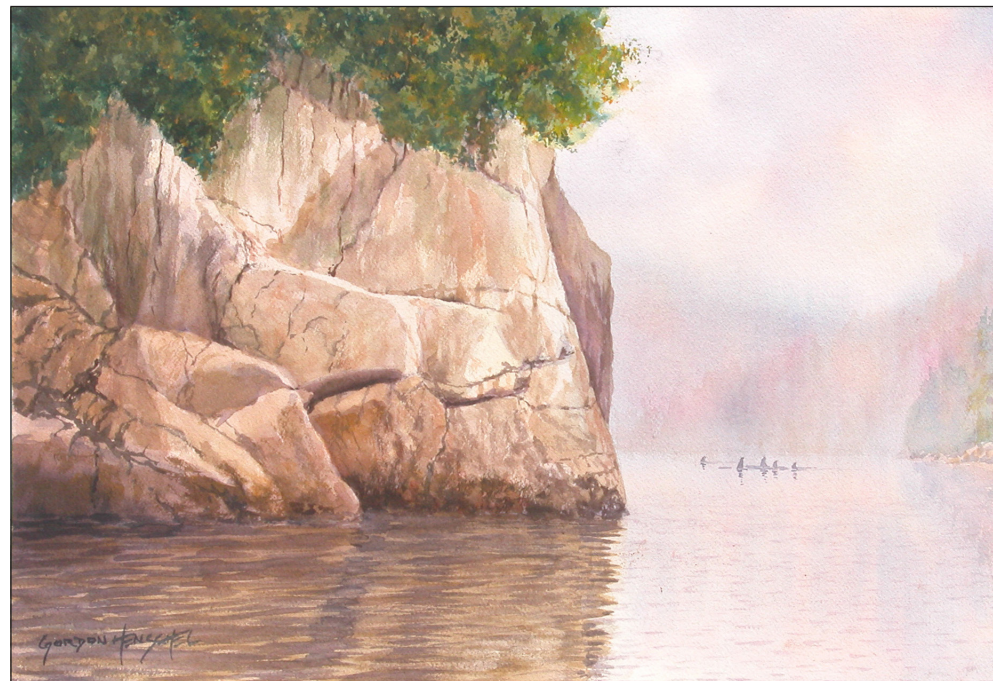
an “all-nighter” which meant spending a rather uncomfortable night gazing into the darkness with no food in your belly.

By six o’clock I decided to make a break for it, avoiding the seas in Queen Charlotte Strait, breaking against Bold Head in great white explosions, by circling Swanson Island. I still had to cross Blackfish Sound, but it shortened the journey just a little. Problem: the other shore on Hanson Island lay to the south and the waves in Blackfish came from Queen Charlotte to the west. This meant trying to manoeuvre through six-foot waves that were hitting your boat from the starboard side. At that point I had a déjà vu experience. This very same thing had happened to me a couple of years ago, so I knew exactly what to do: Get scared enough to go really slow and white knuckle it all the way back!

I couldn’t believe how quiet it was at Telegraph Cove. The fisherman looked at the little painting and commented, “So, you painted this out there. Don’t you fish?”

“I used to fish and leave my paints at home,” I responded, “but since I take my paints and leave my fishing rod at home, I’ve never been skunked!” The painting shown here is from the sketches done that day.

(Gordon Henschel was born in River Hills, Manitoba in 1932. In 1974, he and his family moved to Port McNeill.)



Vancouver Island a migratory sanctuary

Continued from Page 7

The Bar-Tailed Godwit that nests in Alaskan tundra and sometimes seen staging on Vancouver Island (Cluxewe) annually flies nonstop across the Pacific Ocean for eight or nine days for nearly 11,000 kilometres (7,000 miles) to wintering grounds in and around New Zealand, the longest recorded non-stop flight. Other migrants stop, sleep, and refuel such as some Rufous Hummingbirds who may fly a staggering 5,600 kilometres (3,400 miles) by making refuelling and resting stops between Alaska and southern wintering grounds as far as Mexico.

Familiar birds wintering on Vancouver Island are Green-winged Teals, Gadwalls, American Widgeons, Harlequin Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, and Black Turnstones, Plovers, Geese, Dunlins, Sandpipers, Hummingbirds, and many more.

Vancouver Island is a migratory sanctuary providing refuge and critical wintering and stopover habitat for an estimated 270 bird species including sixty species of waterfowl and other waterbirds. Isn’t Vancouver Island amazing!



Photo — Submitted

Hot Chocolate and Cookie Sale

Blakely Devlin started off the new year with a hot chocolate stand outside FP Foods in Port Alice to raise funds for Cops for Cancer and Camp Goodtimes. The young philanthropist raised \$343.50.



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250.902.1611

9160 Elk Drive – PORT HARDY
www.drbindle.com
drbindle@outlook.com

By appointment only

DKF Bookkeeping Services

dkfbookkeepingservices@gmail.com

250-902-7027

The North Island Eagle... because everyone needs some good news

To have your business be part of our positive message call 250-949-0337 or email publisher@northislandeagle.com

  **The North Island EAGLE**
Celebrating 'True North Island' Life

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Stained Glass Artist

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Quatsino, BC
V0N 2V0

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Locally Owned & Operated

To Advertise in **The EAGLE** call 250-949-0337 or email publisher@northislandeagle.com

Advertiser Comments

"Loving The Eagle, great coverage of local people, places and events." ~ Sara Child
"We thoroughly enjoy The Eagle. Lots of positivity, great photographers, we live in nature here so it is great having the nature articles ... It's the #1 paper for us now." ~ Karen Taylor

 **MELAN**
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Booking now for the new year!
Now is the time for Renovations

info@melanconstruction.ca www.melanconstruction.ca William Melan: 250-618-7410

classifieds/marketplace

Appliances

Propane stove 5 burner new never used was too deep \$2,200. Firm.

250-949-6484
250-230-6484

Building Materials

FOR SALE PORT ALICE 25% off original price. 1. Aluminum Stair edging color titanium - Five 12' lengths (\$35.50 each) 2. Mapei rapid setting grout replacement (charcoal) - 1 bag 10 lbs (\$27) 3. SW 950 A siliconized acrylic latex caulk 10 Oz - 1 box of 12 (\$40) 4. ACQ Roofing Nails 2" - One 30 lb pail (\$65) 5. Lumber - various dimensions 6. Traffic Master Underlay 200 sq' - 1 and 1/2 rolls (\$41 and \$20) 7. Dupont Tyvek Home Wrap 9' x 200' - 2 rolls (\$115 per roll).

250-284-3365

5 Gentec vinyl replacement windows, 25 per cent below original. Price paid - \$1,000. Call for details.

250-949-2640

Campers

10.5 ft Okanagan Camper Stove, fridge with freezer, bathroom with shower, North/South bed with Queen size 6 inch mattress, New battery, lots of storage. Sleeps 4. \$5,000 OBO.

250-284-3261

Miscellaneous

Oil tank with exp. date of 2030, 200 litres of fuel in it. \$500 OBO

250-902-0656

Rentals

For rent in Coal Harbour upper living area of home, 2 master bedrooms, 2 4-piece baths, open living design, large, private sun-deck, floor to ceiling windows, with 14-foot peak, skylights, wood plank flooring, furnished, security. \$2,500 per month.

250-949-8212

Careers



FOX'S DISPOSAL

Fox's Disposal is looking for a Class 1 driver to join the team.

Monday to Friday.

Full Time work based out of Port Hardy.

Med/dental benefits. Great place to work.

Email resume to dstewart@foxsdisposal.com

Obituary

Keith Eugene Hutton — 1943-2023

It is with the saddest of hearts that we announce the passing of our Dad Keith Hutton. Keith passed away peacefully in the Comox Hospital on December 7, 2023 surrounded by his family. You'll never be forgotten, Dad ... thanks for all the life lessons. Love you and miss you. Keep everyone safely rolling up there! Love from your family.

Rentals

2 Bedroom Condo for rent. Bright, fully renovated top floor unit with ensuite storage and balcony with water view. Only blocks from the beach, located downtown PH. Rent Includes Heat & Hot water \$1550/month. Available immediately. References required email northislandrent@gmail.com

Services

Local gardening services from once-a-year fall and spring cleanup, to scheduled garden and garden maintenance. Laurie.

250-230-2335

Drywall finishing and renos. Craig.

250-230-7473

Services

Carpentry Service. Call Tom.

250-949-8772

Tires

Something to sell? Your household classified ad here FREE!

250-949-0337

16-inch winter studded tires on rims, 205/60R/16 NOK HAKN STUD 96 XL, used less than 10,000k. Bought 2019 paid \$1,200. For sale \$300. Sointula.

250-902-8505

4 tires mounted on aluminum wheels. 235/R/195. Less than 500k. \$500 OBO.

250-230-1064



PLEASE RECYCLE

Careers



School District #85 requires the following CUPE 401 REGULAR & TEMPORARY positions:

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Posting #1A | On Call Educ. Assts. I | District | Temporary |
| Posting #2A | On Call Custodians | District | Temporary |
| Posting #3A | On call Bus Drivers | District | Temporary |
| Posting #4A | Bus Driver | Alert Bay School Run | Regular |
| Posting #15A | Plumber | District | Regular |
| Posting #35 | Noon hour Supervisor I | Sunset Elementary School | Regular |
| Posting #36 | Noon hour Supervisor I | Eagle View Elementary School | Regular |
| Posting #37 | Noon hour Supervisor II (2) | Eagle View Elementary School | Regular |

For the complete list of current job postings, job descriptions and CUPE Application Form, please see our careers page on our website at: <http://www.sd85.bc.ca>

John Martin, Secretary Treasurer,

School District No. 85 (Vancouver Island North),
6975 Rupert Street, P.O. Box 90, Port Hardy, B.C. V0N 2P0,
Or faxed to 250-949-8792 or emailed to mjones@sd85.bc.ca

Please ensure you include the CUPE application form and any certificates and transcripts with your application.

School District No. 85 thanks all applicants for their interest, however, only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Careers

JOIN OUR TEAM

- Animal Control
 - 1 year term contract starting February 1st, 2024

APPLY NOW!

TOWN OF PORT MCNEILL

For Contract Details, please contact our office
reception@portmcneill.ca
Job posting closes January 29, 2024 at 4:30pm

To advertise in The Eagle please call: 250-949-0337



Melanie McRann
Cell: 778-886-5219



Sarah Baron
Cell: 250-902-8872



Johan Olsen
Cell: 250-209-9667

A HOME FOR EVERY BUYER!

29-7100 Highview Road, Port Hardy
\$147,500 MLS® # 950181



Over 1700+ sqft of living space. Massive living room with cozy wood stove. Off the living room is your spacious dining area. The updated kitchen is open to the dining space & has loads of storage. Down the hall is the full bathroom, separate laundry area & huge back bedroom. Across the hall is the primary bedroom with 2 piece ensuite & another bedroom just down the hall. Throughout most of the home you'll find waterproof laminate flooring and most windows have recently been replaced. A few rooms and the front exterior have been freshly painted. This home is ready for a new family to enjoy!

49-9130 Granville Street, Port Hardy
\$279,000 MLS® # 950245



3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 level townhouse in Seawind Estates. On the main level you'll find 1 bedroom with laundry, 2 piece bath, kitchen, living and dining area. Upstairs offers 2 more nice sized bedrooms with full bathroom between. Both rooms have great closet space. Exterior storage locker is perfect for bikes or garden equipment. Fully fenced yard. Seawind Estates is a gated community with a good mix of owners and rentals. Shopping and all amenities are all in short walking distance. Move in ready, fully furnished right down to the dishes & linens. Affordable first/last home or great proven rental! Don't hesitate on this one.

6185 Hunt Street, Port Hardy
\$659,000 MLS® # 950678



Have you been searching for an ocean view home with larger bedrooms, open living, kitchen and dining plan on the walk in level? Then this 4 bed, 3 bath family home could be the one! This home is laid out to enjoy the view from many vantage points. Large full length ocean view deck with stairs down to the fenced yard. Main bedroom with a view, walk in closet, full ensuite and exterior door to the hot tub. Two more bedrooms and a laundry room, with access to the double garage, complete this floor. Downstairs has two entertainment areas, a bedroom, 3-piece bath and wood stove. Tons of parking, great curb appeal.

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Helping you is what we do.™

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4-7035 Market Street, Port Hardy, BC
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