

Protection Island Neighbourhood Association | 2012 Newsletter

The 2012 PINA Annual General Meeting

Sunday 10 June at Beacon House

Registration 1:00 p.m.

Meeting 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Social & Welcome to New Islanders 4:00 p.m.

Protection Island residents are welcome to attend the AGM, however voting is restricted to members only. Any Protection Island resident, regardless of whether they rent or own property owner can join the Neighbourhood Association. Membership is \$10/year/person. **Make cheques out to PIRA.** If you cannot attend the AGM, you may mail annual dues to the treasurer: Veronica Zehntner, 160 Pirates Lane, Nanaimo, B.C., Canada. V9R 6R1. PINA members are invited to stand for election to the Board. The present Board will be changing and new thoughts and ideas are always welcome.

The AGM is an opportunity for all residents and property owners to discuss issues of importance to islanders. This year the Board would like to extend a special welcome to our many new islanders. Please join us at the Social for refreshments following the meeting. We are hoping “long-time” residents will join us for this Welcome event.

Protection Island Neighbourhood Association Board of Directors

Brenda Henderson (President), David Essig (Vice President), David Carter, Janet Estes, Andrew Homzy, Fred Schloessinger, Veronica Zehntner.

The actions of the Board have been guided by the following Vision Statement, developed by the community.

“Our Vision is to continue to be a unique, quiet, friendly, beautiful and safe community, in which residents cooperate to maintain the natural setting, with its beaches, parks, trees, birds and wildflowers. In order to achieve this vision, we will work together to find the most acceptable and respectful ways of dealing with problems and points of difference (access, moorage, garbage disposal, cars, streetlights, dogs etc.,) while maintaining our informal, non-bureaucratic, easygoing Protection Island style of life.”

President’s and Vice-President’s Report

David Essig

On behalf of Brenda Henderson, President

The past year saw PIRA/PINA continue in the direction that we set out with our decisions in 2010 to open up our membership to everyone and to become a Neighbourhood Association. While we are still awaiting final confirmation from the Registrar of Societies for our name change to PINA, we are now implementing programmes on behalf of the greater Protection Island community of residents and property owners alike.

Members of the Board of Directors have taken active roles this past year in representing community interests in several areas including roads, public health, parks and public access. We continue to work with the City to ensure that our roads are safe and well maintained. The grid system at the circle is working well and the City is considering expanding it. In the area of public health, we have articulated to VIHA our community’s need for enhanced in-home health care for island residents. Board members have worked with the Lions Club to make sure that our parks are enjoyable and sustainable public areas. We are currently involved in an initiative with the City to enhance public access to island for those with physical challenges, specifically wheel-chair users.

The Board has overseen the management and maintenance of our Mud Bay Dock and is pleased to report that the dock is in excellent condition. We would like express our thanks our excellent volunteers: to Cathy Pearson for so ably managing the dues collection and to Larry Iwasko and his team for the dock renovations. We are continuing to receive our relief from property taxes on the foreshore lease for the dock – this represents a saving to the community of several thousand dollars each year.

The Vice-President has been actively involved in facilitating a solution to the issues with respect to passenger carriage on the large commercial barge service to the island. We expect a positive resolution to this problem in the coming months.

We would like to thank our fellow Directors for the vision, dedication and hard work they have brought

to their positions. Likewise, we thank all of you - members of our Protection Island community – for the support you have given to our new direction as your Protection Island Neighbourhood Association.

Roads Committee Report
Veronica Zehntner

We are entering phase 3 of the 3-year roads restoration project. We did not have a March touch-up this spring due to the issue with the barge. An on-site meeting was held with the City Roads Department, March 29 and we walked the Island assessing each area requiring remedial work. I am happy to report we have far fewer potholes than in previous springs.

In early April loads of rap were barged and trucked over for two solid days, bringing twice the amount of material as last year to build up the surface and continue with the doming to the desired level. We anticipate moving into a maintenance situation after this and, hopefully, stay on top of any potholes that do form.

At the time of writing work is scheduled for late May or early June followed by dust suppression by a different contractor this year, as we were not satisfied with last year's application.

The Eco Grid at the Circle is holding up well and keeping our feet dry, though it could do with raking spring and fall. Volunteers for this are scarce as hens' teeth so help on work parties would be greatly appreciated – Watch for Bulletins!

With summer approaching and the associated congestion at the Circle, it is important people are courteous and respect the 24-hour parking limit; and NOT store their vehicles there. If you are going to be away more than 2 days, please drop off your bags and take your vehicle home again, or have a neighbour return it, leaving the already limited parking for those remaining on the Island and commuting daily. Also, the inside of the Circle is for golf carts or very small cars, (as signage indicates). Please ensure you are not encroaching on the Disabled Spot when parking – remember the users are not as agile in squeezing in & out of their

vehicles. Also, if you are using that spot, don't forget to display your special parking sticker.

Once again a reminder: golf carts on Protection Island are required by law to be equipped with lights, horn and CURRENT insurance decal clearly displayed. The operator must hold a valid driver's license. MINORS are NOT permitted to drive. This also applies to motor vehicles. The RCMP Bike Patrol visit regularly and ticket violators; no insurance is a \$600.00 fine, (double car insurance & triple golf cart insurance), it's a no-brainer! Also be aware if they stop you, you will be asked to provide your registration & your driver's license for both carts and cars - so don't leave home without them.

The speed limit throughout the Island is 20 km/h and our roads are shared equally with bikes, pedestrians, kids, dogs and/or wheelbarrows; you never know what you'll find around the corner.

Happy Motoring/carting on our fair Isle!

Parks News
Brenda Henderson

We have had two small group efforts of pulling ivy. We are making progress, however it is an ongoing project.

Later when the broom is in bloom, we will be cutting the broom at ground level. A notice will be posted and help would be appreciated in an attempt to control the broom on Protection Island.

Handicapped (wheelchair) accessible dock
Dave Carter

City of Nanaimo (Tom Blackwood) responsible for Gallows Point dock and ramp.

Proposal – For a wheelchair accessible dock and ramp at Gallows Point

(1 in 12 slope requirements under code).

Pier head to be as close as possible to highest tide elevation with qualifying slope available on most tides.

New dock to be sufficiently large for stability, with heights and rails suitable for offloading wheelchairs. Dock to be tethered to Gallows Point wharf.

Proposal for wheelchair accessible dock con't.



March Mud Bay Works 2012

Larry Iwaskow

60 man days labour +

Excellent work by all, including phone people, administration, accounting. Thanks!

For those who didn't participate..... maybe next time.... or call me and we can discuss a task you can do to help.

To be done: 1. Build new section under ramp (\$1000 plus 8-10 man days labour).

2. Reposition 2 cement floats at head of dock (\$0 - 4 man hours).

3. Install rubber belting between all sections (\$500 - 2 man days).

4. Install skirting 4 sections at the end (\$500 - 4 man days).

5. Complete creosote section north of ramp at dockhead (\$200 - 2 man days).

6. Revisit tie-up rails (??\$200 - 2 man days).

7. Kayak rack @ dockhead south side (\$200 - 2 man days).

8. Redeck steel float (\$500 - 2 man days).

9. Double end plates to avoid lifting sections. 10

locations. (\$500 - 2 man days).

10. Landscape creosote blocks @ beach access

Beaks:

1. Motors down no motors up. Bow facing out.
2. Do not lock boat. You freeze your boat.
3. No storage.
4. One boat per family.
5. Bow out.....avoid property damage, utilize space, avoid sinking

Most importantly.....show respect, common sense and courtesy for all fellow dock users. Mud Bay dock is a community dock, not private, reserved moorage.

Want to help? Want to know more? Call Larry 754-1587

DIGS NEWS 2012

Margaret Harris

DIGS is a non-profit organization whose primary focus is to run the community garden on P.I. They have been in operation since 2007 , the first year the garden was planted. Membership is open to any islanders. The cost is \$10 for a single membership and \$15 for a family. A DIGS membership card can save you 10% - 15% off purchases made at local garden nurseries. The money from memberships is used to help run the garden.

Work parties made up of volunteers meet at the garden Saturday mornings through March and April and Sunday mornings from May to November. The work parties harvest produce from the garden and put it on the harvest table on the roadside outside the garden where the public can help themselves. The produce is free or a donation can be placed in the donation boot on the table.

The garden consists of eleven communal beds and ten allotment beds which are leased for private use each year. Please contact Jim Irvine for more information about the allotment beds – nanaimoirvines@shaw.ca.

The Little Diggers program which runs at the same time as the work parties, is open to kids on the island, toddlers to teens. The theme for this year's Little Diggers lessons is "Flowers, Fall Fair, Forests and Fossils". Cost of the Little Diggers program is

\$5.00 per child for the season which runs from April to the end of August.

DIGS puts on various events throughout the year and these are published in our blog – www.digsgarden.blogspot.com along with gardening tips and photos from the garden. Upcoming events include: 1) a Plant Swap and Bake Sale on Sunday, May 13 from 10:00 – noon and again on Sunday, May 20 at the garden 2) a Dessert Auction held at the Beacon House on Saturday, June 23 3) the 2nd annual P.I. Fall Fair held on September 15 at the Beacon House (look for notices on the island bulletin boards as to different categories for entries).

If you wish more information about any DIGS programs or events or would like to buy a membership contact Jim and Margaret Harris – meharris@telus.net or 250-740-0317.

PROTECTION ISLAND MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES
Heather Cooling, Wendy Chandler and Barbara Neild

The PI Museum is operated at the Lightkeeper's Cottage at Gallows Point by the non-profit society, The Protection Island Cultural Historical Society (TPICHS), incorporated in May 2001.

Current directors are: Wendy Chandler, Heather Cooling, Mike Gillespie, Jurgen Goering, Brenda Henderson, Barbara Neild, Rick Scott and Tauno Tuominen. The Society's mandate is 'to nurture, foster and develop community awareness of local history and culture through activities and events, and to maintain and develop the Museum collection'.

TPICHS also maintains the Protection Island Archives building at 33 Cutlass Lookout, housing historical documents, maps, research material, photographs, personal collections of former residents and administrative files. Resources are also available to anyone researching any aspect of our island's history from coal mining to current events. For information and access, call Barbara Neild at 755-1855.

News

Our Protection Island cookbook, *The Island Cooks*, is continuing to be a huge success. Over 400 copies sold so far! Copies will be available at the Museum throughout the summer, or contact Wendy, Heather or Barbara. We repeatedly get comments about the

book: "delicious recipes", "a family favourite now", "so fun to read". All proceeds go to TPICHS for professional archival framing, buying shelving and display cabinets, etc. We now have a map of the world on display at the Museum. Please come down for a visit in the summer and let us know where you have sent cookbooks. They are in homes around the world!

Mark your calendars for this year's 2012 Protection Island Garden Tour, Sunday, June 24 at 10:00 a.m. Gardens of the north end of the island will be featured. Wendy will put together a great gift basket and plant raffle. Refreshments will be available by donation. More information to follow.

Museum Hours:

Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4:00 p.m. during July and August. Appointments to view at other times may be made by contacting any board member.

Board Members:

Wendy Chandler (753-6899), Brenda Henderson (754-7879), Heather Cooling (753-8162), Barbara Neild (755-1855), Mike Gillespie, Rick Scott, Jurgen Goering, & Tauno Tuominen.

You can support your museum and archives and the activities of TPICHS by taking out a membership. Individuals - \$10, Family - \$15. Call Heather Cooling.

Block Watch – 2012

Roger Gumbert

This past year we became a Block Watch community. Block Watch is more structured than the former Neighbourhood Watch program and communications between our Block Watch team, the RCMP and other groups such as Harbour Watch have improved. Block Captains and Co-Captains all require RCMP security clearance, which was not the case with Neighbourhood Watch.

We signed up over 40 members at two Lions Club community functions and thank them for their support. Signs identifying Protection Island as a Block Watch community are to be installed soon. An engraving tool, on loan from the RCMP, may be borrowed by members to mark items with their driver's license number or some other unique marking which assists police in returning recovered

stolen items to their owners. We also have special marking pens available for items you can't or do not wish to engrave. We plan to have an event at Pirates Park where boat owners will be able to mark their boats, motors etc. The police say that approximately 90% of recovered stolen items are not returned to owners because they are unidentifiable. Members who mark their belongings will also be given labels to place on windows to indicate to potential thieves that contents of their homes are marked. Marked items and window labels act as deterrents to thieves looking for easy targets.

Below is a list of the current Block Watch captains. If you have any questions about the BW program, would like to participate, or require the engraver or markers please contact one of us.

Peter Frewin 250-741-0542
 Roger Gumbert 250-753-5374
 Lynn Roberts 250-755-1112
 Veronica Zehntner 250-754-6759

We acknowledge Steve Pearson's valued assistance in establishing Block Watch and miss his participation. We would encourage younger people to join the program to assist with further development and promotion of Block Watch on our island.

ISLAND LIBRARY

Cate Muir

PI is growing a library!!!!

For some years now, PI residents have expressed an interest in having an island library. Thanks to the PI Lions Club, a space of about 500 square feet is under renovation in the cellar (basement) of Beacon House.

It will consist of a book exchange, a lending library, a children's area, a meeting space and a drop-in centre. Some of the programs proposed include story hour, author readings, discussion groups, teas for newcomers, and book clubs.

The library committee members, Christine Firth, Kerstin Serenius, Thora Howell and Cate Muir have been working enthusiastically on fundraising, how to set-up and manage the library and recruit volunteers.

We envision the library to be multifunctional, comfortable and welcoming. We need your vision, your input and involvement to make it a thriving, fun, educational and entertaining place.

Please give us your suggestions. Surveys are available from Cate and Thora. If you would like to give us your time, your books, or your expertise...please contact us.

The library name and logo winning entry will be announced at our future Grand Opening. Please submit your entry to the library committee members.

Watch for further announcements on pro-isle and the bulletin boards, at island events and through the PI grapevine.

PI Library committee.

Christine Firth 250-716-9949 chrisaf@uniserve.com
 108 Pirates Lane
 Kerstin Serenius 250-755-7335 rk7335@telus.net
 165 Colvilleton Trail
 Thora Howell 250-753-1913 hwjit@telus.net 176
 Captain Morgans Boulevard
 Cate Muir 250-741-1211 crazyshirelady@yahoo.ca
 35 Pirates Lane

Proposed Off-Leash Dog Park

Janet Estes

PINA is awaiting a decision from the City of Nanaimo as to whether the Gallows Point field and beach (between Beacon House and the barge ramp) will be approved as a Pilot Off-Leash Dog Park. We'll keep you posted via Pro-Isle and our community bulletin boards!

DRINKING AND DRIVING

Just a reminder – if you can't walk without weaving you won't be able to drive without weaving either. Our roads are our sidewalks. Please don't drink and drive. Remember that the speed limit is 20 K on ALL our island roads.

PROTECTION ISLAND LIONS CLUB

Sandy Saunders

THE LION'S CLUB OF PROTECTION ISLAND IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING THE HISTORICAL VALUE OF THE BEACON HOUSE AND ITS ROLE IN DEVELOPING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY AMONG ISLAND RESIDENTS.

The Lions Club has had another great year! Our club continues to grow both in numbers of members and enthusiasm. We meet once a month on the first Tuesday at 7:30 at the Lions Den in the Museum Building. We welcome new members (and new ideas!!)

This past year has seen numerous projects undertaken including the building of the new LIBRARY. With help from many sources the basement of Beacon House is being transformed into a warm comfortable space to be shared by the library and the upcoming parent/child programs. Proper storage has been built as well.

Once again we sponsored and organized the annual Easter Egg Hunt, the children's Christmas Party, the Pancake Breakfast (on Bathtub Weekend prior to the Pro Isle 360), and the chili meal on January 1st at the Bunker Bear Swim.

With leadership from Peter Frewin, we hosted a very successful and fun Mexican Brunch this winter.

Beacon House continues to be used throughout the week for many events, Crib/Darts/Euchre, Yoga, Dancersize, DiGS dances, PINA directors meetings and community information meetings. Margaret Harris (250-740-0317) and Shari Biller (250-740-1156) are the coordinators and they can be called to book the Hall.

The Lions Club continues to offer a bursary or scholarship to any Protection Island student graduating from grade 12 and proceeding to post secondary education.

We are supported by a Bingo Grant and our own major fundraising which is the collection, sorting, and recycling of bottles collected from the Island and Townsite Marina. Many people are involved in this ongoing project and we are very grateful for your continuing donations of recyclable bottles. We now hire Will (Island Supply) to move the sorted

containers to Nanaimo.

In addition to meeting the needs of our island community, funds raised are donated to local charities with an emphasis on children's programs, health programs and services for the needy. We have an inventory of medical aids available for use by Islanders. (Electric cart, crutches, wheelchair, etc.)

THE LION'S CLUB BOTTLES AND CANS RECYLING PROGRAM REMINDERS

Please place your refundable beer bottles and cans, wine and liquor bottles, pop cans, plastic water/pop bottles, juice boxes (**NO** milk containers of any kind) in bags (not loose) and drop them off at the following locations on the island: in the receptacle across from Keith MacIntyre's (59 Capt. Morgan's); behind Thornton's shed (56 Pirates Lane); at the gate to the bottling sheds (Gallow's Point)

Please do not include other garbage in your bags. Pick up from these locations is done on Saturdays. This is an important fundraising activity for the P.P. Lion's Club and they thank you for your co-operation.

PROTECTION LIONS FUNDRAISER

The Lions are selling cans of Cold Fire, an amazing product which puts out fires faster, more effectively and is "greener" than traditional fire extinguishers. For more info on this product Google: Cold Fire Canada. Cans are selling for \$20 each. Contact Margaret Harris: meharris@telus.net or 250-740-0317 if you'd like to buy a can. Proceeds will be used to fund the community library renovations in the Beacon House basement.

Please contact Jim Lawton (President) 250-716-1142 or Sandy Saunders (Sec.) 250-244-3498 if you would like to join us or attend a meeting.

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| <p>This Newsletter was compiled by Linda Irvine. No editing or changes to content were made. For any errors in copying and pasting, apologies.</p> |
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Ten steps to a great veggie garden

Mike Gillespie

As literary genius and raconteur Garrison Keillor would have it, sex is good, but not as good as fresh, sweet corn -- especially grown in your own garden, it should be said.

With corn season upon us, the nagging question that comes to mind: Just how do backyard gurus grow great corn? And more to the point: How do they even get those gardens growing in the first place?"

Good questions. Simple answers. Most gardeners in the know would likely admit to embracing the 10 commandments of successful vegetable gardens.

The rules may not be pretty but they're basic, so consider these steps from the experts:

- 1. Site:** Select a site closest to your house -- or backyard recliner, for some. It has to be a sunny, sheltered location and without a surface layer of asphalt or rock.
- 2. Soil:** Ideally, it should be good and loose. Add manure and compost to start bulking it up. Buy a small electronic or chemical soil-testing kit from a garden centre to establish its pH -- how acidic or alkaline it is. Most vegetables can be grown in a slightly acidic to neutral soil (a pH of 6.5 to 7).
- 3. Plan:** Draw a layout for the garden, including setting up a block system for rotating your crops. Easiest way is to gang crops into four groupings (legumes and pods -- beans, peas etc.; alliums -- onions, garlic and so on; solanaceous root and tubers -- including tomatoes, carrots and potatoes; and brassicas -- cabbages, cauliflower, etc.). Bear in mind height issues when sowing to avoid leaving some plants in the dark.
- 4. Size:** Don't start with a football-sized plot. Small is good, especially if you have to turn over lots of sod to get it started.
- 5. Favourites:** The rule of thumb is to grow only what you like. A yardful of cayenne peppers may be manna from heaven for some, but perhaps something more practical, like corn, would be a better option for you.

6. The zones: As much as you may like some fruits and vegetables, face it, not everything will grow in your garden zone. Read the small print on the seed packages. There are actually multiple growing zones on the West Coast. Check out West Coast Seeds website

<http://www.westcoastseeds.com/zonefinder/> for your area. Zones on Vancouver Island run the gamut from 2 to 9A, a huge range when it comes to vegetable gardens. Mostly this zone -- Protection Island -- range at about 7, a fairly happy place for veggie rearing.

7. Water: If you followed the rules, your garden will be roasting most of the day in the hot sun, so be prepared to stand by with the watering hose. But don't drown the plants. Also, spare the hose in the middle of the day. Water droplets on the leaves act like little magnifying glasses, burning holes in them. Best defence is to mulch around your plants (at least eight centimetres deep) with straw or compost materials. It helps hold moisture and stabilize soil temperatures.

8. Garden patrol: Just like any unruly community, your plot should be checked every day for pests. Whether it's the neighbour's cat leaving little packages in your carrot beds, cutworms levelling your tender seedlings or potato bugs setting up camp on your Kennebecs, you should know about it, and quickly.

9. Weapon selection: Before riding off in all directions at the first sign of insect damage, make sure you know what the enemy is. There's potent solutions of every sort out there, but remember you want to be able to eat the veggies when the war's over. So identify the pests, then look first for a green solution -- like picking the potato bugs off the plants by hand and drowning them in a can of water, or spraying them with a soap solution (40 parts water to one part dish detergent).

10. Harvest payoffs: Fresh corn from your own backyard can be one of life's great little rewards, as Garrison Keillor has mentioned, but keeping your garden healthy is partly the key. Get rid of the weeds, rotting vegetables and other garden trash that can harbour marauding insects and disease. Also, harvest often. Beans, peppers, squash and cukes, for example, will simply stop growing unless picked vigorously and often. Worth mentioning, too:

Forget about plot perfection. As American actor George Fisher used to say, it's a moving target anyway.

A corn planting guide worth saving

1. Get spacey: When soil temperatures break through 10°C, plant seeds 1 inch (2.5 cm) deep and 10 inches (25 cm) apart in a furrow or trench and hill up over the roots (to about five inches, or 12 cm), as the plants grow. Plant at least 4 similar furrows in a block. For specialty-corn lovers (baby corn), plant early corn about 6 inches (15 cm) apart and harvest when ears reach three inches (7 cm) long.
2. Keep young plants well weeded but hoe shallowly to avoid damaging the plants' roots.
3. Sweet corn needs lots of moisture but not until the plants are tasselling and kernels are forming. The standard rate is five gallons a square yard (23 litres per square metre), but ideally soak the plot to a depth of about four inches (10 cm).
4. To boost the odds of a superb crop, give your corn a little dressing. At least twice during the growing season, mix up some liquid plant food (fish emulsion or manure tea) and spray along the sides of the rows. The centre rows can be a problem, but you'll manage.
5. Corn needs 70 to 110 frost-free days after planting and temperatures in the 16* to 35°C range to produce the ears you want. The downside to continuous hot, dry weather, lies in the quality of the pollination. It suffers in the heat just as gardeners do.
6. Since sweet corn is at its most flavourful for only a few days, watch those tassels. You can generally expect to start picking about 20 days after the silks have been pollinated. Watch for the silks turning brown and reach for cobs with dark green husks and full ears.
7. The thumbnail test for readiness: Peel back the husk over an ear and press into the kernel with your nail. If the liquid is watery, the cob is not ripe yet; if it's doughy, you're too late (crying's allowed); if it's milky, get the pot boiling and grab the butter, she's ready.

8. Now, if you've followed our fresh-corn guide, repeat step 7 for the next four weeks of summer. And how sweet a summer it will be.

Protection Island resident Mike Gillespie is a former Ottawa Citizen-CanWest News editor and writer and a commercial market gardener.

Protection Island's Great Blue Herons **Trudy Chatwin**

The Protection Island Great Blue Heron colony is full of beautiful Great Blue Herons courting, chortling, cooing, plucking fresh Douglas-fir branches to line their nests and incubating eggs in the Arbutus trees near to Pirates Park. It was a sign of spring to see the elegant birds floating in a group to land in their traditional nest site. Over the winter, herons solitarily occupy patches of shoreline as short days and winter tides offer limited hunting opportunities. By spring when the days grow longer, the water warms and tides drop herons can forage together and fatten for breeding. So far, there are 28 nesting pairs in the Protection colony. This is one of the larger colonies on Vancouver Island and therefore it is important to maintaining populations overall. There are only about 500 nesting pairs on Vancouver Island and Great Blue Herons are listed as a Species-of-Special Concern in Canada. They are threatened by Bald Eagle predation (Bald Eagles have increased rapidly over the last 20 years), habitat loss and disturbance by people. In the early part of the nesting season, herons are sensitive to novel and loud noises such as chain-sawing and chipping. Be careful to not disturb foraging herons on the beach, as they need to feed heavily on small inter-tidal fish such as Shiner Perch in order to raise hungry chicks.

Pro-Isle Forum **Barb LeBrasseur**

To become a member of the Pro-Isle email group (for islanders and property owners) send an email to Barb LeBrasseur at barbith@telus.net

**Music for Village Medical Project for Sierra Leone
Labour Day Sunday September 2, 2012**

Protection Island musicians and guests will perform music all afternoon (1 to 5pm) at Beacon House to raise funds and awareness for Village Medical Project for Sierra Leone.

Please visit www.vmpsl.org

To make this event even more successful, we are looking for volunteers with other fundraising ideas and the energy to make them happen. If this is something you would like to get involved with, please email gogo@telus.net

**Pied Pumkin concert outdoors on the deck at
The Irvines**

7:30 pm Monday July 30.

Reservations info@rickscott.ca or call 740-0047.

**Summer Solstice Celebration & Dessert Auction
Saturday, June 23 – 7 p.m.**

The Summer Solstice Celebration & Dessert Auction will once again feature Island musicians and beautiful desserts. Entry is free with a dessert to auction or a small appetizer. All those bringing a dessert for the auction will have their names entered into a draw for prizes. Those planning to bring a dessert please contact Margaret Harris (250-740-0317 or meharris@telus.net).

Musicians please contact Linda or Jim Irvine if you wish to take part (250-716-1761 or nanaimoirvines@shaw.ca).

All funds raised go to support programs and events planned by D.I.G.S. and the Island Community Library.

GIANT ONION CONTEST 2012

Pick up your free onion plants at the community garden on any Saturday between 10:00am and noon. By doing so, you are automatically entered in our contest.

Weighing of the onions takes place on September 15 during the Fall Fair at the Beacon House.

Please Recycle

Recycling happens every two weeks on Saturdays and is \$5 per regular sized garbage bag.

The recycling is to be clean and sorted into a regular garbage bag. Put what you have the most of in the bottom garbage bag then put smaller bags with tops tied/folded into it.

The different categories to separate into are:

- plastic bags,
- hard plastic not #3,6
- milk or milk replacement tetra paks
- plastic milk jugs (I don't mind these in hard plastic as they are easy to pull out)
- metal
- glass
- mixed paper (including cereal boxes)
- corrugated cardboard
- newspaper and inserts from the paper
- household batteries and electronics (within reason)
- t.v.s are separate and cost \$10 and up
- computers are \$15, \$5/part (tower, printer, keyboard)
- styrofoam

Email or phone Bob Lawson

250-619-9235

jobob23@telus.net

IF YOU NEED TO CALL 911

- You will be asked whether you require Police, Fire Dept or Ambulance service.
- All 911 calls go to an operator who is NOT in Nanaimo.
- It is **ESSENTIAL** to identify your location as **PROTECTION ISLAND IN THE HARBOUR OF NANAIMO.**
- You **MUST** give your **STREET ADDRESS** which must be **CLEARLY VISIBLE** on your property so you can be found.

Our Fire Dept. will respond to all MEDICAL EMERGENCY calls. Each on- call fire fighter is trained in First Response First Aid and will stay on the scene until paramedics arrive.

Another Protection Island Website is at:
www.proisle.info

To add to the website please send an email to barbith@telus.net

P.I. CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012

Sunday 13 May: Plant Swap (10:30) & Family Scavenger Hunt (2:00 pm) Community Garden

Sunday 10 June: PINA AGM 1:00 p.m. Beacon House

Saturday 23 June: Summer Solstice Celebration 7:00 pm Beacon House

Sunday 24 June: Garden Tour 10:00 am

Monday 30 July: Pied Pumkin Concert 7:30 pm

Sunday 2 September: Music for Village Medical Project. 1:00 pm.

Saturday 15 September: Fun Fall Fair. Beacon House.

Sunday 2 December: Lion's Club Children's Christmas Party 11:00 a.m.

Island Information and News

Check out the PINA website at www.pira.ca for helpful information about the island, minutes and notes from Board meetings and other news.

Thank you to Denise Bonin for maintaining this website.

In addition, minutes and notes from all PINA Board Meetings posted on the bulletin boards and **Pro-Isle Forum**.

Thank you to Barb LeBrasseur for maintaining the Forum.

Recommended Reading

Recommended by Janet Estes.

The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein
"A heart-wrenching but deeply funny and ultimately uplifting story of family, love, loyalty and hope, **The Art of Racing in the Rain** is a beautifully crafted and captivating look at the wonders and absurdities of human life... as only a dog could tell it."

Recommended by Karen Schneider.

Latitudes of Melt by Joan Clark

Recommended by Cheryl Ashley.

The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint Exupery
A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Recommended by Neil Goldsmith

Into the Silence by Wade Davis
The Tiger's Wife by Tea Obreht;
The Origin of Species by Nino Ricci.

Recommended by Margaret Harris

If you like humour and wicked political satire and/or you have any Scottish blood in your gene pool I highly recommend 2 books by Terry Fallis. The first is ***The High Road***, winner of the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour and its sequel, ***The Best Laid Plans***, a Canada Reads winner. Both books are hugely funny!

Recommended by Thora Howell

Great Reads 2011-2012

Londoners: The Days and Nights of London as Told by Those Who Love It, Hate It, Left It and Long for it.

By Craig Taylor

The subtitle tells it all. Our own Craig Taylor is being compared to some of the great oral historians—think Studs Terkel—in this epic oral portrait of today's London that is as rich and lively as the city itself. He has had rave reviews in the Guardian and the New York Times.

The Night Circus. by Erin Morgenstern

This is a remarkable novel that crosses genres and will keep you glued to the page until the very end when you make the phone call. Do let yourself sink into this enchanting novel.

Glass Devil by Helene Tursten

Mystery buffs will enjoy this Swedish author who some have compared to P.D. James.

Trick of the Light by Louise Penny

Set in the secluded village of Three Pines, Quebec, and starring the engaging police chief Armand Gamache, Louise Penny has one again written a compelling mystery.

Must You Go by Antonia Fraser

Based on the recollections and diaries of biographer Antonia Fraser, ***Must You Go*** is both a portrait of her marriage to Harold Pinter, one of the great playwrights of the 20th century and a portrait of Pinter.

Moonlighting with Einstein by Joshua Foer

Foer an investigative journalist takes a year out of his life, first to investigate the techniques used by "mental athletes" and then to embark on a memory training venture. An entertaining read with wonderful information on cutting edge research about the brain and memory. You will learn the tricks of the mentalists' trade.

Illuminations by Kevin Brockmeier

This elegantly written novel describes the illuminated wounds of his characters — cancer, abuse, self mutilation and old age. He is a master at creating alternate versions of familiar existence.

The World We Found by Thrity Umrigar

The novel explores the enduring friendship of four women from Bombay who must come to terms with long held secrets, regrets and desires while painting a portrait of modern India.

Woefield Poultry Collective by Susan Juby

Nanaimo's Susan Juby new novel has an offbeat charm and offers memorable characters who demonstrate how a team of misfits can find success using unorthodox means. This very clever writer has just been nominated for the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour.

Recommended by Jim Irvine

The Tiger, by John Vaillant, a true story of vengeance and survival

Recommended by Luci (the one-eyed Mexi dog)

Cesar's way: the natural, everyday guide to understanding and correcting common dog problems. By Cesar Milan

How to speak dog. By Stanley Coren

What the dog saw and other adventures.
By Malcolm Gladwell.

Recommended by Linda Irvine

The housekeeper and the Professor. By Yoko Ogawa
Elegant and beautifully written, this novel tells the story of a brilliant but brain damaged math professor and his relationship with his housekeeper and her 10 year old son. The professor's memory lasts only 80 minutes but his mathematical mind is perfect. While he teaches the beauty of theorems to the housekeeper and her son, they show him ways to discover the world around him and an unusual relationship begins. Even those who detest math, or fear it, will come to see the beauty of numbers.

The Beauty of Humanity Movement.

By Camilla Gibb

Set in Hanoi, the reader sees the tragedy and beauty of Vietnam through the rise of communist control to the present. Old Man Hung is an artisan pho maker who relives history for the other two main characters, American born Maggie searching for her Vietnamese father and Tu', a young tour guide. Gibb's characters are wonderfully wrought and the story is utterly absorbing. The reader will likely have a terrible craving for pho while reading this novel. From the book jacket: "...the reverberation of conflict, the enduring legacy of art, and the redemption and renewal of long-lost love."

From Terry Gordon

Einstein: His Life And Universe, by Walter Isaacson

E = MC², by David Bodanis

Beyond Numeracy, by John A. Paulos

Consilience, by Edward O. Wilson

On Equilibrium, by John Ralston Saul

Why Things Bite Back: Technology And The Revenge of Unintended Consequences, by Edward Tenner

The Lessons of History, by Will & Ariel Durant

A Brief History of Time, by Stephen W. Hawking

Stephen Hawking's A Brief History of Time: A Reader's Companion, by Stephen W. Hawking

Why Beauty Is Truth, by Ian Stewart

The Philosophy Gym, by Stephen Law

What is Good?, by A.C. Grayling (any book by Grayling)

I am right you are wrong. by Edward de Bono (any book by de Bono)

The Socially Responsive Self, by Larry May

The Ethical Imperative, by John Dalla Costa

Blink, by Malcolm Gladwell

Inner Navigation, by Erik G. Jonsson

When God Winks, by Squire Rushnell,

Mind Tools, by Rudy Rucker

Freakonomics, by Steven D. Levitt,

For The Common Good, by Herman Daly & John Cobb

The Economics of Happiness, by Mark Anielski
Common Wealth: Economics For A Crowded Planet,
by Jeffrey D. Sachs

Humanomics: How We Can Make The Economy Serve Us – Not Destroy Us, by Eugen Loebel

Plants of Coastal British Columbia, by J. Pojar & A. MacKinnon,

Common Tree Diseases of British Columbia, by E. Allen, D. Morrison & G. Wallis

Pocket Guide To Knots & Splices, by Des Pawson

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