Save our lives and establish helicopter sites in east and west Bamfield. As a popular care-giver has stated, “most Bamfielders are beyond their best before date.” According to the 2011 census 43% of Bamfielders are over 60, whereas only 16% of all British Columbians are over 60. Our older, lopsided population experiences more strokes and heart attacks per capita that require immediate attention beyond that available in Bamfield. Delays result in death or prolonged suffering. The tragic sinking of the Tofino whale watching boat brought home the importance of helipads. Our Reg. Dir., Keith Wyton, has pursued this issue intensively. L. Druehl (www.Bamfielder.ca for heli-details)

Thanksgiving together. Over 100 residents of Anacla and Bamfield joined in a community feast of turkey, ham, mountains of mashed potatoes, dressing and great desserts: my favourite evergreen huckle berry crumble. Timmy Masso, danced to a song he wrote for his grandparents, Jennifer and Wayne Wenstob, accompanied by his big brother Hjalmer Wenstob on drum. Robert Dennis & Stella Peters organized the October 12 event. Stella quoted her father, Spencer Peters, “We are one Community.” This gathering will be a monthly event. L. Druehl

Klecco Klecco (Thank You) to all who came to our Community Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner, to the caterers Roxanne, Jim, and Sandra, to all of those who brought something, who helped set up, who helped clean up, to Huu ay aht for the use of such a beautiful House of Huu ay aht that never gets used as often as it could, and to all my family & friends that made it happen. I am very thankful for all of you.... & to those who could not make it... we missed you. & maybe you can make it next month. Stella Peters.

Close call, great team work. We almost lost Keith [Wyton] on Saturday. He was weed-whacking here in Bamfield and stepped on a hive of bees/wasp. He got to the house and collapsed. I gave him his epi-pen and Mark Kelly helped me haul him into our car. The Coast Guard got him to Donna Dunn, RN. It took hours to stabilize him enough to fly to Victoria by HELIJET. Roger Demonstingy and Gordon Hawkins (BVFD) “truck”ed him to the school field for pick up as the Bamfield Clinic helipad was not acceptable. Bernadette Wyton

Well Done, Kids!* On October 15th, Bamfield Community School students took part in the province wide Great BC Shake Out. We participated in an earthquake drill at school, evacuated to the fire hall, and then returned to the school for a debrief and discussion facilitated by Linda Myres (Bamfield Community Emergency Program). Bamfield students definitely know how to Be Prepared, Not Scared. Thank you to Linda and the Emergency Preparedness team for your involvement and our awesome t-shirts. Ms. Russell *ed’s note: photo above, 16 students, count them. Awesome!

**Pink Cupcakes raise $470 for Breast Cancer research, or was it my pink plastic bra & Tish McPhee’s baking? Janice Pierce canvassed the east side with a beer flat of goodies. Thank you all! Rose Janelle**

Tofino Whale Watching Disaster: A common Pain for Coastal Villages. Email exchanges:

Dear Chief Councillor Greg Louie and Mayor Josie Osborn,

Bamfielders wish to convey their condolences to the peoples of Ahousat and Tofino.

Children of a common mother, we share your grief and disbelief.

Co-Chairs, Bamfield Community Affairs Society-Louis Druehl and Sheryl Mass

Dear Louis and Bamfielders: Thank you so much for this note. Being from a very small and remote coastal community yourselves, I know you have a much greater understanding than many others might. Your support means so much, thank you so much for expressing it.

With warm regards, Josie

Thank you for your best wishes to Ahousaht First Nation. The selfless acts of courage are a hallmark of this Nation and all its members. I will proudly pass on your wishes to all the community at our Annual General Meeting which is being held next week in Ahousaht. I encourage you to write to the Federal Government and Province of British Columbia to encourage them to invest more into the emergency services infrastructure and training all along Vancouver Island.

Rob Bullock, CPA CGA, Executive Director Ahousaht First Nation

A Bamfield Celebration of Christmas. Join your neighbours and friends in the perennial Bamfield Community Hall Christmas party in the Rix Centre, Saturday, 5 December, 7-10 pm. Hall members get in free. Memberships will be available at the door. Eat, drink, sing, chat and get that nice holiday fuzzy feeling. L. Druehl

Join the Christmas Craft Sale on November 22, 11 am – 2 pm at the school. Come shop, chat, eat a chili lunch for $7, and enjoy live Holiday music. I’ve still got lots of tables available, so pass the word! Michelle van Boven

Cedar invades the Big Smoke. My Bamfield novel Cedar, Salmon and Weed will be launched in the Ian Tan Gallery (www.ian tangallery.com) at 2321 Granville Street, Tuesday, 10 November, 5-7 pm. Join the party and invite your friends. L. Druehl
Thank you Bamfielders. I would like to extend, my heartfelt thanks to all of you folks that supported Pat for the first 6 1/2 years and myself trying to fill his shoes for the last 2 1/2 years. As you know the store was Pat’s home, by him, by all of the staff that has worked tirelessly over the years. Also a big thank you to all of the volunteer folks that always stepped up to the plate when needed. Being at the store for all this time has let me get to know people that I would never have had the chance to know and being able to enjoy my visits with you all. I will miss seeing you on a regular basis but hope to cross paths on the Boardwalk sometime soon. Welcome to Marnie and Kevin, I wish you the best in your new endeavour. The store needed a breath of fresh air and change is always a good way to get it done. Again welcome to Bamfield, there is never a shortage of community spirit and support here. Time for me to bow out! Once again Thank You, Lorrie Larson. Photos: Lorrie in store by M. Phillips; Lorrie at a reception in honour on the boardwalk by Carolyn May at her home, by C. May.

Bamfield Pirate Tours, according to Paul Demontigny “are affordable for families to experience marine life. A large family can spend two hours seeing whales, bears, seals and sea lions, with a lot of history thrown in for $80.” He gets lots of repeats, the Koreans particularly enjoy the tours, and, this summer, there is a tour every couple of days, many of them for six hours. Paul started walking tours and touring in his speed boat in the 1990s. Photo, Happy Tourists by Paul. L. Druehl

Friendly invasion, then. “The Pacific Coast Militia Rangers were formed in February 1942 with the motto, “Vigilant - Watchful”…made up of, loggers, farmers, fishermen, Natives, store keepers…by the end of WW11 there were 115 companies with 14,849 volunteers” D. Hegstrom memoires. The 14th Company of the Bamfield Pacific Coast Militia Rangers, captained by G. Wellburn, then Sid Fry, ‘reported to the Canadian Army Company at the Cable Station…issued helmets, respirators, arm bands, 1st aid kits…met at the cable station to discuss evacuation plans; minimum household preparedness. Air Raid Patrol people ensured black-out of all windows…” J. Maben PCMR notebook. The 14th Company Bamfield of the Pacific Coast Militia Rangers stood down Sept 30, 1945. Compiled by Heather Cooper, Bamfield Historical Society. Photo: army at Cable Station, BHS archives.

Friendly Invasion, now. On September 22, the Yag 319, tied up at the marine station wharf. This visit represented the near-completion of “the carrying of the baton” from Churchill, MB to Victoria in a Canadian Ranger exercise, “Western Spirit.” On 2 September the Yag 319 picked the baton up from a sailing vessel from Haida Gwaii. Dave Paine of the 4th Canadian Ranger Patrol Group, a Bamfielder, described the Vancouver Island visits as a way to experience various island situations. Warrant Officer Brad Williamson outlined the role of Canadian Rangers in representing Canada’s north and their relationship to Canadian Forces; we’re “Light Equipped, Self Sufficient.” L. Druehl. Photo of 4th Ranger Group (Dave on left) and Nicole Gerbrandt, tour guide and University Program Coordinator

Rain Forest Spared. At the end of 2014, BMSC’s Public Education Program was awarded a grant from TD Friends of the Environment fund to continue building boardwalks on our interpretive rainforest trail. This time, we’ve built a 15m boardwalk to help alleviate erosion from foot traffic. BMSC would like to, once again, thank the TD FEF for their support in this project! Dave Gerbrandt built this section of the trail. Phil Lavoie, Public Ed. BMSC