

# THE NEW BAMFIELDER

In Support of Anacla and Bamfield Youth

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www.bamfielder.ca

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**Mark this day.** On 21 January 2016 the Huu-ay-aht First Nations announced purchase of 11 Bamfield properties, including the airport, the hotel & pub, the Ostroms site, and the Kingfisher Lodge & Marina. Hopefully this will bring to an end the 17 years of developmental stagnation Bamfield has suffered. The bringing of these properties up to their production potential will be a challenge. However, if the HFN Café and Market are an example, we can be optimistic. The HFN sees this action as breathing new life into the area, brightening the future of HFN and Bamfielders. Head Chief, **Derek Peters** noted, "We have many citizens who remember growing up in what is now Bamfield Inlet, so to gain some of it back is a step in the right direction." *L. Druehl*, www.bamfielder.ca for full HFN News Release & map of properties.

**Centennial Park hit twice.** Recently 2 jerry cans of gas (marked "BCP") and then the shower coin box was stolen. This will cost \$200 to replace...all for a few quarters! Contact Crimestoppers

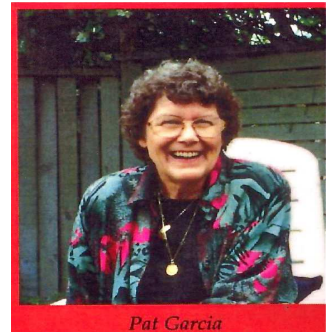
**A lively Affairs.** 27 villagers attended the January Community Affairs meeting. **Bill Collette**, Port Alberni Chamber, introduced Port's contribution to Canada's 150th year (2017): three races will be conducted: July 1 swimming around the *Mars Bomber* on Sprout Lake, July 2 bicycling racing the *Francis Barkley* to Bamfield, and July 3 foot racing the steam train to McLean's Mill. **Kristin Russell** noted the school Christmas Concert was a success (everyone present agreed) and that \$980 was raised for field trips. **Sean Rogers** made his debut as Acting Director of the marine station, exclaiming this is a busy time and villagers are welcome. **Keith Wyton**, Reg. Dir., noted the Federal Government persists in wanting to get out of running the West Dock. This is being challenged as there is no option. A private report suggests it is not economically feasible to log the Deer Group. Perhaps our Community Forest could oversee these lands. A request to review alternative treatments of our water is being put forward. **Ken Hawkins** outlined his plans to provide bus and freight service to Port. **Amilia Vos** is spear heading a program to train first responders. *L. Druehl*

**Be informed.** **Andrew Nikiforuk** will be presenting in Port Alberni: *THE REALITY OF LNG: FRACKING, EARTHQUAKES, AND FRAGMENTED ECONOMIES*. February 25, Thursday, 7pm, Echo Centre, Cedar Room East. *B Wyton*

**West Dock Options Spelled Out.** In a Victoria CBC radio interview, 20 January, 7:40 am, **Keith Wyton** explained the importance of our West Dock to Bamfield and how we can not afford to maintain it. If no one takes it over the government is left with two choices: 1. continue to maintain the dock, or 2. close the dock, probably citing liability issues. How do these ridiculous situations arise? *L. Druehl*

**A Parting Tribute.** On January 16 a celebration of life was held in Port Alberni to commemorate and pay tribute to **Pat Garcia** for her many nursing and community achievements. **Gillian Trumper, Judy Gray, Lorraine Hegstrom, Don Amos, Bob McVie** and **Nancy Hendry** recalled many of her outstanding moments. *Eileen Scott*

**A Tribute to a Great Bamfielder. Pat Garcia** was born **Patricia Smith** on April 7, 1935 in East Coker, Somersetshire, England: she passed away at the West Coast General Hospital on Dec. 3, 2015 after a brief illness. Predeceased by her parents and husband Joe. She is survived by her brothers, **Ron, Gerald** and **Tom**, her children, **Ian (Monica)** and **Debra (Dan)** as well as four grandchildren, **Nikki (Cole), Joey (Whitney), Callie** and **Brianna**. Pat emigrated to Canada in 1958. In Vancouver she saw an advertisement for a Red Cross "Outpost Nurse" position for which she successfully applied, arriving in Bamfield in February 1960 aboard the MV Uchuck. There she met her fisherman husband, Joe: they were married on Nov 6, 1961 in the Bamfield United Church. As a team, Pat and **Joe Garcia** contributed mightily to the well being and development of the community they loved. In addition to 37 years of nursing service at the Bamfield Outpost Hospital Pat was elected to several terms as Regional Director and sometimes Chairman of the Alberni Clayoquot Regional Board. Her 2007 book, "Bamfield - Looking Back" provides a remarkable first hand record, as she writes, "of a true community of people helping themselves to make a great community". The many contributions of Pat and Joe to this enterprise were formidable. Her volunteer work was recognized in 2001, during the UN's International Year of the Volunteer, with a citation from the Government of Canada. On a personal note we will miss a loyal friend, someone who held strong opinions and an even stronger sense of fairness and the proper way of doing things. Her sense of neighbourliness was loving, generous and open minded. As a nurse she was exceptionally talented, a master diagnostician who overcame seasickness to ensure she reached those in need. She stands tall among those many newcomers to a small and isolated fishing port on Canada's West coast seeking a better life, but also willing and able to contribute to making life better for those around her, her family, friends and neighbours. *John & Bev McInerney*



Pat Garcia

Letters and comments are welcome. Submissions will be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. Classifieds should not exceed 15 words (no commercial ads). All submissions must have the author's name and telephone number. Submit to [ldruehl@island.net](mailto:ldruehl@island.net). *The New Bamfielder* is a free paper but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. *Louis Druehl*



**Well deserved!** The Christmas social is always such a grand get together with 'true' Bamfielders and it was even more so this year when you all surprised us with a wonderful tribute. Our lovely plants are well, the cake consumed and the gift certificate to the Sylvia Hotel enjoyed. We spent two nights there and visited friends, cruised Granville Street & Island and went to the Aquarium. We thank you for your kind gift. Hugs to all, **Kath and Suz**, aka *The Jennings Girls*

**Chillin' out!** Over 2 dozen hardy souls braved the 9 degrees water of Barclay Sound and plunged in as a bugler played the charge, kick-starting the New Year in the annual Polar Bear Swim! There are many different views on how long it's been running and at various locations, but 5 years at Brady's beach for sure!). Twice as many onlookers and helpers were on hand to witness the event on a beautiful albeit chilly afternoon at Brady's Beach. Many stayed on the beach after the event to take in the scenery, enjoy a warm fire with friends and toast the first day of 2016. *Bonnie Mackay and Pogo Hannay. Photo by Pogo, go to www.bamfielder.ca for Pogo's chilly frolic video.*

**In Honour.** River's introduction to Bamfield was in July 2014, when he and Louise came for a fishing trip at Mackay Bay Lodge and to visit The Station, where he was enrolled for the upcoming fall program. Since his sudden passing in December from sudden onset Arrhythmia, Louise, David, and their daughter, Sage, have made several visits back to Bamfield. In May 2015, David installed River's art collection throughout BMSC (see below). David returned again in August with River's roommate, Neil Waters from the 2014 fall program and hosted a potlatch with past and present students and BMSC staff and professors at Casa Nancy. He was back in November to install the 1.5 inch weathering steel sculpture. Louise and David returned in December to attend the 2015 symposium and banquet at BMSC. They were pleased to meet the first recipient of the River



Timothy Sidley Memorial Scholarship, which is currently funded to finance a UBC--Okanagan student to attend the Fall program in perpetuity. Every visit has reunited them with their new friends, included walks along Brady's and Pachina and boating in the inlet. It is always a bonus when Stella Peters is able to guide a walk to Kiixin. The

Sidley family wishes to thank the Bamfield and BMSC communities for their warmth and friendship. It is always hard to come to Bamfield, but it is so much harder to leave. *Louise Sidley.* Photo: Very proud parents, David and Louise Sidley with "Salmon and Turtle" sculpture, created for BMSC by David in honour of their son, River Sidley.



**Nick Germani** had a quiet 92nd birthday at home, on the 23rd of January. He appreciated the visitors and is looking forward to the next Robbie Burns night. Happy Birthday, Nick. *Jane Morrison*

**Learn of Bamfield's 2016-2020 ACRD Financial Plan, Community Affairs, at the school, Monday, February 15, 7:30.**

**February Events:**

- 2,9,16,23 Circuits, 5:15, Basketball, 7:30
  - 3,10,17,24 Buddy Reading, school, 12:45
  - 4,11,18,25 After School Club, 3-4:15, Circuits, 5:15-6:15
  - 5,11,18,26 StrongStart Preschool Sessions, 11-12 pm
  - 6 Open Gym, Games & Movie Night, 6 pm
  - 12 Jump Rope 4 Heart
  - 13-14 Marine First Aid
  - 14 Anacla/Bamfield Potluck Dinner, 5pm @ House of Huu ay aht
  - 15 Community Affairs Meeting, school, 7:30 pm
  - 24 Community Lunch, school, 12:00
  - 27 Bread Making Class, 2 pm at the Firehall
- Katie & Janet,*  
Bamfield Community School Association

**A Fine Luncheon** was enjoyed by 59 Bamfielders. The Bamfield School Association sponsored a Literacy Day lunch of lasagna, salad and cake, catered by the HFN Market. Coordinator **Janet Simpson-Cooke** distributed 18 gift bags of books and games to all of the children. The gifts were paid for by a Decoda Solutions grant. The next Community lunch is February 24 at noon, at the school. \$7 is a great deal. *L. Druehl*

**Cedar, Salmon and Weed** is coming to the **Darwin Café**, Tofino, 7:30 Friday, February 26, sponsored by the **Mermaid Tales Bookshop**. Celebrate this Bamfield tale by Louis Druehl. *L. Druehl*

**Some Up, Some Down.** Everyone should have received their 2016 Bamfield Property Assessment by now. Some are way up and some are down by as much as 20%. These assessments reflect values as of July 1, 2015. B.C. assessment says, "It's the market that creates property value, we simply follow and report on market movement every year." Your assessment determines the taxes you pay so depending on your situation you may want to appeal or not. If you have any questions regarding your Property Assessment, call B.C. Assessment at 1-866-VALUEBC or go online to view property values in your area at e-valueBC. Top property valuation on Vancouver Island is \$51,621,000 for James Island near Victoria. *Bonnie Mackay, Team 3000 Realty Ltd., www.bonniemackay.com.*

**Happy Lunar New Year!** Hope we all don't go bananas! It's the year of the monkey. This February 8<sup>th</sup> the traditional Chinese lunisolar calendar is turned and celebrated, also called their "Spring Festival." Anybody out there with a telescope is in for a real treat. Something that hasn't happened in space since 2005, the lineup (Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Mars, Saturn) is visible before dawn without a telescope. (Started January 20ish & lasts till February 20ish). *Christine Sirois*

**\$400 off a new woodstove.** The ACRD Woodstove Exchange Program starts in February. **Bamfield Builders** is the local outlet. See [www.bamfielder.ca](http://www.bamfielder.ca) for 2016 woodstove.