THE NEW BAMFIELDER

Wake up Bamfield, when is the last time you beachcombed a refrigerator?

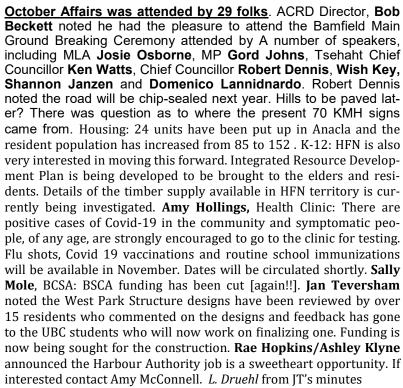
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<u>A large Reconciliation crowd</u> formed a semicircle facing the Anacla Administration Building. A trailered totem by <u>Master Carver George Nookemus</u> was unveiled to everyone's pleasure. Chief Councillor Robert Dennis Jr. commented on Residential Schools, whose purpose, he observed was "to take the Indian out of the children," and he concluded, "Today, they call that cultural genocide." Hereditary Chief Derek Peter spoke on behalf of all Hereditary Chiefs, welcoming the guests and calling attention to the specialness of this occasion. Olivia Peters, Hereditary Chief-in-Waiting added her youthful impressions. Bob Beckett, ACRD Regional Director, thanked the Huu-ay-aht hosts and noted, "Today is the day we move forward with respect." A few more speeches in and a torrential rain drove everyone into the



administration building. A gallant effort to follow COVID-19 indoor protocol was made. Many lunches were served (tossed greens, potato salad, salmon, buns, and orange-coloured cupcakes). The sun came out and folks gathered outside for the Blanketing Ceremony: a moving tribute to the Residential School survivors. As I departed, I reflected on Councillor Dennis speech. Maybe we non-aboriginals need to go to school to take our bigotry and misconceptions out of us. And today would be a good first day, with many to go. *Louis DruehI*. Photos, top. Blanketed Huu-ay-aht Residential School survivors, Reconciliation Day, 2021; photo mid. Bamfield schoolers, September 2021, photo bottom. Early Alberni Residential School,1903. Top and mid by Stella Peters, below, courtesy of Alberni Valley Museum Photo PN03259.







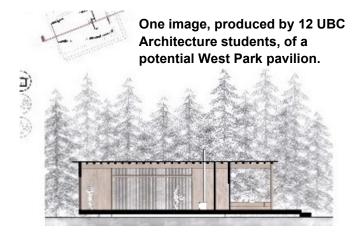
Letters and comments are welcome. Submissions will be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. Classifieds should not exceed 15 words (no commercial ads). All submissions must have the author's name and telephone number. Submit to Idruehl@island.net. *The New Bamfielder* is a free but we encourage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



This year's Oysters, Authors & Ale was the light at the end of our COVID-19 tunnel, hopefully. Sixty vacc'd folks (the max COVID allowed) enjoyed this School Associa-

extravaganza in the Rix Center. Chief Councillor Robert Dennis welcomed us and emphasized we must work together. He followed up by donating \$5000 to the association, and, more importantly, vowing we would get K to 12. Nancy Hendry M.C'd, sprightly, advising the local presenters, "You have a friendly audience." Invited writer, Adrienne Mason, PowerPointed us through her book, Long Beach Wild (Greystone), that could be taken as a cautionary tale for Bamfield and a nostalgic glimpse as to what WCVI was once like. (Earlier, Adrienne had run the marine station public ed program and her husband, Bob Hanson, had been the last Bamfield-based Park Warden.) Jane Silcott, closed the session with a family affair, reading her works, using spicey language, which focused on her daughter Olivia and were accompanied on saxophone by her husband, Bob Walker. The local readings were varied, lively and enjoyed by all. My favourite was Tavi Kristjan who recited from memory poems of his aging cowboy friend. Amelia Vos took us on a Sarita River swim, salmon brushing our sides as cold water dribbled into our leaky wet suit. The Effingham Oysters and Ucluelet Brewery Ale (a recent enterprise by an earlier Bamfielder, Dennis Morgan) slipped and soothed, perfectly. Christine Gruman (BCSA Chair) guided us through a maze of silent auctions. Congratulations to Sally Mole (BCSA Coordinator), Renee Gaudet and crew for a great evening. Collage above, by Marc Phillips of (L to R): Jane Silcott, Louis Druehl, Amelia Vos, Tavi Kristjan, Janessa Dornstauder, Adrienne Mason.

Bamfield squeezed out by SD 70. The Bamfield Community School Association's pending budget got cut 23%, from \$46K to \$35K. According to Association Coordinator, Sally Mole, this cut was justified by a decrease in our school enrolllment, which apparently did not happen. Besides, serving students is small part of the Associations contribution to Bamfield/Anacla. Sally is optimistic this can be reversed. L. Druehl



Boomer Trail dazzles Thanksgiving visitors. This creation of the Huu-ay-aht/Bamfield Community Forest stretches 1.1 km from Grappler to Binnicle Road, with a side trip, Serenity Loop, introduces trekkers to the coastal forest as rarely seen.



The trail is a work of art. A compliment to our iconic Brady's Beach. According to Charlie Clappas, a new trail, The East-West connector, is under construction. This wouldn't be a harbinger of road to the west side, Charlie? Thank you, Community Forest. L. Druehl. Photo by Stefan Ochman

Bubbled Marine Station stu-

dents strut their spatulas, creating novel seaweed dishes. Winners of this annual competition get a neat apron, created by Professor Martone's mother and packages of Canadian Kelp. Photo: winners and Martone in gumboots..



The Community Hall Society has successfully drafted a lease agreement with the ACRD and the Eileen Scott Centennial Park Commission for the corner of land adjacent to the fire hall for new hall construction. This is a huge leap forward on the path to beginning new hall construction which is tentatively planned to begin this spring. In the coming months there will be plenty of opportunity for community engagement as planning stages for the new hall move ahead.

The Hall Society would also like to thank community donors for the raffle fund raiser recently awarded. The donors include McKay Bay Lodge with a 2-night accommodation, meals and fishing charter, Chris Frye with a private house concert, Sue and Kath Jennings with indigenous basketry and Jane Morrison with an otter carving. Proceeds from the fund raiser will go toward stage and sound equipment for the new hall. JP Hastey, Chair BCHS

A pastel by Judith

Phillips, depicting the Frances Barkley with the old Community Hall in the background Judith's pastels chronical Bamfield as it is and as it was Thank you, Judith. L. Druehl





Uniquely inscribed benches by Kevin Peter welcome all to the stunning Pachena Bay Parks trail head.