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NO ICBC 1-2PM

SERVICE
CONTACTS
Public Works &
After Hours Emergencies
 250-974-7091
Animal Control
 250-974-4188
Recycling
 250-974-4216
Boat Harbour
 250-974-5727
Community Hall
 250-974-2649
Fire Hall
 250-974-5332
Visitor Centre
 250-974-5024
Campground
 250-974-7028
EMERGENCY- 911

Did you know?
*Our visitor centre
 has brochures for
 destinations all over
 BC! Stop by to
 browse and say hi
 to Norine the next
 time you're planning
 a vacation.*

The Echo

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2015



Article & photo submitted
 by Robin Quirk

Robin Quirk 2015

On March 6, a juvenile Bald Headed Eagle was spotted perching low on a tree in Alert Bay on Fir Street near the Government Dock. It had a large growth under its left eye, as seen above. O.W.L. Orphaned Wildlife Rehabilitation Society responded to requests for help, concerned that it could be Avian Pox, which is contagious and fatal if untreated.

The bird was seen two days later on Fir Street. It was weak enough that animal control officer David Faren captured it by throwing a blanket over it. It died shortly thereafter, and its body was triple-bagged for transport to the BC Animal Health Centre to determine cause of death. Thank you to Robin Quirk, David Faren and Mayor Berry for their concern and expertise.

VANCITY OPEN IN JUNE!

We are excited to confirm that an offer to purchase the former CCCU branch has been accepted and is expected to close in mid-April. Interviews for the first two positions have been completed, and offers of employment will be made shortly. The Branch is expected to open with limited capacity in mid-May and be fully operational by mid-June.



ECONOMIC UPDATE

The Tides of Change (our Economic Development Strategy) planning process is wrapping up. The Village and 'Namgis have jointly hired Colleen Hamilton of EcoPlan for a month to start implementing short term actions, **while we work towards hiring a longer-term employee.**

A few of Colleen's priorities for the month are:

- Historical and cultural signs
- Farmer's market
- Tourism promotions (website)
- Litter reduction
- Beginning harbour planning

Colleen is working out of the Village and 'Namgis offices. Say "hi" if you see her around, or stop by if you want to chat. You can also reach her at colleen@ecoplan.ca.



Come say hi to Colleen!



Tasty treasures!
Photo credit A. Pritchard.

FOUND: TREASURES!

Thanks to attendees and table-renters for a successful Spring Treasure Market! Lianne Granger sold out of her delicious chili and hot dogs, and 22 kids "fished" at the Artists Society Fishing Booth. Other booths offered items from coffee to homemade soaps, to secondhand books & games, to freshly baked bread.

We are planning a series of summer markets. The first summer market will be at the town square Canada Day festivities, and our fall Treasure Market is October 25.

Missed out on a table? Start planning for July!



DANILLE BARNES update! Danielle passed her figure skating test in March with flying colours! When she returns to figure skating in the fall, she will be skating with the senior girls and will have her own solo at the Winter Skating show in Port McNeill. Thanks to Lois Matilpi for the update!

Know someone from Alert Bay we should be proud of? Send us a picture and the details!

Legion news!

The Legion is the recipient of a \$19 000 grant from Employment and Social Development Canada. This grant will go to important repairs such as fixing the roof.

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS:

The request for tender for the Legion roof closes April 20. See Dennis Buchanan or post office poster for more information.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE CHANGE: NOW MONDAYS AT 7PM

The 2015 meeting dates are:

April 13 & 27, May 11 & 25, June 8 & 22, July 27, August 31, September 14 & 28, October 12 & 26, November 9 & 23, December 14.

BUSINESS SURVEY

A North Island College business student is asking North Island businesses to complete a short survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C22K8KK>
The Village has more information if you're interested!

TRAIL CLEANUP!

There will be a trail cleanup every fourth Sunday April to September. Meet at the campground April 26 at 1pm! Bring any pruners you have (some tools available)!

MOVIES

The Cook Shack is still playing movies most weekends! Check out the Cook Shack Cinema facebook page for information!

SPRING CLEANUP

Is on Thursday April 9 for the Village. Call for more info!

HELP THE ECHO!

Send your photos, articles, comments and poems to apritchard@alertbay.ca.

NO ROOM FOR BROOM!

Help us combat invasive plants!

Scotch broom is native to Mediterranean regions of Europe. It was brought to other continents as a garden ornamental and is now an invasive species in India, New Zealand, Australia, and the Pacific Coast of North America. It displaces native plants, affecting the forestry industry by out-competing native tree seedlings.

Each plant produces thousands of seeds that sprout in open or disturbed soil. Plants are extremely flammable, dead or alive, and cut plants leach toxins.

Cutting broom must be done carefully to minimize regrowth and seed scattering. If stem is narrower than a pencil, pull it. If wider than a pencil, cut the stem below the surface, after flowering but before seed pods form.

Do you have Scotch broom? Take it to the transfer station, or call Public Works at 974-7091 for free curbside broom pick-up while it blooms in April & May.



VOLUNTEER FOR SEAFEST 2015

This year's Seafest & Musicfest will be held on the same weekend as the Alert Bay 360. This year it will be on the BC Day long weekend, Thursday July 30 to Sunday August 2.

ARTFEST opening night is Thursday, July 30.
SEAFEST starts Friday, July 31,
parade at 10am sharp.
MUSICFEST is Saturday, August 1.
ALERT BAY 360 is Sunday, August 2.



Vendor table rental is \$10 per table. At Musicfest, table rental is \$30 per table plus one Musicfest ticket per person operating the table. All vendors are welcome, but please no loonie auctions in fairness to other vendors. See Mike Croteau for table rental.

2015 Seafest events include Kids Got Talent (winner opens Musicfest!), adult lip sync, family scavenger hunt, preserves/jam contest, eating contest, Alert Bay's own version of cash cab, fishing derby and Kim's mystery games! There will also be a large selection of kids' inflatables.

The lineup for Musicfest includes Pernell Reichart, The Boom Booms, The Werewolves, John Welsh Band, Blue Moon Marquee, Alert Bay's own Jamie Taylor, Steel Wheels (Rolling Stones tribute band). There will be something for everyone, with blues, surf rock, alt-folk, fast finger picking, foot stomping music.

We are calling on people who love to volunteer and help! Please see Kim Mercer, Michelle Alfred, or Mike Croteau for more information.

A MOMENT WITH THE MAYOR

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Thanks to you all for your

patience in waiting for a new banking service and for your enthusiastic input in planning a brighter economic future for our island!

The first three months of your new Council's term have gone by very quickly, starting with our 'boot camp' in January. This year, instead of only new Councillors going away to learn about the workings of local government, we brought in a Parliamentarian to lead a 2-day session for Council and Senior Management staff. This was a great opportunity for all of us to learn how to work together in a formal setting and to be reminded of the procedures dictated by the Community Charter.

The 'Namgis/Village of Alert Bay Steering Committees have been working hard on the joint Economic Development Strategy and Vancity Memorandum of Understanding. The doors of the Vancity Cormorant Island Branch will be opening this spring and the 'Tides of Change' joint Economic Development Strategy is ready for the action phase. Recent joint council meetings with 'Namgis Council have strengthened our working relationship, and the Historic Alert Bay Accord is alive and well, proving once again that we can accomplish greater things together.



In March Village Council and Senior Staff developed the 2015 budget and 5-year Financial Plan. It is always a challenge to ensure that essential services are provided and that funds are available to upgrade aging infrastructure (roads, sewers, water, etc.), while keeping our Village affordable for residents. Thankfully, we obtained grants for structural repairs and a much-needed face lift to the Community Hall (almost complete!) and we hope a recently submitted grant application will help us upgrade the sewer.

Spring is upon us after a surprisingly gentle winter and I am looking forward to getting back out on the water to enjoy the totally awesome area we live in and maybe a fresh fish or two. I truly hope that you are all well and hope to see you at an occasional Monday Council meeting.

Mayor Michael

Next month: A chat with a Councillor!

WALK TO RUN CLINIC

Want to start running? The Village is offering a running clinic for 13 weeks in May to July, leading to the Salmon Run 5K!

Cost: \$20 for all sessions. Register at the Village Office.

Fitness level required: Ability to walk for 30 minutes.

Age level: Anyone with the patience to follow the group!

Time & date: Tuesdays 5-6pm and Saturdays 10-10:30am.

Meet in the Village Office lobby. First session is May 5.

Time commitment: You may find it difficult to keep up if you miss more than a week. We recommend you try to fit in a third walk/run session every week on your own.



Tuesday sessions will start with 20-30 minutes of discussion. Potential topics include: goal-setting, warming up, fueling for a run, racing etiquette, staying injury-free, and how to motivate yourself. Saturday sessions will just be walking/running!

Adriana Pritchard will be leading most sessions. Adriana is a running enthusiast who won the women's Salmon Run 10K in 2014, achieved her goal time at her first half marathon in March, and plans to run her first marathon in May. If you want to help facilitate, please email apritchard@alertbay.ca. Please note: This program is not offered by a fitness professional, and the program and all fitness advice are offered as from one runner to another.

SPACE ETIQUETTE FOR DOGS

To: People with "Friendly Dogs", Off-Leash Dogs, & Retractable Leash Dogs



NEWSFLASH: Running up to another dog and ignoring requests to go away is not "friendly", it is rude.

Just like people, DOGS NEED PERSONAL SPACE. If a stranger came up and put his hand on your body, you'd be allowed to step back, yell, and push him away. Dogs have the same right to enforce their boundaries. Some dogs are called "reactive" because they are more sensitive than others. Reactive dogs are good dogs, they just need more distance and compassionate training. You can help them by honoring their need for personal space.

1. NEVER LET YOUR OFF-LEASH DOG GO UP TO AN ON-LEASH DOG.
2. LOCK RETRACTABLE LEASHES WHEN YOU SEE OTHER DOGS.
3. ASK BEFORE APPROACHING OR PETTING ANY DOG.
4. HAVE COMPASSION FOR PEOPLE WITH SHY OR REACTIVE DOGS.

CAN MY DOG SAY "HI"?

SORRY NO. I HAVE A DOG THAT NEEDS SPACE. THANK YOU.

Please do not chase us. Let us pass without interaction, and keep your judgements to yourself.

Inspired by

DINOS™ notesfromadogwalker.com













BAT for Fear, Frustration and Aggression in Dogs functionalrewards.com

Lili

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doggiedrawings.net

Coming Events

Poetry Month!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NO-SHOE HAIKU LET YOUR TOES BREATHE IN AND OUT AND IN AND OUT AND IN AND OUT			1 STARTING TODAY, THE VILLAGE OFFICE IS A SHOE-FREE ZONE 	2	3 VILLAGE OFFICE & ICBC CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY	4
5	6 VILLAGE OFFICE & ICBC CLOSED EASTER MONDAY 	7 TRANSFER STATION CLOSED	8 DRAW A PICTURE OF A BIRD DAY!	9	10 WALK TO WORK DAY! 	11 EIGHT-TRACK DAY! 
12 GRILLED CHEESE DAY! 	13 COUNCIL MEETING 7PM! 	14 LOOK UP AT THE SKY DAY! 	15	17	18 TALK LIKE SHAKESPEARE DAY! <i>"Get thee to a nunnery!"</i>	
19	20 SHORRITE CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY! 	21	22 JELLY BEAN DAY! 	23	24 UKULELE DAY! 	25
26 TRAIL CLEANUP 1PM MEET AT THE ALERT BAY CAMPGROUND AND BRING YOUR PRUNERS! (SOME TOOLS AVAILABLE)	27 COUNCIL MEETING 7PM! 	28 SHORRITE SENIOR CUSTOM- ER APPRECIATION DAY! 	29	30 READ POETRY OUT LOUD DAY! <i>"Twas brillig..."</i>		T-REX HAIKU TYRANNOSAURUS' ARMS ARE TOO SHORT FOR PIANO UKULELE FITS

Karate at the Community Hall—
Drop in the Village office to find out more!

Call 974-5448 for Bowling !