



Union Bay Community Club Newsletter

Box 335, Union Bay, BC V0R 3B0

250-335-2500

JUNE 2021



Please

Join or Renew membership to the Historical Society.

Memberships help us qualify for necessary grants.

Call Jan Aitken at 250-335-2571 or mail your cheque to

PO Box 269, Union Bay, BC V0R 3B0

Single \$10 Family \$20

The Museum and Gaol will open June 26, 2021. 9am-5pm

We are pleased to welcome two new businesses now renting the 2nd and 3rd floor of the Post Office.

1: Pacific Coast MediSpa

2: Steady Vessel Tattoo Collective



The Baynes Sound Lions Senior Citizens Housing Society (aka Seaview Village)

Starting mid September, Seaview Village is to undergo major upgrades. The buildings are now over 40 years old and for health and safety, structural and cosmetic reasons it is time to upgrade. It is important to keep this asset that is a part of the community for years to come. This large job is being financed and managed by BC Housing and the Society's Board of Directors.

This construction is going to be very disruptive to the current tenants and the Board is actively looking for ways to make it as stress free as possible. Each tenant will need to empty their units and live elsewhere for approximately three week. The plan so far is to have three units worked on at a time, with the total project taking three months.

The Board is looking for three places to house the tenants as their units are being renovated. If you have (preferable furnished) suite, carriage house or house, or know of someone who does we would appreciate you letting us know. There are funds available for rehousing. We feel that if these people can stay close to the community it would be easier for them.

Please contact the Co-Chairs if you know of something, or have optional ideas.

Thank you,

Brenda Dane
250-335-1505
bpoje@yahoo.ca

Betty Boose
250-335-2518
likemoose@shaw.ca

UNION BAY



BOAT RAMP NEWS

**Boat Ramp Fees support maintenance and
Improvements**

\$5 per use \$30 yearly pass
\$75 commercial \$25 Seniors (65 & over)

Yearly permits available at the Union Bay Market, on
line at ubcc.ca or call Rick Weaver at 778-427-3119

PAY THE FEE OR PAY THE TOW TRUCK



#2- 2998 Kilpatrick Avenue
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Phone: 250-334-9394 fax: 250-334-9314
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It's official – we're merging!

As of July 1, 2021, Union Bay Credit Union will amalgamate with First Credit Union. All services and accounts will remain intact for UBCU members, and three of our directors will be joining the new Board. We're excited to be uniting, with a common goal of dedication to our members and communities.

Union Bay Branch

t 250.335.2122 | f 250.335.2131

Lighthouse Branch

t 250.757.8146 | f 250.757.8185

Hornby Island Branch

t 250.335.2326 | f 250.335.2370

Covid Jokes:

It looks like the world may be moving through the worst of this pandemic so hopefully here are the last of the Jokes.

1. The owner of my gym just emailed me a more thorough, detailed, thoughtful plan of dealing with the Corona Virus than President Trump did.
2. My Brother-In-law was 60 on Tuesday. He has just doubled his chances of dying (1.6% (in the 50-59 range) to 3.2% (in the 60-69 range). I am so glad I am only 59.
3. Yes! I am a cleaner and cleaned my whole house this weekend and told my boss I was working from home... she didn't buy it....
4. Toilet paper and hand sanitizer sold out, yet the liquor store is fully stocked. Don't you people realize you will be stuck with your family for an extended period of time.



STORIES OF HOMES IN UNION BAY: Cont.

The Wilson Hotel:



Between Hudson's store and the firehall the Wilson Hotel was built in 1899. The grand two-storey building had 20 rooms upstairs and below housed a spacious parlour, dining room and beautiful walnut bar featuring a curved bar with brass footrail.

After a few years the Wilson family moved and rented the building to John Humphrey. During John's tenure, in 1908, an annex was built next to the south end with a catwalk joining the two buildings. Guests could now walk between the two buildings during a southeaster, without getting wet. The annex, with rooms above, featured one big hall downstairs. The hall downstairs had specially made dance floor where grand parties were held. Mrs. Humphrey, a great cook, presided in the kitchen. She was known for her oyster cocktails!

Later the hall was converted into a general store operated by Dale and Partridge. A butcher shop run by Bill Bowder was built on to the annex between the buildings. In 1910 Mr. Humphrey died of a heart attack. He was dressed in his best clothes was laid out in the parlour. In 1913, the hotel was sold to Alf Horne who successfully ran it until prohibition came into law in 1917. With the bar the mainstay of the hotel, Mr. Horne could see no future, so auctioned off the furnishings, and with the profit bought out Charlie Bishop to become partner of Jack Frazer owning the Nelson Hotel and big store.

The building was boarded up until the Wilson sisters returned to their old home, about the same time that prohibition was lifted in 1921. The hotel was sold to hotelier O. H. Fechner, even before beer parlours were given permission to sell beer. Mr. Fechner was caught unloading a carload of beer but was acquitted because the prosecution failed to prove their case.

Not long after this the hotel mysteriously burned down, taking with it the annex, the butcher shop, medical dispensary, and Hudson's house. It even jumped the Island highway and burned Waddy Wilson's house. The flames were so high, with sparks jumping everywhere, that people living on the Company Hill feared for their homes. It was a spectacular fire during the night of February 18, 1922, which was first spotted by the train crew on the wharf. Engineer Richard Ray sounded the alarm by tooting the engine whistle long and loud. Fireman Louis Magnone dashed off the wharf and across the beach to arouse people. He helped pulled out Mr. Partridge's 1914 Model T truck that was stored in the garage. Some say, as a reward, Louis was given the pick-up which he drove until he died.

It was not long before businesses were rebuilt. Hudson rebuilt their home and store; the Wilson sisters constructed a residence and confectionery on their property. The Wilson family kept ownership of the property, and much later a granddaughter built the big home that is there today.

By Janette Glover-Geidt

"A big thank you" is needed for **Rick Hawkins**. After many years of mowing and trimming the ball field and behind the hall he has decided to retire. He also donated all the gas which was considerable. It took him several days to complete the work on his own. Enjoy your extra time off Rick, you deserve it.



We would like to also thank the many people that have stepped up to help. We now complete the job in a couple of hours.

- Glenn and Anne Carroll do behind the hall.
- TJ Campbell and Rick Weaver mow the ball field and all other grass areas.
- Jen Balcke, Ryan Lymburner, Austin McInnis, Cory Paul and Darcy Rainey share the trimming.

This is quite the turn out to replace our champion volunteer.

Enjoy this article that was in the local newspaper just a 'few' years ago. Do you recognize any of the names?

Swimmers Pass Tests – Union Bay

UNION BAY (Special)—Swimming classes at Sandy Beach concluded after a three-week course led by Janette Geidt and Donna McKay.

Mrs. Jack Hames, Courtenay, examiner for Red Cross Swimming and Water Safety Classes, conducted the tests.

Those who passed were: beginners—David Hamilton, Gordie McLellan, Marianne Williams, Jocelyn Geidt, Sharlene Johnson, Danny McLellan, Jimmy Rawlins and Dale Kennedy. Juniors—Doreen Davis, Raymond Davis, Donald McKay, Ralph McKay, Anne Morris and Jennifer Geidt. Intermediate—Judy Thompson. Senior—Bill Coe.

These Red Cross Swimming and Water Safety Classes are another annual project of Union Bay Recreation Commission.



In 2020, we expanded our Good Food Box (GFB) program as a pandemic response, distributing boxes to over 450 families every other week.

This is a total of 11, 447 boxes delivered in 2020.

Our Good Food Boxes are composed of fresh produce and eggs, sourced as locally as possible, to support our Comox Valley Farmers and Producers and provide the freshest quality. GFBs included Sieffert's cucumbers and tomatoes, Vancouver Island leeks from *Michell's Farm*, pak choi from our friends at *Whitaker Farm*, *Ridgewood Farms* eggs and salad greens courtesy of *Kloverdalen*, *Pattison* and *Sweet Spread Farms*. We also included our usual BC fruits and vegetables. Local, backyard fruit from our Fruit Tree Program will be included in the boxes when the program resumes this summer.

The focus of our GFB program is to serve as many community members as possible who may be dealing with issues of food insecurity, and provide them with consistent access to healthy, fresh and local food. Check out this [Comox Valley Community Foundation video](#) on our program!



The “Down By The Bay” newsletter is available on the web at www.ubcc.ca. Previous issues can also be found there.

Sign up and you can get the “Down By The Bay” emailed to you. Send an email to ub.dbtb@gmail.com with the subject line “sign me up”.

Ideas for new articles are always appreciated. Is there a Union Bay citizen you would like to highlight or a story to be told? Please submit to ub.dbtb@gmail.com.

Advertising and Articles in the Down By The Bay

Submission may be mailed to Box 335, Union Bay, BC V0R 3B0 or emailed to ub.dbtb@gmail.com. The order form with instructions, costs and payment options is on the Community Club’s website (WWW.UBCC.CA). Click on newsletter and then on ‘Advertising in the Newsletter’. Ads must be prepaid. Contact Brenda Dane 250-335-1505 or bpoje@yahoo.ca if you have questions.

Set up	\$10.00 one time charge then
Business card size 3 ½” x 2 ½”	10.00 per issue
¼ page 8” x 2 ½”	20.00 per issue
½ page 8” x 5”	40.00 per issue
Full page 8” x 10”	80.00 per issue

A big thank you to our advertisers!



CURRENT EVENTS

The community hall is the home of several activities and meetings. Hopefully more of these activities etc. will start up later this year.

For more information about renting space, contact Lindee Ziefflie @ rentals@ubcc.ca. Meeting rooms, dining room, kitchen facilities, large auditorium with stage are all available.

We will be keeping the community up to date as we learn of classes, services and meetings starting. If you belong to a club or group, please let us know as soon as possible of your plans so we can add them to this newsletter.

Union Bay
CREDIT UNION

Serving our members, our communities.

UNION BAY CREDIT UNION PROUDLY SUPPORTS YOUR
CALENDAR OF CURRENT EVENTS

- Mortgages & Loans
- e-Transfers
- Online Banking
- e-Statements

Union Bay 250.335.2122 | Lighthouse 250.757.8146 | Hornby Island 250.335.2326 | ubcu.ca



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Daniel Arbour, Director
Comox Valley Regional District
Baynes Sound/Denman/Hornby

*Always willing to answer your questions,
assist with concerns, and support
community initiatives in Area A.*

email: reachme@danielarbour.ca / cell: 250.650.8480
www.danielarbour.ca /  facebook.com/danielarbour.ca

Union Bay Fire Rescue would like to Thank Anonymous Donation

Dear Anonymous Donor,

We received your \$200 and your letter.

Thank you—for your kind letter of encouragement and your very generous donation made on behalf of Union Bay Automotive.

It is not every day that Union Bay Fire Rescue and the Association for Union Bay Fire Rescue receive an anonymous donation and we want to let you know that we deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness.

As we do not know who you are, we wanted to be sure to share your gesture of generosity with the rest of our amazing community.

In case you do not see this, we hope that you will hear from those in our community just how grateful we are.

With gratitude,

Ian Ham
Union Bay Fire Rescue Chief

Alexis Royer
Union Bay Fire Rescue Association, Chair

