



Box 335, Union Bay, BC V0R 3B0

250-335-2500

MAY 2021



Though another Mother's Day is going to come and go without the community being able to acknowledge all the mothers in the Bay but we would like to let you know you are not forgotten.

Everything you do is appreciated!

Social Distancing



UNION BAY



BOAT RAMP NEWS

**Boat Ramp Fees support maintenance and
Improvements**

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\$30 yearly pass

\$75 commercial

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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
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½ page 8” x 5”	40.00 per issue
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A big thank you to our advertisers!

Can we joke about the Corona Virus – of course that is human nature.

Many people learned that ‘sufficient time at home alone’ is not the only thing needed to be able to write a great novel.

Once this is over.....I’m gonna do a reverse quarantine and NOT go home for six weeks.

The most unused household item during the 2020 quarantine – BRAS.

I looked into her eyes, deep into the emerald green, my heart fluttered, I felt a connection, something deep, something magical, I was transported to another place and I thought, blimey these binoculars are brilliant.





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.

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Special General Meeting – save the date!

Saturday, May 15, find out the results of our vote on the proposed merger with First Credit Union. A Special General Meeting to announce the outcome will be held at 2:00 pm; meeting location is dependent on Provincial Health Orders and may take place online. Contact your branch to RSVP.

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



Join Us Online
Learn more about
UBID-CVRD Conversion

Get the latest info on the Union Bay Improvement District Conversion

UBID and the Comox Valley Regional District have been working together to plan for the upcoming conversion of services to the CVRD on July 1, 2021.

Want the latest updates about what to expect? Have questions about the process ahead? Join us for an open house with the project team from UBID and the CVRD.

ONLINE (ZOOM) COMMUNITY UPDATE Tuesday, May 18, 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

- Pre-registration is required. Visit www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/ubid or www.union-bay.ca and click the link to register today.
- Submit your questions in advance to communications@comoxvalleyrd.ca and they'll be addressed during the session.

Questions?


Call: **250-334-6000**

Or learn more online at:

www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/ubid

SUPPORTED BY:





Celebrating co-operative movements in action

Merger vote symbolic of credit unions' democratic process

On Saturday, May 15, Union Bay Credit Union is holding a Special General Meeting to announce the results of our vote to merge with First Credit Union.

Regardless of the outcome, it truly will be a special day because it is symbolic of the democratic structure that is the basis for all co-operatives.

When organizations operate as co-operatives, they work for the best interests of their members and the communities they serve, not third-party investors. Credit unions are financial co-operatives guided by some basic principles, not least of which is being directed by democratic member control. Because when you do business with a credit union, you are more than a customer – you are an owner.

As a member owner, you get to have your say by voting on which other members make up the Board of Directors or other things such as, for instance, a proposed merger with a like-minded co-operative. This democratic process ensures we always operate with our members' objectives and needs in mind.

As independent, autonomous entities, credit unions exist to serve members and support local communities. And we are grateful for all our members' continued support of us! To show our appreciation for everyone who took the time to vote, we are donating \$5 to our local volunteer fire departments for every single ballot cast.

Your votes always count – and in this case, they count just a little bit more.

STORIES OF HOMES IN UNION BAY CONTINUED



Hudson's home and store (next to the Art store).

In 1892 the BC government approved a telegraph line from Nanaimo to Comox. The 65-mile line strung thru' the forest had just a narrow path for the lineman to repair it when storm after storm brought the line down. At the turn of the century Tom Hudson became lineman. In 1901 he built a cottage south of the Wilson Hotel for his wife, Nellie Piket and family: a daughter Gertie and three boys, Tom, Len and Reg. The boys were a great help. They were often called out of school to assist their Dad in repairing the lines. As Mr. Hudson was also lineman for the phone system, he worked putting in the telephone line for Denman and Hornby. The boys and their friends cut down the brush and were paid in candy and pop.

Tom was a larger-than-life kind of man, a great athlete, who used to sweep the board at local contests in high jumping, shot putting, races, and wrestling. He also served for a time as Special-Policeman. He was the first to own a car in Union Bay, a 1908 red Rambler that arrived aboard the City of Nanaimo. Tommy proudly drove it off the ferry and past the school where the kids had been let out of school to see the marvel. Later, he had the dealership for Chevrolets which served the whole district.

In 1922 the Wilson Hotel burned in a spectacular blaze which spread north to the Medical dispensary, south to Hudson's house, and across the highway to Waddy Wilson's home.

Tom rebuilt a lovely home but died soon after in 1924.

In the late 20's Reg moved their house closer to the highway and built a store on the front. Hudson's Grocery and Confectionery was in business for the next 40 years. Reg assisted his mother until she died, then with the help of his wife, Violet Feely, carried on until he contracted tuberculosis and was sent to Tranquille. The store was rented to William and Clara Bowden. Will, a butcher, built a modern butcher shop on the north end, which boasted a large walk-in fridge for the prosperous meat business. Clara ran the general store and confectionery, with a counter and four stools where she served up delicious milk shakes.

After the Bowdens retired in 1950, Desmond Stewart and Fred Peters ran the business for five years until Mr. Hudson's health was restored, then he and his wife Vi were once again behind the counters. After Reg died, Vi closed the store, but remained living in the house at the back until she was over 90 years old. Now owned by their daughter Gloria, the house is rented out.

By Janette Glover-Geidt



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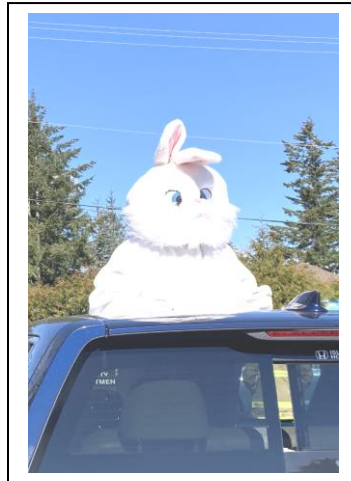
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Comox Valley Regional District
Baynes Sound/Denman/Hornby

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

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The Easter Bunny came to visit Union Bay



Left to Right.

Engine 25

The Easter Bunny
(Good Friend of
Local Barbie
Barkely)

New recruits
Colin Barnes &
Austin McInnis

This year the Easter Bunny's visit needed to be a bit different. The Bunny received an escort from Union Bay Fire Rescue and reported to Fire Chief Ham that everyone thoroughly enjoyed waving to all the Union Bay residence.

Union Bay Improvement District CUPE 556 Donations

Union Bay Improvement District CUPE 556 has made a \$500 donations to Union Bay Fire Rescue and the Union Bay Community Club.

Sonya Jenssen presented the Union Bay Fire Chief, Ian Ham and Union Bay Fire Fighter Association Chair, Alexis Royer with this generous donation. The donation will be targeted towards essential equipment and training.

Fire Chief Ham stated, "We would like to thank CUPE Local 556 (Union Bay Improvement District Staff) for their support. Just one more example of the amazing work that the Union Bay Improvement District employees do to give back to their community."



Pictured here left to right:

Union Bay Fire Fighter Association
Chair- **Alexis Royer**,

CUPE 556 (Union Bay Improvement
District Staff)- **Sonya Jenssen**,

Union Bay Fire Rescue Fire Chief- **Ian Ham**



Directors **Treasure Ducharme**
(center) and **Leanne Baird**
(right) accept a donation of
\$500 to the Union Bay
Community Club
from the Canadian Union Public
Employees Local 556
represented by **Sonia Jenssen**.

Thank you!

BEAUFORT WATERSHED STEWARDS (BWS)

It is fun to make new friends. They offer new perspectives and provide new information. They also present challenges and opportunity. Of course, new friends do not replace old friends. We at Beaufort Watershed Stewards (BWS) have no plans to abandon our old friends, Wilfred, Cowie, Mud Bay, Hart, and Waterloo but we are very excited to get to know some new friends: Trent, Spence, Hindoo, Emily, Tsable, and Apple-Cherry.

Last year, we made the decision purchase an additional set of sampling equipment to outfit a “northern pod” of volunteers. There were many things driving the decision. First and foremost is that no one else is doing it and it needs to be done. The hydrology of our region is complicated, and no single watershed gives all the answers; all the watersheds have something to tell us.

So, who are these new friends, these new creeks? Let me introduce you.

You may be familiar with the first one, the Trent, which has been rolling along for a long time, carving its way through an ancient sea floor, the 80-million-year-old Haslam Formation, exposing Elasmosaurus bones and other fossils on its journey through time. Access to the Trent is already well established and the paths are nicely worn. The hardest part, at least in the warmer months, will be getting far enough upstream of sunbathers and nature splashers to get a clean sample.

Spence, on the other hand, does not cross the upper highway and is not as accessible to the general public. Its waters rise in a large shallow depression between the Trent and Hart Creek and its drainage is fully contained below the upper highway. We have chosen a sampling site just off the old rail bed where it gathers itself into a huge, green bowl of conifers and sword ferns, a shady gem. Its volume is low right now and it may fade away in the dryness of summer. Or, like little Mud Bay Creek, it may prove to have deeper sources and shine all summer. Therefore, we get to know these various bits of hydrology that others call streams.

As we clamber about on our newly cleared trails, some of us are more interested in the rocks than the water. Hindoo, for example, appears to run along a clear fault line. The geology nerds among us are already planning an expedition to the upper reaches to see what this fault looks like. And why does Hindoo have such a large culvert, far bigger than what we would expect? And why is there such a beefy web of steel girders erected just upstream from the culvert? It is as if the highway engineers were anticipating giant masses of flotsam rushing downstream during the winter storms. But why Hindoo and not the others?

Emily does not have this kind of engineered structure which hints at dramatic mood swings. Instead, she seems to be a sweet little stream that apparently has some human friends on Mystery Beach Road. A carved wooden sign makes Emily easy to locate and a handmade wooden bench allows for quiet contemplation of the beauty of nature and Emily in particular. But our sampling site for Emily is above the upper highway and in that setting she loses a bit of her charm. She becomes just another stream going through just another culvert. But we have no doubt there is more to learn about Emily.

The Tsable is a real challenge. It is one of the largest of our local watersheds and arguably one of the more important. But it is not easy to get there from the upper highway. Right now, we might be comfortable scrambling down its steeply cut banks, but for how long? In the winter rains, when the ground turns to slippery mud, we will not be comfortable asking our volunteers to take the risk. Yes, we have insurance, but our goal is to never have to use it. We are determined to find a solution - and we will - but there's no rush. Spring is a good time for further explorations.

Our final new stream is one that folks in Fanny Bay cross often though they might not know it. Apple-Cherry is its current name though at one time it was simply called Cherry Creek. It is easy to miss - there is no bridge. It runs down the hill just south of the Fanny Bay Trading Post and empties directly into the band of wetland between the road and the bay.

Cont'd..

Now that the introductions are complete, we can begin to ask questions of our new friends. What animals might we see in their environs? What birds? Are they home to fish? What kind, how many? What mushrooms will pop up on them to mark the seasons? But most importantly, what insights will they provide for understanding our aquifers and our hydrology?

Time will tell.

(You too can get to know our new friends. Contact us to volunteer at info@beaufortwater.org or call Mike at 250.702.5900)





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