

The FANNY BAY Flyer

A Complete Link To Your Community Services

Monthly distribution to 689 Fanny Bay homes - Mystery Beach to Mud Bay
Fanny Bay Community Association Registered Charitable Organization April - May 2024

BAYNES SOUND GARDEN CLUB

invites you to our 2024

"Spring in Fanny Bay" Plant Sale

Saturday, May 11, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Fanny Bay Community Hall
7793 Island Highway South, Fanny Bay, BC

~ FREE ADMISSION ~

Locally grown perennials, annuals, shrubs,
veggie starts, and more!

After the sale, remaining
plants will be sold at a
location on Bates Drive
May 12-19 or until all are
gone. Watch for signs!

Master Gardeners on site to
answer your gardening questions!

**CASH, CREDIT, or DEBIT
ACCEPTED**



FROM AUTHOR SHANON SINN'S BOOK
The Haunting of Vancouver Island: Supernatural Encounters with The Other Side. Coal barons and Castles – Greater Victoria region.

“Vancouver Island has two castles. Both were built by the Dunsmuir family and are said to be haunted. There have been many stories involving Craigdarroch Castle over the years, though the Historical Society has not been as public about these as Hatley Castle’s caretakers have. Still, people have made claims to writers and to online sources as well.”

Meanwhile, back in Fanny Bay there is no doubt that Spring has arrived. The days are getting longer; the daffodils are blooming along with the crocuses, snowdrops and wow, the explosion of pink blossoms of the cherry trees. Robins are “Bob, Bob, Robbin’ Along” and the swallows, blackbirds and hummingbirds are everywhere. All this is a sure sign that the winter months are behind us, and we can start getting ready for warmer, sunnier days.

As we look ahead, we also want to remind everyone of our upcoming **Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday May 16th, 2024**. At present, we have several volunteer and Board positions waiting to be filled. It's crucial that we find dedicated individuals to step into these roles, as the future of the FBCA hinges on our collective support. Without active Board members and volunteers, we risk facing dissolution and being unable to continue providing the events and programs that enrich our community. We urge you to consider getting involved and supporting the FBCA in any way you can.

Our final concert of the season will feature Sophie Lukacs, a nominee for the 2024 Canadian Folk Music Awards for her outstanding debut album. We are incredibly fortunate to have

such talented artists right here in our community. Our sincere gratitude goes to Bill and Alaine French for their hard work in curating an exceptional lineup for our concert series. We can't wait to see what they have in store for the next series.

Unfortunately, the Fat Oyster Reading Series has had to cancel their April event, but fear not, as they will be hosting a children's event in October. Stay tuned for more details. Speaking of children's events, we want to extend a huge thank you to Dominique Hrytsay, our dedicated family liaison, for her tireless efforts in organizing engaging kids' programs and special events. The recent Easter event was a resounding success, thanks to Dominique and her team of volunteers.

We are pleased to hear of the success of the OAP's "Go Fund Me" campaign. Thanks to their determination and the generosity of our community, they have reached their target goal. Let's continue to support them and hope for a positive outcome for OAP #127.

Lastly, we're delighted to share that the flooring committee is making significant progress, and it looks like we'll have our new floor installed before the fall. This has been a long-awaited improvement, and we're excited about the prospect of having a fresh new surface in the main hall.

We look forward to seeing you all at our AGM on May 16th. Together, let's continue to nurture and strengthen our community.

Board Buzz

by Tammy Mercer-Gervais
 FBCA President
 president@fannybaycommunity.com



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 MID ISLAND — PACIFIC RIM

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FANNY BAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Thursday, 16 May 2024 5:30 pm
in the Fanny Bay Community Hall**

We respectfully acknowledge that the land we gather on is on the traditional unceded territory of the K'omoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

TO ALL FANNY BAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (FBCA) MEMBERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of a FBCA board resolution duly passed at a Board meeting on March 21, 2024, to be presented to the membership for consideration at the 2024 annual general meeting to be held May 16, 2024 at 5:30 pm at the Fanny Bay Community Hall.

Rationale: Audits are not a requirement under the BC Societies Act, yet our current Bylaws require them. The Board feels it is time to rescind this costly requirement.

Since the Constitution and Bylaws are the official governing documents of the FBCA, amendments to them must be approved via special resolution at the Annual General Meeting. The Board is therefore requesting the membership vote on the following:

SPECIAL RESOLUTION: REMOVAL OF BYLAW PART 9 – AUDITOR, and ADDITION OF WORDING RELATED TO REVIEWS OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

WHEREAS the FBCA Board recommends that the resolution below be passed as a special resolution at the 2024 Annual General Meeting,

BE IT RESOLVED AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION that Bylaw Part 9 – Auditor be removed in its entirety, and replaced with a new bylaw inserted under Part 8 – Finances and Signing Authority, to read:

At the discretion of a simple majority of Directors, the Board may be requested to engage an accountant to complete either a Compilation, Review, or Audit of the Association's financial records. The results of such an engagement must be reported to the full Board and to the membership at the next AGM.

Per Bylaw 3.2.1, if the Board receives a written request signed by 10% of the members of the Association requesting the Board engage an accountant to complete either a Compilation, Review, or Audit of the Association's financial records, the Board must comply by holding a general meeting to address the issue, and take all relevant steps set out by the members at that meeting.

Be it further resolved that references to audits in Bylaws 1.1 "annual general meeting", 3.1.3, and 8.3b be removed, and that "or appointing auditors" be added at the end of the definition of "special resolution" in Bylaw 1.1.



NOTE: Persons considering standing for election to the FBCA Board of Directors can download the Expression of Interest form from our website, along with other documents related to this important volunteer commitment. Forms must be received in writing by 25 April 2024.

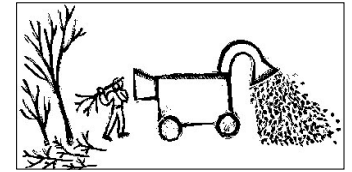
SPID ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The AGM will be held on **Thursday April 25, 2024 at 7:00 pm** at the Fanny Bay Community Hall. Doors will open at 6:30 pm for voter registration. If you are a Ships Point resident looking for an opportunity to become more involved in your community, please consider volunteering as a trustee. No experience is required, and the Board is a friendly and supportive group. In the words of one of our current trustees, "As an improvement district, we have control over our own water and fire departments and the budgets for both. I'm proud to be a part of managing that." Nomination forms are available at the SPID office on Vivian Way and on the website at SPID.ca under General Info, Board of Trustees. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the AGM.

WATER MAIN FLUSHING: From **May 16 - 17th** you may notice our Water Operator flushing the main water lines and fire hydrants. Water main flushing is performed regularly to ensure continued safe, clean drinking water. The line flushing may cause some cloudiness in the water. With this in mind, you may consider doing laundry at another time. If cloudiness occurs, please run the outside tap nearest to the road until it clears.

BURN PERMITS REQUIRED: Effective **April 15th**, permits are required for yard waste burning AND for campfires in non-approved commercial and homemade fire pits. To obtain a burning permit, download and complete a form and take it to a member of the SPID Fire Department for approval and signature. Before burning, please ensure the Venting Index is rated GOOD. Forms and Venting Index information are available on the SPID website at SPID.ca. Please note that beach fires are NOT allowed anywhere or at anytime on Ships Point.

SPVFA CHIPPING EVENT: The Ships Point Volunteer Firefighters Association Spring chipping event will be held over the weekend of **May 4th**. Registration is not required. Collect your fallen branches to be chipped at the roadside: - Clean brush only, branches 1/2 inch to 4 inches in diameter, no smaller or larger, foliage does not need to be removed -



NO BLACKBERRIES, NO RAKED MATERIAL (to avoid stones injuring crews or damaging machinery). Stack material parallel to the street, butt ends facing the same direction. **PLEASE NOTE:** This program is run by community volunteers and is not meant to replace commercial large-scale chipping required when large trees are cut down. Please hire a commercial chipper for whole tree limb chipping.

All chips will be hauled away. Please contact Bill Trussler at **403-880-5619** if you are in doubt about the amount of chipping you wish to have done. Residents CANNOT help at the roadside. Donations are appreciated and can be made at any time leading up to the event. E transfer is available as a payment method to spvfirefightersassociation@gmail.com. All money received by the Ships Point Volunteer Firefighters Association is used to replace outdated equipment, provide training for fire fighters and first responders, and for emergency preparedness.



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20 year's experience



**Sunday,
May 5, 2024**

10 am – 3 pm



**A CELEBRATION
OF SALMON &
THEIR
ECOSYSTEMS**

The
**River Never Sleeps
Festival**

Join us at

Rosewall Creek Hatchery

8425 Berray Road, Fanny Bay, BC
(off Hwy. 19A, 1.8 km north of Cook Creek Rd.)

For our

**Family & Community Day
FREE Admission**

*Release of
young salmon*

*Family friendly
concession*

*Fish
Painting*

*Ice Cream
Truck*

*Music by
Ryder Bachman*

*& a whole
lot more!*

Also Attending:

Creepy Crawly Creatures
Native Bee Society of BC
Streamside Native Plants
Oyster River Enhancement Soc.

Nanaimo Area Land Trust.
Goldstream Salmon Enhancement Soc.
Departure Creek Streamkeepers
Peninsula Streams

Thornton Creek Hatchery
Pacific Streamkeeper Fed.
MARS Wildlife Rescue Centre
Ladysmith Streamkeepers

Thanks to our Sponsors:

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Mosaic Forest Mgmt.
Mac's Oysters

Thrifty Foods
Pacific Salmon Foundation

HELP SAVE OUR HALL GOFUNDME CAMPAIGN

has been running for just a little over a month now and we have reached our goal PLUS! This response is beyond our wildest dreams!! The Fanny Bay community never ceases to amaze me for its generosity, support, kindness, and unity. We have had donations from all over the Comox Valley as well, large, and small. To follow this GoFundMe go to Fanny Bay Bulletin Board on Facebook and in the upper right corner of the page click on OAP and you will find the link. They provide a current total of dollars donated.



This donated money will go a long way to prove to the CVRD that a significant percentage of the local population believes that keeping the OAP Hall is very important to the community. The next step is to convince the CVRD to purchase the property at 418 Ships Point Road and keep it accessible to our citizens for future generations. For those who are unaware of the circumstances, this land was donated to the community/church in the '50's by the Litte Family. When interest in the church dwindled, the OAP leased the property from the Anglican Church for their activities. This group of volunteers have worked continuously since the '70's to raise money for upkeep and improvements to the hall and property with absolutely no support from the Anglican Church. The reward for being caretakers for half a century has been a steady increase in rent and now the threat of eviction. We are passionate about keeping this from happening and are forever grateful for your financial support and encouragement to meet this end. Please help us keep pressure on the CVRD to keep this vital resource for seniors secure and available in this rural community!

Check out the Fanny Bay Facebook Bulletin Board for OAP updates! Many of you are following and your comments are a joy to read! Thank You! We now have our own Facebook page called 'Fanny Bay Seniors OAP#127'. To keep the fund growing you can also e-transfer directly into the First Credit Union in Union Bay by using the email address: fannybayoap@shaw.ca.

OAP REPORT

We wish to send out a special thank you to the Baynes Sound Lions who pledged the money collected from their February and March Meat Draws at the FBI to the GoFundMe campaign. Cliff Helps and Jackie Miller presented us with a cheque for \$3,140 on Wednesday! Thank you, Lions! Thanks to the FBI and their patrons as well for their generosity toward our GoFundMe.



Believe it or not, we continue to plan events so therefore have a full calendar for the month of April. The FB Community Association yard and **grounds cleanup is April 13th from 9 to noon** and we will be supplying **free** hot coffee and hotdogs for lunch to all the hungry volunteers who turn out with gloves, rakes, wheelbarrows, weed whackers and energy. Be there by 9am and you will be given a job!

Our membership is going to The Bamboo Inn Restaurant for **dinner out April 16th @ 5:30pm**. We went there last year and had a wonderful all-you-can-eat buffet. Let Joan Payne know if you want to attend. Joan is also our Membership Coordinator so if you're curious about the Fanny Bay Senior Society and think you'd like to join, please contact Joan at 250-335-3389.

Our own yard is full of branches, cones, needles, and weeds so on **Saturday, April 27th** we have set aside for our own clean-up work party. It's open to everyone who has a couple of hours to spare. Hotdogs and beverages will be served for lunch to all the hard-working volunteers who turn out. It's always a fun get together and if we are still permitted to burn branches by then, there will be a bonfire.

Birthday greetings for April go out to Marg Anderson, Jean Challand, Louise Bradshaw, Lee Hardy, Roland Semjanovs, Erna Smith, Ron Vermeulen and Gerald Wiens. May birthdays will be celebrated by Aileen Beasley who will be 90 this year, Dianne Curnow, Gary Hargreaves, Joan Johnsen, Gayle Livingstone, and Ann Mansbridge.

We wish everyone out there with April and May birthdays, a very happy birthday as well!



by Fran Mills

VANCOUVER *Island* HOMES

Living it... Loving it... Selling it...

Market Update

UNION BAY/FANNY BAY



CURRENT LISTING



SOLD LAST 90 DAYS



AVERAGE SALE PRICE



AVERAGE DAYS ON MARKET

March Average Sales Price For Union Bay/Fanny Bay Has Gone Up By \$103,400 From Last Month And 16 Average Days On Market

Spring Is Here!! This publication will be going to press just before the next Bank of Canada Rate Announcement, with many predicting we will see a decrease in interest rates in June. On a local level, we have seen an increase in buyer activity over the last couple of weeks. Last month, VIREB (Vancouver Island Real Estate Board) recorded 655 unit sales board-wide (all property types). In the single-family category (not acreage or waterfront), 291 homes were sold in March, down 22 percent from one year ago and up 15 percent from February 2024 March, an increase of 9 percent from one year ago and up 39 percent from February. The number of active listings of single-family homes was 1,084 in March, up from 963 the previous year. The Comox Valley's year-over-year benchmark price rose by 10 percent to \$856,300

As a Home Seller the main goals are to Sell Fast and for the Best Price! As we wanted to list our property with a very short turnaround time, Edie worked extremely hard to make this happen, and we realized that working with the best in the industry was very much worth it. We highly recommend Edie to anyone as she knows the area and focuses and works in the best interest of her clients.....Bastian Weitzel



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EVERY YEAR THAT GOES BY

brings back memories, and sets standards for the next, which is relevant philosophy for folks like us at Fanny Bay Salmonid Enhancement Society, believe it or not.

We have been doing our open house event for a while now - since 2008, with a couple of missing years for that COVID inconvenience. And each year we've tried to make it better. This year, there will be more booths and seeing how we fit them in will be part of the excitement. There will be more and better stuff that you loved last year - like ice cream cones, French fries, oysters and popcorn.

Our beloved smolt release routine will be back, renewing everyone's favourite memory of carrying a shiny Coho smolt down to Rosewall Creek sending it on its way to the Pacific Ocean.



Ron Mielke at Mud Bay Creek smolt collection box.

Our open house, The River Never Sleeps will be **Sunday, May 5th** this year, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. with *free admission* you can enjoy all the goodies and thrills we have to offer. FBSES and RNS will be where it's always been, 8425 Berray Road in Fanny Bay, with lots of roadside parking and at the lot at Natural Glacial Waters plant. Lovely surroundings, live music, fish, and friends. Drop in, meet us, and have a nice day on the hatchery site with family and friends. You want to be there.

We have been busy with other things too. Thousands (about 60,000) of little Chum fry are now released and even more thousands of Coho alevins (freshly hatched eggs) are now growing in our tanks, becoming real fish after leaving their incubation trays. Water problems are predictable this year, and we already know what we're going to do to keep our fish happy and wet, if it happens.

The eggs at Beachcombers Academy in Fanny Bay that we told you about last month came back to be released as fry. Their kindergarten to grade four class did a tour of the hatchery and charmed us all. Also the season for the wild fish of our area to take themselves into the estuaries and then the saltchuck,

which means it is smolt box season. They are the overnight stopping places for stream life that gets collected for identification and counting and they are on Chef, Mud Bay, and Wilfred creeks

this year, with Cook Creek's population being collected in traps before being released. The counts we produce annually show the productivity of our area as a salmon and trout nursery, as well as the kind of fluctuations that nature create - those water flows again. As always, if you'd like to be part of what we do, we welcome you every Wednesday and Saturday morning at the hatchery site.



A tender goodbye to a school-raised fish.

by Dave Sands



Ducks Unlimited Canada
Conserving Canada's Wetlands

Ducks Unlimited Fanny Bay Community Appreciation Day

As a thank you to the community for taking care of the Fanny Bay Wetlands, let us treat you to coffee and refreshments

Saturday, June 8 from 11-1

Our Ducks Unlimited kiosk will be located at the end of Tozer Road next to the entrance to the Fanny Bay Wetlands.

We will be there rain or shine!

Please keep in mind that rent bank services are available **province-wide**. For residents outside of the CVRD - information can be found at www.bcrentbank.ca

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The Comox Valley Rent Bank is a service that provides financial assistance to qualifying community members who are struggling to pay their rent and are at risk of becoming homeless. **Individuals and families who are experiencing housing instability due to a temporary financial setback, can apply for an interest-free loan to pay rent, essential utilities, or a deposit to help secure new housing.** Rent banks can also help facilitate access to supports such as financial literacy, debt/credit counselling, landlord-tenant mediation, vocational supports, legal advocacy, and other services that contribute to financial and housing stability.

If you or someone you know is facing temporary housing instability please do not hesitate to reach out!

The Comox Valley Rent Bank would not be possible without the support from local organizations and businesses. Our rent bank is supported by BC Rent Bank, a project of Vancity Community Foundation funded by the Province of BC.

AT LONG LAST, SPRING HAS FINALLY SPRUNG!

Birds are making nests, bees and other pollinators are busy at the flowers, and most of our members have been complaining of aching bodies and long hours in the garden tidying up the ravages of winter and prepping the veggie beds for planting early season crops. Guess that's not only a sign of upcoming warmer weather but also an indication of the age and enthusiasm of our population. I try to remember the advice of a good friend who said she found it much easier to break down gardening chores into no longer than a half hour at a time. Alas, I still tend to procrastinate and then panic at the amount of work to be done. Like eating the proverbial elephant, I guess it's meant to be one bite (or shovel full) at a time.



At the April meeting of the BSGC we were treated to an interesting and diverse presentation by Al Chomica entitled "Going Nuts in Nanoose". No, it wasn't about how to grow nut trees but, amongst other things, Al talked about various nut

The Garden of Eden

I have lived there, in the Garden of Eden.

I have called all the animals by name.

I have digested the beauty of the morning light,
the quiet colors at the closing of the day,
and the spectrum of the rainbow after the storm.

I have walked along the shores of the sea of life
and found them to be at peace with my soul.

I have walked through the forests of age,
and absorbed their knowledge and wisdom.

I have walked with beauty and in beauty,
while listening to a song divine.

I have felt the love of the Self for the self.

I am content.

Lawrence J.W. Cooper

Comox Valley Poet Laureate 2019-2021

BAYNES SOUND GARDEN CLUB

varieties and recipes and his experience growing an abundant food forest at his property in Nanoose. I think he inspired us to be creative in what we grow for consumption and to not be afraid to experiment.

The speakers for our May 2nd meeting will be avid gardeners Roland and Diane Volrich, who will share their expert advice on growing roses. June 6th will see Margo Moser discussing ferns. We are also hoping to soon be able to have a tour of Streamside Native Plants, date to yet be confirmed.

Don't forget that the Garden Club annual plant sale is coming up on **May 11th** at the Fanny Bay Hall, with a wide variety of plants donated by our members, as well as a number of other vendors. Look for our posters for this event for more information.

Guests are welcome at our monthly Thursday night meetings, held at the OAP Hall, 418 Ships Point Road, 7:00 p.m., so feel free to come out to see what we're all about. We can also be reached by e-mail at

bsgardenclub@gmail.com.

Marion Woloschuk

BSGC President



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LIVE MUSIC AT THE FANNY BAY HALL

Tom and Kalissa Landa with Steve Mitchell gave us a superb concert last month. It was an entertaining and audience engaging evening. As several people described it as the best concert ever presented here, we are happily adding it to our list of 'Best Concert Ever!'

Our next concert on Friday April 19 at 7:00 pm showcases Sophie Lukacs. Sophie's album 'Bamako' is nominated for Global Roots Album of the year at the 2024 Candain Folk Music Awards, and we shall hear the results in a few days of writing this article. We wish her our congratulations and good luck for this honour.

Drawing inspiration from her studies in

classical violin and her roots

in Hungarian folk music, singer-song writer

Sophie entralls her audiences with her poetic lyrics, ethereal vocals, and the resonant sound of the kora, a 21 stringed harp-lute from the African nation of Mali. She spent 7 years there perfecting her mastery of this instrument. Sophie sings in all the languages that she speaks: English, French, Hungarian and Bambara. A bass guitar player will accompany her. This concert will be a hidden gem.



Many of our performers have commented on the quality of the acoustics in the hall. Classical and Baroque musicians who have performed at the Fanny Bay Hall have said they would like to record here. The room dimensions are similar to ballrooms where this music has been played for over two centuries. The acoustics are perfect (thanks Ron), and it is an ideal venue to highlight Sophie Lukacs' musical mastery and to appreciate the time she has put into crafting her music. You can preview Sophie's music at sophilukacs.com. This concert will be the last one of this season. Thank you for supporting live music in Fanny Bay.

by Bill and Elaine French
Concert Coordinators



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YOUR LIGHTHOUSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PHARMACY

Baynes
Sound
Lions
Meat Draws
at the
FBI
on
Saturdays
4:30pm - 7pm

THE BENEFITS OF RETAINING MATURE TREES

Summer is approaching and in our 'new normal' that brings worries about drought and wildfire risk. The role of trees in climate change mitigation and fire risk can seem at odds. In 2018 the FBCA, Baynes Sound Garden Club, and Beaufort Watershed Stewards sponsored a town hall with a Certified Arborist, a Hydrogeologist, and a Registered Professional Technologist. They reviewed the scientific evidence that underscores the value of mature trees in the landscape. Six years later this information is just as relevant.

This article reviews the arborist information with additional notes added by Verna Mumby, of Mumby's Arboriculture Consulting. She highlights four key points regarding the retention of mature trees in the landscape: the overall benefits of trees, valuation of trees, how trees work together and retaining large trees.



A key benefit of mature trees is that they capture and store carbon. For example, in one year an average tree inhales 26 pounds of carbon dioxide - as much as a car emits in an 11,000-mile trip! Trees purify the air by removing pollutants such as carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. A mature tree can produce as much oxygen in one season as ten people inhale in one year. Mature trees also provide storm

water benefits by intercepting rainwater, mitigate flooding and replenishing groundwater. Shade and cooler ambient temperature helps retain water in groundcover and surface soil.

The monetary value of large trees may not be considered by homeowners. You may be surprised to know that large trees on your property can add from 3 to 15% to the value of your home. For homeowners with trees, summer energy costs can be up to 14% less, thanks to the shade that large trees provide.

The interdependence of trees is a more recent discovery. Trees work together in groups as they support and protect one another. These processes also enable trees to secure and protect the foreshore making them critical for maintaining waterfront embankments. This is why the Comox Valley Regional District bylaw restricts tree work withing 30 meters of high tide or a stream. Studies have shown that the roots of veteran trees can use from 40 to 60% of photosynthetic by-products to exude nutrients into the soil thus enriching the environment for undergrowth and future trees. This synergy is a hallmark of healthy ecosystems, including healthy home properties. "Limbing up" or the removal of the lowest branches on mature trees, especially cedars, will cause the roots to dry out faster as will removal of the natural debris (duff) from around the base of your trees. With climate change, mature trees are struggling during droughts and these actions are detrimental to their survival.

Wildfire prevention programs offer advice concerning wild

fires in the wildland urban interface, often the removal of trees and duff. BALANCE is needed when considering the benefits and risks in an ecosystem. How much will removal of debris from a yard negatively impact the large trees? How much shrubbery and ground cover can be removed without killing trees? Each property is unique, and optimal ecological solutions will vary.

How will your actions affect the local ecology and the mature trees; one of the best ways to fight climate change?

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Daniel Arbour

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Tel: 250-650-8480
reachme@danielarbour.ca

Comox Valley REGIONAL DISTRICT
comoxvalleyrd.ca

Beachcombers Education Society

is pleased to announce that it has been awarded nearly \$2,025,000 from the ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund to expand the Little Oysters Child Care. The fund is jointly supported by provincial investments and federal funding provided under the 2021-2022 to 2025-2026 Canada-British Columbia Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement. The non-profit, which operates Beachcombers Academy and Little Oysters Childcare will be more than tripling its child care capacity, adding 36 spots for a total capacity of 52 child care spots, as well as adding capacity for 16 group multi-age care spots.

"We are thrilled," says Little Oysters Child Care Manager Kathy Fredrickson. "In recent years, we have had parents in tears when there was not a spot available for their child. We operate a nature-inspired enriched pre-kindergarten program that is very popular. We are operating at capacity again this year."



Wonderfully engaged students in the Little Oysters classroom.

Beachcombers Academy and Little Oysters Child Care was started in 2010 by educators and Fanny Bay families, following the closure of the Union Bay school, in order to provide a local school in Fanny Bay and an enriched program option for Comox Valley families. They offer a nature-inspired academic program that meets and exceeds the BC curriculum.

The school has received multiple commendations from Ministry of Education inspectors. "One of our inspectors sat on the Provincial committee for the new BC Curriculum that was implemented in 2015; he used Beachcombers as a model of what was possible in primary education. We are immensely proud of the quality program that we provide," said Zoe Lambert, Beachcombers Education Society President.

The BC government, with support from the federal government, has put a focus on improving access to affordable child care in the Province through increasing child care spaces using the New Spaces Fund and reducing fees to parents through the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI). "As a facility participating in the CCFRI, we have been able to reduce fees to parents by 30% in the past two years. This has been a huge help to parents. We are already seeing a real benefit to children and families as a result of this government initiative," said Lambert.

The Little Oysters Child Care expansion is in early stages, with most of the work planned to be completed September 2025. "This is an ambitious project, and while it sounds like a sizable budget, we are doing a lot within a tight budget," says Lambert. Beachcombers Education Society also contributing an additional \$225,000 to the project which is a stipulation of the funding. "It will be a beautiful space for children, with ocean views in our lovely location. We are excited!"

"This expanded child care space is a much-needed support for families in the Comox Valley and North Qualicum communities," said Mitzi Dean, Provincial Minister of State for Child Care. "With reliable child care, working families can feel secure, while also strengthening the local economy. It's a win for families and the whole community."

"The opportunity for Little Oysters Child Care to expand their facility is a victory in so many ways. These new spaces will make a significant difference for families in the community and provide an enriching environment for their children to play, learn, and grow," said Jenna Sudds, Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development. "Today's announcement is an excellent example of our united effort to provide access to high-quality and inclusive regulated child care while also providing parents with significant savings."

The Little Oysters Child Care is now accepting registration. "We have only a couple of the current child care spaces available for the 2024-2025 school year, but we will be wait-listing students, and will be able to accommodate more families when the expansion is completed. We encourage interested families to register early," says Fredrickson. For more information about the Little Oysters Child Care see their website at [BeachcombersSchool.ca](https://www.beachcombersschool.ca).

The children were interested in volcanoes, so we built one! We talked about who volcanoes build islands like our own. The volcano explosion was epic.



JOIN THE FBCA TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS

The Fanny Bay Hall is the heart of our community. It's the place where we gather with family, friends and neighbours to play sports, listen to music, walk the dog, exercise, meet, eat and welcome new folks to the area. In the past year, several long-time volunteers have stepped away, having served our community admirably. It's a familiar happening in the long history of volunteerism at the hall.

Board of Directors positions needed as of May AGM:

Vice-President

Treasurer (this position requires knowledge of/experience with financial statements and spreadsheets)

Two to four directors

Options for director portfolios are in the list below:

The tasks are many to keep our hall not only open but thriving. We thank the community members who have stepped forward to volunteer their time and taken on tasks on our list. This month there are new opportunities along with some roles that still need to be filled. We need you! Some of the tasks involve several hours a month, some involve several minutes a month. If you see something in the list below that speaks to you, please speak to us! Call or email Alaine French at 250-335-3379 or concerts@fannybaycommunity.com.



For SUPPORT ROLES and TASKS - needed immediately

Assistant to Rental Agent	-assist with rentals inquiries and rental procedures -training provided
Audio-Visual Technicians	-no experience necessary, training provided; work with AV team at concert events and special presentations
Events Coordinator	-recruit Event Organizers for specific events; liaise with Event Organizers and board; may involve writing articles for the Flyer about events and the need for volunteers for events
Removing snow from sidewalks to hall entrances Salting sidewalks from parking lot to hall entrances	-could be part of grounds or building monitor task, but not necessarily. Hopefully the snow is a rare occurrence.
Event volunteer worker bees	Assist with event set up and take down(chairs and tables) and parking, grounds cleanup, weeding- Usually 2 hour shifts.
Summer Market 2024	Volunteer(s) to organize the summer market for 2024. The previous organizers have a marvellous binder with all the info required for a successful market.

Mark Your Calendars

FANNY BAY WATERWORKS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY April 18th 7PM

Fanny Bay Firehall

7512 Cougar Smith Rd.

**Agenda to include
Financial Statements and
Auditor's Report for 2023
Budget for 2024**

ALL FANNY BAY WATERWORKS CUSTOMERS WELCOME

DEADLINES & PUBLISHING DATES FOR 2024 FANNY BAY FLYER CONTRIBUTORS AND ADVERTISERS

ISSUE	DEADLINE	PUBLISHES
February (March)	Wed Feb 7th	Thurs Feb 15th
March (April)	Fri March 8th	Friday March 15th
April (May)	Monday Apr 8th	Monday Apr 15th
May (June)	Wed May 8th	Wed May 15th
June (July)	Fri/Sat June 7/8th	Fri/Sat June 14/17th
July (August)	Mon July 8th	Mon July 15th
August (Sept)	Thurs Aug 8th	Thurs Aug 15th
September (Oct)	Sat/Sun Sept 7/8th	Sat/Sun Sept 16th
October (Nov)	Tues Oct 8th	Tues Oct 15th
November (Dec)	Thurs Nov 7th	Friday Nov 15th
December (Jann 2025)	Sat/Sun Dec 7/8th	Sat/Sun Dec 13/16th

HELLO, LOVELY FAMILIES OF FANNY BAY!

Can you believe it? Spring has finally sprung, and the world around us is bursting with new life and vibrant colours. We're thrilled to embrace the warmer weather and start using our outdoor space for exciting kids' activities!

Just a friendly reminder that our Kids Drop-In Nights with the all-new Kid Kanteen continue to be a highlight every **1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month**. Entry is a wallet-friendly \$2, and treats from the Kid Kanteen are available for just pocket change. Craft Night on the first Wednesday offers a variety of fun and all-ages crafts, while Game Night on the third Wednesday brings board games and gym activities. Our April craft night featured adorable paper flowers in paper pots and treat feeders for the birds! Please note, there will be no Kids Drop-In on Wednesday, April 17th. Keep an eye on Facebook for other exciting events!

Did you have the chance to hop on over to our Easter Egg Hunt at the hall? It was an absolute blast! On Saturday, March 30th, we were thrilled to welcome over 130 eager attendees to the Fanny Bay Hall, all ready to embark on the egg-citing adventure of searching for over 400 hidden eggs scattered throughout the grounds. Joy and excitement were in the air as children and families hunted high and low, discovering colourful treasures everywhere. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for bringing your enthusiasm and

beaming smiles to our event! And let's not forget our \$1 BBQ – it was sizzling with delicious treats and great conversation, adding an extra layer of fun to the festivities!

Speaking of Easter, it was a delight to share the tradition of Ukrainian Easter Egg decorating with over 100 participants this year! Using real eggs, beeswax, traditional tools, and dyes, each attendee had the opportunity to craft their own exquisite egg masterpiece to cherish at home. I've loved teaching this art form for many years, and it brings me so much joy to witness the creativity and enthusiasm of our community members. In fact, after a bit of quick math, I realized I've witnessed the transformation of over 1,600 humble eggs into stunning works of art!

A heartfelt thank you to a very generous family for their \$500 donation to Kids Events at the Hall. Your kindness and support will help us create countless memorable experiences for children in our community. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Unfortunately, the Rummage Sale mentioned last month will be postponed to a later date. On the bright side, this gives us more time to gather items for sale! (Cont'd on page 17)



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Patricia **Seeds Food Market, Cumberland**



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BEAUFORT WATERSHED STEWARDS (BWS)

It's officially spring, buds are bursting forth, new growth is expanding, and everything is turning green. In the spirit of spring, BWS is expanding as well. Not satisfied with sampling just thirteen creeks, we are bursting forth into Bowser.

The last time we expanded, we created two separate sampling teams, which we christened the North Pod (Buckley Bay to Royston) and the South Pod (Buckley Bay to Mud Bay). But our new Bowser creeks will be to the south of our South Pod. What to name it?! We toyed with the idea of having a North Pod, a South Pod, and a Mother Pod, but we opted to switch to more geographically useful names: the Royston Pod, the Fanny Bay Pod, and now the Bowser Pod.

This is not just an expansion, it's also a new collaboration. We have always enjoyed a good relationship with the Regional District of Nanaimo's Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Program. We modelled our sampling program on theirs and they have generously allowed us to attend their training programs over the years. They were an important source of advice and mentorship as we established ourselves. Now, we're actually sampling IN the RDN, using equipment provided by their program. We will continue our practice of sampling year-round even though their program only calls for sampling ten

weeks: a five-week period during the low flows of summer and a five-week period during the "fall flush".

It will take some time to get to know our new creeks.

For most of us they are still just names on a map. Chef Creek, Sandy Creek, Thames Creek, Nash Creek, Hunts Creek, and Annie Creek. Our Bowser team who did all the preliminary work – scouting, brushing, flagging, etc. – already know them a bit. The team, headed by Bowser residents Manfred Winter and Sharon Waugh, will be working directly with the RDN's Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Program. Until they recruit a few more Bowser volunteers, we will be filling in the schedule with folks

Sharon and Manfred at Annie Creek



from the Royston Pod and the Fanny Bay Pod.

For my part, I'm looking forward to being introduced to these new creeks and seeing what they have to tell us about the Bowser area.

by Mike Mesford

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surveyor-ark@uniserve.com

Stay tuned for details, which will be posted on Facebook and the FBCA Website.

A reminder for all you kiddos out there, Mother's Day will be here before we know it! Whether it be a beautiful homemade card or a giant hug, be sure to think of a way to let the special people in your life know how much they mean to you! They do so much for you! On Wednesday, May 1st, we will be making something extra special at the Kids Drop-In Craft Night!

Let's make the most of these beautiful spring days, filled with laughter, creativity, and cherished memories. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or just want to say hello, I'm here to listen! Here's to a season filled with joy and growth!

Warmest wishes

by Dominique Hrytsay

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SHOP TOOLS DIRECTORY

Aviation Metal Snips see Hacksaw

Band Saw

A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut good aluminum sheet into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of outside edge.

Belt Sander

An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

Craftsman 1/2 x 24-inch Screwdriver

A very large prybar that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end opposite the hands.

Dammit Tool

Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling "DAMMIT" at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.

Drill Press

A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly-painted vertical stabilizer which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

Eight Foot Long Yellow Pine 2x4

Used for levering an automobile upward off of a trapped hydraulic jack handle.

Electric Hand Drill

Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.

E-Z Out Bolt and Stud Extractor

A tool ten times harder than any known drill bit that snaps neatly off in bolt holes thereby ending any possible future use.

Hacksaw

One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija Board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

Hammer

Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent the object we are trying to hit.

More of the alphabet next issue

FANNY BAY YOGA

Yoga - 9:30 am, Chair Yoga - 11am

For info 604-837-1429 annette@agelessyoga.ca**WOODMIZER LT50 MOBILE SAWMILL**Now Offering for Sale - High Quality Fir & Cedar
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MAN & 1 TON TRUCK FOR HIRETown pickups, Construction waste removal, Residential yard
clean up & Dump runs, etc. Fully insured 25 years
local references available. Call Bill 250 650 1322**FANNY BAY HALL RENTALS** ♦Meetings ♦Weddings

♦Family Celebrations Call Judy at 250-335-0241 or

Email: rentals@fannybaycommunity.com**OAP HALL RENTAL** 418 Ships Point Road.250-335-1337 Email: fannybayseniors@shaw.ca**Rhubarb Muffins**

Rhubarb is one of the first crops ready for harvest in April/May here on Vancouver island. With a second harvest in June, it is a prolific grower. These muffins are a delicious way to enjoy some of it. Make sure to use the thinner more tender stalks when baking with rhubarb, and discard all leaves.

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup of melted butter
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup flour
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp each baking soda, baking powder & salt
- 1 cup finely chopped rhubarb
- 1/4 cup chopped walnuts

Topping

- 1 TB brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon

Mix together the butter, buttermilk, egg & vanilla. In another bowl whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, soda & salt. Add the nuts & rhubarb to the dry ingredients. Toss to coat with flour. Add the wet ingredients to the dry, stir until just mixed.

Fill greased muffin liners in a muffin baking tray. Mix the topping ingredients and sprinkle over top. Bake at 375F (or convection at 350F) for 20-25 minutes. They are done when they bounce back after touching.

*by Marietje Coast***BOWSER Legion**7035 W. Island Hwy email rcl211@shaw.ca
Ph 250-757-9222 Office 778-424-4472

KITCHEN OPEN Fridays & Saturdays
View Menus on our Web Site and Facebook
Hours of Operation: Mon - Wed, closed
Thurs to Sat open at 4pm Sundays - Noon

What's On - April / May**Mon Apr 8th Ladies vs Gents Pool****Fri Apr 12th Jam Session****Sun Apr 21st Dinner & Rock Trivia
with Doctors of Rock & Roll****Bar opens 5pm Prime Rib Dinner 6 pm
Advance Tickets \$42****Sat Apr 27th Members Birthday Cake Celebration****Tue Apr 30th General Meeting 7 pm****Ongoing Events**

Games Night - Wednesday 5:00pm

Ladies Pool - Wednesday 4:00pm

Crib - Wednesday 4:00pm

Men's Pool - Thursday 6:00 pm

Darts - Thursday 6:30 pm

Meat Draws Friday - 5pm, Saturday - 4:30pm**Members, Guests, Prospective members welcome****Know Your Limit Play Within It 19+**Facebook: [Events-at-the-Bowser-Legion-br211-99556487/](https://www.facebook.com/Events-at-the-Bowser-Legion-br211-99556487/)

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Aerobics (FB Hall)

Suzanne Murray 335-2533

Baynes Sound Lions Club (OAP Hall)

Cliff Helps 335-1112

Baynes Sound Garden Club (OAP Hall)

Marion Woloschuk, Pres

... bsgardenclub@gmail.com

Beachcombers Academy Little Oysters Preschool

Principal - Ms. Cathy Bertram..... 778-427-4007

Beaufort Watershed Stewards

Mike Mesford 250-702-5900

Comox Valley Caregivers Support

Gini Eyres 250-897-8267

Comox Valley Hospice Society

2900 Cliffe Ave., Courtenay 250-871-0696

CVRD Area A Director reachme@danielarbour.ca

Daniel Arbour 250-650-8480

Fanny Bay Hall RENTAL

Judy Starr 250-335-0241

FBCA Website fannybaycommunity.com

Fanny Bay Quilt Group

Noreen Sterling 250-335-3010

Joan Johnsen 250-335-2333

Fanny Bay Salmonid Enhancement Society

Judy Ackinclose 335-0010

Fanny Bay Waterworks District Office

Patricia McLean 250-927-2770

Josie Osborne, MLA

Mid-Island Pacific Rim

josie.osborne.mla@leg.bc.ca 250-720-4515

Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program

Steve Strachan sstrachanfbfd@gmail.com

New to Community? leave msg at hall 250-335-2832

For Louise Bradshaw and/or Eleanor Hope

OAP #127 Hall 418 Ships Point Road

Bruce Mills Hall RENTAL 335-1337

Pickleball (FB Hall) Cher Kuss 778-427-4137

Ships Point Volunteer Fire Department

Chief - Terry Hoffart 335-0680

Ships Point Improvement District

Office - Nina LeBlanc 335-0551

Union Bay - Fanny Bay Fire Department

Chief - Ian Ham 250-335-2345

Vancouver Island Regional Library -Bowser 250.248.3841

Yoga Fanny Bay Hall Studio... annette@agelessyoga.ca

Yoga with Jane ... main hall 250-228-1157

YOUR FBCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President .. Tammy Mercer-Gervais president@

Treasurer .. Tanya Aikenclose treasurer@

Vice-President .. vp@ Secretary .. Susannah Howick secretary@ Concerts .. Alaine French concerts@

Hall Rentals .. Judy Starr rentals@ phone 250-335-0241

Buildings & Grounds .. Keir Gervais gervais@shaw.ca

Family Liaison .. Dominique Hrytsay .. family@

Director at Large .. Neville Hope

Yet To Be Filled

Volunteer Co-Ordinator .. volunteers@ Policy & Procedures .. policy@ Memberships .. memberships@

"Welcome to the Community" Louise Bradshaw & Eleanor Hope leave message on Hall phone (250) 335-2832

Flyer Editor .. Wendy Keating flyer@

Asst Editor .. Sally McLachlan

Association Enquiries .. administrator@fannybaycommunity.com (250)-335-2832

To send an email, place the identifier Above, before fannybaycommunity.com

The Fanny Bay Flyer is published 11 times a year (mid-month to mid month - no Jan/Feb issue) by the **Fanny Bay Community Association [FBCA]**, a non-profit society and registered charitable organization. **FLYER DEADLINE IS THE 8th OF THE MONTH**

Opinions expressed in the Flyer are not necessarily those of the FBCA or the editor. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the Flyer's content, neither the Association nor the Editor assume responsibility for any misprints or errors, which may appear in the information given and printed within.

Submit camera ready artwork - Jpeg, Word - or inquires to flyer@fannybaycommunity.com

The FBCA Board of Directors will promote a safe, respectful place for the community to gather.

The purposes of the Association are:

- To maintain and manage a community hall, grounds, and outdoor amenities, for use by the residents of Fanny Bay and surrounding areas.
- To provide and support programs, activities, and events to benefit all age groups in the community with focus on the arts, culture, education, health, and recreation

The FBCA gratefully acknowledges the support of the Province of BC through a Community Gaming Grant which enables the delivery of low cost programs & activities.

New To Our Community?

The FBCA has a Welcome bag for you with coupons, lists of businesses and services, maps, schedules, local events, and community organizations. Please call the Hall phone (250)335-2832 and leave a message to have your *Welcome Bag* delivered to you, with a smile.

Do you have a new neighbour? Please call us on their behalf or share this information with them.

"Welcome to the Community" Louise Bradshaw & Eleanor Hope leave message on Hall phone (250) 335-2832

CLASSES, CLUBS & MEETINGS

Aerobics, Low Impact Suzanne FB Hall	Monday & Thursday	9am - 10 am
Baynes Sound Garden Club - OAP Hall	Thursday	7 pm first week
Baynes Sound Lions - OAP Hall	Monday	7pm third week
Early Years Play Group ages 0-5 years	Wednesday	9:30am - 11:30am weekly
FBCA Board Meeting - Fanny Bay Hall	Thursday	7pm fourth week
FBSES - Rosewall Ck Hatchery Berray Rd	Wednesday & Saturday	9 am - 12 noon
FBWW - Fire Hall, Cougar Smith Rd	Meetings as required	fannybaywaterworks@gmail.com
OAP General Meeting	Tuesday	2 pm second week
Pickleball - Fanny Bay Hall	Positions on teams, Waitlisted	250-335-2832 to add your name
Ships Point Improvement Dist.	Wednesday	time varies, second week of month
Yoga with Annette - Hall Studio	Tuesdays drop in \$10	9:30-10:30 & Chair Yoga 11am
Yoga with Jane - Fanny Bay Main Hall-	Tuesdays	7:00 pm - 8:30pm
Youth Drop-In	Wednesdays 1st & 3rd each month	5:30 pm -7:30 pm

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Early Years Drop-In Play Group	EVERY Wed. 9:30 - 11:30 am	Fanny Bay Community Hall
Youth - \$2 Drop-in Craft Night	1st Wednesday of each Month	Fanny Bay Community Hall
Youth - \$2 Drop-in Game Night	3rd Wednesday of each Month	Fanny Bay Community Hall
Xchange of Ideas Talk 3 part Series	Sun., April 21st & May 19th 1-3 pm	Lighthouse Community Ctr
Spirituality - Religion - Secularity	by Donation to LCSS	240 Lions Way, Qualicum Bay
Feldenkrais Classes violetvanhees.com	Thursdays, Apr 18th - May 16th 3 - 4 pm	Fanny Bay Hall Studio
Sophie Lukacs, Winner- Global Roots Album 2024	Fri., April 19th 7pm	Fanny Bay Community Hall
RIVER NEVER SLEEPS FESTIVAL Free Admission	Sun., May 5th 2024 10 am	8425 Berray Rd, Fanny Bay
Baynes Sound Garden Club Spring PLANT Sale	Sat., May 11th 9am - 12pm	Fanny Bay Community Hall
FBCA 2024 AGM	Thur., May 16th 5:30pm	Fanny Bay Community Hall
Ducks Unlimited Community Appreciation Day	June 8th, 11 am - 1 pm	End of Tozer Rd by Wetlands

