

THE PENDER ISLANDS HANDBOOK FIRST EDITION (2006)

Updates as of May 2009

GENERAL– MAJOR CHANGES

(see detail under appropriate chapters below):

Change in Pender TAXI service to Pender Island Cab Co. 629.2222

Sound Passage Adventures closed. No more dive shop on Pender.

Poets Cove may offer many of the same activities. 629.2116.

Magic Lake Market closed. In its place are Medicine Beach Market, a convenience mart, and the Medicine Beach Liquor Store.

Islander's Restaurant closed February 15. Chef Georgina moved to Port Browning Resort Pub and Café.

E-mail changes: Pender's cable and internet company was acquired by Shaw and most emails that ended in @cablelan.net are no longer valid, although some of them are still in use. If available, many simply changed to @shaw.ca, but others could not if that e-mail address already existed in their system.

Telephone changes: Pender is now a part of the 10-digit dialing system. You must now dial an area code before each local call. For example to call 629.1234 you must now dial 250.629.1234. The reminder grace period has already expired.

CHAPTERS

Chapter 2 Introduction

Page 14 A new web site, www.thievesbay.com provides information about Magic Lake Estates Property Owners Association and their private Thieves Bay Marina, hosted by yours truly.

Chapter 3 Transportation

Page 20.BC Ferries now requires arrival 40 minutes prior to sailing to claim reservations for Tsawwassen departures to Pender Island (still 30 minutes advance on the return).

Pages 22 & 45NOTE CHANGE IN PENDER TAXI SERVICE TO: Pender Island Cab Co.

Page 34 The Swartz Bay u-turn lane near the terminal has closed. Use the Wain Rd exit u-turn route for ferry transfers. A new u-turn may or may not be constructed, the decision to be made at a later date. A new line-up area for the Gulf Islands ferry routes has been constructed, just in front of the old area. The lane numbers have changed. There is still a bike entrance as before, although the location has moved down the road a bit.

Page 34. From Swartz Bay to Butchart Gardens, the new bus route 81 is direct..

Page 36 For Victoria Hotels, I suggest checking www.tripadvisor.com for reviews and recommendations.

Page 37

NOTICE: A NEW PRE-PAID DEBIT CARD SYSTEM (BC Ferries Experience) HAS REPLACED THE PAPER TICKET DISCOUNT BOOKS. IF YOU EXCHANGE YOUR PAPER TICKETS YOU WILL ONLY RECEIVE THE VALUE OF WHAT YOU BOUGHT THEM FOR. FARES INCREASED ON 1 APRIL, 2008. Paper tickets will only be accepted as fares through June 1, 2009. After that they can only be used to exchange for credit on the card, but only through April 1, 2010.

Page 45 Pender Car Rental: Poets Cove guests may be able to rent vans \$15/hr to \$80/day incl.fuel. See the concierge.

Chapter 4 Accommodations Guide

See the Pender Links & Info page for links to the current accommodations that have web sites.

Page 48 Sun Raven now offers medicine wheel teaching and ceremonies, Shamanic drumming journeys, and creative visualization and healing drum making workshops. Available to general public. No longer a B&B.

Page 49 Beauty Rest By the Sea has closed.

Page 50 Eatonten House is under new management. Same contact info.

Page 51 Betty's B&B has closed. Penny Tomlin now runs it as Reflections 629.3664.

Page 53 Cedar Cottage has closed.

Page 54 Sahhali B&B is under new mgt. New phones:1.888.SAHHALI, 629.3756

Page 56 Whalepointe B&B has closed.

Page 56 Gulf Island Vacation Rentals (GIVR) was acquired by Platinum Vacation Rentals. Phone: 1.866.595.8989. Online contact for Pender is still through GIVR's website, however.

Chapter 5 Dining Guide

See the Pender Links & Info page for restaurant list with phone # and web sites.

Page 61 Hope Bay Cafe changes its menu and open hours rather frequently, so call first. Dinner is much more expensive than described in the book.

Sharkey's Pizza, operated by the cafe, replaced the ice cream shop and fish market. Take out only, and delivery as far away as Magic Lake Estates is available.

Page 62 ISLANDERS RESTAURANT HAS CLOSED as of Feb 15. Chef Georgina is in charge of the kitchen at Port Browning Resort as of March 15.

Page 65 Syrens at Poets Cove is now Syrens Bistro.

MAGIC LAKE MARKET HAS CLOSED. and replaced with MEDICINE BEACH MARKET (a convenience store). The building has been refurbished by the new owner and the new incarnation is a scaled down version of the old market with no produce or a lot of the other items carried by that store.

Medicine Beach Liquor Store is also open here, 629.2024. They sell spirits, beer, and specialize in local wines.

Pay for disposing of trash in the dumpster here (\$5-\$10/bag)

Page 66 Ewa's cakes are as good as ever this year. Her new email is ejaros@shaw.ca.

Page 68 The MacDonald Farm Store, 4415 Bedwell Harbour Road: Fresh lamb, wool products, produce, and original art. Open Tuesday 2-5, Friday and Saturday from 10-2 or call 629-3817 or 3819.

Page 70 The Medicine Beach Liquor Store is now open at the corner of Aldridge Rd and Schooner Way, 629.2024. They stock an extensive selection of Gulf Islands wines.

Chapter 6 Shopping & Services Guide

Southridge Farms Country Store has Pet & Feed Barn that sells farm feeds, pet supplies and wild & domestic bird seed, 3327 Port Washington Rd, 629.2051.

Casual Pender at Driftwood Centre has closed, replaced with the similar Uniquely U.

Various pages: Shopping Off-Island: In Langford, Attree Road was renamed to Langford Parkway, and Canwest Mall is now Westshore

Town Centre. A new Rona home improvement store has opened at its corner with Goldstream, and Ashley Furniture outlet down the road. Across from the Home Depot on Millstream is a new centre with a new Michael's, Pier 1 Imports, Petsmart and relocated A&B Sound. Both local United Furniture Warehouse stores have closed, replaced by The Brick in Central Saanich and The Brick's Clearance Centre on Douglas. The Brick's downtown Victoria location moved to Westshore Town Centre in Langford.

Page 84 Trash Collection: Another home pickup service is Pender Island Waste Management 629.6690 or 2042 or see clerk at Medicine Beach Liquor Store for their drop-off service for \$5/bag. Another dropoff is Sundays in front of Driftwood for \$5/bag.

Page 86 Correction: The BC Hydro number to report a power failure is 1.888.POWER ON

Page 87 Internet Access: Pender Island Public Library now also has a free wifi hotspot and free Internet access computers.

Island View Paper Company opened at Driftwood Centre for printing, assorted paper sales and digital photo finishing.

Page 88 Pender Island Cable & Internet was acquired by Shaw. The phone number 629.3075 is the same, but if the local office is not available it rings through to a central Shaw number, and they contact the local office with your request. The web site is now www.shaw.ca.

Chapter 7 Wedding Guide

Page 92 Morning Bay Vineyard is now available as a wedding venue. See book P71.

New party rental/event planning service: Colour & Comfort Decor, Margie Berringer, 629-6776.

Pages 94-95 Current marriage commissioner Wendy Hacking is enthusiastic and versatile, also open to & experienced with same-sex weddings.

Same-sex marriage is here to stay, as the Conservatives were unsuccessful in re-opening the issue (7 Dec 2006). Pender Island has become a popular place for this.

The Spa at Driftwood Centre has closed (Also page 316).

Page 96 www.gayguide.net now links to Pender Island through this website.

Chapter 8 Nearby Attractions Off-Island

Page 97 Sound Passage Adventures has closed. Try Poets Cruise for excursions and water taxi to Sidney, 629.2116. Saturna's Island Discovery Tours picks up at Hope Bay 539-3211.

Page 99 Victoria boating/Symphony Splash: New public dock for launching southeast of Selkirk Trestle, accessed near end of Tye. Small boat rentals at Island Boat Rentals.

Page 100 Dining Out Sidney: Japanese Gdn closed, now excellent Sabhai thai 655.4085.

Maple Garden has closed.

Page 101 Kiplings at the Fairmont Empress hotel has closed.

More recommended foods from Asia: Le Petit Saigon, Pho Vy on Fort near Blanshard, Bahn Thai on Blanshard near Fort.

Chapter 9 Recreation Guide

Pages 111 Tennis. Correction: An informal group, not a club, meets Mon-Wed-Fri mornings at the Magic Lake Estates courts. Visitors are welcome (a small fee is charged for those without an annual pass). See www.thievesbay.com for information on the courts.

Chapter 10 Golfing Guide

See the Pender Links & Info page for info on events which indicate when the course is NOT open to the general public.

Chapter 12 Coastal Access & Hiking Guide – North Pender

Misc. Pages: The outhouse planned for Shingle Bay Park (49) has been installed, and the one at Mt. Elizabeth Park removed.

Pages 137, 142: References to Stribley's Pottery. Sadly, Mr. Stribley passed away in 2005 and the gallery is closed. Also refers to Chapter 18, Page 312.

Page 144 The GINPR coastal section of Mt. Menzies is now referred to as Tyndall Wood.

Chapter 13 Coastal Access & Hiking Guide – South Pender

Page 189. Castle Road Trail (89): The Pender Parks portion of Castle Road Trail ends prior to

the peak of the hill. Pender Parks has placed an End of Trail sign to indicate this until an agreement is made with the property owner, which at time of writing is unlikely. Without the reward of that viewpoint, the rating of this trail drops to 5. Park near Spalding Rd and not on private Castle Rd. (Also: refers to Birdwatching reference, page 294.)

Page: Various: Trails 82 & 84, Map 7: The popular Beaumont peninsula/isthmus is closed for regeneration of vegetation, and picnic tables have been removed.

Chapter 15 Boating Guide

Page 219, 252 Fulford Harbour 's fuel dock remains closed through 2009.

Page 233 Wharfinger Change, Port Browning Dock: Claude Kennedy, 250.881.2019 (cell)

The Ports Manager, Al Canon has retired and replaced by Pete Williams, 629.3682

Page 234 New web site, www.thievesbay.com contains a schematic of the marina, as well as summaries of rules, regulations & procedures, downloadable forms, and photo gallery. Note that boat size limit is actually 36' x 12'.

Page 243 Kayak Pender Island no longer offers tours out of Poets Cove, just Otter Bay. It is under new management and a new name, Pender Island Kayak Adventures.

Page 250 Diving: Sound Passage Adventures has closed, and there is no longer a dive shop on Pender Island. The closest is Liquid Heaven 103-2537 Beacon Ave Sidney, 250. 655.4611 - closed too.

Chapter 16 Arts & Events

See the Pender Links & Info page for upcoming events.

Page 268 Wildart Gallery is closed.

Page 269 Windover Studios is no longer open to the general public. The Buttonlady's Gallery encourages visitors most days 10-5 at 3733 Frigate Rd., 629.6205. Handmade ceramic buttons, original art, etc. Other galleries also offer similar invitations in the latest Pender Island Artists Guide.

Page 270 For 2009 Mae & Lester's Red Cedar Songwriting camp is cancelled.

Gulf Islands Concert Series for 2008-2009: Exact schedule pending

Page 272 Sheila (Grace) Jordan has moved to Salt Spring Island.

New books by authors mentioned:

City Making in Paradise by Mike Harcourt (2007)

Enchanted Isles: The Southern Gulf Islands by David Spalding & Kevin Oke (2007)

Kill all the Judges by William Deverell (2007)

Chapter 17 Natural Environment

Page 277 Climate A record high temperature for Pender on July 11, 2007 was 35C (95F).

Page 279 What's Up, Doc? I have received unconfirmed reports of bunnies hopping around South Pender Island. I invite readers to confirm or deny this. Meanwhile, Norway Rats are proliferating on North Pender. Don't leave any pet or other food outside. I spotted a very cute muskrat in a golf course pond.

Page 283 Orca Update: See www.orcanetwork.org for the latest updates on the orca populations. In general the southern resident pop population is down 5 since 2006.

Page 283 The birdwatching guide Birds of Southern British Columbia by Richard Cannings et al (2005, Heritage House) has good photos & bird descriptions.

Chapter 18 Living on Pender

Page 314 Dr. Mike Hudson has left and was replaced by Dr. Michael Thompson.

e 316 Ahh Spa and The Spa at Driftwood Centre have closed. White Tara Healing Arts & Spa opened across from Hope Bay Store. 629.3229.

Page 318 The Gulf Islands 24-hour Crisis Line, 1.877.435.7544, is the contact for women's support services and the Salt Spring Island Transition House for battered women.