

Taste of SEAPARC
Sept 6 to 12
 Try a program for FREE before signing up for the Fall Session
 Includes Aquatic & Arena Programs, Fitness, Sportball and more!
 Registration required. Space limited. Call 250.642.8000
 Visit us online for information: www.seaparc.ca

West Shore Voice News
 West Shore Voice News
 Courtesy online edition
Additional breaking news & PDF of this week's issue:
www.westshorevoicenews.com

WEB COURTESY EDITION
Week #293 of The Voice
 Colour print edition on newsstand at Shoppers Drug Mart Sooke
 Pulling it all together on 'this west side' of the island: people, business, politics, health, education & community.
 The Voice Since 2011
 UVic Engineering mobility projects with BC Ferries ... 1
 BC students back to class & a new curriculum ... 2
 SD62 bus fee refunds will produce a budget shortfall ... 3
 RCMP S/Sgt Steve Wright retires after 35 years ... 3
 Sooke Fall Fair 2016 is on the 'Pulse': Sept 10 & 11 4

Labour Day Stat Holiday
September 5
 Subscriptions Ads | Photos Archives
 250.217.5821
 @WestShoreVOICE @SookeVoiceNews
 Breaking News daily: www.westshorevoicenews.com
 WestShoreSookeVoiceNews
 WSV ISSN 2368-9374 Vol.1 No.44
 SVN ISSN 1925-2722 Vol. 6 No.33

Friday, September 2, 2016 West side of Vancouver Island v3a

Got a poem for your favourite farmer? WRITTEN WORD in the COMMUNITY
 West Shore Voice News #BCFarmersWeek

British Columbians are invited to wax poetic about all things local for Ode To a Farmer contest. As part of the annual Farmers Appreciation Week celebrations, September 12 to 18, the BC Association of Farmers' Markets (BCAFM) invites British Columbians to submit original poems to honour BC's local farmers. Writers of all levels are encouraged to submit their farm-themed poems to the fourth annual Ode To a Farmer Poetry Contest by midnight, Sunday, September 18.



Produce gets local recognition (Sooke Fall Fair 2015).

The grand prize-winner will receive a \$150 gift certificate to spend at the BC farmer's market of their choice. Regional winners from the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast, Kootenay Rockies, Northern British Columbia, Thompson Okanagan, Vancouver, Coast & Mountains, and Vancouver Island will also be chosen and awarded \$50 gift certificates. Submissions are being accepted online, by email, and by mail. See: www.bcfarmersmarket.org/fresh-market/farmers-appreciation-week-2016

"It's such a pleasure reading poetry from across BC that connects to the land, and to farmers and food," says Renee Sarojini Saklikar, Surrey's poet laureate and returning judge. "Last year we received a record 120 submissions of farm and food inspired poems and we are hoping to exceed that again this year," said Georgia Stanley, BCAFM's Communications Manager. "We encourage everyone to take a few minutes to consider the immense skill, time and dedication that goes into growing that fresh food we all value. It's challenging work and worth celebrating everyone involved."

Farmers Appreciation Week highlights BC farmers and local food. Visit markets.bcfarmersmarket.org to find a farmers' market near you and join the celebrations. The BCAFM represents 135 farmers' markets to support, develop and promote farmers' markets in all regions. WSV

Yet another hot real estate month

Normally housing sales in Greater Victoria are slow in summer then pick up again the fall season. This year it's been the other way around. The summer season was hot (and not just the weather), as homebuyers took advantage of continued low mortgage lending rates even as housing prices climbed.

Single Family Home Sales Summer 2016 ~ Focus on the West Shore Communities

Area	Avg August # of sales	Avg August \$ HPI Adjusted	Avg June # of sales	Avg June \$ HPI Adjusted
Langford	60	\$589,638 (\$486,200)	91	\$591,579 (\$465,500)
Colwood	23	\$594,491 (\$543,400)	34	\$588,868 (\$517,800)
Sooke	43	\$459,982 (\$399,500)	56	\$439,777 (\$382,700)
Combined 3 areas	126	\$548,037 (\$476,366)	181	\$540,075 (\$473,333)
Greater Victoria	412	\$752,509 (\$610,400)	585	\$758,146 (\$593,700)

Selected comparison by West Shore Voice developed from data at www.vreb.org

August was the sixth consecutive month in which overall sales dollar volume surpassed all previous same-months says the Victoria Real Estate Board, though in the west shore area the number of transactions were down in August compared to June (see table) as well as July. The 2016 surge in sales has reduced property inventory to now just 2,094 properties - that's 43.2% lower than the number of active listings in August 2015.

Benchmark (data-adjusted) MLS prices soften the blow on first-blush, but this year the averages of real sales transactions have shown the highest prices for houses, condos and townhomes ever seen on south Vancouver Island. WSV

UVic engineering students roll up their sleeves for mobility on BC Ferries

Engineering students at the University of Victoria (UVic) will soon be taking part in two initiatives with BC Ferries, to develop some pilot projects. One pilot will be a new wheelchair device at the Departure Bay terminal, in October 2016. The other will be to pilot a radio frequency identification (RFID) system for wheelchairs and baggage carts, to be done in February 2017.



In Fall 2015, first-year UVic engineering students worked with BC Ferries to improve accessibility for customers with mobility challenges. "New solutions are always needed," says a BC Ferries, to identify improvements for the walkways and ramps (depending on tides) for customers requiring assistance and mobility aids. Successful projects included alternative transportation devices as well as a powered mover for wheelchairs. WSV

Schools in the west shore under 'new management'

Families in Langford, Colwood and Sooke are served by public schools in the Sooke School District 62 (SD62), under Superintendent Jim Cambridge.

And starting this fall for 2016-2017, 'school families' are under the direction of two new SD62 Assistant Superintendents (AS).

Paul Block now oversees all that goes on in Belmont Zone schools (Langford area) and at the Westshore Centre for Learning & Training (WCLT), as well as teacher labour relations, sports academies, technology, and more. He is the former WCLT principal. Dave Strange now oversees all that goes on in schools in the Milne's Landing Zone

Labour Day Weekend Dinner Special
 Mom's Cafe
 Sat SEPT 3
 Sun SEPT 4 4 pm to close
 Mon SEPT 5
 Half a rack of ribs, BBQ'd to perfection, served with fries & coleslaw.
 Only \$17.95
 2036 Shields Rd 250-642-3314

Rain! • Fall seems to have arrived with a bang! After a long dry summer on this west side of the island - including temperatures searing over 30°C last week, the past few days have delivered cooler days and enough rain to see campfire bans cancelled and people starting to carry umbrellas again. The Weather Network forecasts a nice day on Sunday this Labour Day long weekend, with more rain coming next week. Gardens and forests sure need it. WSV

WestShore Centre for Learning & Training
 WestShore Centre for Learning & Training
 250.391.9002
 Distributed Learning Support Centre:
 Langford Campus 101-814 Goldstream Ave
 Phone to register: 250.391.9002
 Over 100 courses to choose from! \$139 each

Online learning: anywhere, anytime
 SOOKE 62 SCHOOLS
 Interactive Courses
 ed2go



Building Teams That Work
 Strategies for managing successful teams in the workplace. Problem-solving and team-building.



Word 2007 | Excel 2007
 Introduction to Word 2007: create & modify documents.
 Introduction to Excel 2007: set up formatted worksheets.
 These & other computer courses. \$139 each



Veterinary Assistant
 Prep to work in a vet hospital. Learn about vaccinations, pet nutrition, spaying & neutering, pet loss, duties on the job.

These and other courses are achieved in 24 hours over 6 weeks. Instructor-led sessions start Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9.
 See the full catalog & view demos | Registration
www.westshorecentre.com 24/7 250.391.9002

EDITORIAL

Editorials aim to explore broader issues of concern to communities, economy and society as a whole.

Dusting off the back-to-school editorial

When it comes time to send children off to school in September, this editorial theme wants to surface again: the essence of goodbye.

The mom or dad who takes their child to Kindergarten for the first time feels a pang. But there are many years ahead, and all the excitement of first-artwork-home, new friends, and the myriad of activities... it becomes all a blur.

Parents who see their tweens head to middle school or teens to high school, get a more buffered sense of separation as it's mixed with identifiable achievement and goals. And parents are getting a bit more time to do their own thing.

The parents and families who see their young adult children head to post-secondary, ah, there's the biggest bite. And it's not far along on the heels of the June grad where realization of the new future began to sink in. Pride mixes with bewilderment over where the years went. In smaller communities from which the distance to post-secondary is probably greater, the new phase that has just begun is only magnified. A tad of empty-nest may set in.

Then we buck up and realize that we have a new role, as the watchful eye from afar. As responsible older parents we stay in touch with social trends and dangers, with a word of advice at the ready if young adults query us if they meet with an impasse. The fast-paced, quickly changing 21st century social milieu of what is new, what is trendy, what is safe (and what is not), what is expected (and what is not)... it's a lot for young adults to navigate. Parenting doesn't stop at the end of high school. Attentive older parents stay abreast of the world around them. The dangers of today are in some ways better understood because as a culture we are addressing them, including employment preparation, gender issues, drug culture, rape culture, racial discrimination and more.

WEB COURTESY EDITION

Ah, the exciting beginnings, the captivating middle-ground and the bitter-sweet endings, which in turn will open new beginnings. Whomsoever takes on the journey of parenting walks a path full of wonder and creativity along with the range of responsibilities and symphony of changes that come along with it.

BC News

WEST SHORE VOICE NEWS Daily news updates:
www.westshorevoiceneews.com

MLAs deciding their 2017 re-election intentions

As planning and strategies are being put in place by the BC Liberals and BCNDP ahead of the campaign leading up to the May 2017 BC Provincial Election, MLAs are letting their leaders know whether they plan on running again.

Several high-profile political figures will not be standing for election again in 2017. Among BC Liberal MLAs, so far Minister of Energy & Mines and Core Review Bill Bennett (East Kootenay) and Health Minister, Dr Terry Lake (Kamloops-North Thompson) are not seeking re-election. Lake wishes to spend more time with family and to taken this opportunity in his career path to "reinvent" himself. Among the BC NDP, so far two Vancouver Island-based MLAs are not seeking re-election. Bill Routley (Cowichan Valley) and Maurine Karagianis (Esquimalt-Royal Roads) are wrapping up their public service on the provincial stage.

Apparently the BC Liberals are resurrecting and shoring up their 2013 successful campaign workings. The BC NDP have been restructuring since their 2013 defeat, including in 2014 raising up John Horgan, MLA (Langford-Juan de Fuca) to be their party leader and become Leader of the Official Opposition.

The 2017 election will see Premier Christy Clark going head to head with NDP Leader John Horgan. It could be a critical turning point for BC politics, as the Liberals have been in power since 2001. Long-ruling parties often tend to be recycled over time through no fault of their own, but through electorate fatigue.

BC students back to class & a new curriculum

There will be about 529,000 public school students and 82,000 independent school students heading back to class in BC this fall.

A new curriculum outlined at www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca has been compiled with teacher input. It's being launched for Grades K through 9 starting with this 2016-2017 academic year. A focus on critical thinking and logic skills will be delivered in part through teaching computer coding skills, at a \$6 million investment for teacher training and technology purchases. Other core competencies are communication, creative thinking, positive personal and cultural identity, personal awareness and responsibility, and social responsibility.

At the Grade 10 to 12 level, provincial final exams have been cut back to just Literacy and Math, with other areas such as Science and Social Studies coming under more stringent in-class assessment through exams, tests and projects.

Consultation with parents, teachers and students will be done in the months ahead regarding how reporting and feedback to parents might be improved and for assessments to be refined.

Ask a Doctor of Optometry

on Facebook

Dr. Joslin*,
Dr. Morin* &
Associates:
Doctors of
Optometry



Providing comprehensive eye health and optical services in Sooke and the west shore for over 20 years.

www.sookeoptometrists.ca

#5-6726 West Coast Rd in Sooke
Phone: 250-642-4311
OPEN MON-Sat (open late on Thurs)

www.langfordoptometrists.com

#105-814 Goldstream Ave in Langford
Phone: 250-474-4567
OPEN MON-Sat (open late on Wed)

*denotes optometric corporation

PILGRIM COFFEE HOUSE
Serving drumroaster coffee
Open 7 days a week
105-1910 Sooke Rd in Colwood
778-265-5577
PilgrimCoffeeHouse

Please join the Society for the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and help preserve the lighthouse at Sheringham Point - a recognized Canadian Heritage Site.
Sunday - September 11, 2016
2:00 pm
SEAPARC
SheringhamLighthouse.org



Make every vote count!

The Government of Canada is reviewing the federal voting system, and will make a decision by the end of this year.

Sooke Town Hall meeting Thursday, September 15

7 to 9 pm Edward Milne Community School
Speaker David Merner, Fair Vote Canada Acting President
Moderator: Sooke Mayor Maja Tait
Sponsored by Transition Sooke

West ShoreTown Hall Saturday, September 24

2 to 3:30 pm Belmont High School
Speaker Terry Dance-Bennick, Fair Vote Canada sponsored by MPs Randall Garrison & Alistair MacGregor

Parliamentary Committee on Electoral Reform Tuesday, September 27

Public consultation in Victoria, time/place to be announced

Sooke Focus

Aug 29 meeting

It was a pretty full agenda for the August 29 Sooke Council, covering a quick sponsorship pitch for a community activity, another sidewalk installation, development permit procedures, collection of tax arrears from mobile home owners, and dealing with medical marijuana dispensary issues.

The September 24 fun run and family day at Wadams Way will be co-sponsored by the District of Sooke, as part of promoting the new loop trail in John Phillips Memorial Park.

A new stretch of paved sidewalk will soon be installed on West Coast Road, west from the Hope Centre (just west of the main Sooke post office) over to Maple Avenue South.

Development permits should be processed efficiently, agreed Council and staff. But how to do that, exactly, was up for debate. Staff will come back to Council with a report that better assures reasonable input from both Council and the public/neighbors.

When mobile home park residents/owners have tax arrears, it's apparently not that simple to collect the funds. Council grappled with ways to collect current arrears (about \$48,000). Homes in mobile home parks cannot be sent to tax sale, as can be done with other regular properties. One of the suggestions in the staff report was to seize mobile home owners' goods and chattels; Mayor Tait did not think that was appropriate. The report is back with staff.

Medical marijuana dispensaries are not legal yet in Canada (federal legislation to regulate marijuana use and distribution may be ready by Fall 2017). Meanwhile, a prominent dispensary in Sooke town center continues to operate. Council looks forward to hearing what other municipalities are doing on this issue (coming up at the Union of BC Municipalities convention in Victoria later this month).

As of Sept 1, Mayor Maja Tait is now once again the District of Sooke director on the CRD board. Councillor Rick Kasper fulfilled that role from Dec 1, 2015 to Aug 31, 2016, attending 60 meetings in that time period.

UBCM in Victoria

Elected municipal officials from around BC will be converging on Victoria Sept 26-30 for the 2016 annual Union of BC Municipalities convention, with a theme of 'Stronger Together'. The program includes 177 resolutions so far, covering elections, transportation, taxation, land use, community safety, health, regional districts, and more. Several resolutions this year might be of interest to school boards, including on school bus funding, supporting youth coming out of foster care, child poverty reduction, and a pitch to change Family Day to the third Monday in February instead of the second. Resolutions that pass at UBCM are taken further to the BC Government for consideration.

West Shore Voice News

The Sooke Voice News

Published by Brookline Publishing House Inc., Sooke, BC, Canada
National Library Registration:
SVN ISSN 1925-2722 | WSV ISSN 2368-9374
Mailing: PO Box 851, Sooke, BC, Canada V9Z 1H8

Tel & Text: 250-217-5821

Email: letters@westshorevoiceneews.com

advertising@westshorevoiceneews.com

editor@westshorevoiceneews.com

subscriptions@sookevoiceneews.com

Web: www.westshorevoiceneews.com

Twitter: @WestShoreVOICE;

@SookeVoiceLOCAL; and

@SookeVoiceNews (BC / national)

Publisher: Brookline Publishing House Inc. Editor, Writer, Layout,

Ad Sales, Online Content:

Mary P. Brooke, B.Sc., Cert PR

Distribution Support: Various.

Content contributors this week:

Jennifer Brooke, Marika Nagasaka,

Marika Smith, Ailsa Wright. Content:

News releases & photos welcome. IT

Management: Ivandafish Computing.

Printing: MapleLine Business Centre.

Courtesy print edition: Bulk drop to

various coffee shops, hotels, banks, community areas; to some residential addresses on some weekends. Online readership PDF & breaking news: Approx 64,000 page visits per week. Print copies delivery to subscribers, community drop-offs, advertisers.

Digital subscriptions

Link version \$7.95+GST 18 wks OR PDF by email: \$28+GST 18 wks

Print subscriptions

Weekly by 1st class postal mail, plus PDF by email: \$35+GST for 12 issues in grayscale, or 12 issues in colour.

Newsstand

Colour print edition \$1.95

Letters published in West Shore Voice News do not necessarily represent the opinion of the publisher, editor or staff. The publisher reserves the right to decline any articles, photos, ads or other contributions.

Sampler edition (PDF), archives, breaking news: www.westshorevoiceneews.com
West Shore Voice News

Canada Post strike averted

WEST SHORE VOICE NEWS

Canada Post continues its dramatic shift from high-volume letter mail to high-volume package delivery. News of averting a strike was therefore probably more of a relief to Canada Post itself this week than for the public that has become fatigued by what seems like the frequent threat of labour interruptions.

Many businesses and individuals seem to have shifted to finding ways around use of the post office, which at one time seemed like a forever-essential service.

'Snail mail' letter mail volumes have plummeted in recent years as reliance on email and the ease of e-transactions have become mainstream.

Meanwhile, package delivery volumes have increased for Canada Post as small businesses and online commerce have found a hybrid of income-generating interdependence.

John Horgan, MLA Juan de Fuca



Need Help with Provincial Programs?

Contact my office:
250-391-2801
john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca
www.johnhorganmla.ca

Your Voice in the Legislature

FREE LEGAL CLINICS - Info: 250-391-2801
Constituency Office - #122-2801 Jacklin Rd
1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month
Constituency Office - #6631 Sooke Rd
2nd Wednesday of each month

West Coast Lifestyle

21st Century Living

Longer articles & daily news updates:
www.westshorevoicenews.com

Bus fee refunds: more complicated than it looks

by Mary P Brooke | West Shore Voice News

● **BC Ministry of Education funding** towards school bus fees for in-catchment students will amount to \$358,365 for the Sooke School District 62 (SD62) that serves families with public schools in Langford, Colwood and Sooke.

At the August 30 board meeting of SD62, trustees and senior staff began working through the details of the funding ahead of the government's September 30 funding application deadline.

The board decided to accept the funding, but are seeking public input at their September 13 Education Committee of the Whole meeting before making a final decision at their September 27 board meeting.

Complexities of accepting and working with the funding include determining an accurate analysis of what it means for a student to be in-catchment. The BC Ministry of Education says the funds are to be used for students riders who are attending schools in their catchment area (defined by residential address; maps have been consulted). But in SD62 many students travel outside their catchment area for selected courses, or have been shuffled to other



schools if their catchment-area school is full. Depending on what the SD62 board decides at their September 27 meeting, in some cases bus fees may still need to be paid by some riders.

For parents who opted for the bus payment plan for their child(ren), the first installment will have been transacted on September 1. Once the new details are sorted out, eligible refunds will date back to first payment(s).

Bus registration closed June 24 for students already in the system. Families who have moved to the SD62 area over the summer may still register their children for bus transport. Bussing fees are included in overall fees paid by International Students.

SD62 Trustee Denise Riley said the bus fee funding was good news. "We'd been asking for years and years for bus transportation funding," she said at the August 30 meeting.

SD62 Treasurer Harold Cull explained that no new buses would be

WEB COURTESY EDITION



The art of nature

A weekly feature in West Shore Voice News

West Shore Voice News
Courtesy online edition

Custom photo for
West Shore Voice News
by Jennifer Brooke
nature photographer

added to the SD62 fleet and that existing routes would likely remain unchanged. Pickup and drop-off times might need to be adjusted. The entire exercise will cost the school district time and money at the busiest time of the school year, indicated SD62 Superintendent Jim Cambridge.

SD62 Trustee Ravi Parmar noted that these bus funds have now come after essentially being forced to

make \$1.3 million in cuts for the 2016-2017 year. SD62 Vice-Chair Dianna Seaton expressed concern over having to find \$115,000 elsewhere in the budget, once bus fee refunds are made; the amount from the BC Government does not fully cover the cost of running the school bus system. SD62 Chair Bob Phillips said the bussing shortfall could mean cutting a teacher, or custodial staff hours or an educational assistant. **WSV**

WEB COURTESY EDITION

RCMP: S/Sgt Steve Wright retires after 35 years

by Mary P Brooke | West Shore Voice News

PUBLIC SERVICE AT HEART

West Shore Voice News
Courtesy online edition

● **It was both at accident scenes and at community events** that the special touch of S/Sgt Steve Wright came to the fore.

Out on West Coast Road following a fatal crash in April 2012, then as Sooke RCMP Detachment Commander, S/Sgt Steve Wright was there for everyone... the family, the rights of the victims, the firefighter rescue team, his fellow RCMP officers, the media, and road crew. In days that followed such incidents, he would talk about the permanent impact of such serious events upon police officers. Over the years that leaves a mark.

Out in the community for events – whether in daily uniform or the special RCMP red serge, S/Sgt Wright beamed with enjoyment at meeting the public that he has been proud to serve in many posts with the RCMP over the years. At the 100th Sooke Fire Department celebration in August 2013 he was particularly playful, taking a moment to indulge John Horgan, MLA with a quirky request to be handcuffed for a humorous photo-op.

In March 2014, after serving with the Sooke RCMP Detachment since December 2009, S/Sgt Wright transferred to the West Shore Detachment (his sixth detachment assignment) for the last few years of his 35-year career. He told *West Shore Voice News* at the time that one thing he was particularly proud of was not ever having to have drawn his gun. His calm but penetrating way of communicating with people has been his forte. His law enforcement style exhibited a natural way of keeping things in perspective.

Working with the Sooke Lions and volunteers from throughout the Greater Victoria area, Wright was a key influence and organizer to bring the RCMP Musical Ride to Victoria in August 2013. In Fall 2014, Wright was a Tour de Rock rider representing Sooke. He enjoyed the long ride for the fitness benefits, for seeing so many parts of Vancouver Island, and of course in serving the cause of raising COPS for Cancer funds.

Retiring from the Acting Detachment Commander post in Langford this past week produced a flood of Tweets and other messages with best wishes, thank-you's and many positive comments from a broad range of the community.

Steve and his wife Ailsa fell in love with Sooke when they moved to the seaside town in 2009, and that's where they plan to retire. **WSV**

<< **On the job:** Then Sooke Detachment Commander S/Sgt Steve Wright on duty at the scene of a fatal crash on West Coast Road in April 2014.

<< **In cycling gear:** S/Sgt Steve Wright chatting with former District of Sooke Councillor Dave Bennett while sorting bottles at a Tour de Rock fundraiser (2014).

>> **Aquirky moment** at the 100th Sooke Fire Department anniversary celebration (in August 2013): S/Sgt Steve Wright putting the cuffs to Juan de Fuca MLA John Horgan.



<< Tour de Rock rider in 2014: S/Sgt Steve Wright

WEB COURTESY EDITION



WEB COURTESY EDITION



West Shore Voice News
Courtesy online edition



WEB COURTESY EDITION



S/Sgt Stephen Wright



West Shore Voice News



Detachment Commander S/Sgt Steve Wright: doing the paperwork.

WEB COURTESY EDITION



S/Sgt Steve Wright accepting District of Sooke thanks from Sooke Councillor Kerrie Reay, upon his relocation to West Shore in the spring of 2014.

West Shore Voice News

WHAT'S GOING ON

Ad bookings: 250-217-5821



West Shore Voice News

What's Going On sponsored weekly by:



Monday to Thursday - 8am to 8pm
Fridays - 8am to 6pm
Saturdays - 9am to 6pm
Sundays & Holidays - 10am to 5pm

Open Daily at 6716 West Coast Rd
 Lots of parking

250-642-2226

Serving the Sooke community for over 25 years

Beach Art. Sat Sept 3. 11am-3pm. Free event. Build art from what you find on the beach! At Whiffin Spit. Registration starts 11 am, judging starts 2 pm, winners announced at 3pm. www.sookecommunityarts.com

Junior A Hockey. Sat Sept 3. Victoria Grizzlies vs Nanaimo Clippers at SEAPARC. 5:45 pm, game 6:30 pm. Tx \$10 adult, \$5 youth. 250-642-8000

Labour Day Monday. Mon Sept 5. Stat holiday. Special menu at Mom's Cafe Sept 3, 4 & 5 (see ad pg1).

Blood Donor Clinic. Mon Sept 5. 510 Mt View Ave, Colwood. Register at www.blood.ca

Back to School SD62 (Langford, Colwood, & Sooke). Tues Sept 6. More info: www.sd62.bc.ca

Sooke Community Arts Council AGM Tues Sept 6. 7pm, Sooke Harbour House: www.sookecommunityarts.com

Taste of SEAPARC. Tues Sept 6 to Mon Sept 12. Try some programs free! www.seaparc.ca

Exhibits

Overtide Sept 14 to Oct 2 Coast Collective. Opening reception Fri Sept 16, 7 pm.

www.coastcollective.ca

Post your exhibit here (& online) \$29.95+GST/month. Call 250-217-5821 or email:

advertising@westshorevoiceneews.com

Royal Bay BeachPark celebration. Sat Sept 10. 12 to 5pm. Beach volleyball, kayaks, food, live music, bouncy house. Metchosin Rd at Latoria. www.royalbay.ca

Sooke Fall Fair at Sooke Community Hall. Sat Sept 10 & Sun Sept 11. Agriculture & craft displays, Sookeini Race, pie-eating contest, pet parade. Year of the Pulse. Catalog: www.sookefallfair.ca

Highlands Fling at Caleb Pike Heritage Park. Sun Sept 11. Noon to 5pm. www.highlands.bc.ca

Metchosin Day. Sun Sept 11. 8am-6:30pm at Metchosin Municipal Grounds. www.metchosinday.ca

Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society AGM. Sun Sept 11. 2pm at SEAPARC. www.sheringhamlighthouse.org

District of Sooke Committee of Whole 6pm, **Council** 7pm. Mon Sept 12. Agenda: www.sooke.ca

SD62 Education Committee of the Whole. 7pm. Tues Sept 13. Board office, 3143 Jacklin Rd. www.sd62.bc.ca

Zero Waste Sooke. Monthly meeting Wed Sept 14. Sooke Library, 6:30 pm. www.zerowastesooke.ca

Future of Forests on Vancouver Island. Wed Sept 14 EMCS, 7pm. Sponsored by Transition Sooke.

Fair Vote Canada Town Hall. Thurs Sept 15 with David Merner, Acting President, Fair Vote Canada. EMCS, 6218 Sooke Rd. 7pm. www.fairvote.ca

Luxton Fair. Fri Sept 16 to Sun Sept 18. Admission by donation. www.luxtonfair.ca

Colwood Seaside Festival. Sun Sept 18. Free. 11am-4pm at Fort Rodd Hill & Fisdard Lighthouse. Historical tours, carriage rides, paint-in, vintage dress-up selfie station, music. www.colwood.ca/SeasideFestival

Pro-D Day (SD62). Mon Sept 19

Royal Visit in BC. Sept 24 to Oct 1.

Wadams Way Fun Run & Ride, opening of John Phillips Memorial Park Loop Trail, Wadams Way 3rd Annual Market. 6672 Wadams Way. Sat Sept 24 10-2.

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they and the motorists around them take proper safety precautions.

Juan de Fuca Emergency Program

Back to School @jdfemerg



www.prepareyourself.ca

Electoral Reform Town Hall. Sat Sept 24 with MPs Randall Garrison & Alistair MacGregor, 2-3:30pm at Belmont Secondary, Langford. www.fairvote.ca

Light up the Hills by Westhills & West Shore Arts Council. Sat Sept 24. 7:30 pm. In support of Victoria Hospice. www.westhillsbc.com/lightupthehills

3rd Annual Apple Fest. Sun Sept 25 at Sunriver Community Gardens, 10am-3pm. www.sookefoodchi.ca

Blood Donor Clinic. Mon Sept 26. Sooke Legion, 6726 Eustace Rd. Register at www.blood.ca

Great BC Shakeout. 'Drop, cover and hold on' during BC-wide earthquake drill Thurs Oct 20. Register yourself, business or school at www.shakeoutbc.ca

Pop-Up Markets

Sooke Country Market. Sat 10am-2pm. Otter Pt Road at Eustace, Sooke (to Oct)

Goldstream Farmers Market

Sat 10am-2pm. Veterans Memorial Park, Langford (to Oct 15). **Metchosin Farmers Market** Sun 11am-2pm to Oct 30. 4450 Happy Valley Rd

Sept 1: Campfire ban cancelled due to plenty of rain

Royal Visit in BC & Yukon ~ William & Kate, Prince George & Princess Charlotte: Sept24-Oct1

Sooke Community Arts Council

2016 AGM

6 pm Tuesday, September 6

New members welcome

Join us! Sooke Harbour House 1528 Whiffin Spit Rd

www.sookecommunityarts.com

Arts on the agenda

WEST SHORE VOICE NEWS

● **The Sooke Community Arts Council** will hold their 2016 AGM on Tuesday, September 6 at Sooke Harbour House. Membership opens at 6pm (\$15 individuals, \$25 groups & businesses). Most of the current executive is moving on, so various positions are open.

Following the AGM will be the regular monthly meeting, with the usual review of events, exhibits and business items. **WSV**

Sooke Fall Fair is 'on the pulse'

WEST SHORE VOICE NEWS

● **An agricultural fair** is a great way to stay in touch with where our food comes from and how it is grown.

The annual Sooke Fall Fair this year also celebrates the International Year of Pulses (beans, peas and lentils). The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations aims to heighten public awareness of pulses as part of sustainable food production aimed toward food security (better production methods) and affordable nutrition (protein and vitamins, and almost no fat). Pulse Canada says the demand for pulses will grow each year as every market segment recognizes their value as healthy, sustainable and functional food products.

The 2-day event will be on Saturday, Sept 10 & Sunday, Sept 11 at Sooke Community Hall in Sooke town centre.

On display will be entries of produce, crafts and other specialties, with ribbons on the winning items. Anyone can enter their items into the fair (use the form in the catalog at www.sookefallfair.ca and submit by Wed Sept 7 in the entry box at Shoppers Drug Mart Sooke, by 5 pm).

The two days of the fair will be fun! Games, bingo, pony rides, the Great Sookeini Race pie-eating contests, a pet parade and more.

The official opening ceremony with brief speeches from VIPs will be on Sept 10 at 2pm. Speakers include: Randall Garrison, MP (Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke); John Horgan, MLA (Langford-Juan de Fuca); and Sooke Mayor Maja Tait. www.sookefallfair.ca **WSV**

Mark your calendar!

Sooke Fall Fair 2016

Sat Sept 10 & Sun Sept 11

at Sooke Community Hall 2037 Shields Rd

An agricultural showcase of food & sustainability in the region.

Want to enter produce or a craft into the fair?

Drop off category entries at Shoppers Drug Mart (Sooke) by 5pm on Wed Sept 7, or at Sooke Community Hall on Friday, Sept 9 (2 to 8 pm, upstairs).

www.sookefallfair.ca



International Year of Pulses: beans, peas & lentils



September shift change at The New Branch

● **Through the summer it's pretty busy** for the 'New Branch' of The Stick in the Mud Coffee House, located in the lobby of the Prestige Oceanfront Resort.

They're open daily (7am-1pm) through Labour Day Weekend. Then just on weekends until October, then dormant in winter, and resprouting daily again in spring.

In addition to operating three coffee outlets (The Grand Trunk, SpeedStick and The New Branch), The Stick owned by David Evans is also a wholesaler and distributor of coffee beans and baked goods. **WSV**



Gareth Morgan operates The New Branch

Composting indoors over the winter

● **Kitchen food scraps** can be turned into compost with an indoor worm compost bin.

"So long as you're using a plastic tub with a secure lid, it's all good," says Marika Smith, coordinator, at the Compost Education Centre (CEC) in Victoria. There is no odour, and it's handier than going outside in wet cold weather.

The red wiggler worms can produce compost within four to six months. It's called vermiculture. The compost can be used for houseplants or outdoors.

Sturdy, ventilated high-density plastic bins with lids and a drainage



WEB COURTESY EDITION

system are available at the CEC for \$49.95 (worms extra, from a separate supplier). www.compost.bc.ca

This summer, CEC received a five-year renewal of support funding from the Capital Regional District. **WSV**

Sooke Country Market remains in place

WEST SHORE VOICE NEWS



● **Sooke Country Market** organizers have met with the District of Sooke to talk about the gravel parking lot area on Otter Point Rd at Eustace that Sooke Country Market uses on Saturdays, May to October.

"The District plans to let us continue to use it in the same way throughout their lease with the landowner for use as extra downtown parking," said Sooke Country Market organizer Marika Nagasaka this week. **WSV**

SOOKE MARTIAL ARTS

SINCE 1982

Did you know...? Shotokan Karate has been in Sooke for 34 years!

Registration opens 6pm Sept 8, 2016
 At the SMAA Dojo, Sooke Community Hall, 2037 Shields Rd

Registration is ongoing, Monday & Thursday nights, 6pm to 8pm

www.facebook.com/SookeShotokan
 E mail: info@sookemartialarts.com
 Phone: Sensei Carl Scott 250-642-2452

www.sookemartialarts.com

Join us for SELF CONFIDENCE, SELF DEFENCE, FITNESS & FUN!

You can support the ongoing community information service provided by **West Shore Voice News** with your ads & subscriptions. Contact: 250-217-5821 editor@westshorevoiceneews.com

New to Sooke?
New mom?
Bride to be?

250-642-2268