

## FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Groundhog Day</b>	<b>3</b> Transfer Station: 10 am - 4 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> TWIN Mtg: 11:30 am, Texada Island Inn Pub	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Transfer Station: 10 am - 4 pm
<b>14</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Transfer Station: 10 am - 4 pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Transfer Station: 10 am - 4 pm
<b>28</b> Bottle Drive: 10 am, GB Recy- cling Ctr						

**EVERY:**

**MONDAY:** Tai Chi, Community Hall, 9:30 am

**WEDNESDAY:** Tai Chi, Community Hall, 9:30 am  
Alcoholics Anonymous, United Church, 6:30 pm

**SATURDAY:** Tai Chi, Community Hall, 9:30 am

# Express Lines

**Texada's Calendar of Events**

**February 2021**

## BOTTLE DRIVE

TINSHS will be holding a (refundable) bottle & can drive on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Gillies Bay Recycle Depot. All proceeds will go to further the proposed new

seniors housing project. We appreciate our community's support!



## TIRC

The Texada Recreation Commission (TIRC) is looking to bring on several members to replace those leaving the Commission. Those wishing to serve should contact Ron Smith by email (ronsmith@tru.ca) or phone 604-578-1989. Filling the positions on the Commission will commence at TIRC's March 10th meeting.



So is all your Christmas chocolate eaten? Are you craving more? TICS is here to help you!!!

We will be selling Purdy's Easter Chocolates for the month of February and early March. Catalogues are on their way, and the online order system is ready to go (please see page 17 for instructions for online ordering).

The deadline for ordering is March 10 and pick up will be March 19 (Easter is April 4<sup>th</sup> so lots of time to mail to your kids and grandkids). Call Elayne for more information—604-486-7457.



We are all doing what we can to keep COVID-19 from our island, and we have been fairly successful so far. But the pandemic isn't over yet, and the vaccination program that is rolling out is not likely to be considered effective before September, if not later.

Sandcastle Weekend 2021 is scheduled for July 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. In the interest of continuing to help keep the island safe, the Sandcastle Organizing Committee has decided to cancel the festivities for one more year.

We look forward to 2022 with great anticipation! See you (hopefully) August 13 & 14, 2022!



# TEXADA ISLAND HEALTH CENTRE

## Hours of operation

**Monday to Thursday**

8:30 am to 11:45 am, 1:15 pm to 4 pm

**Friday** 8:30 am to 11:45 am

**Phone Number: 604-486-7525**

If there's no reply, please leave a message.

Emergencies: 604-414-9638. If there's no reply within 10 minutes, please phone 911.

**Information – Nurses Hotline: 811**

### COVID changes:

- Visits strictly by appointment except for emergencies. We will try to deal with issues by phone as much as possible and give appointments when patients need to be seen in person.
- Lab tests by appointment only. Extended lab time: 8:30 am to 9:45 am.
- Masks and hand sanitizer compulsory on entering the health centre.
- If you are ill and suspect you may have COVID, please come to the back door marked COVID and follow the posted instructions.
- TAP forms can be picked up after 1:15 pm.

Please be patient with us. We have never been in this situation before either.

If you want to drink,  
That's your business.

If you want to stop,  
That's ours.

Call Alcoholics Anonymous anytime:

- 604-807-0232
- 604-414-5232
- 604-413-1107
- 604-414-5562



# R C M P

Texada Island RCMP are requesting your assistance. Anyone with knowledge regarding recent vandalism to signs on Airport Road and Iron Mine Road are encouraged to report at 604-486-7717. Alternatively, anonymous tips can be reported to BC Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

It's that time of year again as the temperatures drop overnight during February. Please be mindful of black ice and plan extra time for travel. Also ensure that windows are clear of any obstruction such as snow or frost. Driving without first ensuring your vehicle is properly prepared for the conditions could result in receiving a violation ticket for Driving Without Due Care (which carries a \$368 fine and 6 demerit points) or worse yet, getting into or causing an accident. Help keep our roads safe by taking that extra minute or two to clear snow from your vehicle and ensure windows are defrosted.

Stay Safe!

Cst. Chris SNIDER



**DAMIAN SELLS TEXADA**

Call Today for your FREE  
Market Evaluation

Damian Wright 604-483-6405  
RE/MAX Powell River

## Thanks...

Thank you to everyone that bought Santas for Charity! A total of \$55 will be divided between the Texada Island Food Bank and BC SPCA Powell River Branch. Every little bit helps. Thank you again for your generosity.

— Anne of Feed Your Head Art

# BC FERRY SCHEDULE

TEXADA ISLAND TO POWELL RIVER			
Monday to Friday		Saturday and Sunday	
Leave Texada Island	Leave Powell River	Leave Texada Island	Leave Powell River
6 am	6:50 am	6 am	6:50 am
7:50 am	8:35 am	7:50 am	8:35 am
9:20 am	10:10*/10:20 am	9:20 am	10:20 am
11:25 am	12:15 pm	11:25 am	12:15 pm
3 pm *	3:45 pm	3:30 pm	4:15 pm
5:05 pm	6 pm	5:10 pm	6:40 pm
6:50 pm	7:40 pm	7:25 pm	8:15 pm
8:35 pm	9:20 pm	9 pm	9:45 pm

\*Dangerous Cargo Wednesdays Only—no passengers

POWELL RIVER - SECHELT	
Leave Saltery Bay	Leave Earls Cove
5:40 am*	6:35 am*
7:30 am	8:25 am
9:25 am	10:25 am
11:20 am	12:25 pm
3:50 pm	4:55 pm
6 pm	7 pm
7:55 pm	8:50 pm
9:45 pm	10:40 pm

\*Daily except Sunday

GIBSON - VANCOUVER	
Leave Langdale	Leave Horseshoe Bay
6:20 am	7:30 am
8:40 am	9:45 am
10:50 am	11:55 am
1:05 pm	2:10 pm
3:15 pm	4:20 pm
5:25 pm	5:30 pm
6:40 pm	7:50 pm
8:55 pm	10:55 pm

To Confirm Sailing Times Please Call  
1-888-223-3779 or go to [www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com)

## COMMUTER BUS: THURSDAYS

Phone Wednesday before 3 pm to reserve a seat (604-483-2008).

**Departs Gillies Bay Store at 8:30 am, and the Van Anda Market at about 8:55 am.**

Departs the North entrance of Town Centre Mall at 3 pm.

Fare (each way): \$8 and \$2.25 for seniors (65+).

## Recycling Stations Hours

**Van Anda:**

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am - 5 pm

**Gillies Bay:**

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm

## POWELL RIVER—COMOX

Leave Powell River	Leave Comox
8:05 am	6:15 am
11:50 am	9:55 am
5:15 pm	3:25 pm
8:45 pm	7:10 pm

**Express Lines** is a publication of the *Texada Island Community Society*.

**Editor:** Elayne Boloten, 486-7457  
**Asst. Editor:** Susan Wood

**DEADLINE:** The 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. Please call for information on advertising or insert rates.

- Send announcements (max. 350 words) or ads to: **PO Box 267, Gillies Bay, BC V0N 1W0**
- E-mail to [brakes@telus.net](mailto:brakes@telus.net) or [texadalines@hotmail.com](mailto:texadalines@hotmail.com)
- Fax to **604-486-6703**

# Classified Ads

## Texada Vacation Rental

3 bedroom unit, fully equipped  
 Website: www.texadavacationrental.com  
 604-414-5897  
 1925 Sturt Bay Road, Van Anda

## Rosebank Cottage by the Sea

A vacation rental suite with fabulous ocean view.  
 BBQ, Internet, cable TV, and private deck.  
 Full kitchen, just bring your suitcase!  
 604-413-0994

## Van Anda Custom Works

604-414-7764

## Kel's Lawn, Yardwork and Handyman

604-578-0266

## Handyman Services

### Drake Fredericks

Need a third hand? I'm the man for the job!  
 No job too big or too small.  
 Have most tools for yard maintenance and carpentry.  
 References Available.  
 Call 604-486-7538 or 604-223-4460

## Hair on Blair

604-223-9800

## Personal Income Tax Service

Sole Proprietors are welcome!  
 By appointment only please.  
 COVID protocols in place.  
 Call or email Danielle  
 604-578-8214  
 booksbydc@gmail.com



qathet  
 REGIONAL DISTRICT

## NOTICE OF 2021 BUDGET MEETINGS

The qathet Regional District will meet to consider the 2021-2025 Financial Plan at the Finance Committee and the Regional Hospital District 2021 budget at the Regional Hospital District Committee of the Whole meetings between January 2021 and March 2021. Meeting dates and times can be viewed on the Regional District website at qathet.ca.

*Linda Greenan,  
 Manager of Financial Services*

## EXPRESS LINES SUBSCRIPTION

FOR A 12-MONTH OFF-ISLAND SUBSCRIPTION TO THE EXPRESS LINES, PLEASE SEND \$30 TO PO BOX 233, VAN ANDA, BC, V0N 3K0.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

PROV- \_\_\_\_\_

INCE: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL \_\_\_\_\_



# TILE MASTER



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- Waterproofing and crackproofing using Schluter systems, the best technology in the tile business
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- New projects or renovations/alterations - All your tile needs from A to Z
- Consultation and implementation

Hundreds of satisfied customers— References available.  
 With over 35 years of experience in the tile/reno business serving customers in Vancouver, I can help you with your project. Since I am based on Texada now, no need to add costly ferry rides to the job site.

**Call Chris: 604 -346- 6410 ,**

## Attention

## Texada Food Bank Notification

Texada Food Bank will **only** be offered on the **second Wednesday of the month**. We hope the change will avoid any families missing the day. Call on the second Tuesday between 10 am and 3 pm. Pick up on the second Wednesday between 12 and 12:30.

Call in February 9 – Pick up February 10

Call in March 9 – Pick up March 10

Call in April 13 – Pick up April 14

(604) 483-1219

The Little Free Pantries are always available for anyone with food insecurities. Located at the Food Bank porch and in front of 4758 Cedar St. Gillies Bay.

**Take what you need, leave what you can.**

## GARDEN CLUB NOTES

February already! Since we live in such a temperate zone, we are lucky to be enjoying some days out in our gardens. When we think of the garden, we usually think of dirt in which we plant, producing food, flowers, trees and shrubs. This month, Dale Leopkey is sharing how he has designed and built a Zen Garden, a garden beyond soil. This Japanese style garden is intended to represent the essence of nature and act as an aid to meditation to find the true meaning of existence. Okay, I had to look that up! Dale has a wonderful touch. Do walk down the Sanderson Beach trail that parallels Sanderson Road to see this special place. The fairy village is very close to Dale's Japanese Garden. He also had a hand in that!

### My Japanese Garden

We still find ourselves surrounded by COVID! I am in need of a project and have rediscovered a book given to us by family, entitled "Japanese Gardens in a Weekend".

Why, might you ask, a Japanese Garden? Whenever we meet friends along the Sanderson trail or enroute to the Gillies Bay Store, the conversations always end up with the question, "How is your garden doing???" I then must endure a long litany of complaints about weeds, wind, weather and water. A Japanese garden has none of these concerns. What, you may ask, is a "Japanese Garden"? The earliest historical reference to such a garden dates back to A.D. 74 (earlier in China). Later gardens were influenced by the rise of Zen Buddhism and it is now the standard for dry landscape style, (i.e. rock/gravel), used in Zen gardens of Japan today. Note: no weeds, no wind, no weather, no water worries.

A Japanese Garden has three basic zones: the fore, the middle and the background. The garden scene is built up in a series of layers that guide the viewer's imagination into revealing a delightful composition.

Current Status: My garden gate is complete and includes Marzie's tricycle wheel from the 1940's. Hopefully the gate will soon be open because a Japanese Garden is not complete without a viewer! You may have spotted this gate tucked into our laurel hedge

along Sanderson Trail. The Tea/Coffee/Bring Your Own Beer House is nearly complete. The garden perimeter is fixed. The Texada variation will feature not only rocks and gravel but also driftwood. These features are tentatively in place. However, at Marzie's insistence, I am in the process of relocating several tons of topsoil. This area will then be filled with sand and gravel. Currently, I have ten samples weathering on my deck. Hopefully I will decide on the most appropriate material soon.

Forget the Japanese Garden in a weekend, I started this project in October and do not expect to finish before Spring 2021. I believe that is about 24 weekends and should coincide nicely with the arrival of the COVID vaccine!

This spring, I hope to take a more active part in the Texada garden culture. I will be able to discuss with friends and neighbours my garden's progress and it will not include concerns about weeds, wind, weather or water.

— Dale "Pops" Leopkey

### Karaage Chicken Recipe

This is one of my favourites and is also very popular in Japanese Isakaya [pub].

Ingredients:

- 1 lb chicken thigh [skin on] cubed
- 1 Tbsp sake
- 1 tsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp soy sauce
- 1 Tbsp grated ginger
- 1 clove minced garlic
- 1 half egg, beaten
- 1 third cup potato starch
- cooking oil for frying

Preparation:

1. In a large bowl, combine chicken, sake, sugar, soy sauce, ginger and garlic. Mix well, cover with plastic and marinate in the fridge for at least 15 minutes.
2. Add the egg and potato starch to the chicken and mix well.
3. Heat oil to 340 F. and fry once for 5 minutes. Then fry a second time until golden brown—it's this double frying that gives this dish its unique crunchiness.
- 4 ENJOY!



"YOUR ISLAND HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM INFORMATION CENTRE"

604-486-7711

Hello, Texada,  
What a beautiful January! We are so blessed.

- We will be selling Super Bowl squares—\$5 and \$2 and will have the game on. You don't have to be here to win.
- We are having a 2-seating (5 pm and 7 pm), socially distanced Valentine's Dinner Night (menu TBA) and a Valentine breakfast and lunch. Regular menu and to-go available as well. The restaurant will be open later. Reservations strongly recommended for dinner.
- We will be closed February 15 for family day. Enjoy!
- Come see our new metal outside art sculpture by Jack Oostenbrink.

Full Lotto Center  
Gift Certificates  
Bagged Ice  
Island Information  
T-Shirts & Vests &  
Hoodies

Thank you, Texada, for  
all your love and support.  
*Cymry, Evan, and Kaitlyn*

Shop Locally, Buy  
Beautiful—lots of new  
stuff being added.

Bar Hours  
Friday - Saturday:  
noon - 8 pm  
Sunday - Thursday:  
3 pm - closing

Restaurant  
Hours  
Mon. - Sun.:  
9 am - 7 pm

Closed Family Day



Van Anda

Improvement District

Safe Water for Everybody

If you are interested in an administrative job share opportunity, please visit our webpage. We will put a reminder on Facebook as well.

Applications for single, multiple, and subdivided property water service connections need to be applied for with the Van Anda Improvement District. Applications can be found on our website or requested by phone call or email. Applications are reviewed by our Board of Trustees and Water Operators. The size of the water service does not eliminate this requirement. Due to the leaky nature of our present water distribution system and pressure in your area, we may not have the capacity to supply new

water services. Getting this approval early will help you determine your property water service options.

2036 Marble Bay Road · Box 115 ·  
Van Anda · BC · V0N 3K0  
604-486-7035

contact@vananda-id.ca · www.vananda-id.ca

**To order Purdy's Chocolates**  
online under the Texada Island Community Society campaign, please follow these steps:

- Go to [fundraising.purdys.com](http://fundraising.purdys.com)
- Click on Sign In (top right side of the screen)
- Register as a supporter—our customer number is 28828 — or sign in to your existing account (if you shopped at Christmas) then choose Join A Campaign.
- Choose Shop Online from the tool bar across the top.
- Shop away!! Marketplace will show you everything available, with pictures.



# TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH NOTES



"For true love is inexhaustible; the more you give, the more you have. And if you go to draw at the true fountain-head, the more water you draw, the more abundant is its flow."

~ Antoine de Saint-Exupery

### Focus on Spirit!

A weekly reflection is posted on the church website. Links can be found on the church's Facebook page (sometimes there are extra posts there so check it out ) and Texada Message Board.

### Church Reopening

With the recent restrictions put on gatherings because of COVID all church gatherings are suspended until we can do so safely. If there is anything that we can do for you, please contact Rev. Gayle Chouinard.

### Energy Healing Sessions

... are suspended due to COVID-19.

### Prayer Group

Please call Rikki Kooy, 604-243-8097 for prayers or information.

**Wick's Fire, Safety**  
SALES & SERVICE



7241 Warner St.  
Powell River, BC  
V8A 4A2  
Tel: (604) 485 5494  
Fax: (604) 483 4296

**John Wick**

Drop your fire extinguishers at Pacific Brake Factory for servicing next time I am on the island.

**Weekly Services: 10:30 Sundays... are suspended** until further notice.

**Please note** that your donations or tithes are more important than ever right now, and can be mailed to Texada United Church, Box 23, Gillies Bay, BC V0N 1W0.

**Minister's Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursdays, at the church, 1-3 pm.

The church is open at these times for private individual prayer or meditation. Offering envelopes can be picked up during these hours.

**Minister:** Rev. Gayle Chouinard, 604-414-7309  
trollhollow123@gmail.com

**Board Chair:** Dale Rinehart, 604-486-0050

**Legion Chaplain:** Karen May, 604-413-0994

**Website:** www.texadaunited.ca

**Facebook:** Texada Island United Church


**Bourne Construction**  
CONCRETE, CARPENTRY, CREATIVITY  
Call Darren or Amber Bourne  
**604-223-7767**  
concrete, fencing, decks,  
landscaping, tile, and much more.  
bourneconstructiontexada@gmail.com  
facebook.com/bourneconstructiontexada

Looking for a good fundraiser for your Texada non-profit organization? Inquiries to Mary-Ann at the qRD recycling depot during open hours.




**WOOD STOVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM**  
**2021**

Receive up to **\$550** when replacing your old wood stove

		
<b>\$550</b> to replace your non-EPA certified wood stove with a heatpump	<b>\$550</b> to replace your non-EPA certified wood stove with a gas, propane or electric stove	<b>\$400</b> to replace your non-EPA certified wood stove with a new EPA-Certified wood stove
<b>PRE-APPROVAL REQUIRED</b>		

The **qathet Regional District** is working to replace old smoky wood stoves that contribute particulate matter into the air with cleaner burning, more efficient models.

Please contact **Let's Talk Trash** to find out more information about program requirements. Call **604.485.2260**, email [info@letstalktrash.ca](mailto:info@letstalktrash.ca) or visit [qathet.ca](http://qathet.ca) to learn more.

*Additional rebates can be applied for through Efficiency BC.*



**qathet**  
REGIONAL DISTRICT



**Let's Talk Trash.ca**  
WHAT IS WASTE?

# TEXADA FOOD BANK

Financial Donations can be made at the First Credit Union or by mail to PO Box 233, Van Anda, B.C. V0N 3K0.

Non-perishable food donations may be put in the baskets at the Gillies Bay General Store, the Texada Market, and the First Credit Union in Van Anda.

Thank you so much. Donation tins for cash are available at both stores (Gillies Bay Store and Texada Market in Van Anda) and the First Credit Union.

Please call Pauline Fleming at 604-414-9590 if you have any questions regarding the Food Bank.

The Texada Food Bank acknowledges all of our contributors:

Big thank yous go to Bill and Sher-

odann Kristofferson, Stan Smith, Pete Stiles, S. Groves, the Read-a-Thon group, Sandy and Cal Johnson, Angie Beaumont, Mary Mary Café, the Texada Elementary School, Anne Hughson Campbell, and Sue Russell. Thank you for all your financial donations. There have also been many anonymous financial donations mailed in and some directly deposited at the First Credit Union. We are so grateful.

We are always grateful to Jake and The Gillies Bay Store for continued support with donations of cases of food and to everyone at the Texada Market for your help every month. We are very grateful to everyone for all the anonymous cash and food donations that are dropped off at the Gillies Bay Store, Texada Market, and Credit Union.

**High Speed Internet**  
 Servicing Desolation Sound and surrounding areas

**Twin Comm** For more information:  
[www.twincomm.ca](http://www.twincomm.ca)  
 1-866-446-6004

**TEXADA ISLAND BOAT YARD**  
 Boat Haul Out / Boat Wash / Boat Storage  
 Boat Ramp / Boat Moorage / DIY Boat Repairs

ALAN DAVIS      1844 Marble Bay Rd  
 604-414-9817    Van Anda BC V0N 3K0

aldavis@telus.net  
<https://texadaboatyard.com>

Tool & Equipment Rentals / Sand & Aggregate Sales

**DAVIS VENTURES LTD**

## LITTLE FREE PANTRIES

Texada's own "little free pantries" are available to everyone on Texada with food insecurities. Please feel free to pick up or drop off some much needed food. Locations are at the Food Bank in Van Anda and in front of 4758 Cedar St. (between Oak and Ash) in Gillies Bay. Sponsored by the Community of Texada and the Texada Food Bank. "Take what you need; leave what you can."

THANK YOU for all the anonymous donations of food that have been left in the pantries! If you see a cooler under the pantries, you may take or leave produce, including excess from our gardens.



# Sherwood Contracting Inc



**Construction**

project management / general contracting / fences & decks / interior & exterior finishing / door & windows / rough carpentry

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**Hauling**

rubbish removal / yard & construction waste / 5 tonne dump / 5 tonne low deck

**Full Liability Coverage and WorksafeBC**

**250 580 3428**

Check out our webpage at [sherwoodcontracting.ca](http://sherwoodcontracting.ca) and follow us on facebook

## TEXADA WOMEN'S ISLAND NETWORK

February Luncheon

Thursday February 11, 2021  
 in the Pub at the Texada Island Inn.

Doors open at 11:30 am, lunch at 12 noon and the guest speaker at 1 pm.

Guest speaker: Violet

Topic: Photography

To reserve, please call Mo at 604-414-7312 no later than Thursday February 4, 2021. If you have food allergies, please let Mo know when making your reservation.

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, please wear red or pink.

If you can, please bring a non-perishable food item.

Members not wearing their name tag will be fined a loonie. If you **are** wearing your name tag, you will be entered into our draw for a free lunch, to be drawn in June. Good Luck!



Offering Weekday General Transport Service Between Texada Island and Powell River Also Offering Service to Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland

Phone: 604-485-7683  
 To arrange for deliveries

3606 MacKenzie Ave  
 Powell River, BC  
 V8A 3E8



## Texada Shores Vacation Suites

Private waterfront suites with full kitchen  
**We offer wireless hi-speed internet**  
 Reservations recommended  
 We accept Visa, Mastercard and Interac

Jennifer & Chay Clark • 4476 Sanderson Rd  
 604-486-7388 • [texadashores@gmail.com](mailto:texadashores@gmail.com)

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

While the camaraderie and connectedness of in-person gatherings is sadly missed during the pandemic, work is carrying on at the RD. Directors have both group and individual responsibilities. This month, I'll share some **insight into what I do as Texada's director**. For the time being, all meetings are virtual and are open to the public on the qRD website.

The Board itself meets at the end of each month to make decisions on recommendations from three standing committees. The Planning Committee involves directors from areas A, B, C, and D, which participate in the planning service, while Finance Committee and Committee of the Whole (which I chair) include all seven directors. The qRD Board also serves as the board of the PR Regional Hospital District, which meets regularly.

Directors also serve on other committees of the RD and I'm appointed to three. The Regional Emergency Executive Committee meets quarterly and deals with emergency management issues. The Social Action Planning Advisory Committee also meets quarterly and oversees implementation of the regional Social Plan, including issues such as housing, child care and poverty reduction. The ad hoc Regional Public Transportation Service Exploration Working Group focuses on the lack of public transportation in rural areas and bus service to the Lower Mainland. It will make recommendations this summer to the three local governments: the RD, PR City, and Tla'Amin Nation. Elected officials of these three bodies also try to meet quarterly regarding issues of mutual concern. Additionally, I'm the RD's rep on the Tourism PR Board, which meets monthly.

Closer to home, I sit as a non-voting member of Texada's Recreation Commission, Heritage Commission, and the Airport Advisory Committee.

Currently, I attend all of the above sitting in my crafts room with my laptop computer. While it's nice to be home right after the meetings, I greatly prefer the discussions and interactions of meeting in person.

The biggest issue this month is development of the 2021 budget and five-year financial plan. No big surprises so far, but costs are going up, so be prepared for a property tax increase. The final budget must be approved by March 31.

Part two of "insight" to come in a future column.

*Sandy McCormick, area D director  
sandytleeti@gmail.com  
604-414-3525*

### Texada Market

- Fresh cut meat
- Fresh produce arriving twice weekly
- Liquor agency store
- New items arriving weekly

<b>Store Hours</b>	Sun: Noon - 5 pm Mon - Sat: 10 am - 7 pm
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<b>Family Day</b>	Monday, Feb 15: Noon - 4 pm
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**Thank You** for shopping locally.  
5105 Copper Queen St      604-486-7418  
Van Anda, BC, V0N 3K0      Fax 604-486-7279

# WHERE YOU BANK MAKES A DIFFERENCE

 **First**  
CREDIT UNION

firstcu.ca

2021 Legion Road, Van Anda

604.486.7851

## Gillies Bay Internet Society

For Wireless Internet from Spragge Road to Shelter Point and up to Bell Road.

Call 1-855-767-4247

or email [GBISoc@shaw.ca](mailto:GBISoc@shaw.ca)

[www.gilliesbay.ca/wireless](http://www.gilliesbay.ca/wireless)

## DONATIONS TO TEXADA CLINIC

If you or someone you know is making a donation to the Texada Clinic, please make the cheque out to **Texada Health Services Society** and mail to Box 84, Gillies Bay, V0N 1W0. Thank you in advance.

*Mary Mary*  
c a f e   
"A little bit of Retro"

1989 Marble Bay Road  
604-486-7080

Open 7 days a week, 8 am - 1 pm

### Supper Specials

Served Sunday, Monday, Tuesday  
5 pm - 7 pm

Save the disappointment,  
Call ahead to reserve your meal.

**Call us** if you need a special meal prepared. We may not be "skip the dishes", but we can help you serve a great meal for friends and family. Family friendly prices.

## WHAT'S NEW AT TEXADA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Hello, and Happy New Year to you, Texada!

We continue to live a quiet existence here with the COVID-19 protocols in place. Everyone returned in January

nice refreshed and ready to get down to the business of learning. I'm pretty sure there was an average height growth of 2 inches per child – must have been the turkey!

Shortly before the holidays, we received permission to open our bouldering wall to students. It requires a fair amount of hand-washing and some "downtime" between uses, but it's exciting to have this opportunity once again. For the time being, we will be using the wall during PE classes exclusively, but there is some talk of opening it after school one day a week for interested children. It would be great to be able to offer an afterschool program again.

On February 10<sup>th</sup>, students will be dismissed at 12:30 for what has traditionally been our "Student-Led Conferences". This year will be different in that students will bring home some work to share and talk about with parents, and the afternoon will be set aside for those parents who wish to speak directly to teachers via phone call.

This February, we will be observing "Real Acts of Caring", or "RAC Week", Febru-

ary 14-20. Students will be creating some opportunities to show caring for their friends, family and community.

Also in February, on the 24<sup>th</sup> we'll be observing "Pink Shirt Day", which is a day to focus on peaceful play and kindness.

Stay healthy everyone, and thanks for reading,  
— Rhonda Gordon

### Texada Breast Cancer Support



Contact: Joan Martisca  
604-483-6438

Udith Teuner  
604-486-6744

Canadian Cancer Society-Trained  
Peer Facilitators

LIVE - LOVE- LAUGHTER



qathet  
REGIONAL DISTRICT

### INVITATION TO TENDER SHELTER POINT PARK CONTRACT CARETAKER 2021

The qathet Regional District is looking for a Contract Caretaker to operate Shelter Point Park and Campground. The Invitation to Tender (ITT) may be viewed and downloaded online at BC Bid ([bcbid.gov.bc.ca](http://bcbid.gov.bc.ca)) and the Regional District website ([qathet.ca](http://qathet.ca)) under *Bid Opportunities*. For all inquiries, contact Patrick Devereaux at 604-487-1380 or [operations@qathet.ca](mailto:operations@qathet.ca).

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## TEXADA FOOD HUB

We're looking forward to a positive 2021! Texada's own community food preservation kitchen, the Texada Food Hub, is equipped with commercial equipment for flash-freezing, dehydrating, fermenting and canning all kinds of foods. COVID restrictions apply, but the Hub is available. For a nominal fee, Hub members can use the

kitchen for stocking up a personal food supply, for making commercial food products, and for learning how to do food preservation using the above techniques. All are welcome to join; membership costs \$10 per year for individuals or \$15 per year for a household with two adults. For more information please contact Tom Read, phone/text 604-414-9998.

## Thanks...

On a peaceful Sunday evening in January, my Bob passed away unexpectedly. I would like to thank the Paramedic crew, the Gillies Bay Fire Department, the RCMP, and Dr. Black for helping me that night. I would also like to thank Dr. Black, Susan Sharkey and my many friends here on Texada for their continued care and support. We truly live on a wonderful island.

— Most sincerely, Mary Harris.

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# NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Greetings, everyone.

Well, the weather is giving us some blue sky and sun for which we're all very thankful I expect. However, at the time of writing, I see that snow is being predicted for the upcoming weekend. Well, we haven't had any yet; so, I suspect a little (stressed) won't do us too much harm.

There are some recent acquisitions I want to tell you about. One is really a number of books, eight altogether, from the Kay Scarpetta series by Patricia Cornwell (**FIC MYS COR**). This donation increases our collection of Cornwell's titles quite substantially. She has also written a non-fiction title: *Portrait of a Killer : Jack The Ripper – case closed* (**364.15 COR**) which is classed as true crime. If you're a Cornwell fan, this will surely gladden your heart. These are all shelved on the New Book shelves.

The second acquisition is one we ordered from our regular supplier: *A Promised Land* (**973.93 OBA**) by Barack Obama. The blurb describes it as "a riveting, deeply personal account of history in the making – from the President who inspired us to believe in the power of democracy". A little further along, the blurb refers to this volume as "the stirring, highly anticipated first volume of [Obama's] presidential memoirs". Coincidentally, I received this same title as a Christmas gift from some American friends who spoke very highly of it; and don't forget, there's an indication here that there is more to come.

Stop by the library, browse a bit and pick up something to read by the fire in case of another episode of nasty weather. Stay safe and well.

The Texada Island Library is a volunteer-staffed community service located in the Gillies Bay Old School: phone 604-486-6728, during open hours.



**Library Open Hours:**

Wednesday noon to 2 pm  
 Friday noon to 2 pm  
 Sunday noon to 2 pm

For more information about the library, or about becoming a volunteer, please phone Anne Carney, Library Coordinator, at 604-486-7117.

— Dick Turner

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## THRIFT SHOP

On February 14<sup>th</sup> we will be 48 years "old". That's when we opened for the first time by Kempe's Store in the little house that Via lives in now.

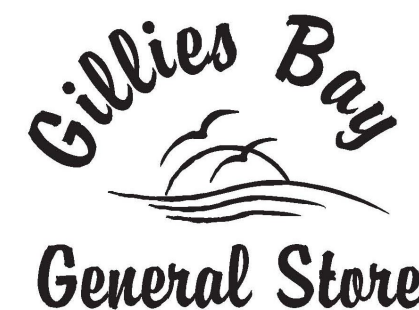
In this difficult time, we reopened on June 14<sup>th</sup> with me sitting outside and people going in, one "bubble" at a time. We are only open on Sundays for now as we need time to let goods sit — items are sorted and put out on Thursdays.

Thanks to Sue who comes Sunday mornings when I first open, Margaret and Sheryl, our sorting crew, Diane Grayson, Shirley Williams who checks on our building and plug in the second heater Sunday mornings, Wade Chisholm, Dave Hull, and our rag cutter, J Reid Segur.

At this time we ask for drop-offs only on Sundays when we are open. The rags we sell to quarries and others so any cotton and flannel items are good. Can be stained or torn. We also sell sets of buttons that have been cut from clothing used for rags.

Thanks to all who support us by donating clean items and all who come in and shop. We appreciate you!!

— Yours truly,  
 Linn Rairie



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- TUESDAY: STIRFRY
- WEDNESDAY: PIZZA
- THURSDAY: CURRY CHICKEN OR CHICKEN FAJITA
- FRIDAY: BEEF BURRITO
- SATURDAY: PORK RIBS

## MUSEUM MUSINGS

### LITTLE BILLIE MINE

Perhaps it's the romance of the name that spurs the imagination, but Little Billie is the most fondly remembered of old Texada mines.

As one of the oldest claims on the island (1880), the details of its discovery and naming are lost in time. Some say it was fishermen who made the initial find just above high tide line. We do know, however, that Alfred and James Raper, Texada's pioneer prospectors, later worked this claim from tents on the shore.

In 1896, American mining promoter Ed Blewett got wind of its potential and purchased the claim along with the Copper Queen and Cornell sites. With partner Harry Treat, the Van Anda Copper and Gold Company set to work.

Mine reports show that Little Billie's first ore shipment of 30 tons was sent to a smelter in Everett to extract the gold, silver and copper locked in the rock.

By 1919, when the mine closed due to falling copper prices, production had totalled over 36,000 tons.

Little Billie sat idle until 1943 when another smooth-talking American mining promoter, Lester Prosser, bought the claim. Remembered as a "figure of dash and colour", Prosser was a small, energetic man who thrived north of the border as, "for some reason", he was never able to return to the US.

With \$200,000 of his own money, Prosser set about to de-water and clean out the mine down to the 280-foot level.

Little Billie's reopening prompted a "spectacular revival" of Van Anda's for-



tunes. The *PR News* (May 1945) reported that, with its population swelling to over 1,000, "Van Anda is overcrowded." Two shifts employed at least 60 men. A work camp including cookhouse and offices was constructed (photo), all supplied by a diesel-powered electrical generator near the shore.

Lack of continued investment, however, forced Little Billie to cease operations in June, 1952. The camp was demolished and the cookhouse was moved into town to serve as the post office. The generator and power line system were bought by Al Waters to supply his new Van Anda electrical grid.

Today Little Billie sits silent — a jumble of rock, sagging timbers and lengths of abandoned pipe. Fortunately, Texada museum's walk-through Little Billie mine display rekindles the mystique of the historic site.

— Peter Lock  
*Texada Island Heritage Society*

# P B F

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## TEXADA COMMUNITY POLICING

As the light returns and weather subsides, we can expect an increase in the varied use of our roads. Did you know cyclists have the same rights and the same duties as a vehicle operator? Please, pass safely.

**Contact** – Box 48, Van Anda, BC V0N 3K0  
or phone Leslie at 604-483-8423

Meetings are cancelled until further notice.

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## ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 232

The Legion is open!!!

We'll be open weekends — Saturdays at 3:30 – 7 pm and Sundays at 4 – 7 pm. Meat draws (considered events) have been cancelled until further notice.

Please watch the Texada Message Board on Facebook for updates to our hours, meat draws, etc.

We have a safety plan in place and look forward to seeing everyone again!

Stay safe everyone!

Lest we forget.



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