

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

Neglecting to report crime encourages crime!

1 September 2024

www.bamfielder.ca

No. 159/75

SOS, Save Our Lighthouses. Safety survey conducted (when?) leads to the de-manning of **Carmanah Point** and **Pachena Point** light stations. Pronto! Navigational functions will be retrained. But if you are in a nearby flipped boat. Your whistle will not be heard.

Instability of lighthouses during a seismic event is given as the reason. The same could be said about Bamfield, the whole west coast.

Note below from September 2014 *The New Bamfielder.* ,,

Doomed Trio Saved by Alert Lighthouse Staff. On June 30th **Eddie Johnson's** boat, *Ka-Ka-Win*, flipped at Cape Beale. The two passengers were thrown free but Eddie was trapped in the cabin. "I found an air pocket, caught my breath, and found my way out. It was all so confusing." When asked what went wrong, Eddie replied, "The wave came up on the left side of the boat. I would have turned into it if I had seen it." The *Huu-ay-aht* call such waves *Chup-Meek*. The three clung to the boat and shouted and whistled for help. Eddie thinks it was the whistle that caught the lighthouse staff's attention. The light keepers contacted the Coast Guard and 18 minutes later the rigid-hulled inflatable boat, with **Don Amos** and **Juan Burak**, arrived in the area and were guided through the fog by the lighthouse staff. Eddie was air-lifted out of Bamfield to the West Coast General Hospital in Port Alberni where he was treated for four broken ribs and abrasions. After a few days he was discharged and is now recuperating in Port Alberni.



Eddie is thankful that people were manning the lighthouse. "If those guys weren't there we probably wouldn't have survived." Don Amos has seen 6-7 rescues led by the Cape Beale lighthouse folks. And

Eddie's final words, "**Everything happens so fast...have a life jacket on, with a whistle.** *L. Druehl*

Lost innocence. The road brought commerce and a longer car life. But it also has robbed us of our false sense of security. Unlocked homes have experienced theft, items 'lifted' from firehall, boardwalk. RCMP unaware of this! It is not a bad dream. Act!

Submissions are welcome. They may be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. All submissions must have the author's name. Submit to ldruehl@island.net. *The New Bamfielder* is free but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. Louis Druehl

Your New Community Hall



The foyer, a reception area with access to meeting rooms, cloak room, and stairs and elevator to lower level.



The main hall, retractable stage, left, bar and kitchen at far end. Next step, to stain the post and beams. Consideration given to handicap access and gender neutral washrooms. My impression: a welcoming gothic whale ribcage. *L. Druehl, aka Noah*

Support your community gardens. Photos, ES Centennial Park, R. Hopkins



...for those unfortunate folks who recently received a fat envelope informing them they were overextended on their **Tax Free Savings** accounts. Voodoo dolls and hat pins will be available, or binkies, if that is your style..

Is anyone doing something about 'curb' parking? Over 150 vehicles were parked around 'down town' Bamfield on a recent long weekend. Demand by new westside businesses and residence's combined with the new road drive the issue. And a few vehicles in prime parking spots (we paid big bucks to develop these), are being overgrown with weeds. How to fix? We cannot pass bylaws. It is up to the ACRD to come to our rescue...maybe the new **ACRD's Bamfield Area Serves Committee** could champion this issue. *L. Druehl*

THE FIRST CAR INTO BAMFIELD.

Bamfield's road connection to Port Alberni and the rest of the Island was officially celebrated 60 years ago, on June 3rd, 1964, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held at the Pachena Bridge. Chamber of Commerce President, **Roald Ostrom** spoke there of the over 50 years quest for the link. The logging road had been pushed through to Pachena many years before, but the final 3 miles with a bridge over the river required provincial government funding. Prior to that, the Life Saving trail had been the only access. In 1950, local fishermen **Geoff Phillips** and **Doug York**, built themselves motorized "cars" capable of traversing the 4-foot-wide suspension bridge over the Pachena, that they had also had a hand in constructing. These ingenious vehicles were used to transport goods and people to the light houses, for family picnics at the beach, etc. In 1962, carrying on the family tradition, Geoff's son, **Marc Phillips**, and his Port Alberni



High School buddy, **Cliff West**, drove Cliff's jeep right into Bamfield while the new bridge was still being built. The tide was out when they reached the river, but they just powered through on the river bottom and made it into town for a beer with friends. On the way back, the tide had come up and they got stuck. Fortunately, their adventure had a happy ending, when construction workers hauled them across with a caterpillar tractor and they barrelled on home to Port. *Judith Phillips*. Photo: **Abby** and **Marc Phillips** with their grandfather **Phillips** in **Geof Phillips'** Dog Patch Wonder.