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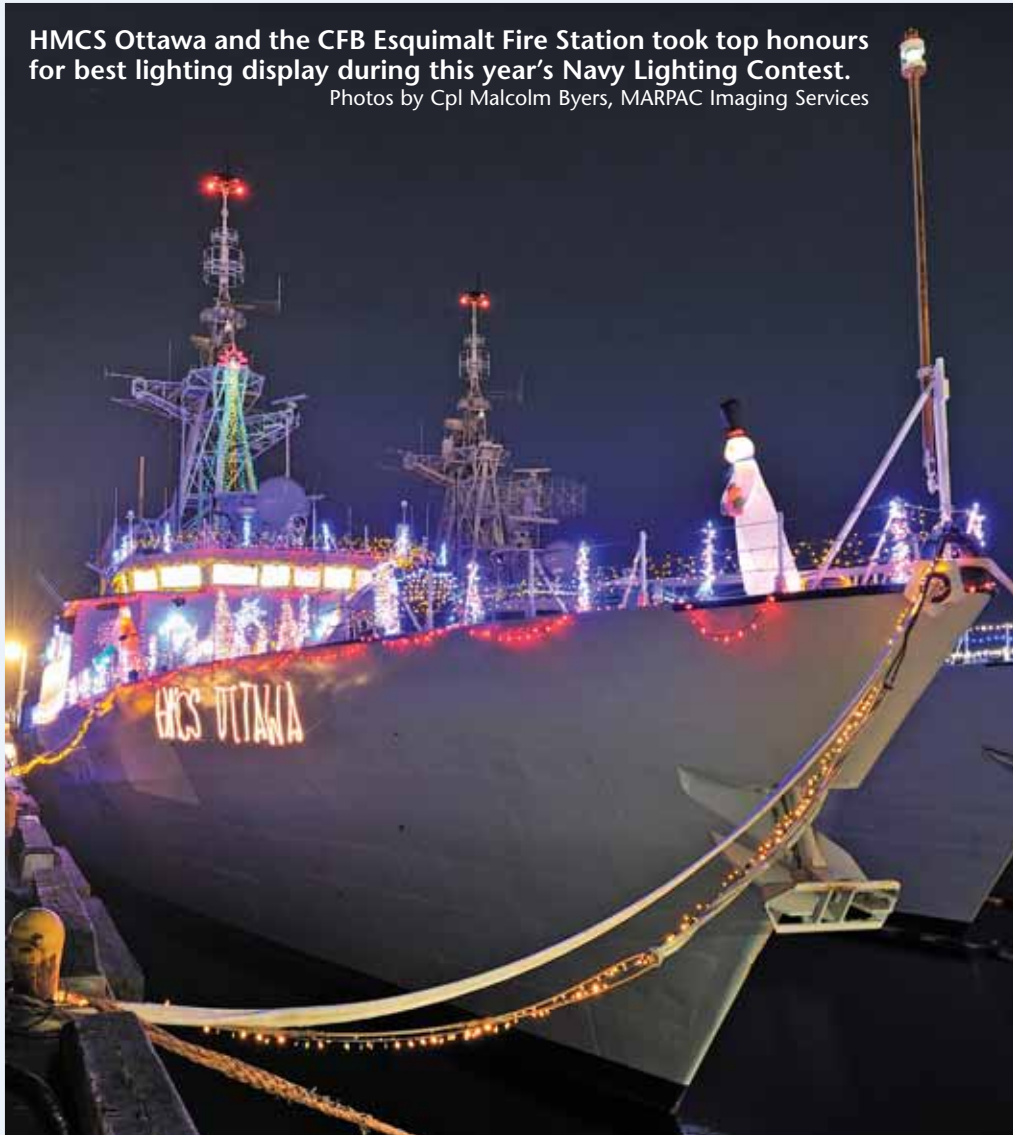
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HMCS Ottawa and the CFB Esquimalt Fire Station took top honours for best lighting display during this year's Navy Lighting Contest.

Photos by Cpl Malcolm Byers, MARPAC Imaging Services



Navy lights up the night

Ben Green
Staff Writer

The votes have been tallied and *HMCS Ottawa* and the CFB Esquimalt Fire Station have been named co-winners of this year's Navy Lighting Contest. In the ship category, *Ottawa* narrowly edged past *HMCS Protecteur* by a mere 52 votes, while the Fire Station blew away competitors in the building category, including the perennial favourite Admiral's Residence.

Capt(N) Craig Baines, Base Commander at CFB Esquimalt, was elated with everyone's effort.

"I'm extremely proud of the entire team's creativity and hard work, especially those who volunteered their personal time to help make this event a success," he said. "I want to thank all the people who visited and made a donation to the Mustard Seed, as well as our business and media sponsors for their support. Like all the important missions we do in the Canadian Forces, this contest is a true team effort."

Among the decorations were the trad-

itional Santas and reindeers, candy canes and Christmas trees. Non-traditional florescent hockey signs illuminated the decks of some ships, while a larger-than-life Darth Vader, Yoda, and other Star Wars memorabilia decorated another. There were also lights. Thousands of them winked, blinked, and flickered around the base signalling the 23rd Annual Navy Lighting Contest, which ran from Dec. 14-24. Approximately 5,200 visitors took in the festivities, which also saw a donation of over \$18,000 in money and food contributions.

Brent Palmer, Director of the Mustard Seed Food Bank, thanked everyone associated with the contest for their charitable spirit.

"The Mustard Seed is extremely grateful to the Navy for hosting this event once again and for the response of Victorians attending the contest," he said.

Since its inception in 1988, over 170,000 people have toured HMC Dockyard during the Annual Navy Lighting Contest.

See more photos on page 7.



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Base fire truck wins West Shore fire truck parade



Shelley Lipke
Staff Writer

For the second year in a row, CFB Esquimalt fire fighters are celebrating their win for the most brightly lit fire truck in town.

The annual West Shore Fire Truck Parade on Dec. 19 involved 19 decorated fire trucks from Langford, Saanich, North Saanich, Sooke, and CFB Esquimalt.

This year's 13th annual

event was well attended by community members as it was held in conjunction with the Christmas in the City event.

Three judges assessed the trucks based on creativity, effort involved in decorating, and uniqueness, before determining CFB Esquimalt's truck was a hands down winner.

Each year base fire fighter Dave Hill leads the event and dresses up as Santa to hand out candy canes to the children along the route.

The truck took about five days to decorate with thousands of lights and Hill received help from many base fire fighters who volunteered their time during the busy season.

CFB Esquimalt's fire truck joined 19 other trucks from the Victoria area for the 13th annual West Shore Fire Truck Parade.

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Photo courtesy of PSP Recreation

Lucky children from CFB Esquimalt families joined Santa on the ice at the Wurtele Arena Sunday Dec. 19, 2010. The Skate with Santa event was hosted by Personnel Support Programs Recreation Department.

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MARPAC Expo – explore your options

Mary Lou Climenhaga
Esquimalt MFRC

February can be a challenging month; winter seems to drag on and make the everyday stresses of military life seem that much harder to handle. Eventually it can take a toll on your wellbeing.

To combat this malaise the MARPAC Expo will be held at the Naden Athletic Centre on Feb. 2 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. It is an opportunity to check out great resources and find ways to improve both your mental and physical health.

While you are there look for the Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC) booth; there will be knowledgeable staff on site to answer any questions you may have.

The Esquimalt MFRC has caring, professional staff that offer support during deployment issues, relocation and other short-term crisis situations. The MFRC is your source for quality referrals to outside counselling resources and specialized counsellors. Check out the new Activity Guide January-April 2011 for a

complete list of programs being offered. For more information and to register for these programs call the MFRC 250-363-2640 or toll free 1-800-353-3329.

The MARPAC Expo offers a great opportunity to showcase local community health partners. There will be several on hand to answer questions regarding top health issues. Many health issues may not affect us, but may impact the lives of those around us. These are some of the health partners that have confirmed attendance at the MARPAC Expo and the programs and services they support:

- Heart and Stroke Foundation. February is Heart Month and this is the Heart and Stroke's opportunity to raise awareness and raise funds. This year's campaign is "Open a door to give Canadians more time."

- The Victoria Branch of the Canadian Diabetes Association will be there to promote their mission to lead the fight against diabetes by helping people with diabetes live healthy lives while they work to find a cure.

- Canadian Liver Foundation is

working to shatter the misconceptions associated with liver disease through much needed education and research. Did you know that one in 10 Canadians have some kind of liver disease?

- The Canadian Cancer Society will be in attendance to promote their on going fight against cancer. World Cancer Day, Feb. 4, draws attention to the profound and universal impact of cancer around the world. This year's theme for World Cancer Day is "Cancer can be prevented too" focusing on how the risk of developing cancer can significantly be reduced through simple measures.

- The Kidney Foundation of Canada, since its creation in 1964, has helped millions of Canadians suffering from kidney failure and related disorders such as hypertension, diabetes, urinary track infections and kidney stones.

- The Pacific Centre for Families, a non-profit organization, provides education, counselling and creative programming. They have locations in Colwood, Langford and Sooke.

Naval museum offering a piece of history

Ben Green
Staff Writer

Rare footage of a long ago Royal visit has been discovered by CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military Museum staff while rooting through their archives.

Fourteen minutes of 16mm colour film capture King George VI and his wife Queen Elizabeth during a tour of the city in May 1939. The silent film shows the King presenting his Colour to the Royal Canadian Navy at a ceremony in Beacon Hill Park.

It was the first visit of a reigning sovereign to Canada.

The film has since been transferred to DVD. Museum staff is also transferring similar 16mm films to DVD to ensure their longevity as the original film could deteriorate. To

cover the cost of changing old films into DVD, the museum is selling copies of the Royal Visit for \$10. To purchase a copy or inquire about other historic films on DVD, visit www.navalandmilitarymuseum.org or call 250-363-4312.

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FILM *friday*

Season of the Witch another flop for Cage

W. Andrew Powell
The GATE

Happy New Year, movie lovers, and welcome to what amounts to two meagre offerings for the start of this cold January. Opening this weekend is the Nicolas Cage supernatural thriller, *Season Of The Witch*, which co-stars Ron Perlman, and the musical drama *Country Strong*, with Garrett Hedlund and Gwyneth Paltrow.

Season Of The Witch

Nicolas Cage has made some bad movies throughout his long and memorable career, but *Season of the Witch* may be the bad movie to finally make us all ask what Cage does to choose his projects. Based on the dismal reviews the film is getting, which paint a picture far darker than Cage's previous disaster, *The Wicker Man*, it seems like Cage simply picks the first script that lands on his desk that uses the words "supernatural" and is willing to pay him a healthy wad of cash.

Set in the days following the Crusades, Cage plays Behmen, a knight who returns home to discover his homeland has been devastated by the Black Plague. Joined by his soldier buddy Felson, played by the wonderful Ron Perlman, the friends are forced to assist church elders who swear that a local woman is actually a witch who has cursed the

land, and the only way to lift the terrible blight is to have her dealt with by a far-away monastery.

Journeying across the land, the duo have to face many challenges on their road, and on the way they also discover the truth about the girl and the force that is trying to defeat them on their quest, which will also change the fate of the world.

While I'm a big fan of Perlman, and of Cage to some degree, the film looks absolutely ridiculous, and with its three per cent fresh rating on Rotten Tomatoes, the critics are all agreeing on that point.

"*Season of the Witch* isn't quite Jonah Hex or Little Fockers bad," wrote Jim Vejvoda for IGN Movies, "but it's one helluva shoddy way to start off the year in movies and yet another crummy entry in Nicolas Cage's woeful post-Oscar filmography."

Since the film was dumped in January, the key month for disappointing movies, it's no big surprise that *Season of the Witch* is a dud, but it's also worth noting that the film was directed by Dominic Sena, the man responsible for the horrible little thriller *Whiteout*. The director's only two decent hits to date were *Gone in 60 Seconds* and *Swordfish*, which weren't exactly mind-blowing films either, but apparently he still has enough clout in Hollywood to keep him from waiting tables.



Photo by Egon Endrenyi

Nicolas Cage stars in "Season Of The Witch."

The incomprehensible thing about Cage is how the heavily lauded actor can go from a film like *Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans*, where he delivered one of his all-time great performances of his career, to tripe like *Season Of The Witch*. The only explanation I can come up with is that he's more concerned with paychecks and weird roles than being careful with the parts he picks to play. That said, there's no doubt that Cage picks interesting themes and concepts. This concept just comes up short.

Country Strong

On a somewhat brighter note this week there is director Shana Feste's twangy drama, *Country Strong*, starring Garrett Hedlund,

Leighton Meester, and Gwyneth Paltrow.

Hedlund stars as a rising singer-songwriter who gets wrapped up with a down-but-not-quite-out country singer, played by Gwyneth Paltrow. Teaming up to try to make another name for herself, the duo go on tour with her husband, played by Tim McGraw, and a young singer, played by Leighton Meester. On the road the four duelling personalities will face old and new troubles, and face off against conflicted emotions that could ruin them all if they don't get them under control.

Featuring original music and an intriguing concept, *Country Strong* is not getting rave reviews, but it is holding its own.

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Maj Pat McSorley (centre) formally relinquishes the rank of Major to accept Reserve Class A employment in a Captain's position at the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) Victoria. Assisting Maj McSorley are Maj James Pierotti (left), Officer In Charge of JRCC Victoria, and LCol Dave Berry (right), Director of Operations of Air Component Coordination Element (ACCE) Pacific. Maj McSorley was required to relinquish his rank in compliance with CMP Instr 20/04 as he was over-ranked for his new Class A position at JRCC Victoria.

SPORTS *trivia*

by PO2 Bill Sheridan
Contributor

A little bit of everything

QUESTIONS?

- Who was the Chicoutimi Cucumber?
- Who gave up Bonds record breaking home run number 756?
- Who is the Commissioner of the NBA?
- What is BLESTO?
- When was the last time the Ottawa franchise won the Grey Cup?
- What position was Nuke Laloosh?
- Michael and John Shea wrote the fight song for which US College?
- What are the Stoke Mandeville Games
- Which two men have won five straight Wimbledon singles titles?
- How many times was Tiger Woods the yearly money leader?
- What is the size of the proper soccer net?
- Who is the current welterweight champion of the UFC?

- Georges Vezina
- Mike Bacsik
- David Stern
- The NFL's first scouting organization.
- Rough Riders in 1976
- Pitcher in Bull Durham
- Notre Dame
- They were the original name for what would become the Paralympics.
- Bjorn Borg and Roger Federer
- Nine times, last year he was 68th on the earnings list.
- Inner posts 24 feet apart and bottom of crossbar 8 ft high
- GSP, George St Pierre.

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Shedding light on forgotten heroes

Ben Green
Staff Writer

Last month, Army Staff Sgt Salvatore Giunta became the first living recipient of the Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War. The highest distinction earned in the U.S. military, Staff Sgt Giunta was awarded the medal for his role during a fearsome firefight in Afghanistan that saw him retrieve and protect the body of a fallen friend and fellow soldier.

His valour now unites him with more than 3,400 Medal of Honor recipients since its creation in 1863 – 101 of those being Canadian or with connections to Canada.

It's this little known fact, and one of many that have motivated Master Warrant Officer Bart Armstrong for over a decade to exhumate military history for inclusion in his book *Forgotten Heroes: 101 men, mostly Canadian, awarded the U.S. Medal of Honor*.

Serving 17 years in the Army Reserves on both coasts, his parents being military veterans, and having a Victoria Cross recipient in his ancestry have given him this strong desire to study military medals and honours.

"The research I'm doing hasn't been adequately covered before," says MWO Armstrong. "The book I'm writing is preserving and bringing to the public's attention these incredible heroes."

Of the 101 Canadian recipients, over half earned their Medal of Honor in the Civil War. Beginning in the early 1860s, 50,000 Canadians went south to fight. Some for the pay, some for the adventure, but all were put into the U.S. Army, Navy and Marines. During the conflict, 25 per cent of the Medal of Honor recipients were non-Americans by birth; post Civil War, 20 per cent.

Armstrong passionately recounts the story of Benjamin Franklin Youngs. Born and raised in Zorra, Ontario, Youngs was one of the thousands who went south to help in the war effort of 1863.

Taking the marksmanship skills he learned on the farm, 19-year-old Youngs enlisted with the First Michigan Volunteer Sharpshooters.

For months he battled Confederates with his unit through the Virginia countryside. It was during their advance on Richmond they came up against the 35th North Carolina Infantry. Driving the 35th back to their entrenchments, Youngs leapt into the trench and retrieved their Confederate States of America flag. Turning back and running with the flag towards friendly lines, Youngs dodged barrages of whizzing musket fire before finally handing the flag off to his General.

Awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery in the heat of battle, Youngs survived the war and died in 1927.



Photo courtesy of Bart Armstrong

Bart Armstrong holds Benjamin Franklin Youngs medals by Youngs grave site; with him are distant relatives and members of the Canadian Forces.

Through Armstrong's investigation, he found out Youngs, as well as other Canadian Medal of Honor recipients, never received a military burial for soldiers with such distinction.

MWO Armstrong has joined the American-based Medal of Honor Historical Society, an organization interested in preserving the tradition of the award. As a member he has been vital in tracking down most of the burial sites of these 101 Canadians and many of the graves not having markers indicating the hero's status have been updated to reflect this status.

His book will have an estimated 100 chapters, so he may release it in two volumes: the first covering the Civil War era, the second on wars that followed. Each chapter will include in-depth backgrounds, biographies, and, where avail-

able, pictures of many actual medals awarded to some of the 101 Canadian recipients.

Having spent the past decade sifting through libraries, historical societies, genealogy societies, museum archives, and the Internet, Armstrong has learned not to put an exact release date for his book. He also goes to great lengths to acknowledge the help of many people during this research, especially the folks and resources of the Victoria Genealogical Society such as Diane Clarke.

"It gets done when it gets done. I hope in the next year, maybe in the next two," he said.

Anyone who has information on Canadian Medal of Honor recipients or is interested in having a speaker on the subject, contact MWO Bart Armstrong at ymart@shaw.ca



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Photos by Cpl Malcolm Byers, MARPAC Imaging Services
Above: The Admiral's House.

Top right: HMCS Protecteur came a close second in this year's competition, missing first by 52 votes.

Bottom right: Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Breton's Plating Shop (D213) marked the Canadian Navy's centennial year for this year's light up.

Below: HMCS Calgary incorporated aspects of its namesake city into its lighting design.



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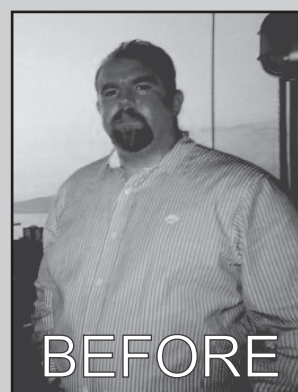
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For the the 24th year in a row, the Victoria Model Shipbuilding Society will host the largest display in the annual West Shore Mall Hobby Show.

The exhibit, between the credit union and the travel store, will have models on display tables and the club's portable pool. Spectators are invited to talk with any members present and vote for their favourite model.



This is an excellent way for people of all ages to explore the oldest type of replica modelling.

For more information call 250-385-9552 or 250-896-7388.



Photos courtesy of Cal Campbell

2Lt Callum Campbell gives the thumbs up in front of his CT 120 Grob before an afternoon flight.

Opposite page: 2Lt Campbell taxis the runway at the Southport Aerospace Centre in Portage La Prairie, MB.

Nowhere but up

Ben Green
Staff Writer

As 2Lt Callum Campbell's head breaks the surface of the water, his hands search for the sides of the old tub. He draws in a large breath. The scent of aviation fuel singes his throat. A firm hand under his shoulder pulls him up, then a handshake, then another, and another. Dripping wet, a grin spreads across his face. He's done it, flown his first solo flight and completed a ritual dedicated to Air Force pilots after passing the first phase of training.

Only 30 minutes ago he was taxiing the runway at the Southport Aerospace Centre in Portage La Prairie, MB, in a CT-120A Grob. His task was to take off in the trainer, circle the airfield and land three times without error.

The flight was part of the primary pilot selection and training at 3 Canadian Forces Flying Training School, a demanding selection course meant to weed out pilots from the pack.

The aircraft, a two-seated and aerobatic low-wing plane, *Continued on page 9*

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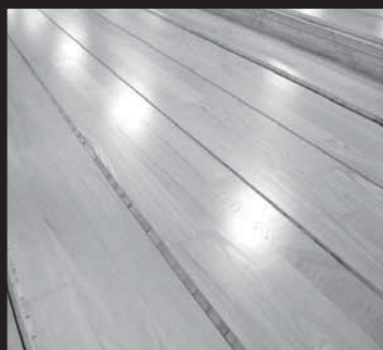
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From page 8

provided the ideal platform for the manoeuvres at both high and low airspeeds. Contracted civilian instructors graded his performance, and found it to be sufficient for him to pass and move on to the next phase of becoming a fully trained Air Force pilot.

His elation was hard to hide as he stepped out of the aircraft onto the runway. It continues to resonate months after his test flight.

"My goal in the Canadian Forces is first and foremost to be awarded my Canadian Forces Pilot Wings. Beyond that, simply being the best pilot I can be," he says.

The 22-year-old Victoria native has learned duty, service, and responsibility from his father, an ex-police officer.

A month after turning 12 2Lt Campbell joined cadets. Like most boys his age, the opportunity to wear the stylish uniform and learn weapons handling was alluring. He had a difficult choice to make: Air, Sea, or Army Cadets?

"I knew how to sail [already] and Air Cadets also taught me how to shoot, so I felt Air Cadets would be the most beneficial," recalls Campbell. "Shortly after joining, I

contemplated quitting; it wasn't until discovering the thrill of aviation that I found a passion for something that could entertain me for a lifetime."

As a member of the 89th Pacific Air Cadets Squadron, he learned everything he could from his instructors and superiors.

"Being a member of the 89th Pacific Squadron allowed me to grow as a person and taught me many life lessons I still find incredibly applicable today," he says.

Over six years, cadets turned a boy into a confident man, instilling self-discipline, and the ability to teach and speak effectively.

"Perhaps most important to my particular vocation are the skills I gained through the practical and theoretical application of aviation knowledge."

During his years with the 89th Campbell was given a scholarship to obtain his gliders and private pilot's licenses.

After graduating from Claremont Secondary in the summer of 2006, he officially retired from the Air Cadet program a few months later. However, he was drawn back by his desire to give back. So he signed on to instruct the Introduction to Leadership

course at Albert Head Air Cadet Summer Training Centre for a year.

Following that, he completed a year at the University of Victoria, then made the decision to follow his passion for flying and joined the Regular Forces as a pilot under the Continuing Education Officer Training Program.

He completed the Basic Officer Training Program and five months after wondering if he had made the right decision, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, an officer in the Canadian Forces.

Upon the completion of phase one of his pilots' training, he moved back to Victoria and is currently working at 443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron. This experience has solidified his desire to fly the helicopters, or their soon-to-be replacement Cyclones, upon graduation.

In the New Year, he'll return to Manitoba for phase two of his four phase training. It will be eight to 10 months of intensive advanced flight training.

As for now, it's a matter of patience before he can get airborne again. Even though waiting is tedious, 2Lt Campbell has the wherewithal to know he's one of the lucky few making a life out of something he loves.



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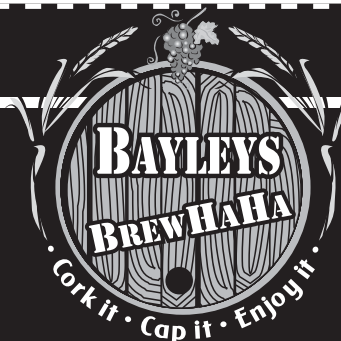
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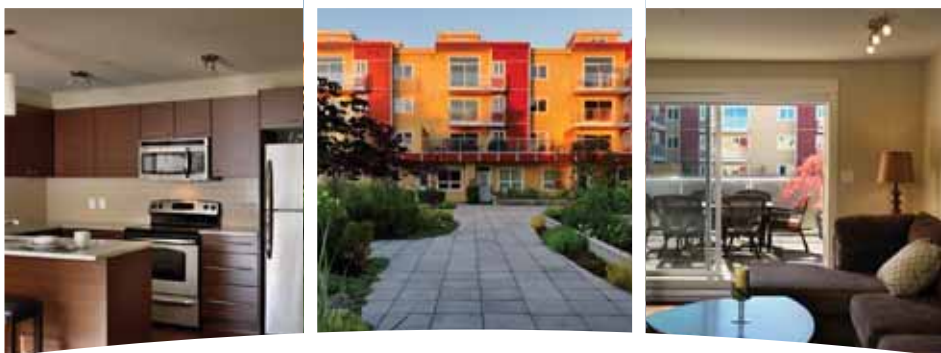
Shelley Lipke, Lookout

Left: Carpenter apprentice Brent Snelling of Base Construction Engineering uses a table saw to cut wood that will be used to build cabinets for the paint shed to store paint.

Above: Sheet metal worker Selwyn Bliss of Base Construction Engineering prepares to punch holes with the Rotox punch into aluminum signs, which will be used for range control at Albert Head.

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