

OS Aaron Brookes and LS Nicholaus Lutyk show off the brand new Naval 2-in-1 Rain Gear, along with new thermal underwear. The new gear has been a long time coming and will offer a warm and waterproof option for extreme weather conditions while at sea, on base, or on deployment. Clothing Stores shelves will be fully stocked with the new kit this spring.







A/SLt MacDougall, BPAO Trainee

The Grey Selkie is one of two Victoria Harbour Ferry Company vessels that transport base employees between Colwood and Esquimalt. The money and time saved using this service is phenomenal says A/SLt Ron MacDougall.

Baseline Ferry sails past the "Colwood Crawl"

A/SLt Ron MacDougall BPAO Trainee

Every weekday morning I ride downhill on my mountain bike to D-Jetty in Colwood to catch the Baseline Ferry, a service offered by the Victoria Harbour Ferry Company. I am one of the more than 300 passengers who ride the Grey Selkie or the Linda May II to Dockyard or Naden daily. Instead of sitting in my car driving in the Colwood Crawl, I'm happily avoiding the 40 minute nerve-racking drive by taking the ferry.

Upon arrival here last February from Eastern Canada, I was surprised to see the sheer volume of traffic funnelling into Esquimalt, causing stop and go traffic on weekday mornings. The return trip can be even worse often taking at least an hour.

On the other hand, the ferry trip across the harbour takes a maximum of 15 minutes, so for me it's a no brainer. The cost of a one-way ticket is \$2.50 and it is even cheaper as a regular commuter to use prepaid punch cards or a monthly pass.

"I use the Baseline because of the frustration of being in traffic and it's better on the environment," says Anita Didrich from Shop 171 at the Fleet Maintenace Facility and fellow commuter. "Also, while we sit on the boat every day we meet new people - it's very social."

As a friendly Nova Scotian, I find it's easy to strike up a conversation in the relaxed atmosphere, which is obvious by the numerous conversations heard during the trip. This open atmosphere is also felt by the ferry staff.

"We feel like they belong to a larger family. We transport the same people day in and day out, twice a day, so things often run on a first name basis," says Barry Hobbis, Vice President of Victoria Harbour Ferries. "The staff is amazed at how warm and fuzzy the people are at 7 a.m. It's a wonderful thing."

Another one of my fellow commuters, CPO1 Robert Anderson from MARPAC Headquarters energetically adds, "People often don't believe in the savings until they try it for themselves. I can also get some

I use the Baseline because of the frustration of being in traffic and it's better on the environment.

-Anita Didrich FMF employee work done on my Blackberry and there is plenty of parking on the Colwood side - a real bonus."

After purchasing a ticket from the friendly staff at the small ticket building, I typically wait under the large tent with the other passengers – much appreciated on rainy days. After boarding, the ferry pilot, known to commuters as "Captain Bill", gives the two minute departure signal (four short blasts) and confirms via walkie-talkie that no one is left behind. It is obvious that the comfort, safety, and well-being of the Baseline passengers is priority number one.

The Victoria Harbour Ferry Company recently expanded its service to include Victoria Shipyard workers, leaving Colwood at 5:40 a.m. and 5:50 a.m. to accommodate the early shifts. Regular ferry services run from 6 a.m. until 8 a.m. and includes three hourly runs during lunch. Service resumes at 2:50 p.m. with the last ferry departing at 4:50 p.m.

When asked why Baseline Ferry is the first choice for many commuters, first mate Ian Roberts says, "It usually comes down to two major factors for the passengers: the horrendous amount time it takes to drive that short of distance and the higher cost to commute by vehicle."



Last days of a Century of Navy Art exhibit

Shelley Lipke Staff Writer

The clock is winding down on a collection of 46 paintings from many of Canada's leading war artists, depicting naval activities from the First World War to the present day, currently on exhibit at the Royal BC Museum.

The Navy: A Century in Art opened Nov. 11, 2010, marking the Centennial of the founding of the Royal Canadian Navy, and only two weeks remain until this exhibit closes Jan. 27.

"This collection is on loan from the Canadian War Museum and shows 100 years of history honouring the men and women of the Canadian Navy," said curator of history Lorne Hammond. Works on display are drawn from the museum's Beaverbrook Collection of War Art, featuring paintings from both official and unofficial war artists including Arthur Lismer, Alex Colville, Harold Beament, Donald C. Mackay, Anthony Law, Ted Zuber and Pegi Nicol MacLeod.

These artists have captured the Canadian naval experience in times of war and peace — from dramatic depictions of the Battle of the Atlantic to intimate portraits of life at sea and ashore.

"The war art collection began with the First World War when hundreds of Canadian artists served, creating paintings during the war. Others in the collection are more recent paintings of the Gulf and Afghanistan," said Hammond.

"By the Second World War the artists were giving lists of subjects and they were asked to document the life of men and women in service," he adds.

The paintings depict convoy patrols in the north Atlantic, naval actions at night, and submarine patrols.

"If you look closely you can see how some of the artists are using abstract art in the sea and sky, but at the same time doing a realistic painting," said Hammond.

"Some are paintings with tremendous personal connections," he said.

Canadian artist Alex Colville went to shore in the landing craft and you can see his involvement in the painting.

In another, the officer overseeing a funeral at sea was at that funeral and paints himself saluting. "I liked the way the collection shows shore leave, work parties at sea or ashore and harbours that must be familiar to many members of the navy," he said.

One painting features Lt Hampton Gray's plane being gunned down in the Second World War. He was the last Canadian Forces member to be awarded the Victoria Cross during the war.

Military members receive a 20 per cent discount at the museum and half price is in effect after 3:30 p.m. daily.

"Iced Up" by Donald MacKay, 1943. Sailors on board HMCS Shawnigan remove ice from a depth charge launcher.

Inset: "Finale" by Donald Connolly, 1987. Pilot Lt Robert Hampton served on the carrier HMS Formidable, and was killed during an attack on Japanese vessels in Onagawa Bay.





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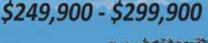
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250-363-4006 Published each Monday, under the authority of Capt(N) Bob Auchterlonie, Base Commander. Le LOOKOUT est publié tous les lundi, sous l'égide du Capt(N) Bob Auchterlonie, Commandant de la Base

The editor reserves the right to edit, abridge or reject copy or advertising to adhere to policy as outlined in CFA0 57.5. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of National Defence

Le Rédacteur se réserve le droit de modifier, de condenser ou de reieter les articles. photographies, ou annonces plublicitaires pour adhérer à l'0AFC57.5. Les opinions et annonces exprimées dans le journal ne réflètent pas nécéssairement le point de vue du MDN.



Circulation - 4,500 One year subscription - \$37.67 Six month subscription - \$18.84 Three month subscription - \$12.56 Prices include tax.

A Division of Personnel Support Programs CFB Esquimalt, PO Box 17000 Stn. Forces, Victoria, BC V9A 7N2

E-mail: frontoffice@lookoutnewspaper.com Web: www.lookoutnewspaper.com Fax: 250-363-3015

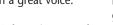
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People Talk

James Earl Jones. He's just got such a great voice.

MCpl Travis Kennedy



OS Nicholas Gould



I think I'd want to play myself. No one else could get it right.



play the part of you, and why?

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. We may not have many physical similarities, but mentally and spiritually we're both strong.

OS Angel Soto



only one that would be

AB Marc Baker

able to keep up!

In a movie based on your life what actor would you want to

George Clooney. I'd obvinonstop action; he's the

ously be getting a late start at this and I'd need someone that matches my age.

Mark Miller

Secret Santa brings cheer to posted sailors

CPO1 Janet Graham-Smith HMCS Winnipeg

Sailors from HMC Ships Protecteur and Winnipeg deployed with HMCS Regina received some extra Christmas cheer over the holidays thanks to their ship mates back home and Regina's very own secret Santa.

It's hard enough to leave family and friends for long periods of time, but when the deployment spans the holidays it's just that much tougher. To say thanks and seasons greetings

ships' crew got together to make Christmas stockings for Santa to put on the bunks of

Handmade stockings, complete with the ship's crest, were filled by the very busy elves of the respective ship's company in readiness for the big night.

But how best to get the stockings from Victoria to the sailors deployed in Regina? As luck would have it a secret Santa came to the rescue.

The Senior Writer in Regina, WO Sue Sbrizzi, while home on leave in November enthusiastically volunteered to pack all the stockings in a great big sack and bring them back with her. She hid them in the ship's office until Christmas Eve when she brought them out of hiding and placed one on each sailor's bunk.

Of course hidden in the sack was an extra stocking from the sailor elves as a small token of their thanks for her part in the Christmas stocking project.

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to their shipmates in Regina, the two wartheir deployed sailors on Christmas Eve.

Fiction novel benefits Wounded Warriors Fund

Shelley Lipke Staff Writer

Author Al Birtch lives close to the Highway of Heroes in Trenton, Ontario.

For the past seven years witnessed fallen he's Canadian soldiers being repatriated on their final journey home.

Former and current servicemen and women from military, police and fire departments join hundreds of citizens at every overpass along the 401 highway from Trenton to Toronto to honour the fallen.

It is a humbling sight. "I decided that I needed to do something to tell the story of the belief system that calls people to a life of service," said Birtch.

So he booted up his computer and wrote a novel about it

Recently published, Code of Honor is his fifth fiction novel. The code of honour is the moral code service members live by.

Birtch apologizes to Canadian readers for the American setting and spelling of Honor in his new thriller.

"It's a fact of reality that

I decided that I needed to do something to tell the story of the belief system that calls people to a life of service

-Al Birtch Author, Code of Honor

the U.S. market dominates in the field of fiction thrillers,

so I had to go with the flow," he says. "It's also a fact of life that the Code of Honor that stems from a life of service knows no political boundaries, so Canadian readers will equally identify with the stories and characters," he says.

His style is to take real world events, things that the reader will quickly identify with, and then create a storyline that offers an unexpected set of dangers to the characters.

"The consistent feedback I get is my readers are never quite sure where the truth left off and the fiction began. They are left wondering, could this actually be happening around me? Some believe it is."

Writing this book was one way for him to acknowledging the commitment of Canadian Forces members, and support them.

"Fifty per cent of the net proceeds from the sale of my book will go to support the work of the Wounded Warrior Foundation in Canada.'

Wounded Warriors Foundation's focus is heavily weighted to help military people who are experiencing social and psychological challenges.

"I guess I empathize with these military men and women and just want to help in any way I can," he said.

Birtch made a career as a banker but also had a passion for writing novels.

"I hope people take away the best human qualities require giving of ourselves. And that truly living requires taking risks. Not all of us can face that challenge of taking risks, but even if you personally cannot, you can support those who do. I hope anyone who still believes that heroes are not only needed, but still exist today will enjoy this book," he says.



Author Al Birtch holds up his latest novel "Code of Honor," which pays hommage to military members.



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Children of military families needed for a study

We are looking for parents interested in having their children be part of a focus group with other children to discuss their perspectives on issues related to deployment, relocation, and well-being.

*The focus groups will be conducted by a qualified researcher with a PhD, and a social worker will be present at all times.

THE STUDY

Children in Military Families: The Impact of Military Life on Family Well-Being

The Chief Military Personnel and the Chief of Defence Staff have made the well-being of military families a top priority. Thus, this research study looks at the impact of military life from the children's perspective. We would like to understand children's experiences of military life, so we can make policy/program recommendations that will improve the quality of life and well-being of Canadian Forces families.

It's an opportunity for children to have their voices heard on issues that affect military families.

- OUTLINE
- Focus Groups are planned for Feb. 27 & 28, 2013, at 6 pm Colwood Pacific Activity Centre (CPAC), 2610 Rosebank Rd, Colwood, V9C 4J7
- 30 to 40 minutes long.
- Children grouped by age (8 to 10 and 11 to 13).
- Questions related to their experiences of parental deployment, family relocation, and well-being.
- Responses will remain confidential and anonymous.
- During the focus groups, parents will be asked to remain in the waiting room nearby.

You and your child can meet the researcher conducting the focus group and ask any questions prior to your child's participation. You will be asked to sign consent forms, but please note that your child's participation in the focus groups is completely voluntary and he or she may leave at any time.

QUESTIONS

If you have any additional questions regarding this research, please contact :

Dr. Alla Skomorovsky 613-992-8739 / Alla.Skomorovsky@forces.gc.ca

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

Pauline Sibbald 250-363-2640 Pauline.Sibbald@forces.gc.ca This research study was approved by the SSRRB in accordance with CANFORGEN 198/08, approval # 1134-12F.



Four-decade career a "good go" for CPO1 Syrard

Shelley Lipke Staff Writer

What does retiring after 36 years of service in the Royal Canadian Navy feel like?

Ask CPO1 Vital (Vee) Syrard.

In 1976, at the young age of 17, he walked into the recruiting centre on Bishop Street in Montreal and took the oath.

Drawn to a life of travelling on the high seas, he became a radio operator, a trade these days known as naval communicator.

On Friday he celebrated his retirement with a party at the Chief and Petty Officer's mess, and his last day in uniform is Jan 28.

"It went in the blink of an eye," he says.

During his career he's seen it all - from Morse code and teletype, to satellite communication and then the computer age.

"I feel like a dinosaur," he says about what he's experienced in his trade throughout the years.

His initial trade training was done in Esquimalt in Naden's building 50.

"At the time we still used Morse code, but teletype was the main form of communication back then. As radio operators we handled ship-to-ship communication and also ship-to-shore. I loved it. You were the ears and the voice of the ship," he said.

Syrard would CPO1 transmit messages to the Aldergrove radio station, the teletype relay station. From there further communication was possible within Canada.

"Sun spots effected high frequency communications and at times we would go for days without the ability to communicate with our shore station. This would make a lot of people anxious, especially the command team and operations room team as we had no way to send information," he recalls.

Using various teletype systems, CPO1 Syrard would type messages on a machine that would convert them into long perforated tapes. "We would twist them around our fingers and hang them up until we had proper radio contact and we could send them out."

They were organized by priority and sometimes it took days before the radio operators had the frequency required to send them.

"They looked like wasps nests while they hung up

CPO1 Vital (Vee) Syrard (left) shakes hands with former Chief of Defence Staff, Gen Walt Natynczyk, during Exercise Rim of the Pacific.

waiting to be sent," he said. "You were at the mercy of the frequencies and were either a hero or a zero."

At the time there was no email, only telegrams.

"Someone would send a telegram to their mom in Ontario and we would write down what he wanted and calculate how much it would cost him. After he paid at the pay office on the ship, he would come back up, we would format it and transmit out to CFS Aldergrove for relay into a commercial network."

Another relic of the time was the phone patch.

Usually used for emergency calls, it was one-way communication and users would have to say "over" so a switch could be pulled allowing the other person to talk.

Many postings saw CPO1 Syrard, his wife Julie, and children Nicole and Eric relocating across Canada.

He served at the Aldergrove station; was a boot camp instructor training recruits in St.-Jean, Quebec; worked at Fleet School Esquimalt as an Instructor teaching his trade at the QL3 and OL5 level: worked at Canadian Fleet Pacific and Sea Training Pacific as Chief Radioman; and with the Chief of Maritime Staff and Chief of Military Personnel

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National Defence in Headquarters. Most recently he was Coxswain of Fleet School where his naval communicator career started.

He served on many including HMC ships Ships Yukon, Miramichi, Mackenzie, Restigouche, Annapolis, Huron, and Algonquin.

'The saddest memory I had was when I crossed the brow of the Algonquin for the last time as the coxswain, knowing I would never go back to a ship. I loved that ship, the morale and esprit de corps the crew had was second to none.

I served seven years in Algonquin and I have probably 18 to 20 years of seatime in total.

His best memory was meeting the Governor General and having supper with the Chief of Defence Staff in the Commanding Officer's cabin during RIMPAC in Algonquin.

"I will miss the people. The people make the navy." Now able to enjoy retirement, he wants to take a course on home inspection and also he would like to start a small renovation business and travel with his family.

"Fifty three years old is the perfect age to retire," says CPO1 Syrard. "It's been a good go."



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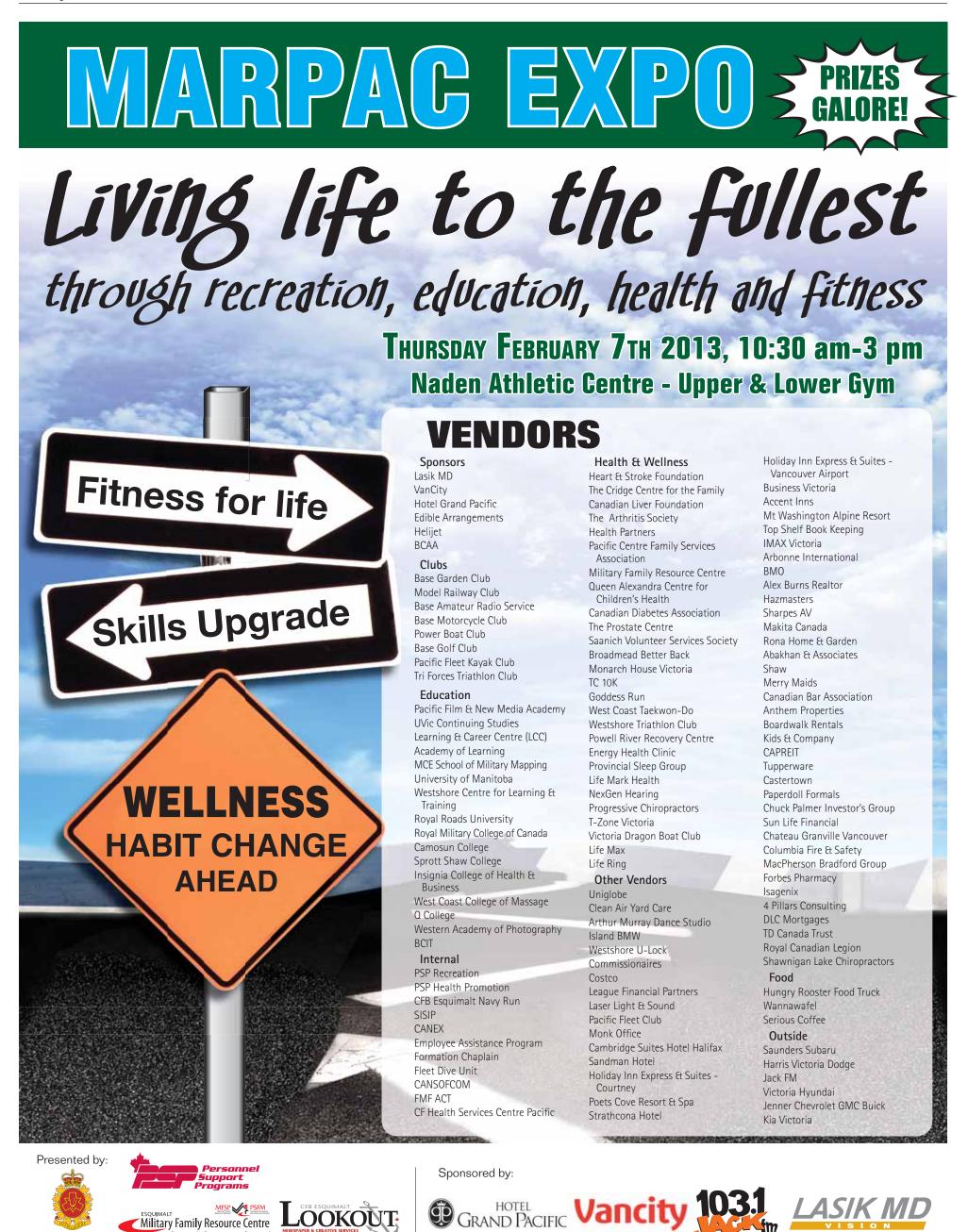
Above: Steward, OS Oliver Boongaling (left) onboard HMCS Regina serves lunch to the Commander, Canadian Joint Operations Command, LGen Stuart Beare, during a visit to the ship while at anchor off of Muscat, Oman, during Operation Artemis.

Right: Executive Officer of HMCS Regina, LCdr Andrew Hingston (left) and Lt(N) Sarah Thomas (right) salute LGen Beare as he leaves the ship after a short visit.

Below: HMCS Regina bids farewell to HMAS Anzac as it prepares to leave Combined Task Force 150 to head back to Australia after working for four months with HMCS Regina in the Arabian Sea region.







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Jon Chabun, MFRC Julie Sweeney has created a nine-week self-help program for military spouses that addresses the thoughts and behaviour that can influence body image.

Volunteering is really worth it

the women that constantly

The program is her latest

effort in the past year to

help members of the mili-

"Julie is making a posi-

tive impact on people's

lives by filling a need

in the community," said

Marianne Ostopovich, a

registered clinical coun-

sellor and social worker

at the MFRC. "She isn't

waiting for someone else

to develop a program, she

is taking an active role in

helping members of the

Sweeney partnered with

St. Peter's Naval Chapel in

January 2012 to create the

Military Wives Bible Study

monthly support group to

fill a need in the com-

munity. The study takes

place on the last Sunday of

each month at 6:30 p.m. at

St. Peter's Naval Chapel in

She decided to become a

MFRC volunteer in March

2012 in support of her

diploma in applied psy-

chology. She got involved

helping the counsellors at

community."

Belmont Park.

tary family community.

belittle themselves.

Jon Chabun MFRC

The Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC) is piloting a new self-help group on Monday nights starting in January and the person behind its creation is a MFRC volunteer.

Julie Sweeney developed the program and will act as facilitator for the sessions.

Worth Your Weight is a nine-week program that helps military spouses deal with the thoughts and behaviour that can influence body image. The weekly group doesn't focus on diet or exercise. Instead, participants look deep inside to examine their core beliefs and the issues they have with themselves.

The idea behind the program is addressing the inside before working on the outside.

"Body image is a common theme amongst women," said Sweeney on why she wanted to do Worth Your Weight. She started the group to help



the MFRC and it gave her the opportunity to give back to the military family community on a deeper level.

She helped to facilitate the Mind over Mood support group as a volunteer. After Mind over Mood finished up, she helped to run an evening, drop-in group for participants of the program.

"I am amazed at Julie's personal growth over the past year," said Ostopovich. "I don't think she expected it. She took an opportunity and ran with it. It's inspiring to see."

A positive experience with the MFRC in 2011 gave her the motivation to give back as a volunteer. When her husband deployed in 2011 for four-and-a-half months in HMCS Ottawa, she really felt supported and wanted to help others.

"If you call, they'll help but you have to take those steps," said Sweeney of the MFRC. "You have to seek out the help. It was the best way to go through a deployment. I felt super supported. I made a lot of friends."

All those good experiences have given her the momentum to create her own programs for the community.

Worth Weight Your runs Monday nights from Jan. 14 to March 11 at St. Peter's Naval Chapel in Belmont Park. Interested participants can call the MFRC at 250-363-2640. An interview will help determine if this group is right for you. Prior group experience using Cognitive Strategies Behaviour or Planned Change is recommended.

CF doctor receives award of excellence

Shelley Lipke Staff Writer

Capt Shawn Benninger grew up in Hornepayne, Ontario, with a clear understanding of the importance of medicine. Within his own family health problems persisted, such as pneumonia and strokes.

This led him to into the medical field and eventually into the Canadian Forces. He signed up as a nursing officer in 1999 and transitioned to medical officer in 2004.

"Health and the importance of health became very evident to me when I was young. I wanted to contribute to help people," said Capt Benninger.

Thirteen years later that philosophy earned him the College of Family Physicians of Canada Award of Excellence.

"I felt very privileged that people felt the efforts I made in treating patients and my efforts to prevent illness and injury were worthy of recognition," he said. In November, he attend-

ed a banquet in Toronto to receive his award at the College of Family Physicians.

"I certainly felt special to be among physicians that included some of the top physicians in Canada," he said.

Dr. Linda McNally worked closely with Capt Benninger in Borden and nominated him for this award based on community outreach, excellence in practice and organizational initiatives he took.

The 31-year-old doctor was working at the clinic in Borden as the acting base surgeon from 2009 to 2012.

"I was working with the clinic in Borden to increase efficiency and decrease wait times. The last year before I was posted out here, I looked at how we ran our sick clinic and how we could open up the scope of practice of our doctors, nurse technicians and med techs so everybody could be used to their full potential," he said.

He designed a different schedule for the clinics that included same day appointments and open access for patients to be seen on a more timely basis.

In Alliston, Ontario, he worked in a community emergency department to keep up with a full breadth of medicine.

'Seeing cradle to grave rather than a small military population is beneficial," he says. "I like my job because you have the opportunity to help people, especially when they need help. Whether it is a physical or mental challenge, people seek me out for help and I have an opportunity to affect their personal or work life that is beneficial for both me and the patient," he said.

He has also been on humanitarian outreaches in Honduras with the United States Air Force. This year was the second

year that during the New Year's break he worked in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories (NWT).

"There have been physician shortages in the NWT and I went to provide relief coverage and act as the physician in the emergency department. This work is challenging because it's quite rural. They have

Health and the importance of health became very evident to me when I was young. I wanted to contribute to help people.

-Capt Shawn Benninger

limited resources, yet it makes you be creative because you don't have all the amenities of a well developed urban hospital." In July 2012, he left

Borden and was posted to HMCS Protecteur.

"This award was for what I did in Borden, but I am looking forward to continuing these initiatives in Protecteur. Currently, we are trying to increase the occupational health and preventative care of the members aboard. I am looking forward to continuing this type of work locally with my medical team on the ship," he said.







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Capt Shawn Benninger, a physician on board

HMCS Protecteur, was awarded the College of

Physicians of Canada Award of Excellence for his

past and present work in making Canadian Forces

medical units more efficient with less wait times.

Shelley Lipke, Lookout

Pre-teen pays it forward by helping homeless

Shelley Lipke Staff Writer

It took 10-year-old Emily Tipper a year to collect and recyclable enough bottles to feed 150 homeless people in Victoria

On Dec. 23 she took to the streets with members of her family to see her efforts pay off.

Joined by father MS Mark Tipper, sister Breanne and friend Madisson Daly, they handed out homemade lunches.

The family baked gingerbread cookies, cooked three large turkeys, and then set up an assembly line in their kitchen to prepare turkey sandwiches. They added oranges and candy canes to the bagged lunches using the \$400 Emily raised over the year to pay for the groceries.

"We went through town to Pandora, Yates, Blanshard, Johnson Street, and ended up giving lunches in the chapel at the Salvation Army and Our Place," says MS Tipper.

"On Ellis Road we got stormed with people wanting food and we ended up running out and had to turn people away," he said.

"I felt happy to know that 150 people were going to have a meal, but was also really sad when we ran out of lunches and there were still people who needed them," says Emily.

One woman ran up to Emily and said she hadn't eaten in days. She was

Next year I would like to hand out 300 lunches, and in the future I will see if I can do more. -Emily Tipper emotional and told Emily to stay in school.

At the Rock Bay shelter a First Nations man was so thankful he gave Emily a First Nations drawing.

"I wasn't expecting anything at all. I thought somebody should do something to help the homeless, and this was something that, as a 10 year old, I was able to do," said Emily.

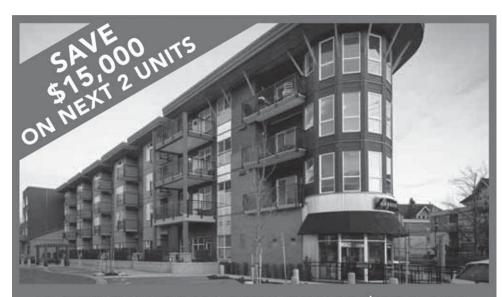
"Next year I would like to hand out 300 lunches, and in the future I will see if I can do more," she adds. "I was very proud of her," says her father. "She wears her feelings on her sleeve and is always worried about other people. Since Christmas Emily has already raised \$20 for next year."

If anyone wants to donate their bottles for this cause MS Tipper will arrange to pick them up. He can be reached at 250-363-4668.



Photo courtesy of MS Tipper

Ten-year-old Emily Tipper, sister Breanne and friend Madisson Daly handed out 150 bagged lunches on Dec. 23 to Victoria's homeless. Tipper took this initiative by collecting more than \$400 over the year by returning drink bottles.



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Awards and promotions at MARPAC

Capt(N) Luc Cassivi, Chief of Staff Plans and Operations Maritime Forces (Pacific) and Joint Task Force (Pacific) Headquarters, and Director Canadian Submarine Force, presented several awards and promotions. Photos by Corporal Brandon O'Connell, MARPAC Imaging Services

PO2 Whitten receives the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal.



AB Matthew Sarachman receives the Operational Service Medal.



CPO2 Hayes receives the second clasp of the Canadian Forces Decoration Medal.



Major Olson (centre) receives his new shoulder slip-ons.



Sgt Craig Fiander, MARPAC Imaging Services MCpl Clarke Meade (centre) receives his new rank from Capt(N) Luc Cassivi (left), assisted by Capt Grant Whittla.



Sgt Craig Fiander, MARPAC Imaging Services MWO Nigel Colley with his new rank assisted by Joanne Colley.



Cdr Malcolm Musgrove, MCDV Officer in Charge at Sea Training (Pacific), receives the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and certificate from Cdr Richard Dowker, Commanding Officer Sea Training (Pacific).



The Naden Band's PO2 Tim Keels receives his Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal from Lt(N) Matthew Clark.



LCdr Annick Fortin, Combat Officer at Sea Training Pacific, was presented the Commander Canadian Fleet Pacific Bravo Zulu Award by Cmdre Scott Bishop.



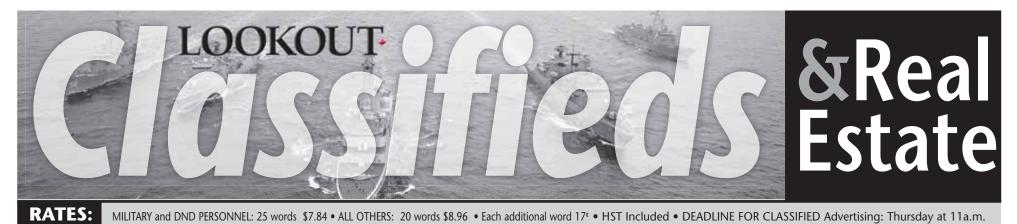
CPO2 Vallieres was promoted to his new rank by Cdr Ryan Solomon, D/COS FTA, and his Divisional Officer, Lt(N) Robin Sheffield, MARPAC FATO.



LCdr Corey Gleason, Weapons Officer at Sea Training Pacific, accompanied by his spouse, France Chalifour, receives his new rank from Cdr Richard Dowker, Commanding Officer Sea Training (Pacific), and LCdr Pascal Belhumeur, Executive Officer Sea Training (Pacific).

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFERING ALCOHOL DRUG ADDICTION SUPPORT GROUPS has started new groups on Vancouver Island. Victoria Victoria. BC: Native Friendship Center on Thursday evenings 7:30pm @ 231 Regina Ave. Saanichton, BC: Tsawout First Nation on Thursday afternoon at 3pm at 7728 Tetayut Rd. Duncan, BC: 1 Kenneth Pl. on Friday evenings at 7pm. Naniamo, BC: Vancouver Island Theraputic Comm. on Sunday evening 7:15pm @ 10030 Thrid Street. General inquiries: Michael@ LifeRingCanada.org.

CALLING UNDEREMPLOYED WOMEN! Do you want to kick-start your career? Are you unsure of who you are and what you wan to do with your life? Our free career mentoring program will connect you with a supportive mentor to explore career & education options, develop life skills, and cultivate valuable relationships. Contact Bridges for Women 250-385-7410 or www. bridgesforwomen.ca.

CAREGIVING FOR SOMEONE with dementia? The Alzheimer Society of B.C. has support groups for caregivers. Contact the Alzheimer Resource Centre at 250-382-2052 for info and to register.

CAREGIVER FAMILY SERIES, Free Alzheimer Society of B.C. workshops, Tues, Jan 15 through Feb. 12, 6 to 8:30 p.m., Hillside Seniors Health Centre, 1454 Hillside Ave. Pre-registration req. 250-370-5641 or WellnessCentre Registration@viha.ca. free series will help The participants understand dementia, the changes it can cause in communication and behaviour, the changing roles in the family, and planning ahead and understanding the healthcare system.

3005 11 Svc Bn ARMY CADETS has a great, fun, safe, purposeful program. There is no cost and youth M/F 12-18 years of age are eligible to join. Weekend and Summer Camps, Band, First Aid, and Marksmanship are all offered. Thursday 6:30 9:00 pm, 724 Vanalman Ave Victoria. Call 250-363-3194 or email 3005army@ cadets.net.

VIEW ROYAL READING CENTRE. Conveniently located at Admirals Walk Shopping Centre. We have books, audios, videos, & DVD's for all ages. Internet is also available. For hours of operation and other information please call 250-479-2723.

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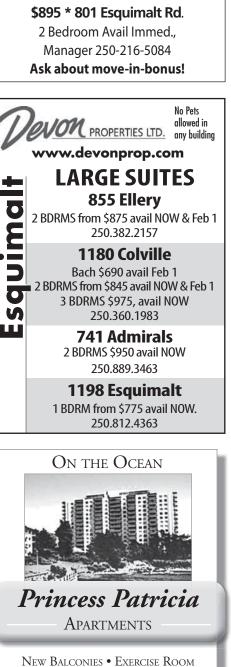




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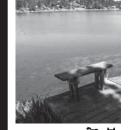
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