

The Westbank Express....



Your
Monthly
Newsletter!



Long-time Westbank First Nation resident Mary Anne Eli relaxes in her room at Pine Acres home where she has resided for the past few years.

When speaking with Mary Anne Eli, who is now 85, one steps back in time to an era of canning venison, renting freezer lockers at Formby's Meat Market and working for \$5.00 a day. Mary Anne first moved to Westbank in 1949 when she married Alex Eli. In her younger years she attended the Kamloops Residential School until 1942 and continued her education in Penticton where she graduated from Grade 11 and then worked as a telephone operator for five years. Mary Anne was instrumental in starting the pre-school on Shannon Lake Road some 30 years ago. She worked for Westbank First Nation for 3 - 4 years and was in charge of education. For many summers her family would travel to Oroville and work in the orchards, first thinning apples steadily for May and June and then returning in September to pick the ripened crop. Mary Anne noted how so much revolved around food storage: "we were always preparing for winter." Her family would swap deer meat and fruit for salmon with coastal friends; and, every summer and fall Mary Anne canned fruit, vegetables, venison and salmon to help feed her family during the winter months. No canning this year though as she'll be enjoying Pine Acres' home-cooked meals!

YAK PEAK



Approximately half way between Westbank and Vancouver, beside the Coquihalla, Yak Peak looms high above the road. It's a rock climber's challenge but it's also a great place to go hiking. Devoting a full day to plodding up the gradual incline alongside the mountain, picking wild flowers, sipping water out of fresh springs and then carefully meandering back down again makes for a very pleasant journey. The view at the peak, on a clear day, is spectacular and a packed lunch with water and healthy treats is much appreciated. Best time to go: August or first half of September.

AROUND TOWN

Native TACOs Luncheon,

Pine Acres Home, 1902 Pheasant Lane, Wednesday, **October 19th**; 11:00 am - 1:30 pm. Luncheon includes taco, beverage and homemade dessert. \$5.00. Bring a neighbour or friend, enjoy a delicious hot meal and visit with Mary Anne Eli for a history lesson. More events on Page 3.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Westbank First Nation

Administrative Office: 250-769-4999
Recreation Dept.: 250-768-7337

District of West Kelowna - Council Mtgs.

- Oct. 11 - Council Meeting 1:30 pm
- Oct. 18 - Committee of the Whole 1:30 pm
- Oct. 25 - Council Meeting 6:00 pm

For questions or further information about the newsletter, please email westbankexpress@gmail.com

Contributing Writers: Gordon Ficke, Rita Pedersen; Editor: Barbara Heaney

**From the Kitchen Nook: V8 Juice by Rita Pedersen**

Wash and chop 16 large tomatoes. Mix together with 1/2 cup (125 ml) finely chopped carrots, 1/2 cup finely chopped onions and 1/2 cup finely chopped celery. Add 2 tsp. (10 ml) salt, 1 tsp. (5 ml) Worcestershire Sauce, 2 tblsp. (30 ml) lemon juice, a dash of liquid hot pepper (to taste). Heat mixture to boiling, stir until enough juice has formed; cook for about 30 minutes. Add a little at a time into blender and let it mix until smooth. When finished, ladle into hot sterilized jars; make sure there is 1/2" head space and seal. Process in a hot water bath for 20 minutes. Makes 2 quarts.

Hattie Webber, Keeper of her husband's family history, Part 2 by Gordon H. Ficke

Once the irrigation flume in Glenrosa was completed around 1944, the water from Powers Creek flowed to provide lifeblood for the orchards. After Douglas and Harriet Webber were married on March 15th, 1944 Douglas planted the first trees. Fourteen acres of apples with a few cherry trees were planted on the home property. Doug and George Irwin's father John had given them 12 and 10 acres, respectively. George's property was located on a parcel of land on the eastern part of where Scottstown Road is today. Those first trees were planted there.

The couple lived in a cabin on the home property on Webber Road. They had four children, Raymond, Rodney, Connie and Christine.

Until the trees matured, which took ten years for those big trees, the family grew crops of tomatoes and potatoes to help provide much needed income. Many of the family members pitched in to help reap the harvest.

Fruit farming became a full-time job for Doug, even though he continued to log as he had always done. While Doug was away logging in various parts of the Okanagan Valley, sometimes a week at a time, Hattie looked after the orchard. It was hard work moving sprinklers, picking the fruit and moving those boxes, especially when the family did not have a tractor in those early years. The old grey Ford pickup performed yeoman service. How Hattie longed for Raymond and Rodney to reach driving age so that they could help deliver the ripe cherries, prunes and apples to the packinghouse!

In 1960 Doug and Hattie built their home on their property at the intersection of Glenrosa and McIver Roads. Norm and Marian Fenton built the house for them. Doug would continually supervise its construction to ensure that their home would be built according to his specifications.

During the mid 1960s John and Bertha retired. The couple celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on April 19th, 1970. Bertha passed away a short while later. John then moved to downtown Westbank, near the Highway Gospel Hall to live with his daughter Freda and later with Ethel Truant until he died in 1976. Meanwhile Doug and his youngest son Rodney were expanding their logging business. They eventually acquired sixteen logging trucks along with other associated equipment and were engaged in logging operations in many parts of B.C. Hattie faithfully kept the company books until the computer age arrived around 1998, then their daughter Connie took over.

The Glenrosa landscape was also changing. Orchards were being replaced with housing developments. By 1994, merely 50 years after the family had planted their first fruit trees, the last of them were being uprooted. Two elementary and one middle school were built on John and Bertha's original property. The largest parcel remaining, ten acres, belonged to Douglas and Rodney. It was here that they had their shop and storage area to park their logging trucks. Doug still came in to the shop at age 79 to change those heavy tires on the logging trucks. "He had it down to a science," Hattie explained. "His technique required little physical effort." Doug always liked to keep in touch with the business.

In 2004 Doug and Hattie invited the community to help celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. The event was held at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel in Westbank. Many long time friends, members from the Highway Gospel Hall, the church they attended, and relatives helped celebrate their milestone anniversary. They celebrated one more wedding anniversary and on November 30th, 2005 Douglas passed away. Rod continues to operate the logging company to this day, now with ten trucks and ten employees. Hattie, now 89, still lives in the home her and her husband had built for them. The days when there were only sixteen homes in all of Glenrosa are long gone, but the memories of those simpler times linger on.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OCTOBER?

WESTBANK

**Canada Safety Council
Babysitter Training and Home-
Alone Courses**

Saturday, Oct. 15/11 8:30 am-2:30 pm

Home-Along Course for aged 10 and older. Babysitting Course for aged 11 and older. Participants will receive a Certificate upon passing the course. Cost \$60.00. Please bring a nut-free lunch. For further information please contact Margaret Boake at 250-317-2868 or 250-764-4170.

**Westside Seniors Centre, 3661
Old Okanagan Highway**

Wed. Night Bingo: 6:45 p.m. SHARP!

Held every Wednesday night. Do not need to be a member to play but must be over 19 years of age.

Friday Night Jam Sessions: the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month. Bring your instrument and join in, or just visit to listen. Open-mike jam. C & W, Blue Grass, Old-time, etc. For more information contact Carl Stone at 250-707-1030.

Whist Party: every Wed. @ 1:00 pm

\$1.00 admission; coffee and cookies served.

**Westbank Legion - RCL Branch
288, 2525 Dobbin Road**

🍏 Tuesday & Thursday Night Darts

🍏 Wednesday Night Poker

🍏 Friday Night Dinners

🍏 Wed. & Sat. Meat Draws(3-5 pm)

🍏 October 2nd Pancake Breakfast put on by the Ladies Auxillary 9:00 - 11:00 am \$5.00. Includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, tea, coffee and juice.

🍏 **OCTOBER SPECIAL** - Thanksgiving meat draws: Turkeys and Hams. Oct. 5th and 8th 3:00 - 5:00 pm.

Happy Halloween!

Health Fair

Saturday, Oct. 15/11 9:30 am-2:00 pm

Health promotion, blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes tests, nutrition and exercise. No charge. Our Lady of Lourdes, 2547 Hebert Rd. Westbank.

Orion's Fish Bus

Oct. 22nd & 23rd by The Cherry Pit

70 peeled Tiger Prawns \$20 or 2 for \$35 or 3 for \$50--Sole, Snapper & Basa \$12.00 each or 3 for \$30. Stop by the Truck and join the email list to get tasty Seafood recipes and a free bonus every \$100.00. For more info. go to tritonsage@yahoo.com.

Country Opry

Sunday, Oct. 30th, 2011 2:00 pm

The Country Opry is again underway for the season at the Westbank Lions Hall, 2466 Main St. Come and join in on a stompin good time. Intermission; coffee, tea, pop, water and cookies; give-aways of meal certificates and wine certificates. \$5.00 admission at the door. 12 and under free.

RUTLAND

**Uptown Rutland Scarecrow
Festival**

Oct. 2/11 12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm

Kids Zone, Entertainment Stage, Scarecrow-building contest, Harvest Market, Multicultural Market to be held at the Rutland Lions Park. For further information go to www.kelownascarecrowfestival.com.

SUMMERLAND

**Summerland Rodeo Grounds
Supernatural Halloween Horse
Show: Saturday, Oct. 8/11**

Concession stand opens at 8:30 a.m. Show starts at 9:00 am. Costumes and apple bobbing. Bathville Rd. Contact number: 250-494-0314. Website: www.summerlandrodeogrounds.com

PENTICTON

**Matt Anderson @ The Dream
Cafe**

October 2 & 3, 2011 8:00 pm

From New Brunswick, Matt Andersen, guitar player, singer of sprawling blues, roots & rock. Popular on Canad's East Coast. Tables available

from 6:00 pm on. 67 Colourful Front St. Call 250-490-9012.

KELOWNA

**Vancouver Int'l Mountain Film
Festival**

October 22, 2011 7:00 pm

Presenting award-winning mountain films from around the world. At the Kelowna Community Theatre, 1375 Water St. \$15.00 Advance tickets, \$18.00 @ the door. For more info. call 250-469-8506.

VERNON

The Guard

Monday, Oct. 17/11 5:15 pm

Vernon Film Festival movie The Guard was a favourite at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. A lively and hilarious crime comedy taking place on the West Coast of Ireland. Starring Brendan Gleeson, Don Cheadle, Liam Cunningham, Rory Keenan & Mark Strong. \$7.00 admission at the Vernon Town Theatre, 2910 - 30th Ave.

LOOKING AHEAD!

TOFINO in Clayoquot Sound

Oyster Festival

November 17 - 19, 2011

Oyster farm tours, oyster & wine tastings, educational seminars, the Mermaids Ball - Nov. 18th, the Oyster Gala - Nov. 19th. Costumes, slurping contests, abundant oyster-eating and great music. Contact info@oystergala.com

COUPON CORNER



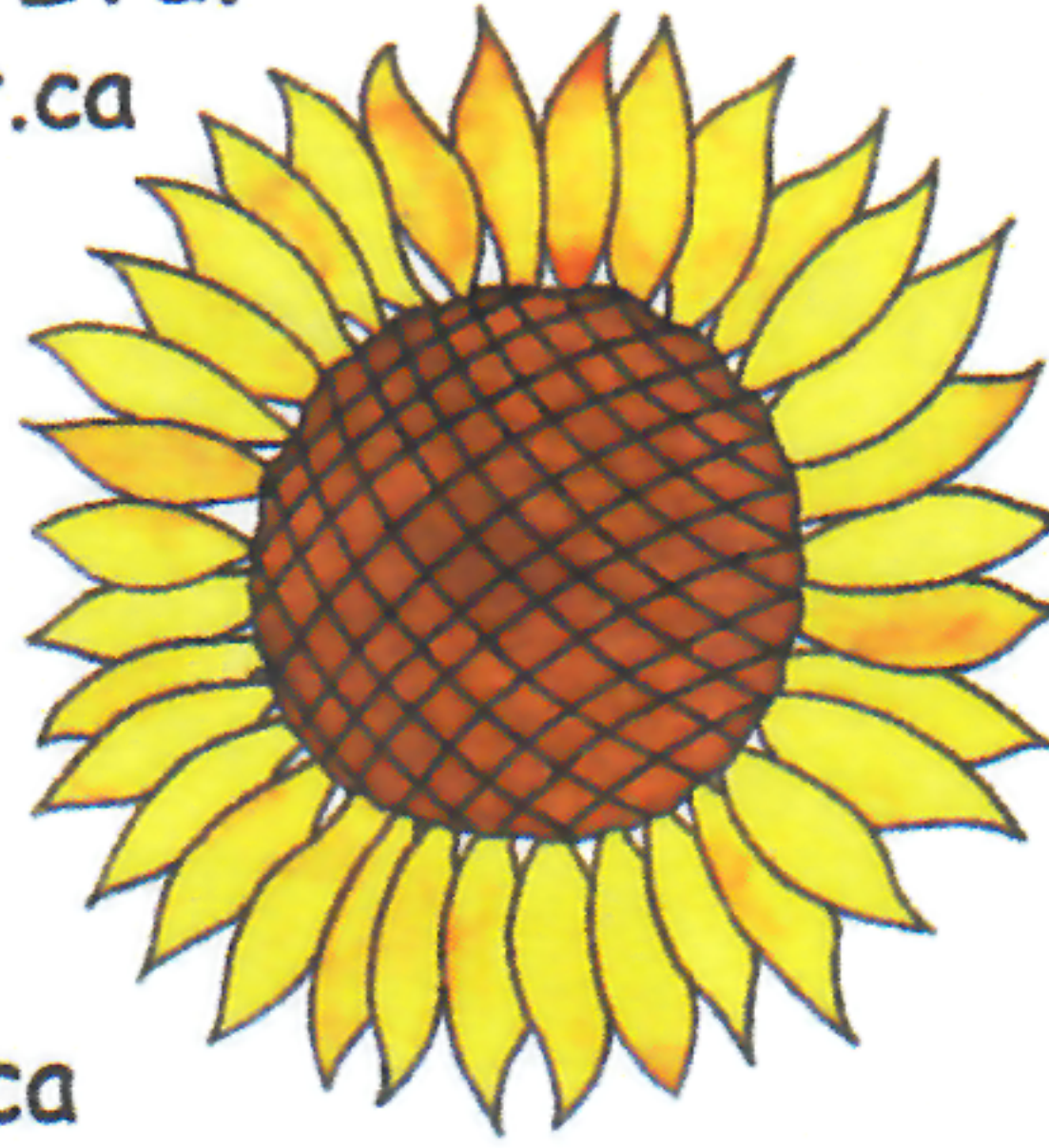
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🍏 Ice Cream Cone Coupon - 2 for 1 🍏 Purchase one ice cream cone at regular price and receive a second ice cream **free!** At **Paynter's Fruit Market, 3687 Paynter Road, Westbank 250-768-7313** 🍏 Present this coupon at the Ice-Cream Counter.



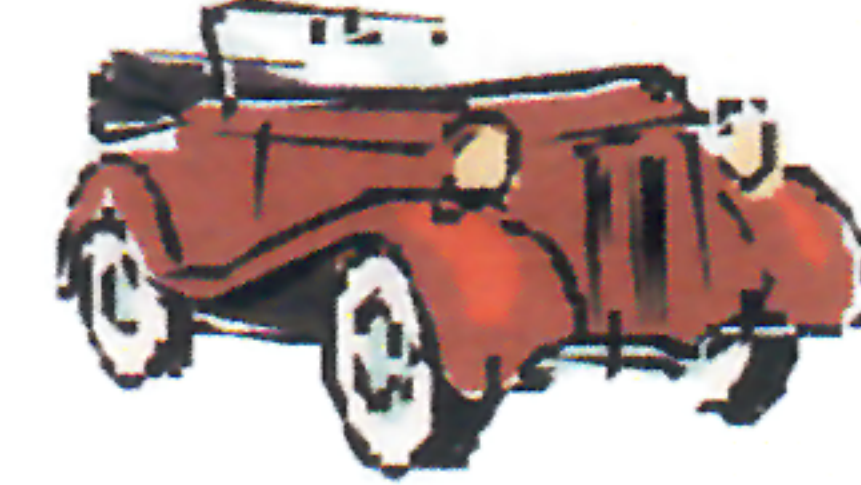
Business Section

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