



The Westbank Express....

"Happiness makes up in height for what it lacks in length. - Robert Frost, American Poet (1874 -1963).



Westbank Museum Photograph



The historical photo above, of Margaret Jackson's(Small) grandmother, graces one of the many display room walls at the Westbank Museum. The Small family were the founders of the Westbank Museum and over the next three to five years, in an attempt to preserve Westbank history, the Westbank Museum will be recording the history and growth of Westbank from the first settlers, including First Nations, through the generations to the mid-sixties and are enlisting the public's help in collecting photographs from that era. Watch for the September Issue for more information. Or call the Westbank Museum at 250-768-0110.

AROUND TOWN

August 18th, 2013 - DIEPPE/VETERANS DAY

Remembering the Korean War Vets on the 60th Anniversary. 3:00 pm service at the Westbank Legion parking lot, 2525 Dobbin Road. 4:30 - 6:00 pm - Veterans meal. Veterans FREE. All others \$12.00. RSVP by August 14th. Phone: 250-768-4330.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Westbank First Nation

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

District of West Kelowna - 778-797-1000

Aug. 1- Agricultural Advisory Committee - 5:00 pm
Aug. 13 - Regular Council Meeting - 1:30 pm
Aug. 21 - Advisory Planning Commission - 9:30 am
Aug. 27 - Regular Council Meeting - 6:00 pm

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

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

(LP and the ALLSTARS)

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WESTBANK 110th BIRTHDAY DINNER & DANCE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2013

WESTBANK COMMUNITY HALL - 2466 MAIN STREET

Join in on the day-long celebration for Westbank's 110th Birthday on August 17th at the Lions Community Centre, 2466 Main St., starting with the Farmers Market at 8:00 am. Festivities include non-stop musical entertainment, face painting, bouncy castle, food vendors, historical presentations, fish pond, clown entertainment and the evening Dinner and Dance. Limited tickets available at the door for the Dinner and Dance, so buy yours now! Call 250-768-7109.



From the Kitchen Nook: Barbequed Vegetables by Rita Pedersen

Ingredients: 1 cup each red and yellow pepper chunks (1-1/2 inch), 1 cup zucchini chunks (1-1/2 inch), 1 cup fresh mushrooms, 1 cup large cherry tomatoes, 1/4 cup Italian dressing, 2 Tbsp. Parmesan Grated Cheese. **Directions:** HEAT barbeque to medium-high heat. COMBINE vegetables and dressing; spoon onto centre of large piece of heavy-duty foil. Fold foil to make packet, leaving room for heat circulation inside. GRILL 8 to 10 minutes or until peppers and zucchini are crisp-tender, turning packet after 4 minutes. CUT slits in foil to release steam before opening packet. Sprinkle vegetable mixture with cheese. Other variations: toss vegetables with 1 Tbsp. pesto along with the dressing. Or sprinkle cooked vegetable mixture with chopped fresh parsley just before serving.

Westbank gets Irrigation Water...the Dawn of a New Era! Part I by Gordon H. Ficke



Pictured left: Edwin Coleman Paynter in 1924 hand dug a half-mile diversion ditch from the Nicola River to Dobbin Lake. (photograph courtesy of Steve McGill)

Following in his father's and brothers' footsteps in law, Edwin Coleman Paynter finished his five-year articling in Alnwyk, Northumberland, England and decided he wanted to explore the vast land of Canada and seek a new life. "Edwin and his wife Margaret visited a former college friend in the Okanagan in 1909," Sheila Paynter recalled. "Henry their son, was only two years old at that time. Edwina, Henry's older sister was four." After living in the Okanagan for several years, the family returned to England where Mr. Paynter served England during World War I. After the war ended in 1918 the Paynter family returned to Canada and purchased a strip of land from Mr. D'aeth. That property extended from Powers Creek to where Butt Road is now.

To earn a living, Edwin and Margaret operated the post office in Westbank. In the good summer weather months, Edwin spent most of his time trudging the back woods and the hills as a water bailiff. At the same time, he was exploring for more sources of water in this very dry Okanagan area. "I think Mr. Paynter had a real interest for outdoor life and had the foresight to realize that people living here were going to need more and more water as time went on," Sheila realized. "That inspired him." While Edwin was in the bush during those summers, Margaret looked after the post office.

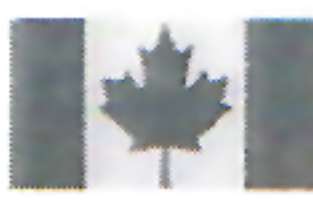
With a pack on his back, E.C. Paynter made the 28-mile trek each summer into the chain of mountain lakes that make up the watershed for the Westbank Irrigation District (W.I.D.) that was formed in 1907 and was incorporated as an improvement district on June 15th, 1922. During one of his forays into the bush, Edwin discovered and named Paynter Lake. Mr. Paynter was very familiar with the area's topography as a result of his many visits there. He ascertained that it would be feasible to alter the course of Summit Lake and Bear Lake by digging a ditch and diverting that water to Powers Creek. He proposed the idea to the head of the water bailiffs and he took the suggestion to the head of the provincial water board, under the auspices of B.C.'s Water Act and Draining, Dyking and Development Act. That gentleman stated that it would be impossible to accomplish, but gave Edwin permission to try anyway.

That was all that Paynter needed to begin this monumental task. He gathered his shovels, picks and other tools and loaded them on a packhorse and headed to Summit Lake to begin to dig the first ditch. Edwin's son Henry would often bring

food provisions in by horse back for his father as he laboured during those summers. The second ditch was hand dug from Bear Lake to Powers Creek. Then later he dug the Nicola ditch to Dobbin Lake. Undaunted, Edwin, and sometimes he along with another helper or work crews, accomplished these feats that everyone else doubted could be done. There were times when he and the crew encountered a large boulder or a rock outcropping that had to be blasted using dynamite. But the job was done and much needed water flowed down the flumes to the orchards in Westbank.

Because of Paynter's selfless determination and hard work he always had the Westbank Irrigation District's best interests at heart and because he knew the watershed area so well, he could advise the board as to the best procedure to follow in order to assure a constant and permanent water supply for Westbank's orchardists and residents.

Part II continued in September, 2013 Issue.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AUGUST?

WESTBANK

Westbank Farmers' Market

Every Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Westbank Lions Hall parking lot, 2466 Main Street. Fresh in-season fruit and vegetables, local crafters selling jams, jellies, pies, breads, woodworks, juices, photography, and much more. Watch for new vendors in August including Bannock Indian Tacos, THE HAPPY PINEAPPLE HAWAIIAN SHAPE ICE offering flavours such as guava, strawberry and orange; and, SCOOTERS ICE CREAM TRUCK.

Okanagan Regional Library

Westbank Branch

Local Artists on Display

Jean Monteith, Karen M. Andrews, Ralph Carlson, Jenny Mohr, Jo-Anne Legree, Christine Millar, Marina Sen, Crystal Yutzy. Watch for the Wednesday Evening Speakers Program which starts up again in the Fall. The first presentation will be "Putting Your Garden to Bed" on September 18th at 7:00 pm. 2484 Main St. Phone. 250-768-4369.

Westbank Legion - RCL Branch

288, 2525 Dobbin Road

- Wednesdays** - Drop-in Darts(do not need to be a member to participate). 7:00 pm. Toe line 7:30 pm
- Wednesdays and Saturdays** - Meat Draws: 3-5 pm
- Thursdays** - Euchre(the card game). 1:00 pm
- Sunday Jam Sessions** - 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Westside Seniors Activity Centre, 3661 Old Okanagan Highway

Wednesday Bingo nights will start up again on September 4, 2013. For further information contact Valerie at 250-707-3494 or email visolomon@shaw.ca. **New members welcome!** Membership fees \$20.00 per year(May 1 - Apr. 30), must be 50 years of age.

PEACHLAND

Okanagan PaddleFest

Saturday, August 10th 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Celebrate the history of paddling in the Okanagan. Activities will include "open" kayak and stand-up paddling races(register on website), demonstration war canoe, dragon boat races, "try-it" canoe, kayak and stand-up for all ages. There will also be children's

activities in Peachland's Swim Bay including Peach box and Paddleboat races. Enjoy music, historic displays, vendors and food. For more information go to www.okanaganpaddlefest.com or phone 250-575-9335.

Rattlesnake Island Swim

Saturday, August 10th

Check-in 6:00 - 6:30 am. Full Swim 7K 7:00 am start. Half Swim 3.1 k 7:30 am start. Peachland Community Centre - 4450 6th Street. For registration and more information call 250-767-2133 or visit the website at www.peachland.ca.

SUMMERLAND

Summerland Stampede

Saturday, August 17, 2013 5:00 pm

Gates open 3:00 pm. Professional bull riding. Food and entertainment. Teens and up \$20.00; Kids and Seniors \$10.00; Family(5) \$50.00; 80+ and under 6 FREE. Summerland Rodeo Grounds. For more information email rodeoenquiry@gmail.com or phone 250-307-1117.

PENTICTON

66th Annual Peach Festival

August 7th - 11th, 2013

Parades, Sandcastle and Square Dance competitions, rides from Shooting Start Amusements, free live entertainment in Okanagan Lake Park, Aboriginal Cultural Village, Sheila Bishop Slo-Pitch Tournament, food vendors and more. Visit peachfest.com.

Challenge Penticton

Wednesday, Aug. 21st - Monday, Aug. 26th

Join athletes from all over the world on Race Day for the 3.8 km swim, the 180 km cycle and the 42.2 km run. Events during the week include parade, barbeque, beer gardens, wine cycling tours, kids camp, golf package, paddle regatta, street dance festival, downtown markets, and breakfast in Gyro Park. Race Day is Sunday August 25th. Go to www.challenge-penticton.com

OSOYOOS

Romancing the Desert 2013

Saturday, August 17, 2013 6:00 pm

There will be fine wine, gourmet food and a full-moon desert to enjoy at the Osoyoos Desert Centre including an evening with a guided tour, silent auction, entertainment and more. Proceeds support the Osoyoos Desert Society's habitat conservation and education efforts. Advance registration required. \$65.00 per person. Call toll free at 1-877-899-0897.

Downtown Osoyoos Street Dance

Friday, August 16th 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Dance and festivities will be taking place at 17 Park Place(at the foot of Main St.). Prizes, snacks, drinks available and lots of dancing!

OLIVER

Firehall Brewery 2013 Back Alley Concert Series

Saturday, August 24, 2013 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Featuring Malibu Knights "Alternative Rock." Live music, fresh craft beer, wine from River Stone. Picnic meals are encouraged. Coolers will be checked. No food will be served. Gates open at 6:30 pm. Tickets \$12.00 plus GST. For sale in advance at The Firehall Bistro, 6077 Main St. For more information to to www.firehallbrewery.com.

LOOKING AHEAD

PEACHLAND

94th Annual Peachland Fall Fair

September 7th and 8th, 2013

Saturday 1 pm - 6 pm; Sunday 10 am - 6 pm. Sunday at 4:30 pm - Awards! Admission: Adults \$3.00; Youth(13 yrs. to 17 yrs.) \$1.00; Child(12 and under) 50 cents. Categories include baking and preserves, flowers, needlework, fruit and nuts, vegetables, eggs & honey, handicrafts, flowers arranging, homemade wine and beer, photography(+18 and up), photography(Junior), and several other junior sections. If interested in entering the Fair visit the website at www.peachlandfallfair.ca. The event will take place at the Peachland Community Center, 4450 - 6th Street.

COUPON CORNER



✂

Ice Cream Cone
*** 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

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