

50 Year Storm fails to dampen Tahsis Spirit

~ photos and story by Alice Thompson

Tahsis Public Works employees, Village Workers, The Tahsis Volunteer Fire Department, and Emergency Services were all out in force for what is being called a '50 year storm'... the worst storm to hit the West Coast of Vancouver Island in 50 years.

Power was out Wednesday am, and was restored Thursday evening. The road to Gold River is washed out in 4 places and may be open by Friday.

The Tahsis Recreation Centre and the Village office have remained open with the use of generators: the Rec Centre has provided a warm place to hang out for chilled Tahsis residents. Keith Orr and the Tahsis Christian Church Society volunteer breakfast crew came in Thursday morning to the Rec Centre to cook Pancake Breakfast for the community, and Kim Anderson's spaghetti sauce was particularly popular for dinner Thursday night. So many residents turned out the event started to feel like one of Tahsis' Community Dinners.



Erv Spenser & Corky Roth of Public Works served a hot breakfast by Rec Centre workers

Village workers handed out notices door to door to keep locals informed, and provided emergency generator services, such as to the Tahsis Building

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Relax, You're on TAHSIS TIME

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Tahsis goes Llamas

~ photos and story by Catherine Gordon

There are two new residents in town, and they will need be lead around by the nose, at least until they get used to the town. Llamas Sara and Sheba made the long trek from Sooke in the back of a panel van. A male, named Harry, recuperating from surgery, will be joining them in a few weeks.

Proud owners Corrine and Dan Dahling, proprietors of Head Bay Station have bought three llamas to use as pack animals for an Eco-hiking business. Corrine says they are the perfect work animal, friendly, reliable, and gentle to the environment. Thanks to split hooves, and the design of their teeth, they do

not tear up vegetation like horses or donkeys. Their unique temperament allows them to interact well with the public, and are used in nursing homes, and schools as therapy animals. These beautiful creatures have no scent, so they are low priority for predators like bears or cougars.

Corrine and Dan are building a llama enclosure, and plan to expand their llama family to eight animals. Corrine explained that llamas are herd animals and do best with other animals of their own kind. They feel secure in groups, and do not wander away unless chased by other animals like dogs

When fully trained, expect to see the Dahling Llamas around town, and at public events!

Tahsis Calendar

- ◆ **December Bazzar & Craft Fair**
Sat Dec 2nd at Captain Meares School
\$5 a table, call Jennifer Robinson 934-6388
- ◆ **Tree Lighting ~ to be announced**
- ◆ **St. Joseph Catholic Church**
Sun Dec 3rd Father Anthony & Brother Alfredo
Mass 11:00 am Pot Luck Social 12:00

◆ Spirit of 2010 Office Grand Opening

Date & location TBA. Refreshments & free souvenirs

◆ Children's Christmas Party & Community Potluck Dinner

TBA Donations Call Corrine VanSolkema 934-7741

Next Newsletter Dec 1. To have your event listed call Catherine 934-6303 or Alice 934-7665 by Nov 28

50 Year Storm cont...

Supply for powering propane refills for furnaces and BBQ's.

Due to the road closure, Mayor Dave McIntosh commandeered all fuel supplies so that emergency vehicles could maintain services. About a



Sharon Taprowski (front) and Lucille Collins whip up more eggs for hungry Village employees and Emergency Services workers

dozen visitors were stranded in town, but were able to go out by barge on Saturday & Sunday. The Tahsis Postal Station stayed open with mail being delivered by Air Nootka. Postmistress Jane Gilmour stayed at her post bundled up in mohair mittens and long underwear, and kept track of sales so residents could come in pay for their postal services when the power returned. Mayor David MacIntosh was reached just before publication, and mentioned that one of the big jobs during the storm was to keep all the storm drains free of debris to prevent flooding.

He went on to comment: "The town is equipped with power generators to keep our infrastructure running, and Public Works did a great job."

Pancake Breakfast

The Tahsis Christian Church, led by Keith Orr, is continuing the Pancake Breakfast as a fundraiser for restoring our great Tahsis landmark, the A-Frame church on South Maquinna. The Pancake Breakfast is held every Monday morning from 8-11 am. All donations of goods or volunteer time are welcome.

Tahsis Teens Tread the Boards

~ story by Catherine Gordon High School students from Captain Meares Elementary and Secondary School are having the opportunity to work with resident director, Conibear, as part of a Theater Arts project for schools.



Students will learn the basics of improvisation, movement, cold reading, technical essentials and script writing as part of their English curriculum.

Conibear believes that arts education is essential to the development of youth, broadening the students' horizons. The ten member troupe is working on three pieces to be performed at the CMESS Christmas Concert.

Remembrance Day

~ Story by Catherine Gordon 100+ residents attended the Remembrance Day celebration at the War Memorial Cross.

Village dignitaries and members of all three levels of government were escorted by a full color guard of the Rangers, RCMP, and the military.

Services were led by Lay Pastor Keith Orr, while wreaths were laid in memory of those who served in overseas conflicts. Afterwards, the public was invited to Roscoe's Restaurant for coffee.

Halloween Fireworks

~ Story by Catherine Gordon Fireworks lit up the Tahsis night sky on Halloween to the crowd of over 100 gathered at the Recreation Center for costume and pumpkin judging. The action started at 8:30 pm, to shortly after 9:00 pm as the Tahsis Volunteer Fire Department volunteers set off hundreds of rockets and flares. Children of all ages were highly entertained by the display.

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