

# The Dover Bay Mirror

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## Features

### From the Publisher:

### **Happy Holidays from the Dover Bay Mirror!**

Happy Holidays readers! It is with pleasure that the Dover Bay Mirror welcomes you to your second edition. Within this paper you will find everything from what movies to watch during the holidays, to school events concerning everyone's favourite time of year, as well as our usual content. Just because it's the holidays, doesn't mean that we should forget about the world. But before you sit back, relax, and enjoy our holiday edition, I would like to take a quick moment to thank all those who contributed to this edition. Thanks to Jay Herringer, Marissa Gibbard, Hanna Yang, Katie Birchard, and Jacob Burnley. I would also like to thank Mr. McPherson and Mr. Blain, our sponsors, and Mr. Currell, who kindly helps with distribution. Thanks for reading, and I hope you enjoy the paper.

*-Aaron Mishkin*

### Exclusive:

### **Interview with City Councilor George Anderson**



George Anderson is from Nanaimo and currently attends Vancouver Island University. He was valedictorian of his John Barsby graduating class in 2008 and was junior citizen of the year as well. He was the youngest candidate in this election and finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the city council race with 7450 votes. He is the second youngest councillor ever in Nanaimo and will represent the City's youth during his time on council.

#### **Q. What lead you to the decision to run for city council?**

A. "People asked me three years ago to consider running and I said no. Then they asked again and I said no again. Then I saw things in our community were not working as well as they should. There was a lack of communication between residents and city council. Also, they did not seem to be very business friendly nor were the community groups being treated equally. So I ran to make sure we had a stronger business community, community consensus and better communication between the city and residents."

**Q. What are a few of the key things you hope to accomplish during your time on city council?**

A. “What I would like to accomplish is making sure we, as a council, engage in and communicate effectively with the public, as well as making sure we set goals and achieve them in a timely manner.”

**Q. What advice would you give to current high school students?**

A. “My advice to high school students would be to never settle for anything you want to do in your life and always stand up for your principles. Don’t ever give up, because anything is possible.”

“I look forward to bringing some new ideas into perspective. I want to engage the young people of the community to be involved”

*-Jacob Burnley*

**Special Interest:**

## **Salvation Army in Need of Support**

It is the season for giving, and that means volunteers for the Salvation Army are doing their best to provide for those less fortunate. However, they are in great need of helpful volunteers for the *Salvation Army Kettle Drive*. The kettle drive is the operation that places volunteers outside of various stores and malls to collect change for the needy (They are the people ringing the bells!) Shifts are usually two hours, and can be done alone or with friends. If you are interested in helping out this holiday season, please contact the Salvation Army at 250 740 1004. Even if you only are looking to try out one shift, it is a great way to earn volunteer hours and do something for the betterment of the community.

*-Marissa Gibbard*

## **The News**

**International:**

### **On the Brink: *Iran’s Nuclear Program and the World***

Since the International Atomic Energy Agency published its report concerning Iran’s nuclear program on the 18th of November, the world has been in an uproar. The report details Iran’s growing efforts to gain atomic capability, and is eerily similar to the document released by the CIA in 2003, the document which caused the United States to invade Iraq. While this report has not yet led to such drastic action, it has caused political and economic

confusion around the world. Many countries are calling for more sanctions against Iran, with the hope that the country can be forced to stop its nuclear program through economic pressure. Other countries, such as Israel have less faith in the power of economics, and have begun to speculate about military action as a last resort.

(see <http://tinyurl.com/82gj2hg> )

The European Union and the United States, among other countries and organizations, have moved for more sanctions against Iran. As a sign of how desperate western countries are to stop Iran's program, the ideas for these sanctions are becoming more and more radical. France has gone so far as to suggest completely banning the import and use of Iranian oil, an idea would be both difficult to implement, and still retain the possibility of failure. Other countries, including Russia and China, have expressed their unwillingness to support new sanctions against Iran, and would rather take a more neutral tack toward its nuclear program. However, despite these objections it appears that new sanctions are moving forward, with the E.U. and the United states both ratifying new mandates against Iran in the later parts of the last month.

Economic sanctions notwithstanding, many countries are becoming increasingly nervous about Iran's nuclear intentions. Israel has begun to voice it's opinion that it will be the target of nuclear weapons if Iran manages to complete its program (see link), and has made its intent to stop Iran from gaining weapons of mass destruction clear, stating that even if it takes air strikes, or missile attacks, Israel will not allow Iran to develop nuclear potential. Contrary to this are statements by American military officials which express the opinion that missile and air strikes would not be capable of destroying Iranian nuclear facilities, many of which are deep underground. Instead, a full ground war, or attacks by special forces teams might be required to knock out the facilities. Whatever happens, it has become apparent in the last few weeks that the Iran's nuclear program is going to become, not just the key issue of 2011, but also the defining factor in the American election.

*-Aaron Mishkin*

**National:**

## **Canada's Hidden Third World**

Canada is a wealthy, prosperous, progressive country. It has the worlds 14<sup>th</sup> highest GDP and the worlds 6<sup>th</sup> highest Human Development Index (standard of living). Yet from the perspective of the residents of the Northern-Ontario First Nations community of Attawapiskat, this vision of Canada is far from sight.

Mold-infested homes, shacks, trailers, and tents, house most of the 2000 people of Attawapiskat. Many homes house more than twenty people, and often have no bathrooms or running water. In one trailer complex in the community, 90 people live together and share four bathrooms. Almost all of the homes in the community are poorly or not insulated and possess serious fire risks. The sub-standard housing coupled with temperatures as low as -40°C, living conditions in the community are comparable to that of a third-world country.

A month ago, a state of emergency was declared in the community. Following that, the NDP MP for the region, Charlie Angus, has released video footage of the deplorable situation in Attawapiskat, bringing national attention to the crisis. The federal government has since ordered Attawapiskat under third-party control, putting an accountant from a private firm in charge of in charge of directly managing the community's financing on behalf of

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). However, when the third party manager arrived in Attawapiskat, he was asked by the chief to leave. A meeting between first nations leaders and Prime Minister Stephen Harper is planned for the near future.

This is a continually developing story. Every day new challenges and issues surface in wake of the Attawapiskat crisis. To find out more information and to keep up to date on this issue, visit <http://www.cbc.ca/news/>

*-Jay Heringer*

## Local Politics:

### Civic Election

The recent civic election occurred on Nov.19<sup>th</sup> and featured 4 candidates running for mayor and 22 contenders running for city council.

John Ruttan succeeded as mayor with 8815 votes, the elected city council members were Bill Bestwick, Diane Brennan, Jim Kipp, George Anderson, Ted Greaves, Diana Johnstone, Fred Pattje, and Bill McKay. One of the successful council candidates, George Anderson, made headlines around the province and nationally as a result of being elected at the age of 21.

*-Jacob Burnley*

## The School

### Student Council:

### Seasonal Projects

As many of you have noticed, the student council is holding hot chocolate sales starting at 7:30 AM in the atrium. All proceeds go towards the Salvation Army, so we encourage you all to bring out 50 cents and enjoy!

The door decorating competition took place in Block B! All teachers had a criteria sheet, and the winner will be judged by the best door, sticking to the theme on aforementioned scale. Look forward to the judging!

The Can Drive collections were going on until the 14th! All non-perishables were accepted, as well as money. The class which has collected the most cans will win a pizza party

On a note a little less related to Student Council, the youngest councilor member on the Nanaimo City Council, 20 year old George Anderson, visited the student council meeting on Tuesday, December the 6th. He himself pointed out that student council is a great way to get into leadership. The Dover Bay student council is big and welcome, so we encourage you to come out to a meeting if you are interested!

As a final note, congratulations go out to Nick Tang, who was chosen to participate in the model Parliament from the 5-8 in Victoria.

*-Henna Manhas*

## Arts:

### **West Side Story**

The school musical returned this month, and this time, there were two of them!

Now, I'm sure you've all seen the very realistic-looking painted bricks, flying door frames, or the amazing backdrop of New York buildings in the Multi-Purpose Room, heard some of the cast members talking about the awesome fight scenes, or seen the dramatic-looking posters in the hallways. All of these were wonderful teasers were for none other than West Side Story!

Running from December 7-10, West Side Story was a 1950's Romeo-and-Juliet-type musical...Except instead of two families feuding, we have two gangs: New York-based Jets and Puerto Rican emigrant Sharks. Enter Tony, co-founder of the Jets, who falls in love with Maria, the little sister of the Sharks' leader. Their love, plus the two gangs' ongoing war combined into a very entertaining show! Dances fight scenes, flying set pieces... What more could you have asked for?

“Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog” is a musical tragicomedy based on the life of Dr. Horrible, an aspiring evil genius with a Ph.D in Horribleness who strives to join the ranks of the Evil League of Evil. His nemesis, Captain Hammer, is a narcissistic superhero. Their love triangle with the innocent and generous Penny is what makes this musical so interesting. Besides, how can you go wrong with a musical in which Neil Patrick Harris (none other than Barney Stinson from How I Met Your Mother) is the original Dr. Horrible, and Nathan Fillion (Castle from...well, Castle) is the original Captain Hammer?

What's even better about Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog is that it was put on by Dover Bay's very own Me to We club! Admission was free, but it was suggested to bring money anyways, as there were plenty of chances to donate to Me to We. This play ran from December 14-17, with the doors opening at 6:30 and the show starting at 7:00.

*-Hanna Yang*

## Me to We:

### **The Wave For Change**

Recently, a new addition has been made to the school of Dover Bay. Usually, “The Wave” is a store used to sell products, from school supplies to healthy snacks. The only difference between “The Wave”, and the new “Wave for Change” is the people behind the operations.

The Wave for Change is run by a select group of kids who believe in making a change in the World. Me to We is an organization that helps people to stop thinking so much about themselves, and more about other people around them that have a lot less. So far this year, they have done a number of things to help others. For instance, in October they not only had many bake sales to raise money for the cause, but they also went door to door on Halloween collecting cans for those less fortunate. Now as Christmas nears, they have opened the Wave for Change in order to earn a little more cash.

One might wonder where all of this money is going. The answer is that it will be going towards the building of schools in third world countries, where children don't always have the privilege of learning. Such a desperate cause should warm the hearts of all Canadians, especially during the "Season of Giving". So remember, the next time you walk past the Wave for Change, think about the time and effort put into such a cause. And don't forget to count your blessings this holiday season!

*-Katie Birchard*

## **Eco Club:**

### **Recycling**

Almost 10 years ago, Al Gore brought to attention of the public an issue that could tremendously affect every person in the future. This issue was climate change, also commonly referred to as global warming. Although people were skeptical at first, and some remain so, climate change and environment preservation as issues have become widely accepted by society. As a planet, many people have acknowledged the fact that we cannot take our environment and resources for granted, and that we need to take steps to reduce the stress we are putting on the environment. However, many people are not aware of the simple actions that they can be taking, ever here at Dover Bay.

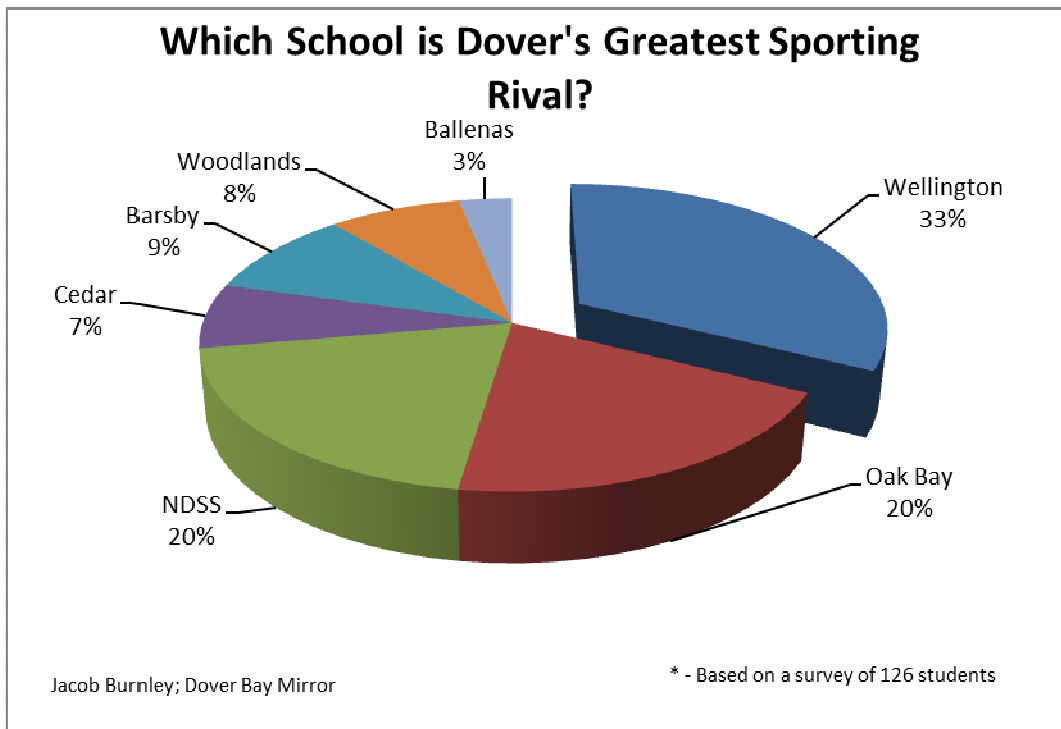
We are very lucky to have an established and concerned Eco-Club that works hard to help send Dover in the right direction of environmentally conscious choices. It is important that the students of and faculty of Dover Bay are aware and take advantage of the simple but effective resources available in Dover that can help us make earth-conscious decisions. The biggest resource that the eco-club has made available to Dover Bay, and possibly the resource that students are most unaware of is the garbage and recycling program in place. Although the big, blue bins around the school are impossible to miss, most students are unaware of their purpose. From generally observing the students of Dover and the amount of waste in the sections of the bins, it is apparent that most people use only the garbage section of the bins. However, the bins also have organic, paper, bottle and plastic sections as well. Take advantage of these, and help the environment a little next time you go to throw something away. Check to see if what you are disposing of is classified as garbage. For instance, most foods (without wrappers or packaging) can be thrown into the organic section of the bin. This means next time you go to throw out your banana peel, apple core or bread crusts, you can do something better for the environment by using the organic bin, without any extra effort of your own. It is also important to keep in mind that there are sections for plastic and cans in which you can throw juice boxes, bottles and obviously cans. These amazing bins have so much potential but are not always fully utilized.

*-Marissa Gibbard*

**Sports:**

## Student Opinion Poll

As you may have noticed from the previous issue, we are featuring a poll question each month to see what your thoughts are on topics we think are important to the school. For all who contributed, thank you and please continue to follow the Dover Bay Mirror.



**Homework Club**

## Homework/Study Help Available

As this semester approaches its end, the work load that we students experience inevitably increases. With this increase comes that danger of falling behind, of failing to understand concepts, or even just being crushed by the sheer size of the work. There is little that can be done to assuage the woes that come naturally with a large work load, but something that is invariably useful is Dover Bay’s very own Homework Club.

The Dover Bay Homework club is an amazingly useful resource for those who are experiencing the troubles of the aforementioned sort. After school, on school days of course, anyone who is in need of help on work can come

by. Whether it is trouble with concepts, lack of understanding or issues with completing work, the competent helpers of the Homework Club will endeavour to put an end to them.

The other thing about the Homework Club is that it is all always looking for more members. If you enjoy helping others, whether in the form of teaching them, or contributing to their efforts to complete their work, then join the homework club. Helping someone else to learn is one of the most rewarding experiences possible, and thus working in the Homework Club is one of the greatest experiences possible at Dover Bay.

So remember, if you're having trouble with school work, or just want to help out, the Dover Bay homework Club is the place to go. It is located at the Learn At Home room, in upper D wing, and is open after school on weekdays. Drop on by sometime.

*-Aaron Mishkin*

## The Issues

### Exposé:

### **The Agendas of Charity**

For many, Christmas time evokes a traditional desire to give. Most people who find themselves wrapped up in the spirit of the holidays find joy in making a donation of some kind to the less fortunate. However, with careful examination of the spirit of giving, one often finds that generosity is often driven, or at least influenced by, a reward of some kind. The age old line about giving is that the greatest reward of being generous is feeling good knowing that you have helped someone out. But it doesn't take a genius to figure out that, in many cases, people give not only to help, but also to earn.

An example of this is happening right in our school. Every year, the school collects cans from students to donate to the food bank. There has always been a winning class, decided by which class collects the most cans. The winning class receives a pizza party, courtesy of the student council. Yet even with this incentive, it has been observed that it is most often the teachers who are the most enthusiastic about collecting cans, rather than the students who are supposed to be bringing them in. Therefore, it has been devised that in order to provide further incentive to be charitable, students will now be awarded bonus marks in exchange for their non-perishables.

In other types of charities, it seems other types of incentives are the driving forces behind charitable work. For example, everyone knows about Operation Christmas Child, the annual holiday project wherein people fill shoeboxes of Christmas presents to be distributed to needy children around the world on Christmas day. Yet even such a heart-warming spectacle of good-will is not without its controversy. For some years now, Samaritan's Purse, the evangelical organization which conducts Operation Christmas Child, has been criticized for its alleged proselytizing at the shoebox ceremonies. Some quick internet research proves many of these criticisms to be valid:

In October, Samaritan's Purse posted a promotional video on YouTube called "Great Lengths" which describes Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes as "a segue for us [Samaritan's Purse] to teach these children about Jesus." The shoeboxes themselves can be seen in the video accompanying the evangelical pamphlet "The Greatest

Gift of All” or “The Greatest Story Ever Told” which Samaritan’s Purse distributes to receiving children. The pamphlet teaches them the bible story and urges them to proclaim their faith in God.

After receiving their shoebox and Christian literature, children are encouraged to sign up for Samaritan’s Purse’s program called “The Greatest Journey” which is described on their website as an “exciting follow-up discipleship program used by Operation Christmas Child to help children become faithful followers of Jesus Christ.”

All of this information is available online, but the evangelistic nature of the program is not disclosed to people by schools (such as Dover Bay) who promote the program. As a result, many of the shoebox-packers have little idea as to what kind of religious agenda Samaritan’s Purse is serving by distributing OCC shoeboxes.

This holiday season, when feeling the urge to give, take a moment to reflect on the real purposes behind your generosity. Are you giving for your own personal gain? Are you giving to benefit your own spirituality? Or is your generosity the result of the genuine will to help another person at Christmas?

*-Jay Heringer*

## Opinion:

### **The Future of Occupy Wall Street**

At the beginning of this fall, almost no one, 1% or 99%, could have been heard bad-mouthing the Occupy Wall Street movement. That's because it was understood then that this movement had hit a nerve among the masses, and that it would be best to tread lightly on the subject at first. It was in these past few weeks that those who were secretly opposed to the movement all along tactfully deployed their feelings of discontent about the tent cities, and slowly built up enough steam to voice their will to shrug off the pesky nuisance that was "Occupy."

Detractors to the movement noted that it had become less of a protest and more of a hangout in city centers. While it may be true that the many Occupiers have lost sight of the what the movement is all about and have been more focused on camping out than creating change, the question must be asked as to what exactly was it that people expected the Occupy movement to achieve? Did they honestly think this cohort of urban campers was going to magically fix all of the economic problems the world is facing? What a ridiculous assumption to make, yet people did, and when no results came they quickly lost interest in the prospects of making change. Most people who now want Occupy to be shut down are claiming that the Occupiers have “made their point.” Have they? Or will their message soon be forgotten once those bringing Occupy’s message to light are out of the way?

Shoving Occupy Wall Street aside like a soup gone cold is not going to fix anything. The issues addressed there need to remain in our faces in order for things to change. That said, camping out in the park probably won't make a lot of changes either. Therefore, it seems that we ought not to forget Occupy Wall Street, but take it a step further.

The movement isn't called or "Occupy the Vancouver Art Gallery." Setting up camp in the park isn't going to create anything other than a good place to hang out. Change is a messy process and it can't happen without making a disturbance. So far, the only things Occupy Wall Street has disturbed are the plans for Santa Clause parades and outdoor skating rinks, disturbances which have already annoyed many downtown business associations. If this movement is really going to change things, people need to be prepared for a few bankers and CEOs to get a little upset. After all, it is these people that Occupy Wall Street is supposed to be creating a disturbance amongst, not

small business owners.

However, if such a thing is going to come to pass, support will have to be given from the public. Presently, public approval of the movement has taken a downward turn, but only time would tell what public opinion would be if these movements were to reset their course to what they originally set out to achieve. It would be, however, in the best interests young people especially to support such a course of action, for it is the young people who are going to inherit the world in the years to come. Our actions, or apathy, in the next few years will determine what kind of world we come to own.

Decades from now, will we find ourselves living in a world of equality and financial equity, in an environment which sustainably supports us – a goal which has been missed by so many generations before ours? Or will we awake to find ourselves still sitting in our parents’ dirty bathwater – the defecated remains of a world once again handed down from one apathetic generation to another? We can let that decision be made for us, or we can decide for ourselves.

*-Jay Herringer*

## Entertainment

### Movies:

### “Anonymous” Review

Set in the late 1500’s at the height of Shakespeare’s life and popularity, the movie *Anonymous* takes the audience through a series of events to ask one thing, Was Shakespeare a fraud. The movie takes place over three different periods of “Shakespeare’s” life to better develop the idea that he might not have been a writer at all. The movie suggests that a nobleman wrote his plays and poems, and due to Puritanism, gave them to a man he named Shakespeare. This way, so-called Shakespeare could take credit for the nobleman’s work without tarnishing his good name. The movie presents an interesting take on the famous man we know so little about.

*Anonymous* is an action packed and fast moving film that has many twists in plot, allowing for an interesting mix of entertainment and history. Not to be confused with a boring history movie, this film is intriguing and fast paced keeping the audience engaged the entire time. Although the topic is controversial, the film is well written and avoids making the audience feel as if an idea is being “shoved down their throats”. However, *Anonymous* does not do a spectacular job in sparking deep thought about whether or not Shakespeare is real, and it is easy for the audience to get lost in the story, like most movies, without evaluating the conspiracy behind it. Aside from that, the movie does present an entertaining story and is descent none the less. Regardless of the conspiracy’s effectiveness, the story pulls the watchers in and keeps them there through fighting, love, lust and demise. *Anonymous* is a captivating story for anyone, especially those who enjoy action and excitement, or for people who enjoy different ideas and conspiracies. It has received ratings across the board; however, if looking for an action packed, interesting and appropriate movie, *Anonymous* is a great choice and not a waste of money.

*-Marissa Gibbard*

## Christmas Movie List

The holidays are a great time to be with friends and family, relax, and of course, watch more TV. Here is a list of those timeless Christmas classics that are a must see every season:

- How the Grinch Stole Christmas (Dr. Seuss's version)
- Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer
- A Christmas Carol
- It's Wonderful Life
- Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> street
- A Charlie Brown Christmas
- A Nightmare Before Christmas
- Home Alone
- A Christmas Story
- The Polar Express

Enjoy these wonderful movies, and enjoy the Christmas Season.

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