

# APRIL 2026 HAPPENINGS

Monterey Recreation Centre  
250-370-7300

OAK BAY  
PARKS, RECREATION  
& CULTURE



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## **Volunteer Week is April 19–25!**

We want to say thank you to all of our volunteers for their hard work. Our volunteers support the Monterey community in many ways, including serving at the Fern Café, Coffee Express, special events, and assisting at Reception. Our Club Representatives and Drop-in Leaders are also dedicated volunteers. Please take a moment this week to give them an extra thank you—we know our staff will be.

*We ♥ our  
Volunteers*



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MONTEREY?



### **New Member Meet & Greet**

**Wednesday, April 1**

**1:30pm | Lobby**

**This event is for new Monterey Members to learn about the Centre, tour the facility, and connect with fellow members.**

**No registration required.**



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### **Open Mic**

**Sunday, April 26 | 1:30-3:00pm | Lobby**

**April brings happy days for gardeners, Easter celebrations and Monterey Social Activities Club: Open Mic! Music begins at 1:30 and everyone is welcome! Enjoy a complimentary beverage and treat with our thanks to the Friends of Monterey Centre Society.**

**Musicians are asked to arrive early and check-in with the session leader at 1:00pm.**



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## FOOD SERVICES

### Fern Café

Looking for a bite to eat?

Visit the Fern Café for homemade soups, salads, baked goods, and sandwiches served daily with gluten-free and vegetarian options available.

Monday to Friday 10:30am-2:00pm  
Hot meals served 11:00am-1:00pm



### Coffee Express

Need a pick-me-up?

Be sure to visit the Coffee Express in the Monterey Lobby, where friendly volunteers are serving up hot and cold beverages, house-baked goods, and hot breakfast sandwiches.

Monday to Friday  
9:00am-11:00am | 1:30pm-3:30pm

## SPECIAL ENTREE



### Easter Special Entree

Thursday, April 2 | 11:00am-1:00pm | Fern Café

Join us for an Easter special entree of ham with scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables and pineapple sauce for just \$13.50!

First come, first served, while quantities last.

There are no tickets sold for this entree. In cafe dining only, no take-out.



The Monterey Chorus will be performing in the Garden Court at 11:30am to accompany this special entree.





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## FREE TALKS

### Wills & Estates Essentials

Wednesday, April 15 | 1:00-2:30pm | Bamboo Room

Guest Speaker: Jessica E. Izard, Cook Roberts Law



Planning ahead is one of the greatest gifts you can give your loved ones. A legally valid will ensures your wishes are honoured and helps prevent unnecessary stress or conflict during the grieving period. Learn the essentials of wills, powers of attorney, and health care representation agreements so you can make informed decisions, be prepared as you age, and leave a lasting legacy.

*Advance registration required, please contact Reception 250-370-7300*



### Making the Most of Your Memories

Wednesday, April 22 | 1:00-2:30pm | Dogwood Room

Guest Speaker: Shana Lee Gibson, Documentary Filmmaker, Visual Strategist and Writer

Meet Shana Lee Gibson, an award-winning documentary filmmaker, storyteller, and writer. Her passion is to create inspiring, customised videos that tell your story with honesty, warmth, and joy.

Discover how preserving your favourite memories on video can help create a lasting legacy for your loved ones to enjoy.

*Advance registration required, please contact Reception 250-370-7300*

### ICBC Mature Drivers Education

Wednesday, April 29, | 3:00-4:30pm | Douglas Fir Room

Guest Speaker: Colleen Woodger, Regional Road Safety Coordinator



Learn what is important about driving today. Topics covered include: self-assessments, assessing driver fitness, the enhanced road assessment (ERA), tips for seniors and staying mobile.

*Advance registration required, please contact Reception 250-370-7300*

## COURSE & WORKSHOP SPOTLIGHTS

### International Dance Day Workshop

Wednesday, April 29 | 11:00am-11:50am

Barcode: 247816 | Cost: \$20



Put your dancing shoes on and get ready for an exhilarating morning. Dancing is universal, woven into virtually every society all over the world. A beautiful expression of humanity that transcends borders, dance brings us together! This special workshop welcomes all levels, from first-time dancers to those with experience. Register today at Reception or online at [oakbayrec.perfectmind.com](http://oakbayrec.perfectmind.com)

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### Memory Cafe & Sparky Dog Snacks

Memory Café Victoria is a social gathering where care partners can relax, unwind, and have fun with their family members with memory loss. It's all about making social connections and joyful engagement in activities that focus on creativity.

Memory Café invited Rita Findlay, founder of Sparky Dog Snacks, to bring her team along to make dog biscuits with participants at Monterey Centre.

Members of the Memory Café will visit the BCSPCA animal shelter in April to feed the dogs spreading love, joy, and laughter! To learn more about Memory Café visit

[www.memoryconnections.org/](http://www.memoryconnections.org/)



## EVENTS

### Monterey Volunteer Recognition Event



Wednesday, April 22 | 5:30pm-7:00pm | Garry Oak

MRC Volunteers with a regular scheduled shift are invited to an evening of recognition. Please register in advance with Reception by April 13! Dinner will be chicken vol-au-vent. There will be gluten-free and vegetarian options available. Please notify Reception when registering.



### Music Trivia Pub Night

Wednesday, May 13 | 5:30-8:00pm | Garry Oak Room

Member Cost: \$37 | Non-Member Cost: \$42.55

[Ticket sales to open April 1 - 30.](#)

Come join us for a fun evening of Music Trivia! Bring a group of 4-6 people (or join a group if you don't have enough) to compete for prizes! Before we get to playing trivia, you'll enjoy a delicious chicken pot pie with salad and a mouthwatering dessert to follow (vegetarian and gluten free options available).

## TRIPS



### Salt Spring Island Market

Saturday, June 20 | 7:45am - 5:30pm

Mark your calendars, tickets for this trip are expected to go on sale May 4. Keep your eye out for more information coming in the May Happenings!

## TRIPS

### CHEMAINUS THEATRE: LADIES FOURSOME

Saturday, May 16 | 9:30am - 6:30pm

Member Cost: \$185 | Non-Member Cost: \$213

[Ticket sales open April 2-30](#)

Enjoy a delicious buffet brunch at the Playbill Dining Room where the Executive Chef has prepared an impressive brunch buffet with an array of breakfast and lunch mains, and delicious desserts! Following brunch, enjoy a short stroll through the town of Chemainus and the many treasures it has to offer.

Then sit back, relax, and enjoy the comedy “Ladies Foursome”.

Get ready to laugh and cry on the green with Norm Foster’s uproarious comedy, The Ladies Foursome! Four friends tee off in a full round of golf the day after a friend’s funeral - revealing long-kept secrets, hilarious confessions, and pining for love near and far.”

*Ticket price includes transportation, tax, gratuity, show tickets, and brunch buffet.*



### CHEMAINUS THEATRE: DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS

Saturday, June 13 | 9:30am - 6:30pm

Member Cost: \$205 | Non-Member Cost: \$235

[Ticket sales open April 28-May 28](#)

Enjoy a delicious buffet brunch at the Playbill Dining Room where the Executive Chef has prepared an impressive brunch buffet with an array of breakfast and lunch mains, and delicious desserts! Following brunch, enjoy a short stroll through the town of Chemainus and the many treasures it has to offer.

Then sit back, relax, and enjoy the musical “Dirty Rotten Scoundrels”.

Travel to the glamorous French Riviera for the ruthlessly funny Tony-nominated musical, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, inspired by the hit 1988 film! A small-time con man and a successful swindler wage a side-splitting battle of wits to dupe an American heiress! Who will win the big bet?

*Ticket price includes transportation, tax, gratuity, show tickets, and brunch buffet.*

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## ART & CULTURE

### Oak Bay Arts Weekend: Spring Edition

Friday, April 10 - Sunday, April 12

Immerse yourself in a celebration of creativity during Oak Bay Arts Weekend: Spring Edition. On Friday evening, meet the artists behind the work as you enjoy a cocktail. Experience the exhibition on Saturday an eclectic showcase spanning ceramics, acrylics, oils, printmaking, weaving, photography, and watercolour. On Saturday and Sunday afternoon, take a tour of the arts studios. It's a rare chance to connect personally with local creators, discover new favourites, and see the artistic process up close.

**Cocktails & Conversation: Meet the Artists of Oak Bay**



Friday, April 10 | 6:00-8:00pm | Garry Oak Room



**Art Exhibition at Monterey Recreation Centre**

Saturday, April 11 | 9:00am-3:00pm | Garry Oak Room



**Oak Bay Artists' Open Studios**

Saturday & Sunday April 11-12 | 12:00pm-4:00pm

Visit [oakbay.ca/events](http://oakbay.ca/events) for more information.



OAK BAY  
**ARTS**  
Weekend



# FRIENDS OF MONTEREY CENTRE SOCIETY

## FoMCS President's Message

I am sitting at my window composing this message and looking at bright sunshine, daffodils, and trees coming into bud. Spring has arrived.

I think for many of us this had been a long, rainy, and anxious winter, given everything that is going on in the world. We are fortunate to have a place like the Monterey Centre that provides a welcoming space, delicious food with hot drinks, courses, clubs, and events, and is even near a public library.

The annual Monterey Volunteer Recognition Event is coming up on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. In anticipation of this event, and on behalf of the Friends of Monterey Centre Society, I would like to thank the many volunteers who contribute their time to the clubs and Centre programs, as well individual members who help out in so many ways. I would particularly like to thank the Creative Crafters for their creations that generate financial contributions which are the core funds that aid our mission to support, promote, and fundraise on behalf of the MRC, its members, its clubs, and its volunteer-led activities.

Neil Campbell - FoMCS President

## Rummage Sale Recap



The February Rummage Sale was a huge success this year with over **\$17,400 raised!** There was a record amount of donations received; especially in the clothing departments. Between the Friday Set-Up Day and the Saturday Sale Day, there were approximately **130 volunteers** helping to pull off another successful Rummage Sale. It was a busy and fun day!



Cher - Rummage Sale Coordinator

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# APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1  New Member Meet & Greet 1:30pm Lobby	2 Easter Special Entree 11:00-1:00pm Fern Cafe World Religions Discussion 1:00-3:00pm Cedar	3 Good Friday Centre Open 1:00pm-4:00pm 	4
5	6 Easter Monday Centre Open 1:00pm-4:00pm 	7	8 Spring & Summer Course Registration Day!	9	10 Arts Weekend Cocktails & Conversations 6:00-8:00pm Garry Oak	11 Arts Weekend Art Exhibit 9:00am-3:00pm Garry Oak
12	13	14	15 Free Talk Wills & Estates 1:00-2:30pm Bamboo	16	17	18
19 National Volunteer Week! Thank a Volunteer this week	20 	21	22 Free Talk Your Memories 1:00-2:30pm Dogwood Volunteer Appreciation 5:30-7:00pm Garry Oak	23	24	25
26 Open Mic 1:30-3:00pm Lobby 	27	28	29 Free Talk Mature Drivers 3:00-4:30pm Douglas Fir International Dance Day 11:00-11:50am *register in advance	30		

### Easter Weekend Centre Hours:

Friday, April 3: 1:00pm - 4:00pm  
 Saturday, April 4: 8:30am-4:00pm  
 Sunday, April 5: 11:30am-4:00pm  
 Monday, April 6: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

### Centre Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:30am-9:00pm  
 Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm  
 Saturday: 8:30am-4:00pm  
 Sunday: 11:30am-4:00pm  
 Statutory Holidays: 1:00pm - 4:00pm