



Seven Wonders of Oceanside

By Steven Heywood

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Seven natural and man-made attractions between Nanoose Bay and Deep Bay have been selected as Oceanside's Seven Wonders in a joint chambers of commerce and tourism promotion.

Cathedral Grove, Horne Lake Caves, Milner Gardens and Woodland, The Landing restaurant aquarium, The Old School House arts centre, the Old Woman's Shoe at Paradise Adventure Golf and Rath Trevor Beach Park received the most votes by the public — on web sites hosted by the Parksville and District Chamber of Commerce, Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce and the Oceanside Tourism Association. Votes on these — and 30 other possible wonders — were collected throughout August and the top seven were officially announced Thursday night.

Peter Doukakis, executive director of the Parksville and District Chamber, says there were some 1,300 votes cast and Milner Gardens and Woodland — which started strong — stayed at the top. The other six wonders were fairly close, vote-wise.

"The results represent those natural and man-made aspects of the area," Doukakis says. "They represent the entire area, too, what people think are inspiring and motivating."

Each one, too, has its own audience — from activities for the young to the older set.

The wonders, says Doukakis, will now be made part of the chambers' and OTA's promotional and visitor material.

Information on each of the seven wonders (not to mention just about all 37 on the original list to choose from) is available on the chambers' and OTA's web sites. Those sites are listed here, in The News' hotspots list on the left side of the main page.

A gallery of the seven wonders also appears on the main page — under The News' Photo Gallery hotspot at the upper left.