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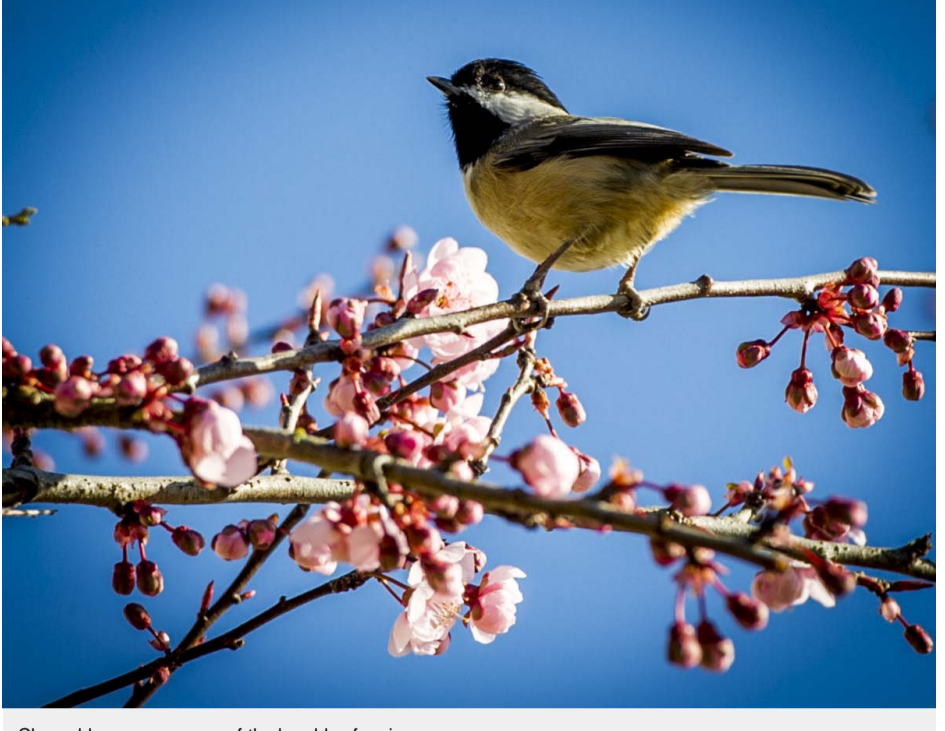
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IN THE GARDEN

Order a cherry tree for spring

October 15, 2015, 10:18 am • Section: In the Garden

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Cherry blossoms are one of the heralds of spring.

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Linda Poole with cherry blossoms.

If you want to help Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival and you have space in your garden for a cherry tree, you'll be interested in this special offer.

The festival has about 1,000 cherry trees to sell – what it calls "birthday blossoms" – for the bargain price of \$49.99.

They are being called birthday blossoms because the festival will be celebrating its 10th anniversary next spring.

The project is also designed to support Vancouver's initiative to become the "greenest city" by adding another 150,000 trees to the urban forest by 2020.



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The cherry blossom festival is also honouring the memory of David C. Lam, B.C.'s 25th lieutenant governor from 1988 to 1995, whose dream it was to "pink up Vancouver with more cherry blossoms to become the West Coast Cherry Blossom Capital." Lam died at 87 of prostate cancer in November, 2010.

Six varieties of ornamental cherry are being made available: 'Whitcomb', 'Akebono', 'Somei-yoshino', 'Amanogawa', 'Kanzan' and 'Shiro-fugen'.

The idea is that you can take advantage of this early-bird offer and order your tree now and pick it up the weekend of April 30 next spring between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m at VanDusen Botanical Garden.

For more information on how to order a cherry tree online, the various cultivars for adoption, how to prepare for a new cherry, planting and care instructions, please visit: <http://vcbf.ca/communityevent/10th-anniversary-birthday-blossoms>



Portrait of David Lam

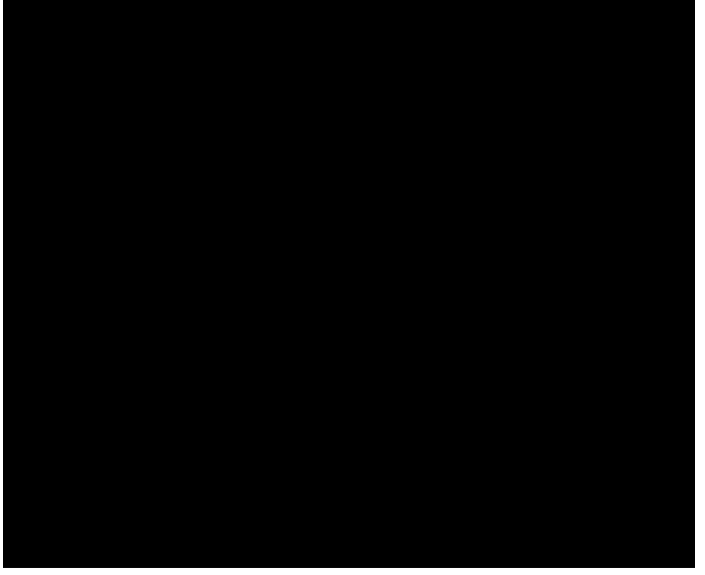


One happy cherry tree owner

"We urge everyone to share the joy and beauty of the flowering cherry by planting a Birthday Blossoms tree as a legacy for future generations," says VCBF director Linda Poole.

"Planting a cherry tree on your property will not only help keep Vancouver beautiful, it's a great way for residents, companies, churches, schools and other organizations to support the Festival and commemorate joyous occasions like birthdays, Mother's Day, weddings, graduations, memorials and anniversaries."

The cherry blossom festival has also recently released this new video giving an overview and retrospective on the annual event which was started by Poole back in 2006.



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