

Island couples look at LOVE

 By
 PIRJO RAITIS
 Staff
 Writer

Valentine's Day is the one day of the year set aside especially for lovers. Some couples have been together for most of their lives while others are fresh in the blush of a new relationship.

Jan Sharkey-Thomas and Cliff Kelly met again through the internet after almost half a century. It was a long road from Yonkers, New York to Salt Spring Island.

"We met when we were 13 years old," said Sharkey-Thomas.

"We were going steady from 1944 to 1946, which was kind of unusual in those days.

We were inseparable."

But separated they did become. Kelly went into the Marines and Sharkey-Thomas moved to Canada. Both went through two marriages and each had a bunch of kids, said Sharkey-Thomas.

Three or four years ago, both registered on the internet through Classmates.com and then just forgot about it.

In April of 2000, Sharkey-Thomas received a letter from Kelly and they continued to correspond electronically through e-mail. They met again face-to-face in neutral territory, and he eventually came to visit Sharkey-Thomas on the island. Now they plan to marry. The wedding is set for some time in the next year.

John and Anne Humphries have been married for 35 of their 40

years together. They met at a Friday afternoon function at UBC.

"We should have been studying," said Anne.

Life has been mostly "happily ever after," and when it was not, the couple worked through the issues.

"It gets really easy when you get older," she said. "You just relax."

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Arvid Chalmers and Sid Filkow, who are starring in this Saturday's *The Scrotum Dialogues*, give a little Valentine's Day flavour to the promotion of their upcoming show.

(See story Page 3.)

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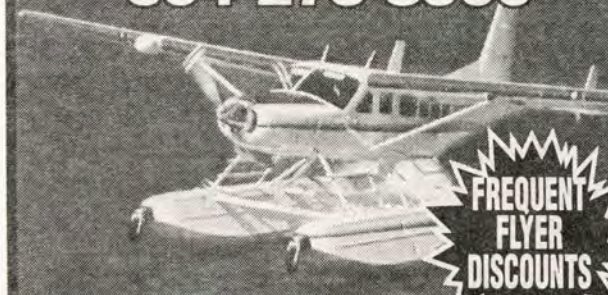
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Eros line-up adds heat to the season

By PIRJO RAITTS
Staff Writer

For the next 10 days, starting on Wednesday night with the opening of the Erotic Art Show, eroticism, desire and sexual fantasies will be on the minds of art lovers.

Beginning February 13, ArtSpring, Talons Nightclub and Central Cinema will be the venues for Eros 2002.

From its earliest stages, Eros 2002 has inspired local artists. Artist Tom Flemons lent his talents to creation of a poster and brochures for the event. The photographic images are part of a series Flemons is working on for the Erotic Art Show. The images are a comment on the tragic events of September 11, he says, in that what happens on the other side of the world affects Salt Spring as well.

• February 13 — **The Erotic Art Show** running from February 13 to 22 in the ArtSpring gallery features erotic paintings, sculpture and multi-media works by island artists. Artwork isn't limited to the gallery's walls and plinths, as artists and the public have been invited to indulge their creative culinary urges and bring erotic food to the opening night. A \$100 prize is available for the best erotic food item. The excitement begins at 6 p.m. and there's no charge.

• February 14-15 — For the next three days, fans of Eros can look forward to theatre performances of the **Vagina Monologues** and the **Scrotum Dialogues**. Running for two nights in the ArtSpring theatre, February 14 and 15, at 8 p.m., the Vagina Monologues features six local women presenting Eve Ensler's award-winning play. The riveting and thought-provoking text inspired by inter-



EROTICA: Oria Dawn Atkinson and Anna Haltrecht are deep into the throes of promoting the Erotic Show and Ball taking place at ArtSpring on February 22.

Photo by Pirjo Raitts

views with hundreds of women will please and tease, make people mad and sad, but both males and females will leave feeling more connected with women. Tickets are \$20 and available at ArtSpring and Salt Spring Books.

• February 16 — **The Scrotum Dialogues** is about men and their issues. Featuring Arvid Chalmers and Sid Filkow, this informative and comedic view of male erotica will be handled in typical Geezer style at ArtSpring on February 16, at 8 p.m. (see

separate story) Tickets are \$15 and available at ArtSpring and Salt Spring Books.

• February 17 — An **erotic tune-up kit** is being presented by relationship therapists Sharon Bronstein and Alan Caplan. Going down the sexual highway is difficult at the best of times. There are so many different values, beliefs and expectations to negotiate about sex yet so little opportunity to explore them openly. Communication is the key in this **workshop**. Bronstein and Caplan will guide participants through an inquiry into their erotic life. Personal pleasure manuals will be created and participants

will learn other ways to enhance their sexuality. Bring snacks to share and a pillow. Bringing the Erotic Into Your Life is a free event taking place in the ArtSpring gallery from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

• **Sue Newman and the Sex Tones** will perform at Moby's Marine Pub on Sunday, February 17 from 7 to 10 p.m. No cover charge.

• February 18-19 — Central Cinema presents two nights of erotic films.

• February 19 — **The Good Wet** is all about women writing about desire. Restricted to women only, this workshop led by Ahava Shira will explore issues important to all women: what turns them on, their sexual fantasies and how they express the erotic in their lives. This transformative evening will be one of creative expression and self-discovery in a safe and supportive environment. Learn to identify cultural stereotypes and

taboos that keep women from defining sexuality on their own terms. The Good Wet takes place in the ArtSpring gallery from 7 to 10 p.m. No writing experience is necessary. Participants are requested to bring a journal and a pen. No charge.

• February 20 — **Tango**, the dance of love, stirs up the passion in everyone as they dance. The local tango group, Por El Amor del Tango of Salt Spring, invites anyone interested to come and watch this popular dance group at the ArtSpring gallery from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Since they usually practise on Wednesdays, this special night will have their fires burning bright with embraces more passionate than ever. Those who come to watch should be careful, they warn — tango is seductive. No charge.

• February 21 — a night off. No Eros 2002 events. Organizers suggest a little private erotica to get ready for the ball.

• February 22 — The climax of the whole erotic festival happens on this night. **The Erotic Show and Ball** begins with foreplay at 8 p.m. People are encouraged to dress erotically to tease and be teased. DJ Sean will seduce dancers onto the dance floor with world beat sounds, and the Eros Dancers will tantalize and stimulate amid the erotic art show at 8:30 p.m. All of this takes place in the ArtSpring gallery, with action beginning at 8 p.m. Organizers encourage everyone to come early. Tickets are \$11 and available at ArtSpring.

• February 23 — **Amoretto Nights** will tweak the libido and stroke the imagination with words. Author and poet Susan Musgrave and 10 local writers will present an evening of erotic prose. Fingers, tongues, lips and ears will all be subjected to sensuous delights. Dancing follows. This Eros 2002 event takes place at Talons Nightclub from 8 to 10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and available at Salt Spring Books and Talons.

Eros 2002 is sponsored by the Alliance of Salt Spring Artists and the Gulf Islands Community Arts Council.

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BULL'S EYE:
Che McNab checks out one of the many bra-bearing arrows that struck poles around Salt Spring early last weekend, reminding islanders of the many activities in the upcoming Erotic Festival. McNab claims he recognizes the garment.

Photo by Derrick Lundy



Geezers talk up Scrotum Dialogues

By PIRJO RAITIS
Staff Writer

Salt Spring's male answer to the Vagina Monologues — the Scrotum Dialogues — is moving to a climax in its own inimitable way.

The Geezers, Arvid Chalmers and Sid Filkow, are in the throes of pre-performance anxiety. Can they pull it off? Can they unscramble their notes and come up with some shtick for Saturday night?

"Yes," said Chalmers. "The only thing tripping us up is death. Do we go out thinking about death or of erotica?"

Chalmers said for him erotica is "the foam on your latte," and for Filkow it's "a bagel with cream cheese if you put your tongue in the hole in the middle."

The Geezers are coming up with their typical in-the-moment improv "scripts" for the Scrotum Dialogues.

"It's 60 per cent written and the rest comes from the streets of our memories. Our job is to make fun of life because death ain't getting a lot of laughs," said Chalmers.

Chalmers and Filkow are best known for their concoction called Topic of Cancer. The play, which toured in other Canadian cities last year, came from a page of notes and the rest through improvising. That's how they conduct business — schlepping their way through the trials and tribulations of a cou-

ple of old geezers dealing with whatever life throws at them. Each performance is slightly different than the last one, and the same formula will likely apply to the Scrotum Dialogues.

"Working with Sid is like having a multiple personality disorder," said Chalmers. "The characters float up through him."

He said Filkow is a gift. When he is "on," he is on another planet. Chalmers just sits back and watches.

"The stuff we do is the fun part of life — totally fun, and I want to have fun with him as long as I can."

The Geezers' fun began more than 15 years ago when the two met on a camping trip with their kids. The real estate agent and lawyer kibitzed around the campfire and then became involved in the Salt Spring Hysterical Society. The rest is comedic history.

As for the Scrotum Dialogues, Chalmers said they are having a problem differentiating between eroticism and sex because for men, "There's some letters missing in their dictionary."

So what should the audience expect from the Geezers?

"Hopefully laughter and a fresh experience for everyone, including the actors," said Chalmers. "Have no expectations and try not to take it personally."

The Scrotum Dialogues is on stage at ArtSpring on Saturday, February 16 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 (\$30 US) and available at the ArtSpring box office by calling 537-2102.

Couples *cont'd from p1*

Anne and John's way of looking at marriage comes in part from Bertrand Russell's words in *Marriage and Morals*.

"It is therefore possible for a civilized man and woman to be happy in marriage, although if this is to be the case a number of conditions must be fulfilled. There must be a feeling of complete equality on both sides; there must be no interference with mutual freedom; there must be the most complete physical and mental intimacy; and there must be a certain similarity in regard to standards

of values."

John said life was different back when they met. People went to university and if they were involved with someone they ended up married.

"You didn't live together, you made a life together. You committed yourself to the bad times and you worked your way through them and didn't quit. Too many people quit too soon at the first sign of trouble and you end up trading one set of problems for another," he said.

Tim O'Connor and John Dolman have been together as a couple for 13 years. They

met in a bar in Toronto.

"We always had the same connections," said O'Connor. "We both worked for CTV."

O'Connor and Dolman came to Salt Spring Island eight years ago, and when asked what keeps their relationship on an even keel, O'Connor said, "It's never on an even keel and it never will be — maybe when we're old and grey it will be."

He also had some advice for other couples on how to make things work over the

long term.

"Laugh, have fun and be as honest as you can."

So what do you do on Valentine's Day if you happen to be single?

Some suggestions include: eating luscious chocolates — all of them; calling friends; throwing a party; showing up at a party; vegging out; treating yourself to new shoes, a massage, or doing something which makes someone else feel extra special.

Happy Valentine's Day!

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TAKE NOTICE that the annual sitting of the Local Court of Revision, pursuant to Section 361.2 of the Local Government Act will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, February 27, 2002 in the 3rd Floor Meeting Room of the Capital Regional District, 524 Yates Street, Victoria, British Columbia to hear appeals against the aforementioned 2002 Parcel tax assessment rolls.

The Local Court of Revision will hear only those appeals filed in writing with the undersigned at least 48 hours in advance of its sitting.

A copy of the complete rolls will be available for inspection at the offices of the Capital Regional District, 524 Yates Street, Victoria, British Columbia between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., and Ganges Building Inspection, Suite 206-118 Fulford/Ganges Road (above the Post Office), Ganges, British Columbia, between the hours of 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, commencing February 13, 2002.

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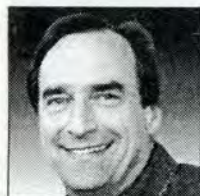
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Looking back on a few 'first' loves



*Isle Say! ...
with John Pottinger*

Do you remember your first love? I do — all of them. I think we all have more than one "first love."

There's the first time you had "that" feeling. Your heart beat faster when you saw her, but all you learned was that you were capable of incredible feelings. And yearnings.

Then there's that first "physical" love. This column isn't the right place for a discussion of that kind of first love. If you want to hear something more — how should I say this — titillating — then you should head down to Writers Night on Saturday, February 23 at Talons. You can get a sneak preview this week on Wednesday night at ArtSpring, when yours-truly will speak briefly (now there's an oxymoron — John Pottinger speaking briefly) on matters erotic.

My first "girlfriend" was Helen. We were in Grade 6. We walked to the store together, went to each other's houses to play after school, and even held hands. Once. At the end of the school year I moved away.

My first real love, meaning in this case, the person who first and permanently changed the way I viewed the other sex, was Monique Schoenberger. She was from northern France, and was 24 years old when we met. I was seventeen.

It was a glorious September day in a small town in southern Japan. I was a deck-hand on a Norwegian freighter and was enjoying a rare day off. With three crewmates, I'd spent the afternoon walking around town and now, as evening set in, we decided to splurge and go to a nice restaurant — more like a club — for dinner and some entertainment.

We were waited on by a beautiful Geisha in full ceremonial attire. Later in the evening, along with other Geishas, she danced, sang and played haunting music from a central stage.

By the time we paid our bill, the place was closing and we were the last to leave. As we walked away, a woman approached us and asked if we wanted to join her for a cup of tea at a late-night restaurant. She had a provocative French accent and an inviting smile — how could we have said no?

Seated at a booth in the brightly lit café, she asked us how we'd liked the show. We all said it was wonderful and asked if she'd been there too.

"I was your hostess," she replied.

We stared at her for a few seconds as her words sunk in. With the thick white Geisha make-up, we hadn't noticed that our hostess was Caucasian.

She'd left home four years earlier and had been working her way — alone — around the world since. From confrontations with Bedouins in the Sahara, to tigers in Sumatra, she enthralled us with her stories. With a knack for languages and a taste for adventure, she was able to find a job almost anywhere.

The next day, for reasons that are too lengthy to explain in this space, the freighter left port without me. As a result, I was in Japan illegally.

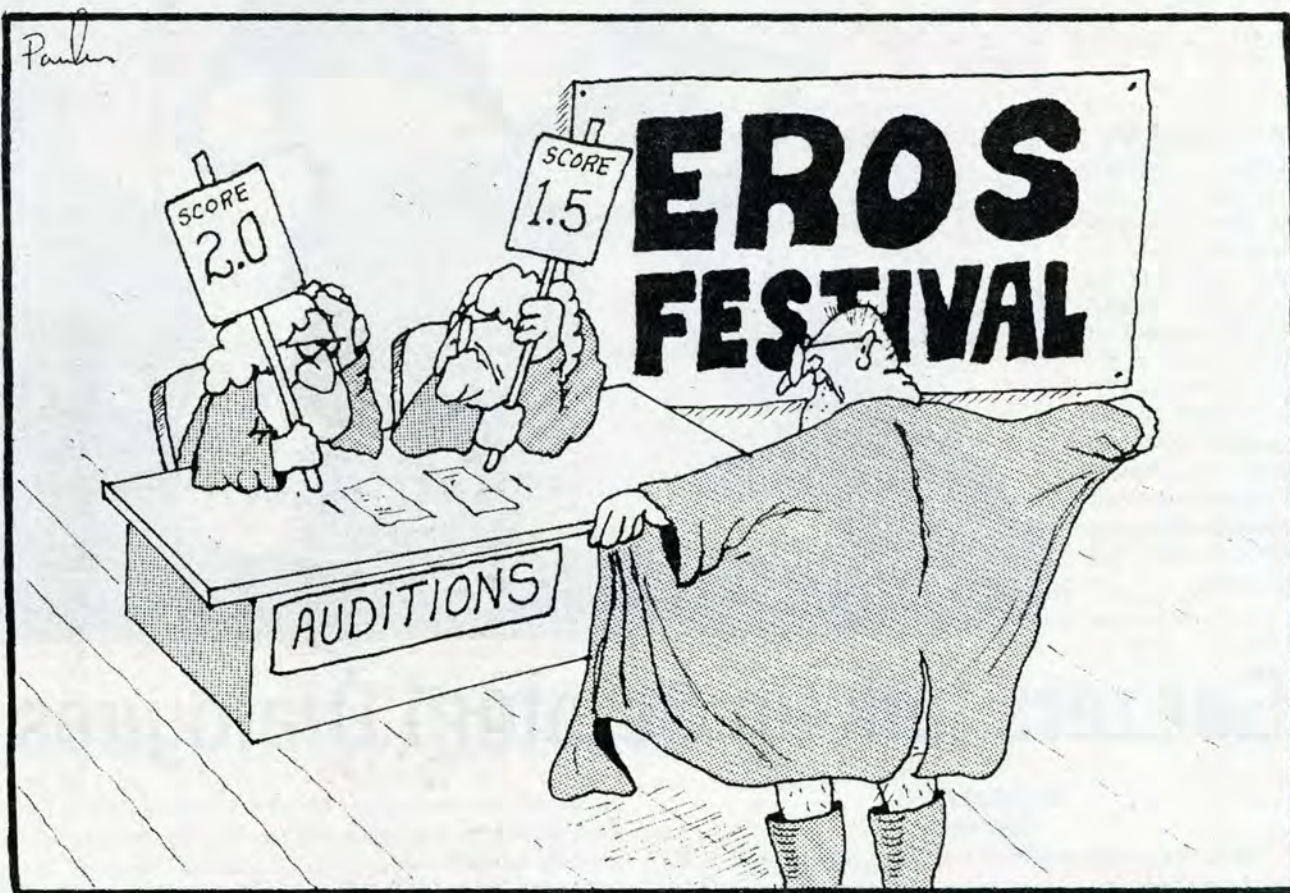
I ended up in prison in Tokyo. On the surface, I may have looked — and even felt — like a man, but I was 17. I was terror-stricken at the prospect of spending time in prison. The first few days were abominable, for a lot of reasons. On the fourth day, just as I was considering doing things that no one should ever consider, the guards told me I had a visitor.

The visiting room was sparse and dull. Grey bare walls, two guards standing behind two chairs. Sitting in one of the chairs was Monique. She told me that one of the workers at the club had seen me being led away from the docks by police. Monique asked some questions of the authorities and had been told I'd been taken to an "immigration prison" near Tokyo. She told her employers she was taking some time off work and she headed for Tokyo — 500 miles away.

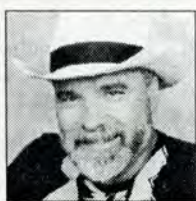
After a day or two of searching, she found me. For the next few weeks, while I awaited release, she visited me every day. She brought bread and fruit and books. We laughed and told each other stories from our childhoods.

One morning the guards came, loaded me in a car, and drove me to the industrial waterfront of Yokohama, where my ship had just finished loading its cargo. They took off my handcuffs, delivered me to the captain, and left. Minutes later we sailed.

I tried for many years, but I never found Monique again. I'd love to thank her for all she did. And tell her she was my first love.



RIDE 'EM, COWBOYS!



*Wit & Whimsy ...
with Arthur Black*

I was flipping through my morning paper just the other day when my eye was lassoed by an advertisement featuring a fearsome-looking hombre with a handlebar moustache wearing a 10-gallon Stetson and a plug-ugly squint.

This cowboy was staring down the barrel of a loaded and cocked Colt '45.

And the Colt '45 was pointed at my forehead.

"THE WILD WEST RETURNS" shouted the headline. It was an advertisement for a brand-new digital television channel entirely devoted to, as the ad screamed, "All Westerns All The Time."

And it occurred to me that such a phenomenon might need explaining to Generation X-ers. To anyone, in fact, under the age of about 35.

Mosey up to the bar, sonny, and have a glass of sarsaparilla. Geezer Art is here to tell you all about it.

You see, young feller, there was a time when all TV programming was pretty much "all western, all the time."

Back in the '50s and early '60s, there wasn't a whole lot of daytime TV to watch. Daytime television was test patterns and recorded music.

The evenings were when we all gathered in the living rooms to warm ourselves in the eerie cathode glow of that new-fangled electronic campfire called TV.

There were no Oprahs back in

those days. No Montels or Judge Judys or Sally Jesse Raphaels or Geraldos. I don't remember exactly how we spent all those limpid lazy afternoons — down at the swimming hole, maybe.

Possibly playing pickup baseball or hide and go seek. If we'd tried to stay in the house, our mothers would have chased us out with a broom. I know for certain that we didn't stay inside and watch TV.

Until after supper. Once dinner was done, as if on command, we all, kids and adults, gathered round and hunkered down in the living room to watch the tube, like junk-starved addicts. And what we watched were Westerns.

From after supper 'til bedtime.

You think I exaggerate?

Check this list: Hopalong Cassidy. The Lone Ranger. Gene Autry. The Cisco Kid. Wild Bill Hickock. Kit Carson. The Range Rider. Roy Rogers. Annie Oakley. The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp. Gunsmoke. Cheyenne. Sugarfoot. Bronco. Tales of Wells Fargo. Trackdown. Wanted Dead or Alive. Have Gun Will Travel. Wagon Train. Maverick. The Restless Gun. Tombstone Territory. Colt '45. The Texan/The Rifleman. The Rebel.

And those are just the Westerns that galloped across our TV screens during the 1950s!

In the next decade, Westerns took off and things really heated up with all new shows like Rawhide, Bonanza, The Deputy, Laramie and

Bat Masterson, to name but a few.

An interesting phenomenon, the TV Western.

Stripped down to their boots and saddles, Westerns almost always relied on just a handful of staples.

You had your rootless men, drifting across an arid landscape, picking up an odd job here and there, solving all manner of intractable problems with the judicious application of snarls, fists and .45 slugs.

And occasionally — very occasionally — kissing the girl. Then riding off into the sunset.

Some shows cracked the mold a bit. Bonanza told the story of a big time (100,000 acres) Texas rancher, Pa Cartwright, and his three hormone-besotted sons.

The Rifleman was all about a single father/farmer raising a pre-pubescent lad between blood lettings.

But most Westerns were as formulaic as a Popeye cartoon or an Elizabethan morality play.

Improbable as they were, my generation grew up on Westerns.

Now if I was a Generation X-er, I'd be asking myself what it might mean to be living under a whole layer of decision-makers weaned on a diet of TV horse operas, wherein the problems of the world were always solved by clenched jaws, bunched fists and six-shooters.

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What if, for instance, we had the head honcho of the western world saying things like "We'll track 'em down, we'll smoke 'em out. We'll take 'em dead or alive."

Naw. That could never happen.

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Gratitude

I am moved to express my gratitude to the organizers and volunteers of the Our Island, Our World Film Festival this year.

It was a great success. Making it affordable to everyone gave the event even more heart.

The selection of information-packed films contained stories of vital global importance. I understand that some of these films will be available at the library for those who could not attend the festival.

A particular favourite of mine was Ryan's Well, a film which told the story of a seven-year-old Canadian boy whose heart led him to the task of raising money for some people in Uganda who had no clean water. His cause grew to significant proportions. It is this kind of spirit in all of us that can cause positive change, each in our own way.

It was also wonderful to reconnect with like-minded friends of yesteryear and make new acquaintances over the weekend.

Special thanks to you, Jane Squier, for making it happen.

HELANI DAVISON,
Salt Spring

Big lie

John Pottinger's rant of January 29 ("Has Campbell learned too much from Clark") is a textbook example of both what Webster's Dictionary defines as "Journalese" (sic), facile or

sensational style, with many clichés, and the mindless, anti-union, anti-NDP rhetoric all too often passed off as valid political commentary.

Fair enough, that's just John being John. But where he oversteps the bounds is when he becomes party to propagating the Big Lie (the premise that if a statement is repeated often enough, no matter how false or ridiculous, it will eventually become accepted as truth by the masses).

The lie in this case is that Hospital Employee Union members with five years' experience are entitled to 575 days severance! Only a credulous dupe or a shameless propagandist could accept this. And yet there it is in print with no comment or suggestion that it is anything but fact.

It only took me a single phone call to find out that what the contract actually states is that an employee is entitled to one week's severance for every two years of service to a maximum of 20 weeks. But, none of this kicks in until an employee has 10 years of experience. In other words the 20-week maximum would require 40 years of service!

Oh well, I guess we can take some solace in that Pottinger's timeless prose will never appear in the spot reserved for "commentary" since the editors clearly state that this is "a spot for informed opinion."

JOHN BAXTER,
Salt Spring

Dénouement

Those that seek profit from love, love only profit.
—Richard Cruickshanks



A journal as literary as the Barnacle can be found in the most unusual places. Take, for example, Montreal, Quebec, where Rachel Vadeboncouer recently visited.

Letters to the editor should be sent by e-mail, in text form (no attachments), to news@gulfislands.net, or dropped off/mailed to the Driftwood-Barnacle office at 328 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3. The Barnacle Mailbox section gives priority to letters on issues raised in the Barnacle.

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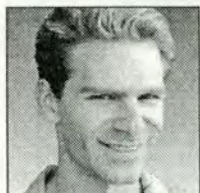
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We'll take it from there!

'Sobering' Ghost World: offers a chunk of reality



Flick Pick ...
with Jason Tudor

the same time Rebecca seems to be slipping into that world which they had both once hated.

Crises mount until Enid is forced to decide whether this is really any kind of place for a girl like herself. Is there any-

where else?

Don't make the mistake of calling Ghost World a teen comedy.

Yes, it might start with a prom, but this is a film that fails to see any purpose in some forced happy ending.

It's about Enid and Rebecca, two of the kind of girls that most of us called weird in high school. In my generation they would have worn lots of black and listened to Jane's Addiction or Nine Inch Nails. Of course, little did I know that they thought I was weird too.

And now I listen to N.I.N. How everything changes.

For the girls of Ghost World, everything is pretty much a joke. They mock not only their classmates but people in the street, or at least they did before graduation. Now high school is over and adulthood beckons. Simply rejecting the banality of strip malls just doesn't cut it anymore.

Enid makes a new friend in an older man who is just as much of a "dork" as she, but at

Thora Birch, best known as the morbid daughter of American Beauty, turns in a powerful and detailed performance as Enid. While Ghost World is often funny, watching Enid's neatly constructed anti-society program fall to pieces in the face of reality is sobering to say the least.

As Rebecca, Scarlett Johansson shows promise as a girl slowly accepting the garish world of plastic cups and plastic suburbs. I don't mean to say that this film is a downer in so much that it is real.

It shows American cities for what they are: concrete, manicured grass and stoplights. Enid and Rebecca are just trying to find a way to live there, making the best of a bad situation through a little bit of humour. So what exactly is the Ghost World?

Adolescence? America? The illusion of happiness? I don't know, and that's one of the best things about it.

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TUES. February 12	WED. February 13	THURS. February 14	FRI. February 15	SAT. February 16	SUN. February 17	MON. February 18
Special Events Fat Tuesday New poetry by Cherie Geauvreau, at 440 Old Scott Road, 7 p.m. Pancake Lunch Shrove Tuesday at All Saints, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Art show opening Jannette Perry's Fantastic Realism paintings. At Starbooks, with wine & cheese, 6-8 p.m.	Special Events Eros 2002 Erotic Art Show opens in the ArtSpring gallery, 6 p.m. Then runs daily through Feb. 22, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. SS Historical Society Talk on west coast tug-boats. Central Hall, 2 p.m. A Celebration of Italian Food Thrifty Foods, 5-7 p.m.	Meetings First Nations History on SSI. Chris Arnett talk. All Saints By-the-Sea, 7 p.m. Town Hall Meeting On Liberal government cuts. GISS library, 7:30 p.m. SS 4-H Community Club Registration at Farmers Institute, 6 p.m.	Special Events Peace Circle At Centennial Park, noon. Stage The Vagina Monologues See February 14 listing. Music Live Bands Every Friday night at Talons nightclub. Simone & Mike Anise restaurant every Friday, 7-9 p.m.	Stage The Scrotum Dialogues ArtSpring, 8 p.m. Music Little Marty & the Juke Joint Orchestra Mahon Hall, 8:30 p.m. Spank the Kitty Vesuvius Inn, 9 p.m.	Music Sue Newman & the Sex Tones at Moby's, 7-10 p.m. The Barley Bros. Fulford Inn, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Rita Costanzi and Friends Concert of Ravel and more. ArtSpring, 2:30 p.m.	Meetings Growing Circle Food Co-op Meeting for produce growers. SS United Church, 7-9 p.m.
Family Felt Heart Pillow Sachet Fables Cottage workshop, 3-4 p.m.	Meetings SSI Rod & Gun Club annual general meeting. 221 Long Harbour Road, 8 p.m. Music DJ C-note spins latest hits at Talons Family Basket Making Fables Cottage workshop, 3-4 p.m.	Stage The Vagina Monologues, ArtSpring, 8 p.m. Music Simone Grasky At Valentine's Day grand opening of Anise Restaurant. Family Kindercraft Fables Cottage workshop, 10:15-11:15 a.m.	WHAT'S ON	Meetings Cedars of Tuam Water District Annual general meeting. 216 Roland Road, 2 p.m. Workshops Forage, Burn & Boil Ancient Skills workshop, Chris Morkasky. 653-4601. Family Waldorf Puppet Play At Fables Cottage, 10:30 a.m.	Workshops Bringing the Erotic Into Your Life ArtSpring gallery, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. free. Warm & Cozy Ancient Skills workshop, Chris Morkasky. 653-4601.	Family Acting Fundamentals Fables Cottage workshop, part III, 3-4 p.m.
WHAT'S ON	WHAT'S ON	WHAT'S ON	WHAT'S ON	WHAT'S ON	WHAT'S ON	WHAT'S ON

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Cinema
The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring — The first installment in J.R.R. Tolkien's saga centres on the Hobbit Frodo Baggins (Elijah Wood) and his quest to destroy an all-powerful ring created by a dark lord to rule the world.
Better Than Chocolate — Two young lesbians, Maggie and Kim, meet in Vancouver and develop a passionate romance and move in together. Meanwhile, Maggie's well-meaning but naive mother Lila gets divorced and decides to move to Vancouver and join the household. Complications ensue as the conservative Lila learns the truth about Maggie and her diverse group of friends.
Directed by Anne Wheeler.

Cable TV
Salt Spring TV, Cable 12 is taking a break for the month of February while programmer Peter Prince funnels his energy into editing new programs.

Exhibitions
Jannette Perry shows Fantastic Realism paintings at Starbooks. Opening wine and cheese reception on Tuesday, February 12, 6-8 p.m.
Stefanie Denz shows work in a Moby's Pub exhibit titled Making Moves. Through February.
Paul Bryans' paintings are at Anise Restaurant.
Deborah Gainer shows paintings, felts and installations at Island Savings Credit Union.
Holger Hermann's photographs are at the Salt Spring Roasting Company in Ganges.
Joe Benge shares a selection of black and white photos at Luigi's Pizzeria through the months of January and February.
Laura Keil has a bread and baking tray installation and felt work show at Barb's Buns.

GRIEF RECOVERY PROGRAM
begins on Salt Spring with the first of six sessions on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 7-8:30pm at Croftonbrook Lounge.
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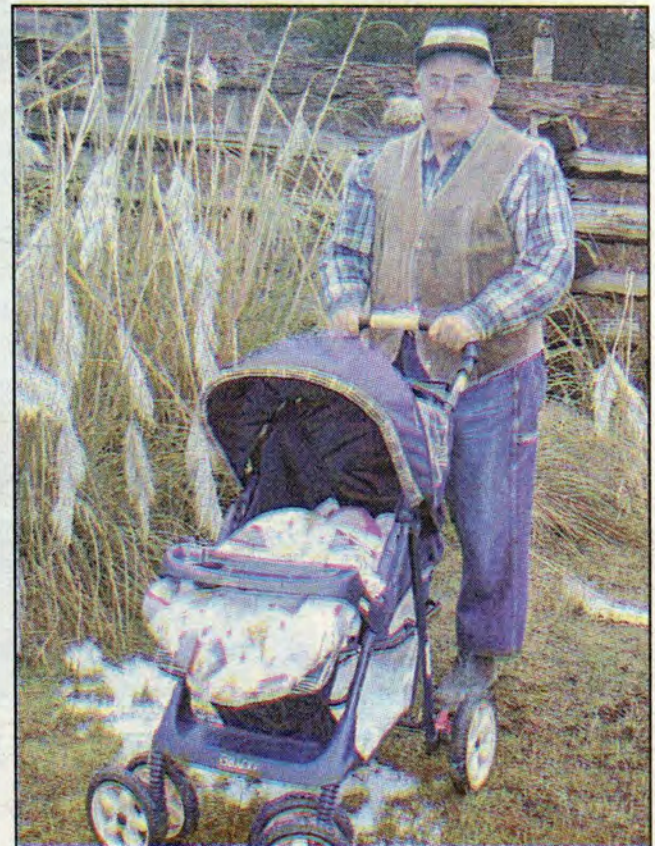
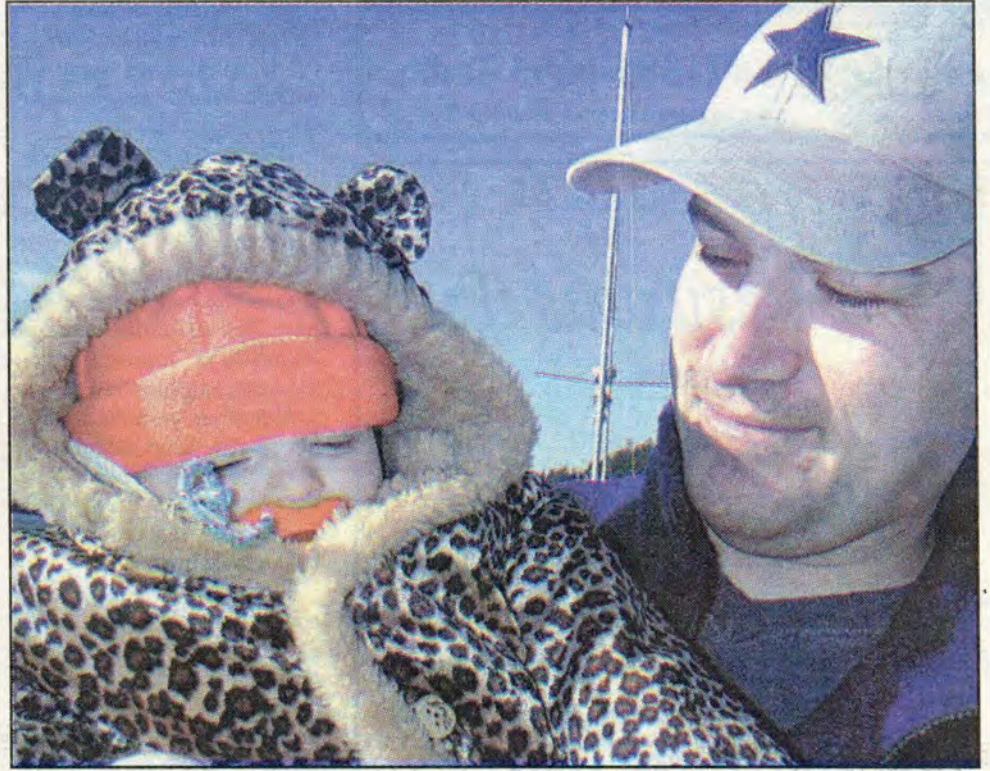
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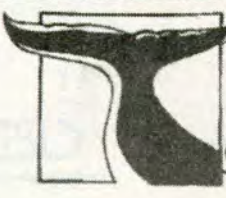
Photos by Derrick Lundy

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Seen here, clockwise from top left, are: Eugene Watanabe, practising piano at ArtSpring; Calvin Van Elsacker with four-month-old Jeane Autumn; Alan Moberg and Marcus Mosely; Vic Sampson walking granddaughter Jasmin Wilson; pottery teacher Cathi Jefferson's hands; mini league soccer post-game cheer; Drew Golinowski; women's basketball action; Raging Grannies at the Our Island/Our World film festival.





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Secrets of passion unleashed by food

By **PIRJO RAITIS**
Staff Writer

Ahhh, aphrodisiacs... the ambrosia of Aphrodite, the elixir of life, the erotic essence of the senses.

For thousands of years, aphrodisiacs have been concocted and sought after by lovers the world over.

Named after Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love and beauty, aphrodisiacs are a food, drink, drug, scent or devices that arouse or increase sexual desire or libido.

Whether eaten as a remedy or a sensual enhancement, the list of aphrodisiac foods is extensive. Sometimes the foods themselves have a sexual connotation. The avocado tree, for example, means Ahuacatl or "testicle tree" in the Aztec language.

Almost no scientific studies have been done on most of the following foods listed; they are deemed to have aphrodisiac qualities mainly through folklore and mythology.

The Aztecs referred to chocolate as the "nourishment of the Gods" and almost everyone will attest to the luscious taste of the popular confection. Chocolate contains chemicals thought to effect neurotransmitters in the brain, and it contains more antioxidant (cancer-preventing) enzymes than red wine.

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The secret for passion is to combine the two — perhaps a glass of Cabernet with a bit of dark chocolate?

But to be really original and stimulate the passionate desires of loved ones, try wooing them with a pound of asparagus. These phallic-shaped spears are best boiled or steamed and fed to a lover for a sensuous experience, especially if you forgot to buy the chocolates.

The most popular aphrodisiacs are:

- Oysters were documented as an aphrodisiac by the Romans in the second century AD. Juvenal, in a satire, described the wanton ways of women who ingested wine and ate "giant oysters." Oysters are nutritious and high in protein.

- Bananas — the marvelous phallic shape is one of the reasons for its popularity as an aphrodisiac. They are rich in potassium and B vitamins, which are necessary for sex hormone production.

- Raspberries and strawberries both invite love and are perfect foods for hand feeding your lover.

- Figs: breaking open a fig and eating it in front of a lover is a powerful erotic act. Serve fresh black mission figs in a bowl of cool water, as done in Italy, and be sure to eat with

your fingers.

- Wine. A moderate amount of wine has been said to "arouse," but too much can have the reverse effect.

- Honey was used by Egyptians to cure sterility and impotence. Medieval seducers plied their partners with mead, which was also thought to "sweeten" a marriage.

- Garlic stirs sexual desires and is best when shared and used in moderation.

- Alcohol and marijuana may lead to sexual excitation through disinhibition.

- Licorice is said to enhance love and lust, especially for women.

- Aniseed has been used as an aphrodisiac for centuries. The Greeks and Romans believed that sucking on the seed would increase sexual desire. Aniseed is also used in many countries as a breath cleanser.

- Truffles' musky scent is said to stimulate and sensitize the skin to touch.

- The aroma of almond is thought to arouse passion in females and has long been used as a symbol of fertility.

- Arugula or "rocket" seed has been used as an aphrodisiac since the first century AD. It has been added to parsnips, pine nuts and pistachios, and the greens are used in salads and pasta.

- Sweet basil is said to stimulate the sex drive and boost fertility. It is also reputed to produce a general sense of well being for body and mind.

- Pine nuts contain zinc, a key mineral for maintaining male potency.

- Coriander, mustard, celery seeds, cloves, fennel, saffron, chickpeas, horseradish, walnuts, nutmeg and chili are also reputed to stimulate the senses and the libido.

Other supposed aphrodisiacs are vanilla, ginseng, carrots, grapes, coffee, ginger, scallops, stout, anchovies, sake, champagne and tequila.

The ancients list salvia, gladiolus root, orchid bulbs, pistachio nuts, rocket (arugula), sage, sea fennel, turnips, skink flesh (a type of lizard) and river snails. Other not-so-luscious supposed aphrodisiacs include ground rhinoceros horn, deer velvet antlers, frog legs (especially if the frogs have eaten meloid beetles which contain Spanish fly), bone soup, lard and a host of other untantalizing animal parts.

Whichever magic potion or elixir you choose for your lover this Valentine's Day, remember that the most important and guaranteed aphrodisiacs are communication, anticipation, touch, music, scent, massage and a fireplace.

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Public Notice

Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee

The Capital Regional District and the Islands Trust Local Committees of Saturna, Galiano, Mayne, and North and South Pender Islands have agreed to assist BC Ferries in renewing the membership of the Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee to BC Ferries. The mandate of the committee is to advise BC Ferries on local ferry service issues; and to advise on interdependent ferry service and policy issues that may arise from time to time.

BC Ferries requests that citizens, groups and organizations interested in representing their communities on the Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee write to the Islands Trust office at the address below, advising of their interest in being members of the committee and outlining their previous experience in serving in voluntary and interest based activities. A total of 10 persons will be appointed to the Committee to represent Saturna, Galiano, Mayne, and North and South Pender Islands. The Committee will meet a minimum of two times each year.

Once the Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee is formed, two members will be chosen by the Committee to represent the Committee on the Coastal Council to BC Ferries. The Coastal Council is made up of representatives of each of the 12 Ferry Advisory Committees and its mandate is to advise BC Ferries on interdependent ferry service and policy issues. The Coastal Council meets up to four times each year.

There is no remuneration paid for service on the Ferry Advisory Committee. However, BC Ferries pays approved expenses incurred by members participating on the Committee.

Interested citizens, groups and organizations are requested to express their interest in writing, by March 15, 2002.

Please write to:
Ms. Jas Chonk
Islands Trust
1627 Fort St.
Victoria, BC V8R 1H8
jchonk@islandstrust.bc.ca



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TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY - NOON MONDAY

6 DEATHS



Steve Thomas

With great sadness, Steve's family announces he passed away peacefully on February 7, 2002. Born March 14, 1927 in Drumheller, Alberta. Predeceased by his father Ted, mother Eva, brother David and sister Gwen. Survived by his loving wife and best friend of 47 years Pamela; his beloved children Sandra, Stephen, Colleen and Carolyn; and his children's partners Roger, Lydia, Marc and Russell. Devoted Grandpa to Steven, Erin, Natasha, Genevieve and Stephenie. Fondly remembered by his 3 nieces and their families, many cousins and a wealth of wonderful friends. After Steve's retirement from the Vancouver School Board he fulfilled his dream of building a home on Salt Spring Island, his paradise. Steve's retirement was rich and rewarding. He was an honorary life member of the SSI Sailing Club, a trustee of the SSI Fire Dept. and an active member of the SSI Prostate Support Group steering committee. Among Steve's proudest achievements were terms as First Principal of Westminster Chapter No. 6 RAM and as Master of Admiral Lodge No. 170 AF & AM. A celebration of Steve's life will be held on Salt Spring Island from 2 to 4 p.m. on Feb. 23, 2002 at the Harbour House Hotel in Ganges. In lieu of flowers, donations to Vancouver Island Prostate Cancer Research Foundation would be appreciated. The family will scatter Steve's ashes in the sea near his home. Bon Voyage Sea Dog We will love you and miss you all the days of our lives.



Our beloved mother, Wendy Joy Burdon, passed on Saturday, Feb. 2 on Salt Spring Island.

We will remember how she impressed upon us family unity, gave us a wonderful outlook on life and always gave of herself to others. Wendy will always be an inspiration to us and everyone close to her. We will celebrate her life and soul, gift of joy, beautiful smile, and we will always love her.

20 COMING EVENTS

SWOVA IS calling all women poets, singers, musicians and performers of all ages to participate in "Working in Solidarity: Women, Human Rights and Peace", an evening of celebration on International Women's Day, Friday March 8, 2002 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Core Inn. If you would like to participate, please contact Miranda at SWOVA at 537-1336 with a brief description of your presentation. In order to accommodate as many performers as possible, single performers will have a maximum of 2 minutes and each group of 3 or more will have a maximum of 10 minutes. We look forward to hearing from you!

FIRST NATIONS, Drum - Making Workshop "The heartbeat of the people", Mar1-3. Sun Raven Wellness Retreat, Pender Island. 1-250-629-6216 info@sunraven.com

GESHE YONG Dong will give public talk Friday Feb 22nd, 298 Blackburn Rd, and introduction to Dzogchen Saturday Feb23rd, 393 Fulford Ganges Road, 1-5pm. Potluck at 6pm 1496 Beddis Road. For info call Judith 537-9339

20 COMING EVENTS

FRANCHISE & BUSINESS Opportunities Show. Vancouver - Feb. 16 & 17 - Plaza of Nations. Would you like to own your own business? Wait no longer! Talk directly with successful business owners on how to get started. Discover a variety of proven franchises and business opportunities, from retail to home-based, with investments ranging from \$500 to \$500,000. Attend free seminars by industry experts. Find the business that's right for you! Hours: Sat. & Sun. 11am to 5pm. For Exhibitor or Attendee Info: 1-800-891-4859. www.nationalevent.com

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Thur. 28 Feb. - 11 Apr.
Fernwood School
7:30-8:30pm
6 Classes - \$30 (B.Y.O.B.)
Pre-register:
Betty-Lou ~
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Fri., February 22
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29 LOST AND FOUND

BLACK SKATEBOARD, fire on the bottom, found at Mouat's Park call 537-4524

34 NOTICES

ROLL ENDS are available at the Driftwood/Barnacle office on a first-come, first-serve basis only. We make every effort to obtain a constant supply from the printers due to their popularity. Although we don't charge for them, we would appreciate a donation to the charity of your choice into the cans provided at the front desk. This month's recipients are Salt Spring Food Bank and the Community Services Building Renovation Fund. Thank you.

THE CANADIAN ALLIANCE needs new leadership and Stephen Harper needs your vote. Stephen will rebuild and reenergize the Alliance based upon policy, principle, and professionalism. You need a membership to vote. Contact the Harper campaign: www.harperforleader.com or Ph. (403) 290-0966. Fax. (403) 277-6408.

CANADIAN FIREARMS Safety Course February 16, for more information, call 537-1243.

MARKET IN THE PARK

Seasonal Vendors to renew application by February 28, 2002 at PARC office in Portlock Park, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road. Fee: \$120.

Day Vendors can register starting first Market Saturday, April 6 at 7:30 am.

Call 537-4448 for current hours or more information.

40 PERSONALS

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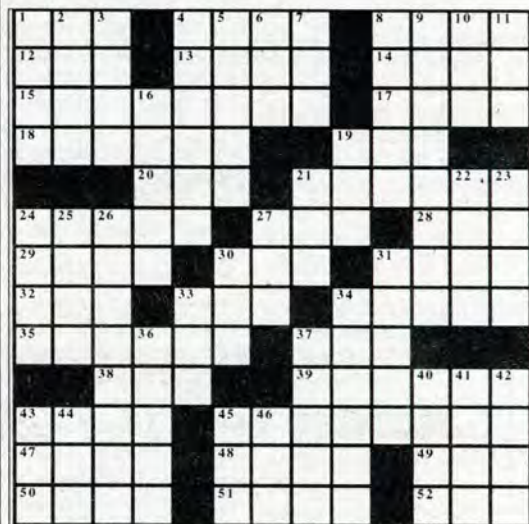
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Canadiana Crossword

Deer Oh Deer

Bernice Rosella and James Kilner



ACROSS

1 Teen dance
4 Entity
8 Ontario lake
12 Hockeyist Bobby, for one
13 Roman emperor
14 Old world buffalo
15 Saskatchewan lake
17 Dance movement
18 Some field goals?
19 Marie
20 Out's opposite
21 Walkways
24 Ontario river
27 Subside
28 Palm leaf paper
29 Askew
30 Guido note
31 Start the bidding
32 Orange pekoe, for one
33 Tibetan buffalo
34 Inflict
35 Saskatchewan town
37 Taxi
38 America's org.
39 Narcotic
43 Dress
45 Drive
47 Came to roost
48 Saskatchewan vil-lage
49 From L to P
50 Weary of excess
51 Jai
52 Salt, in St Pierre

DOWN

1 Northwest Territories mountain range
2 Cookie
3 Moralist
4 Defeated
5 Requires
6 Rage
7 Rocky hill
8 Periods of abstinence
9 Saskatchewan lake
10 Misery
11 Snooze
16 Cacophonous
19 Sis
21 Arab overgarment
22 Ancient Greek city
23 Went to the bottom
24 First name in espionage?
25 Shark's Nolan
26 Cantata
27 Manitoba island
30 Receptor
31 Sputnik's path
33 Aye
34 British Columbia mountain pass
36 Hoi polloi
37 Poisonous snake
40 Objectives
41 Musical notation
42 Organic compound
43 Pouch
44 Each
45 Triumphant exclamation
46 Sickness, in Ste Anne

Crossword answers page 11

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Tip of the week:

Happy Chinese New Year! The Water Horse Year officially began February 11th at 11:21 PM PST. The Horse is practical, unpredictable, playful, cheerful, quick witted and popular etcetera. Water will bring adventure and inspiration to the Horse yet potentially some self-serving and inconsiderate behavior. We all do well to keep a sense of humor and flow with the fun and frolic. The following is a very general forecast for each sign. Rat born people will be tested by the Horse's unpredictable and unreliable gait. Exercise patience! Ox born natives may also be unsettled by the Horse's impetuosity and are also advised to exercise caution especially with finances. Tiger's will feel in tune with the swift movements of the Horse and should gain recognition and progress this year. Rabbit individuals will also move, flow and realize dreams. Dragon's will grow and prosper as long as they are willing to be one among equals, committed and cooperative. Snake people will be challenged to make sound decisions despite the fast pace and determine when to hold and when to yield. Happy Birthday happy Horse born! Wealth and fame could be yours this year yet wanting too much too fast will bring trouble in relationships. Sheep natives stand to experience a smooth and eventful year with luck in love. Monkey types may work harder but get more and rise in stature. Roosters do well to curb their opinions, keep the peace and stay close to family and loved ones. Those born in the year of the Dog should progress both at work and at home, yet exercise both patience and body! Boars will rise in the ranks on all fronts with the right efforts.

Aries (Mar 21 - AP 20)

Last week you were moved to show all your strange stripes and colors. Now, you feel called inward to dream, reflect and imagine. Concerns for the welfare of others continue to grow as well. Revived interests in grass roots movements and/or alternative science are attracting your focus. You are eager to learn new things, yet you want to be inspired at least as much as informed. Despite the pull of tradition the future beckons. Let your mind wander and explore new possibilities.

Taurus (Apr 21 - May 20)

Adding your stamp of originality to work projects and other shared interests continues as a central theme. Ideally you are aware of the fact that what the world needs most is love. Beyond mere sentimentality, love has many levels and dimensions of meaning and

expression. Making your heart-felt intentions and commitment known is the call. New innovations and originality are on your mind. In any case, you desire to create a more solid foundation. Allow knowledge and experience to guide you.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)

Increased popularity is now yours to enjoy. You are feeling more confident and playful than you have for awhile. This will continue and yet you will also assume a more serious and responsible attitude this week. Significant others still require your cooperation and support. A smooth financial flow will take a little longer to materialize, however. Remember that you are not alone in this department and contribute to your self and others with a positive attitude of gratitude.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 21)

Having delved into some of the deeper mysteries of life you are better equipped to clear the coming hurdles. These include the debris of outworn things and perspectives. Fortunately you are in a disciplined mood. Also, blessings are coming your way even though you may have to remove their mask to really see them. Yes, removing masks is a delicate project. It's all a part of the drama of life. Be willing to yield and cooperate as necessary... and it is.... Breathe, laugh and have faith.

Leo (Jul 22 - Aug 22)

Changes on relationship fronts are reason to retreat to a sanctuary. The ongoing process of melting divisions, on one hand, and erecting new boundaries is a central focus. Passion balanced with compassion is needed in the recipe. Yet, you may also feel moved to quickly take the quick exit that is now presenting itself. Success is linked to knowing when to hold and when to fold. Yet, there is always another way to live. A new arrangement takes courage and creativity, yet may be your best bet.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

The game is on! Changes in your professional and perhaps your personal life that have been delayed are now advancing again. You are open to the possibilities and a change of lifestyle is likely. You feel bold on one hand yet you also may feel like running away from it all. Don't do that. Accept your destiny with courage and conviction. As you follow your heart others will yield and accept. Be compassionate with your self and others by being open to communicate a new deal.

Libra (Sep 22 - Oct 22)

You are undergoing a rapid learning curve. This is awakening you to new creative possibilities. Recent and ongoing changes in your life require an innovative approach. The more you can give to the situation with an open heart and mind the better. Be patient and maintain interest in discovering previously hidden aspects of your self. You may feel insecure in new territory but with patient

persistence you will become accustomed to the new pace and style. Improvise!

Scorpio (Oct 22 - Nov 22)

Changes close to home continue to rock and roll your world. New aspects of your individuality are coming out. You have and continue to work diligently to realize success. Much of the effort has been directed towards being more independent. The financial flow may be challenged making you think of new angles. A fresh glimpse of the light will reveal itself this week and will be much brighter within the month. You can afford to play more now. Allow romance to open your heart.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You are in a progressive mood and are eager to learn many new and exciting things. Playing with new ideas and approaches is inspiring. We are in an information age and you are a gold mine of ideas and insights. Success is yours to the extent that you are focused and disciplined. This means going with the flow to an extent as you curve and carve fancy lines on its face. In other words, there is a flow and there are choices. Know what you want as clearly as possible.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

As old patterns melt and more innovative styles emerge you are realizing success. One will only come with the other. Resistance and stubborn adherence to the past will continue to come with a very high price. Change is the law and as long as we flow with it we win. Trying to fit into the box is not the way. New approaches must be explored. Changes close to home and in your own self-concept are likely keys. Negotiate a new deal with loved ones without compromise. Go for a new win/win deal.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)

You have been taking a revolutionary lead and your whole environment is shaking as a result. This is not necessarily a negative thing but there is definitely an impact being felt by others close by. Your sights are set on the future, yet you are not confident that the current status quo has what it will take. Thus, you are eager to build a whole new foundation of approach and exercise new strategies. This is a good time to do some creative brainstorming and to identify the assets of possible teammates.

Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

As the Sun enters your sign you are in the mood to take new risks and initiatives. Many dreams and visions have and continue to emerge from your subconscious mind of their own accord. They may be disruptive and you may be trying to deny or dismiss them. If so, you may be missing out on destiny's cue. If you do you may suffer health setbacks so you might as well play along. Be willing to flirt with new possibilities. Open up to the inpouring inspirations and take note and action.

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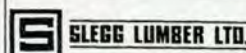
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TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

MASSAGE GIFT Certificates available. Great Valentine gift or treat yourself. Kristie has 20 years experience as a registered massage therapist - uses aromatherapy in a therapeutic setting. Open 7 days. 537-1219.

KOOTENAY FORGE sale. 20% off all in stock items and special order! Kitchen, bathroom, fireplace accessories, lamps etc. 20% off all books. Coastal Currents 133 Hereford Ave. 537-0070 10am-5pm

FOR DETAILS on the 2.75%, 6 month Convertible Solution Mortgage at the Royal call Bert Beitel. 653-2328. (Rates subject to change).

PREGNANT COUPLE looking to rent a 2 bedroom house, long term. Local references available. Phone 537-8360.

ATTENTION GROWERS! No, not that kind. The Growing Circle Food Co-op is looking for local produce suppliers. If you are interested in growing for a seasonal or year-round local market, please come to our growers meeting on February 18th, 7-9pm at the United Church, 111 Hereford Ave. For more information contact Michele at The Co-op 537-4247

PROFESSIONALLY EMPLOYED single, no kids, N/P, seeking permanent accommodation in bachelor unit. Prefer cabin or studio. Call John 537-9570.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

FROZEN FOODS now available at The Growing Circle Food Co-op: Amy's pot pies, Tortillas, Pizza, Nut Burgers, Organic Meadow Frozen Vegetables. Soon: local certified organic meat and much more! Located in Gasoline Alley. Call 537-4247.

FOUND: 2 keys outside Bow Wows. Claim at the Driftwood Office.

10 FT. TRAVEL TRAILER. Good shape. For weekends, spare bedroom, office space, den, children's playhouse. \$800 obo. Jim, 537-2135.

TOO LATE to classify deadline is Monday noon for Tuesday's paper.

ANSWER TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE



I'd like to welcome you to Salt Spring

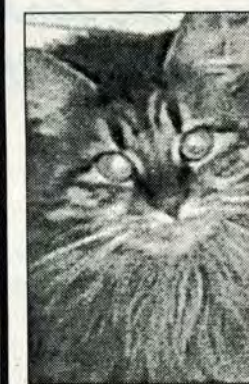


Call Marie Kelsey to receive your personal welcome along with gifts, greetings & helpful information about your new community.

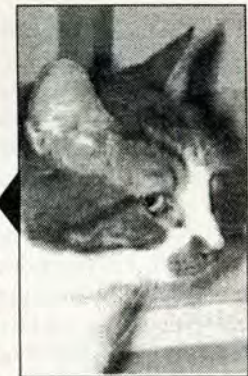
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Cats of the Week



I'm a big, orange guy named Marigold and I'm very friendly and sweet.



Cougar is a neutered male about 4 years old. He is very affectionate but not used to dogs.

Please call the SPCA at 537-2123 or come to the open house every Saturday from 2:00pm to 4:00pm

The adoption fee of \$60 for a male and \$70 for a female covers the cost of spaying or neutering and a vaccination.

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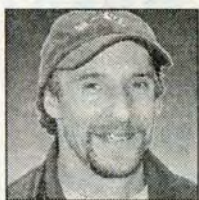
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Time to prune, not ruin



Life in the garden ...
with Joe Clemente

The season has arrived where we can start to prune certain species of deciduous trees and shrubs that have gone dormant.

Incorrect pruning can actually do harm to some species, and sometimes frustrating their growth. If you are not sure how to prune your favourite rose bush, then I advise you pick up a good book on the subject or call a professional. Otherwise your pruning could turn into ruining!

Since now that we know dormant species can be pruned safely in our late fall and winter months, how about some of the other broadleaf evergreen species that are so abundant in our mild temperate zone? Here are some of the shrubs more commonly found in a Salt Spring Island landscape, and how to prune them.

First of all, make sure you are equipped with a good pair of sharp pruners. *Arbutus unedo* or "strawberry tree" is a very common species here and numerous large-size mature specimens can be seen growing throughout Ganges and Grace Point. This large shrub or small tree is very easy to prune, but it should be done in late March or April.

You can cut them back hard or prune out any long or straggly shoots, new growth will sprout just below the cut. *Aucuba japonica* can be done either light or hard in early spring, and again in midsummer. You can shorten long shoots to a leaf bud. Unfortunately with this species our island deer most often do all the pruning for us!

Berberis or "barberry" should consist of thinning out old shoots when the plant becomes overcrowded. A good time to do this is right after flowering or even after it has fruited in the winter months. Older, untidy *berberis* is cut back quite hard without any problem.

Ceanothus or "California lilac" is very abundant here. The particular species we grow here can be clipped quite frequently

throughout our summer months. It is best to clip or prune these after they have flowered, however, in our climate these plants continue to bloom off and on during our warmer months.

I've even seen a few blooming in November, believe it or not! The common lilac bush or syringa can be pruned when it has become dormant. Pruning should consist of removing crowded or surplus shoots and cutting out weak or dead wood.

Heather is a favourite amongst many gardeners, and with most heathers pruning should consist of trimming the dead flower heads off after the plant has completed its bloom period. *Choisya ternata*, or Mexican orange, should be pruned in the spring or early summer, or when it has finished blooming. This is another species that can also rebloom later on in the season.

Prune out old wood and trim it to your desired shape and size. *Escallonia* is a native of South America, but grows here just about everywhere you look on this rock. This plant can be pruned back very hard either in late winter or spring, but is best done after it has flowered. There is a large specimen growing beside Central Hall and it hasn't stopped blooming.

Eucalyptus or "gum trees" should only be pruned in the spring or early summer. They can either be clipped or cut back very hard, depending on the situation. Most *eucalyptus* species can even resprout from a stump, but pruning in the fall can cause detrimental damage if an early severe freeze should occur. Gum trees don't go dormant in our climate, but continue to grow year-round in our zone. Most of the *eucalypts* are fairly marginal way up here in the temperate zone, so if you do have a mature specimen in your garden, cherish it!

Forsythia can be pruned after flowering is completed, or when it has gone dormant. You can shorten any of the rather free-growing shoots that form. Besides gorse, *forsythia* is one of the earlier shrubs to start blooming in the late winter months. Lavender is also trimmed after it has flowered. The old flower stems should be clipped off, usually in late summer. Have fun!



V-DAY: Cast members of The Vagina Monologues get into a V to promote their show which runs this Thursday and Friday at ArtSpring, beginning at 8 p.m.

Photo by Derrick Lundy



When I hear - I forget
When I see - I remember
When I do - I understand

Chinese proverb

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Babe Ruth	14-15	\$75	\$40
Babe Ruth	16-18	\$75	\$40
Girl's Softball	-	\$75	\$40



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