

# SPOTLIGHT

• arts  
• entertainment  
• lifestyles

a weekly supplement to the gulf islands driftwood

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Rave review for  
a dark comedy.....B2

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Singers sing at ArtSpring, see pg. B11

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2000

Derrick Lundy photos



Bob Young and Deuce



Don Monteith and Paint

## Service with a smile, and — a sniff

By MIKE LEVIN  
Driftwood Staff

Business style isn't simple anymore. You can't just hang out a sign and start selling; you need a marketing plan. And that often means an expert who knows how to target and attract customers.

Always willing to step outside the mainstream, many Salt Spring retailers have opted for a different kind of expert — one that costs about \$30 a month in kibble, greets every customer personally and only demands the occasional tummy rub.

Dogs are, arguably, as seductive a marketing tool as any other for island businesses, even if you can't fit them into a spread sheet or a tax deduction.

There are at least a dozen stores on the island with a resident canine. They aren't guard dogs; just hairy fixtures of the business. They earn their keep by simply sitting and casting gentle eyes over the proceedings.

"He's the ice-breaker, even the one they come to see," said Home Design Centre's Richard Elwell about two-year-old Kai, a Great Dane.



Chesapeake Bay retriever cross. "Most of our customers are dog owners so they're predisposed to enjoying his company."

For Don Monteith, the Naikai Gallery wouldn't be as successful if 14-month-old Paint — a Malamute-Akita cross — weren't a daily presence.

"He's very significant to the store. After all, this is an art gallery full of breakable things. If people come in and see him wandering around they relax and have a much better time," Monteith said.

Partner Dawne Fennell admits that Paint is like their child, and a well-mannered one that brings people in off the street for a quick nuzzle.

"They see this beautiful dog and they want to pat him and find out what he is. And he loves the attention, usually. The longer they spend inside, the better chance there is of (them) buying."

It may seem a bit cold to consider human's best friend as a form of advertising, but everyone interviewed for this article made one similar point: making their pets a full-time part of the day was worth its weight in gold.

"I don't know what kind of benefit she is to my business but I

absolutely love her being here, and it means I'm doing a better job of being her owner," said Peter Vincent, owner of North End Fitness.

His eight-year-old Jack Russell terrier Buffy provides an institutional break from the tread mills and spin classes at the exercise club. "People expect to see her and are very disappointed when she's not here," Vincent added.

Elwell also relies on Kai's sense of time. "He loves being here and he's very laid back until about 4:15 when he gets all animated. That's when I know it's time to think about getting ready to go home."

Dogs are an easy sell on Salt Spring. The Capital Regional District issued over 800 licences to the island last year and believes there are probably twice that number who live here.

It isn't just owners who understand pets can add years to their lives and help create a community with other animal-lovers. The connection is obvious, even among the broad spectrum of tourists who arrive each summer.

"They really do open up social

doors for humans, especially in the market," says Shauna Mah, whose Quisqueya Hemp Co. sells dog accessories

Saturdays in Centennial Park. "On the business side I've found that people who buy our products tend not to have their dogs with them, and all the dogs here might remind them about what they're missing."

Her babies — Cornelius, a Shepherd cross, and Dill Pickle, a Labrador cross — rarely attend the market but are an important part of Mah's catalogue marketing.

Andrea Sowden is particularly attuned to island dog life. She runs Bow Wow and Co., a grooming and supply centre, and knows dozens of the local creatures by name.

"I think many stores are definitely identified by their dogs. They've got their basket or chair and there they sit, always happy to see you. You see them in the advertising and standing at the door like a doorman," she said. "Their popularity is really growing; retired people aren't getting grandchildren so they're getting dogs. It is all part of life here, so why wouldn't you bring your dog to work?"

Tater, Sowden's two-year-old Jack Russell cross, can't cruise 50 feet down the sidewalk without

being stopped with a biscuit or a scratch on the head.

There are lots of downtown canine favourites: Treasured Spirit's Arrow, Apple Photo's Deuce, Ganges Village Cobbler's Popo and Love My Kitchen's Prints, a four-year-old Irish setter-black lab-golden retriever-cross who has time for everyone passing down the road.

"He has two voices depending on what he wants and who he wants it from," says owner Linda Koroscil. "I started bringing him when he was six weeks old and he's never broken anything, except for the odd, exuberant tail wag. I think city people are amazed that you can let a dog just wander in and out of your store. Can you tell I don't have children living at home anymore?"

There are, of course, many others, and most shoppers have their favourite.

There is also a good chance they come to the stores with a few hidden doggie treats, just to make the commercial experience a little more human.

## Dog Rules 101: an inevitable progression

- 1) The dog is not allowed in the house
- 2) The dog is allowed in the house, but only in certain rooms
- 3) The dog is allowed in all rooms, but has to stay off the furniture
- 4) The dog is allowed on old furniture only
- 5) The dog is allowed on all the furniture, but is not allowed to sleep with humans on the bed
- 6) The dog is allowed on the bed by invitation only
- 7) The dog can sleep on the bed but not under the covers

- 8) The dog can sleep under the covers by invitation only
- 9) The dog can sleep under the covers every night
- 10) Humans must ask permission to sleep under the covers with the dog

### Why dogs don't use computers

- 1) Can't stick their heads out Windows 98
- 2) Fetch command not available on all software platforms

- 3) Too difficult to mark every website they visit
- 4) Fire hydrant icon is too frustrating
- 5) Not at all fooled by chuckwagon screensaver
- 6) Carpal Paw Syndrome
- 7) Because dogs are not geeks; now, cats on the other hand . . .
- 8) Saliva-covered mouse too difficult to manoeuvre
- 9) Butt-sniffing less deceiving than on-line chat room
- 10) No alt.master's.leg newsgroup



**COMMUNICATING:** Rusty Marshall, playing a doctor, left, gets to the heart of matters with a hospital intern played by Marnée Beauvais. In the background is Death, played by Geoffrey Davidson, and Lottie Fast as Sam in the Biting Hands production of Vigour Mortis. There are no dull moments in the play which runs Wednesday through Saturday at Mahon Hall.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

## 'Black comedy' Vigour Mortis offers content-rich performance

By ANASTACIA WILDE  
Driftwood Contributor

Imagine being trapped inside a labyrinth of hospital corridors in a nervous frenzy, repeatedly tripping upon the same dismal room only to find yourself splayed on a gurney with a white sheet veiling your lifeless body.

Suddenly, some guy named Death wielding a make-shift scythe and dressed in a black robe and bare feet appears from nowhere telling you he's got a job to do and you're the centre deal.

Meanwhile, you, in genuine mortification, gaze down upon the corpse that was once your life and try unsuccessfully to joke your way out of the severity of the final moment.

Thus begins the play Vigour Mortis, a black comedy intent on "saving the soul" of one fallen mortal Sam, played dynamically by Lottie Fast. In the pursuit of bridging peace between a bitter and separated family, and Sam's attempt to assuage her father's wounds, the play skates on slimy subjects like alcoholic grandparents, loveless marriages and generations of communication breakdowns — all dredged up from the swamp of collective familial denial.

In an interesting debut of directing, playwright Erin Butler draws on sheer instinct to get his actors moving through the many layers of ever-shifting direct and indirect dialogue. Following his underlying thesis that every story has two filters — one inside the teller and one inside the listener — Butler sets up a series of roadblocks and diversions to authentic communication between two people who desperately want love but don't know how to receive it.

During the short span of one-hour following the young woman's sudden and accidental demise, Death, played convincingly by Geoffrey Davidson, beckons Sam to join him in the afterworld. A comical satire on pervading human reluctance to let go and actually die ensues. Mr. Death eventually sighs and laments, "Some people take a very long time to accept they have died."

Indeed, Who wouldn't? Sam's got every right to play tug-a-war with Death after learning she's been laid to rest by her very own father, played by "rough and

Marshall gives a perturbing performance as the self-righteous father type: outwardly unaffected and guiltless, confident and disciplined, incapable of repentance, all the while protected by his "Doctor" title and cloaked in the surgical scrubs of discontentment and fear.

Because Sam is theoretically dead and her father cannot hear her speak, it takes the middle management of the hospital intern — played deftly by Marnée Beauvais — to bring the dead and living within communicable reach. (Never mind how she does it, you have to fork over the moolah to witness such a feat.)

Beauvais is no ordinary intern and privy to inside information about the details of life after death give her a biting edge. "After knowing how well people get along in this world, would you pack them all together in the next?" she asks emphatically.

Vigour Mortis is full of pot-shots at the absurdity of war, religion

and the covenant of marriage. "Pray to God but keep rowing to shore," advises Sam's father while arguing the effectiveness of belief in a generic God rather than a specific religion. That way, you don't dwindle your chances by having picked the wrong God, he wagers.

In four short weeks, these actors have done a remarkable job in breathing life into their respective characters. Playwright Butler is to be commended for his courage in leaving behind the frillies and banging head on with this content-rich, if at times disturbing, original play.

Vigour Mortis deserves a look-see by all theatre enthusiasts and by anyone who appreciates an honest attempt to promote this simple moral: Talk to your family before it's too late.

Produced by Biting Hands Theatre, Vigour Mortis runs from May 17 to 20 at Mahon Hall. Tickets are a bargain at \$8. They're available at Island Star Video locations and the door.

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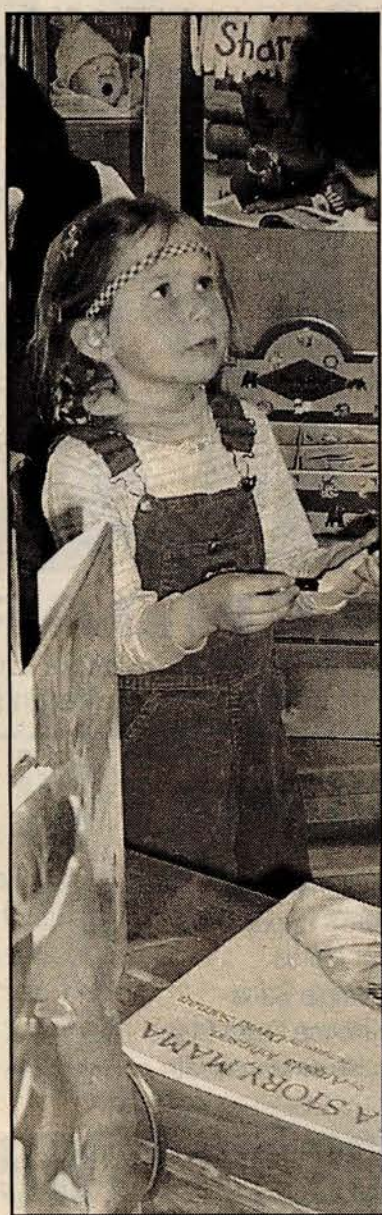
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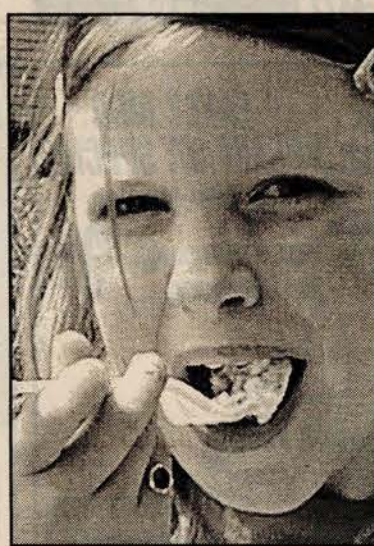
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**FABLE DELIGHTS:** Fables Cottage celebrated Mother's Day with a grand opening bash Saturday. Seen here are, clockwise from left, Linda Herbert asking Dad if this is a good Mother's Day present; Nicole Pal playing the violin, Sarah Lundy tuning up, and Victoria Ross enjoying a donut, ice-cream and strawberries combo. The event served up lots of activities and entertainment throughout the afternoon.

Photos by Susan Lundy



## Pat Temple travels human time line in music at Talon's

Islanders are invited to take in the bold new sound of roots musician Pat Temple as he celebrates the release of his fourth album at Talon's restaurant in Ganges Thursday night.

One Song at a Time features Temple's powerful musicianship, vocals and visual imagery. His songs are described in press material as being "like mini-movies . . . there is a song for every major event in our lives."

"One Song at a Time is a song for the human time line. A line that is not always easy to define: ravens at the door, the sight of a sundog and a mad river . . ."

Temple's song Playing Havoc with my Heart is currently being featured on Country Music Television.

Playing with Temple is Pineapple Frank Barth on pedal steel, trombone and Dobro; Terry Wilkins, stand-up bass; keyboardist Spencer Evans, who also plays clarinet, accordion and provides harmonies; and Vince Maccarone on drums.

Together they provide a full band sound that makes people want to dance. The May 18 event at Talon's is presented by Long John's Musical Treats from Duncan.

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS from page B11

HALL	MAI	JIM
ELIAS	USNA	DANA
LIMBO	MINI	RIGS
PEP	ALMA	SCALES
FRAY	PLUM	
DAISY	HEEP	ZIG
KERN	NODS	ODE
ACTS	EPA	INON
TAI	NOEL	TELE
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## stage

- **Vigour Mortis**, an original comedic drama about communication, death and reconciliation written by Salt Spring playwright Erin Butler. Stars Marnee Beauvais, Lottie Fast, Geoffrey Davidson and Rusty Marshall. At Mahon Hall, **Wednesday through Saturday, May 17-20, 8 p.m.** Tickets are \$8 and on sale at both Island Star Video locations.
- **Happy Days**, by Samuel Beckett, presented by Active PASS theatre company, starring Debbi Toole and Bryon Gray, at ArtSpring, **Thursday through Saturday, May 18-20, 8 p.m.** Tickets are \$12.50 and on sale at et cetera and Acoustic Planet.

## music

- **Wednesday Night LIVE!** at Moby's, hosted by Charles Wilton, **May 17, 9 p.m.**
- **Pat Temple Band** releases their new CD One Song at a Time at Talon's restaurant, presented by Longevity John Musical Treats. **Thursday, May 18, 9 p.m.** \$10 cover.
- **Tree-House open stage** resumes for the summer. Hosted by Vaughn Fulford every Thursday night from 7 to 11 p.m., beginning **Thursday, May 18.**
- **Kumbia — Latin Dance**, at Beaver Point Hall, **Friday, May 19**, dance lesson at 8 p.m., dance at 9. Tickets \$8 in advance (at Acoustic Planet) or \$10 at the door.
- **Sunyata** dance band takes the Moby's stage **Friday-Saturday, May 19-20** as part of Moby's Marine Pub's 10th anniversary Birthday Bash. Music begins at approximately 9 p.m.
- **Derek Duffy and friends** entertain at the Tree-House Cafe on **Friday, May 19**, from 7-9:30 p.m.
- **Ganges Harbour Music Festival** at the Tree-House Cafe. Non-stop music by local singer-songwriters, **Saturday, May 20**, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- **Allegra Singers**, choir group from Victoria, performs at All Saints By-the-Sea as a benefit for The Land Conservancy of B.C., **Saturday, May 20**, 8 p.m. Tickets, \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors, at Acoustic Planet or the door.
- **Traditional Choral Evensong** for Easter is at All Saints By-the-Sea, **Sunday, May 21**, 4 p.m.
- **Triskele Celtic Band** plays at the Tree-House Cafe on **Sunday, May 21**, 7-9:30 p.m.
- **The Legendary Platters** — deluxe dinner buffet and show, Harbour House Hotel, **Sunday-Monday, May 21-22**, Tickets \$45, available at the hotel front desk.
- **Kelby MacNayr Trio** performs for Moby's Sunday Dinner Jazz, **May 21**, 8 p.m.
- **The Barley Bros.** keep the May long weekend tradition alive — they're at Moby's on **Monday, May 22** from 5 p.m.
- **Stephen Glanville**, classical guitarist, performs at the Tree-House Cafe, **Monday, May 22**, 7-9:30 p.m.
- **Susan Cogan**, singer-songwriter and recording artist, is at the Tree-House Cafe on **Tuesday, May 23**, 7-9:30 p.m.
- **Ramesh and friends** are the Tree-House musicians on **Wednesday, May 24**, 7-9:30 p.m.

## dance

- **Dance Across the Water 2000**, presented by Dancestreams, the Vancouver Island Youth Dance Theatre, ArtSpring, **Sunday, May 21**, 2 p.m. Tickets \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students, through the ArtSpring box office (537-2102).
  - **Rhythmic Flow** — a production of Tierra del Sol Dance Productions. ArtSpring, **Tuesday and Wednesday, May 23 and 24**, 8 p.m. Tickets \$13 for adults, \$8 students and on sale at ArtSpring, the Driftwood and Ganges Stationery.
- EVERY WEEK:**
- **Wednesdays** — **Argentinean Tango Practice** at Lions Hall, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$3 drop-in. Info: Margie, 537-2707.
  - **Fridays** — **Rose's Cafe Open Stage** — begins at 7 p.m.
  - **Saturdays** — **Alfresco Restaurant** — **Barrington Perry** plays piano starting at 6 p.m.
  - **Saturdays** — **Harbour House Lounge** — **Brent Streeper** performs on keyboards most Saturday nights.
  - **Saturdays and Sundays** — **Harbour House Bistro** — Pianist **Murray Anderson** performs at lunch or dinner.
  - **Sundays** — **Fulford Inn** — **Buck, Dave and Richard** play from 6 to 9 p.m.
  - **Mondays** — **Midnight Mondays Cafe** at Rose's in

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# What's On

## YOUR CALENDAR

What's On is a reader service designed to highlight arts and culture events. Call 537-9933, fax 537-2613 or email: news@gulfislands.net

<p><b>wed MAY 17</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vigour Mortis</li> <li>• Conservancy event</li> <li>• Wednesday Night LIVE!</li> <li>• Fibrations exhibit opens</li> <li>• School board</li> </ul>	<p><b>thurs MAY 18</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West of the Moon</li> <li>• Beckett's Happy Days</li> <li>• Vigour Mortis</li> <li>• Pat Temple Band</li> <li>• Tree-House Open Stage</li> <li>• Manulife or Manudeath</li> </ul>	<p><b>fri MAY 19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West of the Moon</li> <li>• Sunyata</li> <li>• Happy Days</li> <li>• Kumbia Latin Dance</li> <li>• Vigour Mortis</li> <li>• Wisdom Circle</li> <li>• Derek Duffy</li> </ul>
<p><b>mon MAY 22</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legendary Platters</li> <li>• Stephen Glanville</li> <li>• Barley Bros.</li> <li>• Soccer Tourney</li> <li>• West of the Moon</li> </ul>	<p><b>tues MAY 23</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhythmic Flow</li> <li>• Susan Cogan</li> </ul>	<p><b>wed MAY 24</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garden club meeting</li> <li>• Rhythmic Flow</li> <li>• Ramesh and friends</li> </ul>
<p><b>sat MAY 27</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bandemonium</li> </ul>	<p><b>sun MAY 28</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bandemonium</li> <li>• SPCA walkathon</li> </ul>	<p><b>mon MAY 29</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soccer Tourney</li> </ul>

**FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE EVENTS ABOVE**

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Fulford. The cafe is open until midnight for an after-hours acoustic jam session with all musicians (and audience members) welcome.

## meetings

- **Gulf Islands School Board** public meeting at Salt Spring Elementary School, **Wednesday, May 17**, 1 p.m.
- **GLOSSI** monthly meeting is at Salt Spring Seniors Services on **Sunday, May 21**, 2 p.m.
- **Salt Spring Island Garden Club** meeting with guest speaker Linda Gilkeson on Integrated Pest Management. Meaden Hall, **Wednesday, May 24**, 7 p.m.

## activities

- **People in Natural Landscapes**, an Historical

- **Perspective**, is the topic of ethnobotanist Brenda Beckwith at a Salt Spring Island Conservancy event. Also on tap is a description of the services available through the South and West Salt Spring Stewardship Project. At Fulford Hall, **Wednesday, May 17**, 7:30 p.m.
- **Community Meditation** — United Church, upper hall, **Thursday, May 18**, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **Manulife or Manudeath** — Salt Spring Hysterical Society members travel to Bastion Square in Victoria to perform a modern-day morality play to coincide with the opening of the Manulife Literary Festival. **Thursday, May 18**, 2 p.m.
- **Wisdom Circle** — Share your ideas and concerns about issues and listen to others — United Church upper hall, **Friday, May 19**, 7:30-9:30 p.m. By donation.
- **Order of the Eastern Star** bake sale — Masonic Hall, 506 Lower Ganges Road, **Saturday May 20**, 9 a.m. to noon.
- **Fulford Inn Outdoor Market** the season at the Fulford Inn a.m. to 4 p.m. and runs every 3. For vendor space, call Hank
- **Adult guardianship and power of attorney** given by lawyer James Pastorski, **Wednesday, May 17**, 10:30 a.m.

## for families

- **Storytime at Fables Cottage** Thursday and Friday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. **Wednesday, May 17**. Guest reader every Friday.
- **West of the Moon** five-year anniversary party **Thursday through Monday, May 18-22**. Guests Ramesh and Susheela

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• Enlargements • Posters	• Fax service
• Passport photos	• Laminating
• Film, cameras, accessories	• Binding

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121 McPhillips Ave. 537-9917

*This is what we look like when you're not around!*

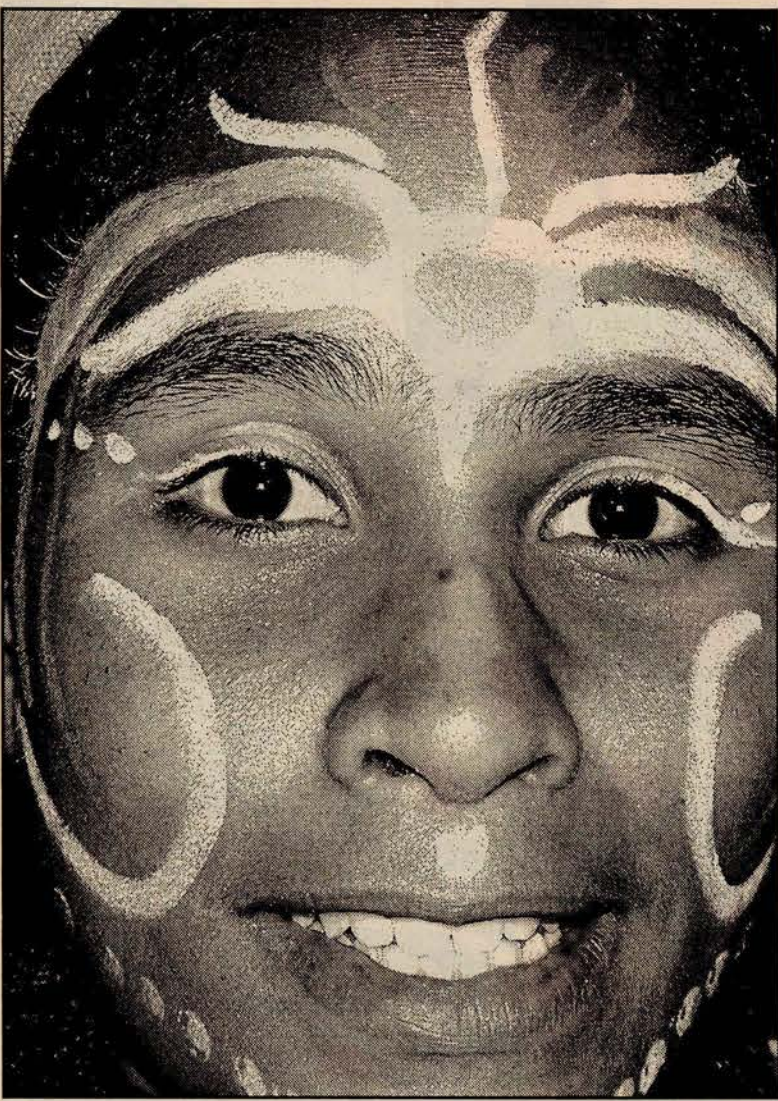
**THE SPECIALIST**

**Ganges Auto Marine 537-9221**

**ARTS**

Plan to buy those June issues after you've seen what some of the Gulf Islands have to offer.

**Opens: June 2nd Mahon Hall**



**PREPARED TO PARTY:** Angela White sets out with a painted face to attend a Texada lands acquisition benefit at Beaver Point Hall. The event featured Dub Central — reggae specialists.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

## From arbutus leaves to banana fibres unusual will be the norm at Fibrations

With the Fibrations exhibit set to open at ArtSpring this week, the hum in the arts community has been steadily rising.

The unique character of Fibrations — a New Wave will be obvious from not only the work of its 18 artisans, but in the guest book's banana fibre paper originating from Salt Spring-grown trees and display stands made by weavers and basketmakers.

With only a few months' notice, the Salt Spring fibre artists took up the challenge to weave the best of their imagination and skill into dramatically new work for Fibrations, which officially opens tonight (Wednesday) from 7 to 9 p.m.

It runs daily until May 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and during evening theatre performances.

Artwork will include felting, paper, quilting, tapestry, rug hooking, basketry, clothing and mixed media.

As organizing committee members explain, Fibrations offered a rare opportunity for fibre artists to entangle themselves in purely artistic pursuits. Most participants generally concentrate on producing high-quality commercial work.

Paul Gravett, who many people know as the administrative assistant at ArtSpring, is a tapestry weaver and on the Fibrations organizing committee.

He credits the stunning joint show of the island's basketry and woodworking guild last April for inspiring an original fibre arts exhibit.

A core group brainstormed and relied on who-knew-who to come up with a list of artists to approach. They decided the work would not be juried, but stipulated it must be new and have caused the artist to "stretch" their creative boundaries.

"We just kind of trusted the process," says Patricia Gibson, another committee member.

Everyone is eager to see both the artists' work and the results of weavers' and basket-makers' ingenuity in helping display various pieces.

"It should be very unique," says Barbara McCaffrey, who is well-known for her felt and mixed media work. She is integrating ancient and contemporary elements in her wall pieces.

Gibson makes glorious quilts, and hints that two of her

## Telethon broadcast locally

Salt Spring Cablevision is joining other TV stations in broadcasting the 13th annual Children's Miracle Network live on June 3 and 4.

Organizers hope communities across the province will "help make miracles happen" during the broadcast, which raises funds in support of B.C.'s Children's Hospital in Vancouver.

Salt Spring Cablevision will broadcast the telethon live from 7 p.m. Saturday, June 3 to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 4 on channel 12.

All of the money raised is directed to the hospital to purchase equipment, fund research and support educational and outreach programs.

Last year, B.C.'s Children's Hospital had visits from 164 Gulf Islands patients. It is the province's only major treatment, research and health promotion centre devoted entirely to the care of children from birth to age 16.

The telethon raises money by accepting telephone pledges at 1-888-663-3033. Anyone wanting to offer a pre-set donation of \$25 prior to the telethon should call 1-900-630-2525.



# Pat Temple Band

Pat Temple - Vocals/Guitar  
Pineapple Frank Barth - Pedal Steel/  
Trombone/Dobro  
Terry Wilkins - Stand Up Bass  
Spencer Evans - Keyboards/Clarinet/  
Harmonies  
Vince Maccarone - Drums

This is a great Canadian Band led by a talented songwriter and musician... don't miss this band - Times Colonist, Victoria

Thursday May 18

TALONS - Gasoline Alley

Releasing the new CD 'One Song At A Time' \$10 cover  
Showtime: 9:00 pm • for more answers call Longevity John  
250-748-4360





## Hastings House

RELAIS & CHATEAUX

### Spring Fine Dining

Five Splendid Courses only \$75.00  
Gulf Island Residents \$59.00 until May 31

Dinner at 7:00, Cocktails at 6:00 p.m.  
Reservations 250-537-2362 / 800-661-9255

### Covered Patio Casual Dining

Salt Spring Island Community Services

268 Fulford-Ganges Rd.  
537-9971

ALL OF OUR SERVICES ARE FREE

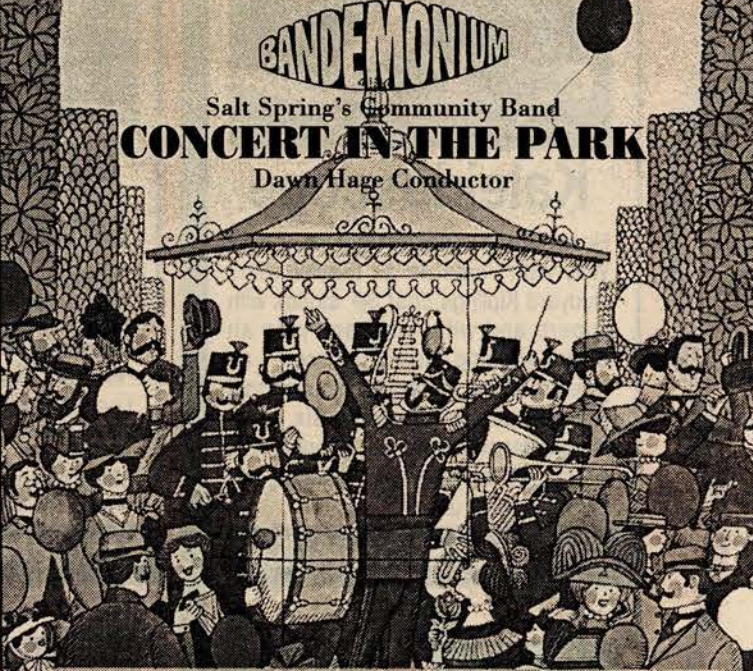
- **24 HR. CRISIS LINE:** Dial 0 and ask for ZENITH 2262 (no charge). Caller is connected with the Need Crisis Centre in Victoria.
- **EMERGENCY FOOD BANK:** Open Tuesday 11-3.
- **COUNSELLING SERVICES:** Crisis and short-term counselling provided by Community Workers.
- **SUPPORT GROUP:** For parents of special needs children - behaviour, school issues, etc. 2nd Wed. each month 537-1232.
- **ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM:** Prevention & treatment service is free & confidential.
- **FAMILY PLACE: DROP IN** - for parents & children under 6 yrs. Mon.-Thurs. 9:30-12 noon. **CLOTHING EXCHANGE** - open daily. 537-9176
- **RECYCLE DEPOT:** Open Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00am-5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 537-1200.
- **COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS COORDINATOR:** Call Sharon Glover at 537-4607.
- **Emergency Mental Health Services available:** 4pm to midnight. Access is available through the Emergency Room at Lady Minto Hospital call: 538-4840

# BANDEMONIUM

Salt Spring's Community Band

## CONCERT IN THE PARK

Dawn Hage Conductor



American Overture for Band, Hebrides Suite,  
Royal Air Force March Past,  
Variations on a Korean Folk Song,  
Lincolnshire Posy & much more

SOLOIST-SIMON MILLERD

Outstanding Jr. Brass Player and winner of Bandemonium's first solo competition

AT ARTSPRING

FRI. & SAT. MAY 26 & 27 • 7:30PM

SUN. MAY 28 • 2PM

Tickets \$12 - Students \$8  
Available from band members and ArtSpring Ph. 537-2102

## Afro-Caribbean beats at Beaver Point

Cumbias, socas, merengues, rumbas, cha-chas and batucadas will be offered to dance and music fans when Victoria band Kumbia performs at Beaver Point Hall this Friday night.

Kumbia dishes out a hot mixture of infectious Afro-Caribbean rhythms, with trumpet and keyboard melodies riding on high-energy percussion.

Band members are Enrique Rivas, from Venezuela, who handles keyboards, percussion and vocals; lead vocalist and drummer Oscar Cruz, from El Salvador; Edgar Acevedo, from Guatemala, plays congas and sings; while Bryan Badel, a Canadian native, plays the trumpet.

Kumbia has performed at the Vancouver and

Victoria Latin festivals, the Victoria folk and Caribbean festivals and a number of events on Vancouver Island and Vancouver.

Members also created and performed a musical play about Latin American immigrants, which was televised nationwide in the video called Changing Rhythms.

"This band is a Latin dance music machine," wrote Joseph Blake of the Victoria Times Colonist. "They're wonderful."

Tickets for the May 19 show are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door.

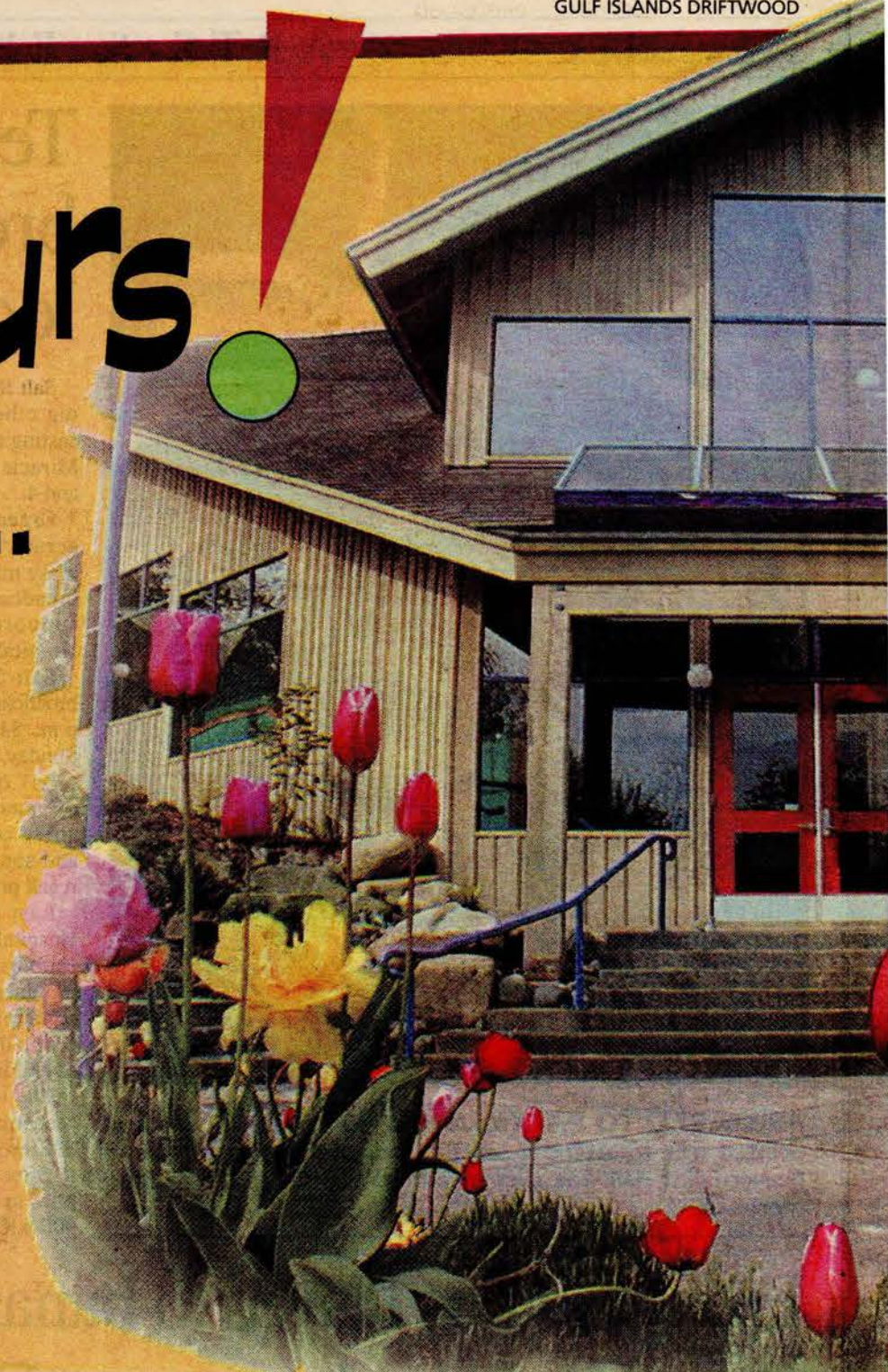
The evening begins with a dance lesson at 8 p.m. and the dance itself at 9.

# Uniquely Yours!

ArtSpring presents...

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just for you...your family  
...your visitors



SIX STELLAR PERFORMANCES 3 events for

SATURDAY, MAY 27 • 2PM



### Kaleidoscope

How did the elephant get its trunk? Why won't cats do as they're told? Rudyard Kiplings *Just So* stories with superb and witty language plus an award-winning musical score — all presented by Victoria's professional *Kaleidoscope Theatre*. Six actor/singer/dancer/musicans, puppets and 17 masks: an afternoon for kids and the kid in all of us.

Single ticket \$6 / Series \$5.60

SUNDAY, JUNE 18 • 2PM



### Eugene Osadchy Linda Lee Thomas

Eugene Osadchy was born in Kiev and graduated from the Kiev State Conservatory in 1975. He is hailed as having "the most refined and balanced string playing" by the New York Times, and called "a paragon of Russian elan" by the Vancouver Sun.

Linda Lee Thomas is Vancouver's most beloved pianist. She currently holds the position of Principal Pianist for both the Vancouver Symphony and the CBC Vancouver Orchestra and is known for her chamber and orchestral music and Argentine tango.

Single ticket \$16 / Series \$14.40

THURSDAY, JUNE 22 • 8PM



### Lorne Elliott: *The Collected Mistakes II*

Humourist, storyteller, comedian and musician, Lorne Elliott presents a one-man blend of comedic mayhem and superbly silly performance art. Known across Canada (a half hour later in Newfoundland) for his CBC program, *Madly Off In All Directions*, Elliott is a contrast of crazed intellectual and extravagant jester.

Single ticket \$18 / Series \$16.20

SATURDAY, JULY 8 • 8PM



### Celia Duthie *And Friends*

From her life with books, authors and as owner of Duthie Books, Celia Duthie talks about B.C.'s contribution to the national and international literary scene. She will also introduce authors reading from their works. A highly-informed and personal perspective on our literature.

Single ticket \$16 / Series \$14.40

# Uniquely Yours!

Call the ArtSpring

(250)

RESERVED SEAT

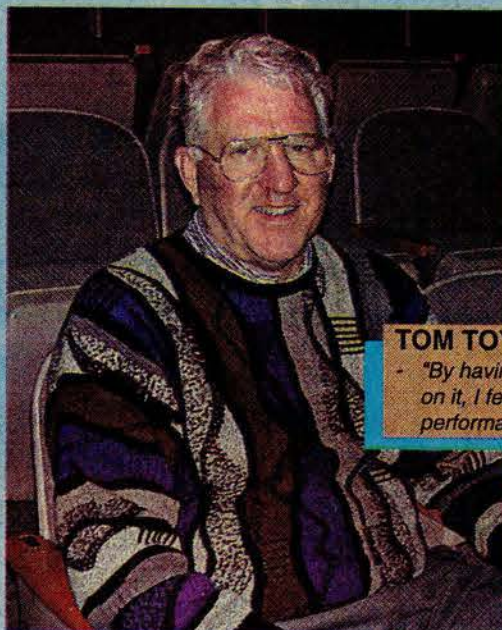
# Have a Seat **at** ArtSpring!

70% of ArtSpring's theatre seats have been sold. For every seat, a different and unique reason.

No matter what the reason, ArtSpring, this vibrant performing and visual arts centre, is the real beneficiary.

You can continue the tremendous success of ArtSpring's first year with a 100% tax deductible contribution for one of the remaining seats.

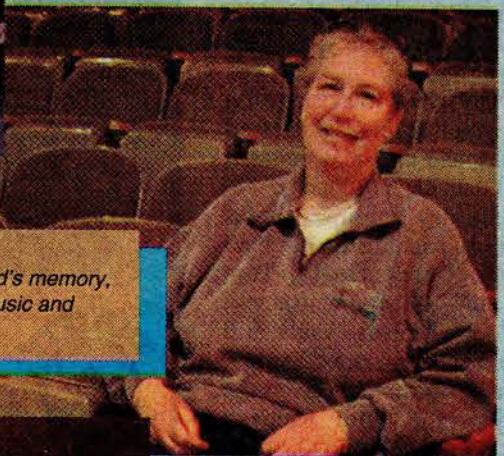
On the arm of your seat: an engraved plaque with your own unique and personal dedication — for yourself, a friend, in honour of someone you admire, in memory of a loved one, as a corporate presence.



**TOM TOYNBEE**

*"By having a seat with my family's name on it, I feel we are, in spirit, part of every performance."*

own unique and personal dedication — for yourself, a friend, in honour of someone you admire, in memory of a loved one, as a corporate presence.



**JULIE ELIZABETH**

*"By dedicating a chair in my friend's memory, I keep alive our shared love of music and theatre. It's a lasting reminder."*



**JANET HOAG & ST. CLAIR McCOLL**

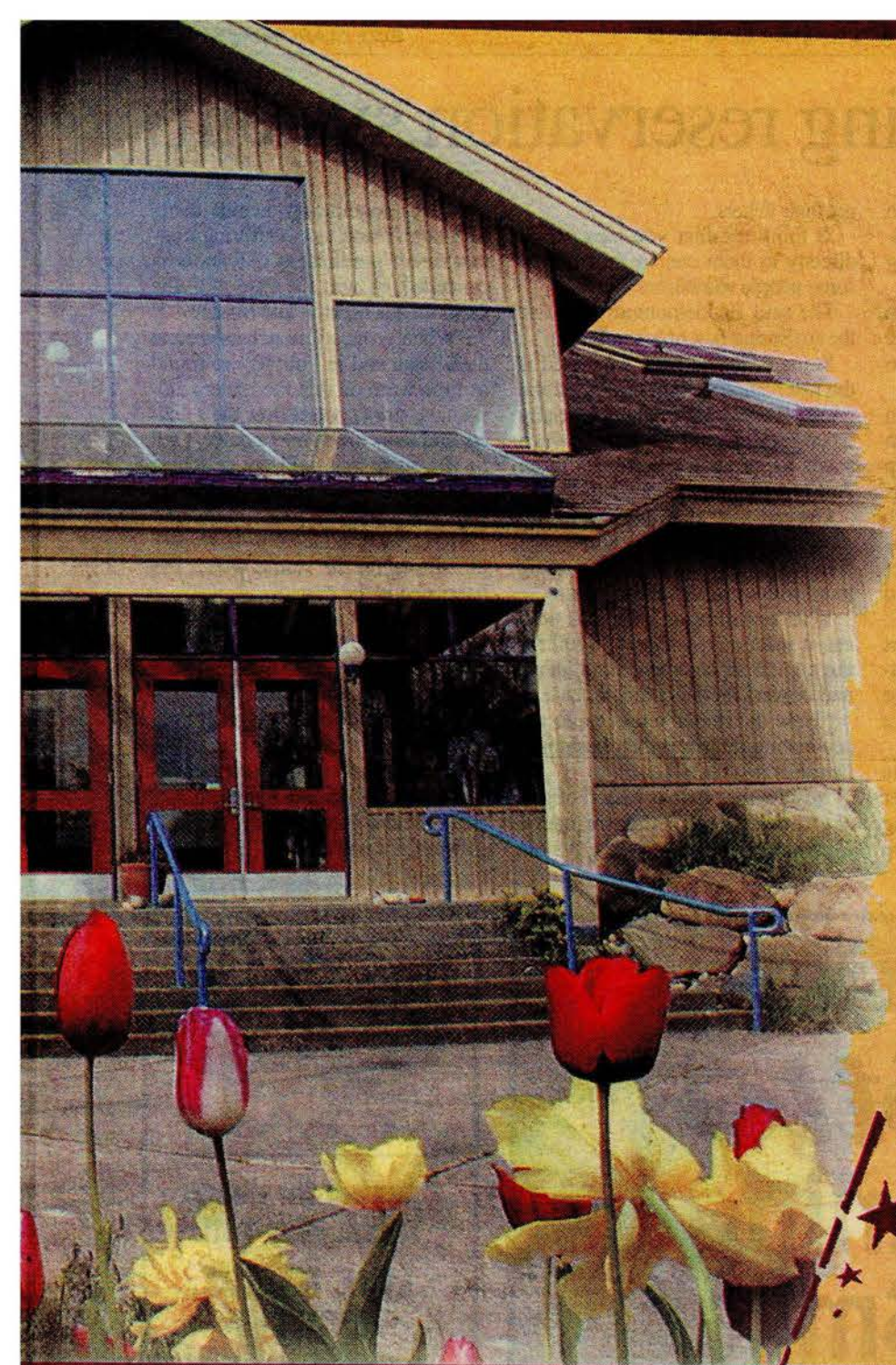
*"What a great gift! I surprised my husband with ArtSpring seats for his birthday. This is one way we can support the Salt Spring artistic community"*

**We have  
your seat...  
You have the  
reason!**

The hundreds who will sit in your chair will know you care about the arts on Salt Spring Island.

## ArtSpring

100 Jackson Ave., Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2V8  
(250) 537-2125 email: [artspring@saltspring.com](mailto:artspring@saltspring.com)



or as little as \$33.....

**SUNDAY, JULY 30 • 2PM**



### Choral Concert

British Columbia is renowned for its award-winning choral groups. One of these performs a program designed for the whole family.

If you love fine choral music, you will love this concert.

Details to be announced shortly. Call the Box Office for an update.

Single ticket \$18 / Series \$16.20

**FRIDAY, AUG. 18 • 8PM**



### m-pact

*Superb, mind-blowing, accomplished, mesmerizing, a vocal wall of sound...* Words fail when it comes to m-pact. This 5-man group brings a whole new dimension to a capella singing. The show features sensational singing, fantastic arrangements in the pop-jazz mode, original songs and classic pop favourites, high energy and exciting choreography. It leaves audiences shouting.

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## Spring Box Office

(250) 537-2102

STARTING...BOOK EARLY

# Theatre users adapting to ArtSpring reservation system

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Driftwood Staff

Anyone sitting in an ArtSpring theatre seat in the past few months may be among the many fumbling around trying to determine if their rear is planted in the right spot.

Everyone from ArtSpring management to theatre renters and patrons is adapting to the new system, which, until ticket purchasers are "trained" to pick up tickets in advance, could still see line-ups at ArtSpring theatre events.

Waits take place because even if people have purchased their tickets over the phone, if they haven't chosen the actual seats, that must be done and the tickets printed out when they come to the theatre. Even if they have picked seats over the phone and the tickets are already printed, the box office volunteer has to find them.

As ArtSpring administrative assistant Paul Gravett explains, that should smooth out once people get more used to a reserved ticket system.

"I think it's probably a great idea," said Tilly Crawley of the Salt Spring Music Guild. "It encourages people to phone in for tickets and it's much more convenient for them."

She also said that in cases where there could be high demand for the best seats, reservations mean people don't have to "leave home at 7:15

p.m. for an 8 p.m. performance" in order to secure the seats they want.

But guild members were not entirely happy with the system when they put on the April 8 and 9 concert of Don Fisher, Chris Kodaly and Jean Knight.

Crawley said there was quite a long line-up for ticket pick-up on the Saturday night.

"The real heart-ache is that the box office is not open on Saturday afternoon," she said, acknowledging that it could be difficult to get more volunteers for Saturday duty in addition to all the other time they put in there.

Reservations can be made by phone and tickets paid for with VISA or Mastercard, but for Saturday and Sunday events, such as the guild's April concert, people are limited to picking up the actual tickets until just before the show if they don't take care of it earlier in the week.

Crawley also said not having to print and distribute tickets has eliminated substantial work and running around for organizers.

"All of these things help to improve the audience's attitude towards ArtSpring and going to events."

Bandemonium director Dawn Hage also feels a reservation system is a good idea, although her group has chosen to not use it for their three Concert in the Park shows May 26-28. With so many musicians in the band, they sell a number of tickets directly to family and friends.

As well, the format of this concert — with "buskers" performing outside the theatre prior to the stage show — was not conducive to a reserved seat show.

The only problem she has observed is that ArtSpring is neither on the beaten path nor open long enough to make it easy for people to

get their tickets.

"I think the fact you have to go directly to them can be difficult for some people sometimes."

She said Bandemonium may use the ArtSpring box office in future.

Some islanders have wondered if the reservation system has raised the price of ArtSpring events, especially when they've read the notice which states \$1 of each ticket goes to an ArtSpring capital replacement fund.

Gravett said that amount is not directly applied to the admission price by ArtSpring, and has nothing to do with the reservation system.

If an organization sells 200 tickets, it must pay ArtSpring \$200 for the capital replacement fund above and beyond the other rental costs.

"How the renter wants to do the accounting for that is their business," he said.

Besides the obvious reason of giving the service to theatre users, Gravett said a reservation system

improves accounting, avoids over-sold shows and lets ArtSpring contact ticket purchasers if a show is cancelled, as was the case with the Best of Eros night in late March.

"When groups sold tickets around the village and in Fulford, we found as time wore on that the renters didn't have strict control over their tickets and sometimes they couldn't tell us if a show was sold out or where they had tickets, and some shows were over-sold."

He notes it is illegal to have people sitting on the stairs, which has happened in the past.

Cost for the system was between \$2,000 and \$3,000 for the software and the physical tickets cost ArtSpring seven cents each.

ArtSpring charges a group only \$10 for the box office service.

Although it makes things easier for ArtSpring administration, use of the reservation system and box office is not mandatory.

## Open stage at Tree-House

With a summer full of musical entertainment already lined up, the Tree-House Cafe is poised to again be a Ganges focal point for residents and visitors.

It begins May 18 with the first of regular Thursday open stage nights hosted by Vaughn Fulford from 7 to 11 p.m. Musicians can sign up for their slot at the cafe.

This weekend sees a Ganges Harbour Music Festival taking place, with non-stop music from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, plus acts every other night from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Derek Duffy and friends play on Friday night, Triskele Celtic Band on Sunday and classical guitarist Stephen Glanville on Monday.

The Saturday line-up includes Bob Delion, Richard Cross, Paul Mowbray, Derek Duffy, Tom Hooper, Shilo Zylbergold, Ramesh Meyers, Alan Moberg, Valdy, Bill Henderson and the Stack Sisters.

Susan Cogan is on stage Tuesday night, with Ramesh Meyers and friends there Wednesday.

**JENNIFER**

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**Tree-House**  
Licensed Cafe

Opening for dinner  
**Thurs. May 18th**

**LIVE MUSIC NIGHTLY**

**Thursday, May 18th**  
OPEN STAGE

**Friday, May 19th**  
Derek Duffy & friends

**Saturday, May 20th**  
The Ganges Harbour Music Festival  
presents  
Salt Spring Writers including Paul Mowbray, Shilo Zylbergold, Alan Moberg, Bill Henderson, Valdy, Tom Hooper, the Stack Sisters and many talented others.

**Sunday May 21st**  
Triskele Celtic Band

**Monday May 22**  
Stephen Glanville

11am - 10pm  
Call ahead for reservations  
**537-5379**

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Thank You Salt Spring for visiting us at the  
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— BOB SAUNDERS

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The Beauty of All-Wheel Drive

# Salt Spring

## OF LOCAL EVENTS

and cultural events. To have your event listed here please call the Driftwood by noon Monday preceding publication.

<b>19</b> Moon Happy Days in dance tis rcle y	<b>sat MAY 20</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Songwriters festival</li> <li>Round Salt Spring Race</li> <li>Soccer tourney</li> <li>Happy Days</li> <li>Vigour Mortis</li> <li>Sunyata</li> <li>West of the Moon</li> </ul>	<b>sun MAY 21</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West of the Moon</li> <li>Dancestreams</li> <li>Kelby MacNayr Trio</li> <li>Legendary Platters</li> <li>Soccer Tourney</li> <li>Triskele Celtic Band</li> <li>Choral Evensong</li> </ul>
<b>MAY 24</b> b meeting Flow nd friends	<b>thurs MAY 25</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Islands Trust meeting</li> </ul>	<b>fri MAY 26</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bandemonium</li> <li>Rona Murray reading</li> <li>Fernwood Fun Fair</li> </ul>
<b>MAY 29</b> rney	<b>tues MAY 30</b> 	<b>wed MAY 31</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday Night LIVE!</li> </ul> 

LOVE, SEE SURROUNDING INFORMATION.

### Fibrations

FIBRE ART ARTSPRING GALLERY  
 Friday, May 19  
*"Proudly supporting our community"*  

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### OUTDOOR MARKET & AUCTION

Fulford Inn • Sunday May 21 • 9am - 4pm  
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### Cinema

OPEN FRIDAY TO TUESDAY  
**SANDRA BULLOCK**  
**28 DAYS**  
 1 hr 43 min. PG  
 Fri. & Sat. 7pm / Sun. & Mon. 7:30pm / Tues. 7pm

**HILARY SWANK**  
**CHLOE SEVIGNY**  
**PETER SARSGAARD**  
**BOYS DON'T CRY**  
 1 hr 54 min. 18+  
 Friday & Saturday 9:00pm / Tuesday 9:00pm  
 Tues. only \$5 all seats - Adults \$7 / Students \$6 / Seniors \$5  
 Kids under 14 \$4/Sun. & Mon. cinemaniac rewards

Allowed Sound Studio and be met with open ears, energetic response and respectful feedback. **Monday, May 22** (and every other Monday), 7:30 p.m. Info: Ramesh Meyers, 537-2294/creating@saltspring.com.

### cable tv

On **Monday, May 22**, Margaret Fulton, Ph.D., guides us along the leading edge of social science in **Transforming Traditional Systems**, describing how hierarchy has proven a catastrophe for the planet and its living creatures, and presenting a new model in which creative change is more likely to happen.

In the second hour, see Fernwood Elementary School's 1998 production of **The Wizard of Oz**, one of the school's most ambitious and popular theatrical productions. With a talented and enthusiastic cast of students, great costumes and sets thanks to creative and caring parents, the classic over-the-rainbow tale is a delightful romp.

Show begins at 7 p.m.

### cinema

**28 Days** — Sandra Bullock is impressive in the difficult role of a party girl who must dry out at a drug and alcohol treatment centre. With Viggo Mortensen and Elizabeth Perkins. **Friday-Saturday, May 19-20**, 7 p.m.; **Sunday-Monday, May 21-22**, 7:30 p.m.; **Tuesday, May 23**, 7 p.m.

**Boys Don't Cry** — Astonishing feature-film treatment of the short life of Brandon Teena, a young woman who pretended to be a man in small-town Nebraska. Hilary Swank plays Brandon, with Chloe Sevigny, Peter Sarsgaard and Brendan Sexton III as Brandon's closest friends. **Friday-Saturday, May 19-20**, 9 p.m.; **Tuesday, May 23**, 9 p.m.

### arts & crafts

**Alliance of Salt Spring Artists** members group show on the theme of Salt Spring's trees is on display in the non-gallery areas of ArtSpring.

**Stefanie Denz** — large conte figure drawings are at Moby's through May.

Ceramic platters and wall hangings titled *From My Life* by **Judy Weeden** at Bristol Hair Cutter Co. until the end of May.

**Jacqueline Hooker** is exhibiting her watercolour series titled *Impressions of Salt Spring* until May 18 at Sweet Arts Cafe. **Margot Chisholm's** watercolour exhibition called *Scenes from the Saturday Market* runs from May 18 to June 29.

**Lorne Shantz** is showing his marine watercolours at Roasting Co. in Ganges until May 19, followed by a duo exhibition by Glenda Peterson (acrylics on canvas) and Bud Hnetka (solar pyrography) from May 20 - June 19.

Photographs by **Joe Benge** are at Luigi's pizzeria until June 1.

Talon's Restaurant is showcasing a selection of paintings by **Diana Dean**.

Exhibition of oil and watercolour paintings by **Jacqueline Hooker** is at Crossroads in Ganges.

### galleries

**Fibrations — a New Wave** opens at the Bateman Gallery in ArtSpring, featuring work of 18 dynamic fibre artists in uncharted territory — weaving, felting, rug-hooking, quilting, paper, basketry, clothing and mixed media. Opening **Wednesday, May 17** from 7 to 9 p.m.; then daily through May 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and during evening theatre performances.


**Geclee Celebration** at Jill Louise Campbell Gallery — Drop by the gallery to see examples of the new high-quality Geclee reproductions on watercolour paper. Samples will be available for handling and there will be a free draw for a framed Geclee reproduction. **Saturday through Monday, May 20-22**, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**The Woven Way** — Pegasus Gallery presents an exhibition of new and antique basketry of the aboriginal people of the Northwest Coast. Collection includes Coast Salish trunks and gathering baskets circa 1920, a large selection of trays and early 1900 Nuuchah Nulth whaler hats, from May 15-30.

**The Travels of Toni Onley** — at Vortex Gallery in Grace Point Square. More than 50 paintings of spots around the world by renowned Canadian artist Toni Onley. Show runs until May 31.

**Spring Show** — Ewart Gallery of Fine Arts, 175 Salt Spring Way, runs daily, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. until May 30. Info: 537-2313.

## 99 DAYS for 99 BUCKS!



## North End Fitness

Summer Special!  
**Get Fit All Summer For Only \$99.00**  
 Drop-ins Welcome 537-5217 Downtown Ganges

arket and Auction opens for d Inn on **Sunday, May 21**, 9 every Sunday until September Hank at 653-4650.

l powers of attorney, a talk Pasuta, runs at Salt Spring sday, **May 24**, 2 p.m.

### families

ttage runs every Wednesday, n 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. begin- 17. There will be a special

ear anniversary celebrations, ay, **May 18-22**, include special sheela entertaining on Friday

night, **May 19**, 7-8 p.m., specials and daily prize draws.

- Little Red Preschool** open house and registration gives parents of three to five-year-olds a chance to visit the school at 1365 Beaver Point Road, **Thursday, May 18**, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

**EVERY WEEK:**

- Story Time at the Library** — with Jean Voaden, every **Tuesday** from 10-10:30 a.m., for kids aged 3-5 and their parents.
- West of the Moon** — Story time with Susan every **Monday** morning from 10-11 a.m.
- Fairy tales and myths with Shauna Grylls**, at Mary Hawkins Library every **Thursday** from 3-4 p.m.
- Family Place** drop-in hours are **Monday through Thursday**, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Info: Family Place, 537-9176. Counselling by appointment.

### for seniors

- Bingo for seniors** in the OAP end of Fulford Hall, every **Friday** from 2 to 4 p.m.
- Seniors Sing-along** at Salt Spring Seniors takes place every **Thursday** at 2 p.m.

### workshops

- Dog obedience classes** with Sheri Standen begin at Central Hall, **Wednesday, May 17**, until June 28, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Info: 537-5647.
- Ebb of Flesh, Flow of Breath** — writing and movement classes to free your creativity run on **Mondays** until June 5 at the Core Inn, 7:30 p.m. Info: Ahava Shira, 537-4510.
- Songwriting Workshop** — bring an original song to

### CRAFT

June wedding gifts some of the best artisans have created this winter.

2nd 10am - 9pm on Hall

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**WARMING UP:** Marion Markus, left, and Pamela Holm, are two Bandemonium flute players who gave Salt Spring a taste of their Concert in the Park event coming up next week at ArtSpring by playing in Centennial Park on Saturday afternoon.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Explosive and breathtaking work in Dancestreams show

A Vancouver Island youth dance troupe is taking its show title to heart and making the leap to Salt Spring on Sunday.

Dance Across the Waters 2000 is the new production of Dancestreams — also known as the Vancouver Island Youth Dance Theatre.

Dancestreams is a highly acclaimed pre-professional youth dance company which showcases ballet, jazz, modern and contemporary dance works. It is headed by director Pattie MacKenzie of Port Alberni and assistant artistic director Sarah McDonald of Vancouver.

Dancers are chosen by audition each fall, train in their home studios and meet every Sunday in Parksville for six more hours of

training and rehearsals.

Dance Across the Waters includes a piece in which dancers change into animals residing on B.C.'s coast. Press material on the show says that Nature of Things "will have the entire audience laughing, whether you are a child of five or 50."

New repertoire also includes an explosive modern jazz piece by Lynn Sheppard of Vancouver, and a breathtaking contemporary ballet by Wen-Wei Wang.

The Salt Spring presentation is at ArtSpring beginning at 2 p.m.

Other award-winning choreographers commissioned by Dancestreams are Malcolm Low, Bengt Jorgen and Rosario Anser.

Many past Dancestreams members have become professionals in

their field, stepping their way to the English National Ballet, York University, Laine Theatre Arts in London, the Alvina Ailey American Dance Theatre School, L'Ecole Supérieur de Danse, and others.

Dancestreams has travelled as far afield as China and Los Angeles, where they received rave reviews.

The group has also toured Vancouver Island, Gulf Islands and the Lower Mainland, and presents educational programs in the public and private school systems.

Tickets for the May 21 show are available through the ArtSpring box office: 537-2102.

Cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors.

## Artists open doors on their artwork

Two internationally recognized artists are opening a studio gallery at 1460 Beddis Road.

Timothy Hume and Amarah K. Gabriel have both exhibited and sold their work across Canada, U.S.A., Europe and Japan.

Hume is a multi-talented painter, sculptor and writer whose one-man show in Osaka, Japan was sponsored by the Canadian Navy. He also has work in the Royal Household at Buckingham Palace.

Hume lived and worked for many years in the Yukon and Clayoquot Sound, where he developed an understanding and love of nature which is reflected in his award-winning creations which range from lifelike bird sculptures to carved paddles.

He is presently working on a book of poetry and articles on island wildlife, as well as a new series of colourful parrot paintings.

Gabriel graduated with honours

from the Ontario College of Art in Toronto.

During her almost 30-year career she has exhibited, taught and travelled extensively. She has steadily been winning great

acclaim for her vibrant environmental and spiritual paintings.

Hume and Gabriel will welcome visitors on weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and they can be reached at 537-0051.

Please note our  
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for the week of May 24

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2pm Thursday, May 18

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING:  
5pm Friday, May 19

Our office will be closed on  
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### BC FERRIES Schedule

#### Salt Spring Island VESUVIUS BAY - CROFTON

CROSSING TIME: 20 MINUTES

YEAR-ROUND SCHEDULE

LEAVE VESUVIUS BAY		LEAVE CROFTON	
• 7:00 am	◆ 4:00 pm	*7:30 am	4:30 pm
× 8:00 am	5:00 pm	8:30 am	5:30 pm
9:00 am	6:00 pm	# 9:30 am	6:30 pm
10:00 am	7:00 pm	11:00 am	8:00 pm
11:30 am	8:30 pm	12:00 noon	9:00 pm
■ 12:30 pm	9:30 pm	1:00 pm	10:00 pm
1:30 pm	+10:30 pm	2:15 pm	+11:00 pm
3:00 pm		3:30 pm	

◆ Wed. sailings will be replaced by dangerous cargo sailing. No passengers.  
■ The Mon. & Thurs. sailings will be replaced by dangerous cargo sailings. No passengers.  
# Mon., Wed. & Thurs. sailings will be replaced by dangerous cargo sailings. No passengers.  
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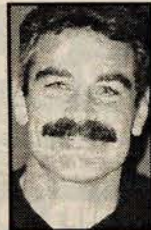


**Congratulations Erin Porter & Mary Applegate on the opening of Fables Cottage**

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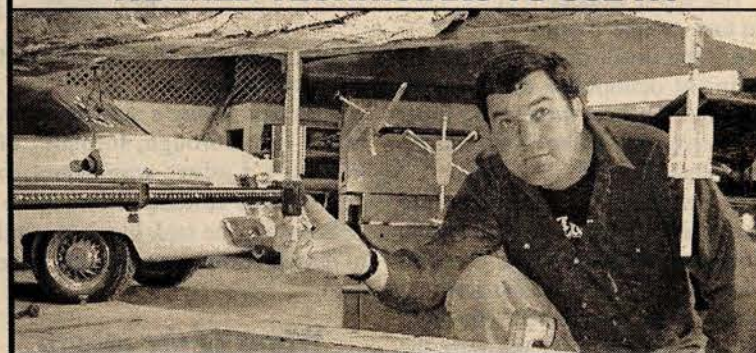


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**SOLOIST:** Emily Roop a member of Salt Spring Singers and the Gulf Islands Secondary School choir, right, sings a solo from Riverdance at the Now is the Month of Maying concert on the weekend.  
Photo by Derrick Lundy

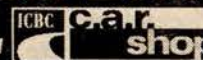
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## Singers delight ArtSpring crowd

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Driftwood Staff

Few events are as eagerly anticipated by the island's wider music-loving community than a Salt Spring Singers concert, whether it comes at Christmas-time or in the spring.

For the Now is the Month of Maying concert which took place at ArtSpring over the weekend, the Singers compiled an inspirational program of music which was to a large degree familiar — always a popular path for audiences.

Choosing a "music from the British Isles" theme, the mainly folk song repertoire encompassed Irish, Scottish, British and Welsh domains.

I'm sure many people in the audience were stirred by nostalgia with the beauty of so many pieces, including Jerusalem, which the audience was also invited to sing with the choir later in the program.

The Singers included an up-to-date Irish piece from the Riverdance extravaganza — Home and the Heartland — which highlighted Emily Roop's sweet soprano voice in a solo.

The bright opening piece, Now is the Month of Maying, was ideal

for setting a spring-welcoming tone.

I was pressed to near tears by Cliff Mills' bagpipe playing in Mo Dhachaidh. Unfortunately, where I was expecting a similar effect with Danny Boy, somehow it was not delivered. I wondered if the choir's sheer growth in numbers had affected the emotional impact it can render.



**Cliff Mills**

Photo by Derrick Lundy

But it may have been that particular arrangement, since their closing piece (before the audience singing of Jerusalem and the encore) of A Welsh Lullaby, for example, or The Water is Wide, contained more of the heartfelt expression I was expecting.

Accompanist Paul Verville again contributed his passion and technical skill into the program.

In addition to Singers member and piper Cliff Mills, other special guests were the Gulf Islands Secondary School choir and Cantus Early Music Singers.

The 12-member Cantus seized the audience's breath with its four English madrigals by composers of the later 16th and earlier 17th centuries.

An interesting visual effect was created with ample space between each singer on the stage, along

with their deliberate interaction. Each piece entranced us, contrasting with the one before.

Cantus closed with Fair Phyllis I Saw, which they described as "a quick, jolly song of love and sex."

The Saturday night almost-full house was visibly and understandably delighted.

But the audience saved its wildest applause for the youth of the evening — the 29-member high school choir, which performed three songs.

In the opening piece, Eriskay Love Lilt, I'm certain the heavenly sound of Jeff Roop's voice caused many to momentarily cease breathing.

That was compounded by a scintillating trio of Tegan Adams, Sandy Curtis and Korena Vine.

Solos by Vine and Christina Walls also made a spirited version of Loch Lomond (complete with Scottish pronunciation in places) even more touching.

The choir ended with a 300-hundred-year-old, eight-part a capella piece by Antonio Lotti called Crucifixus.

We were also treated to a pair of Gilbert and Sullivan pieces, both about impending weddings, featuring the Singers' terrific G&S quartet of Al Robertson, Richard Hayden, Anke Smeele, Connie Holmes.

Now is the Month of Maying was a bittersweet occasion for the choir, celebrating 25 years of musicmaking on Salt Spring, but set to lose Wendy Milton, its director for the past two years, who is pursuing "new family adventures."

## Rhythmic Flow youth dancers on tap

Performances by Salt Spring's young musicians, actors and dancers have been among the highlights of recent years in local entertainment.

Rhythmic Flow, created by Melissa Canales' Tierra del Sol Dance Group, promises to be no exception.

Comprised of 15 dancers aged 12 to 23, the group will present 18 modern, ballet and hip-hop dances at ArtSpring on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 23-24, at 8 p.m.

Tierra del Sol came about because of Canales' local

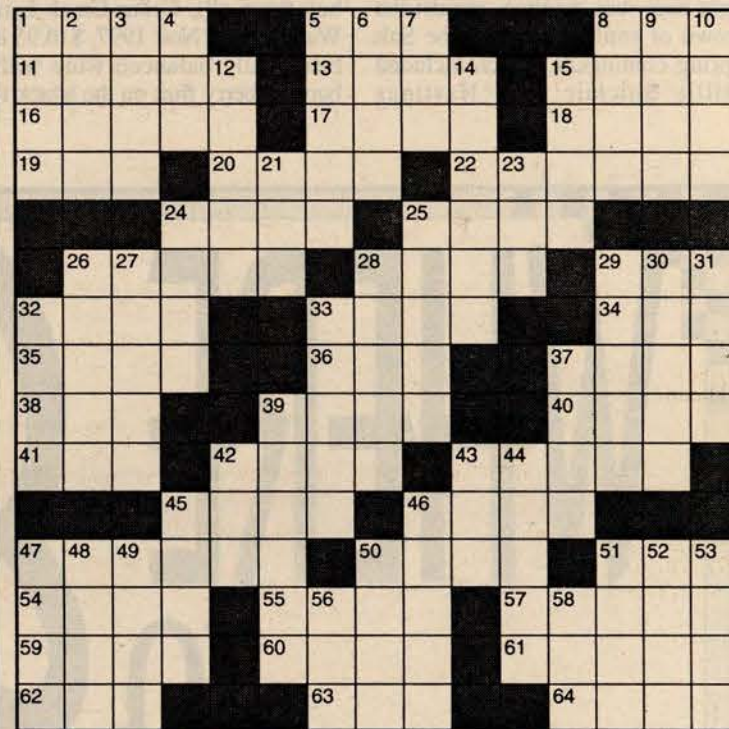
reputation as a dancer and choreographer, with parents and youths approaching her to create a group. Basically self-taught, Canales won the choreographer's award at Gulf Islands Secondary three years in a row.

Rhythmic Flow features mainly her choreography, plus work by group member Adam Vickers.

Tickets are \$13 for adults, \$8 for students, and on sale at Ganges Stationery, the Driftwood and ArtSpring.

## Driftwood Crossword

answers on B3



### ACROSS

- Actor Anthony Michael \_\_\_\_\_
- After Avril
- Captain Kirk, to Bones
- Howe of sewing machine fame
- Annapolis inst.
- Agent Scully of *The X-Files*
- West Indian dance
- Kind of skirt
- Fixes
- Rally need
- The Faerie Queene* character
- Fish features
- Ruckus
- Potential prune
- Fresh flower
- Uriah \_\_\_\_\_
- Turn sharply
- Composer of "Roberta"
- Drowns
- High-minded poem
- Biblical book
- Clean air org.
- Part of, as a deal
- \_\_\_\_\_ chi ch'uan (martial art)
- Caroler's song
- Prefix for scope or vision
- Potato growth
- "Georgia on My \_\_\_\_\_"

- Crucifix
- Tin containers
- Patisserie loaf
- In abundance
- Pork fat
- Form of Buddhism
- Disposition
- Thunder god
- Leave for the ceremony via a ladder
- Poet Bradstreet
- Wars of the Roses house
- Keepsake
- Darkroom item: abbr.
- Pod vegetable
- Dismiss from a job, slangily

### DOWN

- Beatles song
- "And, after all, what is \_\_\_\_\_?" (Byron) (2 wds.)
- Flaccid
- Curie's workroom
- Horror-movie heavy
- India's locale
- Quaint stopover
- Monopoly punishment
- Come Back, Little Sheba* author
- Agglomeration
- Towers
- Ushers' hangouts
- Liquid measure
- Minstrel's song
- Target for Tiger Woods
- Signs of sharks
- Use a bicycle
- Putrefy
- Bandleader Shaw
- Expected
- Temperate and Twilight
- Teens often have them
- Inheritance determiner
- Spencer's frequent costar
- Vegas lights
- "Take \_\_\_\_\_ the Run" (REO Speedwagon) (2 wds.)
- Fourscore and ten
- Spoil
- Elevator cage
- Contract addendum
- Canon
- Anorak
- Govt. agent
- Tops
- Shelley of *Cheers*
- Erudition
- Runner Budd
- The Faerie Queene*, e.g.
- Off-risked thing?
- "At the \_\_\_\_\_"
- The, in Paris

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# 'Passionate' local at wine fair

Spring is in the air, the flowers are blooming, the hummingbirds have returned and wine festivals abound.

Yes, it's a wonderful time of year if you enjoy the crush of a room full of incipient oenophiles all trying to suss out the best wines, the most expensive wine in the room, and the "best deals."

In February the Ocean Pointe Resort in Victoria hosted the Pacific Northwest Wine Festival. Over 40 wineries from B.C., Washington and Oregon were represented. The highlights of the event for me were the great conversations with B.C. winemakers Alex Nichol of Nichol Vineyards and Bob Fergus of Kettle Valley. They are knowledgeable men from small wineries and very aware of everything happening in the wine industry in our province, and they make great wine.

In March the Victoria Conference Centre was the venue for the California Wine Fair 2000, representing 70-plus wineries. The highlight here was meeting, amidst the crowd of smiling tipplers, the Salt Spring contingent, which included Millie Sinclair from Hastings

## THE GRAPE VINE BY STEVE COOPMAN



House, and Steve Martin, owner of Alfresco Restaurant.

(Hastings House's new manager, Miles Roseborough, formerly of Painter's Lodge, was asked to describe his attitude toward wine. "Passionate," he said. I look forward to developments regarding the wine list.)

### Wines of the month

For fans of Walnut Crest Merlot take note, this label has just released a cabernet sauvignon. Walnut Crest Cabernet Sauvignon 1998, \$9.95, is surprisingly mellow for a two-year-old cab/sav and with a classic black currant, green pepper, earthy signature. An excellent value at this price.

For the pinot noir lovers out there (my kind of people), there's a great homegrown wine on the shelves that you should get right away (before I buy them all). Cedar Creek Estate Winery Pinot Noir 1997, \$16.95 is a beautifully balanced wine with a burst of berry fruit on the attack fol-

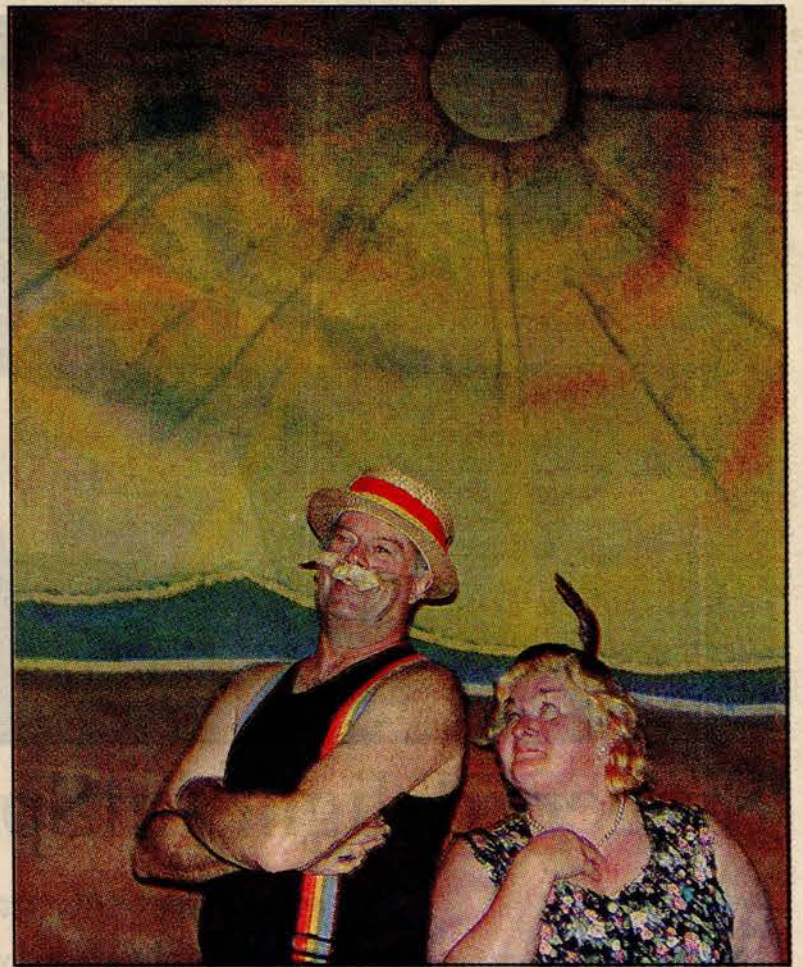
lowed by a rich vegetable and earth development and ending with a soft woodsmoke, toasty edge. A lovely wine that goes perfectly with barbecued salmon on cedar plank, but is great for just sipping by candlelight as well.

For fans of Burrowing Owl wines out of Oliver, watch for a trio of wines using grapes from the Burrowing Owl vineyards and coaxed into the bottle by Calona vineyards winemaker Howard Soon. There is a pinot blanc, a chardonnay and a cabernet-merlot all in the \$14-to-\$16-range under the new label "Sandhill." My first tasting impression is that they're good wines at good prices. So far these wines are only available at specialty stores.

### A last sip

Somebody in the liquor store the other day was saying they were tired of chardonnay and wanted to try something different, so did I have any suggestions? Heavens, yes!

How about all the lovely, lively sauvignon blancs from New Zealand, or those fabulous, spicy, dry Gewurztraminers from Alsace or, closer to home, the tropical fruit-flavoured pinot blancs from California and — hey, look at this Mission Hill Private Reserve Pinot Blanc. Try it, you'll like it. Cheers!



**OH HAPPY DAY:** Bryon Gray and (a blond!) Debbi Toole star in Samuel Beckett's Happy Days which runs this Thursday to Saturday at ArtSpring. Seating is limited so patrons should get their tickets early.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

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