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THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Ganges Village Market
- Thrifty Foods
- White Glove Market

INSIDE

- SECTION B**
- People
 - Arts
 - T.V. listings
 - Classifieds
 - What's On
 - Visitor

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Weather

It's going to be sunny and hot this week with temperatures up to 26 C (today) Wednesday. A few clouds are in the forecast for Friday and Saturday. Lows down to 12 on Thursday.

Shot fired, massive search ensues

By **DEBBIE WILLIS**
Staff Writer

Salt Spring man Jeremy Lee Mathis has been charged with assault with a weapon after two RCMP officers were attacked in a bizarre incident that resulted in an eight-hour south-end search Friday.

One shot was fired by an officer through the accused's vehicle windshield on Beaver

Point Road during the incident.

Mathis, 23, appeared in court on Monday after an altercation in Fulford that saw an RCMP officer hit with a wooden stick and a police vehicle rammed head-on, according to an RCMP press release.

The incident began at about 11:20 a.m. when Bruce

Patterson noticed three men causing a disturbance behind Patterson's Store by taking the lid off his septic tank.

When he asked them to leave, they went to Patterson's property next door and began rifling through a trunk.

"At that point I decided these guys weren't getting the message, so that's when the RCMP were called," said

Patterson. "I described him to the officer when he picked up a large block of wood and heaved it at me."

The other two men went to the ferry and were questioned when Cst. Paul Ellis arrived at approximately 11:45 a.m., said Patterson.

"They were very apologetic," he said.

The third man — the

accused — had gone to the wharf and was carrying a walking stick that was about an inch and a half thick in diameter, said Patterson.

"The constable told him three times to put the stick down and he wanted the officer to have a cookie. The officer was walking toward him

RCMP INCIDENT A2



BRIDE RIDE: Bride Jazzi Tinsley rides through Ganges in style to her wedding with Chris Griffiths Saturday. She is accompanied by her father John Tinsley beside her, stepfather Andrew Currie, and driver and friend Carla Lalonde.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Theft victim livid

A Salt Spring victim of a weekend vehicle theft wants something positive to come out of the incident.

At 6 a.m. Sunday, Carolyn Campbell was called by Salt Spring RCMP and informed that her totalled 1989 Ford truck had been found at Bader's Beach.

A Mount Erskine resident had heard a ruckus and reported it to police, who investigated and towed the vehicle from the beach not long before the incoming tide would have inflicted further damage.

Her truck was locked and parked at the top of Rainbow Road on private property on Saturday night. The keys were in another vehicle at the bottom of a steep driveway, and ferry tickets, cash and several CDs were stolen from that car.

Campbell, who knows many island teens through

THEFT A2

Search for 'Vern' highlights auxiliary work

By **GAIL SJUBERG**
Staff Writer

Gulf Islands boating carries an image of decadent leisure, but the water's calm surface is deceiving.

Reefs, rocks and floating logs are like ocean-planted landmines; Ganges Harbour invites regular aquatic traffic jams; and operator error or inexperience, or mechanical mishaps can all prompt calls

for help.

Gulf Islands communities and their visitors are lucky. They've got a Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) base, six paid crew members, two dedicated boats in Ganges Harbour — the Skua and Ganges I — and the Nu-to-Yu II on Pender Island, operated by Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGA) Unit 25 members there.

Unit 25 volunteers on Salt Spring, Pender and Galiano islands "co-crew" with the professional Ganges base staff.

Following a March 2003 federal government study recommending moving the Ganges Coast Guard station to Sidney, that arrangement was in jeopardy.

But Terry Tebb, regional director of coast guard operations, told the Driftwood the

draft Change Initiative Report containing that item would not result in a Ganges base move. (See separate story.)

Most coastal communities don't have a professional coast guard crew, but are served by volunteer auxiliaries with dedicated boats. Some auxiliary units also use boats owned by private individuals, but that is not the case on Salt Spring.

Four Ganges CCGA mem-

bers — Phil Grange, Tony Meek, Brian Wolfe-Milner and Rob Zuk — are trained coxswains who can be in charge of the RHI vessels.

Ganges' 20-member auxiliary is a stable, well-organized group that has achieved a high standard of training, and the co-crew system works wonderfully well, said Unit 25

COAST GUARD A3

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RCMP INCIDENT: *Man arrested*

From Page A1

saying, 'Put the stick down,' and he kept saying, 'Here, have a cookie.'

Patterson said that when Ellis put his hand on the man's shoulder, the accused "exploded."

"He was yelling and screaming and they started to dance around a bit. He was smacking the officer on his back."

Patterson said the man then jumped into his blue vehicle and left "at a very high speed. People were jumping out of his way."

Additional RCMP members were called in from the surrounding Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island, as well as the South Vancouver Emergency Response Team (ERT), Police Dog Services, Air Services, Forensic Identification and Major Crime Investigators, according to RCMP spokesperson Grant Learned.

At about noon on Friday, Marcia Jeanne, owner of Everlasting Summer, noticed that the gate to her property was closed and barricaded with rocks from the inside.

Mathis had crawled up to the gardener's quarters and Jeanne asked him to come down.

"He said, 'I feel this is a safe haven, can I leave my car here and take a walk through the woods?' I probably would have said yes, but then he said, 'The police are looking for me.'"

When Jeanne told him to leave, he did so "without threats," she said.

"He left the driveway and that's when I heard the shot ring out."

An RCMP officer in an unmarked police cruiser had spotted the vehicle and turned on his emergency lights as he approached the suspect's car.

"His unmarked police cruis-

er was then rammed twice head-on by the suspect. As the suspect vehicle was backing up, the member got out of his vehicle and ordered the driver to get out of the vehicle at gunpoint," stated Learned's press release.

"Police allege the driver then accelerated towards the officer who then fired one shot at the driver through the windshield," said the release. "The officer sustained minor injuries to his arm and hand, when he dove out of the way of [the] oncoming vehicle."

After an extensive search and brief foot chase, the accused was located on Reynolds Road at approximately 7:48 p.m.

He sustained "minor injuries" during the arrest by ERT officers and a police dog, according to Learned.

A Taser was also reportedly used during the arrest.

Jeanne felt the search was

too extreme.

"I was not threatened. They treated him like he was trying to kill people," said Jeanne. "It didn't have to be taken that far. He was hunted like a deer."

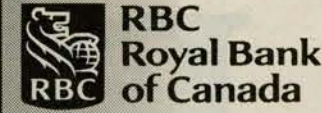
Unfortunately, Salt Spring RCMP said they were too busy dealing with the incident to talk to the Driftwood about it.

Driftwood's Monday calls to Sgt. Giles were not returned, and a Tuesday call resulted in referral to the RCMP's Vancouver media centre.

Information was requested from a media officer Tuesday morning and again at 2:40 p.m., but not provided by 3:45 p.m. when the paper went to press.

Mathis is facing several charges and has been remanded in custody for a psychiatric assessment. He is being held at the Eric Martin Pavilion and will make a court appearance July 28.

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THEFT: *Victim's life affected*

From Page A1

her work with emotionally and behaviourally challenged youth, wants those involved to realize the effects of what they have done with the hope of deterring them from making the same bad choice again.

"You cost me my holiday; you cost me my jobs; and you inconvenienced my clients," she said as if speaking directly to the thieves. "I want to list the consequences of what you did to me."

Having no transportation interrupts her ability to carry out one of her sources of employment — providing cleaning services to private homes.

Because loss from theft is not included in "basic" ICBC coverage, she will have to replace the truck without help from insurance money.

She lives far from town and so won't be able to help the teens she does on a regular basis.

She had intended to take a vacation soon, but will now have to spend that money on buying a new vehicle.

If the truck had been left unlocked with the keys inside, she would have been less upset, she said, but there was too much pre-meditation involved. The perpetrators had to take a long walk down the driveway to first rob the property owners' car, which was located right near their house.

They also spent time determining — or somehow knew — that the keys hidden in the car belonged to the truck owner.

The property owner and family members were also

violated by the trespass and theft, said Campbell.

"I want everyone to think about that. That's what it costs me and that's what it costs the community."

Campbell feels island crime could be reduced if people "kept their eyes open," reported suspicious actions or, in some cases, confronted individuals. As an example, she said, youths trying to sell any item should be asked to explain specifically where it came from and not accept what might sound like bogus stories.

When it comes to the weekend's truck incident, at

least one individual would have to be injured — due to the damage sustained by the vehicle — which should also prompt questions, she said.

While Campbell describes herself as a "huge advocate for youth" and a fan of restorative justice, she does not want to see it applied in this case.

"They just messed with someone who supports them," she said, "and someone with a really big mouth."

Campbell said she is tired of the expressed attitude that "they're just teenagers" and so lousy behaviour should be accepted.

"There are lots who choose not to do this," she said.

At the same time, when some youths behave badly, it unfairly reflects on others.

For teens who complain that adults don't like them, she said, "This is why they don't like you."

If anybody is offered free ferry tickets, inherits a huge number of CDs, sees a "Carolyn" keychain with a brass tag and green writing, or has any information about this incident, Campbell advises them to call the Salt Spring RCMP at 537-5555 or herself at 653-0053.

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Coast guard vessels line up prior to a rescue exercise

COAST GUARD: Rescue drill

From Page A1

leader Mandy Spottiswoode.

"Our training involves working with the professionals, and we aspire to them," she said. "We're out there with them and we absorb everything."

In 2002, Ganges Coast Guard crews attended 135 incidents, with the auxiliary involved in 29. Forty-four people were assisted and 14 lives saved. This year has been even busier, said Spottiswoode.

In order to be ready for anything, last Thursday night a major rescue exercise was conducted in waters south-east of Salt Spring, with Ganges Coast Guard officer Ian Kyle setting the scene.

Kyle piloted the Moorhen — the old rigid hull inflatable (RHI) temporarily replacing the much-loved Skua — giving auxiliary members and a Driftwood tag-along a dramatic taste of its acrobatic abilities.

It made one wonder who bails out coast guard crews in distress.

"You don't need to worry," said Paul Reynolds, another coast guard officer who was a regular laugh a minute, "We hate water."

Gradually the regional auxiliary team assembles, creating an unusual conglomeration of floating rubber and orange CCGA-issue suits: Pender's Nu-to-Yu II, part of CCGA Unit 25; the Unit 36 Sidney crew with its spiffy new boat; Hayes Responder and the Hardy from Mill Bay; Unit 33 Oak Bay Sea Rescue; and the Moorhen and Ganges I from Salt Spring.

Tonight the exercise is a little more intense than usual. Kyle puts a Sidney volunteer in the on-scene commander position. That means he has to task the six other crews in a search for a boater named "Vern."

Simple, right? Oh yeah.

The Moorhen takes the Rescue Coordination Centre role by giving out the call details.

A 30-year-old man named Vern was fishing at Forrest Island in his 14-foot aluminum open boat. He was due to

return to Bedwell Harbour at 1900 hrs., but at 2000 hrs. a message came in from another boater, who had spoken with Vern after his boat hit a rock and started to take on water.

While two of the Sidney lifeboat guys have ample experience and barely flinch at the massive assignment — especially since it hasn't been given directly to them — our volunteer commander is clearly experiencing a wee bit of stress, as one would expect in a real-life situation.

Oak Bay is sent off to circumnavigate Forrest Island and do a shoreline search; the Nu-to-Yu II does the same on Domville, while the Hardy searches the rocky Greig Island area and Hayes sets off to scour Brethour. Ganges I sets out a data marker.

Searching with binoculars and sharp eyes goes on for a couple of hours, with boaters periodically shutting off engines, shouting and listening for Vern to respond.

The Moorhen crew even knows what side of which island Vern the blue-covered dummy has been planted on and gets serious about finding him as the day's light begins to dwindle.

But Hayes Responder comes up the winner, finding Vern safe on shore in a Moresby Island bay.

Jokes have spun fast and thick throughout the evening, so it's hard not to laugh when a tongue-in-cheek voice comes across the radio to describe the dummy's appearance.

"He looks pretty blue and he has orange hands — and he's not responding."

A couple of things strike me after watching the evening unfold. First, except for other boats and birds that zoom through the area, everything else distinguishes itself only as greenish island, rocky island or ocean, meaning it's no easy feat to find things out there.

Secondly, July 17 was a picture-perfect summer evening. So many incidents needing coast guard response occur in storms and in the dark, when navigating and maintaining

rescue crew safety must be incredibly fierce challenges.

If it seemed like it took a long time to track down Vern, who had been cleverly hidden by some guys on the Ganges I, it didn't, really.

A real "Vern" scenario, said Kyle, would have kept crews out until between 5 and 6 a.m. the next morning.

"In real life what were the chances of finding this guy before he expired?" asks Kyle. "Slim" is the answer.

Because sea rescue services would be less in demand if boaters were optimally educated and never made mistakes, the evening scenario points to another of the auxiliary's major roles — promoting boating safety, along with regular CCG members. In the past two years, those activities have really taken off, with safety sessions conducted with island grades 4-5 classes, along with a PFD inspection program.

Boating safety and auxiliary training videos are being created thanks to the filming skills of auxiliary member Amarah Gabriel, and power boat operator card courses and exams are now done by local unit members.

Gabriel also heads the Gulf Islands Marine Rescue Society, which is Unit 25's fundraising arm. With expensive equipment to purchase and RHI boats running in the \$100,000 range, a fair bit of money is required.

Uniforms are also now part of the unit's look, and many islanders may have seen their friends "dressed the part" around town.

"We are very committed to being community volunteers," said Spottiswoode.

Volunteer auxiliary members are an invaluable resource, but she stressed they cannot replace professional personnel.

"[The pros] do it every day and they are amazing," she said. "There isn't a situation where they can't figure out how to deal with it."

For more information about the local auxiliary, call Spottiswoode at 537-1283.

Clock stolen, pool vandalized

Salt Spring's swim club is one of the losers after vandals and thieves broke into Shelby Pool on both Friday and Saturday night.

Saturday night's "revelry" resulted in the theft of the club's specialty clock used by swimmers during practice sessions.

"They physically ripped it off the railing," said Jim Raddysh, who runs the pool for Leisure Aquatics and is also a member of the swim club executive. "I don't know what they can do with it."

On Friday night, vandals jumped the fence and threw "everything that wasn't nailed down" into the pool.

That included beer bottles, life saving rings, foam noodles and lane ropes.

The vandals also attempted to pull the sink out of the women's washroom, and parks and rec staff member Martin Milner was called in at 2 a.m. to shut off the water.

Staff cleaned it up

Coast guard stays

A federal government report recommendation to move the Ganges Coast Guard (CG) station to Sidney will not be implemented, says the regional director of CG operations.

Terry Tebb told the Driftwood July 14 that the draft Change Initiative Report on CG locations, issued in March, may have given people the impression a move was recommended, but that it actually confirmed existing area CG coverage was appropriate.

The study indicated Ganges crews responded to incidents within the prescribed one-hour limit in all but two cases in the last five years, which "suggests the station is properly located," he said.

"The original idea had been to move the station to Sidney, but when you look at how well the station has been able to respond, it does not support moving the station."

Saturday morning and the pool operated as normal that day.

In a repeat performance Saturday night, vandals again entered the pool area, this time ripping off all the signs in the area and throwing them into the pool.

The clock, which had been bolted to the railing, was torn right off.

"It's really heavy,"

Raddysh said. "They must have loaded it into a car."

He also noted that both public washrooms at the pool were vandalized earlier this year.

The incidents are under police investigation, and in the meantime, swim club members are gearing up for regional and provincial championships without a practice clock.



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Island's first married gays 'ecstatic'

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

Many gay Salt Spring couples have been through "wedding" ceremonies to make public commitments to each other, but Louise Coutu and Penny Bray are the first to become legally married.

Salt Spring marriage commissioner Liz Anderson conducted the ceremony Friday at the Interfaith Chapel on the University of Victoria campus.

Coutu and Bray had a wonderful commitment service in a church 11 years ago, but felt it was important to go through the officially-recognized process now.

"We are ecstatic," said Coutu. "People don't realize what this law means to us — we are part of society now."

Coutu said she and Bray are private people, but were willing to talk about their marriage for the sake of young gay people and how they view themselves.

"This is going to eliminate the negative and create more of a positive thing for young people in the future," said Coutu.

When straight people ask why having the right to marry is considered so important, said Coutu, she replies that gay people are just like straight people who desire that kind of commitment.

"It really does make a difference when you say those vows to your partner," said Coutu. "Commitment can actually hold you together when you say those words in a chapel. I found it makes a huge difference."

"I'm happy," said Anderson Tuesday. "I was very excited for Louise and Penny to be married."



Louise Coutu, Penny Bray

Caffyn Kelley is president of GLOSSI — Gays and Lesbians of Salt Spring Island — and offered her personal opinion on the "profound shift" represented by the marriage change.

"Everyone has different thoughts about it," said Kelley. "One couple I know that celebrated with a marriage ceremony — and ritual is really important to them — plan to be remarried and affirm their relationship that way, and that might be an option for (my partner and I) at some time but it didn't feel like a super relevant thing for us at the moment."

"I also know a very committed couple who is opposed to the idea of marriage in that they feel they are trying to define a new way of being in a relationship," said Kelley.

Bill Turner, GLOSSI vice-president, has also been in a long-term, committed relationship and is personally happy with the legal change, noting it's a source of greater self-esteem for the

gay community and a validation of gay relationships.

"It says gay love is just as important and respected as straight love," said Turner. "The more love and commitment we have in the world the better it is."

"If some churches don't want to take part in this, then that is their option."

Kelley feels legal changes preceding the marriage sanction — such as provincial and federal changes in the definition of a spouse to include same-sex partners — had more significance.

Those meant she could be beside her life partner of 17 years if she was seriously injured or dying in the hospital, and set out their financial status in the event that one of them died.

Coutu noted how terrible it was for a friend who was not granted any rights when his partner died, with the man's family taking over and not allowing her friend to even attend the memorial service.

With B.C. making the big

step in recent weeks, the province could become a "destination" spot for gay couples wanting to marry.

Kelley's sister and her female partner live in California and intend to celebrate the 21st year of their relationship by being married in Canada next year.

The two also have a daughter and feel legal marriage would be important to her.

Redefining the notion of "family" also flows from the legal and social changes.

"[The song] We are Family is an anthem for the gay community," said Kelley, "because we really do build extensive lifelong support networks that are communal kinship systems that go way beyond 'the couple.'"

Coutu also stressed that she and Bray form a "family" together.

"Gay people have redefined the family in their own way that might be of some interest to non-gay people," said Kelley.

It's even been suggested that "gays might age more positively than others because of the extensive kinship system we have, so that we kind of look after each other in sickness and in health."

These days, most marrying couples don't use the "in sickness and in health" phrase in their wedding vows, said Anderson.

However, any words gay couples now choose to state in front of a B.C. marriage commissioner or minister will have the same effect as those spoken by straight couples.

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On-island mail not affected

Local mail and government cheques will still be delivered on Salt Spring, even if 45,000 Canada Post workers go on strike this week.

Jan Hilton, acting postmaster of the Ganges post office, said Tuesday that government cheques will be couriered to the island, and Salt Springers will receive local service because Ganges post office employees do not belong to the union currently negotiating with Canada Post.

"All the essentials will be taken care of," said Hilton.

Ganges post office clerks belong to the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association, not the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), and Salt Spring's rural route mail carriers do not belong to any union.

On Tuesday, the CUPW strike deadline was extended for a third time to Wednesday at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

Regarding whether a strike is likely or not, Hilton said Ganges post office workers

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RCMP cash gets skatepark fund rolling



Salt Spring Skatepark Society members accepted their first big cash donation for the new Kanaka Road skatepark project last week.

RCMP district officer Rick Betker, Sgt. Mike Giles and Corp. Dave Voller presented the society with a \$5,000 cheque on Thursday.

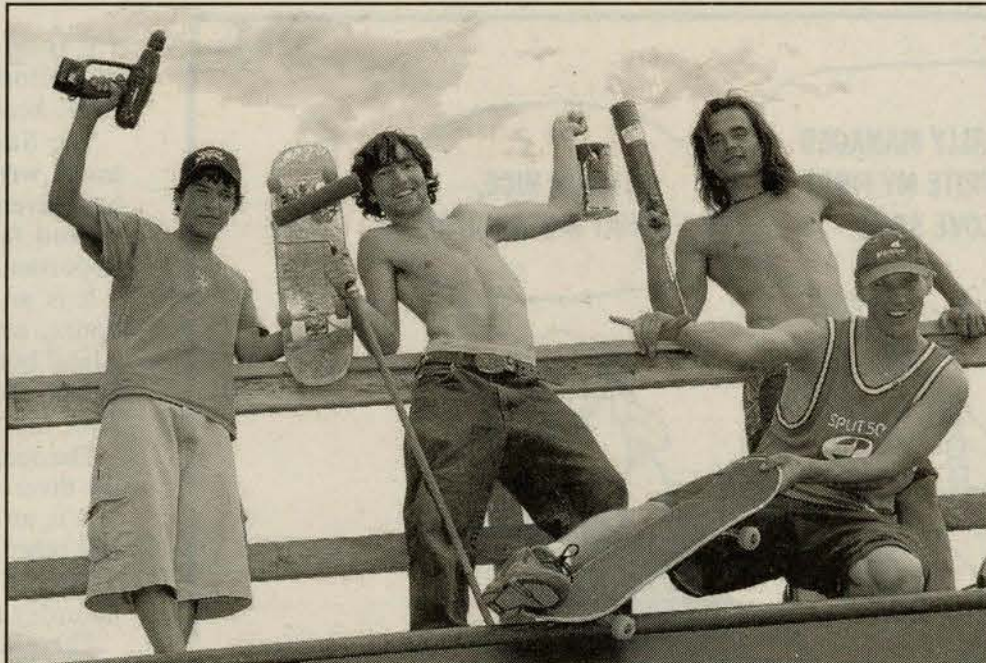
Micah Booy, Adam Ruddell, Remy Dakin, Eddy Carson and Leon Sturgeon came to the Ganges RCMP detachment, skateboards in hand, to accept the money.

"It's a really important endorsement to have the

RCMP behind us," said parent and society board member Bruce Ruddell. "They know the statistics that when a skatepark is built the young people are using it. We have everybody on our side."

The \$5,000 came from the Mounted Police Foundation (MPF), which manages the royalties from products bearing the RCMP name or logo and distributes those funds to community initiatives like crime prevention, drug awareness and youth programs.

RCMP field officers rec-



commend possible recipients for the MPF money, and it was Voller who initiated the process for the Kanaka Road skatepark, said Ruddell. The \$5,000 will go to the building of a new skatepark facility.

The Salt Spring Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission (PARC) has already donated money for

the design of the park, and other donations cover upkeep of the current makeshift site on the closed road right-of-way.

Windsor Plywood sells material to the Skatepark Society at cost, and Booy donates time and the use of thousands of dollars worth of tools to the project.

Skatepark society mem-

bers feel confident the recent dispute over whether the Kanaka Road land will be donated to the society by the Ministry of Transportation will soon be resolved in their favour, said Ruddell.

HAPPY SKATERS: Salt Spring's skateboarding community is thrilled by a new infusion of funds supplied by the RCMP as illustrated Friday at the RCMP building, and last weekend as skaters tool up for a work party.

Photo by Debbie Willis and Derrick Lundy

Emergency busy with sea incidents

A woman visiting from California suffered two large cuts to her scalp after falling off a rock bluff at Yeo Point on July 9.

The woman, who fell while walking along a beach, landed on her back and was unconscious for 45 seconds.

Her male companion managed to catch the attention of a pleasure craft in the area, and those on the boat contacted the Ganges Coast Guard station.

Coast guard and ambulance crews were on scene

to assess for spinal injuries, deal with the woman's lacerations and hematoma in her lower back and elbow, and to transfer her to Lady Minto Hospital.

"She looked the worse for wear but she was alright," said leading seaman Marco Khalil.

Ganges Coast Guard crews towed two vessels on Sunday when a 36-foot sailing boat lost power on rocks and had to be brought to Otter Bay at 9 a.m., said officer-in-charge Paul Reynolds.

An 18-foot Bayliner with four passengers broke down at 5 p.m. and had to be towed to Vancouver.

Coast guard members transported four firefighters to Third Sister Island at 9 p.m. on July 15 when a small fire needed to be extinguished, said Reynolds.

While in Active Pass on July 12, the coast guard received a call about a vessel that struck rocks at Knapp Island near Swartz Bay.

One passenger had struck her head during the crash and was taken to hospital by

ambulance crews.

The Skua went in for major, unscheduled repairs on July 13 and was replaced by the Moorhen. That night the Ganges Coast Guard was tasked by the Rescue Coordination Centre to mark a floating waterline that had broken by Forrest Island near Sidney Spit.

The hazard to navigation was marked with red floats and the Moorhen was attached to the line.

"We were out there until 4:48," said Khalil. "For eight hours."

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Fire hazard prompts total ban

All fires, including campfires, have been banned by the Salt Spring Fire Department due to very dry conditions, said deputy fire chief Dan Akerman Tuesday.

No permits will be issued for any type of fire, he said.

"Things are very dry and the weather is supposed to last quite a while."

Fires will be banned until further notice.

One recent fire illustrated the dry weather's effects.

A machine operator dis-

FIRE CALLS

covered an underground fire when he smelled "something funny" in a south-end burn pile that was more than two months old, said firefighter Jaime Holmes.

Roots were discovered still burning underground.

Firefighters dug up the earth and put water on the area. When steam rose they knew a fire were still going.

Fires can burn along root systems under the earth until they hit the surface, said Holmes.

"And then they can spread really quickly."

The fire was put out with water and foam.

The fire department is sponsoring a fully-certified air brakes course which is open to the public from August 15-17. For more information call 537-2531 or watch for an ad in an upcoming Driftwood issue.

RCMP REPORT

The RCMP were called to a residence in Vesuvius after a deer jumped into a pool and got caught on the pool cover last Wednesday. Police coaxed it out of the pool and it was freed.

Two radios were stolen from Radio Shack in Ganges on Sunday evening.

One radio is programmed to receive weather information, and the other is a VHF radio. Anyone with information is asked to call the RCMP or Crime Stoppers.

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BC HYDRO - GANGES

Janitorial Maintenance

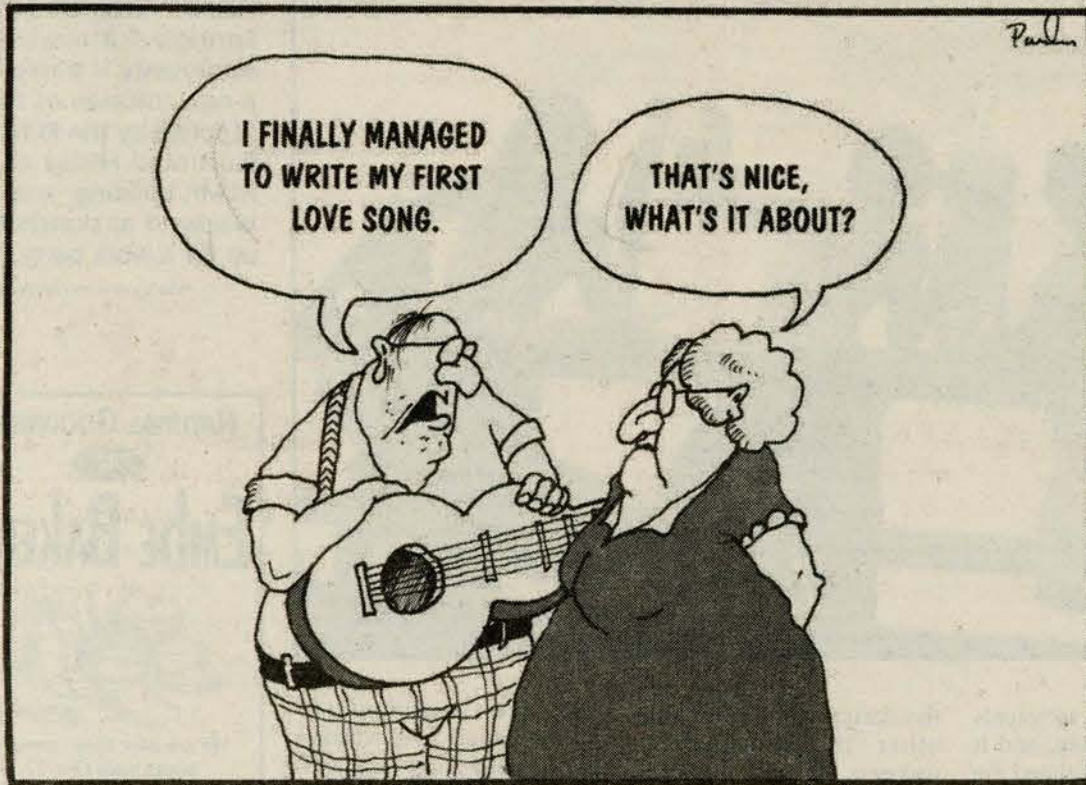
To supply labour, supervision and equipment to provide janitorial services for the BC Hydro building located on Salt Spring Island, 500 Lower Ganges Road. Contract to begin September 1st, 2003.

Any interested parties should contact Keith Scheibal, Operations Manager with O & Y CB Richard Ellis at (604) 638-8850 for tender packages.

Please note tender closes Friday, August 15th, 2003.

BC Hydro

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Beloved cats unjustly blamed for wildlife slaughter

By JACK HALLAM

I am an animal lover and that includes birds, but Anne Humphries' unreasonable and unjustified rant of several weeks ago about cats and birds is, if you'll pardon the pun, dead wrong.

The validity of her first paragraph where an injured bird in a tree is blamed on a cat is questionable.

She refers to an article by an Ontario biologist in the western edition of Canada's national newspaper (Globe and Mail). These eyes of another former Ontario biologist read the same article with the cute but hyperbolic headline Catastrophe for Wildlife. I read it with a great deal of skepticism since the author's hyperbole was matched by his sins of omission.

I own a lot of cats on nearly four acres and have provided two cat doors and a permanently open bed-

room window so they can escape the stale household air and have the freedom to move about natural and planted vegetation. How many cats? I have 10 or 11 if you count the one that goes feral for months every summer. When a tenant left two behind I told friends that moved me from being eccentric to certifiable.

In 13 years on Salt Spring I have seen no diminution in the numbers of types of birds with the possible exception of quail, a period in which our population has increased by 3,000 with 1,000 new houses on acres of cleared property. I still have numerous chickadees, towhees, hummingbirds, (more

this summer), swallows and far too many cherry-stealing robins. I see more woodpeckers, especially the red-headed, which feed regularly on my planted birch, cottonwood, willow and eucalyptus trees.

I wonder if Anne Humphries read carefully the statistics in that article. The author estimated that there are seven million cats in Canada, of which two thirds or just under five million are allowed outside. On an annual basis (365 days) he wrote, they kill 10 million birds or an average of just over two per cat. It's probably less than one in urban areas where most cats live, and as many as three or four in rural haunts, certainly not a wanton wholesale slaughter.

The author left out an important and pertinent point — destruction of habitat for birds and their numerous natural predators. I estimate there are 2,000 to 3,000 felis

domesticus on Salt Spring. That other species, some 10 thousand strong, has destroyed thousands of acres of bird, rat, mink and raccoon habitat. We're hundreds of times more destructive of birds than the cats that are allowed freedom.

Before these 10,000 came there were numerous bird predators. In addition to mink and raccoon there are rats, otters, ravens, crows and some hawks. In a Scientific American of some decades ago, the diet of feral cats was found to be 40 per cent insects, grasshoppers, crickets etc. Mice would be another very large chunk of their diet.

Two otters killed five of my ducks four years ago and last year a mink or raccoon killed a gosling.

This year for one day only a wild mallard mother appeared on my middle pond with 12 tiny

ducklings. Since she produces for several years, only one or two need to survive to maintain the mallard population. If they all survived mink, raccoons, ravens and the very occasional cat we would soon all be up to our crotches in mallard ducks — I don't think even Anne Humphries would like that.

Some of us with cats have planted hundreds of trees and shrubs, enhancing the natural habitat of birds. The Globe and Mail article author and Anne Humphries state that cats are perfectly "happy" to remain permanently indoors. Big cats in old-fashioned zoos in small cages have not been "happy," but they lived for some years.

Enlightened zoos such as those in Toronto, San Diego, Chicago and Frankfurt now provide large open spaces with vegetation for all their previously caged charges; so should we for our beloved cats.

VIEW POINT

Can I give you a lift?

ISLE SAY!
WITH JOHN POTTINGER



Back in the last millennium, I spent five years working at small airports. Places like Penticton, Kelowna and Pitt Meadows were great places to work if you liked looking at airplanes. Or catching a free flight. In those days you could walk around on the tarmac and even touch the airplanes.

Hitching rides on small airplanes used to be easy. Now it's almost impossible what with all that super-security stuff — which is pretty stupid when you're talking about little Cessnas and Pipers. Criminals aren't going to steal an airplane and kill themselves when they can steal a car and get where they want to go safely.

In the spring of 1973 and I was working as an air traffic controller at Penticton airport. One of the guys I worked with was named "Wolf." When I

first met him I thought Wolf was short for Wolfgang, then one night we went to the bar together. He had a lot to drink, got in a fight and bit a guy. Apparently he did that once or twice a year. Where was I?

Oh yeah; Wolf called me early one morning to ask if I wanted to drive to Kelowna with him to pick up a car to drive to Castlegar to pick up an airplane to fly to Penticton.

"Huh?" says I. Wolf was also a flight instructor, so he'd been asked by the local flying club if he

would go to Castlegar to bring back an airplane (a Piper Cherokee to be precise) that had been left at the airport there by a student pilot who decided — part way through a cross-country flight — that he didn't want to fly anymore. Rather than get me to drive him to Castlegar and then drive myself back, Wolf figured a way we could get there and back together.

"I called the Budget rent-a-car guy at the airport and

asked him if he had any cars that needed to get back to Castlegar. He said no, but there was one at Kelowna that was from Castlegar and he had one in Penticton that had to go to Kelowna, so we can get from Penticton to Castlegar and back without leaving a car anywhere."

We lucked in for the short drive to Kelowna, zipping up there in a spiffy red Camaro. For the much longer drive to Castlegar, we weren't quite as spiffy or zippy in a crappy little black Ford Pinto. The colour didn't really matter — most Pintos ended up dull black anyway after the gas tank exploded.

As we clattered into Castlegar, we passed a pleas-

ant-looking young woman standing on the other side of the road, hitchhiking in the direction we'd come from.

Wolf and I had the same thought at the same time; I'd already hit the brakes as he hollered, "Turn around!"

Having seen the screaming u-turn, she looked a tad leery when Wolf leaned out the window and asked, "Where ya' goin'?"

"Penticton," says she. "Well, so are we!" says Wolf. "You're not afraid of flying, are you? We're picking up an airplane here at the airport and flying it back to Penticton. We've got room for one more if you'd like a ride."

"Cool," she says, and hops right in.

Twenty minutes later we lifted off the runway and turned for home.

Our passenger lived on a commune in Balfour and hadn't much money so she'd brought a lot of food with her to offer anyone who gave her a lift. As we climbed out over the mottled green forest and splotchy blue lakes of the West Kootenays, we ate cucumber and cheese sandwiches and drank homemade apple juice from a big old mason jar.

Skaha Lake came into view as we were finishing lunch.

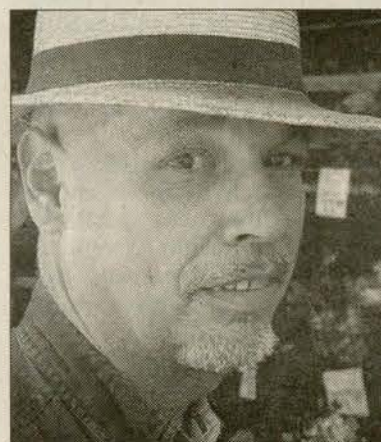
Twenty minutes later we were in my car, saying goodbye to our hitchhiking friend as we dropped her off at her friend's tiny cottage in an old orchard.

"Thanks!" she says, "I'll never forget this."

Me neither.

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: Would you be willing to pay more taxes to get an indoor pool on Salt Spring?



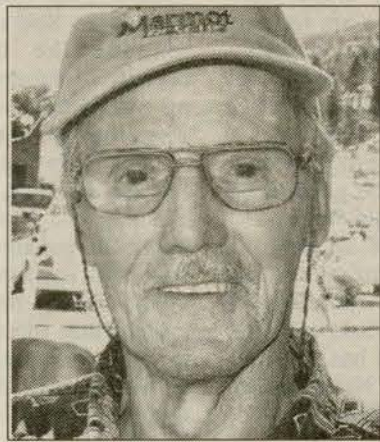
James Douglas

No, I don't use pools.



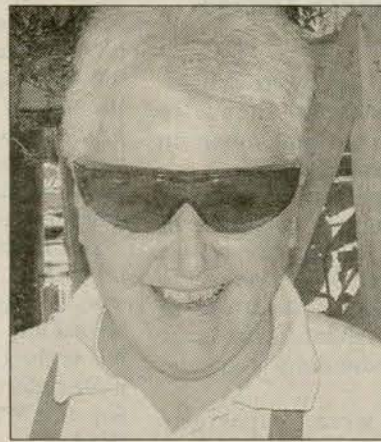
Christine Godlonton

Yes! Because I go to Nanaimo every 10 days to take my son and I pay \$20 on the ferry. I'd be more than happy to pay the money. You asked me the right question.



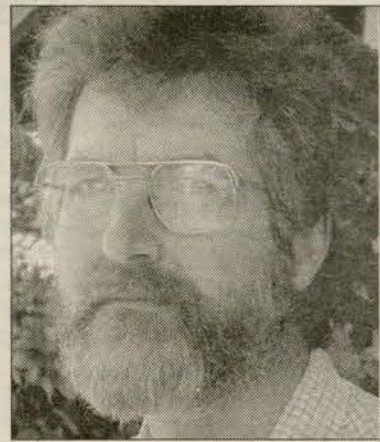
Fred Ascott

No, because I don't swim. I've never learned. Swim like a brick, straight down.



Jane Schwetzer

Oh yeah. I think an indoor pool, so kids, and not just kids, can use it all year, is a marvelous idea. It's crazy to just have it seasonal. There's enough people here. We need a rec centre and an indoor pool is a great place to start.



Bob Stuart

Not for myself. I don't enjoy swimming as an exercise. It wouldn't do me any good personally, but if people in the community were in favour of it, I would.

Letters to the Editor

Use boycott

Last week's editorial about gas prices ends by stating that all we can do about the rip off gas prices on this island is to appeal to the suppliers.

I beg to differ. We are the customers and we choose where and when to spend our dollars. To control the gas prices on this island we simply have to decide as consumers to use the tool of boycott.

It would work something like this. Put the names of the three suppliers, Shell, Payless and Save-on, into a hat and pull out one of them. Let's say it's Save-on. Spread the word (never a big problem on Salt Spring). Then until Save-on's gas is priced within a cent of suppliers on Vancouver Island we as islanders boycott Save-on.

Of course, once Save-on's prices come down then the other suppliers would be forced to follow suit as Save-on's lower rates would ensure that they get the business.

I would suggest the hardest part would be that the boycotters don't weaken at the first price cut but wait until it is down to the fair trade level of suppliers off

this island. We could even post this price (the one that must be met to end the boycott).

It should not say anything except what the cost of regular gas is going for at a nearby station on Vancouver Island. The Driftwood could play a part here.

I believe that suppliers on this island have for too long mistakenly thought that they hold the reins. Ultimately the customer has the power. Free enterprise is an amazing thing.

The suppliers could of course recognize that they have had a pretty good kick at the can and back off a bit and avoid these types of things.

But this is what will happen once folks have had enough.

Then individuals will decide to support a boycott or not. I believe they will.

DAVE HOWELL,
Salt Spring

Help store

The Thrift Shop on Lower Ganges Road, next door to the Driftwood office, is striving to be open six days a week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To put it bluntly, we urgently need more staff. The shop is extremely busy, both at the front to serve cus-

tomers and at the back to sort, price and display goods.

We have an abundance of goods to sell, but I repeat, we need staff.

It is summer and so members like to take holidays and visit families. We understand that, but to be successful the shop must carry on.

The hours are not onerous, with three-hour shifts from either 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1 to 4 p.m.

If you read this and can consider our plight, please call Leanoir Hearsey at 537-5474, Jean Williams at 537-1902 or me at 537-5477 or call in at the Thrift Shop.

ROSE A. FEWINGS,
L.M.H. Auxiliary publicist

Unjustified

Mr. Lederman (July 9 Viewpoint) attacked me for challenging his claim that harbour seal pups are inseparable from their mothers during the first two weeks of life.

His attack is unjustified. He failed to mention that his claim is contradicted by Don Bowen and other world-class seal biologists whose work is published in the Canadian Journal of Zoology.

Mr. Lederman did admit

that recent Vancouver Aquarium research shows that mother seals may leave their pups alone for four to eight hours. Indeed, lone seal pups are not necessarily orphans.

PETER OMMUNDSEN,
Salt Spring

Modest goals

I have read the various viewpoints aired in the Driftwood regarding a pool for Salt Spring Island.

There can be no doubt that this would be a wonderful addition to our community. Having just returned home after an hour of aqua aerobics in the Shelby Pool, I know how much I would enjoy one.

However, I wish to state a few cautionary words. I have just visited Cochrane, Alberta, a very prosperous town in the foothills southwest of Calgary.

It has a population of 12,000, plus a heavily populated hinterland. It has a wide variety of commercial and industrial businesses as well as being home to some very rich ranches.

It has a modest indoor pool that is well used, but revenues still don't meet annual expenses.

After several years of use,

the town is now facing high repair and maintenance costs for its pool.

I would urge PARC to seriously consider the feasibility of building an outdoor pool only.

Let us keep our goals modest and practical, and we could very well achieve them, rather than setting our sights on a top-end facility that may get turned down in the referendum process.

MUZZ WYATT,
Woodland Drive

Same process

This is just a brief reply to John Pottinger's column last week, in which he raises a number of issues, but in particular states, "We could try to convince the CRD or the provincial government that we need a transit system," and "if we were incorporated we could simply decide to do that."

You don't have to convince me, John. I have already obtained an estimate from BC Transit for opting into their system (you don't want to hear the cost) and am working with our newly re-constituted Transportation Society to examine options for transit service on Salt Spring.

Hopefully, we can interest

partners such as BC Ferries to help offset costs, but all of the options are likely to involve at least some taxpayer support, which would require a counterpetition or referendum.

A municipal council, at least one that bothered to obtain taxpayer consent before establishing new services, would have to go through the same process.

GARY HOLMAN,
CRD Director

Two cents worth

When I went to Victoria on Wednesday the price of self-serve regular gas was 79.9 per litre.

Two things struck me: How much was gas on Salt Spring that day? Possibly only 80.9? And — have we been comparing apples and oranges?

All service stations on Salt Spring are full service, which, when I was growing up, always cost a cent or two more than self serve. Most other stations are self serve! More fuel for thought.

ANDREA LE BORGNE,
Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS A8

Travellers should take advantage of BC Ferries' offer

"If you notice anything that causes you concern during the voyage, please report it to the nearest crew member."

This message is part of BC Ferries' welcoming and safety announcements, which drift through our heads, distract from our readings, and drown out conversations at the beginning of every trip.

I'd like to thank friend Jerry Mallette for bringing to my attention this most generous and wonderful offer. Anything? Yes, anything!

The mind spins, the heart leaps. I wonder how many passengers appreciate how therapeutic a short sail in B.C. waters could be. So many crew members too,

enough for most of us to have a short session with

someone paid to listen. I asked a woman who's worked in catering aboard BC Ferries for more than 12 years what sorts of concerns people have reported to her. I expected some strange and funny tales, but alas, she had none.

So here's this great service, announced every trip, and nobody hears it or takes advantage of it.

I have some cosmic concerns that are constants in my life, and while in cruising mode, they can loom large in my thoughts. The

SPRINGBOARD

BY BRENDA GUILLED



whole state of the planet and the wiring of the human species bother me a lot, and a ferry trip isn't a time out. It's a sampling of local and visiting humanity, a microcosm of our indulgent, mess-making society on the move.

I notice that most passengers have little praise for the food, which would be heaven to the world's poorest billions.

I notice that the big engines burn a lot of fossil fuel to haul our butts and wheels around.

I notice that the noise must be painfully loud to marine mammals, and I notice we don't see killer whales very often, when they used to be plentiful here. I'm concerned when company comes from afar for a ferry trip, and they don't get to see orcas. I want them on every trip, but I don't want the captain to announce it because everyone rushes to one side, which really concerns me.

Last summer on the Gulf Islands ferry, I noticed a broken light fixture marked in felt pen, "This side NFG." A teenage friend chuckled at this "universal notation," as he called it, which amused him on the next trip too. He laughed even harder this summer

when he saw it again.

I'm concerned that others haven't noticed and gotten so much fun out of it.

On the biggest ferry, I noticed a huge guy talking loudly on his cell phone in the middle of a packed lounge, and everyone else noticed him too. We heard every gruesome detail of his mother's recent surgery. I looked unsuccessfully for a seat elsewhere. I should have looked for a crew member, obviously.

He was American, I guessed, nothing to hide. Now I have real concerns about them, maybe not individually because so many are great people, but collectively, they can be scary. He then bellowed about his dad's funeral in some U.S. city, not as

tough as his uncle's, now there's a guy who suffered. Lord have mercy. Oh yes, he'd been born again through all these trials, halleluyah!

Help, crew member, help! Thank goodness the "We are now nearing the [destination] terminal" announcement saved us before he could get into some real thundering Jesus salvation.

BC Ferries is now a service, not just a corporation. Anything we notice and are concerned about during the voyage, they want to know. Really.

This could be a use-it-or-lose-it offer, so speak up. I hope the crew records all the reports; I'd love to see them.

b_guiled@yahoo.ca

Gouging

I have been reading all the letters and articles about the prices of gas on Salt Spring.

I believe Peter Vincent's article from last week was targeted just on one business — gas stations — and not businesses on Salt Spring as a whole, which perhaps would have been more appropriate.

Take a walk down to the local hardware store in Ganges and compare its prices to Victoria.

Perhaps we should be looking at the price of an ice cream cone here compared to Victoria. They cost more here also.

Have you shopped at Thrifty's lately? Check out those prices! I bought a piece of farmed salmon there last week that might as well be coated in gold.

Peter says he shops on Salt Spring but he has no complaints about those businesses and their prices, although their prices are also higher than on Vancouver Island.

Now look at real estate. The price of a home here is so far out of reach for the average person that over the next few years only the rich will be living on Salt Spring and the rest of us will be renting off of them.

Oh, right, that brings up the rental prices. Just try and find a decent rental house that is priced within the norm.

To me it looks like the whole island, not just the gas stations, are on the overpricing bandwagon. You would think that all the prices on Salt Spring Island would really "piss Peter off," and not just this week's target of discontent, gas prices.

There is a higher price to pay for the opportunity of living the lifestyle we enjoy here on Salt Spring. If you are not prepared to pay for it, places like the Gulf Islands may not be the best choice to make your home.

By the way, my daily newspaper from Victoria only cost me \$1. The Driftwood cost me \$1.25. Why would a much larger newspaper from Victoria, with more news, more sports and more information cost 20 per cent less than our local paper?

Gouging, who's gouging?
PATRICK PEARSON,
Salt Spring

More letters

Layton likes us

Olivia and I were delighted to have the chance to spend some time again on your beautiful island.

Though you are obviously welcoming thousands of summer guests, like us, we hope you will manage to maintain the rural charm and peacefulness that make your community a special place.

We were especially pleased to see all the organic produce grown by the farmers of Salt Spring, and we are always astonished by the extremely high quality and wide range of artwork and crafts made there.

I am very glad to have had the opportunity to meet with so many of you.

A special thanks to the organizers of the birthday party, the impressive YJP jazz band, and those of you who attended.

Olivia and I look forward to coming back again soon.

JACK LAYTON,
Leader, Federal New Democratic Party

Take time

"If you want peace, prepare for war."

This saying from Roman times badly needs updating: "If you want peace, prepare for and live in peace."

Most people really do want peace, but we tend to forget about our desire for peace until war is upon us. However, there's lots we can do to prepare the way for peace.

Currently, a major priority for Canadians is to prevent our involvement in the National Missile Defence program ("Star Wars" warmed over).

When federal NDP leader Jack Layton was in Centennial Park on July 12 he had a petition on the issue for people to sign. It's not too late if you missed that opportunity, since Joanne Montrichard has a peace table at the market on Saturdays with petitions, sample letters and lots of information.

I especially like the "log

book" she has at the table. Its blank pages are for people to write their thoughts, ideas, images, etc. on the theme of peace. Jack Layton took the time to write a thoughtful message and it would be great to get other interesting entries.

But most of all, let's all take some time to prevent war, to bring about justice so that this decade will truly be, as the UN has declared, a Decade of Nonviolence for the Children of the World.

JAN SLAKOV,
Deer Park Road

Bill okay

Just before Christmas of this year, I had a medical emergency and had to be transported to hospital in Victoria via water taxi.

I was living on Retreat Island at the time, and so the nearest health centre was on Galiano. The ambulance service was reluctant to send a helicopter that night, as it was very foggy, even though I was in need of emergency surgery and there was another patient awaiting transfer to hospital with a head injury.

After a ridiculously long wait and several bed transfers, the crew got me to Vic General by way of Montague Harbour. If I had taken BC Ferries, I would have arrived sooner. I know this since my husband and kids took the ferry and were surprised to find themselves there ahead of me.

Several weeks after returning home, I received a bill from the ambulance service. A bill! Don't we have socialized medicare? I didn't elect to take the ambulance, I had to.

I would also have preferred the ferry for both speed and comfort, but alas, that was no option.

So here I am feeling all chagrined, when I meet a Californian woman at the beach who was in the same boat: living in a rural area, in need of transportation to hospital.

She told me the ambulance cost her \$1,500 (US), and would have been

\$9,000 if she had taken the helicopter. She elected not to take the helicopter because of the cost, a factor no one wants to consider when they are in crisis.

That little conversation set me straight, all right. I'll pay the \$60 bill and bless the paramedics. I'll take our system, flawed though it may be, over any system that forces patients to opt out of care that may be the best for them based on their ability or inability to pay.

By the way, anyone who wants to hear a ringing endorsement for Canada's social democracy written intelligently and without bias, pick up the July 5 issue of the New Yorker and read The Talk of the Town.

Glad to be Canadian,
ANDREA PALFRAMAN,
Salt Spring

Heroic

Words cannot describe how grateful my husband and I are that we live in a place where people care enough about others to do heroic things.

While out for a walk on a ridge with my husband Steven, Mike Giles and his family, our yellow lab Murphy lost his footing in a steep area and fell off an at-least 50-foot cliff into the lower forest.

Fearing the worst and with darkness coming, we asked our friend Mike, who is the Salt Spring RCMP sergeant, to help us search for him. Before the request was fully out of our mouths, Mike said, "Of course I'm helping."

Mike and I headed off by car to access the bottom of the cliff. The climb, through more than 800 feet of dense undergrowth, downed trees and ferns, was significant.

After a good hour of climbing and searching, we spotted him. Alert but not able to move, our next thought was getting him down the mountain as quickly as possible.

At 85 pounds and with the steep incline and dense forest, it was not going to be easy.

Mike put Murphy on his shoulders and proceeded to negotiate his way down the mountain. If I had needed to bring Murphy down on my own, it would have been at least another hour before he received medical attention — which the vet later told us would have been at least an hour too late.

Due to the selflessness and heroic efforts of our friend Mike Giles, Murphy made it down the mountain to safety — giving him a chance to survive.

Reaching the bottom of the hill, we rushed Murphy over to Malcolm and Stephanie Bond's vet clinic. Murphy's respiration was fast and the height of the fall was so significant. Regardless, we

asked the Bonds to do whatever they could. This is exactly what they did — they committed all the effort, care, tests, procedures and medications possible to help keep Murphy with us. It was extraordinary — also selfless and heroic.

And the care didn't stop there. After we rested on the floor next to Murphy for the night, Stephanie brought Steven and I fresh coffee and juice in the morning.

We don't know how the story will end as yet, but we do know that if it wasn't for the efforts of both Mike Giles and the Bonds, that Murphy's bright eyes wouldn't be greeting us as well as his kibble bowl.

R. JONI GANDERTON,
Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS A9

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RANTS & ROSES

RANTS

• A rant to those late-night strollers who insist on walking with their backs to the traffic and often dressed entirely in black. Luckily for you, I have retained my famous rapid reflex action and, so far, have managed to swerve out within seconds of turning you into mince-meat. Please, please, for your sake and mine, wear what you like but walk towards the oncoming traffic. (And, yes, I meant this to be scary.) FR

• Rants to the drivers who make no attempt to avoid me on my early morning run. Runners, cyclists and pedestrians are not trespassing on YOUR road. Get over it. Learn to share.

• Rants to cityfolk who just can't leave a car unlocked!

• Rants to hitchhikers who stand in front of Embe Bakery. This is a most inconvenient place to stop. I would gladly pick them up if they'd stand somewhere easy to pull over, like in front of the Pharmasave.

ROSES

• Roses to B.C. Ferries

personnel who were prepared to break the rules, hold up boarding and open my locked car waiting in line, until I was saved (large bunch of roses) by he who shall remain nameless (in case he is called upon to offer this service island wide), who with great ingenuity unlocked said car for me in the nick of time.

• Roses to the person who closed my car windows when it started to rain while I was attending Jim Buchan's wake.

• Roses to the drivers who go out of their way to avoid me on my early morning run. I'm sure you extend the same considerate attitude to all aspects of your life. You are to be congratulated.

• Thanks to the family of four for rescuing five stranded girls in their Zodiac on Sunday, July 13 by Chocolate Island! JH

• Roses to Brent Hamilton, who cut and removed massive logs to create a safe and clear access to Beddis Beach. DD

• A wonderful white rose to Joanne, who faithfully brings anti-Star Wars petitions, peace postcards and other tools for peace and justice to the market. "If we want peace, let's

prepare for and live in peace!"

• Roses to Rosanne Leonoff and the United Church for so graciously allowing the Leah Stein Dance Workshop Project to create and perform Side Trail in their beautiful meadow.

• Roses to Stan Lam for being Salt Spring's favourite businessman, best landlord and for his terrific sense of humour. Good health and happiness! TL

• Roses to Blue Moon's staff — past and present and especially to Lori — who have made the business a truly spirited "oasis" in downtown Ganges. Also, many bouquets of roses for all the support and assistance you give to the psychic readers at the store. TL

• What incredible service I received from Gillian Pottinger at Island Savings Insurance after my car was accidentally hit in Ganges! She restored my faith in excellence and professionalism. AM



Name: MAGGIE SCHUBART
537/538/653: 537
Occupation(s): Advocacy
Hobbies: Watching creatures
Home finished/unfinished: Both
Favourite people: My family
Favourite read: Wendell Berry
Best thing about SSI: The community
Worst thing about SSI: Growth
Best place to kiss on SSI?: It's a secret



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More letters

Virtuoso

How fortunate we are to have the opportunity to experience a performance of Ensemble Clement Janequin here on Salt Spring on August 1 at 8 p.m. at ArtSpring.

I first heard this fabulous vocal ensemble at the Berkeley Early Music Festival in California and remember being astounded by the voices of these virtuoso singers. They are marvellous performers who bring the humour and elegance of the 16th-century Renaissance to us by singing "casually" around a table — just as singers did then.

To hear this ensemble, which performs to sold-out audiences in larger venues around the world, perform in the intimacy of ArtSpring promises to be a real treat. I can't wait!

MICHELE U,
Price Road

Say no

The "gumboot grapevine" has it — via reliable sources — that an aggressive American franchise will be expanding its predatory tentacles to Salt Spring Island in the very near future.

Who are these guys? According to their own website, Movie Gallery "is the third largest video specialty retailer in the United States with 1,678 stores in 42 states and five Canadian provinces."

Movie Gallery's latest revenue figures equal — in US dollars — \$369 million. Wow! Enough already! Not if they get their gluttonous way.

In their very own words: "Every day we get closer to making our mission statement a reality: We will be the dominant entertainment source for video rental and sale in rural and secondary markets in the United States."

These get-rich-guys have already invaded Canada and have now set their sights on fair-minded Salt Spring. Enough of foreign franchise invasion! Say "NO" to the greedy likes of Starbucks and Movie Gallery.

Say a resounding "YES" to our local coffee houses, restaurants and video outlets. Why? Because the little guys are local folks, not predatory profit mongers.

The little guys give back to their community, not simply take our dollars south to American corporate investors.

Let's take a stand now.

Send an e-mail message through the www.moviegallery.com website and tell them, "We're mad as hell and we're not going to take it anymore."

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Webster Drive

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BRANCHING OUT: Workshop participant Michele Bailey gets a few basketry pointers from teacher Rae Hunter as a Branching Out workshop gets under way at the Farmers' Institute last weekend.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Updating actions of vacation rentals resource committee

By **DAVID WOOD** and **ARLENE DASHWOOD**

Salt Spring trustees Kimberly Lineger and Eric Booth have initiated a review of the vacation rentals issue on Salt Spring.

The purpose of this review is to determine if change to existing policy and regulations is appropriate. A resource subcommittee of the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) was established with a mandate "to provide general information, research findings, data analysis, policy and regulation alternatives, and evaluation of alternatives to the APC."

What this means in plain English is that the subcommittee's job is to look at the whole issue of vacation rentals as it affects Salt Spring Island. This will involve many different steps, including (but not limited to) determining the existing role of vacation rentals in the community; looking at the experience of other communities; assessing the wide range of social and economic impacts vacation rentals have on the island; commissioning research and perhaps surveys as required, depending on funds available; holding public meetings; accepting submissions from people on all sides of the issue; and reviewing and assessing the legislative measures that could be used to regulate or control vacation rentals under our current system of local government.

The process was originally planned to be completed by September of this year, but will almost certainly continue beyond that date. At the end of the process, should the subcommittee reach a consensus respecting a specific policy and regulation option, this consensus may



be forwarded to the APC by recommendation.

If consensus is not possible, which it may not be, given the differing perspectives of committee members, then the subcommittee will outline the issues and regulatory alternatives in a report to the APC, who will have the task of making a set of recommendations to the trustees. It will be up to the trustees to decide what action to take.

The process is not as disjointed as this outline makes it sound. The trustees are ex-officio members of the subcommittee, attend all the meetings and participate fully in the discussions, as do many members of the APC. The result is that the process has become a collective one, involving all the parties who will eventually have to decide what is to be done. The trustees' and senior Trust planner's presence provide a reality check on the discussions. We are constantly reminded of what is possible and what is not, given the powers of the Islands Trust and the CRD.

The first subcommittee meeting took place on June 10. To this point we have been trying to understand the issue and its ramifications. Some committee members are already very familiar with the issue; others are not so familiar, but bring other strengths to the table.

So far, we have not even considered what recommendations we should make. We are still reviewing all of the issues as outlined to us by the Islands Trust. This is the first document issued by the committee. Others will fol-

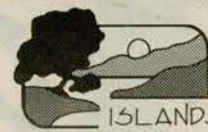
low it, in an effort to keep the community informed.

The subcommittee meets every Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Lions Hall. Meetings are open to the public, but anyone wishing to make a meeting submission to the committee is asked to contact David Wood (653-2304) or Arlene Dashwood (537-5050) in advance to arrange a time. Members of the public may, at the discretion of the chair, be invited to ask a question or make a point relevant to the discussion.

Subcommittee members are Lineger and Booth (ex-officio), Jamie Alexander, Arlene Dashwood (vice-chair), George Ehring, Jewel Eldstrom, Pearl Grey, Bob Holt, Blair Howard, Pam Miskey, Drew Thorburn, David Wood (chair). Doug Mitchell, was selected as the Chamber of Commerce representative, but is unable to attend. It is anticipated the trustees will appoint an alternate from the chamber board.

The next public meeting is tentatively planned for September, once the summer rush is over. The purpose of this meeting will be to set before the community the issues surrounding vacation rentals as the committee sees them at that point, and to receive information and questions from the public. It is not anticipated that we will present any recommendations at that time. They will come later, once the information and fact-gathering stage is over.

There is no completion deadline for the process. The trustees clearly understand the need to put some clear guidelines on vacation rentals before the community, but feel that thorough consideration of the issue must take precedence over speed.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

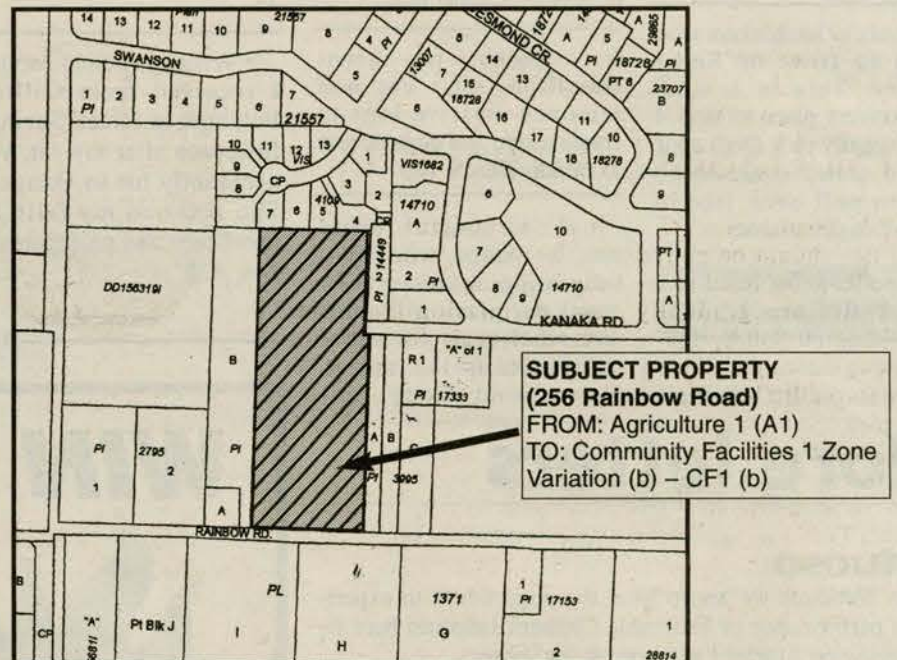
SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE PROPOSED BYLAW NO. 386

NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will hold a public hearing concerning Proposed Bylaw No. 386, cited as "Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 3, 2003", for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw. At the public hearing, all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions respecting matters contained in the bylaw. The public hearing is scheduled to take place at the following time and location. A public information session will precede the public hearing.

DATE: Saturday, July 26, 2003
LOCATION: Hart Bradley Memorial Hall (Lions Hall)
103 Bonnet Avenue, Salt Spring Island
TIME: 10:00 am – Public Information Session
10:30 am – Public Hearing

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 386 is to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 to permit the use of the property at 256 Rainbow Road for a variety of community facilities by rezoning the property from Agriculture 1 (A1) to the Community Facility Zone Variation (b) – CF1 (b). The proposed rezoning would permit development of the 3.16 hectare (7.8 acre) parcel for a multi-use community recreation centre including indoor tennis courts, an indoor aquatic facility, accessory uses including offices, meeting rooms, washrooms, and potential future expansion to include related indoor recreation amenities.

BYLAW NO. 386 – PLAN 1



Copies of the proposed bylaw and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee, may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, Room 1206, 115 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing Monday, July 14, 2003, and up to and including Friday, July 25, 2003.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2)(e) of the Local Government Act, additional copies of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at the Victoria Office of the Islands Trust, #200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, commencing Monday, July 14, 2003, and up to and including Friday, July 25, 2003. A copy of Proposed Bylaw No. 386 is also available on the Islands Trust website at: www.islandstrust.bc.ca

Enquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to planning staff at (250) 537-9144 or by Fax at (250) 537-9116. For Toll Free access, request a transfer to the Islands Trust via Enquiry BC: in Vancouver at 660-2421, and elsewhere in BC at 1-800-663-7867.

Written submissions may be delivered to:

1. the Islands Trust by mail at Room 1206, 115 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2T9, or by Fax to (250) 537-9116, prior to 4:30 pm on Friday, July 25, 2003; and
2. after 4:30 pm on Friday, July 25, 2003, by delivery to the Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing at 10:30 am on Saturday, July 26, 2003 until the close of the hearing.

All applications are available for review by the public. Written comments made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

NO REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BYLAW WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Pauline Brazier
Deputy Secretary

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GOING ONCE: Sharon Kowal shows bidders this little chef as she helps auction off a dinner for eight served by Adriana Vescovi at last weekend's Island Treasure Fair held as an ArtSpring and community fundraiser.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Rainbow rezoning discussed Saturday

While discussions on what facilities should be placed on the Rainbow Road recreation site are gradually unfolding on Salt Spring, a bylaw to rezone the property goes to public hearing on Saturday.

Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) Bylaw #386 would rezone the 3.16-hectare (7.8-acre) property next to Gulf Islands Secondary School from Agriculture 1 to Community Facility Zone Variation (b), in order to permit construc-

tion of recreation facilities.

The property is in the Agricultural Land Reserve, and permission from the Agricultural Land Commission to use the property for non-farm use has long been in hand.

A public information session on the bylaw runs from 10 to 10:30 a.m. at Lions Hall, followed immediately by the hearing.

At 1 p.m. the LTC will hold its monthly public meeting, beginning with the town hall session.

SSPLASH appeals for helping hands

Several local businesses have jumped on board the SSPLASH indoor pool fundraising bandwagon in the past week, but more volunteers are needed to keep the money rolling in.

A movie in the park, hamburger and cotton candy day at GVM on August 2, and a barbecue at Seabreeze Inne are some of the ideas suggested so far.

SSPLASH president Kathy Page said Monday, "Active volunteers are stretched to the limit with the SSPLASH water and the cafe, so we'd like to put out an appeal to anyone who wants an indoor pool to come along and help us get one. Now's the time. Even a couple of hours would make a difference."

Special events coordinator Heather Biver is the person to contact at 537-4964.

Help is also needed on the bottled water team, and people should call Richard Steel at 537-5367 to help with that effort.

Crab-trap-free zone set

Ganges Harbour has been declared a no-crab-trap zone.

According to the Ganges Coast Guard station, the Navigable Waters Protection Agency has surveyed the harbour and determined the area's marine and air traffic requires a zone free of crab traps and floats.

Leading seaman Marco Khalil said people deploying crab traps are also reminded not to use floating line, which

is a hazard to navigation.

Any traps with floating line in Ganges Harbour will be removed and can be claimed at the Ganges Coast Guard station, where they will be held for a "limited" time.

All floats must also have a name, telephone number and the vessel's name. Unidentified floats may be removed.

People should stand by for more information, said Khalil.

New helicopter service an 'improvement'

Changing the helicopter base from Victoria to Vancouver for medical evacuations from the Gulf Islands won't affect delivery of service, says the BC Ambulance Service (BCAS).

According to BCAS communications manager Bob Pearce, the new system set to start October 1 should be better.

When the air-evac contract came up for renewal this year, he said, bidding companies were asked to provide options for improved service at a lower cost, if possible.

Pearce said the company previously holding the contract — Vancouver Island Helicopters Ltd. — "did not meet the qualifying standard for the bid. That left us with the other company, which has been our Vancouver helicopter service, and it came in with a proposal to serve both Victoria, Nanaimo, and Gulf Islands with two helicopters in Vancouver."

The Vancouver-based company is Helijet, an international company which also provides regular service

between Vancouver and Victoria.

Pearce said BCAS will pay more than it did in the past, but feels the new system will provide better service.

"By reducing the bases, we will have a dedicated helicopter crew on the ground ready to fly at a moment's notice."

"When you consider that you have to take a crew off the street in Victoria, the average amount of time for

that is 45 minutes," said Pearce. "If you have a crew ready in Richmond, they can be over and landed in that amount of time."

Having a Vancouver helicopter base does not mean patients are taken to Lower Mainland hospitals.

"Where they go is a doctor's decision. It's where they are referring them."

He also noted that helicopters are not usually used for emergency scene

responses, but for transferring people between medical facilities. Even now, he said, helicopters sometimes come from Vancouver to the Gulf Islands for air evacuations.

Pearce acknowledged that paramedics in Victoria are concerned about losing the Victoria-area base, but that Gulf Islanders will not notice the change.

"In terms of service, residents won't notice a difference."

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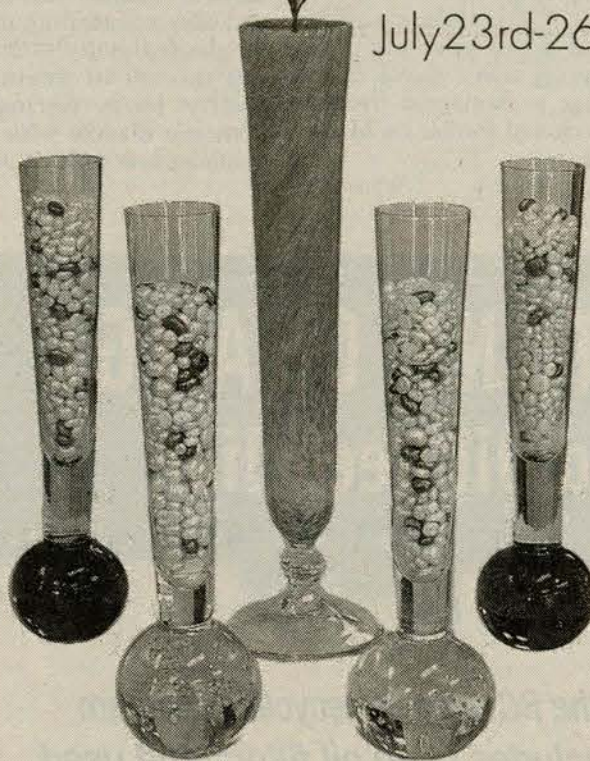
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Angry men sentenced for damaging police cell, B&B signs, deck, freezer

Anger and alcohol brought several cases before Judge Jane Cartwright in Ganges Provincial Court July 8.

• A Salt Spring man was ordered to pay \$1,185 restitution after he pleaded guilty to damaging a jail-cell light fixture while he was detained in the Ganges RCMP detachment.

Court heard that Jesse Amberston (21) had been arrested at 12:45 a.m. May 10 for being drunk in a public place but Amberston added to his difficulties when he vented his frustration on the RCMP cells area by ripping a fluorescent light fixture from the ceiling.

"What I hear from this is that you're a nasty drunk when you are drunk," said Judge Jane Cartwright.

"You must have been very determined to do some damage."

Defence attorney Tybring Hemphill seemed puzzled at the cost of repairs for the "gold-plated light fixture" and noted that Amberston did not have the ability to repay the detachment.

However, the detachment offered to work out a compensation plan to discharge the debt.

And the judge granted Amberston an absolute discharge of the crime.

"You won't get another

COURT DOCKET

one," she said. "They are designed for people who have made one stupid mistake."

• An islander received a \$600 fine and one-year driving prohibition after he pleaded guilty to driving while impaired in an accident that "wrote off" his vehicle on May 4.

Timothy O'Connor (42) was charged with drinking and driving after police responded to a single vehicle rollover accident in the 900 block of North End Road, said Crown prosecutor Nils Jensen.

Subsequent breathalyzer readings were .270 and .260, said Jensen.

Speaking on his own behalf, O'Connor said he had entered counselling for alcohol abuse after the incident and he confirmed that ICBC had denied coverage to replace his vehicle because alcohol was involved in the crash.

"Clearly this is a wake-up call that fortunately did not involve killing yourself or others," said Cartwright.

• A misunderstanding led a 40-year-old Salt Spring man to break into a rage to damage a friend's deck and freezer on March 26.

Anthony Winston

attacked the deck after he heard an erroneous report of a non-consensual sexual relationship between his wife and the victim, said defence counsel Hemphill.

Winston has since mended the friendship but he was ordered to serve one year's probation and pay \$1,500 restitution after he pleaded guilty to mischief.

The islander was also ordered not to contact the victim without permission.

• A Salt Spring man will pay \$325 restitution and serve one year of probation in a conditional discharge sentence after he pleaded guilty to theft of three signs from a local B&B on April 28.

Alan Mayfield, 58, indicated he had taken and damaged the signs after an argument with the B&B owner. Mayfield and the B&B owner had previously lived together for six years, he noted.

In addition to the restitution and probation orders, Mayfield was directed to avoid contacting the victim without expressed written consent.

• An island man will serve 18 months probation and take counselling after he pleaded guilty to uttering threats of death or bodily harm during a domestic dispute with his common-law wife on June 2.

2nd shellfish warning issued

Hot on the heels of last week's official red tide warning comes a Fisheries and Oceans Canada (FOC) directive that people should not consume south coast raw oysters and clams due to increased bacteria levels.

Vibrio parahaemolyticus (Vp) levels have been listed as "extremely high" in waters around lower Vancouver Island.

Diarrhea, cramps, nausea and vomiting can result if people consume raw bivalve molluscs when Vp levels rise along with temperatures in the summer months.

FOC advises people to either freeze shellfish or store it at 4 degrees Celsius (40 degrees F) and ensure shellfish is cooked to a temperature of 60 C (140 F) for at least five to six minutes.

Commercially harvested shellfish carries "minimal risk," states a FOC press release, since it has "been through the necessary health and safety inspections."

Up-to-date information on red tide and other shellfish closures is available by calling (604) 666-2828 or checking the www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish website.

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Visit www.usedoilrecycling.com

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SPCA releases spay/neuter reminder

Salt Spring's SPCA is dealing with a kitten explosion these days, and wants to remind people of the importance of spaying and neutering cats.

In a press release issued last week, the local organization points to a startling math fact: One unsprayed female cat and her litters can produce 470,000 offspring in seven years.

"Spaying or neutering your cat helps stem the cat overpopulation by reducing future generations of homeless cats. It will help reduce behavioural problems such as aggression,

roaming and spraying that may lead to abandonment by the companion owner."

The Salt Spring SPCA has a limited supply of spay/neuter forms available for people on a low income or disability pension. Owners are asked to pay a moderate fee to help with the total cost or, under special circumstances, to pay no fee at all.

Some of the many cats and kittens cared for by the Salt Spring SPCA are surrendered because people can no longer care for them or because of behavioural problems, while others are simply abandoned outdoors

where they are subject to breeding, malnutrition, harsh weather, disease, infections and death.

Abandoning a pet is a Criminal Code offence, notes the release.

"Pet overpopulation is a serious problem and one you can help prevent. Encourage your neighbours to monitor for roaming homeless cats and call the SPCA."

Collaring and identifying pets is also recommended as a "lost animal's ticket home."

For more information, call the local SPCA branch at 537-2123.

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DRIFTWOOD

RANTS

PAGE 9, DRIFTWOOD

ROSES

SALT SPRING FIBRE FESTIVAL

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FRIDAY-SUNDAY,
JULY 25TH-27TH

Schedule

Friday, July 25th

Workshops: There are still a few places available! Full-day workshops are \$60 plus applicable materials fees; half-day workshops are \$30. If you are interested in any of these workshops, please contact Ann at 537-9533 as soon as possible.

Rib Basket with Driftwood Handle – Donna Cochran (full day – starts at 10:00 a.m.)

Knitting Oddments (colour knitting techniques) – Susan Berlin (half day – starts at 1:00 p.m.)

Rug Hooking – Gladys Kelsey (full day – starts at 10:00 a.m.)

Nuno Felting – Laurie Steffler (full day – starts at 10:00 a.m.)

Farm Tours: Scheduled tours of five Island fleece-animal farms. The Farm owners will take you around, introduce you to the animals and the history and the specific qualities of their particular breed. Passports for the Tours are \$5/individual or \$10/group. They list the farms and provide a map and tour schedule. Passports can be bought at the Waterfront Gallery, or at the farms just prior to scheduled tour times.

Saturday, July 26th

Workshops: There are still a few places available! Full-day workshops are \$60 plus applicable materials fees; half-day workshops are \$30. If you are interested in any of these workshops, please contact Ann at 537-9533 as soon as possible.

Mini-Landscape Quilting – Susan Paynter (full day – starts at 10:00 a.m.)

Saori Weaving – Kim Cowley-Adam (full day – starts at 10:00 a.m.)

Spinning Soy – Birgit Rasmussen (1/2 day – starts at 9:00 a.m.)

Spinning Qiviut – Birgit Rasmussen (1/2 day – starts at 1 p.m.)

Farm Tours: Scheduled tours of five Island fleece-animal farms. The Farm owners will take you around, introduce you to the animals and the history and the specific qualities of their particular breed. Passports for the Tours are \$5/individual or \$10/group. They list the farms and provide a map and tour schedule. Passports can be bought at the Waterfront Gallery, or at the farms just prior to scheduled tour times.

Fashion Show: On the ArtSpring stage, an amazing display of Canadian designers' work in natural fibre. The range is, to say the least, eclectic: work was produced by some of Canada's top designers, local and from away, as well as by up-and-coming stars from college programs in textiles and fashion. You won't believe the quality and originality of what they've produced! Tickets (\$15) at the ArtSpring Box Office. Last year we were sold out, so don't wait!

Sunday, July 27th

Demos, displays, music, animals, vendors: starting at 10:00 a.m., everything to do with fibre, all in one day! The Salt Spring Weavers and Spinners Guild has put together a sheep-to-shawl team – only they'll be working in silk from our own Treenway Silks – and a team from Camosun College think a sheep to shawl is way cool, and will be setting up their loom and spinning wheels as well.

The 4-H sheep group has learned to spin and knit just for the occasion, and will create a scarf in a modified sheep-to-sweater event. The Salt Spring Guild is using a Ruckle Farm fleece to create a sweater in a full version of the event.

A major exhibit of quilts – some antique, all hand-made – will be on display, as will a collection of heritage fabrics and fibre work.

Craftspeople – spinners, knitters, quilters, weavers, bead-makers – will demonstrate their skills throughout the day.

Christie Robley will be demonstrating sheep shearing, and Mike Lane will let his border collies show us how sheepdogs handle their flock.

Music – including spinners and weavers songs – on the Farmers Institute stage.

Vendors – selling fibres, felts, yarns; finished goods; food; and other locally made products.

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Aqualite classes ideal for taking it easier in the water

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

When it comes to boosting quality of life, members of one group tucked into Shelby Pool's busy schedule three hours each week have a secret they're willing to share.

On sunny afternoons they're the ones in the pool wearing sunhats and shades, stepping and whirling to music and the instructions of certified fitness instructor Rosemary Trump.

The Aqualite class is designed for people with any debilitating condition such as arthritis, fibromyalgia or Parkinson's disease, those recovering from an injury or surgery, or anyone wanting an easier kind of aquatic work-out.

It runs Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays from 2-3 p.m.

Twelve people came to the first class held this year, with most of them hooked on it from previous seasons. They followed Trump without hesitation as she led them through a veritable menu of moves, often using "noodles," the floating foam creations which are standbys in any swimming spot.

Every possible muscle group seemed spurred into



HOW ABOUT A LIFT? Lifeguard Stephanie King assists Aqualite participant Donna Flannery into the water with the Shelby Pool lift. Photo by Debbie Willis

action at some point during the one-hour class, in movements ranging from heel-toe steps to "kayak strokes"

while squeezing the noodle and walking backwards.

Sometimes participants were called on to exercise

their imaginations as well.

"Pretend you're on your brother's bike and it's too big for you, so it's a big stretch," said Trump at one point while describing a certain leg movement.

Then, for building abdominal muscles, the "wet sponge" image was useful.

"I want you to think of a giant, wet sponge here," she said, pointing to the magic spot. "And I want you to squeeze it dry."

Improved balance, flexibility, muscle tone and blood circulation are some of the results of Aqualite sessions.

"They all seem to feel better and better and more agile and more flexible," observed Trump about her "students," who she is obviously very fond of.

At the insistence of her sister Norma Selig, Helen Tara came to the class three years ago after being in a car accident.

Tara loves being in the summer class along with practising yoga for the rest of the year.

Selig used to attend other water fitness sessions but found she liked Aqualite better.

"By the end of August, you could measure the difference," she said. "I'm that

much more flexible . . ."

One class member recovering from a stroke even found Aqualite gave him the confidence to try working out at North End Fitness.

Ida Marie Threadkell has been coming to the class for eight years, since it began as a group for arthritis sufferers. But it soon broadened to include people with all kinds of exercise needs.

Some Aqualite swimmers find Shelby Pool's mechanical lift a real bonus for getting into the water or out of it with ease.

"It's really nice with the lift because if you're having a bad day you can use it," said Threadkell.

Having attended her first class on crutches due to a severe arthritic condition and benefiting enormously since then, Threadkell jokes that she's the Aqualite "poster child."

Trump and her class members are obviously sold on the benefits of water fitness not only for making every-

one feel better on a day-to-day basis, but because it helps prevent possible future injuries.

Strengthening core muscles and improving balance reduces the chance of falls, notes Trump.

She also stresses how supportive the group is, and that no one would feel out of place or uncomfortable about their physical limitations in Aqualite.

In fact, "safety" with Trump, the group and the three-dimensional support of the water were cited by various class members.

Admiration for their instructor - who adds to her training with regular workshop attendance and research - was also high on the list.

The only thing wrong with Aqualite, they said, is that it's not available year-round.

Anyone wanting to try the class or wondering if it's right for them can call Trump at 537-5988.

Durward hits 15th at world championships

Salt Spring's Lynn Durward shot into 15th place and defeated the reigning world champion in an elimination round at the 42nd annual World Archery Target Championships in New York City last week.

"I'm actually ecstatic," said Durward from the airport on Monday after the week-long trip. "If you get in the top 16 it's considered very good for the country."

Durward uses compound bows, which have sights and mechanisms to make pulling heavy tension easier, unlike the bows used in Olympic archery.

Over 500 archers from

across the globe competed in this year's world championship, she said.

The competition was split into two sections. During the first two days competitors shoot 144 arrows each, and later they compete against each other in shoot-offs in Central Park.

Durward was ranked 48th after the initial 144 arrows, which she thought was better than her average.

And in the elimination rounds, her shooting only got sharper.

"In the shoot-off, I defeated the reigning world champion and the person who beat me was the one who won the world title,"

she said.

All four women archers in Durward's compound-bow team placed in the top 35 and the men's compound-bow division took home a bronze medal.

"The Canadian team made its best performance in 20 years," she said.

Durward competed at the previous world competition in Beijing in 2001, where she placed 52nd.

The islander's next target is the Canadian national championships in a few weeks. The next world championships will be in Spain in two years.

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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	u 4:00 pm	*7:30 am	4:30 pm
x 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	11:10 am	8:10 pm
11:40 am	8:40 pm	12:10 noon	9:10 pm
n 12:40 pm	9:40 pm	1:10 pm	10:05 pm
1:40 pm	+10:35 pm	2:15 pm	+11:05 pm
3:00 pm		3:30 pm	

u Wed. sailings will be replaced by dangerous cargo sailing. No passengers.
n 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.
• Daily except Saturdays. *Daily except Saturdays & Sundays. + Saturdays only. x Daily except Sundays.

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BC FERRIES Schedule

Salt Spring Island (Fulford Harbour) - Swartz Bay Departures

IN EFFECT JUNE 26 CROSSING TIME: 35 MINUTES

Depart Fulford Harbour		Depart Swartz Bay	
6:20 am	Daily	7:00 am	Sat. only
7:45 am	Sat. only	7:10 am	Daily except Sat. & Sun.
8:00 am	Daily except Sat. & Sun.	8:30 am	Sat. only
9:15 am	Sat. only	9:00 am	Daily except Sat.
10:00 am	Daily except Sat.	10:00 am	Sat. only
10:45 am	Sat. only	11:00 am	Daily except Sat.
12:00 pm	Daily except Sat.	11:30 am	Sat. only
12:15 pm	Sat. only	1:00 pm	Daily except Sat.
2:00 pm	Daily	1:10 pm	Sat. only
4:00 pm	Daily	3:00 pm	Daily
6:00 pm	Daily	5:00 pm	Daily
8:00 pm	Daily	7:00 pm	Daily
		9:00 pm	Daily

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Shipley winners named

GOLF TEES

Maxine Whorley and Mike Morgan were Shipley Cup winners with a 66.5 score.

Gloria Lloyd and Don McMahon came in second place with 69, followed by Peter Schure and Irene Hawksworth with a "third place claim."

• In July 17 men's day play, Barry Scotton was first with 43 in a par points event.

Gundy McLeod came second with 42 points, Jack Mitchell and Gordon Thorne tied for third with 41, and Reg Winstone was fifth with 40.

Gus Mitchell was the 50/50 winner.

• Alice Fraser won both low gross (52) and low net (34) scores in the Most Honest Player event in nine-hole ladies play July 16.

Vi Austin was low gross runner-up with a 55 score, and Barb Davies was low net runner-up with 36.

However, Beryl Scott was declared "the most honest player" of the day.

Marg Lowther also had a chip-in on hole #1.

• Evans Cup winner in 18-hole ladies play was Eileen Botham with a 71. Pat Lavender and Bernie Cowan were runners-up with a 73.

Botham also won the putt pot.

Golfers not yet aged 65 competed for the "Un-Evans Cup," which was won by Janet Butler with a net 67.

• Spring Eclectic results were as follows: Melanie Iverson, low gross, 78; Lynda Joyce, 79, low gross runner-up; Maxine Whorley, 54, low net; Chris Locke, 55, low net runner-up.

• Joanna Barrett was low gross and low net winner in July 15 business ladies play, followed by Tricia Simpson in runner-up position.

Pam Ellacott earned a special putt pot score.

• Some \$22,000 was raised at the 23rd annual Ladies Heart Fund tournament at Uplands on July 16. Mona Coulter, Connie Hardy and Irene Hawksworth played on teams with net 61, 62 and 64. The winning team had a net 54 and the captain was presented with keys to a new car for her hole-in-one on #11.



LEAP OF FAITH: Salt Spring's A.J. is on top of the world as he soars through the air at the Kanaka Road skatepark, which recently received a new injection of funds from the RCMP.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Paired-up teams hit courts

Tennis players Ineke Van Hasselt and Diane Tremblay won the First Ladies Cup on Sunday, while the runner-up team was Ann Stewart and Pat Sutherland.

Players were paired up to create a more even playing field, said tournament organizer Carol Wright.

Similarly paired were the eight doubles teams competing in the men's President's Cup on Saturday.

Patrick Lee and Jeremy Winter won the event, and Richard Steel and Allan Bruce were runners-up.

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Top scores at archery shoot

Justin Temmel placed first in the first annual youth 3D archery shoot on Sunday by scoring 144 out of a possible 200 points, said Cliff Carey of the Rod and Gun Club.

Jeff Fraser came second, with 126 points, and Clay Sayer was third with 113.

"Those are good scores," said Carey. "To get 144, that's excellent."

Between 20 to 30 youths up to 16 years old competed in the event that involves shooting at three-dimensional targets.

After ribbons were awarded, the kids had a lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs and Glad's ice cream.

"It was good weather and a good time," said Carey.

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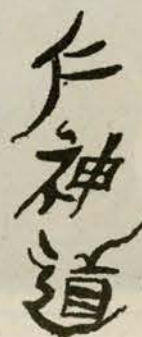
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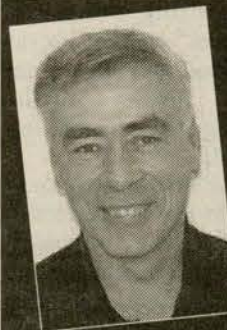
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Cyclists compete in 'brutal' event

Salt Springer Sandi Thibault biked from the base of Mount Washington to the top for her first bike race on Sunday.

Thibault came second amongst women and was 10th overall out of about 45 participants.

"I loved it. It's something I hope to continue doing," said Thibault, who admitted the 4,500-foot climb was not easy.

"It was brutal. I wouldn't recommend it as a first race, but I would do it again."

Thibault trains with islanders Bruce Grey and John Nilssen, who also rode the race.

"Bruce and John have been unbelievable mentors to me," she said. "I couldn't have done it without them."

Grey came in seventh overall, and Nilssen came in 15th, which was about 20 minutes faster than when he raced up the mountain six years ago and came last.

Riding uphill is difficult for people in his weight category, said Nilssen, and he was happy to keep Grey and Thibault in sight.

"It's kind of like a grizzly bear chasing a couple of jackrabbits," he said.

It took all three just over an hour to complete the 16-kilometre road bike race.

"It's comparable to some climbs that the Tour de France guys are doing," said Grey, who reached 84 km per hour zipping down the mountain. "It was hard work going up, but a reward on the way down."

Thibault was not so happy with the descent. "It's too freaky going down. I lost Bruce and John in the dust."

Grey also participated in a memorial race for his brother, Al Grey, at Whistler last Thursday.

Al Grey initiated the weekly "loonie" race 13 years ago, and the event which started with about 25 racers saw more than 300 last week.

Each participant pays a loonie, and the winner gets the money.

Bruce Grey did not get pockets of change, but he did place in the top third.



FOOD FAIR FUN:
Faevan Arbutus Barstead uses face paints and balloons to become a 'Kitty butterfly' at last weekend's food fair, held at Fulford Hall.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

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Swimmers endure pain week

Salt Spring Stingrays' "pain week" ended with victories small and large at the annual Sidney Sprint Challenge swim meet last weekend.

During their annual "pain week," swimmers undertook daytime activities — such as a mini-triathlon, early morning practice in Stowell Lake, and a beach boot camp — in addition to tougher practices.

Pain week marks the peak of training for swimmers and, although best times (BTs) are not an expected result of over-worked muscles, numerous swimmers managed to pull off personal bests at the weekend meet.

The meet included two additional features — the annual sprint challenge freestyle relay, and trophies for top male and female

aggregate winners in each division.

In the sprint relay, the sum of divisions for each team's participants could not exceed 15, unlike typical relays which are run within divisions.

One Salt Spring team — Miranda Logan-Webb (Div. 6), Sarah Penhale (4), Danica Lundy (3) and Sierra Lundy (2) — just missed the sprint challenge podium by taking third spot, while the boys' team of Brendan Nickerson, Isaac Raddysh, James Cameron (all Div. 4) and Julian Smith (3) just missed the semi-finals by placing fifth.

Salt Spring also came home with an aggregate trophy when Sierra Lundy won the most points (two firsts, three seconds) for Div. 2 girls at the meet.

Watch next week's Driftwood for sprint challenge BTs and top-eight placements, which were not available as the Driftwood went to press Tuesday.

The Stingrays get one week's reprieve before heading to Commonwealth pool for the regional championships (August 2-3), at which the top three swimmers in each event will qualify for the provincial championships.

This year the Vancouver Island region is hosting the provincial championships, set for August 15-17, at the Commonwealth pool.

Top bowlers named

Recent summer bowling league high scores are as follows:

Special Olympics, July 2: Gloria Dale, 154, Sharon Way, 187, Andrew Kryzan, 141.

June 25: Jason Newport, 143, Mahjor Bains, 158.

Summer league, July 3: Lance Leask, 205, 254; Ken Ditlof, 235.

June 26: Ken Ditlof, 233/613; Lance Leask, 245/642; Dan Bedford, 223, 287, 290/800; Shirley Palmateer, 200, 229/624; David Carey, 205.

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Karghai	3'9"x7'	\$1,150	\$550
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