

\$1.25
(incl. GST)

Wednesday,
November 12, 2003

43rd year
Issue 46

328 Lower Ganges Road,
Salt Spring Island, B.C.
V8K 2V3
Tel: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613
Toll-free: 1-877-537-9934
e-mail: driftwood@gulfislands.net
editorial: news@gulfislands.net
Website: www.gulfislands.net

Driftwood

S.S.I. HISTORICAL ARCHIVES
129 MCPHILLIPS AVE.
SALT SPRING ISLAND BC V8K 2T6

12/31/03

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Fields
- Ganges
- Pharmasave
- Ganges Village Market
- Thrifty Foods
- Home Hardware
- Gulf Islands Real Estate

SECTION B

B



A love of baskets

A look at Salt Spring's basketry guild weaves insights into an honoured art form. Page B1

Index

- Arts B1
- Classifieds B15
- Crosswords B18
- Editorials A8
- Horoscope B19
- Letters A9
- Sports B9
- TV Listings B7
- What's On B14



PARADE FOR THE PAST:

Remembrance Day ceremonies kick off on Salt Spring as members of Branch 92 Legion march past Mouat's Hardware en route to Centennial Park. Several hundred people gathered in the park yesterday (Tuesday) to honour war veterans. More photos, Page A24.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Car thief pursuit ends after six-kms

Salt Spring RCMP officers caught a car thief after he fled from police in a high-speed chase that raced over six kilometres of island roads in the Mount Maxwell area early Sunday morning.

A 20-year-old Salt Spring man appeared in Victoria Court Monday after he was charged with theft over \$5,000, flight from police, dangerous driving, impaired driving and refusal to provide a breath

sample, RCMP reported.

"Members were quite happy the driver stopped and gave himself up, because there was no incident to the arrest. Everybody was fine, nobody was hurt and that's what counts," said Const. Lindsay Ellis.

Police received a 911 call from an island resident who reported a vehicle being stolen from his driveway at 12:40 a.m. Sunday.

Upon receiving the com-

plaint, RCMP officers made patrols for the vehicle and located it in downtown Ganges at 1:16 a.m. But when police attempted to stop the vehicle, a pursuit ensued, Ellis said.

"We were not aware of who was driving the vehicle when the pursuit was ongoing."

Ellis believes the Salt Spring detachment has only had one other vehicle pursuit

CHASE A3

B.C. slaughter regulations irk local farmers

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

One case of "Mad Cow" disease discovered in Alberta earlier this year has spooked the provincial government into tightening meat-inspection regulations that could push some local farmers out of business.

"This thing is incredibly ridiculous and we're pretty upset by it," said Saturna Island sheep and cattle rancher Jim Campbell.

His family has operated a farm on Saturna since 1946 and flocks of visitors have hit the island's famous lamb barbeque in the last 54 years.

"We've served 40,000 uninspected meals to our annual lamb barbeque [over the years]."

But the Campbell Farm may have to discontinue sales of fresh-cut meat as a result of extensive changes to meat inspection regulations in the 2002 Food Safety Act, re-drafted in March this year after BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy or Mad Cow disease) was found in Canada.

"We don't have any Mad Cow risk in B.C.," Campbell said.

And he believes the new meat inspection regulations will have a dramatic effect on his operations.

"No meat will be allowed to be sold by anybody."

The new system could require ante-and post-mortem inspection of all animals by a government inspector.

MEAT INSPECTION A2

Meeting dissects CRD functions

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

While only about 10 members of the public attended Saturday's town hall meeting, they got all the poop on Salt Spring liquid waste, building inspection and parks and recreation funding in an intimate local government immersion session.

Those making presentations for the various Capital Regional District (CRD) commissions, who were largely volunteers, elected officials and three CRD staff-

people accounted for the bulk of attendees.

"At least we're outnumbered," observed trustee Eric Booth from the head table manned by himself, fellow trustee Kimberly Lineger, regional director Gary Holman, and Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission (PARC) chair Bill Curtin, with other speakers taking turns at the front.

Holman said the idea behind the meeting was to make the CRD functions more transparent to the com-

munity, as is the case with Islands Trust operations.

The CRD collects about \$2.4 million in taxes from Salt Spring property owners, he said, with about half that amount to pay for locally delivered services.

The meeting learned that CRD taxes should go up in the following areas:

- According to a PARC budget sheet, the commission plans to request CRD board approval for \$74,600 more in property tax support.

TOWN HALL MEETING A3

Arlene for Mortgages
537-4090



Weather

Cloudy skies and showers are predicted right through the weekend. Highs to 10 C most days; overnight lows to 4 C.

Internet Solutions
High Speed ADSL
Web Hosting

www.imagen.ca
Local
Email Address
Hardware
Sales & Service

537-1950
imagen

1-877-537-7200
Toll Free

"Island Realtor since 1991!"
MYLES WILSON
537-7200
Salt Spring Realty
ROYAL LEPAGE
mysleswilson.com

Budget

Car and Truck Sales

BUDGET CAR SALES VICTORIA

OVER 100 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM

- No payments for 6 months
- 30 day money back guarantee
- No money down
- 0% interest for one year

2224 Douglas St., Victoria 1-866-955-5353

MEAT INSPECTION

From Page A1

"We would have to do some significant upgrades to our slaughterhouse office," Campbell said.

New regulations for slaughterhouses could also require a private office with a washroom, desk and a locking cabinet for the inspector, he said.

Campbell is also concerned about provisions that might require slaughterhouses to pay for inspection, previously borne by government, likely at professional rates comparable to a veterinarian, he said.

"It's a crime if we don't provide all of these things."

His small crew of three or four workers might only slaughter 10-12 lambs in a week.

"If we had to pay an inspector at veterinarian fees, he's going to have to be there four to five hours and we'll have to bring him from somewhere. It will be totally unrealistic."

Campbell was also upset because he hadn't been notified by the government before he learned of a December 1 deadline for stakeholder input this week.

"I met with the executive director and she promised us she would inform us when they went to the public."

Salt Spring Island sheep farmer Bev Byron has heard about proposed changes to regulations but is uncertain whether the regulations will pertain to small farms.

"I really can't say much until I find out a little bit more."

She found a copy of the draft meat inspection regulations but she would like clarification of terms related to the Food Safety Act.

"Are we called by definition in the act an 'industry stakeholder'? I don't know that. The stakeholders could be people who have proper slaughterhouse facilities, that may be who they are targeting."

Byron hopes to learn more about the meat-inspection matter at a Farmers' Institute meeting

scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight (Wednesday).

Farmers' Institute director Tony Threlfall confirmed that members will talk about sending a letter to request an extension on the deadline but there won't be much further discussion on the matter.

"There won't be any discussion about meat inspection because we don't know anything about the new regulations."

Threlfall believes publicity of the proposed changes has been flawed.

"Some of our people found out about it by accident. The way they've gone about publicizing it is to not publicize it . . . It's not every day that you search the internet looking for changes to meat inspection regulations."

Other than information posted on the web, only licenced abattoirs received notification about the draft regulations, he said.

"We don't have any of that kind of operation on the island."

Threlfall believes that farm-gate sales comprise 99.9 per cent of farm sales on Salt Spring. Consequently he's hopeful that local farms will not be affected by the changes.

Health Protection Planning Division executive director Kersteen Johnston appeared equally uncertain of ramifications to small-scale operations.

"It just depends on the size. If they are selling their product publicly out of a venue, it has the potential to [fall under new regulations]."

She noted that the meat inspection regulations would cover all slaughter establishments except those registered under the Meat Inspection Act of Canada or those where an animal is slaughtered for the sole use of the owner and not for sale.

"Presumably, if you sell a couple of lambs, it's for sale."

The ministry is asking for feedback on the meat inspection regulations and specifically what it means in terms of implementation, she said.

"We may come up with different rules and different ways of doing things, depending on size and what you do with your product."

Johnston recognizes that farmers might feel some anxiety about what new regulations will mean for small operations.

"We're going to meet with folks and they can ask us a whole bunch of questions and hopefully we'll be able to answer them."

She has already heard from some groups who have asked for an extension on the response deadline.

"What we've actually done is gone to [Health Services Minister Colin] Hansen and asked if we can defer or extend that consultation date, given people's concerns, and so we're just waiting for his response."

And she expects the minister to respond favourably to an extension.

"He'll be interested in making sure that everybody has had their chance to hear what this is all about and give it consideration."

Timelines are another matter under discussion, she said.

"It doesn't mean immediate implementation. We're trying to come up with some reasonable implementation date that works for people, knowing that some people may have to make some changes."

The ministry notified as many different stakeholders as they could, which was approximately 100, she said.

While the regulations could affect the slaughter of all meat-producing animals, beef will be the primary target, she said.

"We are definitely looking at those that are dealing in the product of beef first because that's what's on everybody's minds these days."

AT THE PUMPS

Gas pump prices as of Monday, November 10, were as follows:

Salt Spring Payless	85.9
McCull's Shell	85.9
Patterson's Store	82.9
Save-On Gas	85.9
Crofton Shell	73.9
Parkdale Shell (Victoria)	76.9

FIRE CALLS

Fire chief Dave Enfield wants residents to call the Ganges fire hall before they start fires.

He said the department has responded to several calls for burn piles that had gotten out of control.

Under Salt Spring Island burning regulations, hand piles must remain under two metres in diameter and one-and-a-half metres in height, he said. The piles should be in an open area and no closer than 10 metres from any structure.

• Early morning walkers called 911 to report that one of the ramps at the Kanaka Road skateboard park was on fire. Firefighter Jamie Holmes said the department received a call at 6 a.m.

When the firefighters arrived at the park, Holmes said they knew the police should also be there.

"We found jerry cans of fuel. It was pretty suspicious in nature," he said.

Family Dentistry On Scott Point

Dr. Helen Johnston

404 Scott Point Drive
Salt Spring Island, B.C.
V8K 2R2

Tel: (250) 537-4059
Fax: (250) 537-4079
helennjohnston@saltspring.com

Built to last. Priced to sell.®

SAVE \$20
\$99.95



STIHL BGE 60 ELECTRIC BLOWER
• Lightweight and quiet
• yet powerful - delivers 235 km/h air velocity

SAVE \$20
\$269.95



STIHL SH55 BLOWER/SHREDDER/VAC
• High-grade steel shredder blade reduces leaves and debris to one-tenth the volume (ideal for use as mulch)
• Low noise operation • Quickly converts to BG 55 Blower

HARBOURS END MARINE & EQUIPMENT

122 Upper Ganges Rd. at the head of Ganges Harbour
Mon. - Fri. 8:30am - 5pm
Saturdays 8:30am-1pm
537-4202

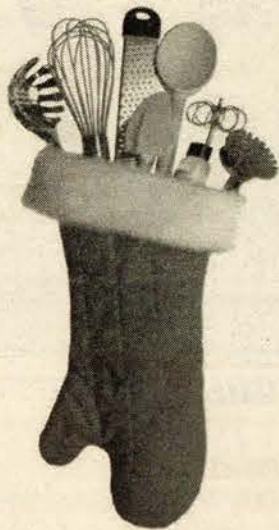
Tide Tables

AT FULFORD HARBOUR
Pacific Standard Time - measured in feet
sponsored by Harbours End Marine & Equipment Ltd.

NOV	0005	2.0	16	0250	3.0
12	0845	11.2	SU	1145	11.2
WE	1415	9.5			
	1615	9.5			
13	0040	2.0	17	0345	3.6
TH	0935	11.2	MO	1220	11.2
				2005	7.5
				2115	7.5
14	0115	2.0	18	0445	4.3
FR	1020	11.2	TU	1250	11.2
				1955	6.6
15	0200	2.6	19	0000	7.5
SA	1105	11.2	WE	0550	4.9
				1315	10.8
				2010	5.6

CLASSIFIED HOTLINE: 537-9933

Our Stuffing Recipes.



We hardly need to remind you it's that time of year again. Nor do we need to mention that when it comes to gift ideas, sometimes the little things can be the hardest things.

Our stores are full of many small, wonderful and eminently stuffable items for kitchens, beds and baths - from the unexpected to the irresistible. Indeed, the only thing we absolutely won't be able to provide you with is a stocking.

But who says you have to stuff a stocking?

**muffet
louisa**

SIDNEY - 2389 Beacon Avenue 656-0011 Toll Free 1-800-656-5575
MARKET SQUARE - 1437 Store Street 382-3201 Toll Free 1-866-382-3201

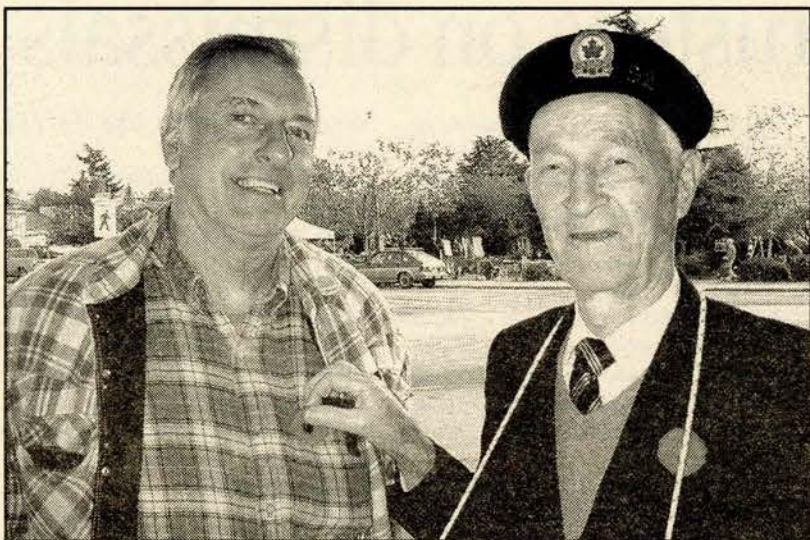
Salt Spring's 27th Annual Guilds of Christmas Sale

Friday Nov. 21 ~ Sunday Nov. 30

Painting ♦ Pottery
Floral ♦ Herbal
Basketry ♦ Jewelry
Woodwork ♦ Glass
Weaving ♦ Clothing
Toys ♦ Dolls
~ And More ~

~ Please join in a fine Holiday Tradition ~
at historic Mahon Hall
Downtown Ganges - Salt Spring Island
Open Daily 10am - 5pm
Gift Wrapping and Shipping Available

Presented by the Gulf Islands Community Arts Council • For more info: (250) 537-0899



POCKET POPPY: Don Dabbs places a poppy on Ray Fraser's shirt as the two islanders prepare for Remembrance Day.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

TOWN HALL MEETING

From Page A1

(See separate story).

- Salt Spring's public library association is requesting a \$2,000 increase from last year's \$62,400 in tax support received.

- Holman hopes to include Salt Spring in the CRD's stormwater management program, estimated at \$15,000 island-wide. It would provide some strategic planning resources, especially when it comes to trying to protect the island's drinking water lakes, he said.

- Salt Spring's share of CRD-wide services, including the hospital district function, will likely increase, although figures are not available yet.

- The liquid waste service to run the Burgoyne Bay septage operation should see a \$5 hike in the current \$25 parcel tax, with tipping fees also rising from 19.5 to 22.5 cents per gallon.

- Local liquid waste committee chair George Ehring gave a thorough and captivating account of the operation that processes about 900,000 Imperial gallons of liquid waste annually, with about 500,000 of that from the Ganges Sewer system.

- Ehring said the resulting solids are now shipped to a commercial composting facility in Saanich, but that may change in future.

- "We'd like to be able to do composting here," he said.

- The Salt Spring Island Emergency Program should receive \$5,000 more in 2004, although its budget was reduced by about \$10,000 the previous year due to accumulating surpluses.

- Building inspector Dick Stubbs (who also sits on the

emergency program commission) said islanders could possibly see reductions in the requisition for building inspection. The requisition was reduced to \$101,027 from \$129,826 between 2002 and 2003.

Stubbs noted that income received from building permit fees on Salt Spring more than covers cost of the service.

The building inspection office is busy these days, added Stubbs.

"We have a lot on the boards right now."

Permits for 90 single family dwellings have been issued on Salt Spring this year, he said.

Other news arising from the meeting included:

- Ganges Sewer committee chair Tom Toynbee outlined some challenges facing the village sewer system, including an ability to handle peak loads during the summer.

- A study on how to deal with the problems is set to begin next year, he said.

- The average residential property in the Ganges Sewer area paid \$388 last year for sewer service, up from \$342 in 2002, he said.

- Island Arts Centre Society president Norbert Schlenker and Gulf Islands Community Arts Council president Lorna Cammaert outlined the proposal to establish a CRD arts service that would assure some annual funding for their two groups.

- Counterpetition forms, which should be signed by people opposing the introduction of an annual tax levy, should be available at the CRD building inspection

office as of November 19.

"I hope all of you won't sign the counterpetition and we'll have a new arts service," said Schlenker.

- Library board chair Garth Hendren reported that some 600 surveys on library issues, including future location, had been returned as of the November 3 cut-off date. He noted it was not a random or scientific survey.

"We are as close as we can get for a fraction of the cost."

- CRD assistant solid waste division manager John Craveiro reported that the Salt Spring Solid Waste Advisory Committee was looking at chipping the island's wood waste as an alternative to burning it. The Salt Spring Garbage Service transfer station on Blackburn Road had continued burning wood waste contrary to the transfer station bylaw, which came into effect last year, he noted.

- A chipped wood product could be used for trails, as pulp mill fuel or a bulking carbon agent in a sludge composting process.

- Fernwood Dock commission chair Peter Lake described the last few years of tumultuous dock history as responsibility was transferred from the federal government to a newly created commission of the CRD. A \$2.75 annual parcel tax may be considered in future years, he said, but about \$300,000 in funds received from the feds are taking care of current upgrade and maintenance needs.

- The meeting also discussed the Islands Trust governance renewal proposal. (See separate story.)

CHASE

From Page A1

in the past five years.

"They are very dangerous."

Police can only pursue vehicles if they believe someone has committed or would commit an indictable offence, she said.

"We take into consideration the weather conditions, the road conditions and how many people are around."

Available assistance is also a factor, she noted.

"If there is any danger to the public that we perceive, we shut down the pursuit; we disengage from it."

RCMP are also obliged to protect the safety of the driver who is being pursued, she said.

"If they're driving in a really erratic manner or there's a lot of people around or they're going to get into an accident, we have the liability, so we disengage."

Fortunately, no one was on the roads when the pursuit occurred, she said.

Two police vehicles were involved in the chase that lasted approximately five minutes. The driver surrendered peacefully.

"The maximum speed attained was 90 kilometres per hour."

A local vehicle owner was happy to have their new-model vehicle back unharmed, she noted.

"They're relieved that nothing happened and that no one was hurt."

Salt Spring RCMP remind motorists that it is illegal and dangerous to leave keys inside a vehicle when it is unattended. The fine for leaving a vehicle insecure is \$115 under the Motor Vehicle Act.

"Most [stolen] vehicles on this island that I'm aware of have had the keys in the vehicle and there's been a few thefts of vehicles lately."

"For the earth, of the earth."

www.sirewall.com 537-9355

HOLISTIC BODY MASSAGE

Complete with hot towels, facial steam & 100% Pure Essential Oils

RELAX AND REPLENISH

For appointments call Kindred @ 633-9797

TOM NAVRATIL 537-5515 (250)
e-mail: tomas@islandnet.com
www.saltspringhomes.com
RESIDENTIAL * WATERFRONTS * LAND * COMMERCIAL

HEAR THE SURF & WATCH THE BOATS

Exceptional oceanview property, steps from the nicest beach on Salt Spring! 3+ bedrooms, 3 baths, cherry wood floors throughout, kitchen with granite countertops - just about everything is new!

\$479,000
Call Tom Navratil

ROYAL LEPAGE

SALT SPRING REALTY
1101-115 Fulford Ganges Rd
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T9

Scheduled flights now available!

Are you looking for an air service that understands an Islander's schedule? We are now offering scheduled flights including a direct service to Downtown Vancouver.

Downtown Vancouver <small>overseas</small> \$90
Departing Ganges Harbour Direct Service 7:40am Mon-Sat One Stop 2:30pm Mon-Sat
Departing Downtown Vancouver One Stop 8:30am Mon-Sat Direct Service 3:30pm Mon-Sat
Vancouver Airport <small>overseas</small> \$66
Departing Ganges & Gulf Islands Mon-Sat 10:00am, 2:30pm
Departing Vancouver Airport Mon-Sat 9:00am, 11:00am, 3:00pm

Other flight availability and departure times, please phone 1-877-537-9880

Freight service available

Charter flights available to many destinations

Enjoy a coffee at our waiting lounge - La Cucina Restaurant while you wait for your pilot to come and assist you in boarding the aircraft

SALTSPRINGAIR
book online: www.saltspringair.com
or give us a call 537-9880

Do you operate an office downtown?

Is your last available piece of office space consumed by "closed" files, tax receipts, old but necessary folders and documents? Make that space work profitably for you.

CONSIDER STORAGE

SALT SPRING MINI STORAGE
537-5888

"When convenience and security matter"

NATURAL GOODNESS at Embe Bakery

This week at Embe we have featured our spicy jalapeno and cheese bread made with cheddar and assiago cheeses and sliced jalapenos with garlic and basil spices. We also have our great granola bars and our moist carrot cake slices.

Jalapeno & Cheese Bread
reg \$2.70 ... \$2.00/loaf

Granola Bars
reg \$1.05 75¢ ea

Carrot Cake Slices
reg \$1.35 99¢ ea.

You can find these and many more specially prepared treats at our bakery at the foot of the hill, or by reserving your order at 537-5611

Open: Mon - Sat, 4:30am - 5:30pm
Closed Sundays for now

PS - Thanks to all our customers for coming in and enjoying coffee & cake

seair SEAPLANES

1-800-447-3247
604-273-8900

FREQUENT FLYER DISCOUNTS

3 Scheduled Flights Daily Between Vancouver & the Gulf Islands

DEPARTS VANCOUVER AIRPORT
7:30 am / 11:30 am / 3:30 pm

DEPARTS GANGES AND THE GULF ISLANDS
8:00 am / 12:00 pm / 4:00 pm

GANGES HARBOUR • Montague Harbour • Port Washington
Lyall Harbour • Telegraph Harbour • Miners Bay
www.seairseaplanes.com

Residents still questioning fire trustees on dismissals

By CAREY RUDISILL
Staff Writer

Questions about the dismissal of volunteer firefighters Bruce Patterson and Jeff Outerbridge persisted when a handful of people attended the monthly meeting of fire protection district trustees held Monday night.

Some people said they still wanted resolution of public concerns regarding the matter.

But trustee Ben Martens said the issue was resolved for the board, as explained in a one-sentence notice from trustees issued last month.

That notice stated: "In the matter of the release of Jeff Outerbridge and Bruce Patterson

as volunteer members of the Salt Spring Island Fire Department, the board of trustees, after due deliberation and consideration of all matters that have come to their attention in this regard have decided that the release of the aforementioned Outerbridge and Patterson from their duties as volunteer members of the Salt Spring Island Fire Department stands in full force and effect."

Martens said Monday, "Nothing has changed."

Several audience members disagreed with Martens, stating the issue was not clear and had not been dealt with to their satisfaction.

Beaver Point resident Ken Lee

asked why the firefighters had been dismissed.

"You've got a crisis here and your responses, from what I can see, are vague," said Lee.

Audience member and firefighter Jim Buckley asked why the department hadn't hired a mediator.

Martens said he didn't think one was necessary.

Conversation volleyed back and forth between board and audience members.

When asked what the firefighters had done to be dismissed, Martens said little antagonisms had been going on for three years.

"There was a whole series of

issues that disrupted the harmony of the department as a whole. It's like someone pinching your arm. Eventually you ask 'why are you doing this?' They didn't give a reason and kept doing it.

"We've had countless meetings. Finally we said 'it's got to stop.' It's got to be out in the open. There are rules and regulations. Management has to take measures sometimes," said Martens.

Trustee Don Irwin said the problem was a "little disease," but ultimately an internal matter.

"[Outerbridge and Patterson] couldn't get along with the new board. They're the old-timers.

Maybe they didn't like the new way," he said.

Audience member Trudy Lynch asked if the fire department was still divided over the issue.

"To an extent," said Martens. "They have been divided for some time but I think they're starting to get together."

Between the two of them, Outerbridge and Patterson had volunteered with the department for over 30 years.

They were officially removed from their positions on August 6, following suspensions in July.

A public outcry and demand for their reinstatement ensued.

MLA Coell meets up with quarry opponents

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Local MLA Murray Coell has urged islanders to request reports about a proposed Jasper Road quarry.

"We had a really productive meeting with Minister Coell," said Stewart Road Residents' Association (SRRA) member Rosey Brenan.

Coell and SRRA members met at his Sidney constituency office Friday and reviewed a letter sent by Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) inspector

Bruce Reid to applicant Larry Bader of Salt Spring Rock Products on October 6, she said.

"Mr. Coell suggested that we write to Bruce Reid and ask, not just that the mine applicant be prepared to answer questions, but that he provide written reports on these issues."

The MEM letter requested that Bader convene a public information meeting where he could address community concerns on a number of issues prior to final consideration of his quarry application.

The letter also requests

considerable supplementary documentation to address issues identified through the public consultation process.

"It is highly recommended that this meeting be postponed until all requested supplementary documentation has been prepared and made available for a 30-day period of public review," Reid wrote.

Issues of concern include: identification of proposed haulage routes and estimates of average and peak truck frequency; a detailed spillage plan; and an outline of domestic

water supply and sanitation strategies.

Reid also requested a blasting-impact assessment, acid-rock drainage and metal-leaching assessments and a geotechnical wall stability evaluation.

Further MEM environmental assessments require recommendations for mitigating potential pit impacts on water quality, surface water, groundwater flow patterns and pit-related noise and dust.

Reid also noted that zoning restrictions may impact Bader's ability to operate a quarry within

lands regulated by the Islands Trust.

The eight-member SRRA contingent also showed Coell a neighbourhood map with projections of a "fly rock" radius around potential quarry operations at the site, she said.

SRRA member Michael Wall noted that Coell agreed to facilitate a meeting between the group and Minister of Energy and Mines, Rick Neufeld, in the near future.

"We look forward to being able to discuss our concerns with the minister responsible," Wall said.

Marina money placed in Trust hands

The float home at Ganges Marina may have earned the temporary use permit (TUP) it needs to stay on site through redevelopment of the marina property.

B&B Ganges Marina has provided the Islands Trust with a \$16,506.87 letter of credit required as a final condition for issuance of the TUP.

The bond would cover the Trust's costs of removing and storing the float home, if that should become necessary.

Trust planner Mark Head said Monday the letter of credit was received by the Ganges Trust office, but is in the process of

being reviewed to ensure it meets Trust requirements.

"It was to be submitted in a form acceptable to the Islands Trust — irrevocable and unconditional — so we are just checking the status of the conditions on it to see that they are OK.

"It was their intent to meet our deadline and they did, so I think it is just a matter of resolving the final format."

B&B Ganges Marina has applied for a rezoning of its lands to accommodate residential and commercial uses, while completing its part of the boardwalk and leaving some waterfront areas for park use.

The company proposes to use the float home as a construction and project management office, for which a TUP is required.

Once a development permit is issued, it can be used for washrooms, showers, laundry, storage,

marina retail, administration and one dwelling unit accessory to the marina operation.

The structure was used this year without permits for a variety of commercial purposes, including a "boatel."



Visit our website:
www.meritfurniture.com

**FURNITURE
APPLIANCES
MATTRESSES**

Over 20,000 sq. ft.
of inventory

**MERIT
FURNITURE**
1-250-746-5527

Located in the old Country Grocer Building
2956 BOYS ROAD, DUNCAN / Locally owned
Open Mon.-Sat. 9:30 - 6., Sun. 12 - 5

**CLASSIFIED HOTLINE:
537-9933**

Are you living on income from your investments?

...ARE THEY TAX EFFICIENT?

Call a trusted local Professional

**BERKSHIRE
SECURITIES INC.**
Martin J. Hoogerdyk
Certified
Financial Planner
537-1730
GRACE POINT SQUARE
(across from Bank of Montreal)
mhoogerdyk@berkshire.ca

COME WATCH THE CANUCKS WITH US

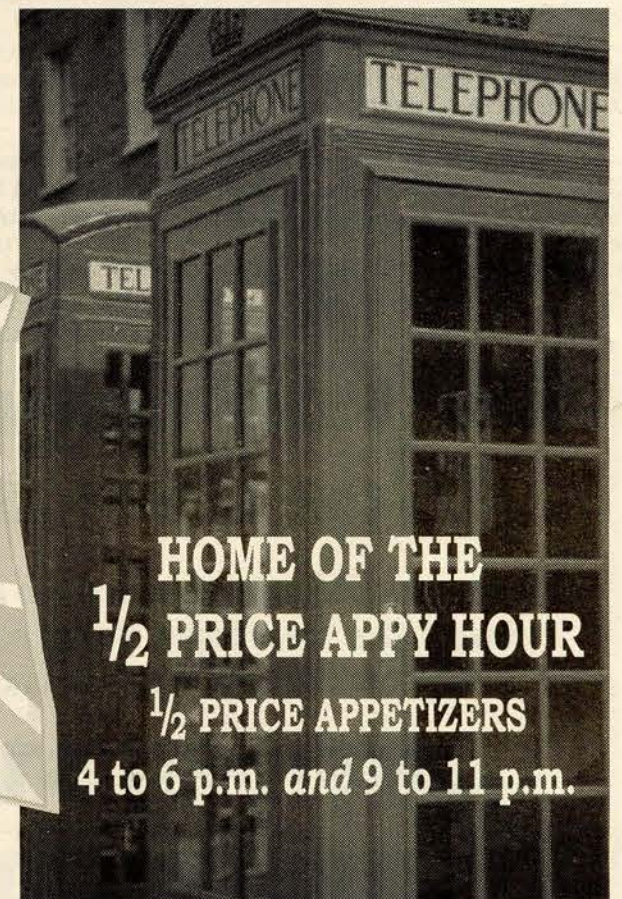
SHIPSTONES ENGLISH PUB

APPETIZERS

- Hot Drums (all sauces available)
- Seasoned Fries
- Crab & Shrimp Stuffed Mushrooms
- Calamari
- Caesar Salad
- Goat Cheese and Garlic
- Cheese Bread
- 3/4 lb. Mussels (Garlic or Saffron)
- Chicken Strips
- Dry Ribs

PUB FARE

- Fresh Oysters on the half shell
- Fish & Chips
- 1/2 Rack of Ribs
- Beef Dip with Fries
- Quesadillas - Chicken or Shrimp
- Shipstone Burger
- Farmer's Platter
- Steak & Mushroom Pie
- Chicken & Veggie Pie



HOME OF THE
1/2 PRICE APPY HOUR
1/2 PRICE APPETIZERS
4 to 6 p.m. and 9 to 11 p.m.

ON THE DOCK
BENEATH THE OYSTERCATCHER
Oystercatcher menu available at all times

Brad Bench —
manufactured on-site by Gabriel Ross

gabriel ross
FURNITURE | LIGHTING | HOME ACCESSORIES | BED LINENS

589 A Bay Street in Victoria
Phone 250-384-2554 / www.gabrielross.ca



THANKS A BUNCH: Meredith Knox, chair of the Salt Spring Crime Prevention Association, presents Oystercatcher Restaurant and Island Star Video gift certificates to five RCMP officers who worked understaffed by two constables during the summer, putting in many extra hours and giving up vacation time. From left, Cpl. Dave Voller, new officer Jeff Swan, from Barriere, B.C., Sgt. Mike Giles, Const. Paul Ellis, Const. Lindsay Ellis, Knox, Const. Martin Beardsmore and brand new recruit Aaron McGiffin.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Coast guard auxiliary seeks male and female volunteers

The local coast guard auxiliary is looking for men and women who are partial to wearing orange suits on the water, while learning top-level marine search and rescue skills.

Gulf Islands Marine Rescue Society president Amarah Gabriel said the auxiliary needs new volunteers.

The society has extended its volunteer application deadline from October 22 to November 20, said Gabriel, because it hadn't received enough applicants.

She said the Gulf Islands auxiliary has 42 members, including about 20 Salt Spring residents.

"What happens is you always lose a couple people a year. They move or become ill. You always have to have new people starting. Somebody's going to have a baby," she said.

The society recruits new members each fall for its winter training period.

"We want people who are willing to make a commitment," said Gabriel.

Potential volunteers must also have boating experience, live within 15 minutes of Ganges, be able to carry a pager for one week each month and be in good health.

Training is held every Thursday. Auxiliary members receive classroom and on-the-water training in all aspects of boat safety, boat handling, first aid, and search and rescue techniques.

"Two weeks out of the month we go out on the water with the [regular] coast guard [members]," said Gabriel.

While volunteers gain skills, there is also a larger picture, she said.

"The serious side is that it's all about saving lives," she said.

Members also go out with other auxiliary groups from the area.

"It's quite exciting being out there with other people in orange boat suits," she said.

As a group, the auxiliary has a "nice mix" of individuals, she added.

"One of the interesting things about this unit is that we have a lot of people with different backgrounds," said Gabriel. "We have a realtor, town planner, marine biologist, artist and a theatre director."

Gabriel added that there's a good balance between men and women. "A lot of women might be hesitant to join, thinking that's it all male. But it's very equal opportunity," she said.

The society is comprised of Salt Spring, Pender and Galiano island volunteers, who are also involved in fundraising, said Gabriel.

Applications can be picked up and dropped off at the front desk of the Royal LePage realty office in Grace Point Square.

Search for man turns up pot

By CAREY RUDISILL
Staff Writer

Ganges Coast Guard personnel responded to a November 4 call that began as a missing persons report and ended with the discovery of a kayak loaded with marijuana.

Leading seaman Dan Harvey, who was officer in charge last Tuesday, said the missing person call came at 11:45 a.m. from the Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RCC).

Skua and Ganges 1 arrived in Victoria and acted as on-scene commanders for the search.

Harvey said the call was long and convoluted, filled with mixed reports from a man who was found on the shore in the Ten Mile Point area. The man claimed he and another man named "Jeff" had left Sidney on two white jet skis the previous evening.

The man said he had fallen off his watercraft and lost track of his companion.

Authorities conducted an extensive search. Coast guard auxiliary from Sidney, Oak Bay and Victoria helped cover water and shoreline from Haro Strait to Trial Island.

A Buffalo aircraft from CFB Comox was also called in to assist.

Harvey said the original report was that the man who made it to the beach was a 31-year-old male from Saanich.

"During the call there were a lot of mixed reports from the rescued person from the water. [Conversations between search groups] went back and forth every 15 minutes. The story changed," he said.

The man was later determined to be a U.S. citizen from California and the missing man was never located.

What searchers did find was a kayak containing sealed bags of marijuana. Shortly after 1 p.m., a passing sailboater from the Royal Victoria Yacht Club found the kayak on rocks in the Ten Mile Point area near Baynes Channel.

The kayak was outfitted

with a small battery-powered electric outboard.

Oak Bay's auxiliary found several bags floating nearby. In total, searchers discovered 33 kilograms of marijuana.

Harvey said the man was headed to the U.S. but weather pushed him off-course.

"He was trying to go from Sidney to the San Juan Islands and was forced south in the tide, pushed south in the strong ebb tide and basically as a result he ended up at Ten Mile Point and exited the kayak due to strong weather conditions," he said.

RCC called off the search for the second man shortly after 5 p.m.

The man, kayak and its contents were turned over to Victoria police and an investigation is ongoing.

Reception and Open House

Hosts
Investment Advisors
Steve Somersel and R. Jomi Ganderton

Take home your complimentary "How to Make Money in the Current Markets" advice package including:

- Current equity market analysis and recommendations
- Current Income Trust analysis and recommendations
- Fixed income rate information and investment options
- Tax efficient investing
- Upcoming seminar schedule and topic information

Wednesday, November 26th, 2003

2:00PM-4:30PM

BMO Nesbitt Burns

152A Fulford Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island

BMO Nesbitt Burns
A member of BMO Financial Group

Due to limited space, RSVP is required. Please call Sharon Kowal at 537-1654. Refreshments will be served.

* BMO Nesbitt Burns is a registered trademark of Bank of Montreal, used under license. BMO Nesbitt Burns is a registered trademark of BMO Nesbitt Burns Corporation Limited, used under license.

Does your property or estate require professional management?



Karen Willett, B.A.
Starkey International
Certified Household Manager

I can oversee all aspects of managing a large property. Including:

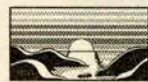
- Ensuring your home and grounds are kept
- Managing staff and vendors
- Special events
- Financial & budget management

All the myriad details of life, so that you can be free to handle more important matters.

Local & professional references available.

Appointments arranged

(ph) 537-9943 (cell) 537-7736



SCHOOL DISTRICT #64 (GULF ISLANDS) IS CHANGING

School District 64 (Gulf Islands) needs to change in order that we may continue to thrive and provide our students with an excellent public education.

WHY?

Because enrolment in the district and government funding are both decreasing. In order to continue to provide the wide range of required services for our students, we need to be flexible and open to new and innovative practices.

HOW?

We've formed a *Futures Task Force*, made up of people from all islands which we serve. The mandate of the Task Force is to challenge us to do what we do now in different and better ways. We welcome all suggestions.

WE INVITE ALL OF OUR ISLAND COMMUNITIES TO JOIN US.

We need and want your help. We will be going to all of our communities twice this year; the first time to ask for ideas and suggestions, and the second time to sum up what you've collectively told us. Then the *Futures Task Force* will make recommendations to the School Board. Please watch for a background information flyer in the mail.

There will be two meetings to choose from on Salt Spring Island:

Wednesday November 19th

at the District Parent Advisory Council Meeting

1:30 pm at the School Board Office

and Thursday, November 20th

7 to 9 pm at Gulf Islands Secondary School

Celebrate the season

VIVA LA DIVA COLLECTIONS

We're overflowing with fabulous festive jewellery

All showcased on our 2nd floor

\$10 to \$100

A stretch collection for day & evening wear

Sensuously soft sporty and chic

Try on all the pieces

Sizes 6 to 16 on our 2nd floor

Open 7 days a week
Ganges Village 537-5551

Meeting chews up trust tax formula

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

While the future face of local governance was on the agenda for Saturday's Islands Trust-Capital Regional District (CRD) town hall meeting, spectres of last year's incorporation debate visited the gathering.

And how much property tax Salt Spring Islanders would have, could have or should pay to fund the Islands Trust quickly galvanized opinions on a Trust Area Governance Renewal proposal being developed by Islands Trust Council.

Trustee Eric Booth has advocated use of a "differentiated tax rate" system to reduce the current estimated \$1.3-million of taxes Salt Spring pays for the Islands Trust to function.

Trust head office staff have investigated that option and compiled data showing that Salt Spring has \$888,862 in "discretionary capacity" — i.e. more than the "base costs" needed to provide basic planning services and cover its contribution to Trust-wide programs.

Trustee Kimberly Lineger said she could see a lot of on-island uses for that amount of money.

But CRD director Gary

Holman stressed Salt Spring would not have an additional \$900,000 to play with if it became a municipality because it would then assume several other financial responsibilities — such as roads, policing and municipal administration. Those costs would more than eat up the funds recouped from not paying the Trust for local planning services.

"Your taxes would have gone up under incorporation," he said.

He referred to Salt Spring Island Restructure Study materials, which estimated property taxes would rise by an average of \$100 to \$200 per parcel under incorporation, and that's after the Trust local planning costs are removed.

Lineger indicated a complete transfer of the funds was not critical, in her mind.

"If we just kept \$200,000 more at this point, I'd be happy," she said.

Booth said Trust Council should consider the implications of not changing the current tax formula, which could push Salt Spring residents to rethink incorporation.

"The problem with cross-island subsidization is if

Salt Spring incorporates in future, then the \$1.3-million we pay now — which is 41 per cent of the entire tax income for the Trust [will be lost]. . . It will be hard for the Trust to deal with that departure."

Holman said federation-wide Islands Trust funding was akin to other "social contract" situations, like schools funding, where everyone paid for service even if they had no children attending schools.

Resident Peter Lamb offered his opinion. "The question is not how much should we pay, but how much can we unload onto those other islands and still have an effective Trust?"

Susan Russell, a Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission (PARC) member, said she questioned the current funding formula. She said she didn't mind paying taxes to preserve and protect the other islands, but felt the funds were primarily spent on facilitating development.

Lineger said she hoped islanders wouldn't reject the entire Trust Area Governance Renewal plan if Trust Council didn't accept the differentiated tax rate idea.

"I don't want Salt Spring Islanders to throw out the

renewal proposal, because it has good stuff in it."

That includes suggestions to bring some new services under the Trust umbrella.

Those are subdivision approval authority, building inspection, and decision-making authority on non-farm land use and subdivisions on Agricultural Land Reserve lands.


Creating a joint committee of regional district and Trust committee representatives to coordinate land use and service delivery is also proposed, as is establishing a "legislated object dispute resolution process" to deal with cases where provincial government policy and the legislated object of the Trust collide.

The Trust Area Governance Renewal proposal, including the differentiated tax rate concept, will be discussed at the Trust Council meeting in Victoria set for December 3-5.

Rainbow Road Trading Co.



461 Rainbow Rd.
537-0057
Open Fri • Sat • Sun 11- 5pm



Mafalda Hoogerdyk
Insurance Broker

Access Canada's Top Insurance Firms

- Life Insurance
- Critical Illness
- Long Term Care
- Disability
- Office Overhead

Call today
537-1730

Oceans West
INSURANCE BROKERS
across from Bank of Montreal

The Living Word

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but will have eternal life.

John 3:16

WINSOME WHITE
PLEASE READ:
1 John 4:9,10

Drive to preserve marks park group's first year

Two new board members joined the pioneering group at the annual general meeting of the Friends of Saltspring Parks (FOSP) at Mahon Hall last Thursday.

The 11-member board includes Steve Grayson, Tamar Griggs, Bill Harrington, Sally John, Charles Kahn, Nora Layard, Patricia Lockie, Peter Prince, Colin Rankin, Tom Wright and Peter Young.

Of the 11, Kahn and Rankin are new members.

Layard, who became past-president, chaired the November 6 meeting and discussed the group's first full year of finances.

In its statement of operations, the group had a surplus of more than \$4,500.

Layard said the surplus was a result of a \$12,000 B.C. government contract awarded to FOSP for a background report on the Burgoyne Park area.

She said many of the people who worked on the project volunteered their time, or drastically reduced their rates.

Layard said the group was especially busy in its

first year. Group members helped remove invasive plant species from Ruckle Provincial Park, cleaned beaches at Burgoyne Bay and held letter campaigns.

"We were active and got our feet underneath us and did something," said Layard.

FOSP's plans for the coming year entail the same drive to preserve natural environments.

She said the question of hiking in the ecological reserve, which currently has signs stating no hiking, is "unresolved."

The group also plans to raise money for a Burgoyne Bay toilet with its "loonie for a loo" campaign.

Layard said she was stepping down as chair but had enjoyed her work with FOSP and will continue her work as a board member.

"It's been a real pleasure working with this group," she said.

The meeting ended with a presentation by artist Robert Bateman on the protection of natural areas. He presented a slide show and talk of such areas as East Africa

tourist parks and a wildlife research camp in Ontario's Algonquin Park.

Audience members listened intently during Bateman's commentary that covered a wide range of topics from building "mouse traplines" in Algonquin Park to finding a dead elephant in Africa.

Bateman was also honoured by the University of Victoria with an honorary degree at convocation ceremonies on Monday, November 10.

FOSP has helped with the creation of new park lands at Burgoyne Bay. The area is the largest undeveloped bay and estuary in the Gulf Islands and contains two salmon streams, tidal flats and several types of trees, including old growth Douglas fir and Garry oaks.

The group, which was registered as a non-profit society in August 2002, aims to support the integrity and appreciation of the natural environment and cultural heritage of Salt Spring Island parks and ecological reserves.

Like books?
Like people?

When you volunteer a few hours at the library you contribute to our community and meet interesting people, too.

For more information drop into the library and pick up a volunteer application form.

KitchenAid

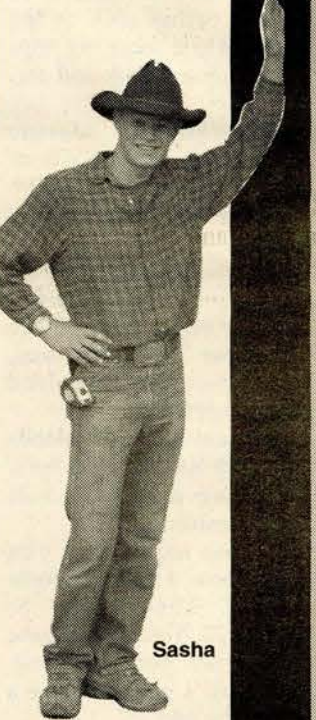
Cook for the Cure

Congratulations!
Rachel Matthews
winner of the Kitchen Aid
Promo Pink Mixer

P.S. Reminder: Home Hardware is a Santa's Workshop drop-off location

MOUAT'S Home Hardware THE HOUSEWARES STORE
Mon. - Sat. 8:30am - 5:30pm

Locally owned and operated



Sasha

BUILDING SUPPLY ON SALTSRING... Windsor Plywood

Phone: **537-5564**
FAX: 537-1207

EXPERT ADVICE & TOP QUALITY SERVICE!

- Doors and Windows •
- Mouldings • Paints & Stains •
- Power Tools • Dock Floats •
- Hardwood & Laminate Flooring •
- Lumber •
- Roof Trusses • Plywood •
- Insulation • Door shop on-site •
- Engineered Wood Products •
- And much more!

"Always a pleasure to serve our community!"

STORE HOURS:
Monday-Saturday 7am - 5:30pm



LivingStrong Fitness Studio

Call Sheena
Certified Personal Trainer

537-5282



UNICEF SALE: Ruth Burstahler and Ann King set up a UNICEF card and gift sale at Sabine's Fine Used Books in Grace Point Square. The items will be available for purchase this Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sabine's will accept UNICEF donations until closing time.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Police believe small group involved in rash of B&Es

With an observed rise in break and enter occurrences this year, Salt Spring RCMP are advising residents to take specific precautions to protect homes and possessions.

RCMP Sgt. Mike Giles said 36 incidents have been reported to date. In comparison, 28 were reported in 2002 and 29 in 2001.

"The first thing to do is communicate and know your neighbours. Talk to them when you're going out of town and tell them who will be coming over to water plants and the type of car they drive. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the house, locks and windows," he said.

Individuals should also limit the value of items kept at home and place valuables either in a bank or home safe.

Police and volunteers are available to help residents check the safety of their homes, said Giles.

The Home Safe Program, run through the Victim Assistance Program, also conducts checks of residences that are broken into.

Giles said the RCMP prefers "proactive" and not retroactive measures.

Residents can also borrow the station's engraver.

"If a thief sees a name or number on an item, then that

item's attractiveness is diminished, assuming in the vast majority of cases that thieves are stealing items to resell for drugs," he said.

Giles said he isn't sure why the Salt Spring break and enter jump has occurred this year.

"It goes in waves," he said. "Compared to last year we're up, but compared to other years we're right on track."

Giles said he believes the incidents can be attributed to a small group of people.

"That could account for why [the numbers] can go up 10 to 12 in a year," he said. "Our theory would probably hold if we could catch one [of the perpetrators]."

Incidents may be up from the past two years, but not from 2000, when 56 break and enters were investigated.

Giles said Salt Spring is a small community and doesn't experience the amount of criminal activity a larger centre would.

"We see relatively small numbers," he said.

But he noted the incidents aren't insignificant for homeowners.

"A break and enter is not a small occurrence to the people that it happens to," he said. "It's real."

In the event of a break and

enter, victims should avoid touching the area around the entry and exit points.

Giles said RCMP fingerprint experts try to gather evidence from those areas.

For more information about theft prevention, call the RCMP at 537-5555.

Curtin releases PARC budget increase plan

Saturday's town hall meeting gave islanders an unprecedented peek at the 2004 budget of the Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission (PARC).

PARC is proposing to raise its budget to \$811,500 this year, up \$110,000 from the 2003 level.

Of that total, \$708,700 would come through property tax requisition — \$74,600 more than this year — and the rest from revenue sources such as pool programs, Market in the Park, Camp Colossal day camp and property rentals.

PARC chair Bill Curtin told the meeting that Salt Spring taxpayers "pay the lowest per capita rate of any community for parks and recreation services in B.C." — about \$160 for an average-assessed property.

The proposed hike would add \$8 to the average-assessed property's tax bill.

Because PARC has in the past provided relatively fewer services than most communities, the maximum amount of property tax support it is legally entitled to through the

Capital Regional District (CRD) has not been requested.

However, with plans to develop the Rainbow Road recreation site, increasing responsibilities with more trails and parkland dedications added to its inventory each year and aging infrastructure, Curtin explained that the commission feels it's time to acquire the additional funds.

"We have a tremendous backlog of things we haven't addressed and we need to address them," said Curtin.

Results of the Salt Spring Aquatic Centre Survey, now underway, will also give PARC the direction it needs to determine what kind of pool facility to build on the Rainbow Road property.

The largest segment increase in the 2004 proposed budget is in "parks maintenance capital improvements," from about \$40,000 to \$90,000.

The budget also maintains \$28,000 in grants-in-aid funds to recreation-related community groups, which was bumped up this

year for the first time from \$10,000 in 2002.

The proposed budget includes \$18,000 presently given to ArtSpring and \$3,300 to the Gulf Islands Community Arts Council, which is the subject of an imminent counterpetition process to establish an arts service through the CRD. PARC voted last month to keep the funds available for those two arts groups in case the counterpetition passed, which would force a referendum on the question. That would either delay or defeat the arts service proposal.

PARC budget matters have traditionally been kept under wraps until the final budget is passed by the CRD board each March.

CRD director Gary Holman told the meeting he supported PARC's proposed requisition increase for 2004 if the aquatic survey supports building a new pool and the extra funds are spent on that project.

Copies of PARC's proposed budget summary are available at the Portlock Park PARC office.

A special invitation from
Pharmasave
to

WOMEN'S WINTER EVE

this year at

Pharmasave Uptown

Friday, November 28th, 2003

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

We welcome you to an evening shopping event with beauty and wellness demonstrations, prizes, and special values.

Events will include:

the return of our "sexy lips" contest with celebrity judges, mini-massages, tarot card readings, expert cosmetic, hair colour advice and more!

Each guest will receive a special gift.

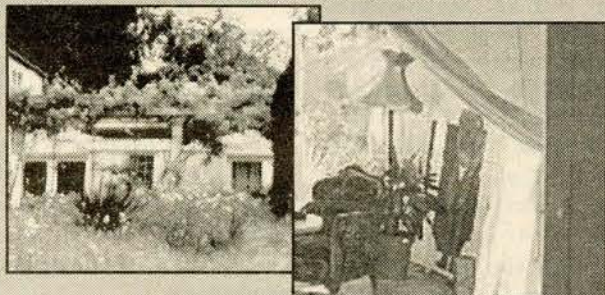
Discounts of up to 40% will be drawn at point of purchase.

Tickets available at both Pharmasave locations:

\$10.00 per person (limited quantity available)

(\$5.00 to be donated to Lady Minto Hospital Foundation and \$5.00 redeemable with any WinterEve purchase)

MEDITERRANEAN FLAIR



A grape arbour and courtyard lead to the entrance to this mediterranean style home. Soaring 11 ft. ceilings and french doors with transoms above flood the home with light. Hardwood floors enhance the open concept living. There is also a separate 3 room suite and attached single car garage. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac, a short walk to Ganges. Artist in residence.

\$312,000

RE/MAX Realty of Salt Spring

131 Lower Ganges Rd.,
Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2T2
Office 537-9977 / Fax 537-9980
email: cewatson@saltspring.com

Call
**CAROLE
WATSON**

Getting informed

It's too bad more people didn't attend Saturday's local government town hall meeting.

A little knowledge gleaned now can save a flood of ignorance later, but the tiny turn-out is also not surprising.

Who really wants to exchange the joys of a sunny autumn day to hear the nitty-gritty details of local septage treatment systems or how the Trust might take on subdivision approving authority from the Ministry of Transportation?

In between the hot issues, it's up to the politicians and government staff to take care of things. It may be a lonely job at times, but that goes with the territory.

Our current elected officials' penchant for open government is admirable and preferable to the alternative, but they shouldn't expect full meeting houses or even much interest unless public alarm bells have been clanged on a particular issue.

But right now is a critical time for islanders to get informed enough to provide input on at least one front to the Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission, which needs direction on what kind of aquatic facility, if any, should be built on Rainbow Road.

Some 1,000 Salt Spring households have been sent the Salt Spring Aquatic Centre Survey, which asks for preferences on indoor and outdoor facilities, and how much they would be willing to pay in annual property taxes for a pool.

While no direct dollar figures are attached to each option either in capital costs or how much of a tax increase each would cause, the general relationship between the two is obvious.

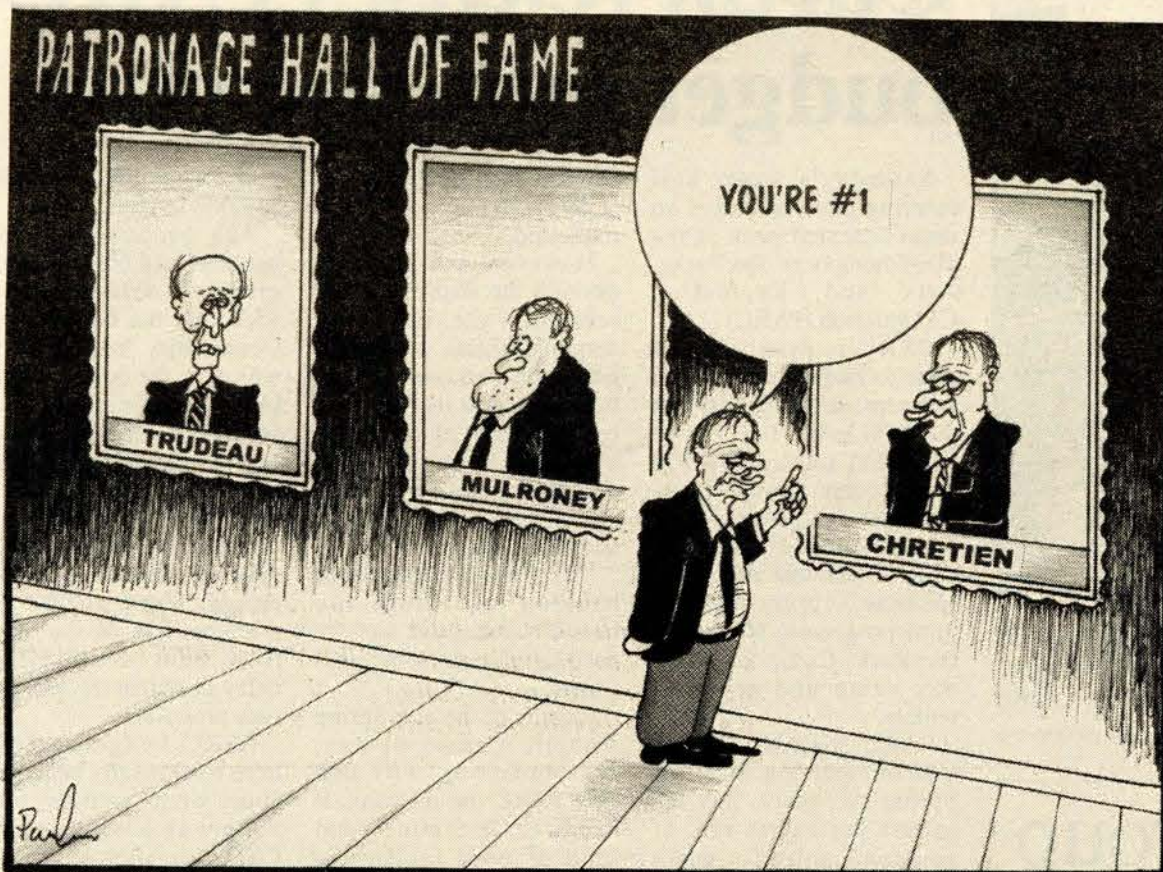
And ultimately, how much money survey respondents indicate they are willing to fork out is the primary piece of information PARC needs before proceeding.

If 80 per cent of islanders want a full-meal-deal indoor pool but are only willing to see taxes increase \$50 per year, that pool option won't be the subject of a referendum.

Wisely, PARC and the CRD don't want to waste time and money on a referendum proposal that is doomed to fail.

So when people sit down to complete the short aquatic survey, they should be especially honest about their willingness to pay.

And once a specific pool option is presented to the voting public and the countdown to a vote is on, those meeting rooms will likely be full.



Gulf Islands Driftwood

President Frank Richards
Publisher Tony Richards
Managing Editor Gail Sjuberg
Advertising Manager Peter McCully
Advertising Andrea Le Borgne, Rick MacKinnon, Marit McBride
Reporters Mitchell Sherrin, Carey Rudisill
Photographer Derrick Lundy
Accounting/Circulation Claudia French
Production Manager Sandi Poystila
Production Andrea Palframan, Deborah McNish, Susan Lundy

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.
 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3
Office Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday
 Phone: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613 Toll-free: 1-877-537-9934
 E-mail: driftwood@gulfislands.net, website: www.gulfislands.net

Yearly Subscription Rates
 In the Gulf Islands \$48.15* Elsewhere in Canada \$78.11*
 6 months elsewhere in Canada \$49.22* Outside Canada \$169.00
 *Includes GST
 This newspaper acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program (PAP), toward its mailing costs.
 Publications Mail Registration No. 08149
 International Standard Serial Number 1198-7782

Memberships
 Canadian Community Newspapers Association
 B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council

Is a torn-up labour contract part of Hahn's ferry tale?

By DAVID GORDON

Will David Hahn remain with the rest of us stranded islanders during a ferry strike while he negotiates?

On May 5, 2003, Hahn, a New Yorker, assumed the position of president and CEO of B.C. Ferries.

He has a long history within the American transportation sector. Hahn specializes in business restructuring, strategic planning, revitalized marketing, revenue growth, acquisitions and customer service.

Recently on the Voice of B.C. cable broadcast, he told Vaughn Palmer that his corporation offered "the greatest ride in the world" and he intends to make it

VIEW POINT

profitable too.

It is possible that Hahn is a starry-eyed capitalist. To say the least, it is ambitious to envision B.C. Ferries as profitable.

However, the service must always be perceived to be absolutely safe. Nothing other than the ferry workers' keen eyes and vigilance can assure that be so. The most management can ever do is oversee efficiently.

Just the same, the corporation has attempted to use the media and polls to secure public support

and perpetuate the myth of the overpaid and under-worked ferry worker.

Despite our ferry system being the greatest ride, he says, "Our company and our customers cannot afford the current contract."

The company wants to contract out more services, and reduce the unionized work force in general.

The union cannot be expecting to negotiate an increase.

Apparently, B.C. Ferries is demanding concessions that include a reduction in rates of pay, overtime, starting wages and the exclusion of certain workers from the bargaining unit.

Hahn complains that 55 to 60 cents of each dollar brought in goes to employee cost, but one

wonders if he includes his own salary of \$335,000 another \$80,000 in real estate expenses, and his possible performance bonus in that number.

It is interesting to note that David Hahn has no background in ships. He knows aviation, however, and has a wish list that includes a head-scratching plan to develop a new terminal at the Vancouver International Airport.

Hahn has also announced a \$2-billion intention to build 24 ships over 15 years, but, unfortunately, he further indicated that the planned ship-building might not be done in B.C.

Will Hahn oversee the demise and sell-off of B.C. Ferries just as he did with Ogden

Corporation? Is he merely the B.C. Liberal government's latest hatchet man?

Or will he meet the seemingly impossible challenge of managing B.C. Ferries to viability and labour peace?

It is difficult to say at the moment, but rest assured it will be a great ride watching the negotiations.

So far, since the takeover of the Legislature by the Campbell government, the provincial floor is littered with torn-up labour contracts, like so many tickets at the racetrack.

The writer is a Mill Bay resident.

Old Man Winter interrupts fall ritual

Ahhh. The smell of wood smoke. The bright white trunks of birch trees, their branches sprinkled with gold and yellow leaves, all set against a backdrop of the clearest blue skies you'll ever see.

It's early October in the north Cariboo, time for me to head up to my cozy little log cabin to close things down for the winter.

Problem is, I couldn't go in early October. In fact, I didn't get there in October at all.

Along with my two trusted helpers, Bruce and Jeff, it was just last week that I headed up there to perform the annual ritual.

I mean the closing down of the cabin ritual, not any other ritual that Jeff, Bruce and I do when we're up there. Wait,

that's not what I meant to say. Despite what you may have

heard, there is no other ritual involved in our annual trip to the cabin. There's much hard labour to be done in a few short days; we work from long before dawn 'til well after dark.

The dock needs to be taken apart by hand, pulled out of the lake with the 4X4 and secured to shore. We have to chink any little holes in the log cabin with whatever we can find to keep the mice, squirrels and bush rats out.

We have to install shutters on the windows to keep the

ISLE SAY! WITH JOHN POTTINGER



larger critters out.

We've got to fall, buck, split and stack enough wood for springtime. And, thanks to Jeff, we need to fix the out-house. (I'll get to that next week.)

City folks wonder why an isolated cabin needs shutters nailed over the windows.

"You don't have a vandalism problem way out here do you?" they ask.

Well, yes I do, but it's not a bunch of juveniles from Williams Lake out on their snowmobiles trying to break into my cabin in the spring.

It's a juvenile that lives right here on the shores of Keithley Creek. You might know his cousins Yogi and Smokey.

Long ago, when folks first put glass windows in log cabins, they would come back from a trip away to find the windows smashed out and the inside of the cabin looking, and smelling, like the town dump.

Here's what happens: When a bear first wakes up and sluffs around in the springtime, he's pretty darn hungry. (Think about how hungry and grumpy you get when you haven't eaten for a day. For Yogi, it's been four or five months!)

And he's territorial. So when this grumpy bruin wanders up to a cabin, stands up

and looks in the window, what does he see? Another bear. With his snout two inches away. What does he do? Exactly what you'd expect a very hungry, very territorial bear to do. A huge paw delivers a vicious right cross to the intruder bear.

It works! Instantly the other bear is gone. Now, through the gaping hole where a pane of glass used to be, our hungry friend can see and smell all sorts of good stuff.

The second-worst thing that can happen when you get to your mountain cabin for the first time in spring is to find the breeze blowing through the hole in the wall where the window used to be and that nothing inside is recognizable. No piece of furni-

ture or appliance or cupboard is larger than those big clumps of brown stuff all over the floor. (After they eat, they leave other things besides your wrecked furniture behind.)

The worst thing, of course, is to be deeply into your first sleep, after arriving at your cabin in springtime, when Ursus Scarus punches the window out.

Where was I? Oh yeah. I was saying that early October is the time to head up to the cabin to winterize it. Well, this year we went up late. Very late. Jeff and I would say "too late."

I don't know how Bruce feels about it. He's still not talking to us.

Next week: Our Lives Flash Before Our Eyes.

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: *What does Remembrance Day mean to you?*



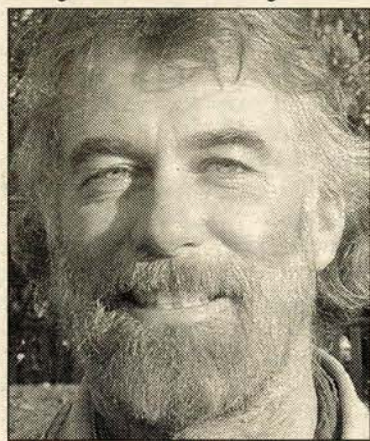
Angela Donnelly

My grandfather is a World War II vet and I'm thinking of taking my nephews and nieces to see him.



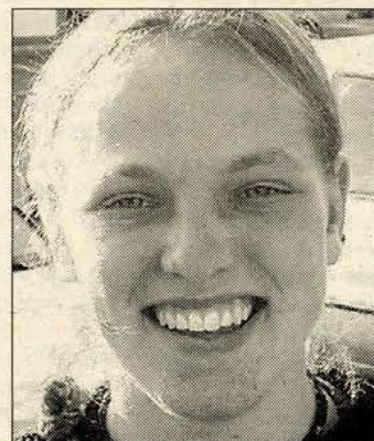
Jane Stack

We're going to spend it with old friends.



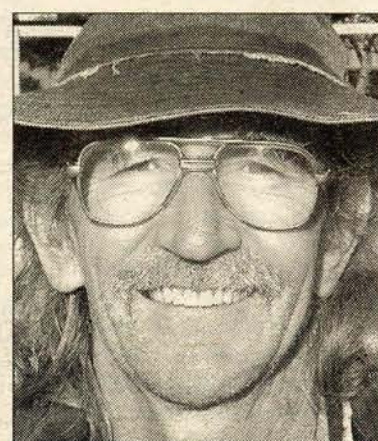
Jim Russell

I'll be thinking of what a stupid idea war is.



Melissa Farrance

On Remembrance Day, we should remember to learn from our mistakes. We have so much war globally and we take one day to feign that we have peace in our hearts.



Jerry Smallwolf

I have an uncle that lost a leg in Korea. He's gone now, but I think about him.

Letters to the Editor

Find solution

November 11. What does it mean? A time to reflect, to remember.

When this time of the year rolls around, I give much thought to the past and present.

I think of the people who have come into my life, like Len, who was severely wounded and taken POW in 1915, while trying to fill the gap in the Canadian lines created by one of the first gas attacks.

I think of my grandfather in a shell hole in 1918 with his best friend dying in his arms. I think of my own father doing 37 trips in a bomber at night. They were considered a lucky crew; many others were not.

I think of other young men, now old, spending their youth fighting for their countries' cause, even when their world was crumbling around them.

I think of the endless numbers of civilians caught in between; of children growing up with memories that haunt them still in their retirement years.

My grandfather fought in the war to end all wars; 20 years later it was my father's

turn. I loved and was very proud of both these men and all the others.

I just can't understand, after an extremely bloody past 100 years, that we as a species still find it so easy to fund causes to die for.

Surely we can find a solution. After all, we spend billions or trillions to send space probes to the farthest planet in our galaxy. Maybe we should start pouring that energy into our own world that is in crisis and try that much harder to solve its problems.

ROD MACDONALD,
Wildwood Drive

Other side

Regarding the Isabella Point Road density transfer proposal, there are two sides to every story but only one side is currently being promoted.

It is important that the other side be made known so that a balanced point of view can be arrived at.

The four additional lots being proposed fall under the category of density transfer as allowed for in the Salt Spring Official Community Plan.

The opposition point of view is that these extra four three-acre lots would "trash"

the neighbourhood by reducing the minimum lot size from five acres to three acres. However, my present "unfinished" research shows that more than 35-40 per cent of the existing lots in the subject area are under five acres, in fact many under three acres.

What is not explained and completely ignored is the other side of the coin. Density transfer allows the Islands Trust to obtain and preserve parkland in sensitive ecological areas of the island in perpetuity by means of a conservation covenant and transfers their density potential to an already established residential area.

The donor transfer properties are on Sansum Narrows and include a large Garry oak stand, a substantial arbutus grove and an alpine meadow adjacent to a property already donated under this process — creating a significant protected ecological area for the island.

Please find time to attend the public information meeting at the Lions Club on November 19 from 4-6 p.m. when charts, photographs and details of the conserva-

tion covenant protection for the donor properties will be fully detailed and explained.

PATRICIA HEWETT,
Fulford

Short-term memory

I have just read ASTAR's November 5 Driftwood ad, "10 More Reasons To Support Vacation Rentals."

It says, "At the public meeting an audience member requested a vote by show of hands. The overwhelming majority agreed to allow vacation rentals ... Only a handful wished to see none."

This statement is an outright lie. I was there. A handful voted for and against VR. An overwhelming majority did not vote, as the questions were muddled with variables and could not be properly answered with a yes and no vote.

And, in another of ASTAR's "10 More Reasons" it says, "... Prior to the program of proactive enforcement initiated by the previous trustees, the Islands Trust office admits to having "perhaps one complaint" on record per year regarding vacation rentals." This is

another piece of misinformation. Kimberly stated at last week's meeting that complaints to the police are not filed into categories of short-term, long-term or regular rentals. So we have no real idea of how many people have protested.

MONA FERTIG,
Ganges

Coell visit

Last Friday eight members of the Stewart Road Residents' Association (SRRRA) carpooled to Sidney where we spent 45 minutes with our MLA Murray Coell.

Mr. Coell was interested to learn that the permit application for the Stewart Road Quarry includes no mention of a Section 215 covenant. This covenant states: "any wetland areas on the land ... must be protected, preserved and kept in their natural state."

We also pointed out to Mr. Coell that the mine plan appears to have been drawn up by someone who is not a professional engineer.

Mr. Coell carefully reviewed an October 6 letter from Inspector of Mines Bruce Reid to mine permit applicant Larry Bader.

The letter says, "It will be

required that you convene a public information meeting prior to final consideration of your quarry application ... You should be well prepared to answer questions relating to such items as zoning, traffic/access, chemical contamination, groundwater impacts, health issues, noise and dust abatement, blasting impacts, visual impacts, lifestyle and property values impacts, protection of surface water and downstream licenses, and the protection of wildlife and vegetation."

Given the seriousness of these issues, Mr. Coell encouraged us to write to Mr. Reid and ask him to require the mine applicant to provide written reports regarding these issues, rather than just being prepared to answer questions at a public meeting.

Our group included Carol Arnold, Rosey Brenan, Peter Lamb, Murray Reiss, Fu-Shian Chia, Mike Wall and Joe Webber. We all want to thank Mr. Coell for giving his time so generously and listening so closely to our concerns.

ARNOLD BROWN,
Sarah Way

MORE LETTERS A10

Liquor store reversal result of 'kinder, gentler' dictator

There is something really unusual happening these days in the Salt Spring government liquor store.

Jorges is smiling. It's probably the first time I have seen that big silly grin in years. Jorges is smiling because the Campbell government has reversed its decision to close down liquor stores throughout B.C.

With only a handful of years left before retiring with full pension, Jorges can once again look forward to spending winters in his native Portugal, soaking up the rays on the Algae and rat racing up the Costa Brava highway.

Why would the government do such an about-face on this issue? The more cynical and rabid remaining NDPers would probably credit the diligence of the

union negotiating team and the tireless work of the union members.

Others would point to a government showing its sweet side ... one that has demonstrated a willingness to weigh both sides of an argument, and make a decision based on dispassionate reason. After all, the government doesn't have to reverse any decision. Indeed, you will be hard pressed to find any maledominated group in any corner of society willing to admit to a mistake.

With the overwhelming majority that the Campbell government enjoys, its members are capable of

PERSONALLY SPEAKING

BY PETER VINCENT



shoving any and all outlandish laws through, if they choose.

The liquor store reversal is not some sort of anomaly. The government also reversed its decision on privatizing the Coquihalla highway, which probably would have resulted in higher prices and lower maintenance. It would only be a matter of time before that monument to the now defunct Socred government would have resembled Stewart Road after a heavy downpour.

There are other signs of life. We now look forward to hosting the 2010 winter

Olympics, which will prove to be a huge economic boon for the entire province. And the government has thinned out a top heavy bureaucracy created by the past NDP dynasty. No longer do you see a bureaucrat with a clipboard standing behind every other bureaucrat without a clipboard. And literally thousands of useless, redundant regulations have been stricken forever from the books.

So why this turnaround? Personally, I think it all began shortly after Campbell's excellent adventure in Maui in January of this year. I can't think of anything so humiliating as having your mug shot plastered on every newspaper across the country, with a toothy grin, hair all askew, and the glazed demeanor of a guy blowing way, way above .08.

All contrite and apologetic, Gordon has promised to stay away from the devil's drink. He has lost a ton of weight on the Atkins diet, and he probably helps his landlady out with the garbage. He has had what alcoholics describe as "a moment of clarity." He has become a kinder, gentler dictator.

And we can see the results everywhere. Despite The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse stampeding across this province in 2003, the economy strides ahead. We have had raging forest fires, floods, SARS, mad cows, The U.S. beating us over the head with softwood tariffs, strained relations over our stance on Iraq, you name it, and with the exception of the Black Plague, we have had every form of natural and unnatu-

ral disaster visited upon us.

But have you gone to Vancouver lately? It's a three-ring circus downtown, with cement trucks and high-rise construction crews going head to head with office workers and tourists. This government is putting business back in British Columbia, and like it or not, that's where the jobs are created.

Give the man, and his government, his due.

So Jorges, Barb, and everyone else at the liquor store (is it a bad sign when you know all the liquor store employees by their first name?) — congratulations!

It's great to know that this time next year, the government watering hole will still be there and not replaced by yet another book shop.

Offensive

In response to Francois Jaubert's October 29 letter on spirituality, I agree that we all have a right to our opinions and to share our beliefs with one another. Maybe there is sufficient interest to have a page for readers to voice their opinion.

In the world today there is so much opposition to Christianity. Non-Christians are offended by the public display of the 10 Commandments on a courthouse wall, prayers in school and, of course, the pro-life and euthanasia debates continue.

Recently there was a complaint by a Muslim student in Italy over displays of Christ on a cross, which he claimed were offensive to his faith in Allah and Mohamed. A judge ordered that they be removed. This is causing a furore in this strongly Catholic country.

Some other faiths may preach tolerance, but Christ did not tolerate anything that he considered offensive to His heavenly Father.

He not only did what we say today — "put your money where your mouth is" — he laid his life on the line for his beliefs and so Christ died for my sins, my shortcomings and my defects of character. This I have accepted as my ticket to paradise.

I do not have to blow my body up like a suicide bomber to attain paradise. Christ gave His life for me. You may find this offensive, yet it gives me freedom, peace, joy, security and assurance of everlasting life.

What I find offensive today is when the shoe is put on the other foot and non-Christians try to eradicate Christ from Christmas. Have you seen the new Bateman cards? Please do not call them Christmas cards. They are blank on the front, with no words like Merry Christmas and on the inside no comforting message of "peace and good will to all men," just "season's greetings."

Now that I have made my point, I wish you all a "happy holiday."

JOHN M. STEEL
Salt Spring

User pay

To those of us on fixed income/low income.

Income isn't fixed, it is moving relative to buying power — down. Getting less. Shrinking. Diminishing. Disappearing. Decreasing.

More letters

Our purchases and taxes are not fixed and are "balancing the budget" by increasing. Growing. Gouging. Swallowing. Going up like the price of gas — fast.

There's an awful lot of us in that fix here on our island. Captive to the shrinking dollar.

Firstly, the debate about a large water container for Salt Spring has me bogged. City amenities are, I believe, for cities with populations of millions.

A few, possibly even a few hundred, enthusiasts are out to persuade the others of us, possibly a few thousand, that we need to pay for and maintain a swimming hole, no blackfish allowed.

But it will "only" cost from 280,000 to 700,00 dollars each year, depending on who you ask.

With no way for much of the island's population to even get there to take a dip or drop in a fishing line.

Did I mention that it's to be paid for by higher taxes and is only the yearly cost of upkeep/running/heating/chlorinating/loathsome high insurance. None of these will increase? Right?

The tax dollar cost of building? Don't ask. And we never have cost overruns, do we?

Second: With the acquisition of the PARC land close to the high school, the deep puddle would appear to be the rather blunt sharp end of a wedge.

The rest of the wedge will follow... won't it?

Is PARC going to let that land be fallow for long? What are the plans for our future? A nice, large, warm rec centre? An ice arena? A beach volleyball court with tanning lamps and sand bar? Surfing wave pool? Water slides? Artificial snow ski hill? Busses to get those pesky out-of-towners to these wonders?

Or are we to be treated to a piece-by-piece mini-construction boom benefitting those fortunate enough to live in proximity? In conclusion, a rational long-range plan presented to us for the benefit of all islanders, with dollar numbers arrived at by other than PARC might be a good idea, rather than feeding us yet another tax bill as things come on-line and escalate our precious gem toward city standards of everything.

Whatever is looming on our PARC horizon is not going to appear from a pumpkin at midnight with the wave of the chairman's gavel. It will take dollars in the old-fashioned way. Taxes. Hefty hefty taxes.

Perhaps SSPLASH will build it without tax dollars... and they will come. The sailing club, rod and gun club, and yoga gurus manage somehow, as do many other special interest groups. Users seem to pay these days.

NEIL BUCHAN,
Salt Spring

Grateful

I am nestled into a comfy chair snuggled next to the children's books in Sabine's Book Shop and all's right with the world.

Before me is an array of UNICEF Christmas and Hanukkah cards and gifts — a dream come true for our little Salt Spring UNICEF group.

Thanks to Sabine's hospitality and support, we are able to offer our UNICEF cards and gifts in a central location in a "real store," replacing our coffee parties.

Coffee parties were also a friendly venue and those who opened their homes to hold a coffee party sale in the past are very much appreciated.

However, this involved moving our stock all over the island a day at a time, and a lot of hefting and carrying for us. With our downtown location we can display all our stock and you can add visiting us to your shopping trip to town.

We are open Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., but Sabine will take your money for UNICEF until she closes.

We are grateful for the help and hope to see you at our sale.

If you miss us this time around, we will be at a bank near you in the near future.

DOROTHY DRUBEK,
Salt Spring UNICEF

Return items

On Saturday, November 8, 11:30 a.m. at the Lions Club garage sale on Drake Road, I had just set my backpack and smaller leather bag down in order to test a heater and in less than 10 minutes I was in the middle of my worst nightmare.

My bags had disappeared! So would the person who picked up my personal, gen-

uine buckskin/doeskin beige backpack with "Tall Terry" burned into a leather name patch on the front, and also my small black Italian leather, multi-zippered bag — and was then sold those leather bags along with all the important valuables they contained for \$15 — please call me!

My name, address and phone number are on all my personal cheques, on my business cards and on every one of at least 20 computerized song lyric sheets in that black three-ring binder.

The woman who sold it to you said you also bought a black vacuum cleaner from them.

By now you must know how personal all those possessions were to me. This has really shaken me up!

The small leather Italian bag contains:

My twin-cartridge face res-

pirator that I need for diesel exhaust; a new pair of black goat skin gloves; my sunglasses; leather coin purse, with coins, that I've had since '73.

My name and phone are in that bag on a business card.

The small zippered pouch on the front of the doeskin backpack contains:

A red leather folder with 34 personalized "Terry Graham" blank cheques numbers 86 through 120 inclusive and a leather folder with my business cards in it.

The main body of the two-strap, soft leather, beige backpack contains:

- my black three-ring binder with many of my own completed song lyrics and other important writings;

- a file folder with various reports and papers very important to me;

- a varnished, blonde-colored, dovetail-cornered wood-

en box with two of my Songwriters ChordWheels that Acoustic Planet sells and that are protected by American Library of Congress copyright;

- my glass side guitar slide in a Buck Knife leather case;
- a pair of reading glasses.

I'll pay double what was paid to the Lions Club if you'll return my things and give you whatever you'd like from what's left of my summer garage sale items... if you think that's enough.

I may have met you this summer at my yard sale on Booth Canal Road.

In that black binder there is a photo of my 1951 Chevy Van that sits in my yard here at 308 Booth Canal Road.

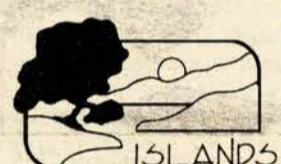
I'll even give you the backpack if that will help!

Let's do the right thing.

No grudges, no police, and it would be much appreciated!

Thanks.
TALL TERRY GRAHAM,
Booth Canal

			
<p>Prompt, Reliable and Professional Service on all Makes and Models, Large or Small Hot Water Tank, Appliance & Pump Installation</p>		<p>MACHINE SHOP SERVICES Fine Machining • Milling & Welding</p>	
<p>24 Hour - 7 day EMERGENCY SERVICE</p>		<p>Authorized Warranty for MIELE, SUB ZERO, BOSCH, ASKO ULTRALINE THERMADOR, GAGGENAU DACOR, DCS & VIKING</p>	
<p>tell/fax: 537-5268 pager: 538-9000</p>		<p>124 Lawnhill Drive, Salt Spring Island BC V8K 1M9</p>	
		<p>MARINE ELECTRICAL Electronics & Remote Control Systems SAM ANDERSON</p>	



**ISLANDS TRUST
SATURNA ISLAND
LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE is hereby given that Saturna Island Local Trust Committee will hold a public hearing on **Proposed Bylaw No. 79 – cited as "Saturna Island Land Use Bylaw No. 78, 2002, Amendment No. 3, 2002"**, for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw at **1:30 pm, Wednesday, November 26, 2003 at the Saturna Island Community Hall, East Point Road, Saturna Island.**

At the public hearing all persons who believe that their interests are affected by the proposed bylaw shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw.

Bylaw No. 79 – cited as "Saturna Island Land Use Bylaw No. 78, 2002, Amendment No. 3, 2002"

In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 79 is to amend the Home Occupation and Home Based Industry regulations and to amend the definitions of "accessory" and "home based industry" in the Land Use Bylaw.

A copy of the proposed bylaw and any background material that may be considered by the Trust Committee in respect of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, **commencing Wednesday, November 12, 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 various Notice Boards on Saturna Island, B.C., commencing Wednesday, November 12, 2003 and can also be viewed on the World Wide Web at the following URL: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca> and selecting Saturna Island / Bylaws / Proposed

Written submissions may be delivered to:

1. the office of the Islands Trust by mail at the #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, or by Fax (250) 405-5155, prior to **4:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 25, 2003;**
2. after **4:30 p.m., Tuesday 25, 2003**, to the Trust committee at the Public Hearing at **1:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 26, 2003.**

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

Inquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to the Islands Trust Office, Planner, at (250) 405-5158 or, for Toll Free access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867.

NO REPRESENTATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE SATURNA ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.

Kathy Jones
Deputy Secretary

Following court order judgment: Liquidation of Persian carpets by auction

The Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered a major B.C. retailer to pay its supplier. The B.C. retailer has fallen in arrears and, as a result, arbitrarily agreed to relinquish a larger portion of its assets for a series of liquidation auctions.

Buckingham Auctions Ltd. will auction piece by piece to the highest bidder fine Persian and Oriental carpets to satisfy the Court Order. A good selection of silk and wool, finely handknotted carpets in various sizes ranging from scatter to large dining, living room and oversized carpets will be available by public auction. Also included

in this public auction are items previously seized, jewelry, fine art lithographs such as Picasso, Dali, Miro, Chagall, and many other artists.

Certificates of authenticity and appraisals will be available free of charge on most items. The bid calling will be clear and concise enough for anyone to understand, therefore anyone can bid by just raising your hand.

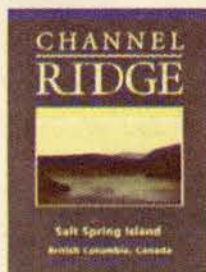
Public auction will be held at Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Blain Road, Monday November 24, 2003. Public viewing 6 p.m. Auction 7 p.m.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

CHANNEL RIDGE UPDATE

VOLUME 1 ISSUE NO. 2

NOVEMBER 2003



Channel Ridge Properties Transfers Land for Preservation



Participating in the watershed dedication ceremonial signing Oct. 29 at the offices of Islands Trust are (back row) Bob Brawn, Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society Board member, David Essig, Chair, Islands Trust, Eric Booth, Island Trustee, Bob Twaites, SSIWPS President, Trevor Hutton, Manager, North Salt Spring Island Waterworks; (front Row) Kevin Thompson, Chair, Channel Ridge Properties Ltd., Tom Gossett, SSIWPS, Founder and Secretary and Kimberley Lineger, Island Trustee.

Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. signed documents Oct. 29 confirming that, following sub-division, will transfer ownership of the final parcel of lands on Channel Ridge over to the Salt Spring Island Water Preservation Society, according to Kevin Thompson, chair of the Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. Board of Directors. The documents include a conservation covenant that is required by Salt Spring Island bylaws before the parcel can be subdivided.

"We are delighted to transfer ownership of this final installment which completes our commitment of 272 acres in total," Thompson explained.

Bob Twaites, president, Tom Gossett, secretary and Bob Brawn represented the SSI Water Preservation Society at a signing ceremony along with Salt Spring Island Local Trustees Kimberly Lineger and Eric Booth. The ceremony was held at the offices of Islands Trust and Linda Adams, director of Trust Area Services for Islands Trust, witnessed signatures.

"Handing over the final acreage of the total parcel honors a commitment made 17 years ago," Twaites said. "Its conclusion means the land will be protected in the watershed in perpetuity and this benefits all residents of Salt Spring Island."

"Trails are among the permitted uses for watershed lands, so we can assure everyone of access to these protected lands," Gossett explained.

The final approval of the sub-division plan comes from the Ministry of Transportation and it is anticipated that those documents together with the necessary transfers will be registered in the next 30 days.

Advisory Design Panel Receives CRP Master Development Permit

The Islands Trust Advisory Design Panel received a draft Master Development Permit Submission and design guidelines from Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. at the panel's most recent meeting Nov. 5 at the Lions' Hall.

Jim Moodie, the ADP's planning consultant, led the panel through the report, highlighting site clearing, water management, parkland, the sustainability strategy, design guidelines, traffic management, parking and ownership as areas which will need further information and discussion.

"A lot of work has been done by Channel Ridge Properties, but now we need details on many of these issues," Moodie said. "For example, we have the traffic engineer's report on the anticipated traffic during construction, but we will need an expert report on the traffic management when the community is built out."

Moodie noted Salt Spring Island does not have a tree-cutting bylaw and the owner does not need

the ADP's permission to clear the site. He suggested since Channel Ridge Properties would like to begin to remove trees during the winter months, the ADP members should be aware of that and the owner may want to announce the activity to the community generally.

Moodie pointed out that many topics of interest fall under different jurisdictions, such as parkland being the responsibility of Parks Arts Recreation Commission (PARC); the Ministry of Transportation and Highways must review existing roads and some ownership issues may be impacted by the recommendations of the vacation rentals sub-committee of Islands Trust.

"In the sustainability section, there are many broad statements of principle, but now we need details on how these sustainability strategies will be implemented; how they will become reality," Moodie said.

The planning consultant described the process

by which the ADP can make changes to proposals submitted by the owner.

"You can grant approvals subject to certain changes, either through covenants or letters of agreement," Moodie explained. "For example, access to trails has been identified as extremely important to the community, so you may want to use a covenant to make sure they are accessible to everyone in perpetuity."

Channel Ridge Properties architects John Davidson, MAIBC and Stu Lyon, MAIBC, presented the proposed design and architectural features for both the residential and commercial sections of the community and answered ADP members' questions about emergency road access, site clearing plans and parks.

The next Advisory Design Panel meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 3.

Construction Traffic Study Recommends Mitigating Measures

A recently completed study of the anticipated construction traffic on Channel Ridge has concluded that traffic volumes will not increase significantly and recommended a variety of mitigating measures to manage the traffic during the construction of the Channel Ridge development, according to Project Manager Thomas Ivanore.

"We commissioned this study, produced by ND Lea Consultants Ltd. Transportation Engineers, to review the existing traffic and to get their expert recommendations on how to best manage the increased traffic during construction," Ivanore explained.

Julio Wong, P.Eng., principal author of the report, stated that "...added traffic volumes due to construction traffic are not significantly high, but there are other associated impacts such as noise, vibration and fumes from the construction trucks past existing lots."

In terms of reducing noise and fumes, Wong recommends that loaded trucks minimize passing residential areas early in the morning or late in the evening; that air brakes are not used and trucks are not overloaded. To manage the increased traffic, the report advocates the use of efficient trucks, on-site residences for construction crews or a shuttle to the ferry in Vesuvius, posting "Truck Turning" warning signs and using the route of

Channel Ridge Road via Sunset Drive because of its gentler grade.

"The existing roads and intersections can accommodate the expected construction traffic," Wong said. "We also suggest that alternatives for improving the intersection of Vesuvius Bay and Sunset Drive be explored."

The report estimates initial load hauling from the construction site at about 500 tandem truckloads over a two-month period or an average of 12-15 loads per day. "This is an average of one tandem load per ferry sailing, but if some of the cut logs can be sold locally then there would be no need to transport them away on the ferry," Ivanore pointed out.

"It is our intention to balance the earthworks through our site design in such a way that there is a minimum of dirt and rock to be removed or imported," Ivanore said. "In terms of the delivery of housing construction materials, we estimate 4,200 tandem truck loads over a four-year period or an average of about four tandem loads per day which is one load for every two or three sailings from Crofton."

A copy of the Channel Ridge Construction Traffic Management Study was submitted to the Advisory Design Panel at its last meeting Nov. 5.



With help from JJM Contractors personnel, Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. Chair Kevin Thompson (left) has a look at the new information kiosks being installed last month at three entrances to the Channel Ridge trails. The trails are open to all members of the public daily from dawn until dusk and detailed maps are available for trail users at the kiosks.

Ensuring Emergency Access

According to Project Manager Thomas Ivanore, discussions are underway with fire, police and emergency services on Salt Spring Island to ensure the emerging site design addresses the potential safety and emergency contingencies.

"Discussions have been positive and we're confident the safety and emergency needs of the new community can be met within the Village Master Plan," Ivanore said. "Fire, police and emergency services representatives have suggested the new community can be served by an evacuation/service road for their use."

The Board of Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. has agreed to use an existing road on

the site for emergency access to the development.

"We will use an existing road, formerly a logging access road, and upgrade it for use by emergency vehicles," Ivanore said. "It will be used during the construction and afterward for any police, fire or ambulance access, as well as emergency evacuation of residents."

In initial meetings, safety and emergency services representatives also indicated preliminary acceptance of the pedestrian-oriented approach to streets and roads in the Village, including bollarded areas and emergency access along roadways surfaced with gravel or reinforced turf systems, Ivanore explained.

WE'RE BACK!

Check out our new and improved website at www.channelridge.com!

CHANNEL RIDGE UPDATE

November 2003
Volume 1, Number 2

Channel Ridge Update is a regular publication of Channel Ridge Properties Ltd.

Editor: Deborah Folka, MA, APR

Photography: Christopher M. Johnston, Julie Marzolf, APR, Derek Lundy

Production: Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

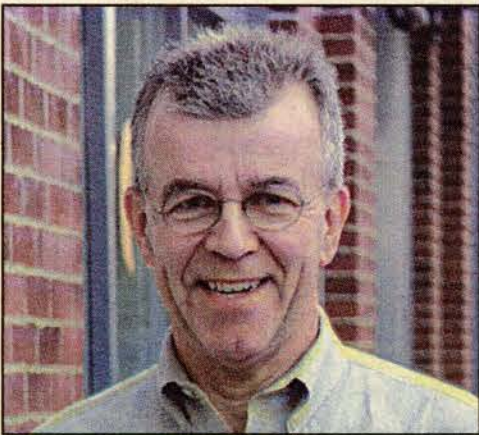
Channel Ridge Properties Ltd.
11199 Lyon Road,
Delta, BC Canada
V4E 1J8

www.channelridge.com

For further information, contact Deborah Folka at 604/517-1339 or at dfolka@epiccentral.com.

Channel Ridge Design Team Interprets Visions, Concepts

The Channel Ridge Design Team includes architects and designers whose talents and skills enable them to interpret the client's and stakeholders' visions, resulting in a community that meets the expectations of today and suits the needs of tomorrow.



**John Davidson,
MAIBC, FRAIC**

Born and raised in southern Ontario, John Davidson, MAIBC, FRAIC, is a partner in the Vancouver firm of Davidson Yuen Simpson Architects. He describes his heritage as "a long line of lawyers" and there was an expectation that he would join his grandfather, father and uncle in the family firm, but a love of art and an aptitude for math and science led him to a career in architecture instead.

He completed his undergraduate degree in architecture at the University of Toronto in 1967 and married his high school sweetheart Linda that same year. They lived in Winnipeg for two years while Linda finished her degree in occupational therapy and Davidson worked for Moody, Moorhead and Partners. In 1969, he applied to graduate school and won a scholarship to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he earned his MA in 1971. Davidson points to his MIT experience as "a wonderful opportunity...it opened my eyes to new ways of thinking and exposure to creative and thoughtful people representing many backgrounds and many areas of study."

After the obligatory year of backpacking through Europe, the Davidsons settled in Toronto in 1972 where he landed a position with an architectural firm that had offices in Vancouver as well. Participation in projects that took him to the West Coast led to a permanent move to Vancouver in 1977.

In 1982, Davidson launched his own practice with partners Ron Yuen and David Simpson.

"It was a terrible time in terms of the economy," Davidson recalled. "But everyone was in the same boat. We started with seven people and grew to about 20 in just a few years,

building a practice that had quite a broad base in housing, healthcare and both private and public sector projects.

"Our partnership has lasted because we each bring unique and complementary skills," he explained. "Ron loves the business development side and working with community-based projects; David is a brilliant designer with strong roots in the corporate sector, while I have a lot of experience with institutional work and the management skills to keep projects on-track."

Davidson Yuen Simpson's work on the Pacific Place Lands in the post-EXPO era catapulted the firm into a phase of community planning, consultation and architectural work that set a new direction and pace for Vancouver and Canadian architecture.

"Pacific Place and False Creek have drawn attention world-wide," Davidson said. "We were aware we were breaking new ground and it was very exciting. False Creek played out brilliantly and I have to credit the City of Vancouver council and planning staff with having the vision and courage to move forward on the project. We conducted over 200 public consultation meetings in 18 months to make sure we met with all stakeholders and interested individuals, and provided the community with every opportunity to participate in such a significant community development."

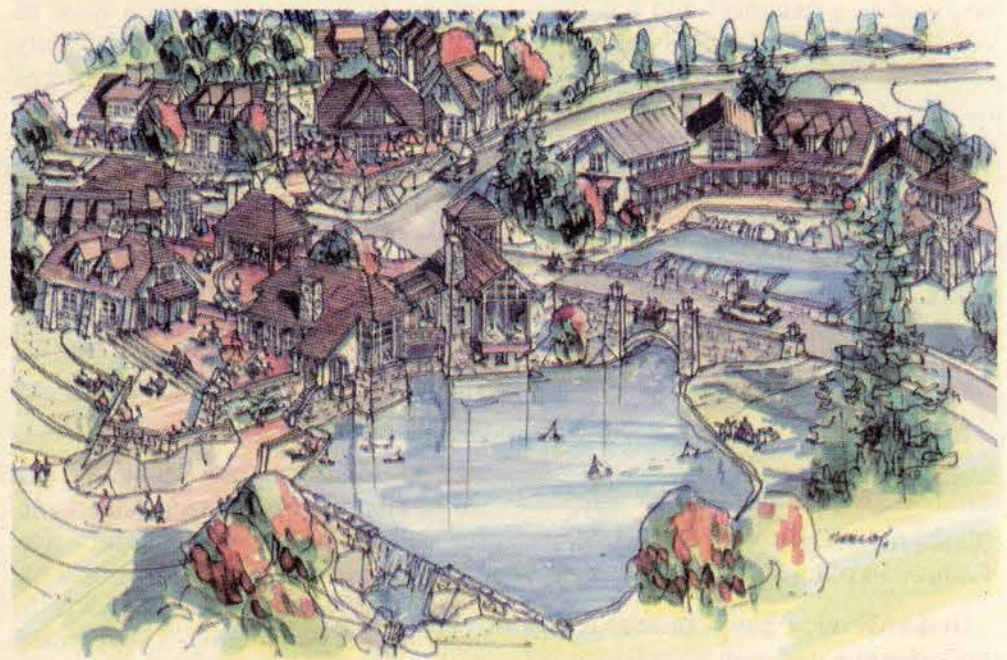
Davidson's firm continued its work with community planning, working on such projects as Arbutus Ridge and Crown Isle on Vancouver Island, Gallagher's Canyon in Kelowna, Morgan Creek in South Surrey and Furry Creek in Squamish.

"We have become very familiar with the process of community development and with the rules of land planning, which helps a lot when we approach a project like Channel Ridge," Davidson explained. "It is very challenging to locate a legitimate village on a blank slate when that kind of growth usually takes much longer and involves a more 'organic' process. We need to get the mix right from the beginning; the technical, the design, the functional and the environmental aspects all need to come together."

Davidson's firm is partnered with Gomberoff Bell Lyon Architects Group Inc., another Vancouver architectural firm on the Channel Ridge project. Davidson said this collaborative effort is not unusual and actually preferable on large and complex projects.

"Many projects are joint-ventured and Channel Ridge particularly needs lots of good minds, lots of varied experience to generate the creative thinking we'll need to come up with the best solutions," he pointed out. "Working with the community, the planners and the regulators throughout will lead to better results."

Davidson keeps in shape by hiking, skiing and playing hockey twice a



Artist's illustration of Three Corners, the proposed village centre.

week in a senior men's recreational league. He and Linda have two grown children; their son a mechanical engineer in Ottawa and their daughter, an interior designer in Vancouver.



**Stuart Lyon,
MAIBC, MRAIC**

A native of Vancouver, Stuart Lyon, MAIBC, MRAIC, completed two undergraduate degrees – one in art in 1974 and one in architecture in 1980 – from the University of British Columbia. For several years after university, he worked with architectural firms in the Lower Mainland including Paul Merrick Architects and Waisman Dewar Grout Carter Architects and Planners. Lyon launched his own practice in 1992 and merged it into his current firm Gomberoff Bell Lyon Architects Group Inc. in 1998.

Lyon's practice has involved many affordable housing projects throughout B.C. including Citygate on Main Street in Vancouver and other developments in Prince George, Penticton, Kelowna and Dawson Creek. The firm has also worked with large developers like Polygon, Intracorp and Millennium Developments on residential projects like the "Lumiere" near Stanley Park, which won the Urban Development Institute's Award for "Best High Rise in BC" in 2002. Their restoration of the ground floor in the historic Province Building at 198 West Hastings won a Gold Medal from the Interior Design Institute of BC.

Lyon is currently the chair of the Vancouver Urban Design Panel and a

past chair of the Delta Design Panel. He sees his role in the Channel Ridge project as an opportunity and a challenge.

"The challenge lies in building an integrated community with seamless connections between all the pieces," he pointed out. "The way people move through the spaces and the places; the opportunities for social interaction, for commerce, for living, for shopping – it's important that the entire experience be delightful, beyond satisfactory."

"We want to use as many local sources and products as possible to reflect the Island and to have the buildings 'grow out' of the Island," he explained. "It must age well and in fact improve with age, so we will take great care with the details of design such as how the weather affects the buildings, how the water hits them, how the light interacts, how the windows intersperse with the walls."

Lyon said the Channel Ridge buildings and residences will be built with great attention to energy consumption and environmental concerns, as well as careful integration with the water reservoirs and green space throughout the community.

"There are going to be wonderful opportunities for overlook and engagement with the on-site water courses and retention basins," Lyon explained. "The very entrance to the village will be defined by the sound of tumbling water as it spills beneath the stone entry bridge."

The topography of the Channel Ridge site is a challenge for building, but a blessing in terms of final outcomes, according to Lyon.

"The sloping topography of the site means each individual unit has to be 'dialed into' the landscape in a unique way, which means a lot more work, but the wonderful result is a series of 400 unique homes," he explained. "There will be tremendous diversity in housing design, view outlooks and terrain in this community."

Lyon has been married for 25 years

Design Team (cont'd)

and has two children; a 17-year-old in his last year of high school and a daughter at UBC. A soccer coach for many years, he also "knows the business end of a hammer" and has renovated several homes over the years.



Calum Srigley

Calum Srigley has a brochure that describes him as "...an award-winning designer, architectural visualizer and illustrator who specializes in architectural theming and placemaking." Asked to interpret that, he laughed and obliged.

"I often bridge the gap between what the developers imagine and the architects produce," he explained. "With my architectural training and my skills as an illustrator, I've developed the ability to listen, to observe, to interpret and then present it all on a visual level. It's a success when I sit quietly sketching through a long meeting, everyone talking and arguing, suggesting and debating, then I present my illustration and there are several shouts of, 'That's it! That's exactly what I was talking about!'"

After graduating from Killarney High School in Vancouver, Srigley attended the BC Institute of Technology and worked as an architectural technician in the Lower Mainland before enrolling at the University of Edinburgh's School of Architecture. He selected that school because of its emphasis on drawing, a more traditional approach that he still favors today.

"I returned to Vancouver and worked for architectural firms, often using my illustration skills to 'fill in the blanks' on building design," he said. "Then I hung my shingle out as an illustrator in 1987 and the business evolved into illustration, architectural theming and concept development

through integration of ideas and styles. It works best when I'm involved in a project like Channel Ridge right from the outset, so I can assist the creative process by helping to create a sense of place right away. If that is firmly established, the other design pieces fall into place more easily."

Over the years, Srigley has worked on a number of community development projects including Copper Mountain in Colorado, Mountain Creek in New Jersey, Sandestin in the Florida panhandle, Creekside in Whistler and several projects in Thailand. He sees Channel Ridge as a fascinating opportunity.

"The solutions for Channel Ridge are in aligning Salt Spring Island values and natural aesthetics with compelling and marketable residences, plus the infrastructure and services to support the community," he pointed out. "It's not impossible, but it's not easy. Creating a viable total community is like putting together a big beautiful puzzle."

Srigley explained the "English village" notion that has been discussed.

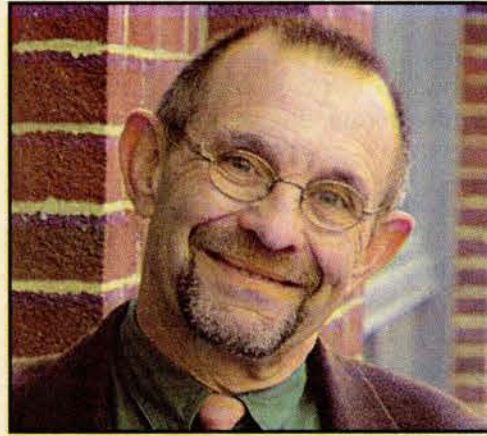
"The reason we keyed on language about an English village is because it is less structured than say a Middle American village or town which is usually developed along a grid pattern," he said. "An English village is very casual in structure and its rural nature and the landscape it inhabits dictates how it grows up. That's what we're getting at with Channel Ridge."

Srigley said he sees the theme for Channel Ridge reflected in the agrarian roots of Salt Spring Island, the topography of the site and the concept of 'back gardens.'

"We want to integrate 'a garden in a forest on an island,'" he said. "There must be elements that create strong indoor-outdoor relationships resulting in a memorable place in which people feel comfortable. We have to carry these elements through the public buildings and spaces as well as in the residential designs. The success will be dependent on providing spaces that people can make their own. We mustn't 'over design.'"

When he's not busy with his colored pencils, Srigley and his wife Kathie ride horses, ski, snorkel and travel with their children. He also collects books on architecture and planning

and has one of the largest private libraries on those subjects in Vancouver.



David Ellis, MAIBC

The career of architect David Ellis, MAIBC, has spanned three decades and several continents with no signs of waning. His energy and enthusiasm for complex, integrated projects like Channel Ridge seem to have increased along with his resume.

Born outside of London in Hertfordshire, Ellis was bundled off to boarding school at the tender age of 10. After graduation, he "hadn't a clue what to do," so he followed a friend into the Manchester College of Art and Design to study architecture. The friend dropped out after six months, but Ellis was smitten and became one of only seven graduates out of an original class of 34 to emerge from the school's inaugural year. He was registered as an architect in the UK in 1969 and promptly jumped on a plane to visit his sister in Thunder Bay.

He stayed in Canada, working at a Toronto architectural firm and "played lots of rugby," moved out west to Vancouver, registered as an architect in B.C. and then got a call to work in Hawaii. He took his family to Honolulu in 1972 and enjoyed the work and the tropical lifestyle until the oil crisis of 1974 resulted in layoffs of over 60 per cent of the staff at the firm. Ellis returned to Vancouver and began work with the firm of Thompson Berwick Pratt as the Coordinating Architect for South False Creek, a complex 700-unit, low-rise, inner-city waterfront residential project that took three years.

After a brief stint in England, by 1978 Ellis was back in Vancouver, this time to work on the design and planning of the core village at Whistler,

another three-year project. He created the guidelines for the Main Street, the Village and coordinated the work of all the participating architects linking the public spaces and streets to the architectural planning.

"I can't imagine doing this type of work without being an architect," he explained. "I use my training as an architect every minute and projects like Channel Ridge need that integration of knowledge and professional disciplines. From the large vision to the small scale details, it must all come together to create a special place on Salt Spring."

Ellis followed his Whistler experience with a three-year period in Australia, which included work on the design of a huge and very successful residential, mixed-use project on the Gold Coast called Sanctuary Cove. He returned to Vancouver and has worked as an independent since the early 1990s, with a focus on residential communities. Many recent projects have been in China and he has made 10 trips there in the last seven years.

"It is invaluable to have worked on the original village at Whistler and on South False Creek," Ellis explained. "I learned so much and developed relationships and knowledge that greatly inform the work I'm doing on Channel Ridge today. There's no question that it will be a challenge to make it fit into the ground. We will struggle with how to make it nestle and we will have to bring a very innovative, interesting approach to the project. It must fit like a little farm. It must 'fit' Salt Spring."

Ellis pointed out that Channel Ridge is "about intimacy with the ground and scale."

"People are less than two meters tall so we all have an awareness of immediate scale, space and size," he said. "We must connect anything we build to the ground and connect these buildings and the ground to the people."

Ellis stays fit as an active member of the Vancouver Rowing Club and exercises his vocal chords as a member of the 60-voice "Gentlemen of Fortune" a cappella barbershop chorus.

Who will live next door?

The social fabric of the new development on Channel Ridge will reflect Salt Spring Island's current demographics, according to Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. Chair Kevin Thompson.

"We have done quite a bit of informal research on the Island and a lot of more formal research using Statistics Canada and some North American demographic sources and basically, we think the new neighborhoods will be very similar to what you see on the Island today," Thompson explained. "Many current residents came to Salt Spring incrementally

over years, first as holiday visitors, then as part-time owners and finally, perhaps, as full-time residents. Others had the 'love-at-first-sight' experience and moved right away. Still others bought as an investment and rent out the property, maybe planning to come at a later date."

The range of housing planned at Channel Ridge should accommodate that same range of tastes and lifestyles, Thompson pointed out.

"We will have new, good quality housing in a range of sizes, character and

prices," he said. "There will be services and business opportunities in the village, a pedestrian-orientation, an emphasis on the surrounding natural beauty, a strong support for the artisan and agrarian culture of the Island and a range of activities, amenities and facilities for all ages."

Thompson emphasized that "time shares" are not in the plans.

"We do not intend to develop, own or operate rental housing," he said. "However, in the same way as the rest of Salt Spring Island, we do anticipate that

some of our purchasers will rent part of their home or their entire home some, or all the time.

"Likewise, the tenure structure of the village homes will be primarily strata ownership and the single-family home lots outside the village will be primarily fee-simple ownership," Thompson said. "And, of course, once someone has purchased a home, they may live in it full-time, part-time or not at all. They may elect to rent it to others, to loan it out to family or friends or keep it vacant."

RANTS & ROSES

RANTS

A thumb's down to the guy standing in line at GVM who made the wise-ass remark when the cashier had trouble figuring out the coupon discounts for her customer, and the customer insisted she double check her work. Maybe you should stop for a moment before you pass judgment on people using coupons. Maybe there is a reason they use coupons. I mean, didn't you notice she had a baby with her? Maybe she is having trouble making ends meet, maybe she is a single parent, maybe babies are expensive to raise. Think before opening your mouth! Maybe even ask if you can lend a hand with her groceries. Wouldn't that be an act of kindness!

One thousand rants to the people who live and camp in the woods on Mount Belcher and leave garbage, plastic, chairs, metal, styrofoam, old carpets, tin and clothes, in the forest.

Rants to people who walk at night on the wrong side of the road in dark clothing without a light or reflective device.

Rants to the owner of the white storage trailer parked opposite Thrifty Foods, which is taking up four much-needed parking spots. TL

Rants to the people who sit and idle their vehicle engines, especially waiting outside schools and bus stops, and in the ferry lineups. Remember it is more efficient to turn off your engine rather than idle it for more than 10 seconds.

Rants to all the musicians who complain about a lack of paying gigs on Salt Spring because most of them don't show up to support the live music at the new paying venues that are trying hard to survive and promote live entertainment.

ROSES

I would like to give a special thanks to a lady who went out of her way to do an unexpected thing. On

Saturday I was in the library and found this awesome book on Karsh. As I waited in line really excited, I impatiently asked if I could sign it out without a library card. I went back to work and found out nobody there had a library card. As I gazed out the door, in came a lady who had listened to our conversation in the library. She put the Karsh book on the counter and, without saying a word, left. I was shocked and almost cried. It was so thoughtful of her to search the shelf for the book and then find where I was. Sometimes in life it's the little things that count and I'm giving that lady a rose today.

A bouquet of Hallowe'en treats to the man in the cream-coloured sweater who graciously donated some change to the cost of the food items I was picking up at Barb's Buns for the RuggHuggers Hallowe'en party. Hope you had a great Hallowe'en!

A large bundle of roses to Jan Jang for again organizing a flea market to support Fulford Hall. Much appreciated.

Roses to Brenda for lending me her housecoat and giving me socks while I was waiting for the ferry in shorts, a T-shirt and sandals in cold weather.

Many thanks to the ladies in the GVM lotto section for keeping my wallet safe.

Roses to all those who helped make the Therapeutic Riding Association's concession at the Fulford Flea Market such a success: to Bert and Lil for their soups, Jim, David, Daphne and Nikki as great servers, and GVM for its support.

A big bunch of catnip to Geoff Levy for building me my winter palace! And a big thank-you as well to Slegg Lumber, Calypso Carpet and the Cobbler for donating materials to the project. Fritz, the Cinema Cat.

We couldn't send enough roses of thanks to GVM and Thrifty's for their generous donations of spring flowering bulbs and perennials to the rejuvenation project at the

GISS Teaching Garden. You'll all see the results in the spring.

To Rita Dods for all the home-baked goodies she brings to our office.

A big bouquet of roses — looking forward and back — to Marilyn Marshall for her unfailing dedication to the education of children, parents and the world!

A large bouquet of roses to Hilary for meeting us at the ferry terminal. PJ

A big bunch of roses to the staff at the recycling depot for helping my mother and, I'm sure, many other seniors with their recycling.

Roses to the staff at Curves for considering my concerns about the wording in "Points to Ponder" and for doing an all 'round great job!

A red, scented rose for Paris Haase for looking after his friends on Hallowe'en night.

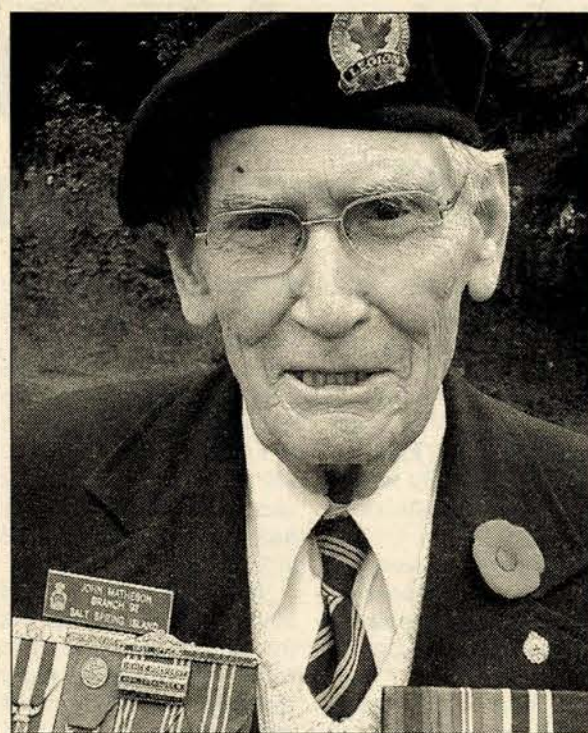
A big bouquet of roses to John and Debbie Cade of Royal LePage for making the purchase of our beautiful home on Salt Spring possible. Thank you for enduring all our quirks, phone calls, faxes etc. Thanks for going out of your way to make a stressful move very smooth.

Roses to the Gulf Islands School District for putting up "No Idling" signs around the schools in the district. The students thank you!

Roses to Jack Rosen at Island Escapades for helping out with sending soccer balls to kids in Rupununi, Guyana. You have helped make a lot of kids very happy!

A huge thanks to Chris, who quietly follows me around the island making sure I am warm in the winter! Many blessings on your big heart.

I would really like to thank the people who returned my lost radio to the newspaper office. It's very much appreciated. It's nice to know people still take time from their busy lives to help out others. TG



Name: JOHN M. MATHESON
537/538/653: 537
Occupation(s): Retired.
Hobbies: Mostly gardening and golf.
Home finished/unfinished: Finished.
Favourite people: Members of Branch 92 Royal Canadian Legion.
Favourite read: MacLeans, Readers' Digest, and newspapers (including the Driftwood).
Best thing about SSI: Quiet way of life for our seniors.
Worst thing about SSI: I can't find anything to complain about.
Best place to kiss on SSI?: At my age — on the home-front.



DERRICK'S ISLAND PICS

Prices Effective: NOV. 12 - NOV. 18, 2003
 WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES

OPEN EVERYDAY
 Thurs Until 8pm, Fri. until 9pm

SIDNEY SUPER FOODS
 2531 BEACON AVE. "Sidney-By-The-Sea"
 SINCE 1964

Let's Start Baking! ENTER TO WIN! One of many kitchen appliances

WE OFFER YOU QUALITY BEEF, MEATS AND FRESH PRODUCE... NOBODY CHOPS PRICES MORE!!

FRESH PORK SHOULDER	LILYDALE AIR CHILLED BACK ATTACHED FAMILY PACK FRESH FRYING CHICKEN LEGS	CUT FROM CANADA GR. "AA" OR "A" BEEF
* Country Style Spare Ribs	98¢ lb	Prime Rib Premium Oven Roast 12.96kg 5.88 lb
* Boneless Pork Cubes for sweet & sour		Beef Rib Grilling Steaks 14.29kg 6.48 lb
* Breaded Pork Cutlets		Fresh Cut Beef Stew 6.57kg 2.98 lb
* Butt Steaks 4.14kg 1.88 lb	FRESH BONELESS PORK SHOULDER BUTT ROAST 4.14kg 1.88 lb	FLETCHER'S REGULAR OR THICK SLICED Side Bacon 500g pkg 4.28
FRESH Ground Pork 3.48kg 1.58 lb		GRIMM'S Classic Sausage Rings 500g pkg 4.98
FRESH BREAST BONE REMOVED Pork Side Spare Ribs 4.81kg 2.18 lb		Fresh Oysters 8oz tub 3.28
BC NO. 1 MEDIUM WHITE MUSHROOMS 4.37kg 1.98 lb	BC GROWN ONIONS 3lb bag 89¢	FRESH AVOCADO 2/1.00
GREEN GIANT RUSSET POTATOES 10lb bag 2.88	BC GROWN CARROTS 2lb bag 59¢	SQUASH 86c/kg 39¢ lb
FROZEN FOODS	MINUTE MAID ORANGE OR Grapefruit Juice 355ml tin 1.15	ACORN SPAGHETTI BUTTERCUP
DELNOR Spinach 300g pkg 99¢	TENDERFLAKE Pie or Tart Shells 300-397g pkg. 2.19	Ed Smith No sugar added Jam 250ml jar 2.48
ISLAND FARMS Country Cream Ice Cream 11 tub 2/7.99	PARADISE ISLAND Mozzarella Cheese 340g pkg 3.19	Kraft Peanut Butter 2kg jar 1.95
DAIRY	KRAFT SINGLES Cheese Slices 1kg pkg 6.88	Quaker Instant Oatmeal 298-400g box 2.18
PREMIUM PLUS	KRAFT Cheez Whiz 1kg jar 6.88	PG Tips Tea Bags 72's box 78¢
ISLAND FARMS Fromagic "New!" 4's pkg. 1.99	ISLAND FARMS Imperial Margarine 3b EA 2.99	Quaker Muffets 500g bag 3.29
DEL MONTE Fruit Cups 4's pkg 2.48		Folgers Ground Coffee 300g pkg 2.77
DELI	BAKERY	MCGAVIN'S BUTTERCUP BREAD * WHITE * 60% WW 570g loaf 99¢
SCHNEIDERS CORNED BEEF BRISKET per 100g 1.29	FRESH BAKED WHITE OR MULTIGRAIN MINI FRENCH LOAF EA 1.29	COUNTRY HARVEST CINNAMON RAISIN BREAD 675g loaf 2.19
Merrill's Raisins * Sultanina * Thompson 375g pkg 77¢	Robin Hood All Purpose White Flour 10kg bag 1.99	DEMPSTER'S BREAD * MULTIGRAIN * 12-GRAIN 680g loaf 2/3.99
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Robin Hood Oats 1.35g pkg 2.48	ISLAND BAKERY BREAD "PREMIUM" 100% W.W. 570g loaf 1.29
Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	Jello No-Joke Dessert 294g box 2.19	SNACKERY Pancake Mix 1kg pkg 1.98
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	MAINSTAY Cat Food 4kg bag 4.29
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	TIDE Laundry Detergent 12l box 8.99
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	BOUNTY WHITE Paper Towels 2 roll pkg 1.88
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	EXTRA LARGE, 3 PLY Puff's Facial Tissue 50's box 1.49
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	CHAPMAN Bathroom Tissue 24 roll pkg 5.99
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	DARE Simple Pleasures 300g box 1.78
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	Sunnyvale Drinking Beans 5x200ml pkg 5.00
Golden Boy Coconut 200g pkg 1.19	Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix 450g box 1.99	Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks 153g box 3.00

Stitches Quilt Shop

5TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIALS!

25% off everything in the store
 (excluding consignment)

Present this ad to receive your gift.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday
 November 13, 14, & 15
 10:00am - 5:00pm

537-8985 **120 HEREFORD AVE.**

Even without aunts' homes on travel route, Britain offers acceptable places to sleep

Driftwood publisher Tony Richards and his wife Alice Richards spent the month of September in Britain. Following is the third in a series of articles.

By **TONY RICHARDS**
Staff Writer

Travellers have a right to be fussy about their accommodation, particularly when they're paying in the neighbourhood of \$150 for a place to be comfortable for the night. And that's what you'll end up paying in Britain.

My favourite place to stay is with any one of my aunts, of which I have a few in some rather nice locations — central Wales being one and the Isle of Arran in Scotland being another.

But barring the presence of aunts in your chosen destinations, you can rest assured that the bed and breakfast is

as ubiquitous in Britain as it is on Salt Spring Island.

During three and a half weeks in September, we used with some satisfaction a booklet entitled *Bed and Breakfast Select*, a listing of hundreds of B&Bs which have been individually tested by the authors.

For the most part we booked the night's accommodation first thing in the morning after planning our travels for the day.

This didn't always work out. On one occasion we found ourselves in the city of Dorchester, wandering around at six in the evening looking for a place to stay.

The local tourist information office was closed by then (and these offices provide an excellent booking service for a small fee all over Britain), so we were on our own, our

thoughts beginning to turn to the distasteful prospect of sleeping in the car.

However, we soon located a nice-looking little hotel in the centre of town. Alice went in to inquire about a room. She returned a few minutes later with the news that they had a room at the princely rate of \$185.

She had also been as bold as to ask where we might put the car for the night. The manager's pompous reply almost sent us off in search of something else.

"Madame," he stated, "this hotel was built before the invention of the combustion engine."

But we were tired and it was a quiet street. Besides, the manager, having warmed a little, assured us there was little crime in Dorchester.

One of the more memo-

orable places we found was a 17th-century cottage in Monmouth, south Wales. We stayed there a few nights, wanting to explore the Brecon Beacons and the Wye Valley, and enjoy our own cooking for a change.

This, of course, was one of those vacation rentals which we despise so much here, or self-catering cottages as they are known in Britain. Situated on an old farmstead, it was delightful, and cost us less than the average bed and breakfast.

Many B&Bs are located on working farms and we thought we'd try one. It was comfortable enough, but we never saw the farmer himself, who was off to do his chores by 5 a.m. His wife, meanwhile, had a harried look about her as she coped with half a dozen guests for break-

fast, along with a house full of children. She had little time for conversation.

Our worst experience was in a place we booked through the tourist information office in Canterbury. They found what we understood to be a 17th-century home in a little village up the road. It turned out to be a 1970s vintage home built around a 17th-century dining room. What little décor our room had was bland and tasteless.

Not only that, an amorous couple were going about their business with youthful enthusiasm when we walked past their (thin) door at five in the afternoon. The squeaky bed and the cries of delight could be heard from some distance.

The biggest challenge locating accommodation was faced before we had even left. We wanted to have a hotel

room waiting for us when we arrived in London. I spent hours reviewing hotels on various websites, horrified at the prices and fearful of what any one of them might be like.

I'm fussy: the bed has to be firm, the window must open and I won't abide noisy parties in nearby rooms. Luckily, we found what we wanted in the Radisson Edwardian in Bloomsbury. It was a little warm, being an old hotel with no air conditioning, but its location was perfect, near the British Museum and within walking distance of the theatre district.

We slept as soundly as we did on any night with my dear aunts, the chief differences being that they charged about \$250 less and gave us excellent company. One cannot have too many aunts in Britain.

Just call me unsuitable

"I had spent the whole of my savings . . . on a suit for the wedding — a remarkable piece of apparel with lapels that had been modelled on the tail fins of a 1957 Coupe de Ville and trousers so copiously flared that when I walked you couldn't see my legs move."
— Bill Bryson

Okay, men — the jig is up. Abandon your sweats and mothball your Levis. Trot your sneakers and T-shirts down to the Salvation Army Thrift Shop for the delectation of society's more desperate and less discriminating dressers.

For those of us who are au courant and in the know, comfort is out. Men's suits are officially back in style.

Recently, the "Style" section of the *Globe and Mail* ran a whole feature on how men will shortly be abandoning the casual look for the more traditional two- and three-piece garment that ruled white-collar dress codes for most of the last century. Moreover, that journal of foppery, *Gentleman's Quarterly*, concurs.

GQ's style arbiters recommend a "minimum" wardrobe of three suits plus an ensemble of blazers, sports coats and assorted trousers to mix and match.

So there it is, guys. Nothing for it but to go out and surrender to the first clothier you see. Let him drape and encumber you with swathes of Hugo Boss and Armani while backroom gnomes jab straight pins into your wrists and ankles and rudely measure your inseam.

Oh, yeah — and don't forget to pick up a half a dozen ties, too. Shouldn't set you back more than, say, a grand — maybe 15 hundred bucks?

Excuse me while I laugh hysterically.

This menswear edict gets truncated from the rom-

parts every year about this time. The fashion fascists send out a spokesman to announce the death of "active sportswear," as it's called, and to herald the resurrection of "the suit."

And every year, a crushing majority of North American males blithely ignore the decree and go on wearing their Polos and turtlenecks, Dockers and tennis shoes.

Every autumn some Style Stalinist tries to round us up and rein us in, like a schoolmarm with an unruly class. Fun's fun, they sniff, but the time has come to put away our dowdy duds, form up in orderly rows and dress like proper gentlemen.

Ain't gonna happen, folks. Oh, we'll each hang on to an emergency suit for weddings and funerals, and of course the boys on Bay Street won't abandon their capitalist monkey uniforms anytime soon, but for the rest of us, men's clothing options have just become too damned comfortable — especially compared to the suit.

The men's suit was always a profoundly stupid idea — too hot in summer; pathetically inadequate in the face of a Canadian winter; and too bewildering all the time. Are lapels wide or narrow this year? How many buttons per sleeve? Are vented jackets back in? How about flared trousers? To cuff or not to cuff?

And where do you put your wallet, car keys, note pads and cell phone without making yourself look like a walking bag of walnuts?

For those who would argue that the business suit conveys a sense of authority and purpose, I have just two words: Jerry and Seinfeld.

It was Seinfeld who observed: "The suit is the universal business outfit for men. I don't know why people think it projects this image of power."

"We'd better do what this guy says, his pants match his jacket!"

For me, the concept of business-suit-as-Superman-cape was vaporized forever by a fellow named Chip Young, a freelance writer I knew many years ago in Toronto. Chip was known for three things: good writing, his silk-and-honey Tennessee accent, and the fact that he never, ever wore a suit and tie.

Not that he was a slob. Chip wore clean, pressed duds, but they leaned towards the sweaters and slacks end of the sartorial spectrum.

Which was unusual back then — reporters and writers were expected to "dress up" for interviews or press

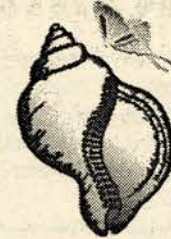
conferences. I remember the time Chip showed up at the door of the Premier's office in the Ontario Legislature for a pre-arranged interview. Chip was wearing khakis, a Polo shirt and a windbreaker. An officious minion from the Premier's office stood in the doorway, looked him up and down with unconcealed disdain and asked him what he wanted.

"Ah'm heah to interview the Premier," said Chip mildly.

"What?" huffed the minion, "Dressed like THAT?"

Chip smiled his lazy Tennessee smile and said, "Ah can afford to dress like this. What's yoah excuse?"

WIT &
WHIMSY
WITH ARTHUR BLACK



Dr. Alda Blanes
Chiropractor

290 Churchill Road
537-8896

30+ Years Combined
Real Estate Excellence

Buyers and Sellers Agents



DONNA REGEN CGA
expectexcellence@
saltspring.com



KERRY CHALMERS
kerrychalmers@
saltspring.com

Best price possible!

Best service
imaginable!

We promise...

Pager 1-800-731-7131

www.gulfislandsrealestate.com

the most up to date real estate website for SSI

RE/MAX Realty of Salt Spring Island



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

ATTENTION FARMERS

Did your farm income drop in 2003?

You may qualify for an advance through **Producer Assistance 2003**. This is a transition measure until new business risk management programming is fully in place for 2003.

To be eligible, you must have completed six months of farming activity and a production cycle in your 2003 fiscal year.

For more information
and to get your application form,
call toll-free **1-866-367-8506**
or visit the Web site at

www.agr.gc.ca/producerassistance2003

Canada

BRITISH
COLUMBIA



WELCOMING SMILES: Debbie Wrate, right, takes over local Welcome Wagon duties from Marlie Kelsey, left, who has become Vancouver Island area manager for the Welcome Wagon organization.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Residents asked to declare gas cans

Islanders shouldn't be alarmed if B.C. Ferries ticket booth staff ask if they are carrying containers of gasoline onto ferries.

The company is concerned about safety, not where islanders are buying their gas.

This isn't a new question, said B.C. Ferry Services communications officer Stephen Nussbaum.

"It probably should have been done all the time," he said. "It's not so much a matter of not being able to take it, but declaring it and having it in the right container so that it's safe."

Under the 1985 Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) Act, individuals must declare all dangerous goods at the terminal ticket booth or to a ferry officer.

Each driver can transport up to 25 litres of additional gasoline in a spare container. Foot passengers aren't allowed to carry gasoline on board.

Nussbaum said ferry staff need to know if additional gasoline is on board.

"People should declare it so we can separate it from other cargo and so we can load the vessels safely," he said.

Random checks are done at the terminal.

"[Ferry workers] should be checking on a regular basis," said Nussbaum. "They don't necessarily check everyone but one or two randomly. It is a responsibility of our customers to make us aware if they're carrying gas. The captain knows what he has aboard in case of an emergency."

INDEPENDENT CONCRETE LTD.
 EFFORT = CONCRETE RESULTS Ph: 250-478-0555
 Concrete Accessories • Portable Batch Plant
 ON SITE MOBILE CONCRETE PLANT
 NOW SERVING THE GULF ISLANDS
 SMALL LOADS UP TO 5.6M³

SIDNEY TRAVEL & CRUISE
 SERVICE LTD. REG. #3694-5
 AT THE LANDMARK
 #105-2506 Beacon Ave., Sidney, B.C. V8L 1Y2
 • Your full service travel agency • Exciting cruises & great destinations
 • Business travel & holiday vacations
 • Travel insurance available for peace of mind
 Call
(250) 656-0905 or 1-800-223-5256

Debbie Wrate takes reins of island Welcome Wagon

With promotion of Marlie Kelsey to Vancouver Island area manager for Welcome Wagon, Salt Spring has a new representative.

From her community involvement and years of working as a travel agent and now at the Moutat's office, Debbie Wrate is a familiar face to islanders.

Now she will be one of the first people new residents meet on the island, and a friendly visitor for new parents and brides-to-be.

"I love to meet new people," said Wrate of her decision to accept Kelsey's offer of the position.

And since doing the rounds together, Wrate has felt great about taking on the task, even if she has big shoes to fill.

"Marlie is a very good ambassador for the community. I was really impressed," said Wrate.

"You're helping peo-

ple," said Kelsey. "That's a big part of it."

Welcome Wagon hosts also encourage people to volunteer and to support the local economy.

Kelsey said Welcome Wagon visits an average of eight to 10 new families per month and between one and four families with newborns.

Less known so far is the Welcome Wagon bridal basket.

Wrate is inheriting a top-notch Welcome Wagon system, with baskets that have achieved national recognition.

"We have the ninth largest basket in Canada," said Kelsey, "and have had the biggest baby basket in Canada for several years."

Basket recipients and other Welcome Wagon groups have marvelled at the generosity of the Salt Spring business community.

At least 42 sponsors par-

ticipate, she noted.

Salt Spring's Welcome Wagon organization has also been honoured as the best in western Canada, and it's that kind of success that led to Kelsey's promotion to Vancouver Island area manager.

"I'll be out there signing up new sponsors and opening up areas," she explained.

Kelsey will remain living on Salt Spring.

The Welcome Wagon organization celebrates 75 years of operation in 2005. While it was initiated in the United States, it has been a 100 per cent Canadian group since the 1970s, said Kelsey.

Anyone wanting a Welcome Wagon visit should call Wrate at 537-5071. Others can also make referrals if they know of someone who qualifies to receive a basket.

arvid unglued

a 25 year perspective
 mahon hall, Friday Nov.14/03
 8pm tickets \$15 cdn. or \$35 u.s.
 @ acoustic planet, unsolds @ door

Fun & Games!

NEW **Expires Nov. 26th**

OCEANOPOLY
PEOPLES OF THE PLANET
BIOVIVA
CAT IN THE HAT-OPOLY

Clip Chloe's coupon & save 10% on all games
Salt Spring Books 104 McPhillips Ave

PUBLIC AUCTION
 OF FINE PERSIAN & ORIENTAL CARPETS
 DEFAULT JUDGEMENT
COURT ORDER
 IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
 REGISTRY NO. S065779

Examples of inventory:

Fine silk & wool masterweaves, unique tribal & village rugs, sun washed Baluchis, Mori Kirman, Bokharas, investment calibre, Bidjar, Heriz, Kashan, Kashmiri, Khan Mohammadi, Ispahan, Qum, Haldaris, Multan, Sultanabad, Uzbek, Tea washed Jaipur, Vegetable dyed Agras, dining & living room sized carpets, runners and many more in small to large sizes.

DATE: MONDAY, NOV 24, 2003
TIME: AUCTION @ 7PM, VIEWING @ 6PM
LOCATION: ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, 120 BLAINE ROAD

CASH, VISA, M/C, AMEX, 15% BUYERS PREMIUM, PLUS GST & PST TO BE ADDED, ALL SALES FINAL, NO REGISTRATION FEE. ITEMS SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALES, ERRORS & OMISSIONS. LICENSED & CONTRACTED AUCTIONEERS, SOME ITEMS SUBJECT TO RESERVE.
 BUCKINGHAM AUCTIONS LTD. 604-538-3084

GE food survey at GVM, Thrifty's

Islanders' feelings on Genetically Engineered Foods (GEFs) will be polled at two local grocery stores over the next few weeks.

Saltspringers for Safe Food — a group that encourages informed consumer food choices — will be conducting brief consumer surveys on GEFs at both Ganges Village Market and Thrifty Foods during November.

The purpose of the survey is to determine the level of shoppers' awareness and concern over GEFs on Salt Spring.

The group hopes that collection of this kind of local data will assist Salt Spring food distributors and producers with their future buying and growing decisions.

The group plans to poll 400-600 consumers, whose assistance and cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Saltspringers for Safe Food has extended thanks to GVM and Thrifty Foods for their "ongoing support and cooperation."



REACHING FOR ROCK: Jasper Snow Rosen climbed all seven summits at The Wall's marathon Sunday.

Photo by Carey Rudisill

Climbers go to great heights at marathon fundraising event

By CAREY RUDISILL
Staff Writer

Participants in The Wall's third annual climbing marathon on Sunday scaled what some might call a large mountain.

Meredith Knox, director of youth services with Community Services, said participants in Sunday's marathon climbed 41,000 feet. "We climbed Everest and then some," she said.

Knox wanted residents to come out and climb over 142,000 feet (43,000 metres), the equivalent of the highest summits on seven continents, in hopes of raising money to pay for the wall's higher

insurance costs.

The event, however, ended up being more about promoting the space as a place to stay fit and have fun.

"We didn't raise any money. The climbers were all people involved in The Wall," said Knox.

Eleven-year-old Jasper Snow Rosen climbed all seven summits marked inside The Wall from Everest to Kilimanjaro.

Seven-year-old Alexander Graham won a one-year membership for the wall for climbing the most feet.

"He climbed 13,200 feet. His parting shot was 'I could climb another 1,000 feet,'" said Knox.

Jack Rosen came in a close second at 13,000 feet, while Nigel Elliot got the most points for the fewest climbs.

Knox said residents' awareness of the wall is increasing despite the low turn-out on Sunday.

"We have had more people coming into The Wall and sold several year memberships lately," she said. "Part of raising money is getting more people coming in."

Knox and volunteers from The Wall plan to hold a climbing competition in January.

"It'll be a much bigger affair," she said.

Thinking of Moving to the Nanaimo-Parksville area?



You'll like our Real Estate prices.
Contact me (former Salt Spring Islander)
for Real Estate information toll free
at 1-866-668-0455 or
bbetts@remaxofnanaimo.com

BRIAN BETTS
RE/MAX of Nanaimo
#1-5140 Metral Drive



Trust Council sets Dec. agenda

Islands Trust Council has released the schedule for its next quarterly meeting, set for December 3-5 in Victoria.

Session topics include the Trust area governance renewal proposal, an update on Parks Canada's national marine conservation area, discussions with Agricultural Land Commission representatives about the Trust assuming some decision-making authority, and the Trust's annual budget planning session.

As explained by Salt Spring trustees Eric Booth and Kimberly Lineger at the

Lions Hall town hall meeting on Saturday, council will look at introducing a differentiated property tax rate to shift the burden of Trust taxes somewhat from larger islands with higher-assessed properties to smaller islands.

The popular town hall segment of the meeting, where members of the public can informally address the Trust area's 26 trustees and senior staff on topics of concern, runs from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Friday, December 5.

Delegations can make formal five-minute presentations following the town hall.

To reserve delegation time, people should forward requests to the corporate secretary, including the subject, name and address of the speaker, to the Islands Trust Victoria office, #200, 1627 Fort St., Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8; fax (250) 405-5155; e-mail information@islandstrust.bc.ca by 4:30 p.m., Monday, November 24.

A detailed schedule is available from the Trust office or on the website: www.islandstrust.bc.ca.

Copies of the governance renewal proposal are also available through Trust offices and on the website.

Your vehicle's interior will be spotless!

Steam cleaning from \$60
Fall interior cleaning from \$110

- Exterior Wax & Polish
- Hand Washes
- Engine Shampooing
- Paint Protection

SALT SPRING ISLAND CAR WASH & DETAILING
537-1180

Call Nathan for estimates and an appointment
347 Upper Ganges Rd. (at Salt Spring Mini Storage)

2 MONTH CLASSIFIED AUTO PACKAGE
\$29⁹⁵ (8 weeks)

Advertise your car, boat, truck, trailer, RV or motorcycle for sale for up to 8 weeks!

- 20 words
- 1 vehicle per ad
- Pre-paid, non-refundable
- Private party
- Maximum 8 weeks

Driftwood 537-9933

Interac, VISA, MasterCard, DIRECT PAYMENT

Students and budding young writers...

The deadline for our annual writing contest is Friday, November 28. Win a cash prize for a story of up to 500 words about Christmas or the Christmas Season.

- Write a story of 500 words or less whose topic relates to Christmas or the Christmas season.
- All Gulf Islands students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are eligible.
- Stories will be judged by retired teachers and librarians on quality of writing, clarity of presentation and originality of theme.
- Winning entries will be published in the Driftwood in December.
- The name, age, address and telephone number of the writer must be written on the back of each entry.
- Send entries to the Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3, email to driftwood@gulfislands.net or fax to 250-537-2613.
- For more information, call 250-537-9933.

Teachers:

We'll award a cash donation of \$100 on behalf of the class with the highest participation level to the charity of their choice!

Gulf Islands
Driftwood



WHEEL DONATION: Gordon Ford passes on his OK Tire contest winnings to Lady Minto Hospital Foundation president Wendy Shea Friday. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Ford donates winnings to Minto hospital foundation

While Salt Spring resident Gordon Ford had his name drawn in an OK Tire Store contest, the real winner is the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation.

Ford was one of 40 nationwide \$1,000 winners in the Canada Cash Giveaway Contest — and one of two from the Duncan OK Tire Store.

But the hospital foundation ended up as beneficiary since the contest asked winners to present the \$1,000 to a charity of their choice.

Ford has long been a supporter of Lady Minto Hospital, which influenced the deci-

sion for he and wife Lucy to move to Salt Spring.

Foundation president Wendy Shea said she was thrilled to receive the donation.

"Thanks to the generosity of donors such as Mr. Ford, the foundation has been able to begin construction on the expanded operating room and palliative care suite, has purchased a new anaesthetic machine, and helped to provide state-of-the-art laboratory and surgical equipment. All of these improvements would not be possible without community support," notes a hospital foundation press release.

Volunteers keep Soup's On simmering on front-burner

It's hard to say whether it's been government cut-backs or a chilly November cold-front that's been responsible for pushing up attendance at the local Soup's On free-lunch program offered at All Saints By-the-Sea.

But the numbers of hungry people have been growing again recently, from as few as 40 a few weeks ago, up to 60 or 70 a week now, said coordinator Janet Murray.

"It's free lunch for anyone who wants it."

She organizes a group of 45 volunteers into a rotating schedule to cook up soups and sandwiches for islanders from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays.

"We get all sorts of people. They're all here," Murray said.

She sees older people, younger people and single moms with babies.

"There are a lot of people who are quite marginalized."

And some hungry islanders need even more than a meal, she said.

"My understanding is that there are people who are camping and there are some people living in trailers without heating."

Each week, volunteer cooks concoct two pots of soup and slice nine loaves of bread into sandwiches.

"We always have egg sandwiches because they are a low-cost protein . . . The cooks have learned how to economize."

But the group also sees tuna and cheese sandwiches to add variety.

There's almost always a vegetarian soup to suit island palates, while a second soup often includes meat, she said.

"Last week it was a hearty potato barley, the week before it was a popular Chinese vegetable. Some weeks we have pea soup with or without ham."

Coffee is also available and most of the lunch visitors stay for the whole time, she said.

"The real emphasis is to make it home-like and have a family feel to it."

Soup's On has been providing lunches once a week for three years but it would be difficult to expand their operation to meet growing need, Murray said.

"At this stage we are limited by our volunteers."

Most volunteers are over 65 years old and some are more than 80, she said.

"It's a big commitment to people."

The local Anglican Church also collects food for the food bank and Murray noted that other island churches provide similar services.

Asked how churches will respond to the first wave of welfare cuts slated for April, Murray was apprehensive.

"I think the churches are doing quite a bit . . . Unless we get more volunteers, we can't look at expanding."



richard j. wey & associates
land surveying inc.

Richard J. Wey BCLS

Legal, Engineering and Topographical Surveys
Subdivision Planning

The Oakville-Suite 106-9717 Third St., Sidney, BC V8L 3A3
Telephone (250) 656-5155 • Fax: (250) 656-5175



Dr. Teresa Strukoff, B.Sc., N.D.
NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIAN

- Clinical Nutrition
- Botanical Medicine
- Homeopathy
- Chinese Medicine & Acupuncture
- Lifestyle Counseling

The Salt Spring Health Centre
130 McPhillips Ave.
Salt Spring Island, BC

To book an appointment phone: 537-3220 / tstrukoff@hotmail.com

Psychic skills and intuition boosted by Goode workshop

Islanders are invited to spend a weekend opening themselves "to ways of sensing and knowing the world" in a transformative workshop with Sage Goode.

A Wiccan priestess and teacher, Goode returns to Salt Spring November 21-23 to offer a workshop at Beaver Point Hall titled Awakening Psychic Skills.

As explained in a press release, "the workshop will give participants the opportunity to practise skills and

techniques for engaging with the psychic, spirit and energy realms. For the beginner, this is a safe and supportive environment to discover one's intuitive self. Others with more experience will be able to deepen their psychic awareness."

Many people don't trust their intuition and psychic understanding, notes the release.

"In our overall society, intuitive skills are denied

and unsupported."

Awakening Psychic Skills is part of an ongoing series called Witching Our World Awake (WOWA), which is offered periodically on Salt Spring Island.

For more information on the weekend workshop or the ongoing WOWA series, contact Angelique at 537-2021 or sacredcreation@hotmail.com.

Workshop space is limited, so people should register early.



Salt Spring Island Community Services

268 Fulford-Ganges Rd.
537-9971

ALL OF OUR SERVICES ARE FREE

- * **24 HR. CRISIS LINE:** Dial 0 and ask for ZENITH 2262 (no charge). Caller is connected with the Need Crisis Centre in Victoria.
- * **EMERGENCY FOOD BANK:** Open Tuesday 11-3.
- * **COUNSELLING SERVICES:** Crisis and short-term counselling provided by Community Workers.
- * **ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM:** Prevention & treatment service is free & confidential.
- * **FAMILY PLACE: PARENT & CHILD DROP IN** - Monday closed, Tuesday 9-1, Wednesday 1-4, Thursday 9-1 - walk in Mouat Park 10-11am followed by Family Place Drop In and snack, Friday 10:30-2:30, Rughuggers 11-1pm. Family Place Coordinator Rona Robbins, M. Ed. Counselling by appointment 537-9176.
- * **RECYCLE DEPOT:** Open Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00am-5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 537-1200.
- * **COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS COORDINATOR:** Call Sharon Glover at 537-4607.
- * **Emergency Mental Health Services available:** 4pm to midnight. Access is available through the Emergency Rm at Lady Minto Hospital call: 538-4840

Sharon's Country Home
is now featuring the "Wellness Home"

Give yourself and your family the very best in life's basic needs!

Optimal WATER:
ultra-filtered re-mineralized water at a fraction of the cost of bottled water

Ultimate SLEEP:
beds, pillows, comforters etc. using advanced sleep technology for increased energy and reduced stress

Cleaner AIR:
the most advanced AIR filtration system

And much much more...

Think "optimum wellness"...

Come in and see for yourself

Sharon's Country Home
Kitchens • Baths • Decorating • Furniture
AT GRACE POINT SQUARE 537-4014

IS YOUR WELL WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

Contamination can occur without changes in colour or taste.

\$25.00 per test • Results in 24 hours
Be Safe • Test Annually!

MB LABS

2062 Henry Avenue W.
Sidney, B.C. V8L 1Y5

656-1334

S.P.C.A. 9th Annual GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION

Saturday November 15th
MEADEN HALL - The Legion

Doors open at 6:00 pm - Auction starts at 7:00 pm

S - something for everyone
P - pottery and local crafts
C - culinary delights
A - art and entertainment

A \$2 entry fee gets you a delicious dessert & the opportunity to bid on some great items. Come and have FUN!
Funds raised support our spay/neuter, vaccination, and adoption programs.
Thanks for caring.

Pear tree awaits its winter visitor

He always comes back to the same pear tree, attracted, I assume, to its sweet sap. Due to his devotion, the pear's trunk is neatly decorated with row after row of drill holes made by his tiny mallet of a beak.

OUR BETTER NATURE WITH LINDA CANNON



CAMOUFLAGED: This red-breasted sapsucker is tough to spot as it sits on the trunk of a local tree.

Photo by Jonathan Grant

The tree is old and strong; the annual autumn drilling doesn't seem to bother it. My pal probably contributes to the tree's health by dining on insects that would bore into the wood a great deal further than he.

This little guy, of course, is a red-breasted sapsucker. The drill holes he's installed in the pear tree act as wells, which fill with sap, attracting insects and therefore serving him as both entree and dessert.

Apparently hummingbirds will dine at sapsucker wells, too, although I've yet to witness that.

The red-breasted sapsucker is a small woodpecker, only about eight inches long. Sapsuckers are dressed in the usual British Columbia black and white woodpecker uniform, with the exception of a startling scarlet head and chest.

These are shy, quiet birds, uncommon winter visitors to the Gulf Islands, and you'll be lucky to see one. Their summers are spent in the Interior, and most sapsuckers returning to the Gulf Islands and southern Vancouver Island begin to do so in early September.

I'm hoping my particular sapsucker, as others, left the Interior before the forest fires started. Not much has been said about the Interior's forest fires' damage to wildlife and wildlife habitat, as we've all been concentrating on the loss of human homes.

We need to realize, however, that these fires destroyed wildlife homes too, and wintering birds moving through and into the area as well as next spring's birds migrating back will be out of luck. All will be forced to seek new territories in a neighbourhood already shrinking due to our human needs.

This is true also for the mammals, amphibians, insects and reptiles that lived there and had no warning system or evacuation plan to aid them and their families, and therefore many must have perished.

Toy depot, pick-up set

Santa's Workshop has a new home, thanks to the generosity of the OAP group at Central Hall.

Santa Bob Appleton and chief elf Judy Willett are gearing up for sorting toys in their new space.

Families wishing to register for toys may pick up registration forms from Salt Spring Community Services or from the youth and family counsellors Jamie Alexander and Trish Nobile, or from Maryanne Benwood or Norma Thompson.

Toys are provided for children aged 14 and younger.

This year families will be able to pick up their toys from Central Hall on December 18 or 19 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Islanders wanting to donate new or very gently used toys to Santa's Workshop can drop them off at Pharmasave, GVM, Mouat's and the North Salt Spring Waterworks District office beginning November 15.

Fabulous fungi featured at talk

Residents interested in picking mushrooms outdoors rather than from a supermarket display can learn more about the fungi at Lions Hall on Friday evening.

The slide show and talk will be given by mycologist Bryce Kendrick, and is sponsored by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy (SSIC).

As part of the group's Tourist in Our Own Backyard series, the talk also includes a walk on Saturday, but it is already full.

SSIC Education Committee chair Jean Gelwicks said the talk and walk program has been an

effective way to educate people about nature.

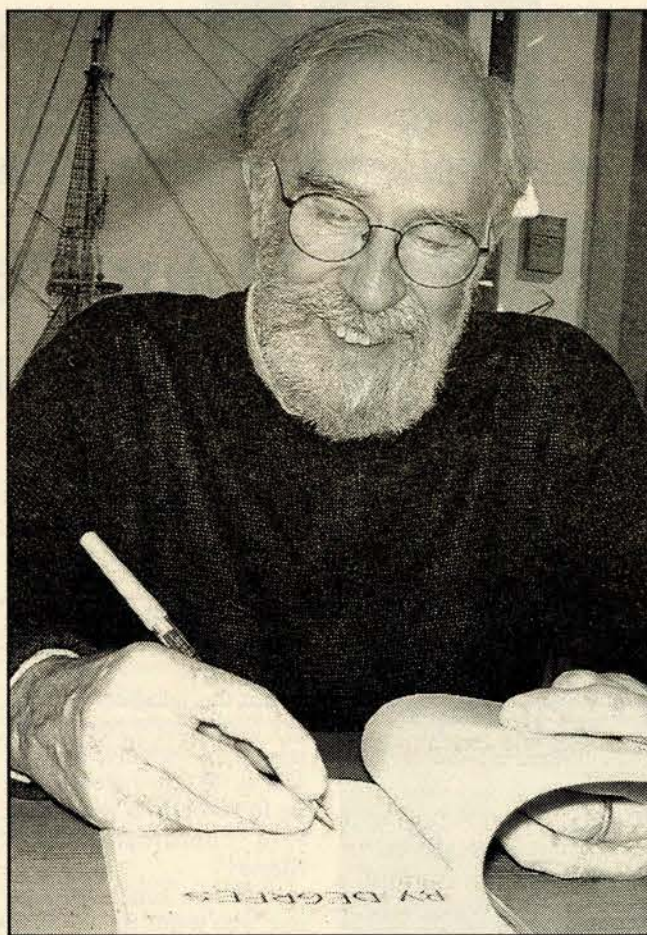
"People are so interested in mushrooms we could do it every other year," she said.

Gelwicks said she's pleased to have Kendrick come to the island as a speaker.

"He's very interested in education. He's given a lot of talks at all levels to get people excited and keen about mushrooms," she said.

Kendrick has studied fungi for 45 years and written over 300 publications and several books.

The talk will be held from 7-9 p.m. with a suggested \$5 donation for admission.



AUTOGRAPHED COPY: Salt Spring's newest author, Richard Moses, signs his book *By Degrees* at a launch party held Saturday in the ArtSpring lounge.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

PAUL B. JOYCE

Barrister & Solicitor

- REAL ESTATE & MORTGAGES•
- ICBC & PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS•
- WILLS & ESTATES • OTHER LEGAL SERVICES•

265 Don Ore Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2H5

Tel: 537-4413

Fax: 537-5120



ANDREW LEWIS B.Sc.
LANDSCAPE DESIGN & CONTRACTING
 Call to see portfolio • References available
 Tel. 653-4770

YARD SALE
 Got some sod to sell? Advertise it in the classifieds! **537-9933**

Community newspaper... Community people.



JENNA McBRIDE

Job Title: Office Assistant

Years at the Driftwood: 4 months

Life before the Driftwood: Lived in Calgary before moving to Salt Spring with her family

Life outside the Driftwood: A Grade 11 student at Gulf Islands Secondary School, Jenna is involved in leadership and is a youth team facilitator for SWOVA. She is also holding down two part-time jobs.

Home Theatre & Audio
 SALES & INSTALLATION



COMPETITIVE PRICING - custom design new & existing construction -10 years experience

RUNCO
 LEXICON
 LINN • DENON
 JM LABS
 HITACHI
 TOSHIBA
 SONANCE
 VANTAGE • NILES

Quantum Audio & Video Systems

Gulf Islands Driftwood

Your community newspaper since 1960



NEW STAFFERS: Phase II of the Community Economic Development project is well underway with new blood. From left are Laura Macguire, Cheryl Laxton, David Jacquest, Chamber of Commerce manager Perry Newport (representing a sponsoring group), Jim Scott and Jamie Mackie.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

CED sets sights on local items, affordable housing

New projects have been initiated with second phase of the Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development (CED) project now underway.

According to a press release, the CED project will work to identify unique products produced on the island, implementing the Made on Salt Spring logo designed last year.

It will encourage the use of Salt Spring Dollars to enhance community pride and involvement, and to enable the community-minded grants of the Salt Spring Island Monetary Foundation.

Another new initiative this year is to assist the Salt Spring Community Housing and Land Trust Society (SSCHLT) in its pilot project to build seven

small affordable homes for low-income working families.

At the same time, the CED project will seek to identify assistance small business owners might need or how a business association could be helpful.

This year's workshops will develop the skills of small business owners and otherwise further the island's commercial health.

Staff people working on the project based from the Chamber of Commerce office are Laura Macguire, Jamie Mackie, Jim Scott, David Jacquest and Cheryl Laxton.

CED is a community-based and community-directed process that combines social and economic development, fostering the

economic, social, ecological and cultural well-being of Salt Spring.

"The CED philosophy is an excellent fit for our unique community," states a press release. "CED has emerged as an alternative to conventional approaches to economic development. It is founded on the belief that problems facing a community — unemployment, poverty, job loss, economic instability, environmental degradation and lack of community control — need to be addressed in a holistic and participatory way."

Support for the CED project is provided by Human Resources Development Canada, Salt Spring Community Services and the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce.

Weird white bird returns to island

The mysterious white song sparrow has returned. "Snowdrop," as he is called by Fenya Audain, Jim Sutherland and their family, showed up at their Dukes Road property last week. It was first seen at about the same time in 2002, and earlier in the fall by residents on Beddis Road and Village Terrace.

Last year Salt Spring birder John Sprague described the leucistic song sparrow as "extremely rare."

SALT SPRING SNIPPETS

• Notice was late arriving, but Salt Spring is featured on the Martha Stewart Living show today, November 12. The Island Wildlife Natural Care Centre and Saturday Market are among items appearing on the show on the Life Network at 9 a.m., KING 5 at 10 or HGTV at 6 p.m.

A number of other stories filmed in B.C. this fall, including that of Salt Spring woodturner Kurt Frost, will appear in future episodes.

• Creative jack o'lanterns created by Rikarda Brobbel and Kaya Hunter were the people's choice winners in Harlan's Chocolates' Hallowe'en pumpkin-carving contest.

• Organizers of the November 15-16 Wen-Do self-defence course for women want to make sure people know it runs this coming weekend. Last week's Driftwood article stated it was "next weekend" and on "Saturday and Sunday" without stating the dates, which they felt may have caused some confusion.

To register or for more information, call Pat Barclay at 537-1958.

SSPLASH beats fundraising goal

A healthy financial picture was presented at the SSPLASH annual general meeting last Wednesday.

Past-president Kathy Page said, "financial reports were strong, with an end-of-year surplus of \$22,478 in cash, excluding the SSPLASH water monies.

Some \$5,491 was raised from the SSPLASH café operated by the indoor pool society. Its bottled water project netted a profit of \$6,231, plus inventory.

"Taking all of this into account, SSPLASH exceeded by a long way its target of earning \$20,000 in the first year," said Page.

Pledges are accounted for separately, she noted.

"Since Thrifty's generous pledge of \$100,000, other pledges are beginning to come in steadily, with pledges of \$5,800 in the month of October. A pledge of \$1,000 was


made during the AGM."

Darlene Steele was elected new society president, with Wayne Taylor as vice-president, Trudy Sloan as treasurer and Jean Southgate as secretary. Kathy Page, who stepped down from the presidency, remains as past-president.

Other board members are Ida Marie Threadkell, Garth Hendren, Jane Horsborough, Rita Sagness, Douglas Dunlap and Wendy Rosier. Steele spoke of the excitement and challenges ahead, said Page, and revealed some details of the upcoming Randy Bachman Pool Party concert at ArtSpring.


"Research into operating costs [for an indoor pool] continues and is looking positive," said Page.

She also encouraged current SSPLASH members to renew their memberships and to have friends join the group.



Helping you make more money by transforming your website into one that SELLS!

Michael Linehan
Marketing Alchemy
 537-2228
 www.marketing-alchemy.com




Erna Robertson R. TCM.P.
 Registered Acupuncturist, Registered TCM Herbalist

7A - 121 McPhillips Avenue
537-5233

Do you suffer with arthritis pain, migraines, insomnia or sleep disturbances, menstrual problems, menopausal symptoms, asthma, or any other chronic condition?

Chinese Medicine may help! I would be happy to answer your questions in a free 15 minute consultation.

CLASSIFIED HOTLINE: 537-9933



Live Well Clinics
 We take a personal interest in your health

The Flu shot
WHO NEEDS IT? YOU DO
 "The flu shot is your best defense against influenza."
 High risk groups include those over age 65, with a weakened immune system, or in close contact with those at high risk. You should be vaccinated if you belong to a high risk group.

Join us for our popular:
LIVE WELL FLU SHOT CLINIC
 Wednesday, November 12 (Ganges Uptown)

AND YOUR LAST CHANCE THIS SEASON
 Monday, November 17th

Appointments available between 9:00AM and 5:00PM
 Book your appointment today! The fee for this service is only \$15.

Live well with
PHARMASAVE®

DOWNTOWN 537-5534 UPTOWN 538-0323
 104 Lower Ganges Rd. 372 Lower Ganges Rd.

OPEN MON.-SAT, 9-6 / SUN & HOLIDAY MON. 11-5


LONGARM QUILTING SERVICES

Need a quilt completed for Christmas?

~ Book Now ~

Victoria Professional Quilting
Phone: (250)-472-2220
Email: proquilt@shaw.ca
Visit us on the web :
www.members.shaw.ca/proquilt

A Christmas Gift...



STOP SMOKING

You can "Stop Smoking" in only ONE HOUR without gaining weight and receive a FIFTY DOLLAR CHEQUE from us to take him/her out for dinner

\$50⁰⁰

★ What a Great Gift for yourself or that Special Person
 ★ "The Gift of Life"
 ★ November - December 2003 Only

Victoria Nanaimo
 250-385-2737 250-758-3827
 Upper Island 1-800-667-1088

LASER CENTERS for HEALTH
 - Franchising Available -



Flu season is back.

Influenza is a serious and contagious illness.

Every year, thousands of British Columbians are hospitalized from the influenza virus (flu). While anyone can contract the flu, people over the age of 65 are at the greatest risk of developing life-threatening complications.

A flu shot is the best protection.

Flu shots are proven to be 70-90% effective at preventing infection in healthy adults. That's why people who may spread the virus to those most at risk from the complications of flu are urged to get their flu shot every year. Because even if you're able to battle the flu virus on your own, those around you may not be so lucky.

Free for those who need it most.

Some people are considered "high risk" for contracting the flu or passing it on to others. The World Health Organization recommends that anyone considered high risk should be vaccinated. That's why the Government of British Columbia provides free flu shots to health-care workers, seniors, adults, and children with chronic illnesses and their families.

Myths about flu shots.

A flu shot will not give you the flu. The influenza vaccine does not contain live viruses. Many people believe flu shots weaken their immune system. This is also untrue. The vaccine actually boosts your immune system and prepares it to fight the virus. For most people, side effects are minimal if any.

Protect yourself and the people around you.

Please get a flu shot this season. Not only will it protect you from getting sick, it will also prevent others from being exposed to the influenza virus. All of which means fewer visits to the emergency room and/or hospital. In fact, influenza immunization contributed to about 1700 fewer hospitalizations for pneumonia and influenza in BC between 1999/2000 and 2000/2001.

HOW TO REDUCE THE RISK OF GETTING THE FLU

- Get a flu shot.
- Wash your hands often, especially during the winter months when the flu is most prevalent.
- Keep your hands away from your nose, eyes, and mouth.
- Stop or minimize smoking. It irritates the lining of your nose, sinuses, and lungs, making you more susceptible to the virus.
- Keep your immune system healthy by eating a balanced diet and getting plenty of exercise.

To arrange your flu shot, contact your doctor or public health unit. For more information, call BC NurseLine at **1-866-215-4700** (24/7) or visit **www.gov.bc.ca/healthplanning**.



BCHealthCare

Provincial
Health Services

Fraser
Health

Interior
Health

Northern
Health

Vancouver Coastal
Health

Vancouver Island
Health



BIRD OUTING: Margaret Guzauskas and Harley the macaw parrot share a moment of affection during a recent walk through Ganges. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Islanders brace for snake-condo development

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

An ecological building team is coming to Salt Spring to construct affordable housing for an endangered group of rare and elusive sharp-tailed snakes.

But the builders will need a little more volunteer labour to make that project a reality, said Sharp-Tailed Snake Recovery Team biologist Christian Engelstoft.

"We'll be hauling a bit of rock but there won't be any pressure to perform. It will be a low-key event and hopefully it would be fun."

Participants will learn how to create rocky habitats for the tiny (20-45 centimetre) snakes to help the at-risk population, Engelstoft said.

"They are very rare. I know that because I've been looking for them for a very long time."

Sharp-tailed snakes have only been found in eight locations around B.C.: six confirmed sites on the Gulf Islands, a recent sighting in Metchosin and a questionable sighting near Chase, he noted.

It's difficult to even estimate the population of B.C. "sharpies" because sightings have been so rare. And the snakes are not found in numerous populations when they are discovered, he said.

Engelstoft has been studying sharp-tailed snakes since 1996 and he's only found them at five locations on the Penders and two on Salt Spring. A total of 35 snakes were counted at one Pender site before three were killed by cars this year.

On a positive note, two sharp habitats were found in Vesuvius this year after Engelstoft held a workshop with the Salt Spring Island Conservancy in February.

"We have probably had in the neighbourhood of 10 sightings on each of these sites since the discovery this spring."

Island gardeners might be particularly interested in helping to promote sharpies since they live on a diet of slugs.

"Their diet is small slugs. That's the only thing we've been able to confirm."

Sharpies are burrowing snakes that can be spotted as early as February and as late as November, Engelstoft noted.

"They generally like it when it's a bit colder. Just before this cold-snap I found two on Pender last week."

The actual "snake-condo" building project will involve building a stacked-rock retaining wall with deeper pockets to facilitate hibernation and summer cooling, he said.

"There's a chance we might even see one."

Builders will also construct a hibernaculum, which is a pile of rocks with dirt insulation to provide places for snakes to hibernate for the winter. Sharpies like to lay their eggs on south-facing slopes or tree stumps within small clearings, he noted.

Engelstoft has not been able to examine natural sharp building designs because he does not want to disturb their few known sites. But he's based his habitat-restoration plan on designs for similar snake species.

"The project might work or it might not work. At worst, we have not done any harm."

He has limited funding to acquire building supplies from a local site, but will need approximately seven more volunteers to complete the project scheduled for November 29-30.

For more information, call Engelstoft (250-652-9770) or e-mail (snake.restoration@telus.net).

Linehan marketing first in CED series

An "inspiring speaker" and "strategic thinker" will talk on the power of marketing at the first of a series of free workshops organized by the Community Economic Development (CED) Project.

Michael Linehan of Salt Spring's Marketing Alchemy presents Maximum Marketing Power at Lions Hall, November 20, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The workshop will cover topics such as key principles for marketing success; development of strategic marketing plans; getting the most out of marketing dollars; and the importance of web marketing in your overall plan.

"Explosive" and "effective" are among the words used by previous Linehan workshops participants.

"An inspiring speaker and a strategic thinker, Michael's workshop is an event not to be missed by islanders who want to break through their barriers and grow their business up to their dreams," states press material.

"No matter the nature or size of the business, marketing is the central factor in its success. Every business owner/proprietor wanting to

improve their marketing — who is striving to grasp the opportunities effective marketing provides — will benefit from this workshop."

The event marks the first of several free CED Project workshops set to run over the next 10 months, addressing various issues important to the social and economic health of the community.

CED is a community-based and community-directed process founded on the belief that problems facing communities — such as unemployment, poverty, job loss, economic instability, environmental degradation and loss of community control — need to be addressed in a holistic and participatory way.

The CED Project is supported by Human Resources Development Canada, Salt Spring Island Community Services and the local chamber of commerce.

For more information about the Maximum Marketing Power workshop, or to register, please contact the CED Project office by phone, 537-4219; fax, 537-4276 or email: cedproject@saltspring.com.

Alzheimer talk tonight

Care of Alzheimer patients is the subject of a Bessie Dane Foundation talk set for this evening (Wednesday).

Irene Barnes, a community nurse with the Elderly Outreach Service, is guest speaker at the event, which takes place at the Salt Spring Seniors building, beginning at 7 p.m.

In addition to speaking on the various aspects of care for Alzheimer patients, she will discuss "caregiver well-being."

CAR & LIGHT TRUCK TIRE SALE
30% OFF
 HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR LIGHTS?
 ALL INSTOCK ALL SEASON RADIAL TIRES
 VISA Taxes, installation & balancing extra
HAROLD HARKEMA REPAIRS
 Automotive Repairs • Batteries & Tires
 427 Fulford Ganges Rd. • 537-4559 • Mon. - Fri. 8-5

DANCE!
FRIDAY Nov 14th DROP RADIO
 The Vesuvius Pub
 Just past the Vesuvius Ferry Terminal 537-2312

ADOPT A PETS TODAY



Ralph is a black and white neutered male who was found near Cusheon Lake.
 Hours: Weekdays 12-3pm
 Sat. Open House 2-4pm
 Sun/Stat. Holidays by appt.



Creampuff is a really big girl with the biggest, bluest eyes we've ever seen.
SPCA 24hr pager 537-2123

WE CLEAN ANYTHING!
 from clothes to household.
If its dirty, we can clean it!
 "Friendly service from people you know"
SALT SPRING Linen & Drycleaners Ltd.
 116 HEREFORD AVE., GANGES, 537-2241

G.I.S. SALES & RENTALS INC.
 "Thanks for all reasons"
 • Water storage
 • Septic, sewage-holding
 • Ecological systems
 • Sewage-treatment plants, filters
 WE WELCOME VISA • MASTERCARD • AMERICAN EXPRESS
PH: (250) 653-4013
 292 ARMAND WAY, SALT SPRING ISLAND, B.C., V8K 2B6

See us for a fast quote on all your building requirements!

- ✓ Concrete
- ✓ Insulation
- ✓ Flooring
- ✓ Painting
- ✓ Roofing
- ✓ Windows
- ✓ Heating
- ✓ Irrigation
- ✓ Eaves

- ✓ Siding
- ✓ Decking
- ✓ Fencing
- ✓ Lumber
- ✓ Tools
- ✓ Electrical
- ✓ Plumbing
- ✓ Septic Field (infiltrators)

Shop around... then we'll see you at Slegg's

SLEGG LUMBER LTD.
 Mon. - Fri. 7 - 5 / Sat. 8:30 - 5 / Closed Sunday
 804 FULFORD GANGES ROAD • 537-4978

GANGES VILLAGE MARKET
 "100% Island Owned and Operated"

TUESDAYS ARE 10% OFF DAYS
 (some restrictions apply)

MONDAYS ARE DOUBLE COUPON VALUE DAYS

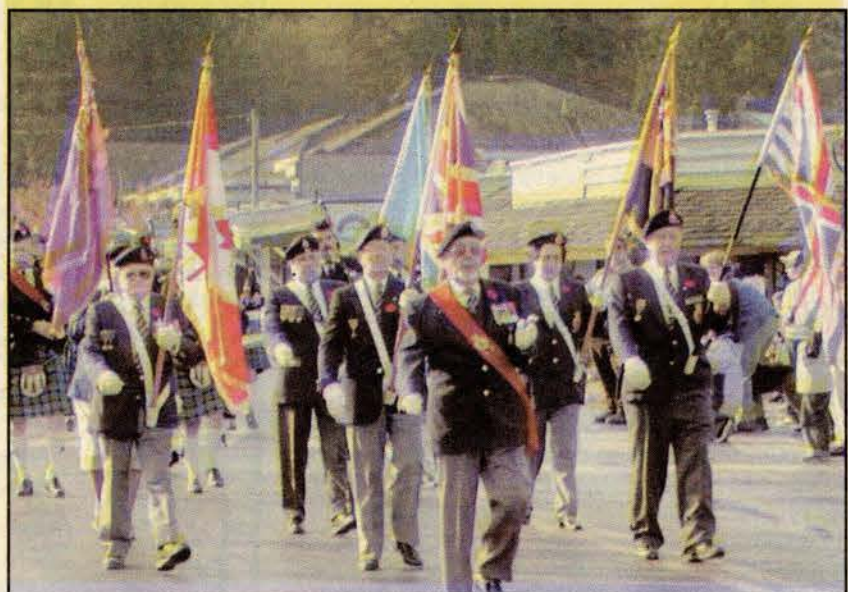
WORLD AIDS DAY WALK
 Monday, Dec. 1, 12:45 pm
 Centennial Park to GISS

Registration @ 11:30 am at Starbooks. Pledge Sheets Available at GVM

Saltspringers for Safe Food
 will be conducting a brief survey this month on Genetically Engineered Foods. A few minutes of your time would be greatly appreciated.

Watch for us at GVM over the next few weeks.

A day to remember



Derrick Lundy photos

GATHERING TO REMEMBER: Seen at Tuesday's Remembrance Day ceremony in Ganges were, clockwise from top: member of the local Legion saluting; Legionaires marching through Ganges; a girl guide holding a flag; parade participants standing; scouts watching at the Cenotaph; RCMP members parading and saluting; youngsters laying wreaths; a musician playing; people "remembering" during a minute of silence.

Older youth input needed

By RACHEL COPPING
Driftwood Contributor

Youth.comUnity is issuing a call for new members! The council, which is made up of youth and adult facilitators, needs more input, particularly from older youth aged 17-26.

"We're trying to figure out what activities and programs we should plan to offer youth that have already graduated," says a representative from the council. "We want to utilize the funds we have and encourage youth to become more involved in the community."

Several activities are already up and running for a younger crowd, such as DJ workshops, sports nights and

YOUTH COLUMN

games night.

- Games night is a weekly gathering at the Core Inn where youth get together and play board games every Friday from 6-9 p.m.

- The youth council also hopes to start up a hip-hop dance class, but cannot do so unless enough interest is shown. If you are a male or female between 15 and 26 and interested in joining a free dance class, please call Jesse Young at 537-8517.

- The youth council has organized a workshop to help them focus on leader-

ship skills. It will be held on Wednesday, November 19 at 6 p.m. at the Core Inn and is open to anyone interested in what youthcom.Unity is doing.

The workshop will be taught by SWOVA facilitator Pat Fagan.

It will concentrate on teaching leadership and communication, problem solving, how to make a group decision and how to get the word out to youth on Salt Spring Island.

- More exciting events are in the works, so if you are interested, remember that the council meets every other Wednesday at the Core Inn. Everyone is welcome to attend!

HILLSIDE LANDSCAPE GRAVEL MART
Est. 1981
When quality counts.
Now serving Salt Spring
Premium Top Soil
with
Cow or Chicken Manure
For friendly service call Al at 250-746-5548
Winter Hours. Please Call.
Delivery Anytime
Island Hwy. @ Bench Rd. under the Canadian flag, Duncan

CLASSIFIED HOTLINE
537-9933

SALT SPRING ISLAND is a
Welcome Wagon
COMMUNITY



Call Debbie Wrate who will bring gifts & greetings along with helpful information about your new community

537-5071
WELCOME WAGON
SINCE 1930

EXCLUSIVE
to the Co-op
DEACON VALE FARM FRESH TOMATO SAUCE
Certified Organic



Growing Circle Food Co-op
GASOLINE ALLEY
537-4247

Tuesday to Saturday
9:30am - 6pm
(closed Sunday, Monday & holidays)



"Local organic greens & bulk organic chocolate - who could ask for anything more?"
Karen Ferguson & Rowan Percy
Member Customers

INFRA-RED SAUNA

- ⌘ relaxing heat therapy
- ⌘ aids detoxification
- ⌘ soothing pain relief

Private sauna session only \$20.00, with up to one guest, at no additional charge.
Call to book your session, today!

EIGHT BRANCHES
Holistic Health Centre & Tea Room
538-1701

Bring this add in and receive \$5.00 off your session!

(Valid until November 30, 2003. One coupon per customer)