

\$125
(incl. GST)

Your Community Newspaper Since 1960

Wednesday,
March 31, 2004
44th year
Issue 13

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

BRUCE FIANDER
153 TRIPP RD
SALT SPRING ISLAND BC V8K 1K5
12/27/06

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Ganges Imports
- Pharmasave Salt Spring
- M&M Meat Natureworks
- Shops Newsletter
- Ganges Village Splash
- Market Home Hardware
- Thrifty Foods Calypso
- Southwood Interiors

INSIDE

Talented youth line up



Salt Spring punk band Steel Bananas prepare for the Salt Spring Idol competition. Page B1

Index

- Arts B1
- Classifieds B15
- Crossword B18
- Editorials A8
- Horoscope B19
- Letters A9
- Sports A21
- TV Listings B7
- What's On B14



OFF TO SEA: Members of Ganges Sea Ventures ply the waters of Ganges Harbour Monday, along with others on the newly acquired Thunderbird called The Shadow, as they meet another Sea Ventures group from Edmonton.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

HEU says yes to strike mandate

Salt Spring Hospital Employees' Union (HEU) members gave overwhelming support to a strike when they voted on the issue last week.

Ninety-two per cent of Greenwood's HEU members and 86 per cent of Lady Minto members voted "yes" to strike action in the March 23 vote.

Local HEU chair Claire Heffernan said she was pleased with the results, released Monday, which were similar to the province-wide 89 per cent strike mandate.

"We had the highest voter turn-out in HEU history," reported Heffernan. "We hope this vote sends a strong message to the health authorities to get them back to the bargaining table and restart contract negotiations," said Heffernan.

In the event of job action or a province-wide strike by the workers who provide food, housekeeping and other services, e levels will be maintained at Lady Minto and Greenwood's.

"HEU members will do everything to ensure that patients and residents are safe and comfortable," said Heffernan. "Our members will respond with extra staff in an emergency."

S said islanders could expect a reduction in services such as recreation activities and day programs.

E have demanded "100 pages" of contract wage and benefit concessions, while continuing to lay off HEU members, said Heffernan.

"Since contract negotiations began in January, 2,500 HEU members have received lay-off notices. In the past two years 6,000 workers have been fired, their jobs contracted out to multinationals and replaced with low-paying McJobs. A number of long established community hospitals and seniors homes have been closed — all under the smokescreen of saving money."

The Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) said last month that laying off

STRIKE VOTE A2

Vacation rentals among hot topics

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

Today's Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) could be one of the most hectic of the year, with several delegations and some contentious issues on the agenda.

Thirteen individuals have signed up to address the LTC, with 10 of those speaking on the vacation rentals issue.

While trustees Eric Booth and Kimberly Linerger may not be in a position to make a final decision at the 3 p.m. Wednesday Lions Hall meeting, it won't be for a lack of information.

The Advisory Planning Commission (APC) report and recommendations on vacation rentals was given to trustees and staff on

Monday.

Linerger said Trust regional planning manager John Gauld has also written a report on the issue and what actions could be "do-able."

"We may want to have John's report and the APC recommendations out there and give the community some time to respond," she said.

As reported a few weeks ago when the APC's primary recommendations were made public, the final document suggests the LTC consider bylaw amendments to allow short-term rental of residential property in two cases only:

- when home owners are temporarily absent from their primary residence; or
- if they live in the primary res-

idence and rent a cottage on their property for short-term vacation rental (STVR) use, making it, in effect, a B&B "without the muffins."

If the APC recommendations are adopted, all other categories of STVRs would remain illegal.

The APC also recommends "that bylaw prohibitions regarding STVRs be enforced," and that "the question of present and future balance between tourist and residential accommodation capacity be addressed in the upcoming official community plan review."

APC chair Sally John said the recommendations were not formed easily, adding that allegations of the APC being "biased" from the

TRUST MEETING A3

SIMS notes score with judges

Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) concert band players could be heading to a Canada-wide competition next year after impressing adjudicators at a National Standard of Performance competition in Port Alberni Friday.

The band scored an Excellent Plus (Superior Minus) at the MusicFest Canada-affiliated festival, and was one of 18 bands —

and the only one from this region — invited to compete at the national level.

Concert band teacher Mitch Howard said the kids were "pretty proud of themselves" following the event, where they garnered top-notch judges' comments.

"Playing arrangements that are this difficult, the next question is not 'how old you are,' but 'what

university are you attending?'" wrote one adjudicator.

"Before you even played a note, your poise, posture, focus and enthusiasm for music is obvious. I liked you already!" exclaimed another.

Students were praised for their fine ensemble sound, superior performance and overall calibre of play.

537-4090
MORTGAGE DEPOT

Weather

Sun and clouds are in the forecast for this week, with highs to 16 C on Friday, and overnight lows to 5 C Thursday.

Call today for the best GIC rates
BMO Nesbitt Burns
Joni Ganderton
Investment Advisor 537-1654

Internet Solutions
High Speed ADSL
Web Hosting
www.imagen.ca
Local Email Address Hardware Sales & Service
537-1950
imagen
Car and Truck Sales

BUDGET CAR SALES VICTORIA
Budget
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

Time for a change
It's that time again.
Growing daylight hours will be shifted forward when Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 a.m. on Saturday, April 3.
To remain in sync with the rest of the West Coast, islanders should move their clocks ahead by one hour.

CLASSIFIED HOTLINE: 537-9933

North Galiano hopes to spark a new fire protection society

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

A new organization to govern fire department affairs could be formed at the first general meeting of the North Galiano Fire Protection Society (NGFPS) on Saturday.

"It seems to make sense to have a single-purpose society that was only dedicated to fire-protection services," said NGFPS founding president Dana Weber.

"It needed somebody's undivided attention and it seemed the logical thing to do in the evolution of the fire department."

The fledgling NGFPS hopes to receive the fire-protection contract from the

Capital Regional District, which collects the fire-department levy on behalf of North Galiano residents and gives it to the non-profit North Galiano Community Association (NGCA).

NGCA governance will allow North Galiano residents to exercise greater control of their own fire-protection services, said NGFPS director and North Galiano firefighter Eileen Beaudine.

"Anybody in the world could join the NGCA and assist in making decisions on how the North Galiano fire protection dollars are spent. Our society is North Galiano residents or property owners only," Beaudine said.

"I'm not sure it's the best system in the world but I think it's a really good idea to limit voting to people who are directly affected."

Another advantage of a switch from fire-protection governance by the NGCA to the NGFPS would allow the fire department to collect gaming-commission grants that could meet a quarter of annual budgets, she said.

"Because of the rules with the gaming grants, we can't get grants anymore because [the NGCA] has too many assets. So there's another practical reason to move away."

The NGCA was originally founded to provide fire protection in 1981 but the association has broadened

its mandate over the past 20 years.

"The main reason for the NGCA was to have a fire department for the North Galiano area, way back then," said acting NGCA board president Nancy Davidson.

Subsequently, the NGCA has also adopted tasks to promote, maintain and operate a community hall; promote and provide recreational facilities; support and provide facilities for the North Galiano Emergency Committee and several other programs, Davidson said.

"The NGCA has operated the fire department all these years but as well as that, we have provided all these other community programs."

Davidson is looking forward to the results of the NGFPS meeting Saturday.

"We're all going to the meeting. Everything is just a 'may happen' and it 'may be possible.' Nothing is for sure," she said.

Following the NGFPS meeting, NGCA board members will vote on a motion to transfer the North Galiano Volunteer Fire Department to the NGFPS at the NGCA AGM on April 17.

"We're in the position of wanting to move forward and doing it in an amicable manner," Davidson said.

The NGCA motion acknowledges that "North Galiano fire services may

be best served by a separate one-purpose organization." But the motion also notes concern about handing the fire-department contract over to a stable, democratic and representative group.

"They started the fire department, so there may have been a little reluctance for them to relinquish that responsibility until they were certain the society that was going to take it over was credible," said Weber.

The NGFPS already counts 195 members among the 350 properties in the region as of Monday.

"That's got to be among the largest organizations on Galiano Island."

The NGFPS has also scheduled an election and general meeting before required timelines under the Societies Act, Weber noted.

"I think that the size of our membership and having an elected board will satisfy any concerns the NGCA might have had that we are representative and a democratically-elected organization."

Weber wants to see a good turnout of North Galiano residents to give the new board a clear mandate to proceed.

"We're open to all elements of the community. The size we have grown to demonstrates that we are not a factional organization. We're not anti anybody, we're trying to do what's best for fire protection."

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
helenjohnston@saltspring.com

Save on STIHL quality

MM 55 YARD BOSS™ Universal Yard Care System
Lightweight, powerful and versatile grounds maintenance system with optional attachments for maximum versatility.

Save \$50.00 NOW \$499⁹⁵

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.

MAR 31	0255	10.5	04	0425	10.2
	1915	3.3		1025	5.2
				1625	9.2
APR. 1	0325	10.5		2210	4.6
	0935	7.9			
	1250	8.2	05	0445	10.2
	2005	3.3		1055	4.3
				1730	9.5
02	0350	10.2		2250	5.6
	0945	7.2			
	1410	8.5	06	0500	10.5
	2050	3.6		1135	3.0
				1835	9.8
03	0410	10.2		2330	6.6
	1000	6.2			
	1525	8.9	07	0520	10.5
	2130	3.9		1215	2.0
				1940	10.2

Driftwood switches to InDesign

Driftwood readers may — or may not — see signs of a change in the newspaper's design program implemented this week.

After years of using Quark Express to produce the newspaper, a switch was made to Adobe's InDesign program, which is fast becoming the industry choice.

As a result of the change, a few glitches may appear in the content of this edition.

HARBOUR AIR SEAPLANES VANCOUVER SERVICES

TO VANCOUVER HARBOUR Effective Mar. 15 - May 2, 2004
Depart Ganges 7:30am Mon.- Sat., 12:45pm Daily, 2:15pm Sunday
Depart Vancouver 12:15pm Mon.- Sat., 5:15pm Mon.- Sat., 1:45pm Sunday
\$74 ONE WAY PLUS GST

TO VANCOUVER AIRPORT Effective Mar. 22 - Apr. 3, 2004
Depart Ganges 7:40am Mon.-Fri., 6:00pm Daily, 9:30am Sat.-Sun.
Depart Vancouver Airport 7:10am Mon.-Fri., 5:30pm Daily, 9:00am Sat.-Sun.
\$69 ONE WAY PLUS GST

1-800-665-0212 or 250-537-5525

vancouver victoria nanaimo gulf islands prince rupert
www.harbour-air.com

STRIKE VOTE: "Won't be bullied"

From Page A1

ing and food services to Compass Group Canada is expected to save (VIHA) \$ million per year once the system is fully implemented.

Heffernan said employers have assured HEU members that Salt Spring won't be affected.

"However, now that VIHA has signed on with Compass, they are only required to give workers 60 days notice and dozens of our members could be out of work."

HEU secretary-business manager Chris Allnutt said the strong strike vote was sending the health employers association and provincial government a message.

"Our members are telling health employers in no uncertain terms that they won't be bullied or intimidated into a contract that contains massive wage and benefit rollbacks and with no employment security."

According to an HEU press release, both the union and government negotiators were tentatively set to meet today (Wednesday).

The HEU contract also expires today.

North End Fitness
537-5217

- Open 7 Days A Week
- Fully Qualified Staff
- Weight Loss Programs
- Four Treadmills

\$35 Per Month Gets You Going!
Every Saturday is "Open House!"

SIDNEY AUTO SALES Friendly Downtown Sidney Corner of 4th & Bevan ...so close to great savings!

NEW STOCK

2003 GMC 3/4 TON CARGO VAN 20K	\$26,995
2000 CARAVAN (SHORTY) LOADED 60K	\$13,995
1991 NISSAN MAXIMA LOADED (LOCAL CAR)	\$5,995
1990 NISSAN SENTRA NICE CAR AUTO 4 CYL	\$3,495
1990 CHEV SPRINT AUTO 130K	\$2,995
1992 GEO STORM (SPORT CAR) AUTO GREAT SHAPE	\$4,995
1993 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE LOADED LOW K'S	\$6,995

CASH FOR CARS! Car buyer on duty
Phone: 655-0611 Fax: 655-0612

1999 TJ SPORT Hard top, low K's \$16,995

1997 GEO TRACKER Auto, pw steering, pw brake \$9,995

2003 CHEV IMPALA Loaded, Low K's \$16,995

1994 OLDS CUTLASS Only 88 K's \$6,995

IN MINT SHAPE!

PARC Ssplash meet again

Members of Ssplash and the Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission (PARC) will keep working on aquatic facility issues when their joint review committee (JRC) meets Thursday.

The subcommittee is charged with making a recommendation to the PARC board about what kind of aquatic facility choice (or choices) to present to the community. Coming up with reliable operating cost predictions for three different facility options was an agreed-upon task arising from the March 11 JRC meeting.

But at the Monday night PARC meeting, commissioners decided to assign the task to a specific consultant in advance of the April 1 joint meeting.

PARC has used services of Delta consultant Kerry Bysouth in the past, noted PARC vice-chair Alix Grainger, and she suggested that be done again.

She said getting the ball rolling with Bysouth would speed up the process of acquiring information needed for a federal-provincial infrastructure grant application.

Regional director Gary Holman expressed dismay that PARC would make a decision on a topic the JRC had agreed to pursue together — and only a few days before their next scheduled meeting.

Grainger said the idea was for Bysouth to provide costs on the proposal being put on the infrastructure grant application.

Commissioner Wayne Fraser stressed the time pressure facing PARC.

"While we're sitting here dickering, other communities are applying for what remains of the infrastructure money," he said. "We should be moving on this sooner rather than later."

PARC members agreed at their February 23 meeting to maintain the joint review committee with the aim of making recommendations to the April PARC meeting. That event is now set for April 19 to accommodate a staffing issue.



TRUST MEETING

From Page A1

"I had no opinion on this when it first crossed my desk," said John. "And I wouldn't have been happy with either extreme."

S feels the recommendation may not fully reflect the range of opinion that existed on the APC, nor the intensity of debate required to make the final decisions.

"I think we managed to keep the process reasonably polite, which was a major goal for me."

Ensuring a proper and public process is followed has also been paramount for John.

Copies of the APC and Gaud reports are available from the Ganges Trust office.

But vacation rentals won't be the only reason for a crowded hall.

Some islanders say they are disturbed by recent developments and a perception that the Trust is not doing enough to prevent environmental degradation on the island.

Island activist David

Shebib, who says he is soon moving to the north coast of B.C., has been distributing a leaflet titled *Tragedy of the Commons*. It urges people to attend the meeting to protest recent and upcoming land developments such as Channel Ridge.

"We simply can't afford to let greed and apathy push our environment into total collapse," states the leaflet. "Meanwhile, our leaders don't see they are blind to the destruction taking place?"

Shebib is known for his direct action tactics, including participation in the Texada logging protests a few years ago. Shebib and friends have parked a faux-front "logging truck" and placed Island Under Siege signs around Ganges in recent days.

People living close to a proposed Norton Road affordable housing development have also mobilized and intend to speak out at the Trust meeting. (See separate story.)

Mulroney gets Liberal nod

Saanich lawyer David Mulroney joined the list of Saanich-Gulf Islands federal election candidates after a nomination contest Sunday.

Mulroney's victory was considered an upset since he only joined the race on Thursday. While a final vote count was not revealed by the party, Mulroney defeated businessman Bob Russell, who had been campaigning to win the nomination for several months.

All main parties have now chosen their candidates for the federal election expected this spring. In addition to Liberal Mulroney, they are Jennifer Burgis (NDP), Andrea Lewis (Green Party) and incumbent Gary Lunn (Conservative).

Terra Firma BUILDERS LTD.
 "What I stand on is what I stand for."
 - WENDELL BERRY
 www.sirewall.com 537-9355

REAL OR FAKE?: Viki Vukmiravic stands on top of a logging truck façade attached to the Garbage Guru truck sitting in Ganges as an anti-development statement over the weekend -- along with Island Under Siege signs. The prop was also used in Texada logging protests in 2001.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Does Simon know who the masked door skin man is?

Inwin COLLISION
 I.C.S.C. ACCREDITED SHOP
 115 DESMOND CRES. 537-2513
 We are qualified to do your job fully guaranteed

NATURAL GOODNESS at Embe Bakery

March 31 - April 6

This week at Embe we are featuring our great selection of Callebaut Chocolates which are hand-poured in antique molds. We have an excellent selection in milk, dark or white chocolate and something new - sugar free chocolate. We also have our famous hot-cross buns and Binky Bunny cookies.

* Enter our Easter Draw for a chocolate Bunny.

We make all these items and many more - from traditional scratch recipes so we can use only the finest ingredients with no preservatives.

Baked fresh daily for your enjoyment; we are located at the Foot of the Hill or can be reached at 537-5611 to reserve your special order.

Open: Mon - Sat. 4:30am - 5:30pm
 Open Sunday April 4 at 6:00am
 (Closed Easter Sunday & Monday April 11 & 12)
 but open Sundays after that

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 / 4:30 pm

DEPARTS GANGES AND THE GULF ISLANDS
 8:00 am / 12:00 pm / 5:00 pm

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

Sold your house?
 The new home isn't ready yet!
 You're in limbo —

CONSIDER STORAGE
 SALT SPRING
MINI STORAGE
 537-5888

"When convenience and security matter"

here on Salt Spring we have a unique business model

A good Investment Advisor takes the time to understand you. With you at the centre of the process, I provide the highest quality professional advice and service, along with integrated wealth management.

you at the centre

R. Joni Ganderton MBA CFP
 Investment Advisor
 537-1654
 Questions? e-mail
 Joni.Ganderton@nbpcd.com

BMO Nesbitt Burns
 A member of BMO Financial Group

© "BMO" (the four rounded symbol) is a registered trade-mark of Bank of Montreal, used under licence. "Nesbitt Burns" and "BMO Nesbitt Burns Advance Program" are registered trade-marks of BMO Nesbitt Burns Corporation Limited, used under licence.

Scheduled flights to Vancouver


Vancouver Airport \$66 one way GST

Departing Ganges & Gulf Islands
 Mon-Sat 7:40am, 10:00am, 4:15pm
 Departing Vancouver Airport
 Mon-Sat 9:00am, 11:00am, 4:50pm


Other flight availability and departure times, phone 1-877-537-9880
 Charter flights available to many destinations
 Freight service

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

Looking for Financial Advice?
I have held my practice on Salt Spring since 1992
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



"The Donut Ottoman"
Manufactured on-site at Gabriel Ross

gabriel ross
FURNITURE | LIGHTING | HOME ACCESSORIES | BED LINENS

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

Battle lines drawn on Norton Road

The first wave of opposition has struck a Norton Road affordable housing proposal.

Area residents have signed petitions and are preparing to flood today's (Wednesday's) local Trust meeting with a list of reasons why the housing project should not go ahead.

Norton Road resident Daria Bishop, whose Bishop's Brew House and recently planted vineyard borders the subject property, has rallied support against the project from residents who live as far away as Kings and Howell lanes.

She has 30 signatures on her copy of the petition and says another 10 petitions have yet to be collected.

"Everyone I've reached has signed it," she says, including two residents in Brinkworthy, which also borders the subject land.

The petition cites seven reasons behind opposition to the plan, which would cluster 26 homes into five acres on the lower part of a 12-acre piece owned by NSE Holdings and Norm and Diane Elliott.

The proposal has been drawn up by Tom O'Connor, of O'Connor Project Planning, who enthusiastically embraces the idea and feels it will meet a growing demand for low-cost housing on Salt Spring.

However, those signing the petition say, "we believe the 'affordable housing' amenity considered for the proposed subdivision does not address the affordable housing needs of our community . . . We do not feel that \$200,000 for a 3,000-sq.-ft. lot and 1,000-sq.-ft. house answers the housing needs of Salt Spring residents."

Bishop says the proposal

would directly affect her as well as the seven property owners who live across the street from the proposed development site.

Residents elsewhere are concerned about increased traffic on Scarff Lane and Kings Lane, which access the upper side of Norton Road, as well as on Norton Road.

Other concerns listed on the petition include the potential increase in sewage disposal costs if Ganges Sewage Specified Area (GSSA) is extended into the area for connection purposes, as well as fears over increased water demands on the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

The project proposes the land — which is not in the Agricultural Land Reserve — be rezoned from Agriculture 1 to an appropriate residential zone.

However, the petition opposes "the loss of agricultural land to development and the potential conflicts a high-density development would create in a rural and agricultural zoned neighbourhood."

Finally, the petition opposes "the expansion of Ganges village into sprawling suburban neighbourhoods," and claims the proposal is in conflict with official community plan (OCP) policies regarding settlement patterns.

The petition notes that the OCP "specifically encourages high density on land within Village Land Use Designations."

Those opposing the proposal plan to attend today's meeting en masse, car-pooling and arranging rides for those who might not otherwise be able to attend.

Health care privatization scrutinized

Consequences of the provincial government's current health care policies is the focus for the People Count forum set for Friday, April 2.

It begins at 7 p.m. in the Gulf Islands Secondary

School multipurpose room.

Two speakers and a video outlining the impacts of cuts to health care in Scotland "will be the basis for a lively discussion on the topic of the future of health care

in B.C.," states a press release for the event.

Leading the evening will be a video, Lessons From The United Kingdom, which features a lecture by Carolyn Leckie on the impact on the public when

services such as laundry, housekeeping, dietary and personal care were contracted out in Scotland.

Retired pediatrician and Salt Spring resident Dr. Jeremy Winter will speak on the privatization section of the Romanow Report on Canada's Health Care System. Winter will focus on the question that Roy Romanow raised in his report: "Does it make financial sense to privatize health care?"

Author Colleen Fuller is a research associate for the B.C. branch of the Canadian Centre For Policy Alternatives and specializes in researching health care, pharmaceuticals and public policy. Fuller will speak on the subject of the growing involvement of the private sector in this part of the economy.

The event is organized by the Coalition of Concerned Citizens of Salt Spring, a group of representatives from a dozen Salt Spring groups formed a year ago to address the impact of provincial cuts to social services and the environment.

The future of health care in British Columbia is the fourth in a series of forums on subjects such as the war in Iraq, privatizing the ferry and hydro, housing, poverty, education and the environment.

For more information, people can call Bob Wild (537-2744) or Claire Heffernan, 537-4213.

Salt Spring Books is 4



We'd like to thank you for 4 great years

- ♥ Lots on sale throughout the store
- ♥ Enter your name for a \$100.00 Gift Certificate (April 1 - April 8)

Clip this coupon for

20% off any non-sale purchase
(excluding newspapers & magazines)
EXPIRES APRIL 8th, 2004

SALT SPRING BOOKS
104 MCPHILLIPS AVE, 537-2812

First Time Offered!
Special Fleet Returns
2004 SUBARU
OUTBACKS



\$29,900

LOW, LOW KMS
\$SAVE THOUSANDS



SAUNDERS
SUBARU
DRIVEN BY WHAT'S INSIDE™

1784 Island Hwy. Victoria
Across from J.D.F. Rec Centre
Toll Free **1-888-898-9911** 474-2211 DL5932



Where to convert Canadian Dollars into Salt Spring Dollars:

- Thrifty Foods' Courtesy Counter
- Mouat's office
- Off the Waterfront Gallery
- Sabine's Fine Used Books
- Star Books
- Chamber of Commerce office
- The Dollar Store (Upper Ganges Centre)

Every Salt Spring Dollar in circulation assists us in becoming more self-reliant.
PO Box 709, SSI, BC, V8K 2W3
info@saltspringdollar.com

GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

CANADA POSTES
POST CANADA

POSTAL OUTLET

OPEN
8am - 9pm
DAILY

Fulford school raises greenhouse

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Parent volunteers watched the fruit of their labours bloom in one day during a greenhouse raising at Fulford Elementary on Saturday.

"I like doing this because children are our future," said greenhouse designer Michael Kruger.

Along with another half-dozen enthusiastic volunteers, Kruger helped raise a 12-by-20-foot greenhouse made from laminated strips of western red cedar in a span of three hours.

"We're graduates of the Salt Spring school system," said Kruger. "We grew up here but moved a year and a half ago."

He now runs Frogson Garden Greenhouses with his partner Rachel Lloyd in Courtenay.

Once fully established, the Fulford Elementary greenhouse will feature raised beds, full-length benches and soil-mixing areas indoors and outdoors.

"This is not a greenhouse project, it's a classroom facility for classes to do horticulture projects in a natural setting," said Fulford parent Rajesh Kreisler.

An avid gardener himself, Kreisler runs Salt Spring Island Nursery with Bonnie Curran. They also sell herbs, flowers, fruit and perennials at the Saturday Market in the Park.

"We're commercial-greenhouse people," he said.

Kreisler and Curran pitched the greenhouse idea



GROWING LEGS: Volunteers carry a newly constructed greenhouse to its home at Fulford Elementary on Saturday. Parents fundraised to build the new educational setting for life sciences studies.

Photo by Mitchell Sherrin

to Fulford's Parent Advisory Council, where it was readily embraced in February, he said.

And the project blossomed almost as quickly as the structure could be raised, he said.

"This year's fundraising event, the country dance and silent auction, raised enough to build and completely outfit the greenhouse for students to use for their own horticulture projects."

Kruger also provided a substantial discount on the \$4,600 structure.

"This greenhouse never would have happened without the parents, Raj Kreisler

in the lead, initiating it," said Fulford principal Judy Raddysh.

"They suggested it, fundraised for it, planned it and built it. It is a fabulous gift that comes with a great deal of support from some incredibly dedicated parents."

Fulford school staff and community members developed a mission statement that highlights an active exploration of the natural world, Raddysh said.

"What this means is that we are designing all of our curriculum around nature, whether it's fine arts or science or poetry or what have you."

Even while teachers maintain regular programs, they will put a clear focus on life sciences, she said.

"The greenhouse provides us with an opportunity to learn about plant growth, and it gives us a place to grow the plants we need for our butterfly garden and our hummingbird habitat. Basically it's wide open."

Teachers, parents and community members will use the greenhouse much the way they use the art room or science room, she said.

"This will change over time as it will be driven by teacher and parent planning, as well as student interests."

Top federal Green visits island on Sunday

Green Party of Canada leader Jim Harris will be on Salt Spring for a meet and greet, wine and cheese gathering on Sunday, April 4 at the United Church.

"We want to hear every voice of our society," says local Green candidate and deputy leader Andrew Lewis. "This is a great opportunity for the public to meet the federal leader, and to hear the Green Party platform on key issues in our riding like health care and wellness,

national defence and the future green economy."

Harris' visit runs from 6-9 p.m.

A press release notes that everyone is welcome, with a special invitation extended to youth.

Also this weekend, StarBooks is hosting a Green Party benefit on Saturday evening, April 3, 7-10 p.m., with Calgary poet Steve Gillespie headlining the event.

His poetry has been

described as "with attitude" and "on the edge of language," by publisher Cecelia Frey. "They are brave poems . . . The wonder of his journey is that it is a success. His artistic vision communicates with the world."

Gillespie is also known as

one of the greatest canvassers in GreenPeace history and often used his poetry to get his environmental message across.

For more information on the Green Party leader's visit or the Green benefit, call 537-2633.

Bookkeeping Services

Recapture your creative energy and freedom to focus on your craft. Be confident that all the paperwork is done properly and on time.



QuickBooks Setup, Training and Support

Become self-sufficient and confident with your accounting system through personalized tutoring and ongoing support.

David Waddington

537-0854

Certified Intuit Advisor Specializing in Small Business

Nature's Finest Furniture



THE WICKERTREE

www.thewickertree.com

NANAIMO

Wellington Plaza
#1-6404 Metral Drive
Nanaimo, BC
250-390-0310

DUNCAN

Whippletree Junction
C-4705 Tran Canada Hwy.
Duncan, BC
1-877-748-1101

Jean Elwell, Chartered Accountant

- Personal Tax
- Corporate Tax
- GST
- Financial Statement Preparation
- Bookkeeping and Accounting

Call today for an appointment

324 Lower Ganges Road

Tel: 538-0371

Fax: 538-0372

ATTENTION SALT SPRING ISLAND NEIGHBOURS

Please note Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. will conduct controlled burning on the Channel Ridge properties over the next few weeks as part of our site preparation work. We have consulted with the Salt Spring Island Fire Department personnel, who have inspected the site, discussed all public safety requirements and issued the necessary permits to proceed.

We are taking every precaution to ensure a well-managed operation. The Ministry of Forestry best practices have been observed and will continue to guide our steps.

In the coming weeks, trucks carrying logs will be transported off Channel Ridge down Broadwell Road. We have spoken with the School Board about the routes and times of school bus travel and, in the interest of the children's safety, our trucks will NOT be on the roads during peak school bus travel times in the morning and the afternoon.

We have posted signs closing access to Channel Ridge trails during this period and we will post the re-opening of the trails when we have completed the site clearing work.

Kindly take due care while traveling in our neighbourhood and we will make every effort to do the same. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Deborah Folka, APR, at 604/517-1339 dfolka@epiccentral.com or Julie Marzolf, APR, at 604/507-1401 jmarzolf@epiccentral.com.

Thank you for your attention.

Thomas Ivanore
Project Manager
Channel Ridge Properties Ltd.



A quiet sunny cul-de-sac retreat



This one owner, level entry, exceptionally well maintained 3 BR home has all the major living spaces on the main level with guest space on the lower level. Enjoy the very private .74 acre easy care garden, the peaceful wrap-around sun deck and all the benefits of living in the popular Mobrae area.

\$311,000

For complete details please call

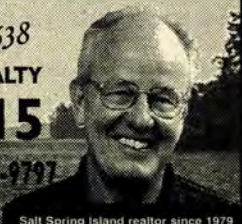
David Duke

Home - 653-4538

ROYAL LEPAGE SALT SPRING REALTY
537-5515

1-888-537-5515 (24hr) Fax: (250) 537-9797

email: dduke@saltspring.com



Salt Spring Island realtor since 1979



CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

NOTICE TO ELECTORS WITHIN THE CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

ELECTOR APPROVAL PROCESS FOR AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE FERNWOOD POINT DOCK ON SALT SPRING ISLAND AND SPECIFIED HARBOUR FACILITIES WITHIN THE SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS ELECTORAL AREA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Capital Regional District (the "CRD") proposes to enter into an Agreement (the "Amendment Agreement") amending the following Contribution Agreements entered into with Transport Canada in relation to the use of funds which have been paid by Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada (the "Federal Government") to the CRD:

- An Agreement executed August 1, 2000 regarding the harbour facilities at Miner's Bay, Piers Island and Swartz Bay;
- An Agreement executed January 16th 2001 regarding the harbour facilities at Montague Bay;
- An Agreement executed March 29th, 2001 regarding the harbour facilities at Port Washington;
- An Agreement executed March 29th, 2001 regarding the harbour facilities at Sturdies Bay; and
- An Agreement executed November 28th, 2002 regarding the harbour facilities at Fernwood Point.
(the "Agreements")

The purpose of the Agreements is to specify the purposes for which money paid by the Federal Government may be used by the CRD in relation to the management of small craft harbour facilities. The proposed Amendment Agreement would extend the term of the Agreements to March 24, 2009, allowing the CRD additional time within which to spend the financial contribution from the Federal Government. The proposed Amendment Agreement does not have any tax implications for property owners within the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area or the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area.

Under the Agreements as extended by the Amendment Agreement, the CRD may incur the following possible or contingent liabilities as follows:

1. The CRD is liable to repay the Federal Government any amount of money paid by the Federal Government to the CRD under the Agreements and which is not spent by the CRD for the purpose of an Eligible Expenditure as defined in the Agreements in relation to harbour facilities;
2. The CRD has agreed to indemnify and save harmless the Federal Government for claims arising under the Agreements and to defend the Federal Government in any lawsuit brought in respect of such claims; and
3. The CRD may incur one half of the costs of arbitration of an issue in dispute between the Federal Government and the CRD.

This approval process applies within the Electoral Areas of Salt Spring Island and the Southern Gulf Islands of the Capital Regional District (the "Service Areas").

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the CRD may proceed with the Amendment Agreement unless at least ten percent (10%) of the electors within the Service Areas indicate by signing the Elector Response Forms that the Board must obtain the assent of the electors by way of referendum before proceeding with the Amendment Agreement.

The Elector Response Form must be in the form as established by the CRD and forms are available from the CRD on request. The only persons entitled to sign Elector Response Forms are electors of the Service Areas to which the alternative approval process opportunity applies, being electors of the Electoral Areas of Salt Spring Island and Southern Gulf Islands.

The deadline for delivering the original signed Elector Response Forms in relation to the Agreements to the Capital Regional District is 4:30 p.m. on Monday, the 10th day of May, 2004. Forms must be received by the deadline to be counted.

The CRD has estimated that the total number of electors within the Service Areas is 12,096 and that 10% of that number or 1,210 electors must submit elector response forms to prevent the Regional District from entering into the Agreements without the assent of the electors by referendum.

Copies of the proposed Agreements, records relating to the Agreements, and further technical information may be obtained from Val Leigh-Dorin, telephone 360-3033 or toll free 1-800-663-4425 - Ext. 3033, at the CRD offices at 524 Yates Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 during regular office hours Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) from the date of this notice until the 10th day of May, 2004.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS

Resident Elector: You are entitled to submit an elector response form as a Resident Elector if you are 18 years or older on the date of submission of the elector response form, are a Canadian citizen, have resided in British Columbia for 6 months and in an electoral area of the Capital Regional District that is a participating service area for at least 30 days prior to signing the Elector Response Form.

Non-Resident Property Elector: You may submit an elector response form as a Non-Resident Property Elector if you are 18 years or older on the date of submission of the elector response form, are a Canadian citizen, have resided in British Columbia for 6 months, have owned and held registered title to property in the Salt Spring Island or Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Areas of the Capital Regional District for 30 days and do **NOT** qualify as a Resident Elector. If there is more than one registered owner of the property (either as joint tenants or tenants in common) only one individual may, with the written consent of the majority, submit an Elector Response Form.

For further information, or to obtain an Elector Response Form, please contact the Capital Regional District office, Administration Department, 524 Yates Street, 3rd Floor, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6 or by telephoning 360-3129 or toll free 1-800-663-4425 - Ext. 3129.

Given under my hand at Victoria, British Columbia, this 31st day of March, 2004.

Carmen Thiel
Corporate Secretary
Capital Regional District

Four-day schools, staff cuts, closures on Futures agenda

Parents and community members are invited to share opinions about radical cost-saving measures set for the school district at Futures 64 Task Force meetings scheduled around the Gulf Islands this week.

The Salt Spring meeting is at the Gulf Islands Secondary School multi-purpose room from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, April 1.

According to Gulf Islands School District press material, the Futures 64 Task Force was formed to recommend innovative ways "to build a strong, secure and vibrant future" for island children and communities.

After 10 initial brainstorming meetings held around the islands last November, the task force created four information-gathering sub-committees to investigate various options.

A reorganization sub-committee chaired by Terry Corcoran has investigated the contentious possibility of creating a four-day instructional week or shortening the school year to less than 10 months.

Kathi Hanson chaired a subcommittee to investigate the potential for affordable housing on school district property and the develop-

ment of the school board office property.

Another subcommittee chaired by Mike Hoebel looked at new methods of offering courses, such as distance learning.

And Rod Scotvold chaired a subcommittee to investigate ways to bring schools to a cost-neutral status or reduce operational costs.

The Gulf Islands School District issued an information sheet Monday in preparation for the task force meetings.

In it the district forecasts an annual shortfall of \$1.1 million from 2006 onward due to declining enrolment, inflationary pressures and funding formula changes.

Four cost-cutting measures respond to the projected deficit.

In option one, staffing to the deficit would save \$1.118 million by reducing 9.5 teaching jobs (\$855,000), six positions for special needs assistants (\$200,000) and 0.6 parts of an administration position (\$63,000).

A second option sees a shortened school week that reduces 30 days from the school year and saves \$400,000. A reduction of 20 days would save \$200,000 and 10 fewer days would save \$100,000.

The information sheet illustrates that closing most schools would lose district funds, except in the cases of Salt Spring Island Middle School, which could generate \$289,360 if closed in 2008.

A closure of Phoenix Elementary could raise another \$155,400, but shutting down other elementary schools on Salt Spring would only create modest gains: Fulford (\$22,000), Fernwood (\$38,000) and Salt Spring Elementary (\$38,500).

A fourth reconfiguration plan to move kindergarten to Grade 5 students from Phoenix Elementary to Salt Spring Elementary would save \$138,300. Another scenario, where SIMS would only serve Grade 8 students, would save \$71,500.

Following Futures 64 Task Force recommendations, the school board will decide how the district can best deal with future economic challenges for the Gulf Islands.

Mayne Island School hosted a Futures 64 Task Force meeting Monday, Galiano School held one Tuesday, Saturna School hosts a meeting Wednesday (today) at 8:30 p.m. and Pender Island School was set for another on Wednesday at 7 p.m. (tonight).

Classified
Hotline
537-9933

Spring
Orthotics
Sale
Only
\$245.00

Regular \$295
Until April 30, 2004

Coastal
Orthotics

103 Hereford Ave
537-1464

Pender-Parks deal nets museum, office space

Parks Canada's move into the Gulf Islands neighbourhood has so far been fruitful for Pender Island.

As reported to Trust Council earlier this month, creation of the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve has led to a permanent home for the Pender Island Museum Society and office-space savings for the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee.

North Pender trustee Em Round told trustees that community efforts to restore a heritage property for museum society use were recently rewarded when Parks Canada agreed to a generous \$1-per-year lease of the property for a 30-year period.

"It was a splendid time negotiating with these people," said Round.

The society has long sought a permanent home for a museum.

Parks Canada will also share office space with the Islands Trust at the Driftwood Centre complex, until it can establish a more long-term spot.

Trustee Wayne Wright said the office arrangement came about as north and south Pender trustees were talking one day by the side of the road at the canal bridge joining the two islands. Parks Canada personnel stopped to chat and asked where suitable office space could be found.

The cost-sharing arrangement will result in a \$3,500 savings to the Trust budget.



MORTGAGE INSURANCE

Did you just say "OK" when your bank offered you mortgage insurance... over 90% do!

Let us show you:

- Lower Premiums
- Better Coverage

Call and we will tell you the many benefits of YOU owning your policy NOT THE BANK!

OceansWest
INSURANCE BROKERS

Mafalda Hoogerdyk
250-537-1730
hoogerdyk@telus.net

Debbie Vincent
250-380-1532
oceansw@telus.net

ATTENTION: IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM YOUR RECYCLING DEPOT REGARDING BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING

SINCE THE RECENT SALE OF ONE OF THE ISLAND'S GARBAGE BUSINESSES, THERE HAS BEEN A PUSH BY THE NEW OWNERS TO COLLECT BOTH COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING AS WELL AS GARBAGE. THE PREVIOUS OWNER BROUGHT THE RECYCLABLES TO THE RAINBOW RD. DEPOT. HOWEVER THE NEW OWNERS (AN OFF-ISLAND COMPANY) ARE NOW TAKING THE MATERIAL ELSEWHERE. THIS IS TAKING IMPORTANT FUNDING AWAY FROM OUR ISLAND'S COMMUNITY RECYCLING PROJECT BOTH IN THE MONIES RECEIVED FOR THE SALE OF THESE MATERIALS PLUS THE CONTRACTUAL FUNDING WHICH IS BASED ON THE TONNAGE WE SHIP TO PROCESSORS. WE ARE ONLY VIABLE IF WE GET THE VALUABLE MATERIALS AS WELL AS THOSE THAT COST US.

PLEASE REMEMBER – THE RECYCLING DEPOT DOES NOT RECEIVE ANY TAX DOLLARS!

- MUCH OF OUR FUNDING COMES FROM TIPPING FEES PAID AT THE HARTLAND RD. LANDFILL. (THIS IS WHERE MONIES COME FROM FOR ALL CRD RECYCLING PROGRAMS).
- WE OPERATE UNDER SEVERAL CONTRACTS. ONE SOURCE OF FUNDS IS THE CRD WHICH CONTRACTS WITH US TO COLLECT AND SHIP "BLUE BOX" MATERIALS.
- AS MOST SALT SPRING ISLANDERS KNOW, WE TAKE MUCH MORE THAN THE GLASS, TIN, PAPER, CARDBOARD AND PLASTIC THAT IS IN THE "BLUE BOX" PROGRAM.
- WE TAKE CAR BATTERIES, TIRES, LEFTOVER PAINT, GYPROC, APPLIANCES, SCRAP METAL, TETRA-PAKS AND GABLE-TOPS. WE HAVE A FREE BOOK, MAGAZINE, RECORDS AND TAPES –EXCHANGE.
- WE HAVE THE ONLY PRODUCTCARE DEPOT ON THE ISLAND WHICH WE EXPECT TO BE EXPANDED SHORTLY. THIS CONTRACT HAS BEEN HUGELY SUCCESSFUL.
- WE HAVE WEEKLY PICKUPS THROUGH ENCORP PACIFIC OF REFUNDABLES WHICH ALSO HELP FUND OUR DEPOT.
- WE MARKET OUR OWN MATERIALS AND HAVE TO PROVIDE RECEIPTS FROM LEGITIMATE PROCESSORS BEFORE WE GET PAID FROM THE CRD.

IF YOU ARE PAYING ANYONE TO HAUL YOUR RECYCLING YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY WHERE IT IS TO GO!

PLEASE INSIST THAT YOUR RECYCLING IS BROUGHT TO THE RAINBOW ROAD DEPOT.

THIS BENEFITS YOUR COMMUNITY AND INSURES THAT THE
RECYCLING DEPOT WILL INDEED BE AVAILABLE IN THE FUTURE!

"YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT TIL IT'S GONE"



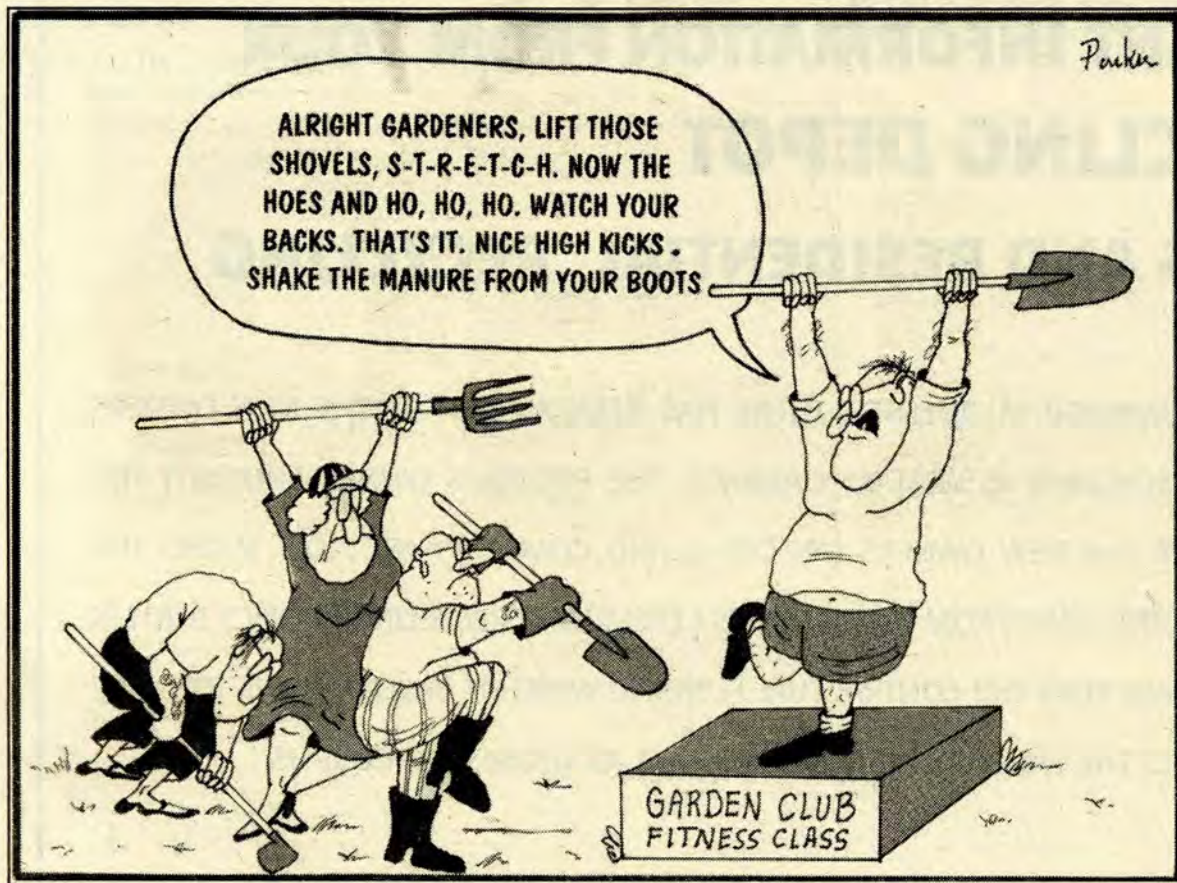
THE SALT SPRING ISLAND RECYCLING DEPOT IS ONE OF THE MANY PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY SALT SPRING ISLAND COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY, A NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION WHICH ALSO PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

FOOD BANK, CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPERS, COUNSELLING, YOUTH AND FAMILY COUNSELLORS, FAMILY PLACE, COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, HARBOUR LODGE, OUR HOUSE (HOME FOR TEENS), COMMUNITY WELLNESS COORDINATOR, THE CLIMBING WALL, ADDICTIONS COUNSELLING, ADULT SHORT TERM ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT, FAMILY ADVANCEMENT, OUTER ISLAND CRISIS COUNSELLORS, COMMUNITY WORKER, MENTAL HEALTH NURSE, MENTAL HEALTH HOUSING COORDINATOR, EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, CONSUMER AND FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, YOUTH SERVICES, RCMP VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, CHILD MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM, SPECIAL SERVICES TO CHILDREN, COMMUNITY DIVERSION PROGRAM.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT PETER GRANT

TEL: 537-1200 FAX: 537-0604 EMAIL: recycling@saltspring.com

OPINION



Gulf Islands Driftwood

President Frank Richards
Publisher Tony Richards
Associate Publisher Penny Graham
Managing Editor Gail Sjuberg
Advertising Manager Peter McCully
Advertising Reporter Andrea Le Borgne, Rick MacKinnon, Marit McBride
Photographer Mitchell Sherrin
Accounting/Circulation Derrick Lundy
Production Manager Claudia French
Production Sandi Poystila
 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

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

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

Keep it civil

It's easy to criticize people in public life, whether they've been put to work through the ballot box, are on a staff payroll or because they volunteered for a local committee.

They're working "for us," after all, and better not forget it.

But they're also constrained by straitjackets of legislation and procedural fairness. They cannot, for example, legally prevent a landowner from developing his or her land according to its zoning, which was theoretically agreed to by the public, and they cannot change that zoning with the wave of a wand.

There's all kinds of reasons why fundamental change does not occur simply because vocal citizens demand it.

In the Islands Trust area, so many powers fall under provincial jurisdiction, yet a lack of understanding of that fact sees people continually yelling at individuals with little real power, when the fight should be taken up with the provincial government in Victoria.

There's a definite spot in the public process for assertiveness and even confrontation at times — but working with rather than against decision-makers will achieve more.

Islanders — volunteer, elected and paid — are right now working hard under a pile of constraints on all kinds of initiatives: to improve island water quality, stimulate the economy, develop recreation facilities, reduce energy consumption, preserve sensitive areas and parkland, maintain health and social services, and create affordable housing opportunities. And that's a very short list among other worthwhile projects.

Most of those processes are arduous and often frustrating — just ask everyone involved in the months of painful work recently expended studying the vacation rental issue. Measurable progress can be slow to emerge.

But if everyone involved in public projects must endure rapid-fire sprays of insults and craziness, they likely won't be around the next time a call for help goes out.

And if an armoured suit and an arsenal of rudeness to combat constituents becomes required equipment for volunteers and elected officials, we could soon enough be ruled by barbarians.

Strategic plan needed to get more bang for buck

By WAYNE TAYLOR

Like most people in the community, I am concerned about the future increase in taxes and how it will affect our lives individually and as a community.

Taxes are going to go up and we must be careful to spend our taxes wisely, otherwise we will destroy the special character of our community by forcing many of our young people and those on low or middle incomes of all ages to leave the island.

In 2003 we paid taxes of over \$1,300,000 to the Islands Trust and this is going up 4.4 per cent this year, while we only receive about \$700,000 in direct services. This is a case of overtaxing without receiving adequate services. This situation must be changed in a staged approach as we mature into a community able to support our own elected local government.

VIEW POINT

The Islands Trust must give us our wings so we can fly. Salt Spring is a "Rurban" community and we need a plan to let us have more local government.

This year the Salt Spring Parks Arts and Recreation Commission will have a budget expense of \$1,271,660 and a tax requisition of \$971,300 to provide operating, capital and debt retirement for our island. If we build a pool, a tennis facility, a library, a seniors facility, and add landscaping and servicing over the next five years to the Rainbow Road site, we need to have a strategic corporate business plan with an open budget process.

Most people in our community want an indoor pool, a library, a seniors centre and affordable housing so working and retiring families and individuals can live a quality lifestyle on Salt Spring. The question is: can we afford them and how do we pay for them? In the next five years we can have some, if not all, of these projects if we plan properly for them.

I would like to see an indoor pool built with health, physiotherapy and leisure components as part of our community centre to be built on Rainbow Road. I know that we can build a modest facility that can be added on to in the future if we plan carefully, but I cannot afford to pay high taxes for such a facility. We need a plan.

In order to build a community centre, which is what we need on Rainbow Road, we need a strategic corporate plan such as they have

for Panorama Recreation Centre. Please see their website at <http://crd.bc.ca/panorama/plan.htm> for future insights. They have a plan for the next five years. We need a plan.

I would like to make the following recommendation to the community.

- One, that the Islands Trust reduce taxes for Salt Spring residents and increase the services, and that it look to having more local decision-making.

- Two, that groups such as PARC, the school board, SSplash, library board, Salt Spring Seniors Services Society, ArtSpring and Gulf Islands Community Art Council, the tennis association, soccer, hiking, paddling, baseball, and other groups work together to develop a strategic corporate plan for delivery of recreation, arts, library, health care and wellness and parks on Salt Spring Island.

- Three, that the recreation commission modify the name of the site of Rainbow Road from Recreation Centre to Community Centre and that they hire a full-time project manager as soon as possible.

- Four, that the Capital Regional District and PARC modify their existing structure over the next three years to become both an elected and appointed commission, as is the case in most communities. We need to get more "bang for our buck."

In other words, if we are going to have better facilities, better programs, better management and better local government, we will get better value for our tax dollars. We need a plan.

The writer is a Salt Spring teacher, member of Ssplash and the former swimming pool society which established Shelby Pool.

Trustees must shut door on vacation rental industry

By GEORGE EHRLING

Knowing that the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) has concluded its study and recommended against vacation rentals, Arlene Dashwood now complains in desperation (March 24 letter) that the APC is biased, and repeats her utterly baseless assertion that a majority of islanders don't oppose them.

Every single time that islanders have considered this issue, and there have been several such opportunities, we have decided against vacation rentals.

Arlene also whines that the opposition to vacation rentals is led by a few "vested parties." Surely this is an ironic — some would say hypocritical — statement from the leader of a lobby group, ASTAR, whose members

IN RESPONSE

derive income from illegal vacation rental properties.

But in one way I must agree with Arlene. All of us who hope to see the end of vacation rental properties on Salt Spring, even those of us who don't make a dime from the tourist business, do indeed have a vested interest. It isn't in lining our pockets, but in building a healthy, functioning community.

We think people who live in residential neighbourhoods are entitled to the peaceful enjoyment of their homes, and should not wind up living next door to commercial mini-hotels of revolving tourists all summer long. We think

parents with young children are entitled to the security of a safe community with neighbours they know, without having to worry about a string of strangers next door.

Sadly, some of our community leaders have bought into the propaganda that vacation rentals bring tourists and their dollars to our island. They ignore the fact that for a vacation rental property to be available for rent, it obviously must be vacant. And an empty home can't ever make any economic or social contribution to our island.

No one in a vacant home raises their children or enrolls them in our schools. No one volunteers in the library or delivers meals on wheels. No one in a vacant home helps put out a fire, joins a service organization, sings in a chorus

or attends a potluck supper. There's no one to buy a single meal in a restaurant, a single piece of art work, or so much as a quart of milk. Because most of the houses used as vacation rentals are vacant most of the year, they represent a net economic and social loss to the island community, not a benefit.

Yes, some vacation rental properties are rented long-term to tenants in the off season. In these cases, those tenants are displaced so the owners can make much more money by renting to tourists in the summer. And so greed masquerades as a service to tourists.

There are other troublesome issues. Vacation rentals are completely unsupervised tourist accommodation. To remedy this, Arlene Dashwood's lobby group suggests that the

provide self regulation. Given that these same people operate illegal businesses in open defiance of the bylaw and in apparent contempt of our official community plan, such an offer doesn't inspire much confidence.

Nor can ASTAR propose a workable solution to the tax inequities that result from vacation rental owners paying residential property tax while operating commercial businesses.

They are thus unfair competition to legal hotels, motels and resorts, which pay commercial taxes, and to bed and breakfasts, which operate legally under a set of strict guidelines.

Nor does ASTAR have an answer to the real estate speculation that commercial vacation rentals spawn, help-

ing drive up the price of housing while driving away people who would like to make a contribution to our community but who can't afford to live here.

The APC has wisely recommended that vacation rental properties should remain illegal. We must hope that our trustees will accept this recommendation, abide by the results of the review process they themselves put in place, and finally shut the door on the vacation rental industry. Is it too much to ask that they begin to enforce both the bylaw and the spirit of our official community plan?

The writer was a member of the Vacation Rentals Resource Subcommittee set up by the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee last year.

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: *Have you changed shopping habits in response to concerns about Avian flu or "mad cow" disease?*



Rebecca Sorenson
(Edmonton)

People are more concerned about chicken, for sure. It would make people turn to eating pork and turkey because people haven't heard about problems with turkeys.



Randolph Parker

No, absolutely not; when you're principally a vegetarian, it just doesn't matter.



Damen Grooms

No, not really; with Avian flu, it's not supposed to affect humans and I don't eat much beef.



Doug McMillin

No, I don't meet many birds when I shop and I don't eat chicken. I don't cook meat at home.



Jean Elwell

Absolutely not. I think the media hype is ridiculous with this issue.

Letters to the Editor

Paving paradise

Development variance permit by development variance permit, temporary use permit, temporary use permit, broken covenant by broken covenant, the rural character and natural habitat of Salt Spring is disappearing.

The quality of life for fauna, flora and humans is being eroded.

Our wildlife corridors, hedgerows, wildflower meadows, natural shoreline, forest lands and farm lands are gradually being developed, and our quiet rural lifestyle is being lost to the tune of the bulldozer and the chainsaw.

We are paving our paradise.

Our official community plan was crafted for the community and by the community to preserve and protect the ecological integrity and quiet rural character of our island. It is not being upheld.

If you are concerned about our island, please take action, make your voice heard and write or make an appointment to speak with our local

trustees — Kimberly Lineger and Eric Booth.

NINA RAGINSKY,
Walter Bay,
Waterbird Watch
Collective

Actively cruel

The B.C. government has just introduced a bill, The Cremation, Internment and Funeral Services Act, which, if passed unamended, will withdraw from same sex couples the authority to make decisions about the bodily remains of our deceased partners.

B.C.'s Solicitor General, Rich Coleman, has stated "society is not prepared to allow same sex partners the right to participate in funeral decisions for their loved ones."

As a lesbian in a 10-year relationship with my now legal wife, I ask that all Canadians, not only British Columbians, support the various efforts of B.C. lesbians, gay men and their friends by informing the B.C. government that this act is unacceptable and counter to the values of Canadians everywhere.

I find the perversity of this decision to be entirely

consistent with this government's apparent intent to single out and undermine many marginalized groups in B.C. society.

This stab at the hearts of gays and lesbians in the vulnerable time of the death of a beloved is gratuitously cruel. I hope it will generate a strengthening determination in the public will to unseat this government, whose actions are so often actively cruel.

ROWAN PERCY,
Salt Spring

No disruption

It is possible that the government is seeking further disruption to the public school system beyond that which has already been inflicted due to continuing underfunding and budget cuts.

I refer to their continued inaction with regards to the current College of Teachers.

The college is supposed to be a professional body, representative of teachers in the province with a mandate to license and discipline teachers. Former Education Minister Christy Clark fired all the teachers on the college and appointed 20 of her supporters in an effort to

inflict her vision of educational accountability on the teaching profession. She did this without any documentation or proof that the old college had failed in its mandate to regulate the teaching profession and protect the public interest.

Since its inception, Christy's college has begun passing over 200 pages of bylaws aimed at controlling teachers to a degree unheard of in a democracy. They passed an all-encompassing "set of standards" with no consultation from teachers.

They wish to prohibit any teachers who have at any time in their careers worked in union business from running as councillors. They recommended to the minister that teachers should have only eight out of 20 seats at the college council. They also want a requirement to "pledge allegiance" to the college and sign a statement of commitment that involves waiving all legal rights to personal privacy.

Teachers are not in favour of disrupting the education of their students. They also don't want to pay for a non-professional, unrepresenta-

tive body. Nor do they wish to live under a set of college rules that demean and undermine teachers.

It is time the government showed some commitment to public education and support for British Columbia's teachers, who have given us one of the finest education systems in the world.

RICHARD WALKER,
Comox Teachers' Association

Short-vision

Salt Spring people are sheep being led to the slaughter — by greed. Channel Ridge is a \$250-million feeding frenzy, and the natural beauty of Salt Spring is the slaughter.

This is the largest single development in the island's history and the people are muted, unheard over the money media and local leaders whose vision of economical "progress" at any cost blinds them to the real need — a healthy and safe environment to live in.

With up to 1,200 people and 81,000-square-feet of commercial space, this is a Whistler-type development for the rich.

When will all this traffic end? In the total destruction of nature. How dumb, how insensitive, how short-sighted is this idea?

And this is just one of the many other projects — Rainbow Road and Walker's Hook are total decimation.

Are the leaders really this stupid? If they are, then they are false leaders empowered by sold-out media and blessed by status quo and even by priests' monastery.

We are surrounded by destructive forces fed by tyrants. The environmentalists are out there painting pretty our almost extinct nature.

The earth is cursed by your ignorance and your phony wealth. You will die and the earth will consume you. Families mean nothing, your daughters sold out as wage slaves to consuming tyrants, your men are simplified by intoxicated education and only serve the marketplace of destruction and extortion. The churches are daily keeping Christ nailed to that cross.

DAVID SHEBIB,
Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS 10

Prairie trip sparks new Cascadian nation convert

A recent trip to Edmonton has confirmed my suspicion that there is not all that much to recommend a trip anywhere east of Hope.

Downtown Edmonton is a maze of underground malls, all ventilated with the disinfectant tang of recirculated air and illuminated by the harsh glare of supermarket lighting. Above ground, shops are boarded up, newspapers swirl down Jasper Avenue in a bleak dance seen only by bums and bag ladies pushed out into the cold by an unfeeling security staff. It got me thinking about Cascadia.

When I first encountered the Cascadia concept, I dismissed it as the disillusioned ramblings of some fringe cult group, like the Flat Earth Society or the Islands Trust. But flying over miles and miles of flat, frozen tundra punctuated by the occasional oil derrick or wheat silo, the Cascadia

PERSONALLY SPEAKING

BY PETER VINCENT



people may have a new convert.

Their premise is simple. The people of the Pacific Northwest are a sweet, gentle folk, with plenty of natural resources, brains and where-withal to form their own country. Cascadia would encompass the west coast down through Washington and Oregon — which is fine with me. It means we finally get to go to Bellingham without a three-hour grilling at the border and, of course, professional football and baseball.

The cultures would be diverse enough that no one ethnic group could lord over the rest, and we could end all this nonsense of deciphering the French on the back of the cereal box.

Taking a look at the national politics infecting the front pages of the major newspapers, graft and scandals are rife. One hundred million dollar payoffs, champagne flights for ministers, good honest bureaucrats pushed out of their jobs by Liberal yes-men.

And our own beloved provincial Liberals having their legislature offices rifled by the RCMP in what appears to be the tip of a very dark iceberg.

My Cascadia would impose a benign dictator to mete and dole laws as she sees fit and right. She could start by imposing a latté tax which would see 50 cents from every latté sold at the coffee shops go to keep ArtSpring from falling flat on its nonprofit face.

And she would build a pool, with a tarp fashioned from island hemp. And she would make downtown Ganges a car-free zone. And legalize pot, gay marriages and in-law suites.

Of course, such radical free

thinking would bring hordes of immigrants and George Bush would pencil us in as one of the inner circle of the Axis of Evil. We would need to appoint Todd Bertuzzi as Minister of Defence.

Think about it. Cascadia makes so much more sense than Quebec seceding from the motherland. Geographically, Quebec saws Canada in half, resulting in endless border crossings, as Ottawa ships truckloads of B.C. tax tithes to the codless have-not provinces on the East Coast.

In British Columbia's case, we would just be biting off a little corner — far, far away. Ottawa probably wouldn't even notice for at least a month, when B.C.'s rent cheque bounces. If they stamp their feet and demand access to the shipping lanes of the Pacific Rim, we'll throw them a bone — say, Prince Rupert — the wettest city on the planet.

Of course, Cascadia would need to shift from a resource-based coun-

try to one rooted in technology. No more clearcutting, no salmon farms, no Norske belching out who knows what into the Crofton airshed. Just tourists and technology.

Given the demographics, Cascadia would be well positioned to become the hip replacement capital of the world. Our climate and natural beauty would surely attract top surgeons from around the planet, anxious to jettison the injustices of an increasing Orwellian society. Yes. Hip replacements. And free botox injection sites. All hail Cascadia!

As for Edmonton and Ralph Klein and the oil patch and the giant underground malls, and the mad cows? We would leave it to our Minister of Defence Bertuzzi to repel the great unwashed storming Hell's Gate from east of the Rockies.

God bless 'em all, but I wouldn't want my daughter marrying one, except maybe kd lang.

pvincent@saltspring.com

More letters

Real watershed

Re: last week's News Brief's item "Batemans support Lee Road residents."

I wonder if Mr. and Mrs. Bateman are aware that the other approved transfer station is really located in an area zoned "watershed" (for Cusheon and Blackburn lakes) and has over the years contravened CRD transfer station bylaw and provincial environment ministry regulations as both a garbage dump and now a transfer station.

I'm not aware of any "watershed" zoning in the Lee Road area.

The point here is that if the CRD's transfer station bylaw is both followed and enforced, any location is probably satisfactory.

MICHAEL MURRAY,
Cranberry Road

Don't sell out

Large-scale development at Channel Ridge, the hatchery at Walker Hook,

toxic waste transfer stations, mining operations in residential neighbourhoods, "Arsenic Alley," clear-cut logging on Mount Erskine, etc. etc. When are our trustees going to take responsibility and do the right thing?

In the "Island Environment" section of our official community plan (OCP), there are very clearly defined management objectives and policies, which point towards stewardship and sustainability and "to protect the community's quiet, rural character."

Why then does the Trust continue to operate with an agenda that supports large-scale "urban-type" development and the wholesale destruction of our wild and rural landscapes?

How many more megachunks of land are going to be stripped, flattened and bulldozed into submission before our community decides to take action?

If you are tired of watching yet another piece of our

island exploited into extinction, then please write to Kimberly Lineger, Eric Booth and John Gauld, and ask them why they are catering to the vested interests of a few profit-driven individuals when they should be taking care of the health and welfare of our environment and its residents.

The OCP states: "To maintain and improve the quality of the island's natural environment. To give particular attention to the quality of fresh water, to sustain healthy fish and wildlife habitat and for human supplies." "To protect areas of bio-diversity. To recognize and protect the island's native plant, animal and bird life. To give particular attention to the streams, wetlands and coastlines of Salt Spring Island."

And — "The Trust committee should use a cautious approach when assessing rezoning applications that would allow higher levels of development. Caution should be used especially when there is little information about expected impacts on the environment."

We cannot continue to wipe out our natural heritage. If you are frustrated by their obvious lack of leadership, then please ask the Trust to stop "selling out" and stand behind our OCP.

ANDREA COLLINS,
Fulford

Pheromones

Last week we put our dog down. He had just turned two, and we were looking forward to him maturing. Through all the right guidance we raised this puppy well.

It was paramount in his upbringing that he be well-socialized with all walks of life. In fact, he was best friends with a lamb, and we recently acquired some pigs so he would understand how to respect all animals. We were very proud of how well he was learning and behaving.

He had an abundance of friends — dogs as well as people. In fact, I don't believe he had an aggressive bone in his body. He was a non-alpha male.

That is why what happened blows me away. He bit a child in the face. The child, unknown to us, was apparently afraid of dogs and had been attacked by one before. The bite wasn't a bad one, but it should not have happened.

He bit because the child was sending off fear pheromones, and our dog just didn't understand what those feelings meant.

Our decision was a moral one, not right in our hearts, but morally right. The child's mother felt this was the right course of action, as well. She never knew our dog. I don't know if the other dog that attacked her child was put down.

The point of my let-

ter is this: if you have a fear of dogs, you need to make people around you know. Friends, family and acquaintances. These people need to know, and in turn will advise you of dogs in their neighbourhood or surroundings.

We didn't know. My neighbours didn't know. Otherwise they wouldn't have sent the children over to my place with a gift for my kids.

If you don't know your children are scared of dogs, maybe you should ask them.

All dogs react to fear pheromones.

In memory of Timber, please donate to the SPCA.

RENEE SAVAGE,
Walker Hook Road

Fast one

I was totally appalled to find out that "Art Springs" had pulled what I think is a fast one to get their "yes" vote last week.

As a property taxpayer on the island, I should have been informed. Not with just a notice in the local paper, but with a notice that should have been mailed to me directly. This is probably why there was such a low voter turn-out.

The Island Arts Centre Society should not have been taking this so lightly. Every effort should have been made to let island property owners know.

Now it's just another tax grab, for something that I truly do not want. It

reminds me of the federal and provincial governments blind-siding us with another tax before we have a change to say or do anything about it.

Fulford Community Hall is what I consider a true community hall. The volunteers fundraise and do a lot of legwork to keep the hall going. I would rather have my taxes go to a heritage hall that holds the true sense of community — not have a new building forced down my throat, which is really for the few in the community, not the many. If you don't fit into that certain clique of people, the atmosphere there is very unwelcoming.

I was born on Salt Spring and I have lived here all my life. I have seen a lot of changes and heard some pretty outrageous things, but to me this tax grab truly takes the cake.

Now that I have a piece of "Art Springs" forced on me, I want my taxes to go toward the parking lot so on those busy Saturday mornings in the summertime I am guaranteed a parking spot. It's going to be fantastic. Looking forward to that.

One last thing. I really love to ice skate. So get ready to be taxed again, because "I" love to skate! If they can take theirs, I want mine.

K. YOUNG,
Salt Spring

Clever

ArtSpring will continue to receive the same monies it has in years past through our generosity in passing the arts service referendum.

It was formerly funded by tax money through PARC. So it is PARC's coffers that could increase by \$38,000. Clever.

WENDY BEATTY,
Vesuvius

JOE SOMEBODY
MOBILE MECHANIC
"SPRING TUNE UPS"
AGRICULTURAL & HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC
CERTIFIED JD MECHANIC
I COME TO YOU




Cell . . . 537-7013 Pager . . . 537-8054



We credit you for our success.

2003 was another successful year at Island Savings and we're pleased to share our success with those who helped us earn it. This year our members will receive nearly \$1 million in profit sharing and dividends, which is our way of saying thank you for your support.

Over the last 15 years we've shared more than \$17 million with our members and grown with our communities to become the largest Island-based financial institution. We're also proud to say that in the last year alone we spent nearly \$20 million in the communities we serve.


So next time you check your account balance, look for your portion of profit sharing and dividends. And if you're not already a member, we invite you to become part of an organization that shares its profits and invests in the growth and prosperity of our communities. It promises to be the start of a rewarding partnership.

Join us in branch April 1st for a special celebration event.



BRENTWOOD 544-4041 CEDAR 722-7073 CHEMAINUS 246-3273 COBBLE HILL 743-7335 DUNCAN 746-4171 LADYSMITH 245-0456 MILL BAY 743-5534 SALT SPRING 537-5587 SHAWNIGAN 743-5395 VICTORIA 385-4476 WEST SHORE 474-7262

Rainbow Road Trading Co.



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

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
Mon - Sat. 8-5. Sun. 10-3
Delivery Anytime
Island Hwy. @ Bench Rd.
under the Canadian flag, Duncan

RANTS & Roses

RANTS

A big rant and bad fairy luck to the misguided soul who tore a Mount Erskine fairy door from its rock, and hurled it into the woods. Have you noticed that your luck has changed?

ROSES

Many bouquets of roses to everyone who stops to pick up my son and me at lunch time. We hitch a ride at lunch time every Monday to Thursday, to Isle View Drive. Thank you for helping me get my son home safe.

A million roses to the clerk at Patterson's Store and the ferry crew who helped retrieve my purse which I had carelessly left in the bathroom of the 3 o'clock ferry from Victoria. As I was panic-stricken, it is a nice feeling to know that there are such caring people around. EG

Roses to the kind soul who gave my daughter money when she found herself short at Apple Photo. Bless your heart! (If you stop by my work place at the Driftwood, I'll be happy to pay you back.) MM

Roses to the Hobans' boat rescuers, message relayers, tree removers, ride givers . . . and inspirations to kind hearts everywhere!

Roses to the outstanding staff, parents and students of Salt Spring Elementary School. I am greatly honoured by your farewell tribute to me. You bloom vibrantly in my heart. MS

Mr. F. Thank you for your random act of kindness at the sushi bar March 24. You made my day!

We'd like to give two big boxes of roses in thanks for two big boxes of daffodils generously given by Mr. Ken Byron Sr. to the staff of Island Savings Credit Union. C.

A rambling rose for Therin

Gower and James Sharp who responded to a lost-bicycle ad and generously donated a classy mountain bike to our daughter after hers was stolen last week.

Medals of honour to the dedicated, big-hearted individuals who braved blizzard conditions and purple fingers up on Mount Washington to ensure every last one of our families made it out of the snow and down the mountain on March 25. Special thanks to Lorne Bascom for organizing our chaos! You are our heroes! From the families of Salt Spring Centre School.

To the chef at La Cucina, who on March 27, just before closing, took the trouble to shop for Mozzarella cheese for our pizza after they had run out. A thanks for the "beyond the call of duty" caring attitude for the customer.

To Island Star Video for their support of Salt Spring Island football and the use of their popcorn machine by the Community Gospel youth.

More letters

History

We have been urged by family, friends and customers to reply to the misinformation being circulated about our business — Laurie's Recycling and Waste Service — and personal integrity.

It would take volumes to cover the 12 years and 600-plus documents generated by the now quoted as a "new proposal" on our Rural-zoned Lee Road land.

Implications that we do not care about the environment are absurd. We went into the garbage business in 1992 to provide a short-term alternative after receiving numerous calls through our bulldozing business to dig private garbage pits after the Blackburn Road garbage landfill in a watershed zone had been closed down by the provincial Ministry of Environment.

Our "short-term" alternative was well-received and requested by the public to continue.

We conducted a survey some years ago, which supported all the garbage operators and the consensus was for competition, not a monopoly.

Salt Spring Island has been home to the McFadden and Hedger families for 143 years. Our grandchildren, children, Laurie, his mother, his grandfather and his great-grandfather were born on Salt Spring Island. Laurie's great-great-grandfather came to live here in 1861, bringing his native wife from Bella Bella. The families worked and contributed to this community through fishing, farming, logging, postman and much more. This was a time when neighbour helped neighbour without any thought of reward or recognition. These values were what Laurie was raised with and lives by. To have us likened to the "mafia" is despicable.

It is unfortunate for all concerned that the Islands Trust, having evidence before November 12, 1998 of our legal land use status, decided to wait

for over four years to make it public knowledge.

Our situation should have been resolved on January 22, 1999, the same time Salt Spring Garbage Service on Blackburn Road site was notified. We requested the Islands Trust seek legal advice in February 1999. We were ignored.

In 1998, we invited any concerned citizens to call and visit our Lee Road site. No one responded.

It is also unfortunate that there are people in the community who would publish and pass judgement without all the facts.

Everyone has the right to voice their opinions, but not at the expense of someone's integrity and certainly not when information may be selectively supplied by people with their own agenda.

NANCY HEDGER,
Lee Road



Name: HENRY LEONARDO BAADE
537/538/653: 537
Occupation(s): Girlfriend and recycle depot.
Hobbies: Just about all.
Home finished/unfinished: Never trust a finished house.
Favourite people: Bicycle Bob, Little Lloyd, Damien T. etc.
Favourite read: Hitchhikers Guide.
Best thing about SSI: The outstandingly beautiful women.
Worst thing about SSI: Welded, bolted mailboxes. Ouch.
Best place to kiss on SSI?: Kissing is like real estate: location, location, location.



DERRICK'S ISLAND PICS

Spring Cleaning Time!

20% OFF

duvets, blankets & draperies

Ends April 30

ORECK COMMERCIAL

- Light and easy to use
- Used in thousands of hotels and offices
- Celoc® Hypo-Allergenic filtering system
- Helping Hand® Handle
- Weighs only 8 lbs

Great deals on used and new vacuums
Carpet cleaner rentals
Floor scrubbers & polisher rentals

We have the answers to your tough cleaning problems

SALT SPRING Linen & Drycleaners Ltd.
116 HEREFORD AVE., GANGES, 537-2241

SALT SPRING Sheet Metal Ltd.

CUTTING YOUR HEATING COSTS WITH:

LENNOX®

Heating/Air Conditioning
The Energy Savers

We are now the local dealer for **LENNOX®**

ONE LESS THING TO WORRY ABOUT

ECONAR®
"The Leader in ColdClimate™ Geothermal Technology"

Henry Van Unen • 538-0100

- CUSTOM COPPER & STEEL GUTTERS •
- HEATING • VENTILATION • H.R.V.'S • FLASHINGS •

65 Eagle Ridge Drive, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2K9

Expert Advice!

KNOW YOUR LIMITS!
When to call in a pro is a skill in itself. Don't take on more than you feel comfortable with. It may cost you more, instead of saving a few dollars. We would be glad to help you make the decision. For plumbing and electrical advice I would be happy to discuss your needs and advise accordingly.

Gordie Alton

#1

BUILDING SUPPLY ON SALTSRING... Windsor Plywood
Rainbow Road • 537-5564 • open MON-SAT 7 am-5:30 pm

GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

CANADA POSTES
POST CANADA

POSTAL OUTLET

OPEN 8am - 9pm DAILY



THE DRIFTWOOD Gobbler Giveaway

12 FREE TURKEYS WILL BE AWARDED!!

Each participating store is giving away a **FREE EASTER TURKEY!**

Clip the coupons on this page, & deposit at the participating stores. The drawing will be Easter Monday Apr. 12. Winners will be notified by phone. Only official entry forms appearing on this page can be used.

ENTER TO WIN A FREE TURKEY!

WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:



**GELATO
EASTER EGGS**
and of course
chocolate bunnies



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

SALT SPRING ISLAND GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Join the Golf Club this year and you will be eligible to win back your entrance fee.



**PRO-SHOP SALE
50%
OFF SELECTED
MERCHANDISE**



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

GANGES GARMENT COMPANY

Just arrived!
OSH KOSH FOR SPRING!
Sizes Infants - 6X




Grace Point Square
537-8999



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

EMBE BAKERY

White & Whole Wheat
DINNER BUNS \$1.50 doz.



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

Love My Kitchen

FINE COOKWARE & ACCESSORIES
140 FULFORD-GANGES RD. 537-5882
Mon-Sat 9:30-5ish / Sun 11-4ish

**20%
Cookbooks**



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

THRIFTY FOODS™

Fresh is what we're famous for!



ALEX CAMPBELL
SIGNATURE SERIES

Our turkeys are fed a natural diet of grain, vitamins & minerals without any medications or animal by-products. The turkeys are raised in spacious, well-ventilated barns with free access to fresh water & a constant supply of fresh feed.

**PLACE
YOUR
ORDER
TODAY!**



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

DOLLAR STORE

537-2480

**HOP IN & SAVE
on all your
EASTER NOVELTIES**



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

PHARMASAVE BOTH LOCATIONS

Lindt Gold
Easter
Bunny 100g **\$4.49** each



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

Autumn Snow

Fine Jewellery

**Easter Special
Children's
Jewellery** from \$15



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

Driftwood

Subscribe to one of Canada's Best Newspapers
\$48.15* per year
*on-island rate



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

**Mark's Work
Wearhouse**

Clothes That Work.

**SALE
NOW ON!**



WIN A TURKEY!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Deposit at:

GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

Your one stop
for all your
Easter Goodies!



Lots at stake with hatchery decision

By MYRUS JAMES,
ERIC WICKHAM
and CHRIS ACHESON

IN DEPTH

One of the most significant environmental cases of the past decade is making its way through B.C.'s Environmental Appeal Board (EAB).

The case concerns Walker Hook on the east side of Salt Spring Island.

The decision under appeal is an 18-month "approval" given by the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection (WLAP) to Sablefin Hatcheries Ltd. to inject hatchery waste into Walker Hook.

The three appellants are the Penelakut First Nations Elders, the Canadian Sablefish Association (CSA) and Salt Spring Island Residents for Responsible Land Use (SSIRRLU).

Much is on the line: Will a sablefish (black cod) hatchery be allowed to inject waste into ground used as a First Nations burial site for thousands of years?

Will injected microbial waste migrate to and destroy the local marine environment?

Should the operation be allowed to destroy a highly valued ecosystem?

The EAB heard nine days of evidence in early March. In the coming weeks, the various parties will be submitting written arguments, with final arguments to be presented in a hearing on May 18.

The hatchery plans to apply for a longer-term permit in the near future, at a much higher capacity.

The higher capacity would position the hatchery to sell sablefish stock to salmon fish farms interested in diversifying or expanding their operations.

The Penelakut Elders testified with heartfelt courage at the hearing.

The EAB heard evidence about the extent of the Penelakut and Coast Salish connection to Walker Hook, or Syuhe'mun, as it is known in Coast Salish.

The Penelakut described in detail how important gravesites are to their culture, how important their deceased ancestors are. The people who have passed on from their communities do not cease to be part of the community.

Rather, they have an ongoing connection and relationship with the living Coast Salish people, who work hard to maintain this connection.

Mr. August Sylvester described the annual burnings used to send food, clothing and blankets to those who have passed on.

This ceremony demonstrates the importance of the relationship they have with their deceased community members.

Importantly, once a site becomes sacred through the burying of their ancestors, it remains sacred.

Sablefin Hatcheries argued at the hearing that the sacred nature of the site wouldn't be impacted because the effluent was being piped well below the bodies that were buried there.

However, as the Penelakut testified, it is not simply the area where the bodies are buried that is sacred, it is the whole area which becomes sacred after the bodies remain there and the flesh and the blood becomes part of the site.

Furthermore, the Elders have a duty to preserve such sacred sites.

The Penelakut Elders went on to discuss the impacts they have already suffered as a result of disturbing the site.

Ms. Laura Sylvester testified that her participation in moving some of the Coast Salish ancestors has resulted in dire effects on her and her family, including health problems.

Mr. Sylvester explained

that the dead are powerful and in fact dangerous to the living if they are not respected.

Elder Myrus James explained the tremendous support they have received from other surrounding First Nations communities as well as from the non-native communities.

He explained that the Coast Salish have harvesting rights to use the area.

Mr. Sylvester identified all the animals and plants the Coast Salish people have harvested in the area. He also explained how he and his grandfather used the area.

Historian Kathryn McKay testified that the Coast Salish have an ongoing relationship with their dead, that they are still part of the community; it doesn't matter if they knew each other personally.

McKay further stated that middens are protective for the bodies.

Those sites may be used for a time and then experience a resting period and be revisited again.

McKay clarified that in pre-industrial society, the returning of shells to the midden was symbolic of returning things to the earth.

Archaeologists Morley Eldridge and Kimberley Kornbacher testified that middens hold a multitude of information.

Eldridge explained how Walker Hook is in the geographic center of the Coast Salish territory and would have been an ideal place for the Coast Salish to visit and use.

Both archaeologists stated that an archaeological impact assessment should have been done to ascertain all the important information about this site.

We know so little about the site because Sablefin Hatcheries did not complete this type of assessment.

Myrus James is a Penelakut Elder, Eric Wickham is executive director of the Canadian Sablefish Association and Chris Acheson is a member of SSIRRLU.



MARCH BUNNY: Sam Benoit provides a visual reminder that Easter is just around the corner as she dresses up for work at Embe Bakery.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Congratulations to Windsor Plywood – Salt Spring Island

WINDSOR PLYWOOD STORE OF THE YEAR

One of the best building supply stores in Canada

Windsor SSI, placed #1 among Windsor stores throughout Canada and the Western U.S.



Back row left to right; Lane Gromme, Steven Peterson, Derrick Rodstrom, Ken Marr, John Vroom, Pat McGee, Phil Ritson. Middle row left to right; Christopher Griffiths, Mike Winter, Robert Donahue, Sascha Gilbert-Stone, Kelly Portingale, Zander Ritson, Peter Clarke. Front row left to right; Mike Brown, Jeanette Lee, Harris Patton with Makita, Nancy Holt-Stefancsik, James Webb, Gordon McEwan and Mike Stefancsik.

Congratulations from the Driftwood – Best Newspaper in Canada 2001
Winner of the Windsor Plywood Best Advertising Promotion in Canada
"I depend on Windsor"

One of the best newspapers in Canada

We love what we do! Design expertise at no extra cost.

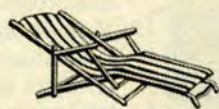
Gulf Islands
Driftwood

Spring Sale

March 31 - April 3

25% OFF

everything in our store
(excluding collectible furniture)



Salt Spring Island
houseboat

coast cottage accessories

134 Hereford Avenue • Salt Spring

538-1975

across from Coastal Currents

Tues. - Wed. - Thurs. 10am - 3:30pm

Fri. - Sat. 10am - 5pm



Does Simon know who the masked door skin man is?

For new skin on your car come and see

Irwin COLLISION

I.C.B.C. ACCREDITED SHOP

115 DESMOND CRES.

537-2513

We are qualified to do your job fully guaranteed

Island teachers help fire victims

Local teachers are reaching out to their colleagues in Coquitlam after Eagle Ridge Elementary School was destroyed by fire during spring break.

Coquitlam Fire Chief Gordon Buchanan said 25 per cent of Eagle Ridge school was gutted, and other classrooms with smoke damage will need work after a March 17 fire. Arson is suspected in the blaze that displaced 320 students.

"I don't know if people realize that teachers put in a lot of their own money in supplies that are not provided by school boards," said Gulf Islands Teachers' Association (GITA) president Jean Claude Levesque.

The GITA joined fellow teachers' associations across the province and gave Eagle Ridge teachers \$100 to buy new educational resources.

"We're only 101 members. For us, it's a substantial amount of money." Levesque noted that the move of generosity is necessary.

"It's a matter of doing without certain books or paints because budgets are too small."

Classified hotline: 537-9933



READY FOR TAKE-OFF: Randy Hanna and Amigo Airways have returned to service on Salt Spring with a twin-engine Beechcraft. Hanna invites people to an open house to see the plane in Ganges Harbour on Monday, April 5 from 1-3 p.m.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Housing survey due Friday

Islanders have until Friday, April 2 to anonymously share their housing status with the Islands Trust.

The Salt Spring Island Housing Survey, a project spawned by local trustees Kimberly Lineger and Eric Booth and community volunteers, has been widely distributed.

More specific information about the need for affordable housing on Salt Spring is required before potential projects can proceed.

"CRD Housing wants more information above what the census provides and they want us to better define need, and that is generally

what the purpose of what the survey is," said Lineger.

The survey was created by trustees Booth and Lineger, and Christina Phipps and Nettie Harland.

Survey drop boxes are set up at numerous island businesses in Ganges and Fulford, as well as the Community Centre, and CRD Building Inspection office.

It can also be filled out anonymously online at www.islandstrust.bc.ca or mailed to "Housing Survey" at 1206-115 Fulford-Ganges Road, SSI, V8K 2T9.

People interested in the

affordable housing issue can also access a new Trust-wide report on the topic affecting several island communities.

Options for Affordable Housing: New Solutions to the Housing Crisis in the Islands Trust Area was prepared by planning technician Normandy Daniels.

It contains relevant housing data for all Trust area islands, and outlines the tools local Trust committees could use to increase the stock of affordable housing.

Contact the Ganges Trust office at 537-9144 for information on how to get a copy.

Your Island Guide to Home and Garden

SPRINGTIME

OUR ANNUAL SPRING SUPPLEMENT IS NOW 25 YEARS OLD!

IT'S GETTING BIGGER & BETTER!

This year's edition will contain a renewed focus on Islanders with timely stories on home renovation and construction, and special features on gardening and other rites of spring.

Publication date: April 21
Sales/Copy deadline: April 8

Space is going fast - Book yours today!

Please contact: Peter or Rick
Ph: 537-9933 /
Fax: 537-2613
email: sales@gulfislands.net

Gulf Islands Driftwood

REMEMBER... DOG LICENCE TIME

When you licence your dog by April 2, 2004 (4:30pm):

- you will avoid paying the extra \$10 which will be applied to fees after April 2, 2004 and
- you will have a chance to win one of five Vet Health Checkups.

ANNUAL LICENCE FEES FOR ALL DOGS OVER 4 MONTHS ARE AS FOLLOWS

Male or Female \$25*
Neutered or Spayed \$15*
(*AFTER APRIL 2, 2004 ADD \$10)

We will give you a FREE dog licence if you apply for a licence 12 months after you have your dog spayed or neutered.

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BY-LAW #1465

Includes the District Municipality of Langford the District Highlands and Sooke

SECTION 3 the owner of a dog shall obtain a licence for the calendar year January 1 to December 31...for each dog over the ages of four months owned by him/her.

SECTION 7 The owner of a dog...shall cause the dog to wear a licence tag.

SALT SPRING ISLAND
Bow Wow & Co., Ganges
Foxglove Farm & Garden Supply, Ganges
Gulf Islands Vet Clinic, Ganges
Patterson's Store, Fulford
CRD Animal Control Officer 537-9414
Salt Spring Island Building Inspection Office

Salt Spring Insurance, Ganges
Bon Acres
MAYNE ISLAND
Mayne Island Building Centre

GALIANO ISLAND
The Galiano Garage

SATURNA ISLAND
Saturna Point Store

PENDER ISLAND
A.T. General Store
Pender Is. Lumber



CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT ANIMAL CONTROL

206-2780 Millstream Road, Victoria 478-0624

Galiano: 1-800-665-7899 Mayne: 1-800-665-7899 Pender: 1-800-665-7899 Salt Spring: 537-9414

Quality Doesn't Cost... it pays!

Fine cookware & accessories.
Available at
Love My Kitchen SHOP

140 Fulford Ganges
537-5882

Income Tax

CANADIAN & AMERICAN
PERSONAL & CORPORATE TAX PREPARATION

James T. Fogarty
TAX ACCOUNTANT
653-4692
by appointment
Fogarty Accounting & Tax Services Ltd.

CAR & LIGHT TRUCK TIRE SALE

30% OFF

ALL INSTOCK ALL SEASON RADIAL TIRES

HYDRAULIC HOSE & FITTINGS

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR LIGHTS?

Taxes, installation & balancing extra

HAROLD HARKEMA REPAIRS
Automotive Repairs • Batteries & Tires
427 Fulford Ganges Rd. • 537-4559 • Mon. - Fri. 8-5

SCHOOL BOARD BRIEFS

Gulf Islands School District trustees agreed to establish a partnership with other agencies to co-ordinate early childhood supports.

"It's about establishing a dialogue and a decision-making process," said Galiano

trustee Bonnie MacGillivray. "We have stereotyped who the kids-at-risk are and that's not true."

The board passed a motion in principle to support the project.

The new Vancouver Island Early Childhood Services Committee will develop collaboration between the Vancouver Island Health Authority, the Ministry of Children and Family Development and Vancouver Island school districts.

"It's not likely there will be funding attached to this initiative," said board chair May McKenzie.

In other school board news:

- Gulf Islands School District representatives promoted a locally developed software program at an educational conference in Victoria on March 8.

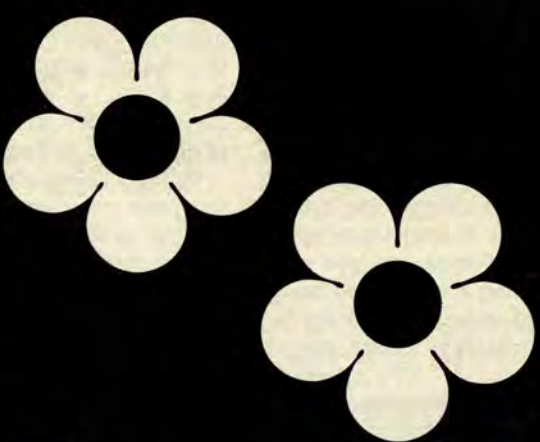
Multipro software helps teachers assess progress of students with individual education plans (IEPs).

The district is selling the special-needs accountability software program to other districts in the province.

- Superintendent Wendy Herbert announced the appointment of Glenn Goring as principal of Galiano Community School, effective August 1.

wearEverywear clothing

20% OFF Spring SALE



Choose from our entire spring stock!

Spring dresses

Spring tops

Spring pants

Spring casual wear

Spring sports wear

Spring colours

Tanks, boat necks, v-necks

Great linen skirts



STUDENT TUXEDO RENTAL PACKAGES FROM \$49.99 OFFER EXPIRES MAY 23, 2004

STUDENTS SAVE \$10

EVERY STYLE, EVEN OUR BEST



GRAD

DRESSES

ALL

ON

SALE!

wearEverywear clothing

Reg. hrs: Mon-Sat 9:30 am - 5:00 pm
103 MCPHILLIPS AVE., SALT SPRING ISLAND V8K 2T6

537-8770



Local scores film dream at Berklee

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

A talented Salt Spring musician is soaking up her dreams with studies at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston.

"I feel like a giant sponge here, just taking it all in," said island-raised musician and student Kayla Schmah.

She began studies at Berklee in January after two years in the music program at Selkirk College (in Nelson, B.C.) and intensive music training while she was in high school on Salt Spring, Schmah said.

"I just stared up at the building and sighed — I had finally made it here. I had worked for so long to get this place where my musical heroes studied, the place where creativity and diversity are nursed, the only place where I can receive a degree majoring specifically in film scoring."

As a student at Berklee, Schmah has joined the ranks of performer alumni like

Quincy Jones, Diana Krall, Paula Cole, Natalie Maines, Melissa Etheridge and Susan Tedeschi.

"The school is gorgeous. On the outside, some parts of the school are a hundred years old, but when you get inside, everything is state-of-the-art. My History of Film music class is in a 40-seat digital surround theatre."

The college also boasts hundreds of recording studios, a library full of film scores and a media centre with over 20,000 CDs, she said.

"I could just spend all day here using the facilities and resources, watching student recitals and attending clinics of visiting artists."

She's already had clinics from Quincy Jones, Arif Mardin (producer for Norah Jones and Aretha Franklin) and film scorer Randy Edelman.

"I was also able to catch Randy Newman, an amazing songwriter and film scorer, at Harvard a couple days ago, which was incredible."

State-of-the-art facilities and access to instruction from cutting-edge professionals does not come cheaply. Berklee tuition alone runs over \$100,000 for a four-year degree program.

"You can definitely see where the monstrous tuition costs go. I was lucky enough to receive a very generous scholarship from the school, which they will renew every year until I graduate. That's a big help."

Schmah also received transfer credit from her program at Selkirk College, so she expects to be finished in December 2005 after completing six consecutive semesters.

Her graduating requirements include extensive work in conducting, orchestrating, music editing, dramatic and stylistic scoring techniques, and classical composition as well as standard courses such as English, math, art history, harmony and ear training.

"They make sure you're

ready for anything by the time you get out of here."

Being a film composer is a very tricky job, she said.

"You have to have knowledge of many styles of music. You usually only have six to eight weeks to score an entire film, so you have to work very fast. Your music is at the mercy of the director. You have to be very personable because more than half of it is politics. And if you do your job properly, nobody notices the music."

She feels lucky, fortunate and happy to have the chance to study film scoring in such a professional setting. Schmah also thanked her parents and local teachers Chris Kodaly and Clemency Perrins for helping her become so well prepared for Berklee.

"But I will be very happy to be done here and return to Canada. The further you go from Salt Spring, the more you realize how beautiful and peaceful it is there."



SIGN OF THE SEASON: Heather Campbell (the Bread Lady) joins other vendors and gets a head start on the Market in the Park season by setting up last Saturday. The market officially opens this weekend.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Russell FARMS MARKET
"Growing for the Heart of Vancouver Island"

PRICES EFFECTIVE
Sun. Mar. 28 to Sat. Apr. 3
While supplies last

WINTER HOURS
8AM TO 8PM

RED RIPE STRAWBERRIES
\$1.29 /lb

CRISP ICEBERG LETTUCE 48¢ ea	LARGE GREEN PEPPERS 59¢ /lb
COTT SOFT DRINKS 99¢ dep 2L	
FRESH GREEN CABBAGE 29¢ /lb	FIELD CUCUMBERS 59¢ ea
GRAPE TOMATOES 88¢ /basket	
NEW WHITE POTATOES 49¢ /lb	BUNCH BROCCOLI 49¢ /lb
JERSEY MILK CHOCOLATE BARS 5/\$5.00 100g	

COME TRY OUR FRESH YUMMY PIES MADE DAILY

GRIMM'S HONEY HAM \$1.07 100g	GRIMM'S SEASONED TURKEY BREAST \$1.49 100g	
GRIMM'S PIZZA PEPPERONI & SALAMI 85¢ 100g	PARADISE ISLAND MARBLE CHEDDAR \$1.29 100g	GRIMM'S BAVARIAN MEAT LOAF 87¢ 100g

"OUR OWN" GARDEN CENTRE
Open 9-5:30

THE HOT SPOT FOR POTS!
COME AND SEE WHAT'S GROWING ON IN OUR GARDEN CENTRE

SEA SOIL 3/\$9.99 30L bags	BARE ROOT FRUIT TREES \$19.99 ea	SPRING BULBS IN TUBS 25% OFF
---	---	---

246-4924 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK ALL YEAR ROUND
North of Duncan, Trans Can. Hwy. at Crofton cutoff

Keoughs celebrate 100 years

Adventurous photographer Pat Keough represented Salt Spring at the 100th anniversary of the Explorers Club in New York City on March 20.

"Pat was in New York City for that wonderful event. It was a great time to reconnect with fellow explorers and to also partake in the festivities and hear all the fantastic speakers that evening," said

Rosemarie Keough during a telephone interview Sunday.

Keough numbered one of 40 Canadians among the 1,700 adventurers, explorers, field scientists, artists and celebrities who attended from around the world.

The Keoughs financed their own photographic two-year expedition to the Antarctic to earn a spot at the Explorers Club event

held at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

The Salt Spring couple spent two Antarctic summers living in unheated tents with 24-hour daylight and sub-zero temperatures to take photos for their award-winning book *Antarctica: Explorers Series, Volume 1*.

Only 1,000 copies of the hand-bound *Antarctica* book are available for \$3,800 each. Proceeds go to Bird Life International's Save the Albatross fund.

As Antarctic explorers, the Keoughs fit the mold of the consummate Explorers Club membership. The club was originally formed during exploration of the polar regions in 1904.

Prominent members include Roald Amundsen, Captain Robert Scott, Sir Ernest Shackleton and Admiral Robert Peary.

The current honorary chairman is Sir Edmund Hillary and other notables include Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Reinhold Messner, Jane Goodall, and fellow Salt Spring resident Robert Bateman.

The Keoughs are currently in southern California doing a desert photo shoot near Palm Springs.

It's **amazing** what we can fit into a box of **cookies!**

Look for Girl Guide Cookies in your neighbourhood this Spring

www.bc-girlguides.org
1-800-565-8111*

*This number directly connects you to Girl Guides in your neighbourhood

Shopping at the Growing Circle is now more rewarding than ever

With our New Membership Award Program

Healthy Rewards

Based on your monthly purchases, you can receive a Healthy Rewards coupon worth from \$5 to \$12.50, good for anything in the store.

March coupons are now in the store. Pick yours up and save on your next purchase.

Make the Growing Circle your first stop. We'll make it your most rewarding shop.

Good for YOU, your COMMUNITY, your ENVIRONMENT

106 - 149 Fulford Ganges Rd. 537-4247

Biodiesel demo converts oil from deep-fryer to fuel

The recently formed Salt Spring BioFuels (SSBF) group is offering a six-hour workshop to demonstrate the conversion of a diesel car into a vehicle using vegetable-based fuels.

The workshop will be held at Pretzel Motors, 319 Rainbow Road, on April 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"The benefit of biodiesel is that it can be used directly in existing diesel fuel systems," says Robin Annschild, chair of SSBF.

"It is also possible to use waste vegetable oil directly in diesel engines with some modifications to the vehicle (whether car or boat engine)."

According to an SSBF press release, diesel engines were originally made to be run on bio-mass fuels and vegetable oils like canola; the first gas car engine was built to run on farm plant matter like hemp.

SSBF estimates that the nearly 2,200 litres per month of vegetable oil waste generated by Salt Spring restaurants could be recycled at no

cost and be used to fuel more than 30 vehicles.

SSBF has been making test batches of biodiesel and plans to build a processor to convert waste vegetable oil from the deep-fryers of island restaurants into biodiesel.

At the April 3 Saturday market in Ganges, the group will give a demonstration on the process and provide information on biofuels and the upcoming workshop.

Edward Beggs, proprietor of Neoteric BioFuels in Kelowna, will give the April 17 workshop.

The first of three diesel conversions to island cars, they will install a conversion kit (designed and sold by Neoteric BioFuels), a secondary pre-heated fuel system, allowing the diesel car to run on vegetable oil.

Workshop cost is \$20.

Space is limited to 20 people. Pre-registration will be taken at either Pretzel Motors, StarBooks or the information booth at this Saturday's market.



YUM: Josephine O'Donnell checks out a table full of desserts at last Saturday's safe grad fundraiser held at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Bridge winners

On March 15, Irene Hawksworth and Ron Dickson were first.

Ron Stacey and Yantra Walker were second, the Laundrys were third, and Ima Krayenhoff and

Patricia MacFarlane were fourth. On March 22, Brent Vickers and John Jefferson were first, the Laundrys were second, and there was a tie for third between Ron Hall with Bob Morrisette, and Jill Evans with Blanche Poborsa.

BRIDGE TRICKS

ASCH

STONEMWORK & LANDSCAPING

- Steps
- Retaining walls
- Patios
- Landscaping & Design

(250) 537-4703



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
Visits are covered by most extended health plans.

To book an appointment phone: 537-3220

Even old Salt Spring Dollars never die

I want this week to clarify some of the confusion about those \$\$ notes that bear an expiry date.

CURRENCY CORNER WITH JIM SCOTT



Salt Spring Dollars no longer expire.

Any note in circulation retains its face value as a medium of exchange.

Beginning the middle of February, all new notes going into circulation have an overprinted gold foil in the original expiry date location.

Any notes in circulation without a gold foil have been in circulation since before February 15, 2004.

I have been told that some merchants are not accept-

ing these apparently expired notes.

This caution is not necessary.

The Salt Spring Island Monetary Foundation has an agreement with the island's financial institutions that they will honour the expired notes.

All notes with expiry dates can still be deposited at both banks and the credit union.

As the expired notes are deposited, the SSIMF will collect them.

Those notes will be with-

held from circulation until they have been overprinted with a gold foil.

Now that Salt Spring Dollars do not expire, a major key in inserting more money into our local community is to keep your \$\$ in circulation.

Salt Spring Dollars are backed by and are completely convertible into Canadian dollars; in other words, \$\$1 = \$1Cdn.

This works because every Salt Spring Dollar in circulation is first purchased with a Canadian dollar.

Those Canadian dollars are held in trust until someone comes in to redeem an equal number of Salt Spring Dollars: a shop-owner, for

instance, may convert the Salt Spring Dollars received that day into Canadian dollars for deposit . . . although I suggest better alternatives would be to continue to use those Salt Spring Dollars as:

- change given out after a purchase,
- donations to local charities,
- payment to local suppliers,
- employee bonuses,
- customer incentives.

Every Salt Spring Dollar circulating in our community is a Canadian dollar earning interest or income.

Those dollars will be invested in community projects for the benefit of us all.

Balancing Ki Shiatsu Therapy

Acupressure
Energy Work
Reiki



SPECIAL OFFER

• Buy 1 session
Receive 2nd at 50%
In-studio only
Meriel Cammell RST
653-0075



THE LADIES' AUXILIARY ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

BRANCH 92

is offering

3 BURSARIES

For graduates of Gulf Islands Secondary School

1. 2X - MARILYN RYLES MEMORIAL BURSARIES FOR CURRENT GRADUATES
2. ONE CONTINUING EDUCATION BURSARY FOR FORMER GRADUATES

Send application letter by April 22, 2004 to:

Legion Ladies Auxiliary, c/o GISS Counselling Office
232 Rainbow Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C., V8K 2M3

*Information available at GISS Counselling Office

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

Island Quest Realty Ltd.



Donna Regen, CGA
expectexcellence
@saltspring.com



Kerry Chalmers
kerrychalmers
@saltspring.com



Kelly Regen
kellyr
@saltspring.com

Check out our new website at:

www.gulfislandsrealestate.com

Ask us for details on all properties for sale on Salt Spring Island.

Pager: 1-800-537-1201

'Above the downtown Pharmasave'
#204 - 104 Lower Ganges Road,
Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2S7

Office: (250) 537-1201 Fax: (250) 537-1261



BACK AT YOU: Gord Jarvis, left, and Art Robinson focus in on some single reflex cameras on sale at last weekend's Fulford Hall flea market.

photo by Derrick Lundy

Filkow bumps geezer tag for Intuitive Yoga course

Brushing away the mystique about yoga and crafting individual routines are two goals of Sid Filkow's Intuitive Yoga series, which begins next week.

"I will be drawing upon my vast knowledge of yoga, and other spiritual disciplines and philosophies, to try to remove people's fear of and the mystique about yoga," he said.

Filkow's course, for beginners or Level-1 yoga students, is on five Tuesdays at the Salt Spring Centre for Yoga and begins on April 6.

It runs from 4 to 5:30 p.m. He said participants should finish the series able to develop a do-able personalized program for home use.

"The aim is to enable people to feel comfortable about developing and maintaining a daily routine that fits their individual needs and abilities, and that they feel not only capable but look forward to doing it every day."

He describes his classes as being "more about releasing" as opposed to stretching. "And it's not about 'achieving' anything," he adds.

Healthy breathing techniques and meditation will also be emphasized.

Filkow is also known as a comedian, lawyer, rug dealer, reflexologist, grandfather and a Salt Spring Centre founder.

He has been a follower of Baba Hari Dass and practised Ashtanga yoga for more than 30 years.

Last year he led popular Geezer Yoga classes at the yoga centre.

He has also delved into Sufism, Buddhism and Jewish spirituality, so "pithy philosophical advice is given at no additional charge."

He also spent three and a half months in India during the past winter.

Series cost is \$50. Pre-registration through the yoga centre is required: 537-2326.

Classified Hotline

537-9933

The Living Word

Luke 23: 20 & 21
 "Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

WINSOME WHITE
 PLEASE READ:
 Luke 23: 22 & 23

Antique-bearers, seekers shooting for April 17

By JUNE PERRY
 Special to the Driftwood

Something new has been added to the fifth annual antique show sponsored by the local Canadian Federation of University Women's (CFUW) club.

In the past, a few people have come to the show expecting a sale of antiques and were disappointed. This year they will come and find several tables offering antiques for sale.

This is, however, not the main event.

The CFUW antique show will once again feature the erudite, charming and often humorous Al Bowen, a well-known curator and appraiser.

One could easily spend the better part of the day listening to Al Bowen telling fascinating, sometimes riveting stories about the history behind people's treasures.

If, as does happen, the treasure turns out to be of purely sentimental value, he is very adept at softening the

blow and no one ever goes away mad.

On the other hand, several people have come away with suggestions they might want to increase their insurance. There have been some very valuable paintings in the past.

It is possible to just come and watch, but obviously much more fun to bring a treasure or two or more.

Items must be something that can be carried. A photo of a large item is also acceptable. For a written appraisal,

a photo is necessary.

There will be tea and coffee and delectable goodies to stave off hunger if one becomes carried away.

While this is a very interesting and fun event, there is a serious reason for doing all this.

All proceeds go towards the scholarships given each year to two girls in the Gulf Islands Secondary School graduating class who are enrolling in a university program. Two scholarships are now awarded each year.

The following have been recipients so far: Melissa Estable-Sky, Jenny Rittberg, Andrea Bergsma, April Goebel, Megan Leitch, Casey Stepaniuk, Laura Temmel and Claire Rustad.

The auction is on Saturday, April 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Community Gospel Chapel.

Tickets to have items appraised are on sale outside Ganges Village Market from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 3 and Tuesday, April 6. The number of available tickets is limited.

The price is \$10 per item. Tickets to view the antiques show cost \$5 and will also be available at the door.

GANGES VILLAGE MARKET

CANADA POSTES
 POST CANADA
POSTAL OUTLET

OPEN 8am - 9pm DAILY

The Career Education Department at Gulf Islands Secondary School would like to thank all of the individuals and their companies who helped make the "GRADE 10 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK" a success!



Matt Haydon - Fort Street Cycle



Laura Biagioni - B107.3FM

- FXR Systems Limited
- Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic
- U-Vic Engineering Department
- Victoria Fire Department
- SSI Volunteer Fire Dept.
- Island Blueprint
- Gulf Island Film & Television School
- Douglas Lake Ranch
- CHTV
- Summit Injury Management
- Poet's Cove Resort (Pender Island)
- Jack FM (Victoria)
- CFAX 1070 AM
- B107.3 FM (Victoria)
- Pacific Space Centre
- Mt. Washington Snow School
- Derek Burgess Construction
- West of the Moon
- B-Side Skate and Surf
- Chain Chain Chain
- Lyle's Place Records
- Liberty Bakery
- Oystercatcher Restaurant
- La Cucina E Terraza Restaurant
- New Life Community Baptist Church
- Yates Orthopaedic and Sports Physiotherapy
- Ganges Village Market (produce)
- Nicholson Manufacturing (Engineering)
- The Belfry Theatre
- Five Days Til Midnight (film set)
- Curtis Masonry
- Canadian Coast Guard, Ganges
- Haggis Farm Bakery
- Oak Bay Beach Hotel
- Carmanah Technologies

- Jordan's on Broadway
- Harlan's Chocolates
- Barb's Buns
- Copeland Landscaping
- ACD Systems
- Latitude Geographics
- Mt. Washington Rental Shop
- Rob Barnard, Architect
- West Coast College of Massage Therapy
- The Shop
- SS Elementary, Deb Nosal
- SS Elementary, Mr. P's class
- Mike's Repairs
- GISS ESL Program
- Touching Evil (film set)
- CITR Radio UBC
- The Beat Radio (Vancouver)
- House Piccolo
- U-Vic Vikes Men's Soccer Team
- Omni Rehabilitation
- Helicopter Squadron #443
- Victoria Flying Club
- Fort Street Cycle
- Paul Da Costa School
- Roger's Chocolate Factory
- Beddis Road Garage
- The Bay, Victoria
- Electronic Ark
- Phoenix Elementary School
- S.S. Veterinary Services
- Orca Electronics Inc.
- Seacoast Communications Inc.
- Countrywide Garden Ornaments
- Shamrock Veterinary Clinic
- Crofton Elementary School
- Tourism Victoria
- 102.3 The Wave FM

- Victoria Youth Court
- Porter's Restaurant
- Karen Clark Dance Studio
- Italian Bakery
- Gulf Islands Driftwood
- Mt. Washington Snow Kids
- Illyd Perkins Fine Woodworking
- Calvin's Bistro
- Island Star Video
- Outlooks for Men
- Cambie Animal Hospital
- Moby's Pub (kitchen)
- SPCA
- Thrifty Foods (produce)
- Alias Systems Inc. (Toronto)
- Pacific Biological Station
- Purdy's Chocolates
- The Millstream (England)
- Island Escapades
- The Fishery
- Patterson's Store
- The New VI
- Jana's Bake Shop
- Steveston Cycle
- Salt Spring Vineyards
- Mill Bay Veterinary Clinic
- Salt Spring Soapworks
- SS Elementary Mrs. Takagaki
- The Bay, Oakridge (Lancome)
- Quality Mechanical Marine
- Mouat's Old Salty
- Signature Interiors
- Cook Construction
- Island Sea Farms
- North End Fitness
- CFUV Radio U-Vic



Josephine Duffy - Copeland Landscaping



Sheldon Rompain - Thrifty Foods

OUR COMMUNITY INVESTING IN TODAY'S YOUTH... TOMORROW'S LEADERS!



FLOWER ART: Reicho Sumi, centre, who has been practising Ikebana (Japanese flower arranging) for 45 years, shows the art form to students Rie Yamasaki (left) and Reiko Sasaki during a Friday event at ArtSpring.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Odlum ends bridge year with top prize

On March 25, 40 ladies attended the 27th annual Alice Hammett Spring Luncheon at the Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club for the wind-up of the 2003-04 bridge tournament.

Effie Odlum took home top prize and trophy for highest total score.

The late Louise Foulis had been her partner until January, and then spars Pat Herchmer, Lorraine Bell and Sue Mouat helped Odlum to finish the year on top.

Patricia Hewett and Jean Elder finished second, Irene Hawksworth and Jeanne Verville third, and Phyllis Henderson and Jean Holmes were fourth.

Hawksworth and Verville also won the highest one-day score.

Jean Calderhead and Rita Balachandran won a consolation prize for the lowest one-day score.

The award for most small slams bid and made went to Joyce Scott and Gladys Campbell. Money raised by this group will go toward improvements at the golf club.

Top bowlers identified

Following are high scores in bowling league play last week: Circus League: Harold Repen, 222; Don McMahon, 285/661; Connie Hardy, 235/605.

Tuesday a.m. Seniors: Stan Sage, 275; 204/633; Marg Baker, 212; Harold Repen, 211; Jim Glenn, 205.

Tuesday p.m. Seniors: Conn Smyth, 241.

Special Olympics: Gloria

HIGH ROLLERS

Dale, 168; Jason Newport, 183; Mahjor Bains, 190; Carlos Manzano, 149.

Legion League: Harold Repen, 200; Dan B., 322, 203/698; Tony H., 220; Jess, 201, 204; Shari H., 203.



WORKSHOP: Ichizo Yamashita demonstrates his special talents to local clay workers Denys James and Akiyo Kokubu at a Ceramic Artists' Exhibit of B.C. pottery gets under way at ArtSpring last week.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

寐
SSH
SALT SPRING HERBALS

• FREE SAMPLE • FREE SAMPLE •
TROUBLE SLEEPING?

Enjoy deep, night-long sleep.

Chinese herbal capsules, formulated by a Canadian MD and fourth generation practitioner of Traditional Chinese Medicine. No morning-after effects. Non-addictive, all natural.

saltspringherbals.com

or write to: Box 355 Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2W1

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!



2062 Henry Avenue W.
Sidney, B.C. V8L 1Y5

656-1334

ANNOUNCEMENT

Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic Ltd.
Welcomes new owners:
Dr. David MacDonald
Dr. Sacha Edgell

Dr's MacDonald and Edgell will join Gulf Islands Veterinary Clinic in the practice of large and small animal medicine & surgery as of April 1/04.

Call 537-5334

Open Mon - Sat, 8:30 - 5:00



3 generations of owners, Dr.'s Milton, Address, MacDonald & Edgell, and Cathy Cronin who has worked with them all!



Church schedules for Holy Week and EASTER

OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH

135 DRAKE RD.

Holy Thursday ~ 5pm
Seder Meal followed by
Eucharist

Good Friday ~ 3pm

Easter Vigil
Saturday ~ 8pm

Easter Sunday ~ 10am &
12 noon

NO MASS AT FULFORD
537-2150

Salt Spring Island UNITED CHURCH (111 HEREFORD AVE.) invites you to join in their HOLY WEEK SERVICES

April 4th, 10:00 am
Palm Sunday Service

April 8th, 7:00 pm
Maundy Thursday Service
including Foot Washing & Communion

April 9th, 10:00 am
Good Friday Service
including the Sacred Cantata:
"The Seven Last Words of Christ"

April 11th, 9:00 am
Easter Communion

April 11th, 10:00 am
Easter Sunday Service
including Flowering of the Cross

Holy Week and Easter Services

"Walking the Way of the Cross"

April 8th - Maundy Thursday
7:00pm - Foot Washing, Eucharist &
Divesting of the Alter (All Saints')

April 9th - Good Friday
11:00am - the Celebration of the
Lord's Passion (All Saints')
2:00 pm - Solemn Watch by the Cross
(St. Mark's)

April 10th - Holy Saturday
11:00pm - The Great Vigil of Easter
(All Saints')

April 11th - Easter Sunday
8:00am - Holy Eucharist (BAS) at St. Mary's
9:15am - Holy Eucharist (BAS) at All Saints'
11:15am - Holy Eucharist (BCP) at St. Mark's

**THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF
SALT SPRING ISLAND**

ReSound **AiR**[™]

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR NEW HEARING INSTRUMENT?

LOOK CLOSER.

MUCH CLOSER.

ReSoundAIR[™] digital hearing instruments are specifically designed for the needs of people with high-frequency hearing loss. ReSoundAIR incorporates the exclusive ComforTec[™] technology; Comfort + Technology = ComforTec.

Experience the Benefits of ReSoundAIR:

- Clean, Clear Sound Quality
- No Annoying "Plugged-up" Sensation While Maintaining a Comfortable, Almost "Transparent" Fit
- Increase Comfort By Reducing Background Noise
- Hear Soft, High Pitched Sounds Without Annoying Whistling Interference

ReSound **AiR**[™]

Extreme Comfort. Virtually Invisible.

Please call today to schedule an appointment, and learn more about how you can benefit from this exciting new technology.

Have you heard?

You are invited to a seminar introducing the ReSound AIR.

Learn how this hearing aid can help you face the challenge of high frequency hearing loss.

Presented by Edward Storzer, M.Sc., Aud (C), Registered Audiologist, McNeill Audiology and Shannon Fenske, M.A., Aud. (C), Audiologist, GN ReSound Canada

Hosted by McNeill Audiology – Brent McNeill, M.A., Aud. (C),
Registered Audiologist & Clinical Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine, UBC

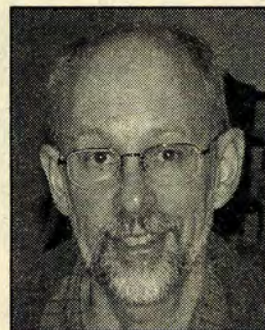
Wednesday, April 14, 2004 • 7 - 8:30 pm

Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney (coffee, tea, and light snacks will be served).

Limited Seating. Please telephone (250) 656-2218 or email btmc@telus.net to reserve a seat.



Edward Storzer,
M.Sc., Aud. (C)



Brent McNeill
M.A., Aud. (C)



Tricia McNeill



Bev Taylor



Gwen Basi

McNeill Audiology

COMPREHENSIVE HEARING TESTS

Open Monday - Friday 9 am - 4:30 pm

(250) 656-2218

Marina Court, #5 - 9843 Second St, Sidney, BC

Registered under the Hearing Aid Act B.C.

Prowlers snatch third at BC Masters

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Salt Spring's Pacific Prowlers purred into third place of the women's over-40 division at the B.C. Masters Basketball Championships in Abbotsford last weekend.

"In all three games, the camaraderie of the team was apparent; with a combination of humour but always a competitive desire to win," said Prowlers player Lee-Anne Gordon.

The islanders netted a win and two losses over games Friday night and Saturday during their second year at the Masters tournament.

"One thing the team all agrees on is that it's most important to have a large hot tub to go to after the game and discuss war wounds," Gordon said.

A tough first match-up left the islanders with a loss after a long commute and ferry ride, she said.

"Again this year, the first game was against Prince George, a team that has been playing together for 18 years and is a formidable opponent," she said.

But the islanders won their second game against Williams Lake Saturday morning before a noon loss to the Cariboo Ski Masters.

"Judy Raddysh, the team captain, kept the team's head in the game while Kim O'Neill and Shannon Junker could be counted on to push the ball down the court," said



HOOPSTERS: Members of Salt Spring's women's basketball team notched a win and two losses at the B.C. Masters Basketball Championships last weekend.

Photo contributed

Gordon.

Coach Lyall Ruehlen found his biggest challenge was structuring the offence to match the team's abilities, skill and fitness level.

"Crisp passing by wings Karen Hosie, Susan Garside, Monika Huser, Morgan Savin and Stefanie Conradi

created openings and scoring opportunities for the posts, Lee-Anne Gordon, Leah Woods, Judy Raddysh and Diane Weatherby," said Ruehlen.

He completely changed the team's offence after they fell behind in the first half of their final game. And the

Prowlers surged ahead by adapting their play to create better scoring opportunities, he said.

"Putting on a full-court press created turnovers and better looks at the basket, ending the Prowlers' tournament with a win."

The most positive part of all for Ruehlen was the team's enthusiasm and eagerness to learn and develop their skills, he said.

Ruehlen is encouraged the team wants to continue development and aim for the next level of play — to compete in the World Masters' Games at Edmonton in 2005.

This event, held every five years, has been previously hosted in Australia, Denmark and the U.S., he noted.

Teams do not have to qualify to enter the tournament and the Prowlers would be in the recreational division of their age category.

"The team has a reachable goal and [they] will be preparing themselves in the year to come," he said.

With this goal in mind, the Prowlers are looking for sponsors who can help them compete in Edmonton, show the world what a great place Salt Spring is and demonstrate that great things come out of a small community, said Gordon.

For more information about Prowlers sponsorship, contact Lee-Anne Gordon at 537-9649.

Murray Coell
Saanich North & the Islands MLA

Did you know?

BC's balanced budget is the first in Canada ever done under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles — the most open and transparent accounting rules in Canada.

Phone: 250-655-5711
Toll-free: 1-866-655-5711
E-mail: murray.coell.mla@leg.bc.ca

Trail, nature club sets April schedule

Following are activities for the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club.

There will not be a spring trip for 2004, sadly. However, there will be a fall trip for September 13-15.

We have two choices in mind, but the final choice will be announced next month in the Driftwood, with details, so mark your calendars now if you will be joining us, whether you are a Rambler, walker or hiker!

And watch the newspaper on April 28 for more information.

At our monthly social on Thursday, April 22, our guest speaker will be Paul Linton, a volunteer warden who will talk about the use (or not) of ecological reserve lands. He will have slides to supplement his comments. We start at 7:30 sharp, so please come earlier.

Ramblers

April 6: The tides will be right for Rita Aptekmann to lead us on a beach walk from Fernwood. Meet at Centennial at 10 a.m.

April 13: Ramblers meet at 9:15 a.m. at Portlock Park to catch the 10 a.m. Vesuvius ferry. Jean Holmes will lead us to see the pink lilies at Honeymoon Bay and St. Peter's churchyard.

April 20: A new walk for the ramblers along Toynbee Road, led by Margaret

Haines. Meet at Centennial at 10 a.m.

April 27: We'll ramble in the Churchill Road area, following Mickey Lyytikainen, with lunch on the beach. Meet at Centennial at 10 a.m.

Walkers

April 6: Today Jacque Severn leads us by still waters, along Morningside Road, along the edge of Reginald Hill, and down to the ocean to eat lunch. Meet at ArtSpring to carpool at 10 a.m. or wait at Drummond Park to carpool with the north-enders at 10:15 or so to Fulford. This will be a moderate walk with only one long hill to climb.

April 13: We visit the Andreas Vogt Nature Reserve with Nancy Braithwaite leading on this moderate walk. Meet at ArtSpring to carpool at 10 a.m. or south-enders wait at Stewart Road on Jasper for the others to arrive about 10:10. This will be the first time for us to see this property!

April 20: John Flannagan will take us out to the south and around Mountain Road and the waterfall area on this moderate walk with climbing slopes. Meet at ArtSpring to carpool at 10 a.m. or wait at Drummond Park where we will all depart about 10:15.

April 27: We head off with Janet Andersen leading us to Hemer Park in

Cedar (outside Nanaimo). Carpool from Portlock Park at 8:35 a.m. to catch the 9 a.m. ferry to Crofton.

Your choice for lunch: your own, or the Crow and Gate Pub! After eating, enjoy a stroll through the Barton/Leir Gallery Garden or Hazelwood Herb Farm. Check with your driver on this add-on segment, as it will alter whether you return on the 2:15 or the 3:30 sailing.

Hikers

April 6: Off island with Lynn Thompson to Mount Tzouhalem where the wildflowers could be in bloom. Carpool to leave Portlock Park at 8:30 a.m. for Vesuvius ferry at 9.

April 13: Fred Powell will lead us from Burgoyne Bay up and around the summit of Mount Maxwell. Carpool to leave ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m. to meet up with south-enders at the Burgoyne triangle at 10.

April 20: With Bryan Adderley in charge, expect something new along the Mount Hope trails. Carpool to leave ArtSpring at 9:40 a.m., to meet up with south-enders at Drummond Park at 10.

April 27: Join Simon Rook on a fairly rigorous hike in the Mount Maxwell area. Carpool to leave ArtSpring at 9:45 a.m.

Kapa Kai Glass
... on call & on time
TROY KAYE - Journeyman Glazier

- custom sunrooms
- custom skylights
- aluminum fabrication
- mirrors & shower doors
- auto glass
- residential & commercial

537-0746 Free estimates
Your "clear" choice for glass

Traditional Martial Arts School
Now Open
KARATE - TAI CHI - JIJITSU
Mahon Hall
Call for your free one week membership
537-0234

Blackburn Meadows Golf Club
NOW OPEN!

269 Blackburn Rd 537-1707

Orca Electronics Inc.
Yes we do computers
the largest selection on island

new/custom		laptops/PDA
upgrades		software
networking		repairs
wireless		service

we use name-brand components and service what we sell

RadioShack

monday - saturday 10 - 5:30 537-4522

Shoot-out denies cup shot for gritty U17 boys

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Salt Spring's U17 silver-division boys battled down to the last man in a grueling three-hour deadlock that saw the islanders vie with Cowichan in a shoot-out for the District Cup semi-final Sunday.

"The whole team just played their hearts out," said U17 coach Ken Byron. "Given the tie, both teams did, I would say."

Salt Spring and Cowichan remained stymied 1-1 after regulation time and two scoreless, 15-minute sudden-

death halves, Byron said.

The teams were still tied after five players from each team took turns in a shoot-out and then another round of five more shooters took turns, he said.

"It went right down to keeper versus keeper and their keeper scored and ours didn't. Our keeper took the whole brunt of the game on his shoulders."

But German exchange student Jan Freund has done a phenomenal job in net throughout the season, said Byron.

"He's only played the one year. He's never played

organized soccer before and said he would play keeper because we didn't have one."

Freund attended extra goal-keeping clinics and helped the team achieve victories all season, he said.

"We haven't lost one game since mid-November so I guess we were due."

The last time Salt Spring faced Cowichan, they beat them 4-0, he noted.

During Sunday's match, Cowichan scored first at 1:18 of the second half and Salt Spring tied it up at 1:35, he said.

"I'm very proud of my team. I'm very proud of their efforts."

Jeremy Byron scored the lone island goal on a penalty kick.

Following the subsequent shoot-out victory, Cowichan will go on to face Lakehill in the district cup final.

"The last time we played Lakehill was our last loss.



ON TARGET: Jeremy Byron's penalty kick gets by the Cowichan keeper and finds the back of net for Salt Spring's lone goal.

johncameron.ca

They're quite a good team but I think we could've beat them. We've improved steadily all year long."

Coach Byron believes part of the team's success this season comes from buying into a solid system, especially since half of the team members are U16 players competing at the U17 level, he said.

"We play a triangle system where we move the ball quickly. We don't carry the ball. We don't dump and chase."

The team completely accepted the possession system, Byron said.

"The team that has the ball the most is usually going to win the game."

A part from a couple of tournaments, the U17 team has now wrapped up their season but, except for two departing exchange students, the boys will be reunited in the fall.

"I have the same group for one more year and they should do all right."

U13 girls and boys win cup semi-finals

Salt Spring's U13 girls scored in the first two plays of their match against Peninsula to win the semi-finals of District Cup play last Saturday.

The team now faces a rival Cordova Bay team for the cup in Sooke next Saturday.

Crisp passes between a slick forward line of Erica Rimmer, Monique Comeau, Danica Lundy and Meredith Raddysh from the first and second kick-offs — combined with defensive fumbles by Peninsula — resulted in two quick goals for Salt Spring.

The local squad dominated the rest of the game, with keeper Olivia Morgan making less than half a dozen

saves, and defenders Katie Villadsen, Ivy Staker and Britney Oswell forming a near-impenetrable wall.

The Salt Spring girls are now gearing up for their game against Cordova Bay, which they consider their biggest rival. The local squad has won one game and lost two against Cordova Bay.

In the meantime, the Salt Spring's boys U13 team also won its semi-final with a Cayce Fedberg goal.

The boys head to Sooke this Saturday to take on Cowichan United in Cup play.

The U13 girls play on field #3 at 11:05 a.m., while the boys play on the same field immediately after.

GOLF TEES

Golfers from the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club reigned 8-1 over a team from Prospect Lake during a meeting of the Lower Island Nine-Hole Golf Association Saturday.

Victorious after 18 holes were islanders John Campbell, Benjamin Goldman, Keith Lavender, Colin Lawler, Tim McBride and Don McMahon.

THREE POINT MOTORS WEEKLY SPECIAL

1998 SUBARU LEGACY GT SPORT WAGON

Very rare GT with all the goodies like Privacy glass, rear spoiler, 16" alloy wheels, power sunroof, a/c, power windows, locks, mirrors, All Wheel Drive and much more. Reduced to sell at only \$19,288.00.

\$19,288.00

Financing from **0% OAC**

2004 SUBARU IMPREZA TS

All-wheel drive
2.5 litre
4 cylinder engine
4-wheel disc brakes

Air conditioning
ABS brakes
Keyless entry
CD player
Full power group

\$22,995.00

Come in for your test drive today!

Three Point Motors
"In the heart of downtown Nanaimo"
303 Terminal Avenue www.threepointnanaimo.com
1-877-490-9844

Nanaimo
SUBARU
DRIVEN BY WHAT'S INSIDE™
tpmnasales@threepointmotors.com
250-753-1444

Prices Effective MAR. 31 - APR. 6, 2004
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES

SIDNEY SUPER FOODS

2531 BEACON AVE. "Sidney-By-The-Sea"

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

ENTER TO WIN

A washer & dryer
Courtesy of Unilever
Sidney Super Foods

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

<p>CANADA GRADE "AA" OR "A" BEEF BONELESS Sirloin Tip Marinating Steaks 7.45kg 3.38 lb</p> <p>BONELESS EYE OF ROUND Marinating Steaks or Oven Roast 7.23kg 3.28 lb</p> <p>FRESH BREAST BONE REMOVED Pork Side Spare Ribs 5.47kg 2.48 lb</p> <p>FRESH AUSTRALIAN Leg of Lamb 8.77kg 3.98 lb</p> <p>Lamb Loin Chops 17.59kg 7.98 lb</p> <p>Rack of Lamb 20.46kg 9.28 lb</p>	<p>OLYMPIC SMOKED BONELESS HALF OR QUARTERS TOUPIE HAM 4.37kg 1.98 lb</p> <p>CANADA GR. "AA" OR "A" BEEF BONELESS SIRLOIN TIP OVEN ROAST 7.23kg 3.28 lb</p>	<p>OLYMPIC SMOKED BONELESS Toupie Ham Steaks 4.81kg 2.18 lb</p> <p>FRESH NO MSG ADDED Breakfast or Pork Sausage 5.03kg 2.28 lb</p> <p>OLYMPIC REGULAR OR LESS SALT Sliced Side Bacon 500g pkg 3.48</p> <p>ALL VARIETIES Olympic Party Sticks 500g pkg 2.18</p> <p>MITCHELL'S GOURMET Smoked Sausages 450g pkg 3.48</p> <p>FRESH Sole Fillets per 100g 1.38</p>
<p>SNO BOY BAKER POTATOES 86c/kg 39¢ /lb</p> <p>CHILEAN GALA APPLES 1.94kg 88¢ /lb</p>	<p>CALIFORNIA GREEN LEAF LETTUCE ea 59¢</p> <p>B.C. MEDIUM LONG ENGLISH CUCUMBER ea 98¢</p>	<p>MEXICO ZUCCHINI 86c/kg 39¢ /lb</p> <p>CALIFORNIA LEMONS 5/1.00</p>
<p>ROBERTSON'S MARMALADE 250ml jar 1.99</p> <p>QUAKER OATS 2.25kg bag 3.09</p> <p>GENERAL MILLS FIBRE 1 450g box 2.47</p>	<p>MJB Shreddies PG Tips</p> <p>MJB Ground Coffee 300g tin 3.88</p> <p>Post Shreddies 725g box 1.97</p> <p>PG Tips Tea Bags 72's box 3.49</p>	<p>DAIRY</p> <p>KRAFT Delissio Pizza 615g - 927g pkg 6.99</p> <p>OLD SOUTH Orange Juice 355 ml tin 99¢</p> <p>MCCAIN Hashbrowns 1kg pkg 1.29</p> <p>KRAFT Shredded Cheese 400g pkg 5.29</p> <p>KRAFT PHILADELPHIA Chip Dip 255g tub 1.99</p> <p>KRAFT SINGLES Cheese Slices 500g pkg 3.99</p> <p>* VANILLA PLUS * FAT FREE VAN. PLUS Island Farms Yogurt 175g 79¢</p> <p>UNCLE BENS Stuff 'n Such 120g box 1.08</p> <p>PARAMOUNT Chunk Light Tuna 170g tin 77¢</p> <p>CARNATION ENVELOPES Hot Chocolate 10x13g box 1.98</p>
<p>DELI GRIMM'S SMOKED HAM per 100g .99</p>	<p>BAKERY ALL VARIETIES CROSTATTA ea 3.99</p>	<p>GRIMM'S WRAPS 255g pkg 1.19</p> <p>COUNTRY HARVEST SESAME WHITE * 100% W.W.W. * 7 GRAIN BREAD 675g loaf 1.97</p>
<p>DAIRY COOKIES 350g pkg 2.47</p> <p>Dare Vita Puffs 300g box 1.48</p> <p>Dare Bilton Gourmet Crackers 200g box 2.19</p>	<p>McCaun Punch 1l bot 3.00 +dep</p> <p>McCaun Drink Boxes 3x250ml pkg 88¢ +dep</p> <p>Mott's Clamato 945ml bot 1.79 +dep</p>	<p>FANCY FEAST Cat Food 85g tin 4/1.98</p> <p>SUNLIGHT Dishwasher Powder 1.8kg box 2.97</p> <p>SUNLIGHT Laundry Detergent 12L box 6.99</p> <p>ALL RINSE AGENT 250ml bot 3.08</p> <p>VIM Thick Bleach 750ml bot 2.65</p> <p>BOUNTY REGULAR Paper Towels 2 roll pkg 1.93</p> <p>BATHROOM TISSUE & PAPER TOWEL Cascades Duo Pack 9 roll pkg 3.99</p>
<p>VENICE RYES FIBRE SCHNITTEN 454g loaf 1.29</p> <p>CANADIAN 680g 1.99</p>	<p>DEMPSTER'S "SLICED" BLUEBERRY BAGELS 6's pkg 1.99</p>	<p>Little Pepsi 6x250ml 6 pack 2/5.00</p> <p>Lipton Drink Crystals 210g pkg 1.09</p> <p>Green Giant Nilet Corn 34ml tin 77¢</p>
<p>Shackley Pancake Mix 1kg pkg 1.89</p> <p>Honey Maid Graham Waters 400g box 2.59</p> <p>Duncan Hines Cake Mix 515g box 1.19</p>		

We care about our community . . . and we care about you!

At a crossroads?

Want to explore your options?

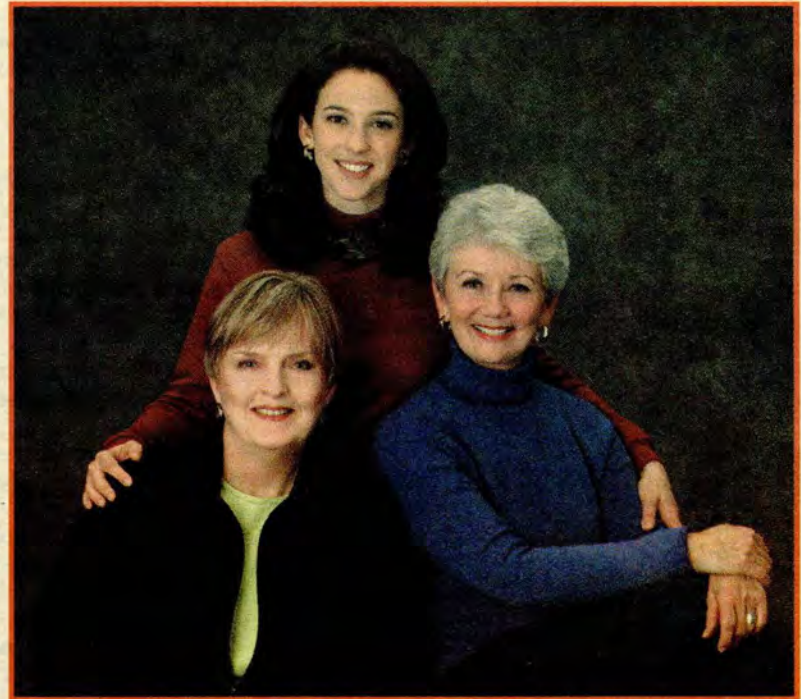
Let's brainstorm!

We will help you make an informed decision.

Call Donna, Kerry or Kelly

Office/Pager 537-1201

(Toll Free 1-800-537-1201)



So Intriguing.....



- brilliant design
- exquisite materials
- newly constructed
- showcases art well

\$799,000

Beautiful 5 acres



- bucolic setting, S. end
- pasture and forest
- well & travel trailer
- southfacing, tranquil

\$259,000

B&B or your choice!



- 3700 sq. ft., pristine
- Lakeview, decks, h/tub
- 6 bedrms, 8 bathrms
- European craftsmanship

\$629,000

House, acreage, shop



- 5 acres southfacing
- 5 min. drive to Ganges
- 1400 sq. ft. home
- in-law potential below

\$379,000

Stunning Shoreline



- lowbank, south end
- strata with farmland
- virtually half a bay
- orchard & pasture

\$849,000

Sunsets to feed the soul



- darling cottage
- over an acre waterfront
- rocky bluffs, arbutus
- 180° views

\$499,000

Scaling down to perfection



- 1500 sq. ft. rancher
- wood floors, vaulted ceiling
- 500 sq. ft. deck, att'd garage
- workshop/storage below

\$399,000

Salt Spring Serenity



- south facing 3 acres
- cottage, studio, greenhouse
- some open, some forest
- private, park-like, peaceful

\$415,000

Best buy waterfront



- private and tranquil
- 180° views
- southend opportunity
- bring your plans

\$629,000

Sunny Vesuvius



- bordering on Duck Creek
- sunny 2,420 sq. ft. home
- self-contained lower level
- minutes to all amenities

\$318,800

White sand beach....



- south facing beach house
- micro-climate zone
- self-contained guest suite
- over 1,000 sq. ft. of decking

\$995,000

South facing harbour views



- "Bau Biologie" home
- beautifully finished
- in-home office/ample parking
- minutes to beaches and village

\$755,000



Island Quest Realty Ltd.

www.gulfislandrealestate.com