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Gulf Islands Driftwood

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Ganges
- Ganges Village Market
- Pharmasave
- Splash Flyer
- Mouat's Home Hardware
- Island Art Centre Society
- Thrifty Foods

Arlene for Mortgages
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Pitfalls of progress

Salt Spring writer Ron Wright discusses stone-age links to sustainability. Page B9



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- Letters A9
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- What's On B14

Weather

Sun and a few clouds are in the forecast for today (Wednesday) and tomorrow, with light rain starting on Friday. Highs to 11 C (Thursday); overnight lows to 4 C (tonight).

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REMEMBERING: Sergeant of Arms Frank Worsley is seen in the local Legion's Military Memorial Garden as he and other war veterans prepare for various Remembrance Day activities, including a visit to Gulf Islands Secondary School and Greenwoods, as well as Thursday's parade and ceremony in Ganges. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Local Americans saddened by Bush win

By ELLEN YEUNG
Staff Writer

It's easy to find Salt Spring residents who are American citizens. But ones who voted for George Bush in last Tuesday's U.S. presidential election are more elusive than a parking spot in Ganges on a summer Saturday.

"I do not know of a Republican that has moved here, certainly based on comments," said Salt Spring realtor Myles Wilson.

"I'm not sure you'll find any," agreed glass artist Amy Buchwald, a Democrat who moved from Minnesota just

before the 2000 U.S. election. "It just seems to me like this is not necessarily a place conservative people would come to live. But anything's possible."

Calls to numerous other islanders who are American citizens were just as futile. They're firmly Democrat and haven't met anyone on Salt Spring who has "come out" as a Republican.

Some people are taking the Republicans' victory hard, apparently.

"My husband, he's feeling as though he's lost a really good friend. He's

like in mourning. He's really bummed," said Cindy Brooks, who moved to the island from New Mexico with her family this summer.

Brooks, though, said she didn't feel the Democrats' defeat as drastically because her mourning process started four years ago when Bush was first elected.

She cited the United States' growing conservatism as a major impetus for her family's move to Canada.

"There were problems with gay rights, health care, violence, war," Brooks said. "All these things were adding

up to a country that I no longer recognized as the country that I felt I belonged to."

Buchwald said she and her husband Charles didn't move to Salt Spring merely for political reasons but for the quality of life offered by being in an arts community and being near the water.

"But the fact that we decided to leave when we did was perfect timing in a way," she said, adding she was particularly "terrified" about how the Republicans' future policies may affect the environment.

Marck Shipley, who

moved with his family from California last year, said the bigger concern with Bush in power isn't that the U.S. government would wage another war, but that the president will continue to appoint federal judges and supreme court justices.

"The biggest danger for U.S. citizens is they're going to be dealing with a very conservative judicial system and that's going to outlast Bush for 20 or 30 years," said the owner of Harlan's Chocolates.

US ELECTION A2

Ssplash senses optimism about pool referendum vote

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

As the Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) prepares for two town hall meetings on the aquatic facility referendum this week, the pool society favouring the indoor pool plan is lobbying hard to see it pass.

Ssplash members have engaged in telephone can-

vassing, manned booths outside the grocery stores and arranged for enthusiastic newspaper ads and flyers.

Based on public response so far, group members are feeling optimistic the referendum will pass, said Ssplash board members Darlene Steele and Jane Horsburgh last week.

"It's about cradle to grave

fitness," said Steele, elaborating on health benefits of an indoor pool for islanders of all ages.

Seniors, people with chronic health problems such as arthritis, toddlers, children and teens will all benefit from a pool on Rainbow Road, she stressed — and that's what islanders appear to be recognizing.

One key to success will be ensuring each segment of the population has access to the pool at a time that works for them, she said.

"Extremely attractive programming" will also maximize revenue, she added.

Steele and Horsburgh are optimistic the community can now support an indoor pool financially,

while acknowledging fear of increased taxes is on many people's minds.

"It's a concern regarding their taxes, which for certain people is a bona-fide concern," said Steele.

But she is extremely optimistic that PARC — through the Capital Regional District

REFERENDUM A2

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12	0545	10.5		0835	11.8
	1005	8.5		1310	10.2
	1510	10.8		1635	10.8
	2235	0.7	16	0045	0.0
				0935	11.8
				1450	10.2
				1710	10.2

US ELECTION: 'Disappointed, discouraged, confused'

From Page A1

Shipley said he was disturbed the Republicans won with bigger margins than in the past in the "red states," or typical Republican strongholds, and the Democrats won with smaller margins in the blue states.

"I don't see much reason to be optimistic if you're not a right-leaning person in the United States that things are going to be much different," he said. "Socially, I think for women in particular, their right to have an abortion is probably more at risk than it's ever been before. And civil rights and things like that will probably go to the wayside more and more."

Chris Patton, a dual Canadian and U.S. citizen who grew up in Canada, said he was "disappointed, discouraged and confused" with the election outcome.

"I think the people who brought George Bush to office did so in good faith," said Patton, an English department lecturer at Western Washington University. "I think they genuinely believed they voted for the person who would do the best job in keeping them secure and keeping their families secure."

The Republicans won due to marketing, he said.

"It's a packaging job that determined the election, not substantive issues."

The American citizens interviewed said while some Democrats in the U.S. might want to move to Canada, it isn't that easy.

"In the States, very few people seem to live abroad for any significant part of their lives," Shipley said. "There might be some initial interest, where people take a look at Canada, but I



NOT OPTIMISTIC: Marck Shipley, an American living on Salt Spring, is disappointed with the outcome of the United States election.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

don't see [the election result] as something that's going to drive a lot of Americans north."

Buchwald said since the election, she has received numerous e-mails from friends asking how difficult it would be to immigrate to Canada.

"They're all so disgusted, disappointed and afraid, really," Buchwald said.

She said her American friends with young children want to move to Canada so the values they believe in can be instilled in their kids, she said.

However, the selection criteria for skilled workers wanting to immigrate to

Canada are now more strict.

"It's actually harder than when we came," said Buchwald, who is preparing for her Canadian citizenship exam. "I don't think they quite realize that."

Patton has at least a dozen friends and acquaintances who have half-jokingly said they would leave the United States.

"There's a cultural schism in the States that's probably not as marked as it has been since the late '60s," he said, but he doesn't expect as dramatic an influx of Americans as during the Vietnam era because there likely won't be a draft.

According to a Reuters

news story by David Ljunggren, some 115,016 people in the U.S. checked out the Canadian immigration department's website on November 3, almost six times the average daily number of 20,000.

Meanwhile, Wilson said it would take about six months to see if the U.S. election results will have an effect on real estate purchases here.

Wilson recently listed a property for a man from Toronto. "He's quite excited because he thinks [the Republican victory] is going to be a good thing for Canadian pocketbooks. But it's purely speculation.

"I think Americans will take a wait and see attitude. Let's see what [Bush] does and go from there," he said.

"Give it a few more months and time will tell, that's for sure," agreed realtor Mike Hardy.

Local real estate prices have stabilized, especially now that we're approaching winter, he said.

Realtor Li Read said while it's too early to know if election results will affect real estate sales, it wouldn't take long to find out.

"It takes people time to digest experience and so they don't always go, 'Oh my goodness,' and act right away," she said. "I think 10 days to two weeks should make it clear what will happen."

Demand for real estate will depend on economics, not politics, she added.

Wilson also noted that Americans move to Salt Spring for lifestyle and shared values reasons, not merely due to politics.

REFERENDUM: Town hall meetings set

From Page A1

(CRD) — will receive a \$2-million federal-provincial infrastructure grant. That would slash the amount of money to be borrowed for capital costs by almost half, and reduce the tax increase required substantially — from \$23.03 per \$100,000 of assessed property value to \$11.14.

Steele said her discussions with the infrastructure grant bureaucrats have been encouragingly positive and she is confident the grant will come through at some point.

She also notes that the pool will not be "another ArtSpring," as some people have predicted, since it's not a matter of a non-profit society trying to pull the funding together.

And because PARC is already at the limit of its taxing authority allowed by

bylaw, taxes to cover annual operating expenses cannot be raised without going through a public approval process with the CRD.

The \$325,000 annual operating deficit figure was arrived at not by Ssplash, notes Horsburgh, but by the task force consisting of a number of PARC and community group representatives.

"I think it's feasible and reasonable," she said.

She also hopes that islanders will not only vote "yes" on November 20, but then support the project afterwards.

"We'd like to see the entire community help to build it," said Horsburgh.

People wanting more information about the proposed pool project are urged to attend the town hall meetings. One is on Sunday, November 14 at the

Gulf Islands Secondary School multi-purpose room at 2 p.m. and on Monday, November 15 in the Fulford Elementary School Library at 7 p.m.

PARC operations manager Dave Gibbon said the meetings will be a time for "meaningful questions. It will not be a forum for sermonizing or putting forward arguments for or against the project."

PARC has taken a neutral position on the referendum question.

An advance poll runs today (Wednesday) and November 17 at the Ganges Fire Hall. On Saturday, November 20, polls are open at Fulford Community Hall, the Ganges Fire Hall and Community Gospel Chapel.

Times for all polls are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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Ganges Marina development plan rejected again

By **ELLEN YEUNG**
Staff Writer

After two years of revisions, the Islands Trust has once again asked the owners of B&B Ganges Marina Ltd. to revise its application to rezone its properties.

The application pertains to the three waterfront lots that comprise the existing marina facility, the leased water lot and a property on the west side of Lower Ganges Road.

For the Ganges Marina side, the owners propose to build a four-storey building with five residential units and 14 motel suites on the waterfront Lot 3.

In Lot A across the road, they suggest building a six-unit residential complex, with one unit designated for a special needs person.

It has been Trust staff's repeated position that the areas of fill, the density of land use and scale of buildings proposed are inappropriate for the site and not in compliance with official community plan (OCP) policy, Trust regional planning manager John Gauld told the last Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting.

He said the proposed plans did not match OCP policies and zoning guidelines for the marina area.

"The scale and density of development exceeds a reasonable capacity of the site," he said.

While planning staff supported a two-storey building plus a basement on Lot 3, it did not support a third-storey loft area or a variance to permit a building height of more than seven-and-a-half metres.

As well, they did not support residential and commercial accommodation uses at the boardwalk level, nor time-share plans and commercial guest accommodation for less than 30 days.

There was also inadequate separation (building setback) between the public walking along the seawalk and the first floor residential units.

Trust staff also recom-

mended that five dwelling units should be the maximum number of units there. Lot A is currently developed with two residential units.

Three additional residential densities may be considered by way of amenity zoning.

The proposed amenity is to complete the Ganges Harbour seawalk and provide a public sidewalk next to lots 1 and 2 on the marina side, including ongoing maintenance and insurance costs.

Robyn Kelln, the project manager for the Ganges Marina proposal, told trustees that they're "proposing less than what permits to be built under current zoning" in Lot A.

Peter Lamb, president of Salt Spring Island Conservancy, also read a letter at the meeting urging the Trust to defer the Ganges Marina proposals pending a detailed review of the OCP.

The previous owners of Ganges Marina received a permit in 1989, which has since expired, to fill 511 square metres (5,499 square feet) of the harbour in order to finish its part of the seawalk.

"There are two major issues here, which are inextricably linked in the Marina application: first, the justification for further infilling of Ganges Harbour, and second, the potential for rezoning of shoreline land for increased commercial/residential development," Lamb said.

"We continue to be extremely concerned about the potential for infill of the harbour and the precedent that would be set for other upland owners in the area," he said.

Trustees told the applicant to provide real estate appraisals, in order to determine how much the company would benefit as a result of rezoning.

As well, trustee Kimberly Liniger told Kelln to provide a business case for six residential units rather than five for Lot A.



B.C. BISHOP: The Rt. Rev. James Cowan, the Bishop of the Diocese of B.C., attends a Choral evensong event at All Saints By-the-Sea Monday night.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Bus group waits in subsidy queue

By **MITCHELL SHERRIN**
Staff Writer

A subsidy for public transit might've been discontinued by the provincial government but the Salt Spring Island Public Transportation Society (SSIPTS) is patiently waiting by the curb in case the line reopens.

"Just in case the provincial government lifts the freeze on B.C. Transit funding, we want to be in the queue," said local transportation consultant Peter Lamb.

Consequently, SSIPTS submitted a proposal to B.C. Transit, contingent on a provincial subsidy for two-thirds of costs to create two stand-alone Salt Spring bus routes.

"We are definitely not opting in the Greater Victoria transit system," said Capital Regional District (CRD) regional director Gary Holman.

The plan would see a private operator provide service; B.C. Transit would lease buses, market the program and provide driver training; and the CRD would administer the service, possibly under a new transportation commission (see related

story in this issue).

One proposed route would provide a shuttle service around Ganges while another bus would run between Fulford Harbour and Vesuvius Bay to connect ferry routes.

The two routes would cost approximately \$160,000 annually, not factoring start-up costs for items such as bus stops, Lamb said.

"That would be dramatically reduced if there was a government subsidy," Lamb said.

A smaller plan to simply operate a shuttle would run approximately \$70,000, he noted.

SSIPTS members also discussed possible revenue-generation plans to collect money from the federal fuel tax, a bus tariff for visitors on B.C. Ferries, or sponsorship from local businesses.

In other SSIPTS news:
• A document about another SSIPTS initiative, the Salt Spring Ride Share Program will be completed by the end of November with an aim for presentation to the Community Energy Strategy group, said SSIPTS director Jane Squier.

Trust awards presented

Three Salt Spring recipients of 2004 Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards were given award plaques at a recent local trust meeting.

Kathy Reimer accepted one group category award on behalf of the Island Stream and Salmon Enhancement Society, while Donna Martin accepted the second group award for the Salt Spring Island Residents for Responsible Land Use.

Tom Gossett, a founder of the Salt Spring Water Preservation Society and long-time water-source protection activist, received his award in the individual category for stewardship.

Winners were announced at the September Islands Trust Council meeting on Bowen Island.

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Transportation concept gets wheels

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Capital Regional District (CRD) director Gary Holman is gearing up to create a new transportation commission that would oversee local issues around parking, sidewalks and public transit.

"It would act as a coordinating body—a more formal version of the Salt Spring Island Public Transportation Society (SSIPTS)," Holman said during the SSIPTS annual general meeting Friday.

"It's one of the advantages of our fragmented system," he said wryly. "You can create a vehicle for these things."

A transportation commission would operate similarly to the current Parks and Recreation Commission, he said.

"It would be a bit of a

catch-all for transportation issues."

Holman has asked CRD staff to draw up an establishment bylaw to define legal and administrative authority of the new commission.

"I'm hoping to have something drafted before the end of the year for more public discussion."

He is also investigating options to determine whether a transportation commission would require tax dollars from islanders.

"I think it would be good to have a very modest requisition, in the order of a dollar or two per household, just so it can hire a coordinator."

But he isn't pushing for a tax hike to build sidewalks, parking facilities or a transit system, he said.

"I think people are getting pretty fatigued, tax wise. So I'm very sensitive to that."

Any tax requisition would

require a specific referendum, he noted.

"The primary purpose of this creature is to act as a coordinating body and fill a gap in our governance structure."

As an example of gaps in the current system, Holman said that existing Ganges sidewalks were created by business property owners using outdated arrangements with the Ministry of Transportation.

"They're no longer going to give licences of occupation over a public right of way to a private company."

A local transportation commission could also regulate parking on the island.

"In Fulford and Ganges, we need to get a little better handle on enforcing our parking . . . It's part of the picture."

If Salt Spring could create a bus system, parking would

be a contributing factor for total program success, he said.

"If you want to get people out of their cars and you don't have control of parking, it's an uphill battle."

A transportation commission could also create parking facilities, he noted.

But taxpayers wouldn't have to incur a financial hit to create parking or sidewalks because developers would incur expenses, he said.

"It would be analogous to a parkland dedication. You either give the land or you give five per cent."

And the commission would also oversee a public transit system if Salt Spring acquired buses.

"In every one of these cases, we're looking for dollars from sources other than the taxpayer, except for maybe a modest requisition for a coordinator."

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PARC sets million dollar budget for 2005

When the Salt Spring Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) proposed 2005 operating budget goes to the Capital Regional District (CRD) board for approval next month, it will top the million dollar mark for the first time.

As proposed, the \$1,083,920 in operating funds will come from the property tax requisition (\$815,560), a carry forward from last year's budget (\$134,580), Shelby Pool and Camp Colossal income (\$58,500); Market in the Park revenues (\$48,000); rental units (\$24,000); and

other (\$3,280).

The \$134,580 carry-forward amount is what tips the total over a million dollars.

PARC plans to spend the money in the following areas: \$313,770 on the Rainbow Road recreation facility; \$270,030 on active/passive parks and trails; \$214,720 on general administration; \$108,510 on Camp Colossal and Shelby Pool operation; \$96,270 on capital and major repair projects; \$44,910 on the Saturday market; \$28,000 on grants to community groups; and \$7,710 on its rental units.

"For budgeting purposes

it must be assumed that the [indoor pool] referendum will be approved. If it is not, appropriate adjustments will be made to the budget prior to board approval in the spring of 2005," notes a staff report from PARC operations manager Dave Gibbon.

While PARC members passed the preliminary budget as submitted at their last general meeting, regional director Gary Holman objected to a minor accounting adjustment that upped the requisitioned amount by \$12,000 over last year.

Holman said PARC had a \$134,580 surplus from the

2004 budget and uncommitted funds of \$445,000 from 2002 to 2004, which PARC allocated in April of this year, so that indicated PARC didn't need the extra \$12,000.

Commission members disagreed with him.

Peter Lake said he felt if the indoor pool was built following a successful referendum, then the \$325,000 proposed to cover the annual pool deficit would not be enough and so the \$12,000 would be needed. For individual taxpayers the difference was a matter of "cents," he said.

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DRIFTWOOD CLASSIFIEDS

The Island's marketplace

Page B15

Gulf Islands
Driftwood

Coast guard responds to calls

The Ganges Coast Guard office received three calls during the weekend.

On Saturday morning, a 1913 classic, wooden, 32-foot sailboat was reported aground near Eleanor Point.

The Coast Guard dewatered the vessel and towed it to Fulford Harbour, then located the owner.

The boat had broken free from its mooring buoy.

As the boat drifted toward the beach, it

was held off-shore by the branch of an arbutus tree.

Later that evening, a 27-foot Catalina had to be pulled off the rocks near First Sister Island in Ganges Harbour. The owner then went on his way.

On Sunday, a pleasure craft was reported aground at Little Group, near Dock Island outside of Sidney. It turned out to be a derelict boat that had drifted off-shore so the Coast Guard secured it to the shore.

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Ruby's nature reserve opens

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

A crowd of well-wishers gathered in the rain on Saturday afternoon to mark the opening of the Ruby Alton Nature Reserve on Isabella Point Road.

The 1.6-hectare (four-acre) waterfront property with a public trail to the beach is now one of the "50 special places" owned or protected by the Islands Trust Fund (ITF), the land-holding arm of the Islands Trust.

"We felt kind of overwhelmed by it because it's the first time we had a place with a house," said acting ITF chair Tony Law. "We realized it could only happen with partnerships, and some wonderful partnerships have been made."

Alton, who died in 1998, left her property at 661 Isabella Point Road to the ITF in her will. The ITF took possession of the property in 2002 and has been working to upgrade the house and land since then.

Law praised the vision of both Alton and all the partners who contributed to the project.

They include the Salt Spring Foundation (SSF), for providing "vital support;" Salt Spring Island Conservancy members for many hours of volunteer work; Slegg Lumber for building material help; and Warren Langley for the sign.

In addition to the trail, the property now has a new fence around the meadow and the aging boathouse was repaired.

Property caretakers Jill LeBlanc and Todd Klatt were also given kudos, as was ITF ecosystem protection specialist Ardice Neudorf.

Bob Rush — who said he first met Alton when they were preschoolers and their parents played tennis together on Salt Spring — spoke on behalf of the SSF, which donated funds for the path and fencing this year.



DANCING IN THE RAIN: Jean Brouard, Tamar Griggs and Briony Penn gumbfoot dance with enthusiasm as spectators gather in the rain at the opening of the Ruby Alton Nature Reserve Saturday.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

He noted the money disbursed annually by SSF "doesn't grow on trees," but comes from donations of any size that people make to the local foundation.

Meadow Drive resident Briony Penn spoke for Alton's neighbours and friends.

"Ruby was a tremendous combination of a Salt Spring pioneer in that she had sheep and ducks and chickens and did all her own slaughtering and clamming and fishing and lived off the bounty of Salt Spring," said Penn.

At the same time, Alton had strong conservation values in the contemporary sense. Penn said she covenanted the only remaining old growth trees on Mount Tuam, preserving valuable nesting trees in front of Falcon Farm.

"That was Ruby right to the core," said Penn.

Alton was also a founder of the island's trail and nature club and its youth wing, and

was a great supporter of The Nature Conservancy of Canada.

"She really understood the importance of protecting our native wildflowers," added Penn, who, at Alton's request, made a map of all the trees, plants and natural features on the property.

Referring to the drizzle that moistened Saturday's ceremony and open house, Penn said, "She'd be happy that it is raining too and that her stream is getting suitably recharged."

Jean Brouard, who also lives nearby, noted how Alton volunteered to help others in need and was well loved.

"She was very attuned to her community as well as nature," he said.

Charles Kahn said she also affected the Salt Spring Historical Society and Trail and Nature Club.

He joked that Alton might find the fixed-up house to be "a little too neat for her."

LeBlanc said she and Klatt felt extremely privileged to live on the property and thanked those who gave them input about how Alton would like things preserved.

Law said the ITF still needs to implement its management plan for the property, and restore the wildflower meadow. The latter is being undertaken through a UVic program.

Installing a demonstration rainwater catchment system is also on the wish list.

The ITF still needs donations to offset the more than \$45,000 spent on repairs and improvements to the house and property in the past two years.

Donations for the Ruby Alton Nature Reserve can be sent to the Islands Trust Fund, 200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, V8R 1H8.

Tax receipts will be issued. A donation form is also available online at www.islandstrustfund.bc.ca.



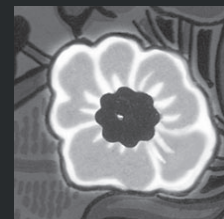
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RCMP REPORT

Salt Spring RCMP received several complaints of vandalism that occurred over the weekend.

Three buildings and two vans were spray painted with red and black paint.

The CIBC, Island Savings Credit Union, and the Stone Walrus were all vandalized, as well as a white delivery van outside of Salt Spring Auto Parts and a black van outside of Anise Restaurant and Inn.

Salt Spring RCMP believe that all of the incidents are connected.

Anyone with information about these incidents is asked to contact the Salt Spring RCMP at 537-5555.

In the meantime, Kevin Bell, general manager of Mouat's, has offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of the vandal.

Mouat's owns the building where the CIBC bank is located.

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Steeves, Johnston vie for Pender seat

By ELLEN YEUNG
 Staff Writer

A by-election to fill the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee seat vacated by Wayne Wright in August will be held on Saturday, November 20. The position is for the balance of the three-year term from December 2002 to December 2005. The two candidates are Tony Johnston and Gary Steeves.

Tony Johnston

Johnston retired with his wife to Pender Island four years ago after serving for seven years as senior legal advisor for the Canadian Forces in Europe.

He was a marriage commissioner for two years on Pender and is a director on the Pender Island Fire Protection Society. Johnston used his legal expertise to help amalgamate the two fire societies and fire departments on North and South Pender islands.

Johnston said he has been particularly concerned about how the Driftwood Village development proposal, or Bylaw 141, has divided the community on Pender. The development includes 25 cottages and 11 larger residences, with some of the cottages reserved for people over age 60. Some opponents have expressed concerns about increased density, and short-term rather than long-term tenancy of the homes.

Although Johnston said he was not necessarily a proponent of the development, he didn't say he was opposed to it either.

"A vote for the other candidate, Mr. Steeves, is essentially a vote to kill the Driftwood Village proposal," Johnston said. "A vote for me is a vote to revisit the Driftwood Village proposal with a view to seeking a more impartial assessment of what people of North Pender want."

Johnston said he was put

off by the misinformation generated by opposing sides of the issue.

"Writing campaigns are orchestrated by opposing factions and they rarely, if ever, give an accurate indication of whether or not there's a public consensus one way or the other," he said, adding that he represents a moderate voice and brings no political baggage or affiliation with any special interest group.

Johnston did express some support for the Driftwood Village proposal.

"The cottages are designed so elderly people who could no longer handle a larger property and would like to scale down to cottage-like, maintenance-free living would have that sort of interim option instead of having to maybe sell off their larger properties and move off island," he said.

Johnston noted Wright and Em Round, the other local trustee, have consistently voted in favour of the Driftwood Village proposal while Gisele Rudischer, the chairperson from Gabriola Island, has voted against it.

"Whoever gets elected will likely have a swing vote to kill it or allow it to go forward," he said.

Gary Steeves

Steeves and his wife have lived on North Pender full-time since 1990. He retired as a director from the B.C. Government and Service Employees' Union in 2004. During his 25 years at the BCGEU, he was responsible for negotiations and mediation in various sectors of

the B.C. economy and managed a \$15-million budget and a staff of more than 50 employees.

Like Johnston, Steeves said he would like to uphold the Trust's mandate to preserve and protect.

He said his goals as a trustee are to conduct a comprehensive review of North Pender's official community plan (OCP), to create a growth management plan and to include a wide cross-section of interest groups on the advisory planning commission.

He would also like to extend the Islands Trust's mandate to cover large-scale forestry practices.

"I think most people feel [Trust business] is done outside the realm of public knowledge and public information," Steeves added. "People don't understand why decisions are made. They don't feel included in the deliberation process."

The trustees need to engage the public about issues before people find out about them for the first time at the bylaw stage, he said.

The collective expertise of residents should be drawn upon in reviewing the OCP and laying out a vision for the next five years, he said. And rather than having bylaw-by-law fights, a growth management plan needs to be in place to deal with issues such as seniors housing facilities, transportation infrastructure, affordable housing, groundwater, recreational and business facilities, and housing density.

Public Notice

Crofton Division is upgrading its mill evacuation horn system and will sound horns as part of testing the system between October 21 through the end of November.

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Trust, CRD offices move

The Ganges Islands Trust office will move from Grace Point Square to the B.C. Hydro building at 500 Lower Ganges Road in February.

Capital Regional District (CRD) Building Inspection staff, now in Ganges Centre above Waterfront Gallery, could also move into the same office in October.

Trust regional planning manager John Gault noted at the last Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting that both agencies are currently located on second-floor offices, which causes access difficulties for physically challenged and elderly persons.

If the CRD move is also approved, community members would have a one-stop window for services from both agencies.



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Pensioner tells Ottawa to claw ahead

By **ELLEN YEUNG**
Staff Writer

Retired Salt Spring teacher Ron Stacey says the federal government can save money and reduce inefficiency by keeping his Old Age Security (OAS) rather than issuing the payment and then asking for it all back again in the form of income taxes.

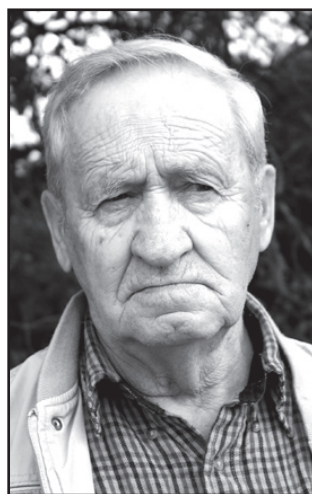
"If they're going to tax that money away, why don't they just keep it in the first place?" asked the 80-year-old retiree. "They're just wasting their time and even taxpayers' money sending that stuff out and then taking it back again."

Last year, Stacey received \$38,000 in taxable income, \$5,500 of which was from his OAS pension. Because his total tax owing for 2003 was \$6,400 — \$900 more than what he received in OAS — Ottawa basically clawed back his OAS.

But instead of the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) merely sending Stacey a receipt for the \$900 in taxes, the federal government and Stacey incurred many more transactions, with related costs, in the current procedure.

The CCRA also sent Stacey a letter informing him that because he is expected to owe more than \$2,000 in taxes after deductions are made on his pensions for 2004, he would need to pay the remaining amount in installments in September and December of this year.

Since Stacey's income doesn't vary much from year to year, he said the CCRA should "claw ahead" all of the OAS pension based on the previous year's tax settlement.



Ron Stacey

Then he would only need to pay the \$900 in taxes, and that would put him below the \$2,000 threshold where he would need to pay additional taxes in installments.

As well, if Ottawa didn't issue his OAS in the first place, Stacey wouldn't be placed in the higher tax bracket, he said.

Stacey's primary concern, though, is the "inefficiency" he sees in the clawback. He points out that there are many other seniors like him on Salt Spring and throughout Canada whose income threshold requires them to essentially pay back all of their OAS payments in the form of income taxes.

"That's what's wrong with our government, it's so inefficient," he said. "It's wasting so much of our money."

Meanwhile, a CCRA spokesperson said as mere administrators of the income tax act, the CCRA doesn't have the legal mandate to collect money from sources other than taxpayers, so they can't collect the OAS from

Social Development Canada, which administers the OAS.

"There's nothing in the Income Tax Act that permits us or permits [Social Development Canada] to send us that money instead of us getting that money from the taxpayer," said CCRA spokesperson Colette Gentes-Hawn.

Only in cases where the CCRA has great difficulty collecting from the taxpayer would it look into garnishing payments due to that person, she said.

"Somebody could change the rules and say, 'Don't collect from the taxpayer, collect instead from other places that owe him money,' and then we would do that. But we can't take it upon ourselves to collect from just anybody," Gentes-Hawn said. "We don't have the mandate to do that, and if any of us would be free to go get somebody's money from anywhere, then you can imagine the chaos that would result."

Three weeks ago, a Department of Finance spokesperson in Ottawa said for the government to keep Stacey's OAS and just ask him to pay the \$900 owing "would require a significant amount of coordination and information sharing between departments." Such a procedure would increase the cost of administering the OAS and tax system, and would create privacy concerns as only CCRA officials, not those from Social Development Canada or any other agency, have access to a person's tax information.

However, on Friday, November 5, the official contacted the Driftwood again to

say Stacey could call Social Development at 1-800-277-9914 and ask them to send the money from his pension directly to the CCRA. The OAS would still be counted as part of Stacey's income, though.

Stacey had also received a letter of response from Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Gary Lunn, who, instead of agreeing with Stacey's suggestion for the federal government to keep the OAS in lieu of taxes, took his Conservative Party's line of wanting to reduce the level of taxes to begin with.

"Quite the contrary, I believe you deserve to keep more of your income overall," Lunn wrote.

Stacey said the universal OAS pension is a "feel-good bunch of non-sense" because many wealthy seniors receive it as well.

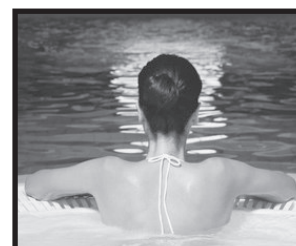
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Improved academics earns \$1,000 for local high school

Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) received \$1,000 from the Fraser Institute when the school ranked as a finalist in an award ceremony in Vancouver on November 3.

GISS was nominated for Improvement in Academics as part of the Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in Education.

Kelowna Christian School won the \$3,000 top prize for academic improvement.

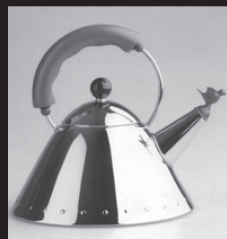
Other winners included: Timothy Christian School of Chilliwack, for Academic Excellence in Excess of Expectations; St.

George's School from Vancouver, for Overall Academic Excellence; and Handsworth Secondary School of North Vancouver, for Overall Academic Excellence (non-selective schools).

Five Vancouver schools rejected award nominations for academic excellence from the Fraser Institute in October.

Their administrators were protesting the right-wing think-tank's ranking of schools according to provincial exam results with their annual Report Card on B.C. Schools.

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OPINION

Ceremony still holds relevance

Watching the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Centennial Park each year is one of the most moving and poignant experiences the Salt Spring community shares.

And as the size of the attending crowd seems to grow each year, even as the number of veterans naturally declines, it appears islanders feel the same way too.

It could be that people want to inject some reality into our image of war, which for most people has been crafted far from the frontlines and mainly from television news and movies.

It could be that we want to witness the footsteps and imagine the memories of men and women whose lives were changed forever by their wartime experiences, and to connect those experience to all of us.

Remembrance Day provides a time to honour not only the 112,016 Canadian soldiers who died in the two World Wars and the Korean War, but also the 1.75 million Canadians who served their countries in the conflicts, and all who made sacrifices of some kind.

The Driftwood's War and Remembrance supplement in this week's issue shows how much effect wars have had on families living today on Salt Spring.

For many people, it's hard not to contrast one of the other basic messages of Remembrance Day with the madness occurring in our world today.

On this Remembrance Day, it's hard not to judge the United States' war in Iraq, initiated using false premises and logic, and gobbling untold billions of U.S. taxpayers' money that could be feeding, educating and keeping their citizens healthy instead.

More than 1,000 U.S. soldiers have already died in Iraq, but not in the name of defending their country or its allies.

Remembrance Day gives us an opportunity to contemplate war as something that should be avoided at all costs, and to commit to the vigorous pursuit of peace.

For people who cannot be at Centennial Park on Thursday morning, two minutes of silence can still be observed at 11 a.m., and visions of future peace can be woven with the remembrance of lives lost.

SCIENTIST REPORT ARCTIC ICE RAPIDLY MELTING



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Trust should change position on harbour in-fill

By PETER LAMB

The Salt Spring Island Conservancy commends the Local Trust Committee for its recent resolution on the B&B Ganges Marina, requiring that appraisals be provided to determine the real net value to the community of a proposed shoreline development in Ganges Harbour, in accordance with the amenity zoning provisions of the official community plan (OCP).

However, there are two major issues here, which are inextricably linked in the marina application: first, the justification for further in-filling of Ganges Harbour, and second, the potential for rezoning of shoreline land for increased commercial/residential development.

While the trustees are dealing with the second of these issues, we continue to be extremely concerned about the potential for in-fill in the harbour and the precedent that would be set for other upland owners in the area.

1. Interpretation of the OCP

VIEW POINT

We categorically disagree with the Trust interpretation that Article E.3.4.9 of the OCP — "The shoreline should not be filled in to create additional land, except minor areas of fill necessary to complete the boardwalk . . ." — is consistent with the proposed in-fills of the harbour for the four upland owners noted in the staff report.

They are neither "minor" nor are they "necessary to complete the boardwalk."

According to my rough calculations, the effect of that "interpretation" is to permit an increase in waterfront land due to in-fill, of over twice the existing area for all four upland properties in this area.

For the marina, about 65 per cent more land in Lot 3; for the Cudmore land, over three times more land; and for the Farmers

Institute, about 2.5 times more land. The Fishery land was in-filled in 1989 and about doubled the land area. Hardly "minor," especially if you consider the implications for other upland owners on Ganges Harbour.

It should be obvious that such extensive in-fill is not "necessary to complete the boardwalk" unless the commitment is to allow commercial development on the additional land.

In this regard, the statement in the earlier Trust staff report on July 23, 2004 that "It has always been contemplated that completion of the Ganges boardwalk would be accompanied with some complementary redevelopment of upland properties along Lower Ganges Road . . ." conflicts with the recollections of those involved in the planning and construction of the existing boardwalk around 1989.

Consistent with a precautionary approach to development, alternative methods of completing the boardwalk must be exam-

ined which would not involve anything other than "minor" in-fill if necessary to stabilize banks or footings and no increase in current commercial/residential development potential.

2. The Gulf of Georgia (Fishery) land.

According to the project manager of the boardwalk in 1989, "Infilling of the Fishery land was constructed to stabilize the walkway pilings rather than commercial benefit. The relatively shallow mud could not adequately support the pilings in the area. The fill mass was **not** constructed with materials suitable or in a manner to provide a geotechnically suitable base for building construction." It would be helpful to see the terms of the Development Permit issued for this in-fill work.

3. Trust Policy and the OCP.

The trustees have been advised of a number of inconsistencies with other provisions of the OCP as well as references in the Trust Policy Statement that impact on

shoreline developments. The conservancy has also noted that the amenity zoning and density transfer provisions in the OCP do not appear to be working and that consideration of any proposals should be deferred pending a detailed review of the OCP.

We are urging the Trust to reconsider their "interpretation," recognize the precedent that would be set by approval of the marina application, defer any consideration of amenity zoning until the OCP review is completed and advise the applicant not to proceed or continue with detailed plans until outstanding issues have been satisfactorily addressed.

Our shoreline is a critically important environmental and visual feature of the Trust area and must be preserved and protected to the fullest extent.

If you agree, please let the Trust know as soon as possible.

The writer is president of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy.

Cold water, wet suits won't help those who really need it

By DANIELA SIGURGEIRSON

The big referendum about an indoor swimming pool has finally arrived.

Some time ago I wrote a letter explaining all the miraculous benefits of water, specifically of a warm indoor pool.

I have eight years of experience as a physiotherapist, five of which I spent every day treating patients in water.

During this time I treated children, adults and elderly affected by various disabilities, traumas or neurological complications.

IN RESPONSE

The benefits they all, and I mean all, received were incredible.

I understand the argument about wearing a wet suit and swimming in the ocean in any weather (November 3 Driftwood letter), but there are a few cases (people who usually get the most out of water treatment) that could hardly wear a wet suit.

They are:

• Very old people with one or both hips replaced who

can at times have trouble even putting their socks on.

• Children or adults with cerebral palsy.

If you never had a chance to handle a person with severe spasms due to cerebral palsy I can assure you that a wet suit would not be mentioned.

• Many of the people affected by paralysis or arthritis, etc. can have a hard time getting dressed by themselves.

Cold water, such as that found in lakes and oceans in winter, is not beneficial to those seeking rehabilitation.

I sure agree that everyone

young and healthy could put on a wet suit and go swim at any time of the year, but the reality is there are many others out there who are not able to.

Their age, disability or fears may not allow them to swim or exercise in open water such as lakes or oceans.

I would like to add a specific example.

My mother is now 73 years old and underwent a serious operation on her neck vertebrae.

She now has to wear a collar for two months. Not even the best physiotherapist in

the field in my hometown feels comfortable in treating her after she takes off the collar because any slight wrong movement could leave her quadriplegic.

But there is hope! She can be taught exercises to perform in a pool (warm and indoors because right now it is rather cold in my home town) at her own pace, where even just standing up and gently mimicking the breast stroke would start strengthening her neck muscles until they are strong enough to give her the stability necessary to be able to move to the next level

— which means out of the danger zone.

Because we live in a community, it is nice to know our neighbours are there to help those who need it.

If the tables were turned and it was you who all of a sudden had the need, wouldn't you like to think your neighbours would do something to help you?

So let's give every body a chance, shall we? Say YES to the indoor pool and help your neighbours.

The writer is a Kings Lane resident.

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: *What disappointments did you discover about Salt Spring that the tourism brochures didn't mention?*



Rose Nemeth

All the rain in the winter, but I don't really find anything disappointing about Salt Spring.



Rob Dixon

When you want to go somewhere or come back, you always have to catch a ferry.



Boodie Arnott

People come in the summer and think it never rains for the rest of the year.



Barry Hayne

The ferries are rarely on time and we have limited water.



Kevin Oneschuk

There's nothing negative about Salt Spring. It's a positive place.

Letters to the Editor

Numbers game

The whole issue of the pool is turning into a numbers game and one that all taxpayers on Salt Spring will lose if the referendum is approved.

The capital cost we are being asked to approve on the November 20 referendum is only the tip of the iceberg. Let's not forget that we have already had at least two tax hikes related to the pool. The first one a few years ago to pay off the remaining debt on the land and the second one last year when we were "taxed to the max" with all of this funding going towards the pool. Not much question that this will likely continue.

Now the next hike is to pay the capital cost of the pool.

How will the operating deficit be paid? This apparently will range anywhere from \$325,000 to \$575,000 per annum, depending on how the numbers are

crunched. The upper end is also a bit loose depending on the accuracy of the consultant's projections.

And remember, this is an annual cost. This deficit could bankrupt PARC, certainly creating the potential for funding cuts to all other PARC programs — possibly requiring yet another tax hike. Offloading PARC's ArtSpring contribution allowed a further allocation from PARC to the cost of the pool.

With ever-increasing property assessments we can look forward to an ever-increasing tax bill to look after the insatiable appetite feeding the pool.

It's time (long overdue) that we stepped back from this spending precipice, took a deep breath and injected a dose of reality into this projected deficit spending. We would not likely run our personal finances in this cavalier fashion.

Vote "no" and let's continue with the Shelby-style pool, which has served us

well over the years.

BEN GOODMAN,
Salt Spring

Say yes

Since moving to Salt Spring Island 20 years ago I have always been impressed with how this amazing community of ours knows how to say "Yes! Yes! Yes!"

Whenever there is a need, people come forward and say, "Yes, I will help with that. Yes, I will make a donation. Yes, I will support your idea. Yes, I have time for that initiative. Yes, just tell me how I can help!"

On November 20 we have another opportunity to say yes to the pool referendum. Yes, because an indoor pool will be good for our community. Yes, because swimming gets people out, moving and having fun. Yes, because a pool will be a venue where families can be together. Yes, because our teens need to have healthy places to be and swimming is a healthy choice for them to make. Yes, because the positives

of an indoor pool will far outweigh the negatives some people have voiced over this initiative.

Before you vote on November 20, please think about the powerful impact a yes vote will have for everyone in our community, especially our children, whom when asked, say "Yes, we want a pool because we love to swim!"

RINEKE JONKER,
Principal, Salt Spring
Elementary School

Skatepark ready

Salt Spring's world-class skateboard park was completed on Friday, November 5.

The project stretches back 10 years and even though there were some difficult moments on this long arc to realization it was a project that eventually united the entire community in creating something worthwhile and lasting for the younger members of Salt Spring Island. The journey of mak-

ing this youth park is a testament to the good health of our community and our desire to keep it that way.

We have published a list of names and businesses that participated directly in making the park but we are sure that we have missed some people and businesses. Please forgive us and please let us know who you are and we will add you to the list.

And everyone on this island, please take the time to visit the Kanaka Road Skatepark and revel in the tremendous energy and talent of our young people. Wow!

BRUCE RUDELL,
for Salt Spring
Skatepark Society

Our gain

For a week now, decent Canadians have been congratulating themselves on not being American.

But a recent poll showed that 20 per cent of them would have voted for Bush had they the opportunity. (Think about it: that's one

in five Canadians. This is something to brag about?) Some pundits think that this is indicative of "diverging values" between the two countries. (As if inability to think or even believe coherently were a value.)

If Canada is to maintain its moral leadership, this is a trend that should be encouraged.

A firm policy of "constructive disengagement" is surely the best diplomatic solution to the growing rift between Ottawa and Washington.

Reinforcing another trend of the past four years, many Americans have expressed a desire to move to Canada. Rather than forcing them to join the queue, the federal government should encourage them.

Not for the first time, America's loss would be our gain.

PHILIP J. HUGHES,
Fruitvale Road

MORE LETTERS A10

Silent majority mobilized in Bush chess game

The front page of the UK newspaper The Daily Mirror, said it best: "How can 59,054,087 people be so dumb?"

This is of course referring to George Bush's victory, a victory so embarrassing to some that one New Yorker now describes her city as "a small island located off the coast of Europe."

And what a victory it was for Mr. Bush and the Republicans. Not only did they far exceed the minimum 270 seats required to declare victory, but Dubya himself won more than 50 per cent of the popular vote, a number not seen by a presidential candidate since his dad did it in 1988.

How could this happen? The war in Iraq is mired in daily beheadings, missing ammunition and the ongoing scandal in Abu Grab prison. The U.S. dollar is floundering. The federal budget has gone from a \$200-billion surplus to a \$400-billion deficit.

Osama bin Laden appears in a television studio dressed in a

HEAD TO HEAD

BY PETER VINCENT



lovely gold lamé gown, looking healthy and happy, a stark contrast to the concrete hole from which Saddam Hussein was plucked.

The presidential debates were one-sided debacles, with a smirking, blinking Bush appearing more like a Nazi war criminal than a president.

With this rainstorm of disasters, how was it possible? Was it the much-played "moral values" card? Was it "Bush, God and Commerce?"

Is Kerry viewed as some sort of hedonistic sybarite, a country club lay-about living off the avails of the Heinz fortune? Of course, he is nothing of the sort . . . two tours of duty in Vietnam, when his opponent weaseled a deferral . . . a man running on a platform of making the rich pay their way, even at his own personal expense . . . a man who garnered over 90 per cent of the black vote. Last

time I looked, there were no horns sprouting from Mr. Kerry's forehead.

So, all things being equal, how could this happen? Some things are more equal than others. In his acceptance speech, Mr. Bush gave credit where credit was due, to the man he referred to as "the architect" of his campaign and ultimate victory, one Karl Rove. The plan was brilliant, all-encompassing and worthy of Napoleon, Sun Tzu or Bobby Fisher. Bush was playing chess; Kerry, checkers.

Let me illustrate.

Everyone knew that the election would turn on key states — Florida and Ohio. Carry those, the election is yours. In Florida, the Bush camp went to school on the last election, this time spending an inordinate amount of time in the middle of the state stumping for God and country. He announced further restrictions on sending U.S. dollars to Cuba, underlining his hard line stance against Castro, insuring the huge ex-pat anti-Castro vote.

During the recent spate of hurricanes that buffeted Florida, Mr.

Bush rained buckets of relief money into the affected areas, gaining the undying gratitude of thousands who had just lost their doublewides.

And lastly, the hugely popular Florida governor Jeb Bush, Mr. Bush's brother, worked the phones like a mad man, frightened to death of a repeat of the 2000 election.

The result? No contest.

In Ohio, a funny thing happened. Line-ups to vote in the predominantly poor black neighbourhoods, Mr. Kerry's people, went around the corner and down the block. Waiting times to step into a voting booth were as long as 11 hours.

Now who is going to stand in the weather for 11 hours? There are jobs to report to, children to pick up from school, life. Many gave up in disgust.

Ohio is one of those states that has lost hundreds of thousands of jobs during Mr. Bush's first term. Ohio is one of those states that by all rational thinking should have gone to Kerry.

If you are the architect of the Bush campaign, if you stand a

good chance of losing, then make it as tough as you can for the other side to win. Classic Sun Tzu. The result? Bush, by a narrow margin.

But what about the moral card? The Bush camp played it like a Stradivarius, with the "gay marriage" issue on the ballot of 11 swing states, like Ohio and Michigan.

The Sodom and Gomorra vision of a mid-western boy in a white gown prompted huge numbers of hard-line Christians to rise up off their butts and drive down to the polling stations to vote against gay marriage and, of course, for Mr. Bush. The silent majority was mobilized. Checkmate.

So maybe the Daily Mirror was right. How could 59-plus million be so dumb? Or was it the brilliant game put together by Bush's campaign manager, Mr. Rove?

Whatever the cause and the consequences, we can't just blame Mr. Bush anymore. It's fully in the hands of the American people.

Peter Vincent spent U.S. election day in Santa Fe, New Mexico wearing a Kerry button.



Islands Trust

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE
Proposed Bylaws No. 385, No. 399 and No. 401

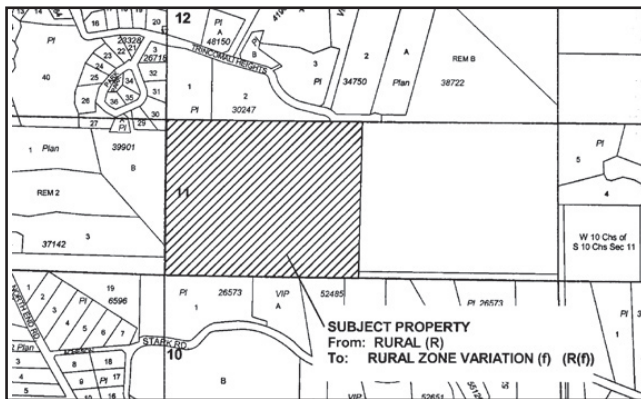
NOTICE is hereby given that the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee will hold a public hearing concerning proposed bylaws numbered 385, 399 and 401, for the purpose of allowing the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained therein. At the public hearing, all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaws shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard or to present written submissions. Each bylaw is scheduled to be heard at a specific time, as noted below, and each of the public hearings will be preceded by a public information session.

DATE: Tuesday, November 23, 2004
LOCATION: Hart Bradley Memorial Hall (Lions Hall)
 103 Bonnet Avenue, Salt Spring Island
TIME: As noted below

3:30 – 4:00 pm:	Public Information Session concerning Bylaw No. 401 – “Residential and Commercial Guest Accommodation” definitions
4:00 – 4:30 pm:	Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 401
4:30 – 5:00 pm:	Public Information Session concerning Bylaw No. 385 – Trincomali Amenity Rezoning
5:00 – 6:30 pm:	Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 385
7:00 – 7:30 pm:	Public Information Session concerning Bylaw No. 399 – Isabella Point Density Transfer
7:30 – 9:00 pm:	Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 399

- Proposed Bylaw No. 401, cited as “Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 6, 2004”.**
In general terms, the purpose of this bylaw is to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 to provide added clarity and certainty to the definition of the terms “Residential” and “Commercial Guest Accommodation”.
- Proposed Bylaw No. 385, cited as “Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 2, 2003”.**
In general terms, the purpose of this bylaw is to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 to allow an increase in the subdivision potential of the lands described as the West ½ of Section 11, Range 2 East, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, from 9 lots to 15 lots pursuant to the amenity zoning policies of the Official Community Plan, and by changing the zone classification from Rural – (R) to Rural Zone Variation (f) – R(f), as shown on the following Plan No. 1. It is noted that land value appraisals pertaining to this amenity zoning proposal are now available as background material.

Bylaw No. 385 – Plan No. 1

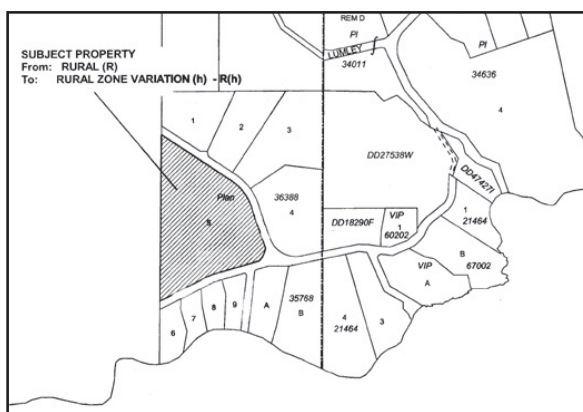
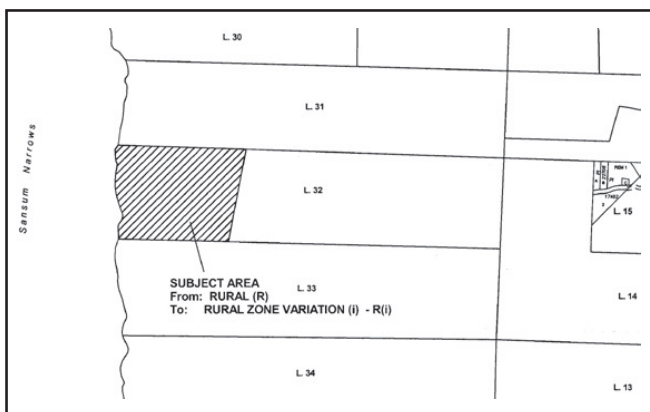


- Proposed Bylaw No. 399, cited as “Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw, 1999, Amendment No. 4, 2004”.**
In general terms, the purpose of Proposed Bylaw No. 399 is to amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 by changing the zone classification of a “donor property” abutting Sansum Narrows west of Shepherd Hills Road from Rural – (R) to Rural Zone Variation (i) – R(i) to reduce its subdivision development potential by 2 lots, and by changing the zone classification of a “receiving property” located at 1375 Isabella Point Road from Rural – (R) to Rural Zone Variation (h) – R(h) to increase the subdivision development potential of the property by 2 lots, as shown on the following plans.

These changes affect lands legally described as Lot 32, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District (Plan No. 1 – Donor Property) and Lot 5, Section 39, South Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Plan 36388 (Plan No. 2 – Receiving Property).

Bylaw No. 399 - Plan No. 1 (Donor Property)

Bylaw No. 399 - Plan No. 2 (Receiving Property)



Copies of the proposed bylaws, and any background material that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee, may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, Room 1206, 115 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing Friday, November 12, 2004, and up to and including Tuesday, November 23, 2004 at 12:00 noon.

For the convenience of the public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2)(e) of the Local Government Act, additional copies of the proposed bylaws may be inspected at the Victoria Office of the Islands Trust, #200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC, commencing Friday, November 12, 2004, and up to and including Tuesday, November 23, 2004. Copies of Proposed Bylaws 385, 399 and 401 are also available on the Islands Trust website at: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca>

Enquiries regarding the proposed bylaws may be directed to the Islands Trust at (250) 537-9144. For Toll Free access, request a transfer to the Islands Trust via Enquiry BC: in Vancouver at 660-2421, and elsewhere in BC at 1-800-663-7867. Written submissions may be delivered to:

- Islands Trust, Room 1206, 115 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2T9, or by Fax to (250) 537-9116, or by email to: ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca, prior to 12:00 noon on Tuesday, November 23, 2004. However, those persons who choose to make written submissions by email prior to the time and date above provided ought to require confirmation of receipt of their email and, in any event, the risk that an email is not received lies with the sender.
- After 12:00 noon to the **Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing.**

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

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

Pauline Brazier, Deputy Secretary

More letters

Trustees' discretion

So you now have your dream house on Salt Spring Island in a quiet neighbourhood where homes are spaced nicely apart.

Wait! A developer has applied for a change in zoning that will allow construction of several houses on a nearby lot. You are concerned because the road is narrow, water supplies are short and a tinder dry forest is nearby.

It can happen to you because someone can request a rezoning anywhere on Salt Spring and areas designated to receive density transfers are spread widely over the island.

However, our elected representatives who hold a majority on our Local Trust Committee and have the power to make zoning decisions for Salt Spring can refuse to even consider such a request, thus stopping it dead in its tracks.

The trustees can also vote “no” after a first reading. Yet the trustees have been dragging out the process through multiple hearings, causing untold grief to nearby residents who must present their case over and over.

Some think this process is inevitable given our current governing structure. It is not.

Our elected trustees have the power to uphold our current zoning (as laid out in the official community plan and land use bylaw) by refusing to consider requests to increase density above existing zoning on properties that are located far from services, strain uncertain water supplies and are at risk for forest fires.

If the trustees say no early on, further such requests will be discouraged. This can be done now.

In fact, the trustees could immediately suspend further rezoning, density transfers and amenity zoning proposals until the receiving areas defined in the OCP can be reviewed.

MAXINE LEICHTER,
Salt Spring

Pool benefits

We all know that fitness benefits everyone, but there

are those among us, myself included, that can only exercise in water.

I live with the challenges of Multiple Sclerosis, and 14 months ago I was overweight, out of shape and depressed by what this disease asks of me every day.

Following my physician's advice I took to the water with the aquafit classes at Shelby Pool, and bought a membership in the Summerside pool when Shelby closed for the winter.

I am fortunate to have the financial resources that make that possible, but if I did not, what options are open for me? Exercise at a fitness club is out of the question, as getting overheated has dire consequences for those with MS. Once the body core temperature goes up, even one or two degrees, muscle control is lost, balance disappears and some, like me, have even been known to lose consciousness.

The answer for me has been the pool. I'm 65 pounds lighter, my core muscles are stronger and my balance has improved to the point where I no longer need to use my cane.

There are many people on Salt Spring who would benefit greatly from having

a year-round indoor swimming pool available to them at a reasonable cost. In my time in the pools, I have

met people who are recovering from knee and hip replacements, who have had strokes, who suffer from bad backs, as well as those who are there to get fit and stay fit. Being able to exercise in water affords the opportunity to exercise all the muscles of the body without undue strain. An added perk is the wonderful sense of energy and well-being that comes from being in the water.

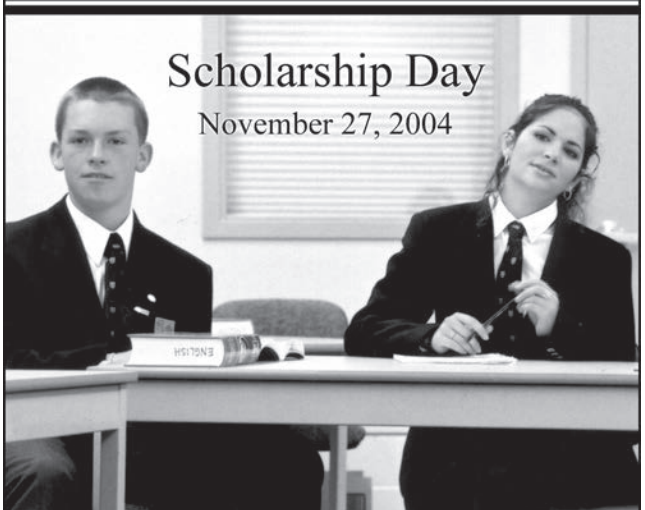
We deserve an indoor pool on this island. It will never be more cost-effective to build the best pool we can, now. It will be of enormous benefit for young and old, for able-bodied and physically challenged. I'm urging all eligible voters to vote “yes” on November 20.

GAIL MCLEAN,
Fulford-Ganges Road

MORE LETTERS A11

SHAWNIGAN LAKE SCHOOL

Challenge . . . Structure . . . Caring . . .



Please contact Admissions, Shawnigan Lake School,
 1975 Renfrew Rd., Shawnigan Lake, BC
 • tel (250) 743-6207 • fax (250) 743-6280
 • email admissions@sls.bc.ca • website www.sls.bc.ca



More letters

Less rushed

I attended PARC's swimming pool presentation and found the information confusing and the architecture missing.

Before I wade in, I wish to commend PARC and the Ssplash group for their efforts and good intentions. But I have concerns that the project in its present form and budget won't be up to community expectations.

I am not talking about the building program — but the building itself. It appears to be a \$110-per-square-foot industrial shell on an asphalt parking lot. My gut feeling is that \$150 to \$175-per-square-foot would be more realistic.

Is there an opportunity for design and structural innovation? Is there an energy efficient mechanical system with heat pumps, heat recovery ventilation and possibly a solar back-up? Is there an appropriate glazing system and good tile finishes? Is there opportunity for green building elements and landscaping...?

My vision of Salt Spring is that of a diverse, enlightened and alternative community. And we bitch incessantly if things are not up to expectations. Does this vision jive with our proposed public buildings?

The project delivery system presently proposes to have a project manager select the professional design/consultant group. Is this not going to lead to a bottom-line building that will make ArtSpring look like a country club in comparison?

The pool is a good cause and will be a place for all age groups. If ever a building needed supplemental private donations, this is it.

I would prefer a less rushed process and a real costed-out design we can be proud of.

Until then, I would recommend that PARC preps the site and bring in temporary bubbles. PARC should also work with SSPLASH and develop an adjunct private funding committee to top up any approved referendum base. Then I would have PARC buy public access to Walker Hook Beach — a true Salt Spring option.

At least then I could take off my clothes and not worry

about the phased-in locker rooms.

NEIL MORIE,
Salt Spring

Question halt

It can't be easy for a community newspaper editor to decide how to handle all the rights and interests involved in letters to the editor.

In theory you could take an easy way out: publish everything or nothing. To eliminate letters entirely would take much of the fun and value out of the newspaper, and seems stupidly extreme. On the other hand no one can fault you for not printing letters that begin "You'll never guess what I saw while peeping through my neighbour's window!" or are excessively hateful, libelous or long.

I suspect the kindest thing you can do for some writers is to say no.

However, I question a policy calling a halt to letters received from the same writers about an ongoing issue (October 27 Driftwood editorial on cell tower letters). How do you decide when enough is enough? I mean criteria a bit more solid than that you've heard it all before.

At various times I've been "up to here" with repeat arguments from the same few writers, too: vacation rentals are a recent example. If I were Driftwood editor I would just grin and bear it, because in contrast with libelous letters or gross invasions of privacy, no one suffers serious harm from mere repetition. Readers can always skip to something more interesting.

If an editor can simply stop printing letters from certain repeat letter writers on a given subject because he's heard it all before, we're on a treacherous declivity. Maybe you'll get tired of SSPLASH or American absentee owners or loggers or feral cats or bridges to Tsawwassen. Who knows where boredom will strike next.

Perhaps when you read this letter, I'll soon see.

BOB WEEDEN,
Primrose Lane

Touched

The board, staff and volunteers at The Clinic (Planned Parenthood) have been touched and heartened by the outpouring of concern and warmth in our recent troubles.

In the October 30 Core Inn

fire, our examining room and the adjacent bathroom were gutted and The Clinic has suffered a nearly total loss. Thanks to the courage and the efficiency of the firemen, however, our confidential records were all saved and remain in our custody.

Fortunately for us and our clients, Drs. Jan MacPhail and Paula Ryan generously offered us space in their offices so that we are able to continue to offer services for the promotion of sexual health through family planning, birth control, the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, counselling and other matters.

The new clinic hours are Mondays, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at 102-340 Lower Ganges Road.

We hope the reopening of The Clinic at the Core Inn will coincide with our annual Lunch-Bridge fundraiser on Friday, March 18, 2005.

In the meantime, financial support should be sent to Opt: Options for Sexual Health (formerly Planned Parenthood B.C.) 3550 East Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5K 2A7. All contributions should be clearly marked for The Clinic, Salt Spring Island.

JEAN ELDER,
Secretary-treasurer,
Planned Parenthood Gulf Islands

Using the pool

When asked what an indoor pool would mean to them, Salt Springers had a variety of responses — everything from "it would help my arthritis" to "it would save me money taking my children off island to swim."

Clearly, going to the indoor pool is more than just for fun; in some cases it is the only exercise feasible for the person.

Sherrill Adshead responded to this question with, "It would mean I could swim all year round . . . It is my only option for exercise as I have severe osteoarthritis in my legs and I swim to exercise my legs and body. I swim at a friend's outdoor pool and at Shelby pool in the summer but in winter I can't swim as my friend's pool is closed. I can't afford to go off island." If we had an indoor pool would Sherrill use it every day?

"I would," she said. "Using

the pool every day makes my muscles stronger, and I knocked off 20 pounds."

Izadoura Godchild says, "I am an oldie, moldy and goldie on Salt Spring, I have been here 20 years. I am all for the indoor pool as it doesn't really make sense to have an outdoor pool. I love swimming and I miss not being able to swim in the winter."

Sylvia Andrews stated, "I think the indoor pool is much overdue on Salt Spring. Swimming is the best exercise for every age group, from seniors through to families and children. I can't wait till it is built."

Gail Beattie said, "An indoor pool would mean I can swim all year round instead of just in the summertime. Because I have a knee injury, my choices of exercise are somewhat limited, so I could exercise all year round. My mother is getting on in years. She would use the pool; she finds the lake or ocean too cold even in the summer for swimming."

Ann Belliveau stated: "When my grandchildren come to town it would sure be nice to have an indoor pool for them. In time, when there is transport available for wheelchairs, I will be able to get down there. If there was transport and wheelchair access to the indoor pool facilities I would use it at least once a week."

An indoor pool would benefit the entire community. Please vote yes in the pool referendum and make this happen!

DARLENE STEELE,
President, Ssplash Indoor Pool Society

Serious gap

As a taxpayer faced with the upcoming referendum on the swimming pool, I am perplexed.

Surveys proclaim there is strong community support for the pool and that the latest projected revenue is \$220,000 per year. Based on the island population of 10,000, with all ages reported planning to use the pool, this revenue equates to an average expenditure of \$22 per year, or \$1.83 per resident per month. Can we call that support?

In last week's news article, the annual operating deficit is estimated at \$325,000 and, if the referendum passes, \$450,000 in annual capital

debt repayment is now to be absorbed by the taxpayer.

We are given the pool operating deficit as a constant. Is this for the first year and subsequent years without any increase?

Most projects that are in the development stage have an operating budget based over an initial five-year period. In the first year, operating costs are lowest as the building's structure, equipment, and operating systems are usually under a one-year warranty and require little maintenance and upkeep. It is in the second year and later that the costs increase. How is this to be paid for if there is an upset tax assessment?

In my public sector property management experience, annual operating costs

of public facilities can and do rise well beyond the rate of inflation.

Friends of ours recently retired to Salt Spring from Fort Frances, in northwestern Ontario, a community of 8,000. Fort Frances has three skating rinks and a swimming pool — all of which make a profit. That's what I call community support!

I am not against improving life in our community, but there is a serious gap between a sustainable facility and one that on a financial basis cannot be justified without dipping into that neverland of the taxpayer's deep pocket.

MANFRED BURANDT,
Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS A13

Myles Wilson & Associates

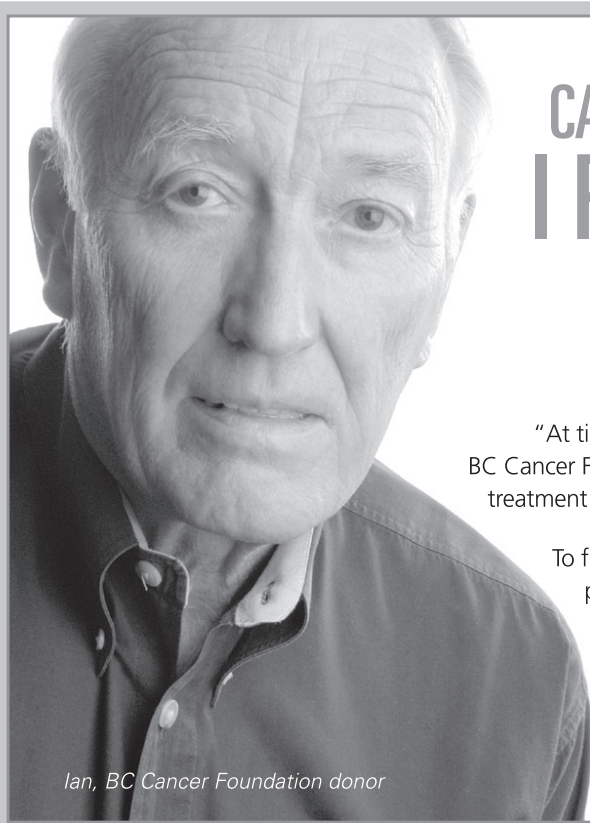


Royal LePage Salt Spring Realty is pleased to announce that Sandra Ditlof, Realtor has joined Myles Wilson and Associates as Client Services Specialist.

Sandra and her husband, Ken, have been living and operating a successful small business on Salt Spring for the past 8 years. Sandra's sales and interior design experience will be an added asset to our clients.

www.myleswilson.com • mwilson@saltspring.com

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Ian, BC Cancer Foundation donor

CANCER ATTACKED MY FAMILY I PLAN TO FIGHT BACK.

"At times, I felt helpless in the face of cancer. But by including the BC Cancer Foundation in my will, I'll be helping to fund research and treatment here in B.C. It's my way of joining the fight against cancer."

To find out how your will, life insurance, stocks, or other planned gifts can support cancer research and treatment in B.C., and save you taxes, please call us for information.



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Supporting research & care at BC Cancer Agency

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THE CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTION SERIES

WIND POWER. JUST ONE WAY WE'RE CREATING CLEAN ENERGY OUT OF THIN AIR.

HOLBERG WIND ENERGY PROJECT – AN INNOVATIVE ADDITION TO BC HYDRO'S ENERGY RESOURCES

Wind power isn't new. In fact, it's been around for ages. What's new is the evolution of wind power technology into efficient wind turbines that generate clean, renewable electricity.

BC Hydro has contracted to purchase approximately 176 gigawatt-hours of electricity per year from the Holberg Wind Energy Project, which will use modern 1.65 MW wind turbine generators. The Holberg project, the first wind-based generating project in B.C., is being developed by Stothert Power Corporation and Global Renewable Energy Partners. These companies should be congratulated for demonstrating their commitment to cost-competitiveness and for receiving final approval from B.C.'s Environmental Assessment Office on November 1, 2004.



Located near Holberg in northern Vancouver Island, the 58 MW project will start generating power in 2006. It will supply the energy needs of about 17,000 households.

It's just one of 40 innovative energy projects across the province (representing over 1.5 billion dollars in direct investment) that will help BC Hydro provide our customers

with clean energy. Many are already in operation and all of them are scheduled to be online by the end of 2006, providing enough power for over 250,000 homes.

CLEAN ENERGY ALREADY PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN MEETING THE ELECTRICITY NEEDS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

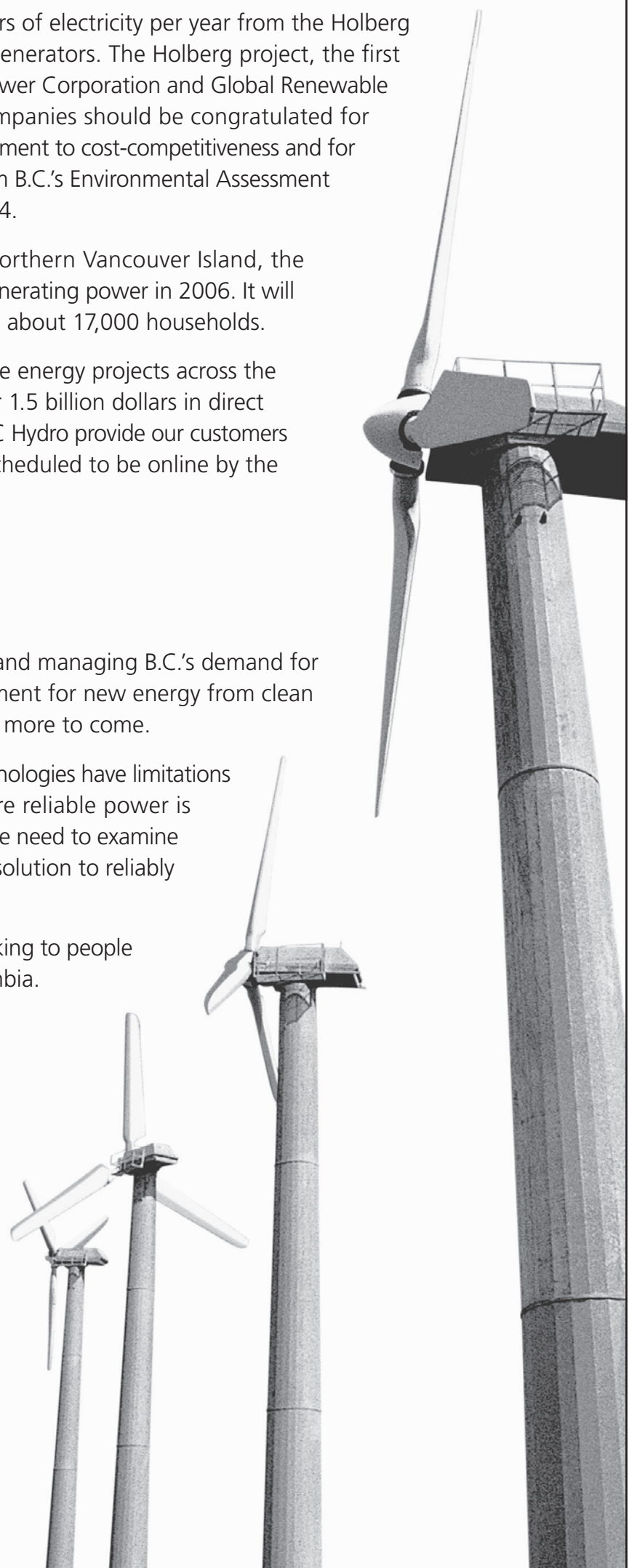
Clean energy and Power Smart will play an important part in meeting and managing B.C.'s demand for more electricity. BC Hydro is committed to meeting half of our requirement for new energy from clean energy producers like the Holberg Wind Energy Project – and there are more to come.

While they're a big part of our energy future, innovative clean power technologies have limitations and can't meet all of the province's energy needs. Our job is to ensure reliable power is available throughout the year, even on the very coldest day. To do that, we need to examine all of the generation options available, including an efficient near-term solution to reliably meet Vancouver Island's capacity needs.

As part of our 2005 Integrated Electricity Planning process, we will be talking to people around the province about the preferred resource mix for British Columbia.

BC hydro 

To learn more about what BCHydro is already doing to secure our energy future, visit us at
www.bchydro.com.



More letters

Holy road

Walker Hook Road is a disgrace, an accident waiting to happen, and a potential lawsuit looming before us. Father time, ecological breakdown, and poor repair methods have taken their toll on our beautiful country lane!

Large commercial trucks (i.e. Sablefin hatchery), increased tourist traffic and progress in general have broken down Walker Hook Road at an alarming rate. The many cavernous potholes have taken their toll on my 1974 MGB, and it seems a four-wheel-drive truck will soon be the choice of transportation.

Safety factors are also a serious concern. Try riding a mountain bike. Or walk near the crumbling edge of our narrow road.

I have sprained my ankle and almost broken my neck on my bike trying to get out of the way of vehicular traffic!

No wonder this road has

been aptly named the Holy Road!

A viable long-term solution must be implemented sooner rather than later.

WOLFGANG LACHMUND,
Salt Spring

Blast off

A couple of weeks ago, I read in the paper about the fire chief's gasoline station story. Some things about his story were unclear and there was a potentially explosive point to his argument. If Chief Enfield was walking anywhere around a gas station making cell calls during a propane leak while calming the goofy employee, the Chief could have made a bad situation worse.

When I got my cell phone the manual clearly states not only to not make cell calls at a gas station, but don't even have it on anywhere near a gas station. It said it can ignite fuel sources.

In Vancouver, I have noticed on several occasions signs with cell phones and

red bars across them at stations, but people just don't seem to listen.

Imagine a village in the heat of summer with tourists swarming around the gas stations practically side by side, cells turned on and strong signals. Yup, we're good to blow.

They also say don't have cells on in planes or in hospitals. Ah, but I'm as guilty as the next bloke. Who gives a crap. Let the chips fall where they may, let God sort 'em out. Life's a blast.

JAMES FALCON,
Salt Spring

Real planning

The Driftwood has featured several articles in recent weeks highlighting the problems in sustaining a diverse and vibrant population on this tiny island.

Channel Ridge may become a village of transient, aging rich folk with only one foot on the island. At the same time, families cannot find affordable accommodation and the schools are now operating on a four-day

week because of the declining population of students.

Young people who constitute most of the workers in the hospitality industry, the foundation of Salt Spring's economy, can no longer afford to live here and have to commute from Vancouver Island.

We should put these pieces together. How about the developers in Channel Ridge making room for some affordable housing in their plans, thereby providing stable residents to support the business they hope to attract and making that contribution to the community they continually jaw about.

Although preventing the development of this village is unlikely, influencing its character is still a possibility. It is time for affordable housing folks, the school board, Islands Trust, the Chamber of Commerce, Channel Ridge Properties and interested others to come together for some real community planning.

BRIAN WHARF and MARILYN CALLAHAN,
Sunset Drive

Salute all

Thanks to Brian Finnemore for his letter in last week's Driftwood. He caught the essence of all that makes Salt Spring great.

Let's forget "greatest Salt Spring Islander." There is not just one "special" person to single out here.

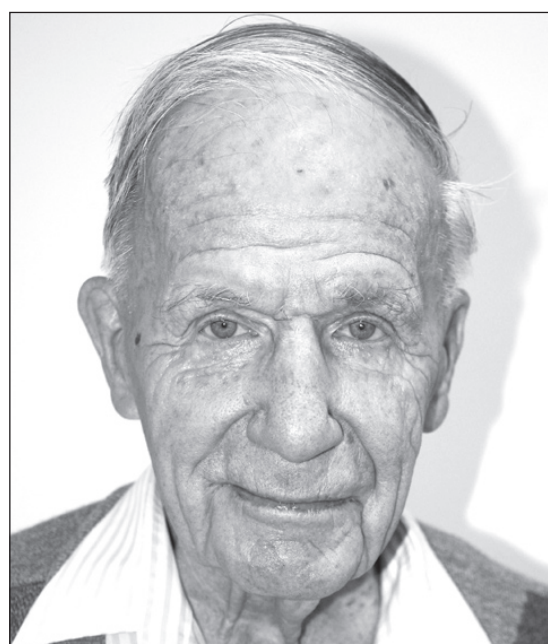
If we look at our local neighborhoods and then at the whole community, it's easy to see that not just one person deserves a title.

All those who contribute to others in the community in the way that he/she are most able are the true heroes here.

Let's instead salute all of the amazing, wonderful, helpful, giving folks who work to make Salt Spring a better, caring and friendlier place to live in.

HELEN TARA,
Price Road

MORE LETTERS A15



Name: **Dr. JOHN D. PALMER**

537/538/653: 537

Occupation(s): Retired general surgeon in the Canadian navy.

Hobbies: Tennis.

Home finished/unfinished: Finished.

Favourite people: Diana and five children.

Favourite read: I read everything under the sun; the Globe and Mail.

Best thing about SSI: Climate and people.

Worst thing about SSI: I can't think of anything.

Best place to kiss on SSI?: On the beach.



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RANTS

On behalf of the students of Salt Spring, I rant about the surveys/interviews on the four-day week policy. All this talk about how the students are overtired, why not ask the students instead of the parents? Who knows the students' and teachers' feelings better than themselves? I suggest a thorough survey and many interviews, not with the opinionated parents but the students and teachers. We all deserve a say. Jesse Johnston-Hill

Rants to the contractor who has cut down tree branches along a stretch of Sunset Drive and has left them sticking out in the street creating a hazard along the shoulder for walkers and runners. It's been five weeks

RANTS & ROSES

already! Is that not enough time to come and pick up this mess? Henry Zmijak

Rants to the boys who stole my wallet off my front hall table on Hallowe'en night — some trick! It's no joke to replace a driver's licence etc. these days. Di Setterfield

A sad rant to owners of vicious dogs. Today without warning, a large dog attacked my mid-sized sheepdog. It shook him like he was a rag doll, with enough force that it would have snapped the neck of a smaller dog — or a

child. Saying that you don't know why your dog does that isn't enough. You need to very clearly warn people and their pets to stay away, and you need to work with a vet or dog trainer to change your dog's behavior before it does further harm. Diana Robson

ROSES

A graveyard of black roses to the Vanschetsen family and friends. Your haunted house was spooktacular.

A huge bouquet of roses to Bruce at Patterson's Store for the generous donation of bats, refreshments and support for our slo-pitch team. What an incredible guy. The Vultures

Roses to all the wonderful people who put their grocery tapes in the Splash box #69 at Ganges Village Market. We have collected \$1,962 to date. BL

A rave to the ambulance crew — including Catherine Brennan and Jack Barclay — on duty Sunday, October

24, who came to my rescue when I fell and broke my hip. Also thanks to the crew from Duncan who helped and were so kind. Thanks a million. RL

A zillion roses go out to Jay and Gayle Leblanc for being two of the kindest and most thoughtful people we have the honour of calling friends. Thanks, guys, for everything. C&S

A rose to John Fisher for going above and beyond the call of duty to help me find my awesome new car. KW.

Roses and a big bouquet of thank-yous to Dennis Beech and his grandson Jordan Barry for finding the missing hearing equipment that helps our daughter hear the teacher in class. Your honesty and goodwill shines brightly in the best of community spirit. We are so grateful that you found such an expensive piece of equipment.

Many roses to Jan Jang for her usual efficient organization of the Fulford Hall Flea Market benefit. Also to Barb, Jack and Agnes for looking after the hall table, to the Therapeutic Riding

Association, whose members provided the tasty food, and to all the donors and vendors who made the event such a success. From the hall committee.

Along with my sincere thanks goes a huge bouquet of roses to each one of you who helped make November 7 "Music in our worship" event such a wonderful, enjoyable evening. J.S.

Roses to anyone with information about the blue vehicle that hit my taupe Honda at the Fulford Flea Market Saturday afternoon, November 6 between 1:30 and 2 p.m. Call 537-8464, IM

A room full of roses each for Ann, Charlene and Lena at the HHH. I can't thank you ladies enough for your understanding and your help at a really desperate moment. And a million Canadian Tire dollars for Mark. You're my Superman. I love you. BLM

A special thank you to the Driftwood for the weekly reporting of the golfing events.

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More letters

Slow invitation

The incremental loss of our priceless and finite forestlands, farmlands, meadows, natural shoreline, heritage sites, potable water supplies, stream corridors, wetlands and watersheds is unacceptable.

Development approval by the Islands Trust without adequate ecological information is unacceptable.

Revising the whole land-use decision-making process of the Islands Trust is essential and urgent. It is our responsibility to leave a living legacy of "unpaved paradise" for future generations of flora, fauna and humans to enjoy.

Let the mountains of development applications pile up on the Islands Trust planners' desks for a while and, in the meantime, let's join the "Slow Islands Movement."

Here is an open invitation for you to join the Slow Islands Movement:

Hush the rush. Hike and bike.

Don't go far with your car.

Explore your core — less is more.

Act with care — try to be fair.

Remember to share — life is a prayer.

Let's think globally and eat locally.

Be content with no event.

Don't be tired — get unwired.

Read a book — learn to cook.

Take your time — you will shine.

Plant a tree — embrace mystery.

Toss the TV and your CV.

Try to be clear — let go of fear.

Stay close to home — grow your own.

Conversation preservation.

Check out quiet — why not try it?

Talk a walk — forget the clock.

Follow your heart — forget being smart.

NINA RAGINSKY,
Walter Bay

Black-hearted
I cannot believe the Amer-

ican people were going to impeach Bill Clinton for receiving sexual favours in the Oval office and lying about it (at first).

But the American people are willing to re-elect a man who has lied from the very beginning, starting with his not-so-real election, all the way to his "fake" war on terrorism. (Being afraid all the time works for him.)

Didn't anyone see Fahrenheit 9-11? Not the religious Bush supporters. Not the ones who need to.

When I was in the movie rental store I overheard the clerk mention the movie to a lady customer, who vehemently said she definitely did not want to see the movie as she was a Bush supporter.

Ignorance is bliss. For there to be that many ignorant and black-hearted people to be able to re-elect Bush says a lot about our neighbours. I pray we may be able to live peacefully beside them for another four years. I also pray the ignorant may see the light and that they are able to make a change when they need to.

SHERIDAN CASS,
Northview Drive

Construct peace

"We must put an end to war, lest it put an end to all humanity." These are the words of President John F. Kennedy, and they echo those of many many others, from the women who first organized Mother's Day to the current Pope to thousands and millions of people the world over who have signed declarations for non-violence and marched to end war.

In 1945, UNESCO was created; its constitution reminds us: "Since we begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed."

One way to invite people to think "peace" is to wear a white poppy, as well as a red one, for Remembrance Day.

The white poppy tradition was started in 1933 by a group of British women who were devastated by the losses of war and wanted to object to the whole institution of war.

People wearing the poppies today continue that tradition; we dedicate our energies to work for peace and justice and we remember that war kills not only our soldiers, but many, many wonderful people and dreams. We believe that ending war is not only necessary but possible.

If we are to bring an end to war, it is absolutely necessary that we go beyond "fighting" war and war-makers.

We must become familiar with and develop the power of non-violence.

Conscience Canada, a group for conscientious objectors to military solutions to conflict, organized a cross-Canada consultation to do just that. Out of the consultation has come our report, which builds on historical examples of non-violence to suggest how Canadians and our government can strengthen our commitment to peace so that we wear ourselves off of our addiction to militarism and rely entirely on non-violent means for our defence and security. This, we are convinced, is one of the best ways we can work to promote an end to war throughout the world. That report is available on-line at www.consciencecanada.ca.

Local people interested in finding out more are welcome to contact me at 537-5251 or js@saltspring.com. You can also write to our national office at 901-70 Mill St., Toronto, ON M5A 4R1.

JAN SLAKOV,
Salt Spring

Immense benefits

As family physicians practising on Salt Spring Island, we feel compelled to write on the issue of an indoor pool from a medical perspective.

All too often we see patients who would benefit greatly from hydrotherapy or aquatic exercises.

Many of these patients are senior citizens who would participate in an aquatic program but are unable to get transportation off the island.

Aquatic exercises have immense benefits for conditions such as arthritis, heart disease, diabetes, stroke, obesity, hypertension and depression, to only name a

few. For those who feel they will never want to use an indoor pool, they may need to for health reasons.

An indoor pool on Salt Spring Island could provide an incredible service to all ages, at all times throughout the year.

It's never too late and you are never too old to start a swimming program for your health and well-being.

DR. PAULA RYAN,
DR. JAN MACPHAIL,
Salt Spring



Murray Coell
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Our club members are presently getting the lowest gas price on the island. Come visit us and ask for details!

Director urges islanders to pass three referendum votes

By GARY HOLMAN
CRD Director

Referenda for the indoor swimming pool and the Fulford and Beddis Water District treatment plant upgrades will be held on November 20.

This common date allows for sharing of referendum costs among PARC and the two water districts. The cost of the indoor pool is about \$72 per year for the average-assessed residence.

Taking into account the 2004 tax increase earmarked for the pool, this would result in a total tax increase of about \$9.40 per month for the "average" property value of \$315,000.

I hope the majority of taxpayers will agree that the

CRD REPORT

health, social and economic benefits of an indoor pool are well worth a tax increase of about 30 cents per day.

Tax impacts will be reduced by a federal-provincial infrastructure grant, if PARC's application is successful.

Infrastructure grants of roughly \$500,000 and \$950,000, respectively, will substantially reduce the costs of new water treatment facilities that are at stake in the Fulford and Beddis water district referenda. I hope ratepayers will consider

that new provincial drinking water legislation will likely impose a similar treatment standard, and that the costs of achieving this standard will be much higher without the infrastructure grant.

Emergency planning

The CRD Electoral Areas Committee has received \$25,000 through the Union of B.C. Municipalities for updating emergency response plans. Salt Spring's emergency planning committee has been refining its existing plan for the past year and a half. UBCM funding allows us to hire a specialist to complete the plan by spring of 2005.

CREST system
CREST, an integrated communications system for all emergency first responders in the Capital Region, was established in 2001. Teething problems with the system have been resolved in most areas, although efforts continue to improve coverage.

Due to capital cost overruns, CREST is facing an operating shortfall for 2005 that must be made up by its members. The CREST Board (on which I sit as one of the CRD reps) has recommended a levy increase that must be unanimously approved by its members. For Salt Spring, this proposal means a \$17,000 tax increase, the lowest of all members. CREST continues to seek alternative funding from provincial and federal governments.

Recycling

The contract for delivery of recycling services on Salt Spring, funded entirely by tipping fees from the CRD's Hartland landfill, expires in April 2005.

The contract has been held by the Community Services Society for over a decade. The Salt Spring Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SSISWAC) has already recommended, and CRD staff agree, that our island is best served by a depot rather than a blue box system. CRD staff propose the tendering of the depot contract to ensure best value for money. SSISWAC has proposed, and the CRD Environment Committee has approved a six-month contract extension with Community Services so an independent consultant can examine the costs of the recycling depot.

Based on this analysis, SSISWAC will recommend whether to renegotiate a contract with Community Ser-

vices or to initiate a competitive bidding process.

Liquid waste and sewage

Decisions on the expansion of the Ganges treatment plant and sewer area, as well as related cost recovery mechanisms, must be made soon.

The rationale for monitoring Ganges Harbour is also being reviewed since treated effluent approaches drinking water quality. Upgrades to the liquid waste processing facility will be completed in 2005. The CRD has approved \$13,000 from Hartland tipping fees to undertake a composting pilot, but provincial waste management regulations currently preclude composting of building wood waste and sewage sludge.

The Ganges and liquid waste committees are also reviewing the structure of their cost recovery levies.

Public transit

The Salt Spring Transportation Society has submitted a proposal to B.C. Transit for the funding of a basic bus system. The proposal is still conceptual in nature, but involves a scheduled service running from Vesuvius to Ganges to Fulford Harbour, and a shuttle operating around Ganges.

The proposal is contingent upon a Provincial operating subsidy of at least two-thirds, and agreement by the CRD Board to administer a stand-alone service for Salt Spring. The provincial government froze funding for new systems several years ago, but it is hoped that this might be reconsidered in the run-up to the provincial election.

A stand-alone CRD operation would avoid the gas surcharge in effect within

the Greater Victoria system. Other possible funding sources, including the federal fuel tax transfer and partnerships with private providers, are also being explored.

Transportation, parking commission

I have requested CRD staff to develop a service bylaw for the creation of a transportation and parking commission for public discussion. This commission could administer ride share and car co-operatives, provide and regulate parking facilities (as stated in our current land use bylaw), and assume responsibility for sidewalks.

The commission would serve primarily as legal entity and a coordinating body that would fill a gap in our governance structure. Funding for projects such as parking facilities, parking regulation and sidewalks could be provided by fuel tax transfers, development permit/rezoning requirements or amenity zoning.

Fuel tax and traffic fines

I attended the UBCM convention in Kelowna in September. A position paper presented by the UBCM executive confirmed that electoral areas will receive fuel tax funding, but the nature and scale of the allocations is still not clear.

The province also announced the rebate of traffic fine revenue to municipalities. Policing in rural areas is already subsidized, and therefore it does not appear at this time that electoral areas will benefit from this transfer. I am pursuing this issue with our local RCMP and CRD Finance department and will provide further information when available.

REFERENDUM 2004

Rainbow Road Recreation Centre
Indoor Aquatic Facility

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

LOCATION & TIMES:

November 14 at 2pm Gulf Island Secondary School Multi-Purpose Room 232 Rainbow Road	November 15 at 7pm Fulford Elementary School Library 203 South Ridge Road
--	--

The referendum vote, on the proposed indoor pool facility, will be held November 20, 2004. The above town hall meetings provide an opportunity for Salt Spring voters to view preliminary design concepts and to discuss the financial aspects of the project.

Please join Commission Members at these important meetings which will include question and answer sessions.



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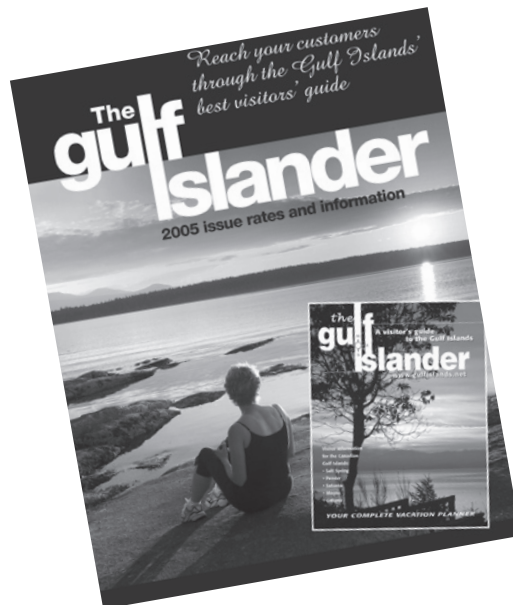
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Business frost blights co-op

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Another small business has withered on the vine due to the shopping freeze of the winter season.

"We just didn't feel we could go through another winter," said Jim Proctor, board chair of the Growing Circle Food Co-op.

"There's a business cycle here on the island and the winters are not kind."

Even though the Growing Circle Food Co-op has been in business at Gasoline Alley for four years, the food supplier specializing in local organic produce didn't generate enough business to keep going, Proctor said.

"I think we've learned a lot with this co-op and I think we'll take this experience and move on."

Proctor is also an organic beef producer on the island. He plans to shift his business to farm-gate sales. Other local farmers will likely follow suit, he said.

"There's the market and the farm stands. Hopefully some other arrangement can be made. That's something the producing community will have to work out over the coming weeks and months."

The food co-op closed on Saturday.

"We needed a more consistent flow of shoppers through the door," said store manager Judith Hyder.

"Food is a very competitive market on Salt Spring. There is a lot of different ways that it's offered," she said.

"We had really hoped that putting local produce and good organic groceries together would give us a solid customer base. But, in fact, it didn't."

The co-operative store had some 700 members.



DOUBLE GRINS: Above, volunteer Dee Roberts hangs out with Winnie the Pooh as the Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary holds its Annual Christmas Sale at Meaden Hall. Below, Anna Reynolds is intrigued with an angel mirror.

Photos by Derrick Lundy



All Islands Septic brings in new truck

Rob Roodenburg, Jr. has "the new truck on the rock," after launching his All Islands Septic Ltd. business this fall.

Always passionate about trucks and big machines, Rob said he had been thinking how to best use his abilities and knowledge and combine those with the community's needs.

In Alberta, he bought a vac-unit truck for cleaning septic tanks of any size, clearing culverts and perimeter drains that have been clogged with silt, sand, shale or rocks up to three inches in size.

Rob, who grew up on Salt Spring, is qualified through and certified by the Royal Roads West Coast Waste Water Management.

Rob's brother Roderick of **ION Design** in Vancouver created the "cool" All Islands Septic Ltd. website.

Check it out at www.islandseptic.com.

• Hair stylist **John Benn** has recently moved from **Studio 103** to **Bristol Haircutters** in Ganges, joining proprietor **Ron Aird**.

• Studio 103 in Grace Point Square has a great new contemporary renovation. Drop in and see it.

• Salt Spring has its own dedicated retail sports store now that **Sports Traders** has opened at 135 McPhillips Avenue.

Joel and Tracy Shaver are the owners of the independ-

EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

WITH PETER McCULLY

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• **Answering Salt Spring Island** is a new business operating out of the **Fulford Inn**.

Internet and computer access, with full office services, can be accessed Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The business will also provide an answering service for islanders.

For more information, call **Jill LeBlanc** at 653-4799 or 653-4704.

• **NOT Design and Innovation**, a Salt Spring company, is now marketing **The CoffeeCozy**, made of neoprene (the wetsuit material), to keep coffee warm in one-litre French press coffee containers.

The product comes in several colours, and can be seen and purchased at Love My Kitchen shop in Ganges and soon online at www.coffee-cozy.com.

The company is comprised of **Peter and Balazs Bagi**, and **Kris Hansen**, and **Paul Neale**, who joined the partnership shortly after arriving on Salt Spring.

SPCA's biggest fundraiser gearing up for Nov. 20

Salt Spring SPCA volunteers and staff hope islanders' generosity will match the recent flow of kittens to the shelter as the 10th annual SPCA Goods and Services Auction runs on Saturday, November 20.

"The kittens are still just pouring in," said part-time staffperson Jena Peori last week.

As the local SPCA group's largest fundraiser of the

year, the branch's year-round activities rely on community support of the event.

"The shelter has been holding its own [financially] but it is really important the auction be a success," said Peori.

Doors to the Meaden Hall site open at 6 p.m., so people can have a thorough look at available items on both the silent and live auction tables.

Items donated so far include a Carol Evans print, a three-course dinner for two from the award-winning Hastings House, a three-month Curves membership, autographed Randy Bachman merchandise and the usual huge range of interesting items and services.

The live auction begins at 7 p.m. with auctioneer Randy Sloan.

Peori said the event is

always fun and definitely children-friendly.

Toonie and loonie tables will be full of bargains, which the kids especially enjoy.

SPCA calendars will also be on sale for \$5.

"The entry fee is \$2 and with that you get some refreshments and a chance at door prizes," said Peori.

People can also bring donations of pet food for

the pet food bank and renew their annual SPCA memberships.

More goods and services can also be donated between now and the auction date. Call the SPCA at 537-2123.

Following the popularity of last year's Santa and pet photos event, it will be repeated this year on December 4 from noon to 4 p.m. at Foxglove.



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- * **EMERGENCY FOOD BANK:** Open Tuesday 11-3.
- * **COUNSELLING SERVICES:** Crisis and short-term counselling provided by Community Workers.
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- * **FAMILY PLACE: PARENT & CHILD DROP IN** - Monday closed, Tuesdays, parent child Mother Goose, 10:00-11:30 til Dec. 14th, Wednesday 12-2, Thursday - walk in Mouat Park 9:30-11am followed by Family Place Drop In and snack 'til 12:30, Friday, Rughuggers 11-1. Family Place Coordinator Ragnhild Flakstad, Child & Family Counsellor 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.

Activist talk on Iraq Thursday

The effects of the Iraq War on the dignity, human rights and civil liberties of that country's citizens is the focus of a talk at StarBooks on Thursday.

Stewart Vriesinga, a human rights activist and Christian Peacemaker Team Member, has been providing Canadians with a personal glimpse into the trials and tribulations of Iraqis before, during, and after the war. While in Iraq he used the international press, CPT and personal letters to share stories and photos of how the war was impacting ordinary Iraqis.

"Are Iraqis being treated with respect and dignity and having their rights respected? Certainly not," said Vriesinga in a May 6 Reuters article.

"There are very few Iraqis left who feel they have any rights that match the rights of an American citizen," he said. "The U.S. military is creating enemies by the thousand."

The event runs from 7-9 p.m. at StarBooks. Donations are welcome.



SHOPPING PARADISE: Vendors and patrons crowded into Fulford Hall last weekend for a flea market. Seen here, at left, is Steve Fedberg selling books while, above, Alan Dobbs is surrounded by his jewellery, also for sale.
Photos by Derrick Lundy

Local businesses invited to help AIDS-afflicted in South Africa

By **ERIKA OLSON**
Special to the Driftwood

December 1st is World AIDS Day. That's when the Salt Spring Organization for Life Improvement and Development (SOLID) is encouraging businesses on Salt Spring to pledge 16 per cent of their profits to help some of the 24.5 million adults and children living with HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Sixteen per cent is chosen because of the 16,000 people who will be newly infected with HIV on that day.

During November, volunteers from SOLID will contact local businesses and invite them to participate in this event. SOLID will contribute money raised in

the 2004 "16 per cent for 16,000" fundraiser to a community gardening project in Evaton West, South Africa.

The World Health Organization estimates that of the 16,000 people who are newly infected with HIV every day, half live in Sub-Saharan Africa — a region that has only 10 per cent of the world's population. In 1999, of 34.3 million people worldwide living with HIV/AIDS, 70 per cent were in this area. More than 14.8 million Africans have died from AIDS. There are already more than 14 million orphans in Africa, and it is predicted that in five years' time there will be 20 to 25 million.

Compounding this problem is the simultaneous loss

of mothers: in Sub-Saharan Africa, 75 per cent of HIV-infected 15-24 year-olds are women.

SOLID is a non-profit society dedicated to linking the people of Salt Spring with those in the Vaal Triangle of South Africa. SOLID provides financial, practical and technical support for a number of innovative grassroots projects related to the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

In South Africa, SOLID is involved with AIDS prevention and treatment programs, community gardens, care of orphans, education and empowerment initiatives, and a telecentre/media training facility.

The Evaton West Community Garden is an ongoing project supported by SOLID. The garden provides healthy food for residents of one of the poorest and most AIDS-afflicted areas on the planet. With a small amount of capital expenditure, this project could provide long-term year-round nutrition for many people.

Money raised on World AIDS Day through SOLID's "16 per cent for 16,000" fundraiser will go toward setting up irrigation, fencing and security, supplying tools and seeds, establishing a tree nursery and training local workers. Says Maxi Huntbach of the ABC Foundation (a South African orphanage partnered with SOLID), "Nutrition is very important. It is no good trying to teach a man a job if he is hungry. Feed him first, and then teach him to take care of himself, and provide for himself."

The "16 per cent for 16,000" fundraiser presents an opportunity for the business community on Salt Spring to make a real difference in Evaton West. Participants will receive a "Saving Lives: 16% for 16,000 in 2004" display sticker and be recognized publicly in the Driftwood.

For more information, contact the SOLID office at 537-8735, or info@solidaltspring.com, or visit the website at www.solidaltspring.com.

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At each open house across the province, families will receive an information kit with helpful tips for supporting preschoolers' learning and development. Families will also receive the book "My Animal Friends" to read to their preschooler at home.

For dates and times of open houses in your area, contact your local school or School District 64 Gulf Islands at 250 537-5548.

For more information on how you can help your child, visit www.AchieveBC.ca.

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SDTT is wholistic as it triggers the body's own natural healing reflexes and has a positive influence physically and emotionally.

For me, SDTT quickly identifies the root of the problem and relief from symptoms occurs more rapidly and for longer time than other techniques I have tried. This is not a quick fix therapy, though. One may feel better right away but it takes time for the body to unwind its patterns of pain and create a strong platform for the body to deal with life more easily and less painfully.

I invite you to try SDTT for yourself and see if this is the therapy for you.

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Selects drown team

The Division-3 Castaways women couldn't even send a distress call when they were marooned by the Salt Spring Selects in a 7-0 capsizer Sunday.

"They seem to do a lot of that," said Selects manager Betsy Johnston-Hill.

"They're definitely in the wrong division. Unfortunately, it means they are not playing all that well because they are not challenged."

The Selects actually played better in last week's 7-3 exhibition-game loss to the Old Boys, she said.

But Johnston-Hill commended Jenny Kerr for her amazing footwork and Val Cunningham for gritty play.

"[Cunningham] was determined to get a goal and she finally got one."



SELECT KICK: Amy Little plays the sideline as Salt Spring Women's Div.-3 team defeats Victoria's Castaways, 7 to 0. johncameron.ca

Severn packs schedule

No one can call Stephen Severn a slacker.

The Grade 12 student from Gulf Islands Secondary School played two top-rate soccer games with the Scorpions at the Island Championships in Victoria on Thursday and Friday.

He also led his team in the B.C. High School Cross-Country Championships in Vancouver on Saturday.

Severn then went to Powell River to play a winning soccer game with Salt Spring FC's Division-1 men on Sunday.

GISS scuttlers earn unexpected results as they compete in provincial events

The Scorpions didn't bring back any silverware from the B.C. High School Cross Country Championships but they still had plenty to cheer about.

"Gulf Islands was one of only a handful of the 78 schools represented to have both a boys and girls team attend," said GISS coach Doug Pearson. A huge crowd was treated to a "visual delight as hundreds of teenagers plowed through mud and puddles" at the Jericho Beach course, he said.

"In the girls race, Sarah Proctor and Britta Rustad ran a smart, tactical race — going out hard to avoid collisions with the main pack around the first turn and then settling into a steady

cadence over the four-kilometre course."

Proctor placed 26 (16:42 minutes) among 276 runners, followed by Rustad (27) only two seconds back.

"Anita Campbell of Aldergrove, won the race with a staggering time of 15 minutes," he said.

Kristen Iverson was the third Scorpion over the line (74), along with teammates Caitlin Pal (105), and Carolyn Pomaizl (110).

"Avery Brown [165] and Becky Acheson [172] also had gutsy runs to help the Scorpions to a ninth-best team finish in the province," Pearson said.

The girls team outcome was "an excellent result and well beyond the expectations

at the beginning of the season," he said.

The boys team also had good results, given that three Scorpions spent the previous two days playing in the Vancouver Island Soccer Championships, Pearson said. Racers had to contend with the elements, along with other runners on the track, Pearson said.

"When the gun went off, a stampede of runners sprinted to the first corner and only Stephen Severn managed to stay out far enough to stay out of trouble. The rest of the team got caught in a huge bottleneck at a sharp corner full of treacherous puddles, losing valuable seconds."

Eventually, Jesse Hranchuk pushed bodies out of

the way to give his teammates a path back into the race and GISS placed 20th out of 31 teams overall.

In individual efforts, Severn earned 53rd (23:41) out of 288 runners for top Scorpions spot in the 6.2-kilometre race.

Mike Smilsky placed 73rd (24:05), followed by teammates Isaac Raddysh (113), Hranchuk (130), Yoni Marmorstein (136), Kirby Garside (137) and Walter Johnston (147).

"The boys completed their race by diving into the ocean after picture taking."

Islander Lowell Rockliffe, who now attends school in Victoria, earned 11th place overall and first in his age division with a time of 21:24.

Renegades rise up on Slayers in Sat. game

By **CHRIS BYWATER**
Driftwood Contributor

The Salt Spring Slayers gave the Nanaimo Renegades a run for their money in junior-bantam football action Saturday.

The Renegades, who dominated the Nanaimo Lions 50-6 last week, scored on their initial possession. But Salt Spring answered right back with a 50-yard quarterback sweep from Ian Barrett.

The Renegades tried to return the favour but a tackle by Oliver Schnare snuffed out their attack and Salt Spring's

Barrett "shucked and jived" his way through a wall of Renegades to notch another touchdown (TD) and give Salt Spring the lead.

Not used to being behind, the Renegades executed a near perfect sweep, but Stuart Garside denied them the touchdown on the one-yard line.

Nanaimo then pushed in for a TD on the next play and recovered the lead 16-12 at the half.

Salt Spring returned from the break and fed the Renegades a steady diet of blasts through the middle, courtesy of

Miles Raposo and Garside.

Barrett bootlegged to the end zone for the third time, only to have the run called back on a penalty.

Unable to capitalize, Nanaimo took over and got to Salt Spring's doorstep. But a sack by Roy Banks-Bywater created a fumble recovered by Slayer Mason Raposo.

Unfortunately, the Renegades could smell victory. They shut down the Slayers' offence and ran their powerful sweep to earn another TD for a 24-12 final.



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Salt Spring youth soccer teams shut down opponents

SOCCER KICKS

• The U10 Salamander girls scored their first win of the season in a 3-1 match against the Juan de Fuca Scorpions at David Cameron School on Saturday.

A double-ponytail might have given Haryana Brooks a boost to open scoring in the first two minutes. But the Salamanders' dazzling passing also left the Scorpions dizzy and a well-positioned Rachel Fraser scored a second goal with a chip just over the keeper's hands.

Kayla Pultke played a ferocious shut-out half as net-minder. The Scorpions were barely able to enter the Salamanders' zone before Pultke stifled the attack.

Rewarded for outstanding play over the last few weeks, Kimberly Rothwell scored a third Salt Spring goal after a scramble in front of the net.

Salamanders' second-half keeper Una Conradi faced more action from the Scorpions, but the arachnids could barely penetrate determined defence from Brooks, Ruby Barnard and Melissa "decaf caramel Frappaccino" Roach.

Juan de Fuca finally managed a strange goal in the last few minutes when a throw-in caught a Scorpion boot for a long arc that just clipped the keeper.

But the lone goal took nothing away from the girls' Moon-Crater victory cheer.

• The U10 boys Warthogs welcomed the Gorge Strikers to Salt Spring Saturday, hoping to extend their unbroken winning streak for yet another week.

After having soundly whipped the Peninsula FC last week (14-2) the Warthogs were ready for more.

Soon after opening, Jens Mowatt baffled the Gorge goalie with his speedy



BALL TOSS: A group of mini league soccer players warms up by throwing soccer balls before their Saturday morning game at Portlock Park. Photo by Derrick Lundy

approach and placed one in the net, but then the game became more balanced as Gorge had several break-aways, scoring twice.

Solid defence by Max Haigh and Calder McCormick made all the difference and prevented more goals. The Warthogs created many chances but saw most of them bounce off the poles.

However, with wonderful dribbling and perseverance, Dylan McLeod scored the tying goal to make it 2-2.

• Seven games into the season and Salt Spring Stingers U12 girls remain unbeaten after taking a 2-0 win over Bays United on Saturday.

Salt Spring got on the scoreboard just minutes into the game when Grace Morgan passed to Sierra Lundy, whose shot on goal rolled through the keeper's legs.

Bays pressed hard through the remainder of the half, out-playing the local squad but unable to put any balls past keeper Sal Wiltshire.

Salt Spring regrouped in the second half, evening up

the play. Still, keeper Tilly Morgan was called on to make several big saves, and key defensive play by Phoenix McNaughton helped keep Bays off the scoreboard.

Near the end of the half, Emily Wypkema made a beautiful pass through the middle to Jody Pringle, who put the ball in the net.

Kai Fishleigh had several shots on goal, while Hana Mulder and Alex Crandall played hard on the wing.

• Showing more offensive pressure than in recent weeks, the U-15 Salt Spring girls' team successfully returned to the win column last week. Playing before a supportive hometown group of fans, the girls used an improved passing game to move the ball into the attacking zone.

Deadlocked at 0-0 at half-time, Salt Spring owned the second half, getting its first goal about 12 minutes in when Megan Robinson jumped on a rebound from a Hannah Snetsinger shot and

buried the ball in the Bays United net.

Minutes later, the hometown team got its second of the match from Kristi Lee, who took Snetsinger's pinpoint pass and drilled it past the Bays keeper. Bays countered with a goal moments later but the game ended 2-1 for the locals.

Jessica Harkema had her best game of the season with her trade-mark booming kicks and tremendous open-field tackling. Megan Robinson went from being a defensive standout last week to being an offensive threat this week with tenacious ball-winning and constant pressure on the Bay's defence.

Hannah Garvie-Ransen was rock solid in her new roll as central defender, effectively clearing many threatening balls away from

her defensive zone.

• Salt Spring's U14 Boys remain undefeated after winning over the Bays Hallions 5-2 on Saturday.

Cayce Fedberg and Jasper Snow-Rosen each scored two goals with Callum Gunn adding a single.

The most spectacular goal was executed by Snow-Rosen when he bent one in over the goalie but under the cross bar, from considerable range. Unfortunately, he injured his left ankle skateboarding the following day and will be "out of commission" for some time.

David Outerbridge remained steady as goalie.

Quinn Temmel, Cole Wrigley, James Cameron and Chris Howe displayed effort beyond expectations.

The boys play off island this weekend against a team from Gordon Head.



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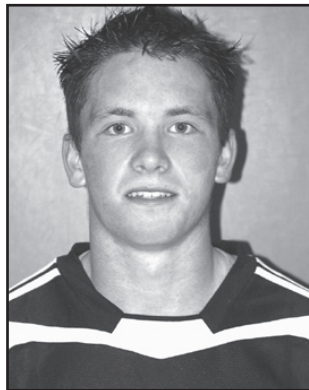
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Happy holidays to all our members, guests and visitors to the golf club. Thank you for your continued support.

FC PLAYER PROFILES



Name: Stephen Daniel Severn

Number: 4

Position: Striker

Age: 17

Years played for FC: 0

Youth Program: 11 years Salt Spring

Employer/Occupation: Randy Severn/
5 Star Moving

Favorite Player: David Beckham

Football Honours

(winning teams, or awards):

MVP 3 years running, 2 athletic awards for school

Favorite Football Memory:

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FC squad dupes big bad Villa team

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Powell River Villa blew a squall of attacks at Salt Spring FC's Division-1 men, but the islanders' brick-wall defence earned a 1-0 win at Timberlane Park on Sunday.

"Like Powell River does, they came at us really hard in the first eight minutes. It was just a storm we had to weather," said FC captain Chris Jason.

"Then we settled down and started playing."

The islanders scored what

became the winning goal 20 minutes into the game after Villa defenders gave up on a play.

"Jesse Fisher sent a long ball out wide that everybody thought was going to go out. The other team thought it was going out too and gave up on it. But Jeremy [Morrison] didn't give up on it."

Morrison caught the ball in the corner and sent it for a cross to Chris Langdon, who got the goal.

"We looked good. Powell River is getting into their older years."

Dogged throughout the game, Villa lost a few key players to nagging injuries, who in turn were replaced by older, less-fit subs, he said.

"By the end of the game, we had them really huffing and puffing."

Even though Villa players were long in the tooth, FC still had to slog through mud and high winds to earn the 1-0 win.

"Mud pretty much covered two thirds of it . . . It was one of those kind of games where there wasn't a lot of true passes."

And the referee gave out a basket of infractions, he said.

"He wanted to get a clamp on the game so he was handing out cards for things that don't normally get cards. It got a little bit testy at points."

And Villa had one free kick fairly late in the game, which FC keeper Jonathon McDonald just managed to stop by a chin hair.

"Jono made a pretty wicked save to put it over the bar, which was the only really good threat."

FC next faces the Gordon Head Titans at Portlock Park at 2:15 p.m. Saturday.



WINNING RUN: Marlow Goodall-Hart beats the last defender to score the winning goal as Gulf Islands Secondary School senior boys battle back from a 0-2 deficit to beat Shawnigan 3-2. johncameron.ca

'Fluke' goal downs Dragons

Despite great play throughout the game, the Salt Spring Dragons women's team took a loss when Sooke scored three unanswered goals in the last few minutes of play at Fred Milne Park Sunday.

"I'm really happy with the way everyone is playing," said keeper Joanne O'Connor. "By the end of the season, we're going to be great."

Sooke scored a fluke goal when a corner-kick squeezed between a defender and the post with about 17 minutes remaining, O'Connor said.

"It was quite late in the second half when the first goal came and the other two came in quick after that."

The second goal followed a scuffle after another corner kick and the third goal was a high ball that O'Connor tipped, but couldn't get over the net, she said.

"The last few games have been like this. We've been playing awesome. But they've just got the goals in and we haven't."

The Dragons have been communicating well, passing well and utilizing their organizational system to success, she said.

"On the whole, our team is tightening up our game."

Cheryle Johnson had a great scoring opportunity just before the half, she said.

"It was a high hard ball. Unfortunately, the keeper was in the right position."

Liz Wilson and Louise Doucet also had some good scoring chances, O'Connor said.

The Dragons Division-2 women next head to Brentwood to play Tkaayes on Sunday.

Senior boys suffer sad end to season

A promising season came to a dreary finish when the Scorpions senior boys soccer team attended the Island Championships at Brentwood Bay Thursday and Friday.

Five minutes into the first match for Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS), St. Michael's University (SMU) scored on the islanders.

"Everything that could go wrong, went wrong," said GISS coach Doug Pearson.

Even though the Scorpions had more shots and greater ball possession, number-two seeded SMU held on to win 3-0.

In their second match, GISS tied with the number-one team from the North Vancouver Island division, Ballenas of Parksville, to force a shoot-out finish.

"In the end, Elan Squire stopped the fifth shooter and Seth Byron scored to put us through," Pearson said.

A third match against Shawnigan Lake saw the islanders fall behind 2-0 but

Scorpions exchange student Christian Kimmling scored two goals to tie the game.

"He'd been frustrated all tourney so it was nice to see him score."

GISS dropped down to two defenders for the last five minutes in a desperate bid to score another goal, Pearson said.

"We knew we had to win."

And Marlow Hart scored the game-winning goal from centre mid position with two minutes left.

But the Scorpions lost their shot to play in the provincials when organizers changed rules so that only the top two teams would qualify this year.

Then, to add insult to injury, Frances Kelsey declined to play the consolation final.

"It was a deflating way to end the year."

Pearson credited Seth Byron and Jeremy Byron for exemplary play during the tourney.

"They held their heads high. They never succumbed to the pressure of things going wrong."

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Div. 5 scorers back on track

Two veterans gave Salt Spring FC's Division-5 men the edge of authority in a 5-0 victory over Juan de Fuca at Portlock Park on Sunday.

"We just annihilated them," said coach-keeper Chris Griffiths.

The coach credited a major portion of the win to the added experience and leadership of two older players.

"Chad Little made a huge difference to the team. We also called up Lyle Brown from the over 35s and he came and played a very strong centre defence."

Little has re-joined the team and Brown made an appearance after the Old Boys game was cancelled Sunday.

After a hard-fought first half tied at nil, the islanders came out fired up to win, Griffiths said.

"We just took it to them. That second half, they were getting tired."

Tyler Dakin scored two goals, Colin "Dougie" McDougall scored two goals, and Cameron Sweet capped a header, Griffiths said.

"Dougie and Cam had a beautiful goal together. It



FOLLOW THROUGH: Joe Akerman collides with the Juan de Fuca keeper as Salt Spring Div. 5s take a 5-0 win. johncameron.ca

was a long give and go. Cam passed it off to Dougie, Dougie put it down the line to the corner, Cameron crossed it right back to Dougie, and it was a nice one-touch into the goal."

At the other end, Griffiths only faced about four or five tough shots on net, he said.

The islanders are now ranked seventh in Div. 5, with three wins, four losses and a tie.

Scorpions spike strong finish

Even wacky play couldn't stop the Scorpions senior girls from Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) winning second place in an invitational volleyball tourney at Cedar over the weekend.

"Friday was a bloopers reel," said GISS parent Karen Hosie after she videotaped the event.

As one example, Hosie recalled a moment when a Scorpion went to strike a ball, missed and it hit her on the head instead.

The Scorpions lost two matches and won two matches due to inconsistent play Friday, she said.

But on Saturday, the islanders had a re-match against previously victorious Lake Cowichan to show their true colours with a confident win.

"They played an amazing match. They had long rallies and they really attacked the ball."

GISS earned a berth in the final against Cedar and won

their first game, but lost the next two, she said.

"Again, they were focussed, they had long rallies and they went for the ball."

Hosie credits cool-headed coaching from John Bergsma for guiding the girls back to their "A game" for a second-place finish in the six-team event.

"It's easy to coach when your team is winning. But you can't always get a coach who can be encouraging when the play is abysmal."

Iverson takes squash third

When Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) student Kristen Iverson went to Vancouver last weekend, she managed to fill her time with two top-level tournaments.

She raced with her Scorpions teammates in the B.C. High School Cross Country Championships on Sunday.

But she also entered the Evergreen Squash Tournament where she beat the top-seeded under-15 player in the province.

Despite her coup, she didn't win the squash event over the eight players in her

division, she said.

"One player from Seattle was pretty good."

Iverson is only able to play squash in Victoria after school once per week.

"That's what I have to do — unless they want to build a squash court on the island."

She played squash games on Saturday and Sunday after she squeezed a four-kilometre run into her schedule.

Iverson placed third in the squash tournament and 74th among 276 girls in the B.C. cross-country event.

Pony Club registration Saturday

The Salt Spring Island Pony Club is holding its annual registration and information day on Saturday, November 13.

The event runs from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Ganges Firehall Training Room, in the front of the building.

Pony Club is for young people up to the age of 21 who want to learn more

about horses, riding and horse care.

"[The club] motto is Loyalty, Character, Sportsmanship and we believe that we instill these values into our members," said club spokesperson Kim McIntyre. "We are proud of our Canadian Pony Club members who learn to be safe, responsible, confident, motivated

horse people, with a high degree of knowledge and skill in equestrian arts. Our members have an opportunity to learn leadership and teamwork, make many new friends, and understand their responsibility as horse owners and/or riders."

For more information, contact McIntyre at 537-8916.

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