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Driftwood

Gulf Islands

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Ganges
- Thrifty Foods
- Pharmasave
- Mark's Work
- Field's Stores
- Warehouse
- Ganges Village Market
- Bow-Mel
- Chrysler

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Singing for clean air

Islanders flocked to Duncan to take in some big name musical acts at Friday's Clean Air Concert. Page B1.



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Weather

Islanders can expect mostly sunny skies for the next several days — and only a few clouds. Highs to 20 C on Thursday; overnight lows to 9 C, also on Thursday.

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Lewis shares anger, hope at AIDS event

By **ROB WILTZEN**
Driftwood Contributor

The HIV/AIDS pandemic has rooted itself "firmly in the soil of the planet," Stephen Lewis, the United Nations special envoy on HIV/AIDS in Africa, told a packed gymnasium at Gulf Islands Secondary School on Sunday night.

"Africa remains the epicentre with something like 70 per cent of cases in the world," said Lewis, deemed a Companion to the Order of Canada and Maclean's magazine's Canadian of the Year in 2003.

"The contagion of death is palpable everywhere. I never imagined the universal nature of death that exists in Southern African countries."

Lewis said that African leaders used terms such as "annihilation" and "extermination" when referring to the state of their countries.

"There is nothing that would have prepared us for the savagery of this communicable disease. Whole communities, societies, families are decimated by this," he said.

A recent World Bank report predicted that South Africa faces economic collapse within three generations given its current trajectory.

"There are 14 million children living as orphans in Sub-Saharan Africa, with 20-25 million predicted by 2010," he said, asking the audience to imagine how Canada would deal with three million orphans in a country with as many resources as it has. The dire consequences were illustrated as he told of a Swaziland family where the age of the head of the household was eight years old.

LEWIS A2

Neish wins honour

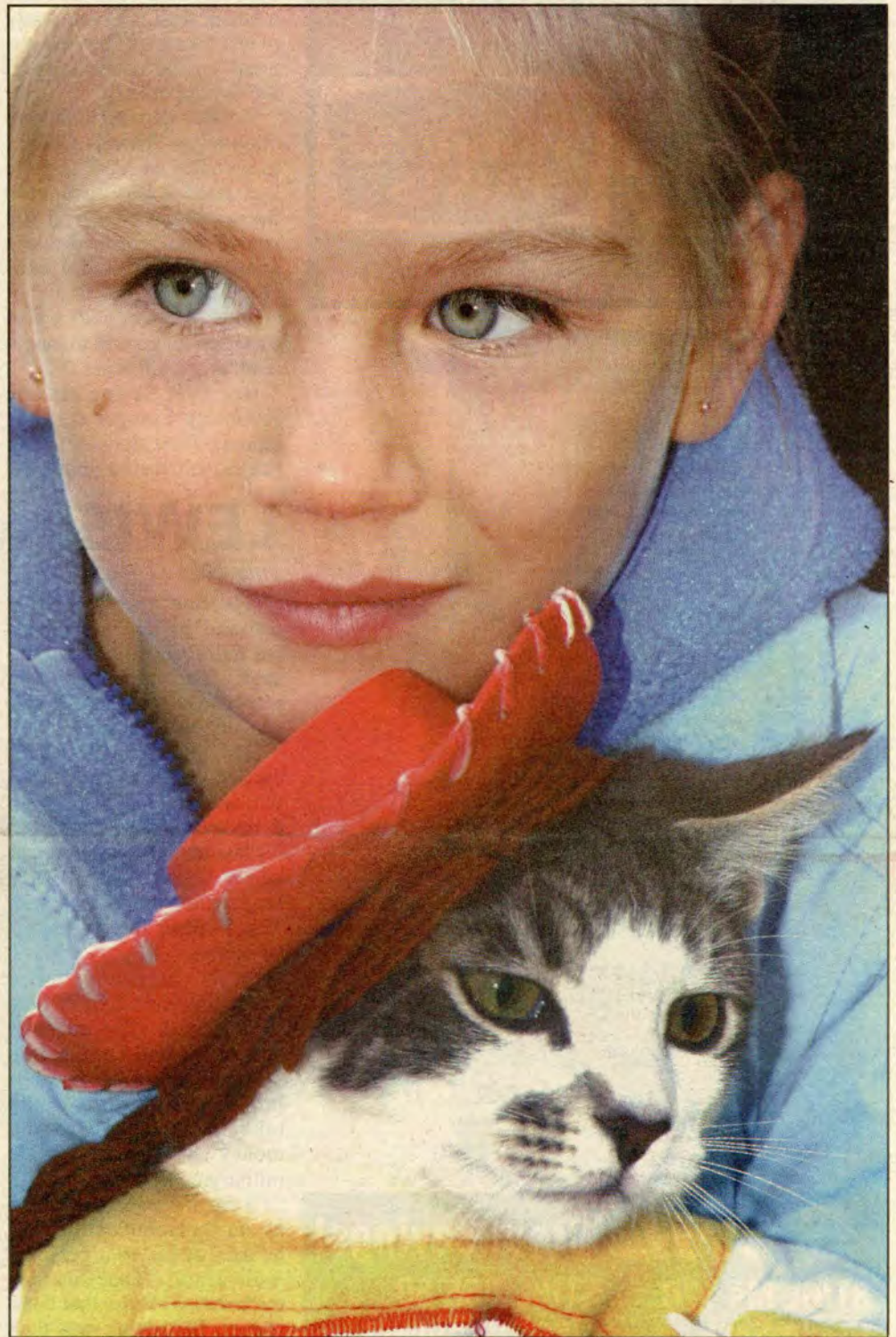
Salt Spring's Lawrie Neish was honoured with the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award Saturday at a Vancouver Playhouse Theatre ceremony in Vancouver.

The award is granted to individuals and groups whose unpaid, voluntary contributions provide extraordinary help or care to people in the community.

Neish received the honour from Her Excellency the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson.

"The award symbol represents Canadians who selflessly give of their time and energy to others," states the Governor General's website.

NEISH A3



DRESSED TO THE TEES: Charlotte McIntyre and her finely dressed cat, Smokey, await their turn at the Salt Spring Fall Fair best dressed pet competition. For more fall fair photos, turn to Page A10 and watch next week's Driftwood for the annual publication of Harvest Time.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

Development moratorium urged by islanders

By **GAIL SJUBERG**
Staff Writer

A whopping 20 delegations and 40 members of the public, including eight from Salt Spring, filled the ears of Islands Trust Council on Bowen Island last week, with several requesting a moratorium on development in the Trust area.

"In order for the Islands Trust as a whole to get back

on track, we request that a moratorium on subdivision similar to that imposed by the Social Credit government in the 1960s be put in place," said Sara Steil of the Pender Islands Trust Protection Society. "We on the Penders are tired of being hit by inappropriate application after inappropriate application. It must be made clear that the Trust Area is protected by unique

environmental legislation that must not be abused."

"We have pressed for a halt to any further density transfers and amenity zonings pending a review of these and other issues in our six-year-old OCP," wrote Peter Lamb as president of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy in a letter read to council by Karen Hudson. "However, it is becoming clear that

the Trust and the province need to undertake an urgent, comprehensive review of the 'preserve and protect' mandate and craft additional tools to make it really effective . . .

Until such a review is completed, we join others in urging the Trust to impose a moratorium on all new developments in the Trust area."

Salt Spring resident Janice McLean asked for a tem-

porary halt to all development that increases density, including amenity zoning, density transfers and subdivisions now in process.

Bowen Island resident Kathy Dunster, a former Trust Fund Board member and long-time observer of the Trust, later clarified what is meant by "development."

DEVELOPMENT A2

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	2340	5.6		1855	10.5
16	0545	9.2	20	0235	2.3
	1130	4.9		1105	9.8
	1800	10.2		1440	9.2
17	0015	4.6		1920	10.2
	0650	9.2			
	1205	5.9	21	0330	2.0
	1820	10.5		1235	10.2
18	0100	3.6		1625	9.5
	0800	9.2		1945	9.8
	1245	7.2			
	1835	10.5			

DEVELOPMENT: Moratorium wanted

From Page A1

"Obviously a single-family zoned lot that someone wants to build a single house on is not the issue. The issue seems to be any development project that requires OCP amendment, rezoning, density transfers, substantial development permit variances, subdivision and re-subdivision beyond the OCP recommendations and the like. The type of development that consumes vast amounts of time and resources from the community, planners and trustees with no clear sense of whether it will be really as good for the community as the developers say."

Dunster also called for creation of an "Islands Charter to give the Islands Trust the legislated ability to uphold the mandate for the next 500 years." She proposed that a group of elected and non-elected residents from all islands come up with a plan of action on growth management and OCP reviews.

But Salt Spring trustee Kimberly Lineger said the Islands Trust does not have the authority to instigate

a moratorium on development.

"People asked for a moratorium on subdivision, which we can't do," she said, noting that is a provincial government matter. Development can really only be "managed," she said, with controversial policies like density transfers perhaps being altered in an official community plan (OCP) review.

"We have some ways we can manage development, but I'm concerned there's a perception out there that we can stop development dead in its tracks, but we can't."

Resolutions were passed by trustees directing staff to explain what tools can be used to manage and slow down development.

Lineger hoped that and other information could be made available at a town hall session on the whole development topic slated for October.

She also observed that development proposals now unfolding on Salt Spring are "in-fill," meaning they already conform to existing

zoning and are accounted for in the OCP and land use bylaw.

The delegations and town hall session of Islands Trust Council took up so much time Thursday that an inadequate four hours were left on Friday to deal with business decision items, said Lineger.

Other Salt Spring residents attending were Wayne and Doreen Hewitt, Joyce Campbell, Maureen Moore, Rosey Brenan, and Murray Reiss, who read his own letter plus two from Mike Larmour and Peter Levitt.

Neddy Harris spoke on behalf of the Salt Spring Islanders for Reconciliation and Justice (SSIJAR), asking council to work with local First Nations to protect archaeological and other sacred heritage sites.

In other Trust Council news, Lineger lost her bid to become a vice-chair on the Trust executive committee by a narrow margin. Long-time trustee Tony Law from Hornby Island won instead, filling the seat vacated by North Pender's Wayne

Wright, who resigned in August.

Lineger interpreted Law's voters as supporting "the status quo, versus those of us who recognize there are problems and we have to do something about it. We have to be proactive."

Salt Spring trustee Eric Booth was disappointed Lineger did not win the third vice-chair position.

"Once again, I find this just another example of how Salt Spring's position at the table is being ignored. It is my opinion that council should have given greater consideration of her bid because she is from Salt Spring. I think everyone around the table would have to admit that she is certainly as capable and she has proven herself effective as chair of the Local Planning Committee. So I think what swayed the vote away from her had more to do with what's happening on Salt Spring — possible incorporation — as it does with anything else."

Trust Council next meets in December in Victoria.

LEWIS: 'More wrenching than I know how to deal with'

From Page A1

"No one knows how to respond or intervene with the millions of orphans," he said. "The intervention in response to orphans is universally disappointing."

His impassioned speech carried crescendos of emotion and anger as he referred to the moral default of world leaders that allowed the pandemic to rage for over 20 years with minimal response. "I will never forgive them," he vowed.

"It is, at times, more wrenching than I know how to deal with. The anger is almost beyond coping," he said comparing the few billion dollars a year it would take to intervene to the money spent on worldwide military conflicts.

"I am, however, consumed by an incipient optimism," he said of his own personal motivation. "That sustains me because I sense that there is more happening now than ever before."

Lewis described his "glimmers of hope" in detail, outlining 13 points of progress and achievement in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

Of the "3 by 5 plan" of the World Health Organi-

zation (WHO) that would see three million people in treatment by 2005, he said, "It is the most visionary initiative since the pandemic overwhelmed Africa. I've never seen the WHO so galvanized."

The Canadian government contributed \$100 million to get the initiative going, almost half of what was required to launch it.

Lewis elaborated on how generic antiretroviral drug costs have been negotiated down to \$139 per person per year, allowing treatment of four to six times as many people for the same cost.

Other developments include important new work on medication to inhibit mother to child transmission of the virus, and microbicides, a gel that women can use to protect themselves.

"This may be one of the breakthroughs we've been waiting for," he said.

"One thing that needs to be understood is that the virus has a woman's face," he stressed. "There is such a disproportionate vulnerability in Africa . . . this speaks to gender inequality as nothing has before," he said.

Microbicides would put harm-reduction control in women's own hands, he explained. In societies where women don't have rights to negotiate their own sexual consent or where they are forced into transactional sex in order to survive, they have little control over their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS. Seventy-five per cent of afflicted people in the 15-to-24 age group are women, he said.

Referring to the weekend conference on Salt Spring organized by the Salt Spring Organization for Life Improvement and Development (SOLID), Lewis talked of new urgency to twin communities in North America and Africa.

SOLID's work has been focussed on practical, on-the-ground measures for a specific community in Africa, an example of the trend Lewis outlined. Twinning helps African communities by building bridges of solidarity with an aim of sharing resources and raising them closer to the state of a developed western community.

The bottom line, however, is that vastly more funds are

required with the need outpacing the slow, incremental increase in resources allocated in recent years, according to Lewis.

Predictions are that \$12 billion will be required in 2005 and \$20 billion in 2007, while last year the world raised \$4.3 billion in response to the crisis, he said.

Lewis said he is upset when he hears people say the African crisis should be dealt with because the continent may otherwise be lost as a trading partner, or because it could give rise to destabilizing political extremism.

"All that we're called upon to do is a decent, compassionate response," he said in closing.

Helping on a local level is possible through SOLID, which accepts donations for projects in Evaton West, South Africa. More information is available from 537-8735 or info@solidaltspring.com. The website is www.solidaltspring.com.

Lewis' speech closed the weekend Community to Community conference, with about 500 people filling the high school gym.

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IMPASSIONED: Stephen Lewis, the United Nations special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, addressed a crowd of about 500 at the high school gym Sunday, closing the Community to Community conference organized by SOLID of Salt Spring. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Booth demands apology from Essig over partisan comments

Provincial-level politics collided with the Islands Trust last week when Salt Spring trustee Eric Booth criticized Trust chair David Essig for anti-government remarks made at the Trust Council meeting on Bowen Island.

"I was deeply troubled yesterday to hear yourself, in your position as chairperson of this council, actually recommend to the members of this council and, to the members of the public in attendance, that they, and I quote, 'Take back the province in the next election,' and further that, 'Lobbying the government is nowhere near as effective as changing government,'" said Booth in a prepared statement made to Essig on Friday.

Booth said the chair's remarks were "particularly troubling" since Essig has

announced his intention to run for the NDP candidacy in the Cowichan-Ladysmith riding.

"I am not aware of anyone sitting around this table who publicly ran as an NDP, Liberal or Green Party member. Nor, when this council elected you, did we do so with an understanding that you would use your position as chairperson to represent, or further, any particular provincial political agenda or point of view.

"At a time in the Trust's history when we are looking to the government for assistance, in the form of legislative changes, to increase our powers, I feel it is not only inappropriate, but seriously counterproductive, for the executive of this Trust to be seen as representatives of the opposition party."

Booth asked for and

received a written apology from Essig, which was released on Monday.

Essig admitted making statements "which could reasonably be construed as being of a partisan political nature," made a formal retraction and said he would refrain from making further remarks in future in his position as Islands Trust Council chair.

"I realize now that this was a lamentable lapse of judgement on my part. I was wrong to speak in this manner and I now believe that these remarks were an inappropriate and improper exercise of my position as chair of the Islands Trust Council."

Essig made the apology to Booth, his Trust Council colleagues, Islands Trust area constituents and the province.

Principal profiled for 'outstanding' group

Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) principal Nancy Macdonald was selected for a new report on outstanding educational leadership released Tuesday.

Principal Portraits 2, commissioned by the Society for the Advancement of Excellence in Education, profiled 10 leaders from secondary schools in B.C. and Alberta which have seen significant

academic improvement.

"I was intrigued by the other schools that they wrote about," Macdonald said.

"They weren't a big rash of big private schools with top marks. It wasn't like that. So it had a different flavour from Fraser Institute stuff, which is nice."

Macdonald appreciated that GISS received recognition for decisions and orga-

nizational changes that led to improvement at the school.

"That's truly the goal for any organization is to improve. It's an honour to be interviewed for a magazine. It was very affirming."

She was selected as a candidate for the study after being nominated for a 2003 W. Garfield Weston Outstanding Principals Award from the Fraser Institute.

NEISH: 'Drive and determination'

From Page A1

"Since the 1970s, Lawrie Neish has made extensive contributions to the artistic life of his community, which led to important economic benefits for the region.

"His drive and determination led to the establishment of ArtSpring, a 270-seat theatre and gallery, and of ArtCraft, a fundraising enterprise and a showcase of

Gulf Islands arts and crafts. For over 20 years, he coordinated ArtCraft's four-month show and sale.

"In addition to his involvement in the arts, in the 1970s, he helped refurbish toys for disadvantaged children and, as a high school teacher, he mentored troubled youth through an extracurricular program, helping many to

stay in school. Mr. Neish has given of his considerable talents and skills, his time and his money to many individuals and organizations."

Neish was given a framed certificate and lapel pin.

Fifty-one Canadians earned the Caring Canadian Award following announcements made in June.

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Vesuvius landmark closes

The Vesuvius Bar and Grill will erupt with a two-day fiesta before its doors close with a final farewell bash on Saturday.

"It's a big blow-out this weekend. It should be fun," said inn owner Greg Simmonds.

"We're shutting her down."

Though Simmonds has not finalized sale of the property, he is closing the inn this weekend regardless of the outcome.

"The prospective purchasers, I don't know what their plans are but I don't believe it will be a pub."

Currently two prospective purchasers are negotiating for the property, he said.

"Rumours are flying around about what it will become. My favourite is that it's going to be a Jiffy Lube and oceanfront drive-in theatre."

The Simmonds bought the Vesuvius Inn 18 months ago, he said.

"Our plans were for the development potential of the land, not necessarily for the pub itself. And we just weren't able to put together the development and we chose to sell it."

Simmonds is ready for a break from working at the inn, he said. His family is planning on a relaxing rest to enjoy the island.

"The bar and grill concept worked really well for us and it was neat to see lots of families in there, but that's all she wrote."

Some 27 acts will be playing for a farewell party running Friday and Saturday, highlighted by artists like Drop Radio, DNA, David Jacquest, Jack & Lefty, Mis-Led, Steel Bananas and Simone & Soul Intentions.

"We're doing food specials and drink specials. We're clearing out the closet."

Music will go from 6 p.m. on each of the last two days.

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Schools 'overrun' with new students

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Alarms of declining student enrolment may prove premature this year as island classes swell with new children.

"People haven't been moving away in droves," said Gulf Islands School Board chair May McKenzie last week.

Following last year's dire warnings about impending economic shortfalls as a result of fewer students, trustees shared surprising hints of bountiful classrooms at their public meeting on September 15.

"The concern we had that students would leave our district has not held," said district superintendent Wendy Herbert.

The school district had projected losses of 40 students this year, one reason cited for implementing a contentious four-day-school week.

Losing 40 students would reduce the district's annual budget by \$214,000, though first-year losses would be softened with a one-year \$64,000 buffer grant.

In May, desperate trustees even voted to close the Phoenix Elementary building at Drake Road and relocate the program to save the district \$138,000.

Phoenix parents countered with a plan to meet the budget by recruiting students themselves for the regular program (from 35 students) and the District Learn-

ers Partnership Program (DLPP), a home-school support program.

"They've quite possibly exceeded those requirements," Herbert said.

"Phoenix Elementary has 40 students and possibly one more; that's up from last year. And those are not students from other schools in the district," said Salt Spring trustee Mike Krayenhoff at the September board meeting.

"The DLPP is overrun. There are 38 registered and two more possibly. That's up from 24 last year," Krayenhoff said.

Enrolment growth prompted the district to increase staffing by a half-time teacher at Phoenix.

Krayenhoff attributed some of the student increases to the Waldorf on Salt Spring school closure.

"I know Fulford got an influx from Waldorf," added Salt Spring trustee Charles Hingston.

The school district also hired another teacher to contend with 24 new students at Salt Spring Elementary, said Salt Spring trustee Judith Boel.

Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS) also reported boons.

"We have 331 students, up from last year, 36 are new to us, new to the island, or new to the school," said SIMS principal Kevin Vine.

Students have come from as far away as Germany, Mexico, New Mexico,

Ontario, Alberta and different communities in B.C., he said.

Salt Spring wasn't the only community reporting increased enrolment in the Gulf Islands.

"Galiano is doing their part," laughed Galiano's trustee and board vice-chair Bonnie MacGillivray. "Every class has a child from a new family."

Even Saturna posted gains with two new students.

"It's a biggy for Saturna. We now have nine students and our Student Learning Centre is also going well with four enrolled," said trustee Susanne Middleditch.

Asked directly about Pender enrolment, trustee Russ Searle declined, "All we have now are preliminaries and we're reluctant to put them out."

When pressed about enrolment figures, he added, "It looks good."

Final numbers will not be tabulated until the official "snapshot" is taken on September 30 that will determine provincial funding, said Herbert.

She noted that many of the gains reported in the meeting were based on figures from the end of the last school year rather than the beginning, the critical period when the district budget is determined.

"Enrolment figures are better than projected but not necessarily better than they were a year ago," she cautioned.

"We look close to being at the same numbers we had last year."

Though the four-day week and a few other cost-saving measures will address budgetary woes in the next two years, the district still projects a long-term enrolment problem, Herbert noted.

"Our kindergarten number across the district looks like 84, which is a concern," she said. "If the kindergarten class moved all the way through, it would be 55 per cent of the current Grade 12 class."

But contrary to claims made by Local Trust Committee member Kimberly Lineger during the September 13 Forum on Education Cuts, the school district will not need to lay off teachers next year, Herbert said.

"We're still going to be ahead of the game."

The district had previously forecast a \$350,000 deficit for 2004/2005 due to enrolment decline, increases and hikes to supplies and services. The four-day week is expected to save \$400,000 annually, which will help the district deal with another projected deficit of \$750,000 for 2005/2006.

Regardless of enrolment figures, the district still faces unfunded staff-benefit increases and changes in funding formulas, said secretary treasurer Rod Scovold.

"Any gains from extra students get eaten up with staffing."

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Roots of Empathy needs tiny school visitor

A school program that benefits just about everyone involved might not run this year if Roots of Empathy organizers can't find a baby.

"The baby is what makes the program unique," notes facilitator Christine Mauro.

"The presence of the baby seems to soften the class — to open the students to talking about issues and feelings that they might normally feel constrained about discussing."

A baby born in July, August or September is needed for classroom visits along with his or her parents for one 45-minute period per month until June.

Mauro said an October-born baby could also be worked into a "compressed" schedule by missing the first couple of classroom visits.

"It will be very sad if we can't do it

because we don't have a baby."

This year, two classes at the middle school and one at Fulford Elementary School are interested in participating in the program, which "aims to foster the development of empathy in students, thereby reducing levels of bullying and aggression."

It also teaches students about human development and learning, Mauro said, and provides them with a vocabulary that promotes emotional literacy.

But it is not only the students that benefit, she adds, noting that participating parents come to feel like they're part of a community and the connection between baby and students continues long after the program is complete.

"The parents have the satisfaction of contributing to the community and at the same time (get) the feeling that their baby had been adopted by a whole

class," Mauro said. "It's possible too that, in a smaller way, learning is occurring on the part of the parents as we cover the various topics."

Students meet three times to discuss each of the nine topics included in the Roots of Empathy program.

A topic such as "crying" is dealt with in three stages: during a "pre-baby" class — where students discuss, among other things, the purposes of crying and responses to it — followed by a practical applications class with the baby present; and a "post-baby" class where the topic is used to focus on issues as it applies to students and their peers.

"This opens discussion to what's going on with them," Mauro said.

Any parent with a baby interested in talking about the program and/or participating in it is asked to contact Mauro at 538-0173.

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The Annual General Meeting of the Fernwood Water Local Service committee will be held on Wednesday September 29 at 2 pm at the Salt Spring Island Baptist Church, Lower Auditorium, 520 Lower Ganges Road.

For information please call: 1-800-663-4425

Accused robber in court

An islander accused of armed robbery is set to face trial in Victoria Provincial Court on Tuesday, October 12.

Charles Gregory Crossland (34) of Salt Spring stands accused for robbery of the Ganges branch of the Bank of Montreal on June 22.

No one was hurt in the robbery when a masked man, reportedly carrying what looked like a rifle, went behind the counter of the bank. Police estimate he grabbed approximately \$6,000 from the cash draw-

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Recreation centre site servicing making great strides on Rainbow

Thanks to good weather, work on the off-site utility services required for the Rainbow Road Recreation Centre project is moving along quickly and should be complete within the next few weeks.

Despite a few days of heavy rain, Spencer's Excavating, which is installing new water and sewer lines, is making excellent progress, reports Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) project manager Dave Gibbon.

"Although the contract was awarded quite late in the summer, Spencer's was able to assure us they could complete the majority of the trenching in front of the high school before the Labour Day weekend, meaning that we wouldn't have to disrupt access to the school drive-ways and bus drop-off area. This was obviously important to school administrators and we are happy that things worked out as well as they did."



WORK IN PROGRESS: Site servicing work undertaken by Spencer's Excavating crews is well underway at the Rainbow Road rec facility site. Regardless of whether an indoor or outdoor pool is built on that spot, water and sewer lines are being installed now. Photo by Dave Gibbon

New utility services include replacement of the old 50-mm (two-inch diameter) waterline servicing properties on Rainbow Road, and a new sanitary sewer main in a parallel trench.

The upgraded utilities are required to service the new

recreation centre site. Gibbon said that although the building design for the new indoor swimming pool and enclosed tennis facility is not complete — and will go through an extensive public input process before it is finally approved — it is

important to complete the off-site services as soon as possible.

"No matter what we eventually build on the site in the way of recreation facilities, adequately-sized sewer and water connections must be provided."

A referendum on borrowing \$4,212,000 to construct and operate an indoor pool on the Rainbow Road site is set for Saturday, November 20.

The borrowing, if approved, will require a tax increase of \$23.03 per \$100,000 of assessed property value. However, if an applied-for federal-provincial infrastructure grant of \$2 million is received, that figure is reduced to \$11.57 per \$100,000.

If the referendum fails, PARC plans to build an outdoor pool on the Rainbow Road lands, since the existing Shelby Pool at Portlock Park is nearing the end of its life and must be replaced.

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Laughter, tears at AIDS weekend

By **ROB WILTZEN**
Driftwood Contributor

Last weekend saw the arrival of delegates on Salt Spring Island as a local group hosted a key organizing conference for people working to battle the HIV/AIDS crisis of Africa.

With organized workshops over two days, the event saw a series of engaging speakers reaching a climactic conclusion with an address by Stephen Lewis, special envoy to the United Nations on HIV/AIDS in Africa at the crowded GISS gymnasium where he was greeted with a standing ovation in appreciation for his visionary work on the grave crisis facing the African continent.

The conference was an unmitigated success according to conference organizers of the Salt Spring Organization for Life Improvement and Development (SOLID).

"I would judge success by the amount of laughter, the amount of tears shed, and the amount of stories shared", said Anna Callegari of SOLID. "It's been just amazing, the sharing of experience".

The often emotional

weekend featured the frank presentation by delegates of some of their own stark realities, their personal stories of living with HIV/AIDS, stories of journeys through sexual abuse and prostitution and of living up close to the HIV/AIDS crisis of Africa that has killed their families and friends.

Jarring statistics on the global pandemic were presented by Salt Spring resident Warren O'Brian, the Executive Director of Communicable Disease and Addiction Prevention, of the Ministry of Health Services.

"With 2.9 million deaths in 2003, this dwarfs any epidemic we've seen before" he said.

Of an estimated 4.8 million new infections in 2003, a full 3 million of them were in Sub-Saharan Africa with 44,000 in North America, according to the information presented from UNAIDS. Of the 2.1 million children living with HIV/AIDS globally, 1.9 million of them are in the African region.

But while the global statistics can be immobilizing, conference participants got to work developing specific projects and discussing their own personal relation to HIV/AIDS in North America and Africa.

Workshops held over the two days addressed a wide variety of aspects to organizing efforts for practical

on-the-ground aid projects for communities in Africa. Saturday evening saw a mix of speakers at Artspring discussing approaches to the issue.

"In Swaziland", said youth delegate Sithembile Mabila, "when you say HIV/AIDS, it won't scare anybody". With a prevalence of 39.4%, the nation has the highest rate of infection in the world, she said.

Mabila was one of five African international students from Lester B. Pearson College that formed a panel discussing their experiences and opinions with moderator Kathryn Gretsinger, former CBC radio host of "The Afternoon Show" who facilitated the conference throughout the weekend.

Students from Madagascar, Tanzania, Kenya and Zimbabwe echoed the sentiment that their cultures are saturated with knowledge of HIV/AIDS with everyone so personally affected.

"When I took English I learned about it, when I took history I learned about it, I learned about it in every subject and it is all through the media" said Sara Cheche of Tanzania.

"The rate is still going up and I'm not sure why" wondered Mabila, exemplifying the lack of control felt. "But, generalizations don't help" she said.

"When you're looking at

it as a whole continent, you just lose hope" said Taten-da Makanza of Zimbabwe. "You have take it step by step".

Earlier on Saturday, Yehalem Metiku of Ethiopia, a visiting professor at the University of Victoria, discussed various response mechanisms in place in his country in dealing with the crisis elaborating on youth initiatives.

The motivation for youth action in his country, he said, is due to their own experience of losing their families and friends to the pandemic.

The most important thing that people here can do, said Metiku, is to support orphans to go to school, helping to break the cycles of poverty and disease.

San Patten delivered Saturday's keynote address and said that as Canadians, we have a lot to be embarrassed about. She spoke to the importance of international action saying that Canadians need to push the Canadian government to follow through on its commitments and to get some policy coherence on the issue, which she says is still lacking.

Workshop participants closed the workshop segment with a candlelight vigil and moment of silence before the 7000 crosses planted at GISS representing the daily death toll of AIDS, led by Addi Perkins, a local student.

Tents, tarps and sleeping bags needed now for the homeless

Copper Kettle volunteers have launched a direct appeal fundraising campaign to help them meet their dream of operating a daytime shelter for Salt Spring Island's homeless population.

"There are at least 200 homeless people on Salt Spring, including families, if you count the couch surfers," said Cherie Geauvreau of the Copper Kettle on Monday.

"I know that Salt Spring is one of the most generous communities in the world, and we need to provide basic services to those without," she said.

"The most immediate short-term need is for warm clothing, tents, tarps, housing and non-perishable food items for the homeless on the

island," said Dyanne Linerger, Copper Kettle organizer.

An increasing number of people are living in the woods on Salt Spring, said Geauvreau.

"We just can't keep up with the need," she said. "We gave away five sleeping bags and four big tents [last] weekend, but we are getting probably 10 times as many calls as this time last year."

"Our ultimate goal is a permanent storefront location to serve as a clearinghouse for sharing resources in the community, and to provide an address for people who don't have one," said Linerger.

The lack of a mailing address has far-reach-

ing impacts with the list of consequences including the inability to receive mail, to obtain credit cards, bank accounts, a driver's licence, passport, prescription medication or medical coverage, according to Copper Kettle information.

"We need \$50,000 to get this up and running," said Linerger.

The vision of the Copper Kettle Home Front would include shower, laundry and cooking facilities, a donation depot, message centre, telephone and computer/Internet access with an emergency bed and a support worker.

Anyone with donations or wanting to volunteer can contact Dyanne Linerger at 538-0042.



Islands Trust

NOTICE OF NOMINATION NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL TRUSTEE BY-ELECTION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of North Pender Island Local Trust Committee that nominations for the office of:

One Local Trustee,

for the balance of the three year term of December 2002 to December 2005,

will be received by the Chief Election Officer or a person designated at the offices of the Islands Trust, Suite 200, 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8 between the hours of **9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, the fifth (5th) day of October 2004 and 4:00 P.M. on Friday, the fifteenth (15th) day of October 2004 and during that period the nomination documents shall only be received on regular office days and hours.** Should anyone wish to file nomination documents in other than office hours, arrangements may be made by phoning the Chief Election Officer at (250) 472 0059.

Candidates shall be nominated in writing by two duly qualified electors of North Pender Island Local Trust Committee area.

The nomination documents shall be in the form prescribed in the Local Government Act and shall state the name and residence of the person nominated in such a manner as to sufficiently identify the candidate. The nomination documents shall be subscribed to by the candidate.

At the time of filing the nomination documents, the candidate shall also file with the Chief Election Officer or a person designated by the Chief Election Officer a written disclosure, as required under the Financial Disclosure Act.

Copies of all forms are available at the Offices of the Islands Trust, Suite 200, 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C., V8R 1H8, on the Islands Trust website www.islandstrust.bc.ca or by calling the Chief Election Officer at (250) 472 0059.

To qualify for the office of Local Trustee the candidate must be a:

- Canadian Citizen
- Eighteen (18) Years of age or older
- Resident of British Columbia at least six (6) months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed and
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If an election by voting is to be held, voting day will Saturday, November 13th, 2004.

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Thomas F. Moore,
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AIR RESCUE: Search and rescue crews from Salt Spring, Saanich Peninsula and the Gulf Islands worked with a Canadian Forces Cormorant helicopter at Salt Spring Centre on Blackburn Road during training on Friday. After the exercise, the Comox-based crew from 442 Squadron gave a tour of their new \$33-million helicopter. Photo by Mitchell Sherrin

Community Ed spots still open

Constructing a portable "school" twice a year is no small feat, and it takes an enthusiastic person to pull it all together.

Libby Jutras is Salt Spring's new Community Education coordinator who has organized 29 courses for the fall semester.

A few topics included basketry, art history, music appreciation, writing a personal memoir, garden design, auto basics, computer skills, home plumbing, bridge and conversational Spanish.

Registration is still being accepted this week by phone at 537-0037, and by completing forms and leaving a cheque in a sealed envelope at Salt Spring Books.

Program calendars, which were published in the September 1 Driftwood, are available at the Driftwood office, Island Savings, the library, Parks and Recreation office, school board office, Salt Spring Books and the Island Savings reception desk.

In-person registration was available at the fall fair and last week at Island Savings.

"My problem is that I want to do them all," said Jutras, who has been an unstoppable life-long learner, with diplomas earned in bookkeeping, hotel and restaurant management, nursing and other fields.

"I've got tons and tons and tons of ideas for more courses," she said.

One of Jutras' strengths as program coordinator is her 20 years of island residency and the well-developed local contacts that go along with it.

A well-known painter, she's also past-president of the Alliance of Salt Spring Artists, and is current president of the Painters Guild (for the third time). Jutras organized registration for the high-level basketry workshop held on the island last year and recently put together the Celebrate Art on Salt Spring weekend.

Jutras notes the Commu-

nity Education course prices have been kept as low as possible.

"We're trying to make it affordable for everyone on the island."

Courses are being held at several different venues.

"Many people have contributed a great deal of time and effort to again offer continuing educational courses and we hope the community will find something of interest in what is being offered this fall. More courses are coming for the spring," said Jutras.

She encourages other islanders to consider sharing their skills.

"I'm hoping more people who are retired who have specific interests will come forward to offer to teach courses," she said.

For information about the Salt Spring Society for Community Education, and fall or future course offerings, contact Jutras at 537-0037.

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Channel Ridge prompts two fast bylaw changes

Salt Spring's local Trust committee (LTC) has taken initial steps to address two controversial aspects of the Channel Ridge development: fractional ownership sales and the company's desire to lift the restrictive covenant density cap.

Trustees Eric Booth and Kimberly Linerger passed two resolutions without meeting last week.

Trust staff were directed to draft a land use bylaw amendment "to confirm the maximum number of 577 dwelling units permitted within the entire Channel Ridge subdivision lands as set out in the restrictive covenant and agreement, dated March 29, 1986..."

Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. (CRPL) indicated last month it hoped to have the multi-party covenant lifted to

allow a further 130 densities.

The LTC also directed tightened-up definitions of "residential" and "commercial accommodation."

"The effect of these revisions is to permit owners and tenants to use residential properties for their permanent domicile and for their occasional and seasonal occupancy, provided that their use does not include commercial guest accommodation or any occupancy under a time share plan," said Linerger.

Last week CRPL stated it would not be pursuing fractional ownership sales.

Linerger said staff reports on the two matters are available from the Ganges Trust office and both bylaw amendments will be up for first reading at the September 29 LTC meeting.

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Town hall impacts can be deceptive

For people who have never seen an Islands Trust town hall session, either at home or at a Trust Council meeting where residents from more than one island air concerns with trustees, the emotion, conviction and love of the islands that arises can be overwhelming.

And in the case of the council meeting held on Bowen late last week, many formal delegations and town hall speakers made the most of the opportunity to get up close and personal with locally elected representatives.

Calls for a Trust-wide moratorium on development — like the subdivision freeze imposed by the provincial government in the late 1960s — were among the heartfelt messages given to Trust Council, as community members from several islands expressed feeling under siege from large-scale developments now proceeding or proposed.

But as that meeting also heard from trustees and staff, the Trust has no legal authority to “halt” development — it can only do what it has always been able to do, which is “manage” developments already legally permitted by established zoning and other bylaws.

As Trust chief administrative officer Linda Adams told the Bowen meeting, local Trust committees can also stipulate how much staff time should be spent processing development applications versus working on long-term planning issues. She also reminded people that the Trust does reject a number of inappropriate schemes that don't get past the initial inquiry stage.

The town hall phenomenon gives citizens such direct contact with decision makers that it is imbues the Islands Trust with more power than it actually possesses.

Trustees may be good listeners and can respond to some degree, but islanders will no doubt continue to be disappointed with the ultimate results.

Creation of an inter-island citizens group to articulate Trust island concerns to higher levels of government is an intriguing idea that has been bandied about for awhile, and one that should be pursued.

Islanders need zeal to stop money-driven development

By JOYCE CAMPBELL

Development has reached a critical mass on Salt Spring. There can be no more compromise between the need of developers and the need to preserve and protect our environment.

At an inspirational inter-islands conference on Denman Island in August called Islands of British Columbia 2004: an Interdisciplinary Exploration, a call went out for an immediate moratorium on land development until proper planning infrastructure to manage growth in the Trust area has been completed.

Less than a month later, close to 20 delegations of Salt Spring, Pender and Bowen islanders flew,

VIEW POINT

drove and ferried to the September 16 quarterly Trust Council held on Bowen Island. They spoke for a broad range of organizations, including Salt Spring Island Conservancy, Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee, Water Preservation Society, and many other groups concerned about the negative impact of development on the social and environmental fabric of our islands.

For two hours islanders pleaded with the trustees to find a way to

slow development. “We need to buy time to revitalize the preserve and protect mandate. Development pressure is overwhelming our planners and trustees,” said one delegate. “Our volunteers are running out of energy trying to help trustees preserve and protect. We can't sustain the current crisis management situation,” commented another.

Clapping and cheering erupted when Rosey Brenan, of the Stewart Road Residents Association, told trustees, “Behind each one of us stand hundreds of invisible people. Together we represent thousands of islanders. In our terribly polite way, we're trying to tell you that we're mad as hell and we're

not going to take it any more.”

When a trustee asked Linda Adams, the Islands Trust chief administrative officer, for ways to slow development, she reminded trustees they have power to deny variations to the official community plan and to limit the number of development applications reviewed each year.

Our Gulf Islands are becoming an endangered species. Right now Salt Spring is money driven. Let's find a way to make it environmentally and socially driven. The residents of our island must surpass the developers' zeal to make a profit with our own zeal to arrest out-of-control development.

Our islands are under attack.

Please support our call for a moratorium on development by attending a town hall session at the local trust committee meeting on Wednesday, September 29 at 3 p.m. It's urgent for all like-minded residents to unify their energies towards this common purpose.

Together we can make the critical difference in order to swing the balance back in favour of the mandate to preserve and protect.

How about a new name for the Islands Trust — the Islands Preservation and Protection Trust?

The writer is a member of the Stewart Road Residents Association.

Union leaders distract four-day opponents from real focus

TIMOTHY S. CAHILL

I was pleased with Kimberly Liner's clear-headed thinking in the Keep Five Alive forum on September 13 and I greatly appreciated the contributions made by the other three local forum participants (Garth Hendren, David Banks, and Kathy Page).

Unfortunately, it was clear early on that any serious attempt during the forum to build momentum toward restoring a five-day school week would be difficult. This was due to the overwhelming interference and mischief generated by forum participants Jinny Simms (BCTF president) and Barry O'Neill (CUPE president).

The moderator granted these two outsiders much more time to speak than the local forum participants, and sharply curtailed discussion and debate by members of the audience, while grant-

IN RESPONSE

responses.

What is worse is that the union executives used their time to hijack the agenda of the Keep Five Alive forum: insisting that our real issues are with Premier Campbell and the Liberals in Victoria, free trade, IBM and schools in China (Simms actually said this), but not with the local school board.

Of course, the provincial government has the greatest responsibility for the sad state of education in our school district. Over the years, Victoria has cut funding for education drastically. As a result, we are told by the school board that normal school operations are no longer possible.

Yet Victoria didn't impose this four-day week on us, the school board did.

As Kim Liner said, this unnecessary school board decision distracts us from pressuring Victoria to support education. The now urgent need for us to fight the school board wouldn't have been necessary had the board acted responsibly.

There were other choices (none of them pain free) that the school board could and should have made rather than adopting a four-day school week. These other choices were itemized by board chair May McKenzie in a recent Driftwood article. Any or all of those other choices would have been preferable to spare the largest number of children from the greatest amount of harm to their education.

Other decisions by the school board would have meant smaller stakeholder sacrifices not disruptive to the entire school system.

They could have cancelled

cal classes. There could have been lay-offs. They could even have set back thermostats.

They could have resigned and sent an honourable message to Victoria: “Do your own dirty work.”

But their decision to place a laundry list of miscellaneous stakeholder interests ahead of the students sets the world on its head.

The school board neglected its duty to always put the children first.

Yet, Simms and O'Neill did not lend their unions' support to highlight the folly of the school board's decision. Serving instead their own agenda, the union presidents kept intervening to put aside their challenge to the school board and instead rally together with the unions (and the school board) to fight Victoria.

One might conclude that the CUPE and BCTF lead-

ership, aware of the potential for protracted discord, feel they have more to gain by keeping the issue of a four-day school week alive and simmering, the better to exploit it in their endless battle with the government in this election year.

Perhaps in their war fever these union bosses could overlook their complicity in the sacrifice of our children's education.

A culture of dissent permeates this province, and it has manifested itself in both the unions and the board as a conflict of interest: their mutual goal in carrying the war to Victoria has overwhelmed their responsibility to the children. While the unions do not directly represent school children (and shed crocodile tears for them), the school board is responsible for school children and must be held to a higher standard. And if the school board is not mind-

ing our children's interests, who is?

The answer, it turns out, is the Keep Five Alive Coalition. I have many positive things to say about this coalition and its grassroots organization and I will focus on that organization in future letters. In the meantime, concerned individuals can visit the www.keepfivealive.ca website for more information.

Furthermore, anyone who does not approve of the four-day school week should remember on voting day the names of those trustees who voted in favour of a four-day school week: May McKenzie (Mayne Island), Russ Searle (Pender), Judith Boel, Charles Hingston, Mike Krayenhoff (Salt Spring) and Susanne Middleditch (Saturna Island).

The writer is a concerned Salt Spring parent.

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: *What's your favourite part of the Fall Fair?*



Rick Kilbourn

Muffin Madness and helping out at the firefighters' booth.



Carol Fowles and Judy Grundy

The Lions' pancake breakfast, of course. We couldn't say anything else.



Nikole Varlis-Love

Winning prizes and stuffies and going on rides.



Trish Faurot

That's an impossible question. The whole thing is too cool. It's the best fair anywhere and it's not raining.



Elaine Dunster

The best French fries . . . It's the only time you can eat them before lunch and not feel guilty.

Letters to the Editor

Clarified

I am responding to the "Making the case" editorial in the September 15 edition of the Driftwood.

At the end of the article the writer suggests that "the school board must clarify possible financial scenarios for the 2005-06 year."

When we began the round of community meetings last fall we presented many scenarios as to how we could deal with the declining enrollment and the funding shortfalls for the next two school years. All of our scenarios covered the years 2004/2005 and 2005/2006.

Again, last April when the board made the final decisions on what to reduce and moved the motion to change the local school calendar, the scenarios were distributed and explanations were given to all attendees.

Our projections included a \$350,000 shortfall due primarily to declining enrolment in 2004/2005 and a further \$750,000 shortfall in 2005/2006 due to enrolment decline and a revised ministry funding formula.

Savings made this year, through the reductions passed at the April meeting, and the savings that will result from the four-day school week are now in our financial system. The projected surplus for the

current year combined with savings in 2005/2006 should offset the funding shortfall for 2005/2006.

MAY MCKENZIE,
Chair, GI School Board

No brainer

Regarding the Environmental Protection Notice by Sablefin Hatcheries Ltd. in last week's Driftwood, application no. PE 17960 is asking us how we the public feel about pumping five times more effluent than Ganges sewer into the ancient village site and burial grounds of Syuhe'mun "the place to catch up" (Walker Hook), which is one of the largest and most important undeveloped archeological sites in the Gulf Islands.

This is a no brainer. For this reason alone the public and government officials should say no to this Waste Management Permit.

CHRIS ACHESON,
Salt Spring Residents for Responsible Land Use

Demand this

Re: Channel Ridge — the time to act is now!

As the Globe and Mail puts out a full-page ad on Salt Spring Island, describing our home as "a speculator's paradise," we are faced with yet another development plan that will increase our population by an estimated 1,500

people! You think you can't find a place to park in Ganges now!

The Islands Trust, responsible for local planning, commissioned the Aqion Report, which looked at annual water supply, rather than water supply available in the summer months, and determined that there was enough water to meet the increased demand. As St. Mary Lake and even Maxwell Lake face water quality and quantity issues in summer, we all buy our water, because here in paradise, the water is undrinkable. At this point there is often not enough for the present users in summer, not to mention 400 new homes on Channel Ridge.

How about asking our planners and trustees to require, rather than request, that these homes be built with water-collecting cisterns, low-flush toilets and, of course, keep to the covenant that was to protect the surrounding areas.

It is unfortunate that this development was installed into our official community plan in 1986 — a time when Salt Spring was still rural, Garry oak ecosystems weren't the second-most endangered ecosystem in B.C., and you could buy a home for under \$100,000.

Eighteen years later, you're lucky to get anything for under \$200,000. That's a \$30,000 down payment for you folks under 30!

I know Salt Spring is not an island for anyone but the rich or aging, but there is something we can still do.

The developers have applied for even greater density on these lands, overtly labelled for the endangered ecosystems that they are destroying. If you care about the future and character of Salt Spring, write to John Gauld, regional planning manager, and Linda Adams, chief administrative officer for the Islands Trust, asking that:

- no further development be allowed;
- that the current development be required to install all available water conservation systems; and
- protect the additional 800 acres that they wish to develop by using a conservation covenant through the Salt Spring Conservancy or another registered conservation covenant holder.

If there was ever a time to stand up and be counted, this is it. Write to the following and help to protect the natural and rural character of our island home.

SHEILA HARRINGTON,
Salt Spring

Change minds

We've heard a great deal about cell phone towers lately.

I, like any sensible person, am all for improved communications, especially with regards to emergency services.

The question that occurs to me though is why a company like Telus doesn't simply purchase some commercial space and install their equipment? You'd think they would relish the advertising potential of signs proudly declaring "Another cell tower from Telus."

But no, instead they always seem to want to hide their transmitters in the innocent-looking facades of public buildings, like schools, churches and, as on Salt Spring, fire halls.

What's behind this? I believe the answer may lie in the telling point made by a previous Driftwood letter writer. It seems that telephone companies, as deep as their pockets may be, cannot acquire insurance against potential claims of harm resulting from the radiation involved.

Could it be that by having their equipment installed in public buildings, these

companies seek to lessen their own risk by spreading the responsibility onto the shoulders of public or community groups who, innocently or not, approved and accepted payment for the installations?

While it is true that harm has not been proven beyond a shadow of a doubt, it appears that the industry itself lacks certainty of safety.

As I said, I'd like better communications, but my fear is that this is a poorly regulated industry, under the pressures of global competition, which is pushing ahead with technologies that are yet to be made safe.

Nobody should fault our local fire trustees for being attracted to what appears to be a win-win situation, improved communications and a little cash on the top. No doubt it was presented to them by a very accomplished facilitator.

They will be faulted, though, if they maintain their initial positions despite the evident fears of the community.

I would like to add my voice to those urging caution and request that the trustees show the courage to change their minds.

JOHN QUINN,
Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS A11

Island kids get complete education in and out of school

The Gulf Islands School Board, in going for a four-day school week, has both correctly and incorrectly read the people of these islands.

The correct reading is that they're bright, capable, industrious, and creative. They'll adjust, and they'll do it well, whatever the challenges. This is about their kids, after all, and nothing matters more.

The misreading is in the choice the school board felt it had to make, between cutting the infrastructure and cutting instructors. As school board chair May McKenzie said at the Forum on Education Cuts held last week, "In the end, the decision was made to go with the four-day week in order to maintain programs and services for students.

SPRINGBOARD

BY BRENDA GUILDED



"If we had not balanced the budget . . . the ministry would have come in and started laying off teachers. And then who would make the choice about which programs should go?"

The board failed to put its quandary into context, and that's a slap in the face to most islanders. If the board had preserved the full structure of the school and schooling — buildings, maintenance, full week, transportation — parents would then ensure that their children get everything they need from the full, functional setup. Top quality too, that's the kind of people who live here.

Does the school board really believe that if certified, salaried teachers don't supply every program and service, no one will?

Non-teaching staff can go; cutting one-fifth of their work and pay is nothing.

Forcing parents to find an extra day of daycare, which can be difficult logistically, emotionally and financially, is outside of the board's scope. So is the problem of transporting kids whose bus service is cut entirely. And if students, tired from their longer school day, don't do as well at their before and after-school learning — which many families consider as important as their in-school learning — so what?

If the school board had considered all the ways in which families augment their children's education, already filling in programs not offered by the school, they would have realized that they're

good at doing this. Exceptionally good. This place is very special that way.

Instead, the board took the arrogant position that every existing school program should be kept because — and this is implicit in their decision — if they were cut, the community wouldn't make up for them. We'd let our kids down. What the school doesn't offer, no one can or will.

In urban areas, where some parents have kids as accessories to their lives, and others are so booked that schools have trouble finding parent volunteers for anything, this assessment may be a good one. Many urban and suburban schools have to be all things to their students, full-day, full-week parents included, because Mom and Dad are seriously dodging the job.

City school boards wouldn't dare go to a four-day week. The

howl from parents who'd actually have to kick in and be parents for that day, or find someone to fill in, would be unbearable. We're not getting that kind of protest here, because that's not the issue. Island parents are, for the most part, doing their jobs splendidly, and the kids are splendid as a result.

Thus, the school board can get away with what it did. Families will adjust and the kids will thrive.

A better-tuned school board, however, wouldn't have stripped them of the full, complete infrastructure, which the community can't otherwise supply.

They should have trusted that, with all the pieces and days intact, people here would have made sure that the kids get a full, complete education.

mail@bguiled.com

FUN at the FALL FAIR



Megan Colgan is seen with "Kelly."



From left, Nori Outerbridge, Pam Ellacott, Sheila Twa and Carol Walde dress appropriately up for the fair.



Fiddler Amelia Smith is part of the entertainment.



Lucas Parker throws the ball at the grad booth.



Abby Irving has a little snuggle with Rodee.



Keeping pace with the entertainment are drummers Ania Porebska and Mallory Pred.



Mack Rankin is ready with his zucchini racer set to go in Lane 2.



Two zucchini racers are neck in neck as they barrel down the ramp.



Carolyn Mouat and Anne Taylor work behind the scenes, helping organize 150 fall fair trophies.



Fairgoers check out the fair's photography display.

Below, Genevieve Milner enjoys candy floss.



Alan Moberg (centre) is among those trying to keep dry.



Richard Krieger sells balloons to raise money for grad.



Mike Lane and sheep dog Mario work the sheep for fair spectators.

Derrick Lundy photos



Pie ladies Audrey Cottrell and Margaret Reid tempt passers-by.



Youngsters whiz by as they spin around on one of the rides.

More letters

Let's build it

Optimism abounds as the Capital Regional District board has given the go-ahead for a November 20 referendum vote and has specified that we are using the funds, if the vote is in favour, to build an indoor swimming facility.

The facility would include a 25-metre main tank, a leisure pool and a hot tub, with provision for future additions in the plans. We need your "YES" vote to make this happen!

The final calculations are now at hand for the cost of the indoor swimming facility and it appears that with reductions aimed at lowering the operating costs, and modifications to the pool design, we have something which Ssplash supports and urges the community to support as well.

The final cost per \$100,000 of property value is \$23.03. When reflecting on this figure and doing our own tax calculations we need to remember that this figure is the "worst-case scenario."

Worst-case scenario means the figure reflects our current financial situation; without any of the following possible intervening events: receipt of the \$2-million federal-provincial infrastructure grant, receipt of other types of government funding such as grants for disability access, other donations from the community and further fundraising activities by Ssplash.

It also does not include the decrease in costs that can occur by community members donating time, equipment and materials for the project.

To date we have received offers of goods and services to the value of \$28,000. Please reflect on what assistance you may be able to provide. If you have the ability to make a donation, tax receipts are available to the market value of the donation. If you are unable to make a donation of money, goods or services, please consider giving your time. All will be gratefully received.

Any type of donation can be directed to Ssplash at P.O. Box 597, Ganges, or to any Ssplash board member or to me at 537-8718.

I want to thank all of our generous patrons and volunteers to date; every one of

you has made it possible to get to the position we are at now where we can actually vote on a plan that is both feasible and affordable. We need your continued support and help to build an indoor pool on Salt Spring. Contact Ssplash and find out how you can continue to be part of the excitement that will lead up to a "yes" in the November 20 referendum!

DARLENE STEELE,
For the Ssplash board

We'll survive

As a former chairman of the Pender Island Advisory Committee I have been trying to follow the four-day school week decision and debate from 10,000 kilometres away.

The decision to move to a four-day week seemed to me to make sense when it was first broached, and that was a few years ago. Our students were losing some time with necessary appointments off-island, and one day, or at least one afternoon free would seem to solve the problem.

As always, however, a solution is always the cause of another problem, mainly on Salt Spring, I have been told, with the lengthened hours during the week, and the entire day free from school for the students, and consequent problem with day-care for the many parents who work. This is not only a Salt Spring problem.

I still feel that a four-day week is the best solution, especially from an Outer Islands viewpoint, and I do not see, nor understand the hostility towards this proposal that seems to be coming from Pender.

I guess with some distance and time one would expect that one would see things from a different perspective, however, I still believe that a four-day week is the best solution to the Outer Islands dilemma, as well as the financial problems that seem to exist throughout the Gulf Islands, and indeed B.C.

I am presently teaching in a 3,000-student middle school (grades 7-12) on the Island of Hainan in China, and from this perspective the debate that is raging seems pretty petty. When you have classes of 40-68 students (really), and standard conditions and facilities, things like an hour a day added to the class seem

pretty small. I say that while realizing it is easy to draw conclusions from a great distance, but we all claim to speak for the students.

I don't hear the students speaking up, but only the parents, or politically interested spectators. I realize on Pender there is a politically charged atmosphere right now, not only because of the four-day week, and not primarily because of this decision, but people — get a life.

There are more important things going on now than these issues, and in spite of our differences on both the school day and the housing complex zoning, life will go on. The sun will set on Swanson Channel, just as it does here over the Gulf of Tonkin, and another day will begin.

We will all survive, you with your four-day week, and me with my lack of facilities and very large classes.

Let's think of the students' best interests and plan for the future!

ROSS MCKINNON,
Yangpu Experimental Middle School, Yangpu, Hainan, China

It's harmless

X-rays were once given as routinely as Aspirin. Now it is recommended you be careful about how many you have in your life.

Cigarettes were once recommended by doctors for people with breathing difficulties and, of course, were used by anyone who wanted to be seen as "cool" and sophisticated!

General anesthetics were once freely given. Now they are regarded as a very serious procedure to be used carefully.

Not long ago, a deep tan was seen as cool. Now it is regarded by many as foolish. The understanding on these subjects came gradually, and as understanding developed, people's behaviour changed.

Cell technology is different. The information is already here! But it has been hidden.

People in the U.S. are actually in the ridiculous situation that they are breaking the law if they bring up health concerns in a public meeting (Section 704, Telecommunications Act, 1996). How insane is that? How improbable that any industry would have lobbied for that law if they had a safe product?

It is very telling that through this whole debate Telus representatives have never once directly said, "We can prove that it's safe." Nor have they once given the fire trustees information to disseminate that would prove safety.

The simple fact is the radiation is dangerous. We are all part of what two-time Nobel nominee Dr. Robert O. Becker has called "the biggest scientific experiment ever carried out on an unknowing public."

In a few years, I believe we are going to have a similar attitude to cell radiation that we do now to UV and cigarettes. Let's make that process as short as possible to protect our health and that of our children. For a start, let's not have this proposed antenna in the middle of Ganges.

ENID TURNER,
Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS A12



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More letters

Extraordinary

Our tour company, Wells Gray Tours from the interior of B.C., recently had a tour group visit Salt Spring Island.

As sometimes happens, our motorcoach suffered a breakdown, leaving 48 senior passengers and our tour director Lois Cutler stranded between Ruckle Provincial Park and Ganges.

What does not always happen is extraordinary help on the part of local companies and individuals to assist in solving the predicament and get the group on its way.

We would like to extend a thank-you to a number of locals for their help.

First, our guide Charles Kahn for his assistance in finding help.

Next, a special thank you to school bus dispatcher Glynis and happy driver Kyle, who had just finished his school rounds and was able to come to our rescue.

Also, the taxi dispatcher for quick service, and for the many locals who stopped on the road to see if they could help, including Joe Somebody and his tool box.

We very much appreciate everyone's assistance. We will pass on the good deed when we can!

DAWN RUECKL,
Operations manager,
Wells Gray Tours, Kamloops, B.C.

Review OCP

Regarding the issue of

density transfers:

In casting the deciding vote against transferring development potential from a rural uplands property on Sansum Narrows to a rural property at 1375 Isabella Point Road this July, Islands Trust chairman David Essig stated that the whole idea of density transfers on this island needed to be reviewed.

In other words, the island needs a moratorium on density transfers until the implications of this potentially disastrous planning tool are fully understood.

Those of us who opposed this subdivision, and we are not only south-end residents, are thus dismayed to see that it is once again being considered by the Trust, albeit in amended form.

This particular density transfer was primarily turned down by the Trust because of its sensitive environmental position next to the Ecological Reserve.

But even if it were not next to the reserve it should have been rejected at the very beginning of the application process for one simple reason: It blatantly contradicts every objective outlined for density transfers in the OCP, where it is stated categorically that these transfers should: "guide future development into clusters and towards existing or new villages where transportation and services can be most efficiently provided; create

future settlement patterns that reduce dependency on private automobiles; allow for efficient and affordable delivery of public services; and ensure that any higher density areas that are created do not have a negative impact on the rural character or natural environment of the island."

This is not a neighbourhood issue, it is an island issue, and we are prepared to keep fighting.

If this density transfer goes through, even in its amended form, it sets a precedent that will be very difficult to turn around.

If you can add densities to this property, which is inappropriate on all counts, you can add them anywhere.

This subdivision won't help create affordable housing and it won't put people close to services and villages.

It is just the development of one more piece of pristine land for profit.

If you can ignore a protective covenant here, what good is any protective covenant? We all know that the Gulf Islands are threatened by development.

We must insist upon a moratorium on density transfers, and a review of our increasingly out-of-step OCP now, before it's too late.

ELISSA POOLE,
TIMOTHY PICKSTONE,
Isabella Point Road

On-ground cell output stronger than antenna

By PAUL NAAKENS

Fact 1. There has been, is now and will be, a need to be able to use cell phones in and around the Ganges village area. As with all efficient means of communications today, that usage will grow.

Fact 2. Cell-phone coverage is poor in and around Ganges.

Fact 3. All cell phones, handheld portables and car mobiles, are instructed by the base station to raise or lower their transmit power according to quality of service available. If the service quality is poor, the instruction is to go to the highest available power setting.

Fact 4. With the poor service coverage in the Ganges area, handheld and car cell phones would operate at maximum power levels and do so at ground level. Even then the service is spotty, calls are lost and usage times are extended due to poor operation.

Fact 5. Most cell phones today are handheld CDMA types that can vary their base station commanded transmit output levels from 250 milliwatts to 10 milliwatts.

First conclusion: By the installation of a very small central cell base station in the Ganges poor coverage area, a 25-time reduction of transmitted cell-phone signal, radiated at ground level, can be achieved. In terms of radiation discussions, reducing ground-level radiation should receive the first consideration. That's where people live!

Here are some things to consider regarding the proposed base station in the fire hall.

- Install a very small cell-phone repeater base (CRB) in central Ganges. The proposed unit has a maximum output of eight watts that transmits only the amount of power needed at any given time, which is determined by the number of active users. Proper design would dictate that maximum power (eight watts) would be more than required for dependable equipment life. Actual trans-

IN DEPTH

mit power would be from 1.5 watts (idle mode) to four to five watts with a number of active daytime users.

- Hook the CRB to an antenna well above the ground level with an all-around, omni signal pattern aimed at the horizon. The proposed antenna, which will be mounted about 50 feet above ground level, has a six-decibel (dB) horizontal gain which squeezes the thickness of the signal pattern quite flat like a pancake, aimed at the horizon, in order to distribute the level of signal at ground level at any given distance point within the calculated required coverage area.

The simple mathematics rule "double the radius — four times the area" and the obverse of that rule — "the inverse square law" — applies to the reducing level of expanding radiating signals.

- With the above-proposed equipment specified, it is now possible to calculate the radiated power at the height of the antenna. It is important to note the difference of height of the antenna versus ground level. This is called "vertical separation." Vertical separation from a 6dB horizontal gain antenna is quite high and if a person stood on the ground on the fire hall parking lot, the transmitter power received there would be about 800 times weaker (and the cell phone in his hand would be operating at only 10 milliwatts as it would be throughout the Ganges area).

As the pancake-shaped signal leaves the antenna, it provides a small amount of ground level signal as it spreads out to the limits of its design coverage area. This then is the idea of a cell; small CRBs giving coverage within a limited area at low powers.

- Health Canada has published a Safety Code 6, which applies to safe usage of radio signals. The proposed CRB

with its low power application is well below the Code 6 specs. Although individuals will possibly disagree with the established code, an installation with levels well below the code can only be assumed to be easier to live with. Accordingly, the graph, called "the radical plot of power density," shows that, at a 50-foot level, in other words, the same horizontal level as the antenna and at about 50 feet distance, the power of the signal at maximum output of the transmitter is at 0.02 per cent or 47 times lower than the Code 6 spec.

At ground level it would be several hundred times less than that as per the "vertical separation." At 250 feet from the fire hall, still at the same level of the antenna and 50 feet up, the signal is now at .006 per cent of the Code 6 spec; or 200 times less and much lower than that at ground level.

- Using the above facts (based on mathematics and laws of physics, not statistics!), one can see that the radiated level from the proposed fire hall CRB at the maximum transmitter output of eight watts into the six dB gain antenna to a person standing in the fire hall parking lot would be 0.06 watt, a level that would normally never be reached.

Even so, it can be seen that just one person using a cell phone on the same spot today would be radiating a 0.250 watt signal from his handheld cell-phone — 400 per cent more!

During the daytime, several people would be using cell phones simultaneously in the area and it can be readily determined that the proposed fire hall cell-phone base station would solve several problems, not the least of which is reducing the level of radiation at ground level in central Ganges.

The writer ran an electronics and communications business for 35 years in Winnipeg before retiring to Salt Spring. He also points out that he passed Grade 8 math, where some of the above principles are learned.

Spirit of Salt Spring

Li Read recognizes Great Kids of Salt Spring



JOEL EDDINGTON



KATRINA VILLADSEN



GEOFFREY CRONIN



ROB CRONIN



BRADLEY CRONIN



MICHELLE MCBRIDE



CLEA MIHALIK



JUSTINE WATKINS



ADAM MOROZ

The Spirit of Salt Spring is a regular feature in the Driftwood for local businesses and organizations to publicize charitable donations.

First-come, first-served basis as space permits.

Call Penny for details.

Call Li Read first
Email: islands@liread.com
Website: www.liread.com

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Driftwood
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BURNING RESTRICTIONS

Effective Immediately

- Small Hand Piled Burn Piles will be permitted.
- Small hand piles are no larger than 4 feet high and 6 feet in diameter.
- Only one pile may be burnt at one time.
- Machine piled piles will not be allowed until October 1 at the earliest.
- Burning permits are required for all types of burning until October 15, 2004.



Salt Spring Island Fire Department

www.saltspringfire.com **537-2531**

More letters

Moratorium

Late in the 1980s, an international company considered opening a mine on Salt Spring. Over 500 citizens rose up in horror and created the Island Watch Society, which, with other factors, was able to defeat the proposal.

The society continued on with the task of monitoring local adherence to the "protect and preserve" mandate of the Islands Trust, during which time I became its president. In the late '90s, the Island Watch Society was superseded by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy.

And the "watching" continued — with mounting dismay. The ingenuity of developers to squeeze maximum opportunity from what appear to be adequate and sensible restrictions is truly amazing. I suspect that you are familiar with them: dumping landfill into Ganges Harbour to increase the area for buildings; time shares and fractional ownership to entice potential buyers of condominiums; density transfers to locations which were never contemplated in the OCP; proposals to modify standing land covenants which would increase land available for development; projects begun in advance of obtaining permits, with subsequent attempts to gain retroactive permission; infringement on designated wetlands and aboriginal archaeological sites; and so on. Many of us are beginning to feel "under siege." Moreover, present evidence leads us to suspect that we can only expect more of the same unless the nature of future development is altered.

If the mandate of the Islands Trust is to mean anything in the future, I submit that we need a pause now — a temporary moratorium on all development, so that pressing questions can be answered.

Are the Gulf Islands a legitimate locale for a permanent and carefully regulated rural residential segment of British Columbia? With intense population pressure on the Lower Mainland, what kind of density controls make sense in the islands? What form of land policing is necessary to monitor and regulate appropriate development? What ways are there of fixing land values to avoid the area becoming a ghetto of the rich, and so that "average" Canadians could consider living here?

I submit that these and similar questions need answering now, and that adequate time to do so can be obtained through a temporary moratorium on all development.
BOB WILD,
Hedger Road

Lousy back-up

The one reason the fire trustees state for wanting the proposed fire hall cell antenna is as an emergency back-up system for radio dead-spots or breakdown. Most of the island does not have reliable cell coverage.

In the parts that do, signal intensity is so-so, and the signal is easily broken by being inside a building or vehicle. In other words, our current cell coverage is completely useless as an emergency back-up — the coverage is far worse than their radio system. Having cell as a reliable back-up necessitates the build-up of an extensive network of antennae covering every part of the island. So much for the idea that it's only one antenna and the intensity will stay at the initial level.

Incidentally, those of us studying this technology and its unintended health effects, have never seen an instance where a base station radiation output has remained low. IROCA phoned Telus and a senior official freely admitted that the normal process is to increase the number of antennas — and the intensity of signal once the first one is in.

We all know Telus wants one thing — profit. It's a simple business decision based on usage. Increased coverage equals increased usage equals increased revenue — that's the formula for ever-increasing electromog that will threaten your health and that of your children.

An emergency-only cell antenna in the fire hall would not substantially improve contact with firefighters. Non-cellular, lower-frequency options must be investigated instead. With all our hills and valleys, cell coverage would only work as a safety back-up if we were as irradiated as Europe. We can see from their experience with growing "electrical allergies" and whole populations falling sick in the vicinity of transmitters, that this is not a viable option.

Europe is about 10 years ahead in the roll-out of wireless technologies, and this is impacting people's health so severely that in Sweden you can get worker's compensation and time off for Electrical Hypersensitivity Syndrome. So what do they know that we don't?

Besides actually being useless as a back-up, an "emergency-only" cell antenna in the fire hall is a potential Trojan Horse that could be activated as a full-time polluter at the flick of a switch.

This is what the community is rejecting.
CHRIS ANDERSON,
For IROCA

RANTS & ROSES

RANTS

Rants to Brian from the Conservancy booth . . . you said the bench would be mine! (P.S. Congrats to Kathleen Mouat). Kim Hunter

ROSES

A big thank you to Eddie, who again this year helped out by directing traffic and assisting in loading the buses at the Visitors Information Centre on fair day. John Myers

Roses to Sisters Waters and Whittemore and to Brothers Taylor, Dean, Jensen and McMurray, all missionaries with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, who have twice freely come to help me remove broom from my property. Roses also to the Salt Spring Conservancy and Brian Smallshaw for providing the amazingly efficient broom-remover equipment. JC

A "huge" rose to all the sponsors, volunteers and especially to our neighbours for their patience and support of the 3rd annual "After Fair" Affaire. After Fair Committee and GI AIDS Society.

A huge bouquet of blooming roses to Gulf Islands Brewery for supplying the beer for the fall fair beer garden and especially to Murray for the hard work he put into making it happen, and for all those band members who volunteered their time. SSCB

Dozens of long-stemmed roses to Ellen Garvie for all of her work in the community, particularly over the past two years with the Community Economic Development Project. Your vision, perseverance and dedication have been inspirational. Thank you so much! CED Project staff

Roses to those participants at the fall fair who treat their animals humanely, whether they are sheep, goats, pigs, cattle or llamas.

Roses to a very pleasant and understanding young man named Norm from U-Haul for understanding my requests. Good on you. BN

A three-year-old handful of red roses to Sam at Embe Bakery for always making me feel like the most special little man in your bakery world. Love two cheese sticks.

A family-size handful of pink roses for Martie, for always putting your family first and giving the grandchildren a great role model to look up to. Thanks for everything. SRRR

A large bouquet of old-fashioned roses to Barb Woodley for creating such a welcoming array of flowers in the tubs, window boxes and Maria's Memorial at Salt Spring Elementary School. What a lovely welcome to all the kids and parents alike!

Salt Spring Elementary PAC offers a dozen long-stemmed roses to Mike Miles and Kathleen Mouat for donating to this week's afternoon snack program at the school.

Roses to Sebastian at GVM for finding and turning in my wallet left in a Pharmasave basket, and to Wendy Duke for contacting me. My heart sings with appreciation for your honesty. ES

Roses to all those people who stopped to offer and give aid when I had a disagreement with my scooter. Between the paramedics and hospital staff, I was well taken care of. PB

Many bouquets of roses and heartfelt thanks for the ambulance crew and the team at Lady Minto Hospital for the wonderful care you gave us on September 10. R&B S.

Roses to the Vesuvius Crofton ferry crew. E&L H.

I would like to offer roses to the kind soul who found my wallet in the parking lot at Thrifty's on Monday and turned it in to the cashier. This saved me a lot of trouble and consternation. Honest people are rare in most parts of the world but not on Salt Spring Island. I am very grateful. JT

Roses to all 331 people who signed up for the One Tonne Challenge at the Fall Fair. MP and EW

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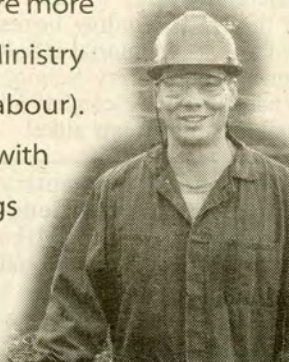
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Health: 114,673

**Accommodation, Food
and Recreation (Tourism):** 158,319

Technology: 71,255

Transportation: 61,299

Agriculture: 8,559

All Other Sectors: 508,607

Source: Roslyn Kunin & Associates, Inc.,
2010 Labour Demand Analysis



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ISLAND WHEELS



SHOW CAR: Joan Werner's 1982 Rabbit runs on biodiesel made by Werner or straight used vegetable oil acquired from island restaurants. The Salt Spring Bio-fuels group mounted a display at the Salt Spring Fall Fair over the weekend.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg

Fair-goers get the basics on biodiesel fuel system

By GAIL SJUBERG
Staff Writer

Tucked into the rows of classic and antique cars at the Salt Spring Fall Fair last weekend was a humble-looking, grey, 1982 Volkswagen Rabbit.

But this car had a moral edge over its fine-looking company: it runs on biodiesel and/or vegetable oil.

Since March, Joan Werner has been running the Rabbit on the environmentally friendly alternate fuels, sometimes mixing biodiesel with petroleum, and she's pleased with the results.

"It's not a perfect fuel, but it's way better than petroleum," said Werner at the fair.

Both the car's mileage and its power seem the same as when it ran on diesel, she said, and mechanic Axel Dollheiser has also been impressed with the car's performance.

Robin Annschild is chair of SSI-BioFuels, a group dedicated to promoting the alternate fuels.

"The benefit of biodiesel is that it can be used directly in existing diesel fuel systems.



UNDER THE HOOD: A tank to hold vegetable oil has been added to the Rabbit's inner workings. No modifications are required to run the car on biodiesel.

Photo by Gail Sjuberg


It is also possible to use waste vegetable oil directly in diesel engines with some modifications to the vehicle, whether it's a car or boat engine," said Annschild.

With the Rabbit hood up at the fall fair display, it was easy to see the additional red vegetable oil "tank," plus samples of biodiesel Werner makes herself.

According to the National Biodiesel Board (NBB)



based in Missouri, "biodiesel is nontoxic, biodegradable and essentially free of sulfur and aromatics. Biodiesel offers similar fuel economy, horsepower and torque to petroleum diesel while providing superior lubricity. It significantly reduces emissions of carbon monoxide, particular matter, unburned hydrocarbons and sulfates."


BIODIESEL A16



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BIODIESEL

From Page A15

Even burning biodiesel mixed with regular gasoline benefits the environment, notes Werner.

"Biodiesel mixes really well with petroleum so you can cut your emissions."

As one might imagine, it's also less expensive than gasoline.

"It costs me about 55 cents per litre to make biodiesel," said Werner.

Used vegetable oil from Salt Spring restaurants can currently be acquired for free, since the businesses must pay for its disposal otherwise.

Werner said she knows of a handful of people using the fuels in one way or another, including some commercial operators.

SSI-BioFuels held workshops and demos earlier this year, and more activities may be in the offing.

Anyone interested in biodiesel issues or how-to information is invited to join the group, which presently meets at Werner's home on Wednesday evenings.

More information can also be obtained from Annschild at 653-0039.

Environmentally minded individuals are not the only ones investigating biodiesel.

On September 9, Chrysler Group announced its intention to use a five per cent blend of biodiesel in its new Jeep Liberty Common Rail Diesel sport-utility vehicle.

The NBB reports that more than 400 major commercial fleets use biodiesel in the U.S., and some 300 retail filling stations make blends available to the public.

Biodiesel has been used in Europe for quite some time, notes Werner.

She recommends a book called From the Fryer to the Fuel Tank, The Complete Guide to Using Vegetable Oil as an Alternative Fuel, by Joshua Tickell and Kaja Roman.

"It tells you everything you'd want to know."

Even more exciting is research being done on transforming algae into oil.

"That's very hopeful," she said. "You don't want to be using food plants for fuel."

In the most ideal of worlds, fuel could even be made from otherwise pernicious plants cultivated strictly for that purpose.

"I'm hoping broom could be turned into oil," said Werner, with a smile.



HOT ROD: Brennan and Rob Peters hang out with their 1910 White Roadster — just one of the old-time cars on display at last weekend's Salt Spring Fall Fair.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

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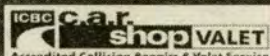


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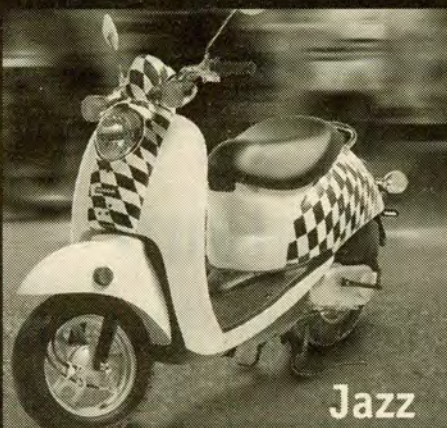
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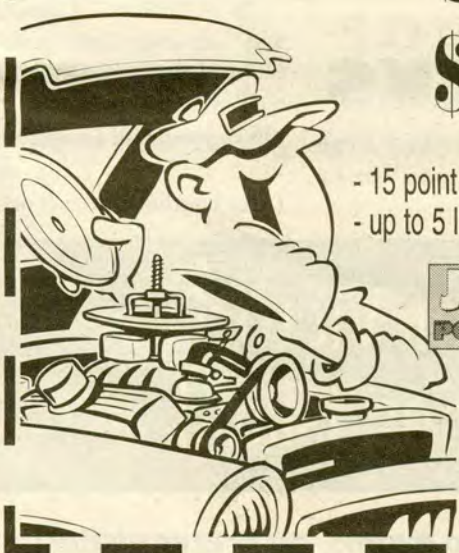
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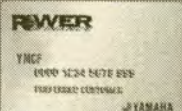
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Locals conquer lake race

Salt Spring Islanders Dawn Hogarth and Caroline Rowley spent several hours of their Saturday running and walking around Cowichan Lake.

From a field of 600 people in the 56-kilometre Great Lake Walk, Hogarth ran the route and finished 18th overall and second among women. Her time was 6:30:00.

Rowley walked the race in a time of 8:43:00, placing 73rd overall.

Rowley said the race began at 5 a.m. from Youbou, with headlamps and flashlights deemed necessary since the logging road is covered with potholes.

"Residents of the tiny town stood in their PJs at the end of driveways to cheer walkers on in the dark."

Rest stops were set up every five kilometres, with different local groups providing water, power drinks, sandwiches and treats.

"The 28-kilometre half-way checkpoint is a big deal," said Rowley. "It's here you can have stuff like new socks and dry clothes shuttled from the start line. They also serve hot soup."

Average time to complete the walk is about 11 hours, she said, with the last of the walkers coming in after 15 hours.



KARATE KATA: Young students Racheal Dixon and Harrison Johnson (at left) block imaginary opponents during Traditional Martial Arts classes held at All Saints By-the-Sea.

Photos by Mitchell Sherrin

Salt Spring golfers survive 'monsoon' at Coquitlam provincial disc competition

Rain and re-organization washed a small contingent of islanders out of the competition at the B.C. Provincial Disc Golf Championships over the weekend.

"No islanders finished anywhere. None of us were in the money," said Salt Spring Island Disc Golf Association president Scott Chapman.

The event was held at Mundy Park in Coquitlam on Saturday and Passive Park in Langley on Sunday.

"It was survival. We must have had four inches of rain during the day on Saturday," Chapman said.

"It was 10 hours of golf . . . It was raining the entire time."

Due to a low turnout (with a 98 total), the Open Pro Women and Amateur Women's divisions were com-

bined to leave islander Tanya Van Ginkel competing out of her league, he said.

"They did the same thing to Ted [Hickford]. His division collapsed so they put him in Open Masters instead of the Grand Masters."

Similar fortunes fell to Mike Boughton and Eric Vanderwekken, who were registered in the wrong division.

But Braiden Simmonds registered in a tougher division on purpose, Chapman said.

"Eric Vanderwekken and Mike Boughton ended up there by accident and this kid played it at age 12 . . . A lot of people noticed that he was playing way over his grade and they were impressed," said Chapman.

Simmonds had previously surprised competitors this

summer when he finished the nationals with a score that would have won several different divisions.

During last weekend's provincials, Boughton placed 16 out of 34 in the Advanced division. He would have placed fourth if he'd played in his intended division, but he still enjoyed the experience.

"It was awesome except for the monsoon on Saturday," said Boughton.

"Mundy Park was muddy park."

Salt Spring's Van Ginkel was recognized for her work as the local Duck Golf tournament organizer at a B.C. Disc Sports Society banquet Saturday, Chapman noted.

Locals can compete in the upcoming singles disc-golf tournament at Mouat Park at 10 a.m. on Sunday.

Winning bridge players named

On September 6, Ian Thomas and Conhor Vane-Hunt laboured mightily to achieve first place, followed by Jennifer Quick and Gillian Mouat, who also took Labour Day quite serious-

BRIDGE TRICKS

ly, as did third-place Irene Hawksworth and Terry Wilkinson.

On September 13, Thomas and Vane-Hunt came in first. George and Flo Laundry were second. Hawksworth, playing with Jill Evans, took third, and Jean Elder and Lynn Thorburn were fourth.

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Opening Nights

Instructor: Mikki Reintjes, M.Mus.

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Fee: \$69.55 (includes 4.55 GST)

The Romantic Piano

Instructor: Mikki Reintjes, M.Mus.

Date: Saturdays, October 16 and 23; November 6 and 13: 1 to 3 pm, 4 sessions

Fee: \$69.55 (includes 4.55 GST)

Writing the Memoir

Instructor: Lorraine Gane, B.A.

Date: Saturdays, November 13 and 20: 10 am to 5 pm, 2 sessions

Fee: \$171.20 (includes \$11.20 GST)

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Instructor: Chris Mundigler,

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Varsity football squad trounce Armada but fall to Vanier

By JOHN FOLEY

Driftwood Contributor

The Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) Scorpions junior varsity football team posted a win and a loss in its first two games of the season.

On Saturday the squad had a tough game against G.P. Vanier from Courtenay.

Vanier scored on the opening drive and the Scorpions answered back with a long drive with good runs by Taylor Stibbards and Mike Windsor.

Myles Teagle finished the drive with a one-yard quarterback sneak. The defence held Vanier and then tackled the punter and took over the ball on the 20-yard line.

Scorpions offence got nowhere on three downs but they went for it on fourth down.

Travis Bantel made a great run for the major score. Windsor ran in the convert for two points and the Scorpions went to the half up 14 to 12.

The Scorpions would



regret being stopped twice in the first half inside Vanier's 15-yard line due to a series

of miscues and penalties. Early in the half, Vanier was forced to punt and Ban-

tel made an electrifying 70-yard run to make the score 22 to 12. Vanier answered

back quickly to make the score 22-20 Scorpions. Vanier would rally in the fourth quarter for 22 points for a final 42 to 22.

In a gruelling, hard-hitting game, the small Scorpions roster just ran out of gas.

For their season opener the previous week, the team travelled to Port Alberni to avenge last year's loss to the Armada team.

The Scorpions defence was solid right from the get-go, allowing the Armada only three first downs throughout the game. Angus Fraser, Windsor and Dan Foley led the team in tackles, but it was a true team effort as Terry Copper, Stephen Portingale, Sebastian Banks and the rest of the defence all made tackles. Newcomer Chris Abbott notched a sack and a tackle. Banks also made three key pass knockdowns.

Tackle of the game goes to Ian Barrett, who sent an Armada player twice his size somersaulting to the ground. Smack of the game goes to Dan Foley for a crushing hit

on the Armada quarterback.

The offence tallied for 35 points. Stibbards led the offence in rushing with 135 yards and two touchdowns.

Windsor pounded down the middle for a total of 83 yards and two touchdowns.

Bantel bolted 62 yards from a Teagle handoff for the major score.

John Foley put together three long scoring drives from the quarterback position and showed great toughness making the plays when the Armada player was sure he had him down.

Myles Raposo exhibited great line work, and Mike Shipley, Gareth H. Butler, Dan Foley, Tyler Massey and Copper were true keys to the team's success.

Final score was GISS 35, Port Alberni 2.

Any kids in grades 6-10 who want to play football should call John Foley at 537-0083.

The Scorpions' next game is on Thursday, September 23 at 3 p.m. at the high school lower field against Cowichan Thunderbirds.

FORWARD FOCUS: Taylor Stibbards drives through G.P. Vanier defenders as the Scorpions suffer a 42-22 loss Saturday at Gulf Islands Secondary School.

johncameron.ca

Adults, juniors needed for golf event

An annual tournament that benefits Salt Spring's young golfers is set to run this year on Saturday, October 2.

The Richard Vermeulen Memorial Cup Golf Fun Day matches four adults golfers with a junior player at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club, and a barbecue dinner and awards presentations are held afterwards.

"We put a junior member of the club onto each team and it's like an introduction for a lot of them on how to play in a tournament," explained event coordinator Shelly Vermeulen.

Besides supporting the club's junior program, proceeds go to an annual scholarship awarded to a graduating Gulf Islands

Secondary student.

"It's great for the kids and the junior program has really really benefitted from putting this tournament on," said Vermeulen. "The club has lots of kids involved and Rich Ingle, who was running it for the past couple of years, has just gone on to enter the Canadian tour."

People can enter as a team of four or individually, and will be placed with other golfers to form a foursome.

Advance registration is preferred but not mandatory, and forms are available at the clubhouse.

Vermeulen praised the generosity of all those who participate, including Salt Spring business owners.

"A lot of the local busi-

nesses contribute with prizes. They have been really generous over the last couple of years."

Last year's scholarship winner was Brook Speed.

Cost for golf and dinner is \$75, which includes a chance at great prizes. People can also enjoy dinner only, with a portion of proceeds going to the junior golf fund.

Juniors do not pay. "They are the honoured guests of the day, in essence."

Vermeulen hopes to see a good turnout for the event, which is usually blessed by good weather.

"It's always a great day and lots of fun at the banquet," she said.

For information, call Vermeulen at 537-4010.

GOLF TEES

Gladys Campbell and Maxine Whorley won the partner's relay event among the ladies 18-hole league at the Salt Spring Island Golf and Country Club on September 14.

The winning team netted an 80.5.

A runner-up team of Heather Lawlor and Darlene Wellington netted an 81.

Among the men, Warner Woodley won medal play with a net 71 on September 12.

Newly promoted team sheds "reserves" name

In recognition of promotion to a new division, Salt Spring FC's Division-5 team shed their "Reserves" name to kick off the new season.

"We are priding ourselves on being the Salt Spring Football Club. We are just the Division-5 instead of the Division-1 team," said team manager Mike Brown.

"We are trying to avoid the cliché of being second string. We feel proud to stand on our own."

The team will discuss possibilities for a new name at practice this week, Brown said.

Tied in their last match against the Victoria Athletics on September 12, the Div.-5 squad did not play over the weekend.

"We chose instead to take part in the fall fair and control the flow of traffic."

They next face Gorge FC at Hampton Park on Sunday.

FC PLAYER PROFILES



Name: Jesse Fisher
Number: 5
Position: Defender/Midfield
Age: 34
Years played for FC: 7
Youth Program: Oak Bay
Employer/Occupation: Woodworker
Favorite Player: Deigo Maradona
Football Honours (winning teams, or awards):
 Five Time Salt Spring Tournament Champions,
 FC Provincial Champs 2002,
 2 Time Challenge Cup Champs 2000/2002,
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Favorite Football Memory:
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Bring in your photos of WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf Wars & Peacetime



- Honor the memory of those who served any county
- Photos will be returned
- A joint project with Royal Canadian Legion Br. 92

Deadline to submit
October 22

537-9933
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328 Lower Ganges Road
 Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2V3

Gulf Islands
Driftwood
 YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960

FC runs dry in 1-0 match against Port Alberni club

A late goal deflated FC Division-1 hopes to earn points during a 1-0 road-trip loss to Port Alberni Sunday.

"We didn't really play all that well," said FC Div. 1 captain Chris Jason.

Following a loss to Gordon Head last week, Salt Spring expected a win against the newly promoted Alberni Athletics, he said.

"What really sucks is that they were a bad team and we lost to them. They didn't have a lot of skill at all. They are basically a Div.-2 team. They are the ones who came up last year."

FC pressured Alberni throughout the game without success.

"We basically controlled

most of the game and we were in their end most of the time but we really didn't get any quality-scoring chances. Their keeper played pretty well and gobbled up any loose garbage that was laying around."

The Athletics scored in the last 10 minutes of the game, he said.

"Late in the game, we were pressing and they punched one through."

But Salt Spring keeper Jonathan McDonald played well, Jason said.

FC's Jordan Haenen and Tyler Laitinen both had strong games.

"I thought [Haenen] was one of our better players on the field, for sure. He just

came back and tackled hard. He was really energetic and he loosened up a little bit, instead of being tight the way he was [last season]."

Veteran players Dion Hackett and Jesse "Fish" Fisher both commented on strong play from Laitinen, said Jason.

Fisher had to sit out the game with a red card from last week's play.

"According to Fish, 'We just ran out of gas.' So on Tuesday [at practice], all we are going to do is run, run, run."

FC Div. 1 will play its first home game of the season versus Bays United Blue, at Portlock Park at 2:15 p.m. on Sunday.



New Bays task Old Boys

An upgrade to the Bays United squad gave the Old Boys a 3-3 surprise at Gulf Islands Secondary School on Sunday.

"Bays are a much better team than they were last year. We were maybe a little lax at times thinking they would be a push-over," said Old Boys manager Mike Davis.

Bays United led 2-0 at the half before islanders Mike Brown, Mike McCormick and Doug Pearson each scored in succession after the intermission.

"Doug's shot was a really good goal. I think it was with his left foot. It was a cracker of a goal."

But Bays tied the match late in the game.

"A questionable call by the referee gave the other team a penalty shot to tie it up."

Old Boys keeper Jim Witherspoon did a consistent job in net, Davis said.

"He's staying true to his form of just allowing three goals per game."

The islanders' home game for next week has been cancelled since Sooke wasn't able to field a team.

PROSPECT WIN: Chris Cottrell drives the ball during a Salt Spring Old Boys 4-3 win on home turf over Prospect Lake two Sundays ago. This week, the team took on Bays United and came out with a 3-3 tie.

johncameron.ca

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ON THE VINE TOMATOES 2.18kg 99¢/lb	BC FANCY MCINTOSH APPLES 1.74kg 79¢/lb	GREEN GIANT POTATOES 64kg 29¢/lb

HELP! HELP!
The call has gone out again from the Saanich Peninsula Hospital. Last year on the behalf of our generous suppliers & faithful customers we donated a hydraulic patient lift called a "Barbie". This equipment has reduced nurses back injuries dramatically. Now they need another ceiling & rail mounted lift and we hope with your help & patronage to donate this gift.

Minute Maid, Pepsi, Nestle, Unico, Johnson, Quaker, Mott's, Sun-Rype, Kraft, Robin Hood, Campbell's, Puritan, Mevitt's, Tetley, Carriage Trade, Dare, MJB, Coca-Cola, Nabisco, Heinz, P&G, McCain, Quaker.

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SUNNYE JUICE 4/5.00	Royal City Fruit Cocktail 300g box 77¢	Maple Leaf Packed Turkey 34g ea 1.48	Campbell's Ready to Eat Soup 2/3.00	Canzoni Chick Peas 156g tin 78¢	Puritan Irish Stew 510g box 1.69	Ziploc 2.79	VIVA Regular 99¢

Heritage Place

A project by Long Harbour Ventures Ltd., Designed by Robert Hassell Associates Ltd., Constructed by Joe Toutant Construction Ltd.

Heritage Place is a retirement village for Seniors consisting of 5 residences, connected by covered walkway, on a beautiful sunny 2 1/2 acre site conveniently located adjacent to Lady Minto Hospital and the Seniors' Centre. Each wheelchair-friendly residence will offer 9 self-contained ground level patio suites located around a central common area consisting of lounge, dining room and kitchen. The west coast residential design of the buildings and lush landscape will ensure a home-like atmosphere. A House Manager will live on the upper level of each residence and will be responsible for the coordination of services in that residence.

The monthly rental will include the following hospitality services:
An evening meal
Weekly linen laundry
Weekly housekeeping
24 hr. response system

There are 3 suite models to choose from in each residence:
Studio; 1 Bedroom; 1 Bedroom & Den

Rents range from \$1750 to \$2500 per month all-inclusive for one person, with an additional charge of \$350/month for a second person sharing the suite.

The first residence will be ready for occupancy late Spring 2005. Another residence will be completed approximately every 4 months thereafter until the village of 5 buildings is complete.

Reservations are now being taken.

For more information and an introductory package, please contact:
Donna Regen
Office/Pager 537-1201