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# Driftwood

## Ridge development control limited

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Staff Writer

Chords of distrust vibrated through a "community participation" meeting on the Channel Ridge village development when about 100 people piled into Lions Hall last Wednesday.

Trust staff, consultants and professional members of the Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. (CRPL) team answered a stream of questions, with CRPL promising to proceed with environmental sensitivity and care.

Suspicious community

members urged the Local Trust Committee (LTC) to secure written commitments from the developers in all negotiations.

"Make sure all your conditions are in writing," warned former islands trustee Grace Byrne, who was in office

during the Bullock Lake fiasco of the mid-1990s.

"Don't trust them for a minute."

But through the day it became increasingly clear how little direct control the LTC has on several substantive issues.

When it comes to ensuring adequate water supply and the mandated installation of water-saving devices in the village, it's up to the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

CHANNEL RIDGE A2

### THIS WEEK'S INSERTS

- Ganges Pharmasave
- Mouat's Home Hardware
- Thrifty Foods
- Ganges Village Market
- Pinnacle Pizza
- Lifestyle Markets
- Better Business Bureau

Arlene for Mortgages  
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### Birthday party

Salt Spring celebrated Canada Day in style. See photos, Page A10, A20



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### Weather

Mainly sunny with variable cloudy periods marks the forecast for the next five days. Highs to 22 C Thursday to Saturday; overnight lows to 10 C tonight (Wednesday).

## Concert draws hot acts

By MITCHELL SHERRIN  
Staff Writer

Islanders have drawn major talent and international attention about the Crofton pulp mill by arranging a benefit concert featuring Randy Bachman, Tal Bachman, Neil Young and the Bare-Naked Ladies.

Salt Spring's Randy Bachman kicked off the idea to hold the Clean Air Concert after he became concerned about emissions from the Norske Canada pulp mill in Crofton.

"We just all want to work together. We want some guidelines. We need it to be cleaned up so we can live happily ever after in this paradise," Bachman said.

He first became concerned about the Crofton pulp mill when he attended a community meeting about an alternative fuels trial for the mill several months ago.

"I sat in the audience numb and stunned at the stories coming from different people in Crofton."

Bachman learned that the mill hoped to burn tires, coal and railway ties as supplemental fuels and he asked local organic farmer Michael Ableman how he could help the Crofton Airshed Citizen's Group (CACG).

"I went to see my dear old friend Neil Young and he was performing this project he's got called Greendale, which is part of a dream he had about an organic farmer fighting a big pollution-making mill and the government and all the hassles he's had."

CONCERT A3



OUT OF SCHOOL AND INTO THE LAKE: James Cameron, left, and Devon Banman celebrate hot summer weather and the end of school with an afternoon of swimming at Cusheon Lake.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Bear spooks island sheep, annoys farmer

By MITCHELL SHERRIN  
Staff Writer

A bear cruising around Salt Spring has alarmed some islanders but the animal control officer asks residents to remain calm.

"I'm a conservationist but I'm anti-bear getting into my sheep and into my orchard," said south-ender David O'Flynn.

The island farmer came within 15 feet of a bear when he heard his dog and sheep making strange noises at his home in the Ruckle Park area.

"Somebody should track

this animal down and either dispense with it or tranquilize it and move it elsewhere. This isn't Banff or Jasper, this is Salt Spring Island and this time of year it's crawling with tourists."

O'Flynn fired a shot to scare the animal away from his property and contacted the ranger at Ruckle Park to alert campers.

He also contacted animal control officer, Wolfgang Brunnwieser, of the Capital Regional District (CRD).

"This could be a life and death situation; it's not at the moment but do we wait

until it is before we do something?"

Brunnwieser countered that bears are a natural part of wildlife on the island.

"It's just one of the campers," he said. "At least they don't scream around and they don't yell and they don't have parties."

Brunnwieser believes a bear has been on the island for the past two months. Bear sightings have been reported at Mouat Park, Maracaibo, Vesuvius, Sunset Drive, Central, Burgoyne Bay and Beddis Road.

"Bears are not interested in

livestock. They belong to the same family as pigs so they eat the same stuff as pigs."

He reminded islanders to contain garbage and compost to avoid attracting the bear to human habitations. Obviously, islanders should not corner a bear, wound a bear or approach cubs, he said.

"As long as people are responsible, we won't have a problem."

In the event of a bear sighting, contact the CRD Animal Control Office (537-9414) or the Duncan Conservation Service (1 (800) 663-9453).

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	2200	11.2		1520	8.9
JULY 08	0445	6.2		1800	8.5
	0905	7.2		2330	10.2
	1455	4.6	12	0740	2.6
	2225	10.8		1625	9.5
JULY 09	0540	5.2		1935	9.2
	1115	7.2		2355	9.8
	1540	5.9	13	0815	2.3
	2250	10.5		1710	10.2
JULY 10	0625	4.3		2120	9.5
	1335	7.9			

# Channel Ridge permits not ready yet

Salt Spring trustees have directed Islands Trust planning consultants to finalize draft conditions of approval for both a master development permit and Phase 1 development permit as outlined in a June 24 report.

Local Trust Committee (LTC) members Kimberly Lineger, Eric Booth and David Essig agreed with the substantive permit contents and conditions, although did not agree to reduce required parking for commercial uses from 148 to 134 spaces.

They also deferred consideration of a height variance to accommodate a clock tower that will house telecommunications services.

On the latter issue, Booth said, "I don't feel like I have enough information at this point."

Channel Ridge project manager Thomas Ivanore told the meeting the electromagnetic radiation from the proposed installation was so low that it surpassed any regulations.

Permit details encompass a huge list of items primarily concerning the building design and development layout.

Trust regional planning manager John Gauld cautioned that some permit recommendations "may not survive a

solicitor's review."

Moodie Consultants Ltd. planner Dwight Ecklund also noted that a number of the recommendations were outside of "the strict realm of development permits."

Some issues will fall to the Capital Regional District (CRD) and its building inspection office, which can withhold a building permit if conditions are not met.

Lineger asked regional director Gary Holman if the CRD would be able to pick up stated conditions before a building permit is issued.

He assured Lineger that "we're not going to have a Bullock Lake situation here."

(A lack of communication between the Islands Trust and CRD in the 1990s resulted in the Bullock Lake resort development receiving building permits contrary to the Trust's wishes.)

Gauld cautioned that "the Islands Trust cannot direct the chief building inspector, and neither can an elected official."

"But the CRD Board can," said Holman.

Trustees also passed a motion to formally request a notice be placed on the

Channel Ridge units' title regarding LTC policies on vacation rentals.

A June 4 letter from Ivanore rejected that kind of proposal.

"We are well aware of the existing zoning bylaws and other legal requirements. We do not think it appropriate that a notation on title be required since no other property needs to be registered against title notations as to legal bylaw requirements. The zoning requirements will be noted in the disclosure statement materials as required by the Real Estate Act."

In light of a brief presentation from Wayne Hewitt of the Cusheon Lake stewardship committee on how some FireSmart directives may be damaging to watershed health, trustees removed reference to FireSmart initiatives in a clause on fire prevention plans.

Gauld stressed that the Trust is dealing with the development permits in a preliminary way and that substantially more work will need to be done before they're ready for LTC approval.

The evening meeting followed a public participation meeting on the Channel Ridge development and a regular LTC meeting earlier in the day.

## CHANNEL RIDGE: Little direct control

From Page A1

The Ministry of Transportation has decision-making authority over a secondary access road, but the one-lot strata subdivision plan does not "technically" require one.

And Salt Spring's official community plan (OCP) does not address environmental protection in its Development Permit Area (DPA) 1, which governs island villages.

In his June 24 report to the LTC, planning consultant Jim Moodie — who was hired to act on behalf of the Trust using cost-recovery funds provided by CRPL — notes:

"The fact that DPA1 was not also designated for the "protection of the natural environment, its ecosystems and biological diversity" [Sec.919.1(1)(a) of the Local Government Act] limits the environmental protection conditions that can be imposed by the Trust."

(See story sidebar for a Moodie report excerpt summarizing the lack of regulatory control in general.)

While 90 minutes were allotted for the meeting where people could make statements or ask questions, the crowd early on resisted trustee Kimberly Lineger's direction for people to summarize their concerns rather than read printed submissions in full. As a result, the meeting was extended by another 45 minutes, and the

final few speakers were even heard later in the town hall portion of the regular LTC meeting.

Some people also felt the public should have had more time to digest the June 24 report before a meeting.

Issues raised by community members included the development's demand on the island's water supply, the need for a second road access besides Broadwell Road, public access to trails, a need to demarcate the watershed lands and protect wetland areas, concern about electromagnetic radiation from a wireless transmitter and fractional ownership sales.

How the company handled news about midden sites and other spots of potential archaeological significance was criticized, as was its dealing with the Garry oak habitat. Both prompted detailed back-and-forth discussion between the islanders and company representatives.

Archaeologist Kim Kornbacher and Channel Ridge project manager Thomas Ivanore argued about what kind of archaeological assessment reports had and hadn't been done. A full archaeological impact assessment (AIA) study will now be done by the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management and a dig is set for July 7, said Ivanore.

Jacqueline Thomas, of Salt Spring Islanders for Recon-

ciliation and Justice, asked the LTC to delay issuing the development permit until the AIA was complete and all arising issues resolved.

On the Garry oak issue, Jean Gelwicks said CRPL should have left a vegetative buffer for the Garry oaks and habitat.

CRPL consulting landscape architect Don Vaughan explained that the buffer, which had included Douglas fir habitat considered invasive to the natural Garry oak, will be restored with Garry oak trees and associated species.

"Our approach is to increase the Garry oak and buffer it with more Garry oak."

On how to reduce water consumption, environmental planner Mark Holland said the developer aims for a state-of-the-art rainwater harvesting system, use of highest efficiency water-saving devices and a plan that would see a Channel Ridge unit consume half the water of a regular single family dwelling.

Regarding allegations the company cleared more trees than it said it would, Vaughan said part of that is a sports field area and some represented areas where the Garry oak habitat will be restored.

Salt Spring Island Conservancy president Peter Lamb was concerned about a statement in a June 4 letter from

Ivanore that stated: "The environmental reports we have received suggest that the wetlands are not environmentally sensitive areas needing protection."

Vaughn said Ivanore meant the area "is not fragile and doesn't need protecting, but we will protect it."

Demands for a second access road connecting the village with Sunset Drive were also strong and expressed by speakers John Myers of the Channel Ridge Owners' Association, Ron Martin, Bob Rush and Byrne.

Since an emergency access road must be built — and fire chief Dave Enfield wants a paved surface and no gate — people suggested the secondary access could fill the need for an emergency road too.

Myers in particular criticized the company's plans to sell fractional interests in their units, which is not the same as time share sales but reduces the number of permanent residents living in the village.

"What we now face is a village full of transients who have no permanent ownership of island life but just use the island for a few days or weeks a year."

CRPL was also praised for some of its actions, especially agreeing to provide a statutory right-of-way guaranteeing public use of trails within the 89-acre village area and on the undeveloped lands.

"I would like to applaud Channel Ridge Properties' generous gesture . . . since there is no legal requirement," said Charles Kahn. "They are following the spirit of the law rather than the letter of the law."

He also thanked Moodie and his staff for putting the CRPL commitment in their report. "It's a wonderful support to this community."

At a June 30 evening meeting, trustees gave direction for planners to prepare a development permit as recommended, with some changes to be made. (See

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# CONCERT

From Page A1

Parallels between the two projects captured Young's imagination and he agreed to perform for a benefit. Bachman then called up friends among the Bare Naked Ladies and they also agreed to fly over from their tour in Europe.

"For them to come all the way back over here is a really generous giving back to the people," Bachman said.

Bachman and his son Tal already had booked Duncan's 2,500-seat Cowichan Centre for a September 17 concert date, which worked out serendipitously for their special guests. Tickets will run \$100-200 but tax refunds will be available, he noted.

"We have to have big money for tickets because we're trying to raise money but there will be a tax credit for a big portion of the ticket."

As the CACG spokesman for the event, Ableman hopes the public attention will get the company and government to respond to environmental concerns.

"The first and primary purpose of the concert is to point a very bright spotlight at a problem in the region. That is an industry polluting the air that we live in. I'm looking across at the strait right now and it looks like Los Angeles."

The first step toward cleaning up emissions at the Crofton mill will be to conduct an independent study with a dispersion model that costs approximately \$50,000, he said.

Ableman believes a similar study currently underway for Norske Canada will be biased toward company aims.

Don McKendrick, Norske Canada Crofton division vice president, wants people to know that Norske Canada is attempting to address community concerns. "We were hearing issues, concerns, lack of understanding, emotions feelings, et cetera. We needed to listen better."

They've commissioned an independent environmental study by Jacques Whitford, an international firm with an established reputation, he said.

The baseline study commissioned in March will meet standards set by regulators in the federal government, he said. It includes a dispersion model similar to the type requested by CACG following recommendations from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

A community advisory forum will meet on July 13 to select candidates to conduct an independent peer review of the Norske Canada study.

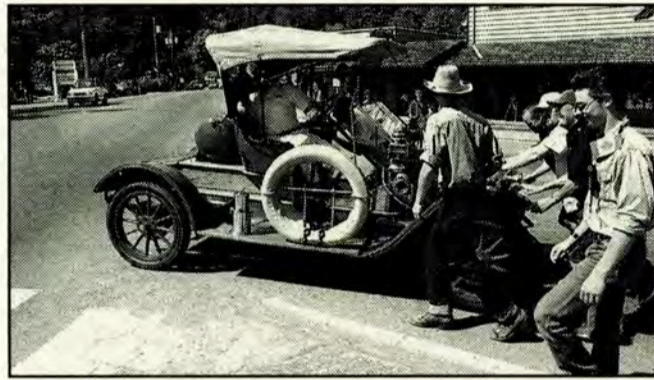
McKendrick believes the company has learned a great deal from the community consultation process overall. "Everyone wants clean air," he said. "I've certainly got no pros or cons against the concert."

Tickets for the September 17 Clean Air Concert go on sale July 16 at the Cowichan Centre.



**CLASSIC CARS:** Some 120 classic cars were featured in a Canada Day classic car show in Ganges. At top Marv Coulthard, left, presents Clare Allen with the "best in show" trophy for his 1956 Jaguar. At right, an almost-100-year-old White gets a little help from her friends.

Photos by Derrick Lundy



## Trust consultant concerned over lack of Ridge control

Following is an excerpt from the June 24 Islands Trust staff report from Moodie Consultants Ltd., describing the limitations of the Trust role in the Channel Ridge development.

"Unfortunately, the relative age of the DPA1 guidelines has proven to be an obstacle in the meaningful assessment and evaluation of the Channel Ridge Village proposal — the DPA1 guidelines have not kept pace with the increasingly more detailed requirements of provincial legislation (especially the Local Government Act). The current DPA1 guidelines do not cover the range of topics that would be necessary in order for Islands Trust to require the rigorous review process that had been originally anticipated.

"Authority and jurisdiction for a number of the technical approvals — water and sanitary sewer service, for instance — rests with outside agencies over which the Islands Trust has no control, only a collegial working relationship. The result is that many of the more technical issues will be resolved as part of the building permit process after the development permit has already been issued.

"The Islands Trust planning consultant is disappointed that the development permit process has not been as robust as initially anticipated and, indeed, had been previously outlined to the Local Trust Committee (as noted above).

"By establishing a comprehensive process at the outset of the review, the

planning consultant was hopeful that the process would identify the issues and related solutions such that the community would feel that their interests had been properly represented. It provides no comfort to the planning consultant to see a project of this size proceed down a somewhat fragmented approvals path involving a number of separate review agencies with the resolution of significant issues being deferred until the building permit process.

"Trustees are cautioned that the discussion and any basis for refusing to issue a development permit must be based on the context of

issues as identified by the DPA1 guidelines.

"In summary, while there are many uncertainties surrounding the application — uncertainties that will not be resolved until the building permit stage — the planning consultant believes that the application, as proposed, reflects a high quality of planning, architecture and community design.

"The obligation for Channel Ridge — and the challenge for Islands Trust and the community — is to ensure the delivery of a high quality village as exhibited in the submissions in the absence of conventional regulatory controls."



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# Trustees clash on vacation rentals issue

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Staff Writer

After a year of thrashing out the role of short-term vacation rentals (STVRs) on Salt Spring, what to do with stand-alone vacation rental homes is the only remaining question.

Trustees Eric Booth and Kimberly Lineger are divided on whether or not to formally propose legalizing up to 50 STVR operations by issuing temporary use permits (TUPs).

Any changes will require official community plan (OCP) and land use bylaw (LUB) amendments that must go through the public hearing process before the current illegal status of the practice is possibly changed.

"There is no community support for non-resident owners to operate vacation

rentals," said Lineger at last Wednesday's Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting. "I have a real problem proceeding to the next step beyond."

Trust regional planning manager John Gauld confirmed there was no way to discriminate against a property owner based on where they lived, but residency of an STVR "operator" could be stipulated as part of the regulations.

Booth said there was little evidence STVRs owned by anybody were having a negative impact and repeated what he called his "mantra" on the issue: "It's a question of scale."

At the LTC's April meeting, trustees agreed to create bylaws for public hearing that would allow people to rent their houses for a one-time period each calendar year; issue TUPs for up to 100 seasonal cottages to be used as a vacation rental and to consider use of seasonal

cottages for affordable housing purposes, while reducing seasonal cottage rights on future-subdivided properties.

But at that point Lineger said she wanted staff to take another stab at the stand-alone vacation rental issue.

Gauld returned with a draft OCP and LUB amendment that would allow the issuance of TUPs (to an island-wide max of 50 at build-out) only if the operator — not necessarily the owner — lived on the property or on Salt Spring Island.

Lineger was disappointed there was no way for islanders to operate a limited number of STVRs while excluding off-island owners from the practice, which she believes is the broad community's wish.

She also felt some STVR owners would operate regardless of any TUP system put in place or fines levied against violators.

"No matter which way

we go, it has to be enforceable. I'm not going to spend taxpayers' dollars on chasing down vacation rentals. . . . I think it is really going to push the limits and our ability to do bylaw enforcement."

But Booth said the enforcement problem will exist even with an outright ban on stand-alones.

Gauld agreed with Booth the challenge would be the same.

"Is it easier to enforce a bylaw to zero — or by TUP to 50? Quite frankly, I don't see the difference."

Both trustees held their original positions.

"I don't agree we should shut out residents just because we can't shut out non-residents," said Booth. "I just haven't seen the evidence that on the scale we are suggesting that this is going to destroy the community."

"Five homes and one property manager — that's not

what the community wants," said Lineger.

In the end she suggested Gauld's report be referred to the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) for comment. However, APC chair Sally John said there was guarantee enough members would be available in the next few weeks.

Lineger also said she wanted to hear from the public about the stand-alone proposal. Copies of the report are available at the Gangneung Trust office.

In the town hall portion of the LTC meeting, islander George Ehring implored trustees to not legalize stand-alones and to accept the APC recommendations presented earlier this year.

Some audience members urged trustees to make a final decision last Wednesday.

The next LTC meeting — set for July 28 — will take another run at the stand-alone vacation home issue.

# Trust turns down density transfer plan

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Staff Writer

A density transfer proposal involving Isabella Point and Sansum Narrows properties was turned down by the Trust last week, with chairman David Essig having to make the deciding vote.

"If we were ever to invoke the precautionary principle to manage sensitive ecosystems, this is it," said trustee Kimberly Lineger.

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC)

was considering whether to transfer four lots of density from a 168-acre Sansum Narrows property owned by Barbara Woodley, David Woodley and Gregg Wiltshire to a 16.3-acre parcel at the corner of Isabella and Maxham roads owned by Hendrik Van Nus and Patricia Hewett.

Lineger said she had resolved her previous discomfort about the restrictive covenant being removed from the Isabella property,

but not the issue of ecological integrity.

Submissions to the June 23 public hearing had really made her think, she said, and particularly the fact the four densities would be moved next to the provincial ecological reserve.

"That has such significance in my mind and I don't want to be party to the subtle encroachment on the ecological reserve."

Lineger said she felt badly for the applicants but added, "I can't find a way to get myself over to the other side."

Booth agreed the decision was not straightforward.

"I understand Kimberly's concerns and probably of all the applications before me in the last year, none were as difficult as this one," he said.

But he felt the "opportunities" — both preservation of the Woodley/Wiltshire property and a covenanted 49-foot ecological reserve buffer — provided by the density transfer had substantial merit.

Without the density transfer all the lands could be clear-cut, he noted.

Booth had also suggested that seasonal cottage rights be removed from the four new lots to reduce the potential impacts.

"The question is, 'will the additional four owners be the only ones having their dogs going through [the ecological reserve] or are they going to be stewards of the reserve?'"

But Lineger stuck to her

guns.

"We're being asked to make a decision that allows us to live up to our mandate," she said.

She also reiterated points made at the public hearing and previous LTC meetings.

Those included suggestions the plan contravened official community plan policies about density transfer because the density receiving area was not close to already developed area and would be difficult to provide services to.

Members of the public also stressed that the receiving property contained sensitive ecosystems that should be preserved, if possible.

Essig, in explaining his decision, said he was persuaded by public hearing arguments that granting the density transfer would set a precedent, nor by "not in my backyard" sentiments.

"But I was persuaded by arguments that the assessment of the receiving property was not complete, that it was closer to being donor property."

He was also affected by suggestions that "we need to look at the use of density transfers as a tool in islands. I'm becoming more convinced that they have a place in urban and semi-urban places but not the Islands Trust area."

Lineger and Booth fought themselves at odds for different topics at the July 30 meeting, on what Booth dubbed "a day of disagreement."

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# Marina back to drawing board

**GAIL SJUBERG**  
Staff Writer

A rezoning proposal for Ganges Marina made a brief appearance at the June 30 Mt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting with a return visit promised for July 28.

A recent Trust staff report commended trustees not to consider the company's new plan for a commercial-residential building on the waterfront and a six-unit multi-family development across the street on another lot owned by the marina company.

"The recent submissions indicate a larger development than staff had anticipated for both sites, as well as new requirements for additional fill beyond areas approved in the 1989 development permit approval for the Ganges boardwalk," notes planner Mark Head's June report.




**SUMMER OLYMPICS:** Billie Zacharius fishes for ducks along with volunteer Gwyn Strike during a day of activities at the Greenwoods Senior Olympics.  
Photo by Jennifer McFee

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As project manager Robyn Kelln stressed at the meeting, the plan is also to create a public waterfront park and complete the boardwalk portion in front of the marina.

Kelln said he wants feedback on the idea.

## Performing arts lure students here

**By MITCHELL SHERRIN**  
Staff Writer

The show will go on for the Gulf Islands School of Performing Arts next September.

"The thing is alive and well," said Performing Arts program coordinator Mitch Howard.

The hullabaloo over the four-day school week might have stolen some limelight from the new arts program but the high school has been quietly collecting applications from students.

"We have a handful of off-island kids moving here from other places," Howard said.

"We're so excited because it's easily met our expectations for the first year."

Six students have already applied from Powell River, Nanaimo, Mexico and the United States, he said.

"We also have a nice pool of local kids and we are still encouraging people to apply."

Deadline to join the program highlighting theatre, dance and music has been extended until the end of August, he said.

"The audition process is rigorous but not imposing. The reason for auditions is because we already have an amazing regular program of incredible quality," he said.

One purpose of the new tuition-based program is to draw more families here in an effort to address declining enrolment.

"We're not making money,

we're trying to attract families to the island."

Students paying \$1,500 annual tuition in the School of Performing Arts will augment regular programs, he said.

"They will integrate but they will also be a troupe who will write, direct, do make up, do promotion and make their own show."

In addition to regular arts and academic classes, students will meet for extra-curricular programs.

The new four-day school week will likely cause some difficulties with extra-curricular scheduling, he said.

"My biggest obstacle I will be facing will be time-tabling. Friday doesn't work out for everybody."

Local professionals have come forward to assist in extra-curricular programs, he said, and invites more to apply.

Professionals in the areas of music, drama and dance can send resumes for possible employment.

"The music module is modeled on a first-year university performance-major model."

Howard is thrilled that the school board was willing to take a risk to support the new program he likens to the Banff School of Fine Arts.

He will share information about the new program on July 11 at a booth in the Saturday Market in the Park.

For details, contact Howard by e-mail (woodlandmusicstudio@saltspring.com).

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Its owners and the Trust are trying to come up with a development rezoning bylaw with contents amenable to both parties.

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# Trust gets out of water-approval business

The Islands Trust is removing itself from the list of authorities that must get proof of potable water when new subdivisions are created.

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) gave first reading to a bylaw that would remove references to "an adequate supply of potable water" when it comes to subdivision referrals.

As explained at the June 30 LTC meeting, the Ministry of Transportation as subdivision-approving authority, and

## TRUST BRIEFS

the Capital Regional District (CRD) Building Inspection office must be satisfied with water potability during the subdivision process, making Islands Trust involvement redundant.

At the same time, requiring proof of potable water comes with some liability attached, as the Salt Spring LTC discovered in the Rain-

bow Grove subdivision case a few years ago.

The bylaw change was initiated two years ago after the Rainbow Grove case, when Trust Council first directed it be made by all LTCs in the Trust area.

• Relaxed provincial regulations regarding the sale of liquor has prompted the LTC to tighten up its bylaws to prevent a liquor store from opening on every corner in town.

The committee directed staff to prepare bylaw amendments that would recognize the four existing Salt Spring liquor outlets and require any new proposed stores to obtain site-specific zoning approval.

• The LTC approved a development permit for construction of light industrial buildings at John Fraser's property at 331 Upper Ganges Road.

Uses such as metal fabrication, light product manufacturing, auto repairs,

building trades, storage and an accessory dwelling unit are proposed for the property, which has the required zoning for those uses.

• A side yard setback will be varied by five feet to allow siting of a garage attached to a house so a turn-around driveway can be made on a property at 779 Vesuvius Bay Road.

Following a fair bit of discussion by trustees, a development variance permit with four conditions designed to mitigate impacts on immediate neighbour Gordon Dafeo was approved for Derek Sowden.

Written objections to the plan were filed by seven properties, with another 11 properties represented on a petition, notes a staff report.

• The LTC agreed to give priority to any application received by the Salt Spring Community Land Trust and Housing Society.

"They have an offer on a

piece of property and have asked that we move as expeditiously as possible," said Booth.

• Members are being sought for various LTC committees, with draft and revised terms of reference being considered for all. Vacant spots on the Advisory Planning Commission and Advisory Design Panel must be filled.

As well, two new committees needing a full complement of members are the Environment Advisory Committee and the Salt Spring Island Community Housing Task Force.

The deadline for written applications is July 19.

• The LTC took further steps on the road to control the deposit and removal of soil by accepting a plan to publicize and get input on a proposed new bylaw.

Last month Trust Council adopted a model bylaw for all LTCs to consider, copies of which are avail-

able through the local Trust office.

In the meantime, the Trust is advertising the fact that it will be enforcing the Capital Regional District soil Removal bylaw it has the authority to administer.

• A proposal for a 50-site campground on agricultural property between Beddis and Fulford-Ganges roads will be referred to the LTC's Agricultural Advisory Committee.

The plan put forth by property owners Ian and Sandra Kyle is permitted by the land's agricultural zoning but requires approval of the Agricultural Land Commission.

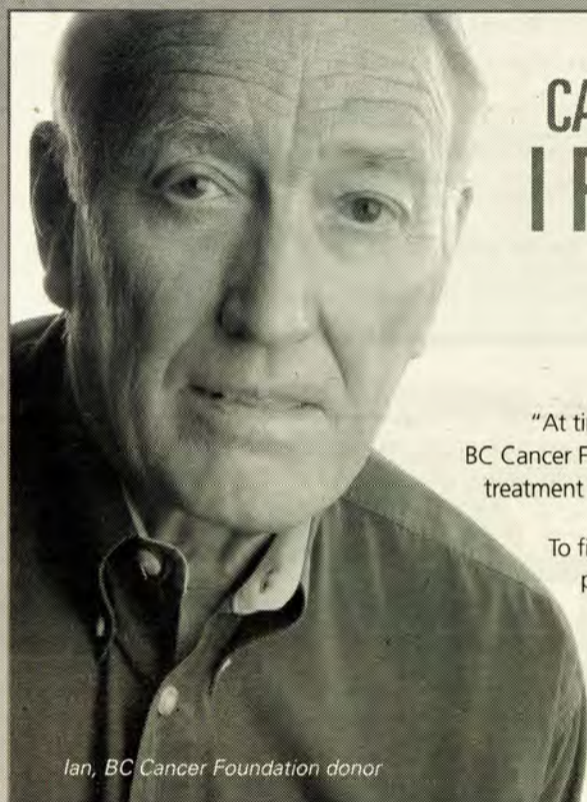
The Ministry of Transportation has given approval-in-principle to highway access that would be in place from Fulford-Ganges Road across from Cranberry Road.

Some conditions must be met before an access permit is issued.

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## Residents endure watermain breaks

Residents in the Highlands Water District had their taps run dry last week due to a watermain break on Ensilwood Road.

Ronald Holcroft, a resident in the area, said his water stopped working at about 1 p.m. Tuesday and was back on that evening around 6:30. On Wednesday morning at 8:30, he found that his water was off again and service wasn't restored until later that day.

"We went down and bought a big bottle of water, which we don't usually do because we have a good filter. That's \$20 that I'm going to try to claim off the Regional District," said Holcroft.

"Nobody could find out what the reason was. We're very angry at the people for not letting us know what it was. We've always had some sort of notice before if it was going to happen."

Jim McFarland, CRD manager of operations and local services, said the June 29 break affected 105 homes

in the area. He said residents weren't informed in advance because it was not a planned interruption in service.

"We didn't plan on it. We don't know why it broke. It was quite an inconvenience. It's like losing your electricity. You don't realize how much you depend on it until it's gone," said McFarland.

The break took place on a remote gravel road at a point where there's a 90 degree bend, he said.

"There's a lot of water pressure on that bend. It took quite a while to get it repaired. We initially did a repair, but it didn't hold. They tried to do a quick job to get the water back on. It didn't work. Since the permanent repair went in, it's been holding just fine."

The Maliview area has also experienced problems with plugged sewers in the past, but today the sewers are operating without problem after extra maintenance was done in the area, said McFarland.



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planned power outage in downtown Ganges:

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**GROUND BREAKING:** Symbolically turning the sod at the corner of Lower Ganges and Crofton roads marked the beginning of construction of Heritage Place last Saturday. Doing the honours is Paul Beckmann overseen by Winton Derby, both directors of Long Harbour Ventures Ltd., owners of the project, and business manager Greg Durward. Giving a hand is rental agent Donna Regen of Island Quest Realty Ltd. Photo by Derrick Lundy

## New assisted living complex gets under way near hospital

A sod-turning event last week will unearth more assisted living accommodation for island seniors.

Construction of Heritage Place is set to begin on a 2.5 acre parcel at the corner of Lower Ganges and Crofton roads, adjacent to Lady Minto Hospital.

"There is a great need for more assisted living housing for Salt Spring seniors as has been demonstrated by the overwhelming response to Meadowbrook," says project rental agent Donna Regen, adding that some Heritage Place suites have already been reserved.

"We expect that our phone will really start ringing now, with this announcement."

Heritage Place has been

designed with a decentralized pavilion concept, consisting of five, large west coast residences connected by covered walkways.

Each house will contain nine wheel chair accessible rental suites, including a mix of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units, all on ground level with patios, plus exterior and interior access.

A central space in each house will offer a common kitchen, dining room and lounge.

The resident House Administrator will coordinate hospitality services — an evening meal, weekly cleaning and laundry etc. — included in the price of rent.

Each resident will have an emergency response system.

The objective, according to press material, is "to create a friendly and intimate residential feeling with a low-rise, ground-oriented project. The campus concept of detached buildings linked by roofed walkways will impart a 'village-like' ambience to Heritage Place."

The project is owned by Long Harbour Ventures Ltd. and the construction contract has been awarded to Joe Toutant Construction Ltd. of Salt Spring Island.

Phase one staggers construction of two of the five houses, with occupancy projected for early spring and then early summer.

## Logo promotes island-made products

Residents and visitors on Salt Spring Island are noticing the "Simply Salt Spring" logo featured on island made products and at local businesses.

The logo consists of attractive black lettering with green leaves above it and below that a category name such as 'island made', 'island natural' and 'island hospitality'.

The logo is an initiative of the Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Project. It is now embraced and adopted by many island businesses, craftspeople and service providers.

Community Economic Development is a community-based process that

explicitly combines social and economic development. With the new logo, islanders can recognize local products, services, etc. and can more readily support each other's endeavors.

For visitors, the logo clearly affords an opportunity to support Salt Spring Island's residents and to take an identifiable piece of Salt Spring home.

The Simply Salt Spring logo promotes locally made products and services to Salt Spring residents and off-island consumers.

The logo heightens awareness and recognition of products that are uniquely Salt Spring. Besides appearing on items of local manufacture,

logos are displayed in the retail, grocery and hospitality sector outlets offering food or beverages grown or crafted on the island.

Ultimately, "Simply Salt Spring" will have a global presence, helping build our community and enhance its economic strength.

In the future, the logo will be seen off-island on labels of products that are shipped for sale. It will also be visible online with the website [www.simplysaltspring.com](http://www.simplysaltspring.com) connecting people to producers, retailers, artists and other businesses using the logo.

For more information contact the CED Project office on 250-537-4219.

## Friday camp considered

Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) will consider extending Camp Colossal to Fridays through September and October as a way to help families coping with the four-day school week.

PARC agreed at its June 28 meeting to have commissioner member Rosemary Trump further investigate the idea, which she initiated.

"If we work out the logistics we could extend it for Fridays. I think it would be a good thing for the community . . ." she said.

Camp Colossal serves chil-

dren aged five to 12, Monday through Friday during the summer. It costs \$30 per day or \$135 for five tickets.

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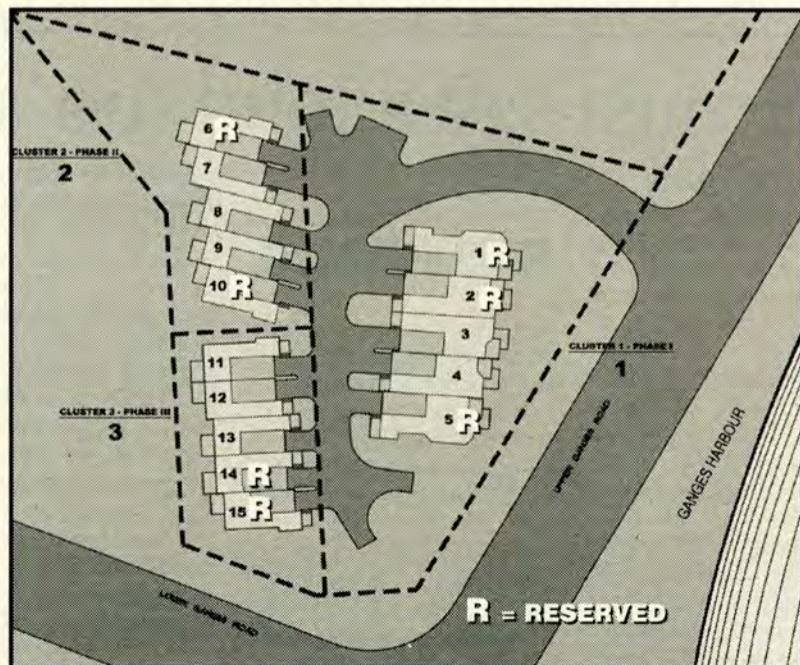


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If you voted Green, or wish you had, Thank you.

**Andrew Lewis**

The Green Party of Canada

The campaign continues...[andrewlewis.ca](http://andrewlewis.ca)



# OPINION



## Gulf Islands Driftwood

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## Little control

At last week's Islands Trust-hosted meetings on the Channel Ridge development, islanders got an overwhelming sense of how much is involved with a project of this scale, how much impact it has already had and will have in future, and how little control the community or local governments have over what actually transpires.

And if Channel Ridge Properties Ltd. (CRPL) sticks to plans such as rainwater harvesting and use of water-saving devices, it will go a long way towards mitigating impacts and public concern.

But with many of the development's positive features arising from voluntary rather than government-mandated actions, islanders are understandably nervous.

Now there's a perception that a once-planned secondary access road has fallen by the wayside, archaeological site and environmental protection questions and an odd bit of legal posturing over public trail access. Combine that with a few unpleasant development experiences in the past, and it's not easy for the community to cast aside its cynicism.

When Islands Trust staff and a well-respected planning firm working for the Trust express discomfort with the "somewhat fragmented approvals path" and flaws in our official community plan, we're not just dealing with NIMBY sentiments or anti-development paranoia.

Salt Spring's local government system is not set up to deal effectively with this massive project, and the correct balance of vigilance and positive relationship-building with CRPL is accordingly critical at this point.

## Good decision

It's unfortunate the land owners involved in a density transfer proposal between Sansum Narrows and Isabella Point property invested time and money in a concept that came to naught last week.

However, it is clear the Isabella Point lands next to an ecological reserve were incorrectly labelled an appropriate density receiving area both in the OCP and the Islands Trust office.

Density transfers may be a useful planning tool, but one that should be reserved for special circumstances.

## Letter to ministry describes district funding woes

Following is a letter sent to Minister of Education Tom Christensen from school board chair May McKenzie, to accompany the Gulf Islands School District's "balanced budget."

At a public school board meeting on April 14, the following motion was passed:

"That the board attach a letter to our budget that clearly identifies the consultation process, the cuts we are forced to make due to declining enrollment and the changes to the funding formula that have negatively impacted our district, and the implications to our school community."

That motion, along with eight other motions passed that day, were the culmination of a year long process that was undertaken

### VIEW POINT

to look at how we could maintain the excellent programs and services we have in the Gulf Islands when faced with a declining enrollment, reduced funding and other community issues.

In order to balance our budget for the next two years, work with our communities around sustaining young families and maintain the quality of services that we provide, we have at the end of this year-long process:

1. Set up a task force to explore affordable housing;
2. Set up a task force around

the use of technology for distance education;

3. Withdrawn bus routes;
4. Reduced administration;
5. Reduced teaching and support staff;
6. Changed the local school calendar by closing our school for 29 days, which will result in a four-day school week.

As we look ahead to the 2004/2005 and 2005/2006 school years, we are faced with a funding shortfall of \$1.1-million dollars. Some \$350,000 of this amount is attributable to our enrollment decline. However, \$500,000 of the projected deficit is attributable to current revisions to the funding allocation system.

Adding to the shortfall is the additional burden of inflationary

increases to supplies and benefits estimated at \$250,000.

It is significant to note that this \$500,000 loss in funding is in addition to the \$330,000 loss in funding that the district was required to absorb when this "new" funding allocation system was introduced in 2002/2003.

Combining these two amounts and basing them as a percentage of our annual budget, our district will be required to address one of the highest reductions in funding in the province.

Again, this reduction is solely attributable to the implementation and revisions to the current "funding allocation system."

Additionally, the district did not receive funding to cover the cost of teacher salary increases

over the past two years, resulting in a further funding shortfall in excess of \$600,000.

The changes to the funding allocation system and the implementation of unfunded salary increases have and continue to result in disproportionate cuts to small districts such as ours.

Our challenges around declining enrollment and changes in the demographics of our community will continue and we will work with our communities around these issues.

Fully funded contract settlements and cost increases are a provincial responsibility.

We urge you to seek increased resources, which will fully fund the actual of education in British Columbia.

## We must say a loud 'no' to the Working Forest Initiative

By JOHN GODSMAN

The Campbell government of B.C. and the logging industry are working very hard to institute a new legal definition of our 'public forests'.

I believe these government proposals are meant to chiefly benefit the logging industry and are at the expense of the public's long-term interests.

All public lands (crown lands) are, by definition, collectively owned by the citizenry of B.C. and should always remain so. The implications of the public losing these rights would have huge and disastrous consequences for our future!

"The Working Forest Initiative" is the name of a set of government proposals that would effectively re-zone all remaining public land in

### IN RESPONSE

is the most sweeping, anti-environmental legislation in the province's history. This initiative, if enacted, will remove 45 million hectares of public land (that's 48% of our entire province) permanently.

This is one of the largest, most blatant, hand-over of public land to private lumber companies ever seen. As a Canadian citizen and a resident of B.C. I am extremely alarmed at these events and even more alarmed at how few people know about it.

The events happening here in B.C. reflect a major and disturbing trend that is happening worldwide: the priva-

Immense corporate and financial power is being used to manipulate government officials all across the globe to acquire 'ownership' of these public resources. The province of B.C. is one of the very few places where the 'public owns a large proportion of the land base. The only way private corporations can change this ownership status is by changing the law; laws that help us curtail and protect publicly owned resources are already in place. Premier Campbell wants to streamline the decision making process (i.e. cut out any public input) and make the commercial use of public land by the timber industry more...efficient.

Our public forests are vast and vital resources that are held in trust for the public's common good for the pres-

ervations. All decisions regarding our public forests should have the 'sustainability' of the entire forest ecology in mind not just how commercially usable it is to one industry. It is clear that this government is working for the best interests of the logging corporations.

This is a very 'dangerous liaison' of big business and government and I've seen it all before in many parts of the world.

Corporations are not democratic institutions. They owe no accountability to anyone but the shareholders that employ them. Government in contrast, is meant to seek the common good for the society it governs.

The proper relationship between government and corporations, is one in which the power of the state super-

corporate power for the common good of the public. When this situation is reversed, the public is usually the loser and must act with whatever power they have at their disposal.

Government officials have been quietly working with the timber industry on this legislation with very little public input. There was only one, small online survey offered to the public for input.

The 2,700 people who did participate in the survey, 97% overwhelmingly voted against it, but these results had no effect on this initiative going forward. The only way that this legislation is now going to be stopped is by a massive, outpouring of public pressure and outrage.

A volunteer of the Western Wilderness Committee recently made me aware of

this impending crisis.

A group that seems very committed to preserving not only our forests but also our democratic right to decide what to do with our own public land.

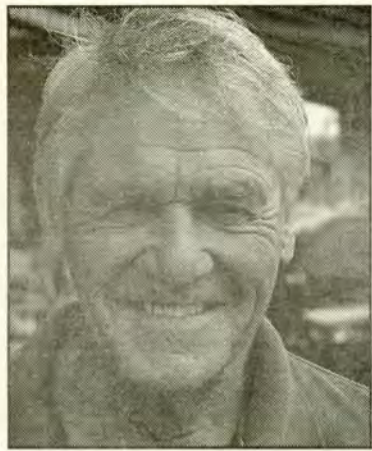
Do you think it is wise to allow just two government officials, Premier Campbell and the Minister of Sustainable Resources, Mr. Stan Hagen, to decide what is 'best' for 48% of the entire province of B.C.?

Remember this legislation is unchangeable once it is implemented! We must all act now in whatever way we can.

Contact Premier Campbell @ premier@gov.bc.ca  
 Telephone: (250) 387-1715, Fax: (250) 387-0087.  
 Or contact your local MLA @ Enquiry BC at 387-6121.  
 Visit: www.workingforest.org

# SALT SPRING SAYS

**We asked:** *What does it mean to you to be Canadian?*



**Brian Rowley**

*It means a lot. I'm a Canadian by choice, not by accident.*



**Cheryl Cowan  
(Vancouver)**

*Awesome.*



**Jim Bell  
(Vancouver)**

*Probably more than anything, it makes me feel fortunate. And to take on a sense of obligation to the country to make sure things stay good.*



**Marion Black  
(Victoria)**

*It means to be beige, beaver-toothed, red-and-white-maple-leafed and syrup. Best of all, Emily Carr.*



**James Howard  
(Shawnigan Lake)**

*Pride in my nation, to be humanitarian and not an aggressive nation.*

## Letters to the Editor

### Acceptance

Our community has so many attractive aspects, the flora, the closeness of our people and the acceptance and respect for everyone.

Since I first moved here four years ago, I have found that acceptance comforting. Without a doubt, it is what makes our community strong and safe.

I use to work at a local business in town. One night I was working when an individual began to rant about homosexuals, including the harshest words I have ever heard firsthand: "All fags should be taken to the forest and either shot or buried alive."

One might look upon this statement and demand that surely he was joking. I certainly did. Either way, I was horrified that this was his thought. He clearly expressed that homosexuality is wrong and people were put upon this earth to replicate and they had no reason to live if this wasn't what

they are doing.

I was livid when he told me, "Being gay is wrong and I'm entitled to my own opinion." The only words that came to me were, "No, you're wrong," and with that he stormed away.

I spoke with a friend and mentor of mine that night, a person who has helped me through everything, a person who I think is the best model of this community and who has dedicated her life to helping others young and old through hard times whether that be drugs, family issues or the tragic loss of an amazing friend. To top it all, she is gay. It doesn't change how great she is, does it?

I can tell you that she wasn't hysterical like me. She didn't say too much but I know she was disappointed that people could be so ignorant to what really matters.

I am asking people to write back and tell me I am correct about this community's goodness. I'm asking you to accept everyone for

their kindness as well as differences.

Bigotry, like racism and sexism, is a form of intolerance, so please stand by me and do something about it. As the saying goes, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem."

**CAITLIN SCHLENKER,  
Salt Spring**

### Courting disaster

B.C. experienced one of the worst fire seasons in decades in 2003.

Already, 2004 is shaping up to be even worse. Many organizations, governments and developers have concluded that new approaches have to be taken in developments that involve forest-interface housing.

Considering that there will be over 400 new families as well as substantial retail space in the new village, and that Broadwell already serves over 150 families, it seems only prudent and

responsible to have a permanent use, second access route in and out of the village.

To have a village of this size at the end of a dead-end road, with only one means of access for emergency vehicles or for quick exits would be courting disaster.

As well, it is reasonable to expect a large increase in day-to-day traffic on Broadwell with over 400 new residences, and the owners-employees-customers-suppliers for the businesses that will occupy the retail space (and the construction traffic over a several-year construction period).

This increase in traffic volume adds to the justification for the additional access loop from Sunset Drive into the new village.

This is a matter of great importance to current Channel Ridge homeowners. There is little doubt that it will be a question that prospective buyers of the new Channel Ridge village properties will raise given the

wide news coverage of the fire risks.

This situation presents a unique opportunity for Channel Ridge Development to show leadership - by demonstrating through the construction of the originally planned Sunset Drive loop, that forest-interface housing development can be both high-quality and safe, and that the quality of living in Channel Ridge will be protected.

**BEN GOODMAN,  
Channel Ridge**

### Risk

So you say that your cell phone transmitter is safe. Vancouver firefighters don't think so. They're currently fighting the City of Vancouver to halt any new installations, and remove those already installed.

The International Association of Fire Fighters don't think so. They are drafting policy to eliminate cell antennae from all fire stations.

Our Advisory Planning

Commission doesn't think so. They recommended in 2000 that a cell phone antenna not be within 500 metres of any habitation.

And our provincial Parents Advisory Committee doesn't think so. They "urge school boards and municipal governments to prohibit the siting of cell or mobile phone masts aka antennae in any areas regularly used by students such as school buildings and school grounds." (The school is a couple of hundred feet away from the antenna.)

So, Fire Chief Dave Enfield, get over your closed-minded, puffed-up bravado and actually LOOK at the evidence.

How dare you take even the smallest chance with the health and lives of your firefighters and island residents and especially our children.

**MICHAEL LINEHAN  
Salt Spring Island**

**MORE LETTERS A10**

## Does fire hall transmitter offer an acceptable risk?

On a number of occasions, my neighbours have witnessed me charging this way and that on the street in front of my house, left hand glued to left ear, involved in what appears to be some sort of bizarre mating ritual, ending in a string of expletives directed at the sky.

They no longer call the authorities. It is my personal version of the of the Bad Cell Phone Coverage, and it is performed daily by hundreds of cell phone users on Salt Spring.

With the fewest of exceptions, cell phones are a waste of time on this island.

Coverage is apparently vulnerable to clouds, wind, passing dogs . . . more often than not resulting in half conversations and dropped calls . . . Can you hear me now? Apparently not.

And so it was with some enthusiasm that I heard the downtown fire department had reached a deal

### PERSONALLY SPEAKING

BY PETER VINCENT



to put a transmitter in its tower.

I will be the first to admit that I am addicted to modern day creature comforts.

I usually have a 2.4 gigahertz portable phone welded to my ear, emitting powerful radio signals a mere inch from what's left of my left brain. I have a satellite system with an Ultra High Frequency remote control, that I am proud to say enables me to change television channels while in the bathroom. I use a microwave several times a day, unimpressed with evidence that suggests I may be roasting my own vital organs should I stray too close to the oven door.

Fact is, we are bombarded with all sorts of emissions and transmissions every day, willingly, with open arms, despite dire

warnings that we are jeopardizing our health for the convenience of a piping hot meal ready in 90 seconds.

It's a tradeoff most are willing to accept.

And so what about this transmitter going up in the fire hall tower? Is it an acceptable risk? Fire trustee board chair Mike Schubart says that all equipment is approved by federal licensing authority and deemed safe, otherwise they wouldn't be allowed to use them. What?

It seems like a giant leap of faith to declare something safe because the federal government says it is — the same government that continues to let Crofton Norske wood mill belch out god knows what into the atmosphere; the same government that permits thousands of gallons of raw sewage to pour into the ocean a few hundred yards offshore in B.C. capital; the same government that shrugs its shoulders when a fish farm right here on Salt Spring plows through ancient aboriginal burial grounds

to lay its effluent pipes.

I think if Mr Shubart is so convinced that this cell phone transmitter is safe enough to install directly above the heads of Salt Spring's firefighters, he should also bolt one to the side of his own house. And what happened to the 500 metre rule — that such transmitters were not to be placed within 500 metres of human activity — a resolution apparently passed by the APC and the Islands Trust?

I would be very interested to know, if I was one of the fortunate few that own a waterfront strata unit at Grace Point.

Is it another one of those deals where the feds can run roughshod over local bylaws, as in the case of the gravel pit on Jasper Place? What of the health of the hundreds that spend eight hours a day working under the shadow of that fire tower . . . wait a minute, that would be me!

I am no scientist. I don't know if these transmitters are going to transform me into a lump of quivering plasma. But having con-

ducted the most cursory google search on the internet, my initial enthusiasm has waned considerably.

It seems there is plenty of evidence to suggest these transmitters are anything but harmless. Is it worth the chance for the Fire Department to add a lousy thousand bucks annually to its coffers? I would much rather see the transmitter bolted to one of the hydro towers going over the hill at the end of Wilke Way.

It would be far enough away from any housing to fall outside the 500 metre rule, and it could provide much more extensive coverage than the Ganges fire tower, located as it is, a mere 50 feet above sea level.

Personally, I think it's an unnecessary risk to have that transmitter downtown, potentially affecting the health of every Salt Springer that works, lives or shops there. I am more than willing to startle and amuse my neighbours with my weekly cell phone gyrations until a safer, more benign site can be found.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CANADA



**CELEBRATING IN STYLE:** Among the sights seen at Salt Spring's Canada Day events were (above, left): Roger Gilbert and Jan MacPhail piping in the Embe cake at Centennial Park; (above right) high school dancers entertaining at ArtSpring; and, at right, a patriotic Kristina Oliver enjoying Legion activities.



Photos by Derrick Lundy

Also out and about on July 1 were (far left): Brenna McIntyre draped in a flag and awaiting a piece of birthday cake; left, RCMP Const. Lindsey Ellis and Sgt. Mike Giles with a British patrol car in the classic car show; and a patriotic Colton Archer. At right, Valdy performs in Ganges.



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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Russ Crouse, Realtors and staff at Royal LePage Salt Spring Realty are pleased to welcome David Giddy to its office of award-winning realtors. Dave retired from the Corporate / Investment Banking arena, as a Senior Vice President in 2001 and moved to Salt Spring Island. Dave brings considerable real estate experience with him as he was Licensed in Ontario (1974) and Illinois (1994) and for the past 2 1/2 years has worked with Arvid Chalmers Ltd. While Dave will maintain his relationship with Arvid, the move to Royal LePage will provide him with greater exposure to local and national markets.

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537-5515  
www.saltspringrealty.com

## More letters

### Other side

Articles and letters in the Driftwood and a news clip on TV have presented the views of the squatters at Freedom Village on the shores of Fulford Harbour.

It seems only fair to also present the point of view of the ratepayers and residents of Isabella Point Road and Fulford Village. These patient citizens have witnessed the almost daily visits of fire trucks, police cars and Islands Trust bylaw enforcement to the squat, as well as the appearance of human feces along the beach, bongo drums and screaming at late night parties, gratuitous graffiti and distracting road signs.

Last week I have gave a ride to a hitchhiker and her small child who were bound for the squat. I was surprised to discover that she and others had arrived from Vancouver and Victoria, leaving their own residences, in response to the word on the street, that the "Freedom Squat" is the place to party. She also told me that many of the squatters are islanders who are not homeless at all, but have left their own residences in order to party.

Two Driftwood reporters were informed by Naomi Butterfly that the land and beaches on which the squat is located is public land, when

in fact the shore, beach and waterfront that they occupy is the property of the B.C. Ministry of Transportation.

As of June 24, campfires, open fires for cooking, warmth and ceremonial purposes are no longer permitted. As a result we now have a squat with a growing population with no sanitation, no running water and no permissible cooking fires in a location where its parked vehicles have already resulted in the relocation of the regular school bus stop.

The members of this association are sympathetic to the needs of those who have difficulty finding acceptable accommodation, and are supportive of efforts to solve this problem. However, we are convinced that the solution, in this particular case, probably does not lie in selective enforcement of the law.

Our continuing efforts to involve the Islands Trust, the CRD and the RCMP in a solution have resulted in an impasse in which the ministries under which they operate have resorted to arguments suggesting that if the voters of Salt Spring Island had supported incorporation last year this situation could have been easily resolved by a determined mayor and council using balanced, equitable and enforceable solutions.

I sense that situations such as this and the Channel Ridge project have many islanders of a mind to revisit the incorporation debate.

**KEN LEE,**  
President, South Salt Spring Island Property Owners and Rate Payers Association

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## TRENDS

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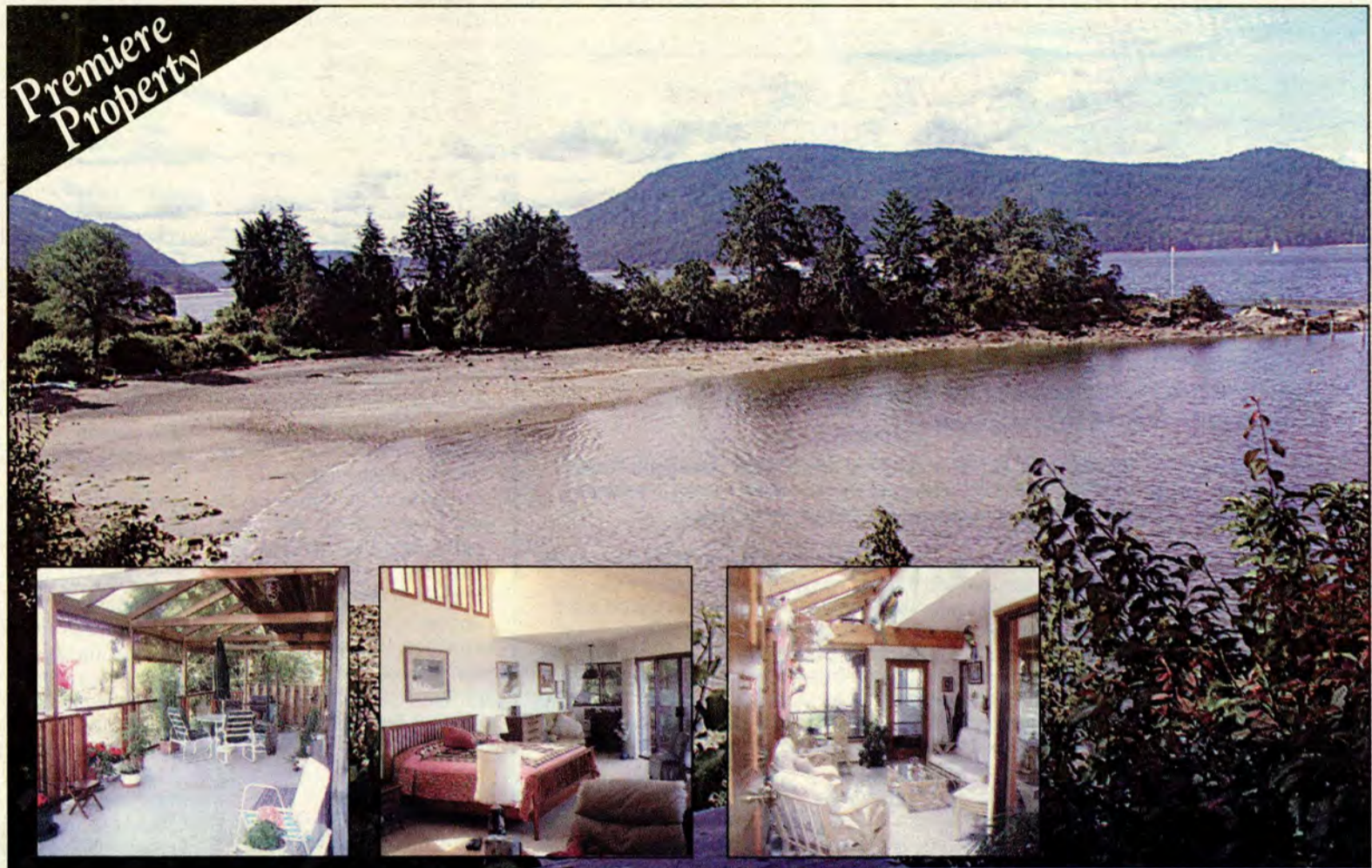
- When selling a house, a REALTOR
- knows property values and will help you set an agreeable and competitive price
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arbour, and master bedroom all having magnificent views, all the sunsets, and the sparkling lights of Crofton to Lady-smith at night.

The home features many view windows, which offer some "passive solar". The home's basic heat source is a very efficient 3 zone Hydronic heating system, supplemented by a gas stove in family room, wood stove in

living room, electric baseboard heat in sunroom and spa.

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**PANACHE**



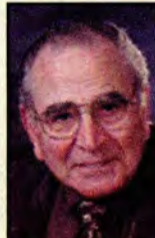
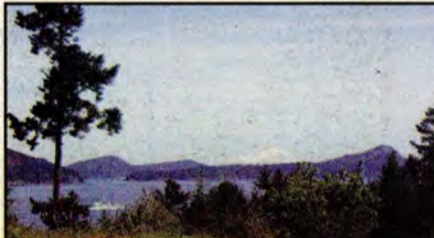

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**BEACH COMBER**

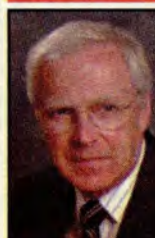

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After reading your article on the bank hold-up (June 30 Driftwood), I pondered the comment that Salt Spring is a safe place.

It is apparent to me that

anyone that would say such a thing has their head stuck where the sun don't shine.

I lived on the island from the late '60s to the early '80s and at the time there was a long list of criminals and drug dealers and child molesters residing there. I am sure that with the population increase that the criminal element has kept pace.

Give your head a shake.

**WAYNE DERKSEN,**  
Port Hardy

**Lesson**

It is indeed an important lesson which, it seems, Salt Springers have been slow to learn.

After the saga of the Bullock Lake development, the mess in the harbor, the float house, the squatters at Drummond Park, Juniper Road, and now the Channel Ridge development debacle, it seems that residents are putting undue faith in the Islands Trust and other authorities to protect our interests.

The Channel Ridge development now has found another means to do an end run on the documented promises given to the present and future residents and to the Trust as well as the wishes of all the people of Salt Spring.

The plan is to develop a total of 577 residences on the ridge, which everyone agrees will require a second quality road access. But they have applied for a single lot for development, albeit a 90 acre strata lot, which the authorities (the protectors of our way of life) have said gee, a single lot does not require a new road.

Wake up guys!

And the developers will laugh all the way to the bank.

**JIM GANDERTON,**  
Salt Spring Island

**Like minds**

The people of Saanich-Gulf Islands have spoken and Gary Lunn is to be congratulated and supported as our member of parliament.

The results of the vote are summarized as follows: Conservative, 22,050 votes, 34.6%; Liberal, 17,082, 26.8%; NDP,

13,765, 21.6 %; Green, 10,662, 16.72%.

It might be fair to suggest that minor distinctions aside, the NDP and the Green parties represent people of like minds. Had the lesson been learned from the right wing parties joining together, a single candidate representing people of like minds would have been the winner of this seat with over 38% of votes cast.

Another significant impact on this election is that 25% of the voters on Salt Spring did not vote. Obviously, if they had come out and voted for one party, they could have named the member of parliament for this riding.

The federal election is past but a provincial election is coming in May of next year. As voters, it would be desirable to work to the goal that the votes of people of like minds not be split between two parties and that more eligible voters participate in the election.

It could be that the common view of non-voters is that the issues spoken to in the election are not regarded as significant to their lives. Young people are commonly recognized as the largest block of the non-voters.

Health care and tax cuts may be important to older Canadians and since older Canadians are the ones that vote, it is not surprising that these issues are the ones that are promoted by politicians.

At our local high school, a mock election was held on Friday, June 18 and the Canadian government had asked that the results not be publicized in advance of the actual election on June 28.

There is a way of thinking that justifies that restriction but there is also a way of thinking that views this restriction as being the opposite of what is needed.

According to this way of thinking, high schools should be required to hold mock elections and their results should always be publicized prior to the election.

(This view was presented to the Citizens Assembly on Electoral Reform at the Salt Spring session on June 18, and people who share the

view would do well to reinforce this position with the assembly).

Points to consider related to high school mock elections include:

Most high school students do not have the right to vote but this exercise in citizenship encourages them to participate.

Candidates would do well to talk to high school students and to supply material that related to their interests (Bulletin boards were available to parties at our local school and two of the major parties used this opportunity and two parties did not participate in a significant way).

Issues related to welcoming young people's gifts into our workplaces, providing education without inappropiate debt burdens for students, providing a health environment for good teachers and working for a healthy economy that encourages participation of all are favours none would cater to the interest of high school students.

Some voters would be influenced by the mock election results and that would encourage the attitude that participation matters among young people.

It is easy to complain about our politicians but it might be better to keep refining our electoral system to make sure that the people we elect best represent the views held by the majority of like-minded voters.

**PETER ROBINSON,**  
Long Harbour

**Big thank-you**

I just want to thank all the organizers and fire crew who worked together to create an amazing fireworks display this year. My daughter and I had a great evening hanging out at the Tree House listening and dancing to Dro Radio.

Also to Tim and John from Island Star Video, thank you for the Canada-flag beach balls. They were a real hit with the kids.

We feel blessed to be a part of this community. I can't imagine living in a more loving, beautiful place than Salt Spring.

Thank you.

**MARDON MAJA NORDINE,**  
Salt Spring

**MORE LETTERS A1**



**ISLANDS TRUST  
NORTH PENDER ISLAND LOCAL  
TRUST COMMITTEE**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

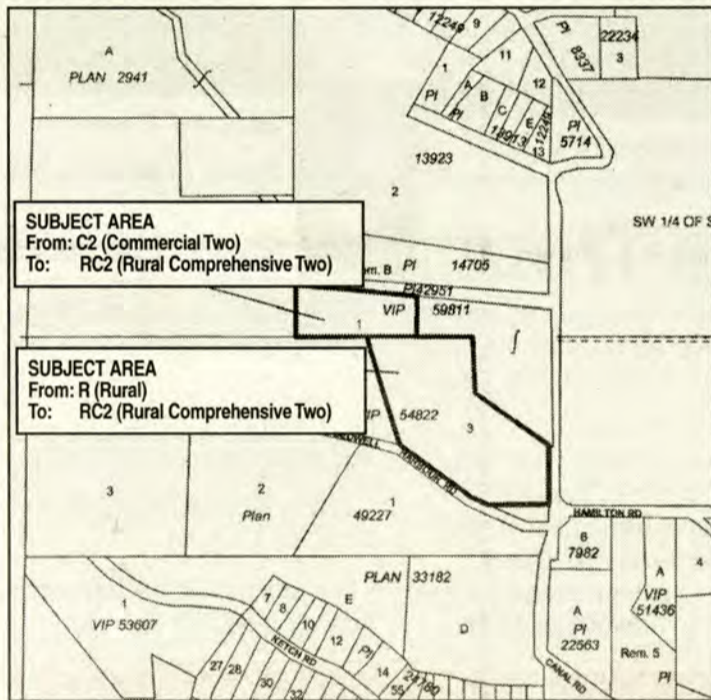
NOTICE is hereby given that the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee will be holding a Public Hearing on the following proposed bylaw:

1. **Bylaw 141 (Driftwood Village), cited as "North Pender Island Land Use Bylaw 103, 1996, Amendment No. 4, 2002."**

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow the public to make representations to the Local Trust Committee respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw.

The Public Hearing will be held starting at 12 p.m. on Saturday, July 17, 2004 at the North Pender Island Community Hall, North Pender Island, BC. Following the close of the hearing, the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee may consider further readings of the bylaw.

In general terms, the purpose of North Pender Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No. 141 is to rezone the land shown on the subject property below from the Rural (R) and Commercial 2 (C2) zones to a new zone - Rural Comprehensive Two (RC2). The proposed bylaw would permit a 36-lot subdivision and the use of the land for 36 single family dwellings. In exchange for the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee's consideration of the bylaw under the provisions of the density bonus policies of the Official Community Plan, the applicant has offered to grant to the Local Trust Committee a covenant pursuant to section 219 of the Land Title Act and a housing agreement pursuant to section 905 of the Local Government Act. The housing agreement and covenant would, among other things, restrict occupancy of nine of the lots to no more than two persons, either two seniors or a senior and a caregiver. The agreement would define a senior as a person age 60 or over.



At the Public Hearing, the public, including all persons who believe that their interest in property is affected by the proposed bylaw, shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard in person, by a representative, or by written submission respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw, at the above time and place.

All persons concerned should inspect the proposed bylaw to satisfy themselves as to how their lands may be affected by the proposed regulations. Copies of the proposed bylaw and relevant background documents in respect of the proposed bylaw that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee may be inspected at the Islands Trust Office, #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, inclusive, excluding statutory holidays, commencing, Wednesday, June 30, 2004 up to and including, Friday, July 16, 2004.

For the convenience of public only, an additional copy of the relevant background documents in respect of the proposed bylaw that may be considered by the Local Trust Committee may be inspected at the Capital Regional District Office located in the Driftwood Centre on North Pender Island. The Capital Regional District Office is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during regular business hours.

Also for the convenience of public only, and not to satisfy Section 892(2)(e) of the Local Government Act, additional copies of the proposed bylaw may be inspected at various notice boards on North Pender Island commencing June 30, 2004 and are available from the Islands Trust website at [www.islandstrust.bc.ca](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca) by selecting North Pender Island / Bylaws / Proposed.

Written submissions may be delivered to:

1. the office of the Islands Trust by mail at #200 - 1627 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8R 1H8, or by Fax (250) 405-5155, prior to 4:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, 2004; and
2. after 4:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, 2004, by delivery to the Local Trust Committee at the Public Hearing starting at 12 pm Saturday, July 17, 2004 until the close of the hearing.

Those persons who chose to make their written submissions by email prior to the time and date above provided ought to require confirmation of receipt on their email and in any event the risk that an email is not received lies with the sender. Email submissions should be sent to [rkojima@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:rkojima@islandstrust.bc.ca).

Written submissions made in response to this notice will also be available for public review.

Inquiries regarding the proposed bylaw may be directed to the Islands Trust Office, North Pender Island Planner, at (250) 405-5159 or [rkojima@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:rkojima@islandstrust.bc.ca), or for Toll Free access, request a transfer via Enquiry BC: In Vancouver 660-2421 and elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867.

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

Kathy Jones, Deputy Secretary

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**537-1503**

# Greatest climate challenge may be overcoming ideology

A friend asked the other day if I ever got tired of writing about environmental issues. Well, to be frank I'm getting pretty tired of writing about climate change. Not because it isn't interesting or important, but because I'm getting tired of having to defend the science against conspiracy theorists and ideologues.

Lately, it seems the public has been burdened with yet another round of anti-global warming conspiracy tales, punctuated with promises from one political party to scrap the Kyoto Protocol on climate change — in spite of the fact that more than 80 per cent of Canadians support it.

I'm not the only one who's sick of this nonsense. Donald Kennedy, the editor-in-chief of the world's largest science journal, recently wrote in an editorial: "We're in the middle of a large uncontrolled experiment on the only planet we have." And he concluded with: "Our climate future

is important and needs more attention than it's getting."

To help gain that attention and dispel any lingering myths, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the business-oriented Conference Board recently held a public forum on climate change. The two-day Washington D.C. event included a panel of climate experts and Nobel Laureates who discussed the current state of climate science and ways to help the public understand the urgency of the situation.

As expected, the panel members concluded that there is no doubt that the world's climate is changing and that governments and consumers should take immediate steps to reduce the threat. The experts

## SCIENCE MATTERS

BY DAVID SUZUKI



acknowledged that climate science isn't perfect, and that questions remain, but pointed out that current climate models are more likely to be too conservative rather than too generous with their predictions.

Harvard geochemistry professor Daniel Schrag told the panel: "We cannot wait for a catastrophe to appear before we act because by then it would be too late." And he pointed out: "This should not be a partisan issue."

He's right, it shouldn't be. We're beyond that now. Instead, we should be discussing the most effective and innovative ways to meet Kyoto and become a modern, efficient nation.

Even big business is rec-

ognizing the need to act. Last week, the chair of Shell Oil told BBC news, "No one can be comfortable at the prospect of continuing to pump out the amounts of carbon dioxide that we are at present."

And Toronto Star business columnist David Crane last week noted that Lord John Browne, CEO of BP, one of the world's largest oil companies, wrote recently in the journal *Foreign Affairs* that climate change is a serious issue which must be addressed and that meeting the Kyoto Protocol will not be nearly as difficult as some industry groups claim.

If an oil baron like Lord Browne can acknowledge the importance of moving on this issue, and labour, medical, and religious groups all support the Kyoto Protocol, as do the vast majority of Canadians and the vast majority of scientists, why would anyone even entertain the notion of dropping out of the Protocol? Canada would not only miss out on

tremendous opportunities to become a more efficient, modern nation, but we would look regressive and backwards on the world stage.

How many scientists do we need to stand up and say, "Do something!" before our leaders take this issue seriously? Attacks against climate science are no longer

just attacks against one group of hard-working researchers, but against science itself. The evidence of human-induced climate change is overwhelming. At this point, it's not only intellectually dishonest to claim that there is no need to be taking action on climate change, it's morally reprehensible.

# Hold permits for promises in writing

By JOHN MYERS

About a year ago I made the first comments to the Islands Trust on the proposed Channel Ridge village. At that time our association — the Channel Ridge Owners Association — neither endorsed nor opposed the proposal but I did raise three items for your consideration.

The first dealt with the concept of "time share" and you may remember that at the Trust meeting on September 27, 2003 I urged the Trust to get a legal opinion of that concept and of "fractional ownership."

As we have heard nothing further we can only presume that nothing was ever done.

Whenever the topic was raised with the developer during the last year, the Trust was told the developers would follow the official community plan (OCP) to the letter. We now know from the developer's own newsletter of March 17, 2004 that "fractional ownership has been in our plans from the outset."

And such ownership does not appear to be illegal. Our association would have welcomed the village consisting of full-time residents who would participate in the life of the island, who would volunteer for the hospital, the library, the visitors' centre, and other community needs. Full-time residents would join our many clubs and associations, from the sailing club to the square dancers.

## IN DEPTH

I am told, however, that such a village of this size would not be economically viable. But should economics alone be the basis of development?

What we now face is a village full of transients who have no permanent ownership of island life but just use the island for a few days or weeks a year. Yes, there may very well be economic benefit to businesses but in the near future we can see no benefit to the ongoing life of the island.

I have been assured by the developer that in time perhaps many owners will live here full time — however, "in time the Rockies may crumble and Gibraltar may tumble" — but I fear that I will not be here to see it.

What we have, using another name, is a huge "time share" specifically banned in the OCP and the Trust seems powerless to follow the wishes of the community to stop it. Even if you were able to rule that it was illegal, what could you even do about it?

There is another problem. In their March advertising supplement we are told that "some of our purchasers will rent their entire home some of the time" . . . "They may elect to rent it to others."

You have just been through a lengthy process looking

at vacation rentals. It would seem to me that this opens a huge door for up to another 400 vacation rentals. And how is that situation going to be controlled further down the road?

The second concern we raised from the very beginning last year was the road access to the village. Lower Broadwell Road as many know is neither "broad" nor "well." It is very narrow, steep, with at least three blind corners and a drop off along much of it. The recent resurfacing does not change the fundamental problems. And yet it is this road that will service, when development is complete, nearly 600 homes and 81,000 square feet of commercial use. To put this into perspective, it will be as busy as Ganges, which is served by four major roads.

How anyone can claim that this marginal road going through the heart of our community will serve up to 10 years of construction traffic and then be equal to Upper Ganges Road, Lower Ganges Road, Rainbow Road and the Fulford Road in permanent daily use is far beyond me. Our association has lobbied strongly for a second major access road to serve the village and for Channel Ridge Properties to live up to what has been shown in maps and other documents both by them and by the previous owners.

The Ministry of Transpor-

tation, the final authority, hides behind the fact that the developer has only applied for a one-lot subdivision, although we know that there will be at least 405 residential and 54 units built and the Trust appears to be powerless with no authority — so much for "to preserve and protect."

And finally, we urged the Trust last summer to proceed without haste in approving this huge development. Up to now there has been only the one general information meeting in December and much has happened since then.

Only in the last week have we heard that Channel Ridge Properties has proposed that all trails in the lands outside the ridge are to be preserved for public use. We applaud this generous position, especially as our association was founded over 10 years ago for that very purpose.

We therefore strongly urge the Islands Trust to accept your consultant's report on the Channel Ridge Development Permit Application and grant approval for the development permit only when all outstanding conditions are agreed to in writing and approved by legal staff.

*The writer is president of the Channel Ridge Owners Association and the above forms the bulk of his presentation to a June 30 public Trust meeting.*

**Deadline: Thursday!**

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**CLASSIFIED BARGAINS FOUND ON PAGE B16**



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8:00 am	Daily except Sunday	9:00 am	Daily
10:00 am	Daily	11:00 am	Daily
12:00 noon	Daily	1:00 pm	Daily
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• 7:00 am	u 4:00 pm	*7:30 am	4:30 pm
x 8:00 am	5:00 pm	8:30 am	5:30 pm
9:00 am	6:00 pm	# 9:30 am	6:30 pm
10:00 am	7:00 pm	11:10 am	8:10 pm
11:40 am	8:40 pm	12:10 noon	9:10 pm
n 12:40 pm	9:40 pm	1:10 pm	10:05 pm
1:40 pm	+10:35 pm	2:15 pm	+11:05 pm
3:00 pm		3:30 pm	

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

**Letters**

**Fact or fiction?**

In the North Salt Spring Water District (NSSWD) there are at present 1600 water connections.

These lots are serviced by water from two sources, Maxwell Lake with 85 million gallons per year and St. Mary Lake with 125 million gallons available per year. Trevor Hutton of NSSWD states that last year the district consumed 92% of available supply from these two sources.

Channel Ridge claims in its master development plan (p.17) that there are 465,000 gallons of water available per day for their corporate village - that is more than the total available supply from St. Mary Lake and almost half the supply from Maxwell Lake.

Under the Official Community Plan (OCP) it is the responsibility of the water district to supply water to Channel Ridge once their subdivision proposal is given approval.

Clearly, approval of the Channel Ridge development plan will push the district into a water crisis. Trevor Hutton agrees yet says he has no choice once approval is given by Islands Trust.

The only emergency plan for this crisis in the making is restriction on water consumption.

Plans are in the works for a dam on Duck Creek which would add another 60 million gallons to the supply. It still is not enough. Waiting in the wings are 2,000 other undeveloped lots on Salt Spring. Water are we going to do?

Conclusion: There are limits to growth - none to ignorance.  
**DAVID SHEBIB**  
Freedom Camp

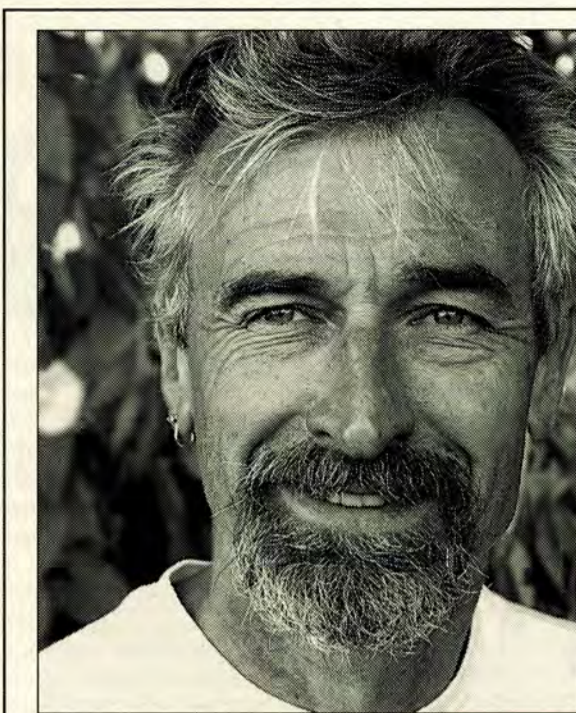
**Getting out the vote**

Congratulations to Andrew Lewis and the Green Party for getting so many young people out to the polls.

In many polls more than 10% of voters were young people who had to register at the polling counter.

Let's hope that many of these young people will continue to take an interest in politics.

**PETER O'NEILL**  
Salt Spring



Name: **PETE MCKENZIE**  
537/538/653: 537  
Occupation(s): Metal fabricator, furniture designer.  
Hobbies: Flirting, gardening, my dog.  
Home finished/unfinished: A work of art in progress.  
Favourite people: Salt Spring locals.  
Favourite read: Who has time to read!  
Best thing about SSI: All the beautiful women.  
Worst thing about SSI: Money hungry developers.  
Best place to kiss on SSI?: Anywhere with the right person.



**DERRICK'S ISLAND PICS**

**RANTS & ROSES**

**RANTS**

*A reminder to readers that all Rants must be signed by the author's name. Please include your phone number so the item may be verified before publication. All Rants and Roses are subject to editing.*

Rants to the "non" dog-lovers who take dogs to the market! Nobody enjoys it; especially the dogs. Norma Eves.

After asking John Davies, lawyer, for irrefutable proof of the contents of my trust account, it is still not forthcoming and long overdue. Joanne Ferriman

**ROSES**

Roses to Robert, CRD Water Engineering Department. He and his helpers speedily dealt with last week's crisis in the Highland Water District when our faucets ran dry due to bursts in the water main. Conscientious service is Robert's hall-

mark. Our sincere thanks, Robert! J & T.

As many roses as would fill your house to Chris and Darlene for their enormous act of kindness, generosity and friendship. This island, and the two of us, got such a huge gift when you decided to move here. Amy & Charles

A bouquet of 15 brilliant red roses (one for each jersey worn) from the girls and parents of Island Star Pee Wee Softball to, who else, Tim and John for their loyal support and sponsorship over the past three years. Thanks guys!

An entire rose garden to each of the nurses, technical staff and doctors at Lady Minto's emergency ward on June 27. Your calm, efficient, professional response to my heart attack has resulted in the best possible outcome. DG

John, Tim and Heather would like to send a big bunch of roses to Mary-Ann McColl, Scott Merrick, Val Nielson, Herb Burnett,

Sherrie Windsor, Misa Meagley, George Soloff and Darren Craig for all their help in making our Canada Day celebration and Island Star Video's eighth birthday a huge success. Our hot dogs and smokies raised over \$500 for the community food bank.

Roses to Dr. Bond for your kindness and sensitivity - not only to animals, but humans as well.

Roses to many: those who pick up us hitchhikers and then drive an extra bit to get this senior up a hill; those who stopped beside me and my troubled car to ask if I needed help; strangers in a pub - seeing me alone - inviting me to join them over a pint. Spontaneous warmth... roses to you all. DB-J.

Roses to everyone at the SPCA on Canada day for going out of their way, and to Dave and Sasha for their care and compassion at a very difficult time. Thanks for everything you did to make Jodie's last moments more comfortable.

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# Celebrate lavender!

The Salt Spring Island Lavender Festival is the island's premiere event for lavender lovers, this Sunday, July 11, at three locations around the island.

The Saltspring Lavender Company's scenic farm in the Fulford Valley is the site for an 11am to 5pm lavender festival 'main event'. Located behind Manderlay Gardens at 2256 Fulford Ganges Road, there are 10 acres of lavender farm to tour and 72 varieties of lavender to view. Alan Mayfield, the proprietor of The Saltspring Lavender Company, has invited local musicians, artists and artisans, the Classic Car Club and ice cream sellers featuring lavender creations. A team of barbeque helpers will prepare Salt Spring lamb on a traditional alder fire spit roast and fresh, locally caught wild Sockeye. Both will be served up with exquisite lavender-based flavourings - all to promote the versatility, variety and beauty of this incredible herb. There will be a \$5 entry fee per adult, children under 12 no charge, with 20% of total gate receipts being donated to the Salt Spring Island Food Bank.

Sacred Mountain Lavender, 401 Musgrave Road, is hosting activities ranging from tours and demonstrations, including a cooking with lavender presentations, and a number of fun events for children, admission \$3 for individual and \$5 for families.

Everlasting Summer, 194 McLennan Drive, is offering U-pick lavender and product sales, as well as lavender-flavoured shortbread, cheesecake and lemonade, from 10am to 5pm, with no admission charge.

Lavender and lavender products will be on sale throughout the day, from pick-your-own to hand-prepared oils and soaps, but for all the growers this an opportunity to host a true community event - one in which they hope their passion for lavender will catch on with islanders and visitors alike. Lavender is the perfect plant for island growing conditions, and with a minimum of upkeep required, anyone can enjoy its charms in their own garden. At The Saltspring Lavender Company farm you are especially encouraged to bring a blanket and a picnic, bring a paintbrush and easel, bring your dancing shoes, and definitely bring your appetite for spectacular scenery, delicious local foods, and the wonderful aroma and display found only in a lavender field.

The Salt Spring Lavender team have worked exceptionally hard to clear and plant the land. They're graced by a gorgeous location, the fertile growing conditions found in the Fulford Valley, and by their own

personal commitment to putting Salt Spring lavender on the map. They were inspired by the people of Sequim, Washington, who, 10 years ago, turned around their local economy and revitalised a community dependent on the logging and fishing industries, with the help of this terrific little herb. The area currently boasts upwards of 40 lavender farms and hosts a lavender festival each year. The 38,000-strong attendance at the last sequim festival is proof that a specialist product, grown and promoted by local farmers, can capture a wide interest.



The Saltspring Lavender Company's farm features 72 lavender varieties, both cultivars and wild species, from France, England, Spain, Portugal, Crete and Holland (to name just a few), and some are grown nowhere else in Canada. On display are French lavenders, among them the majestic 'Grosso' variety, used in soaps, massage oils and shampoos, and also in crafts and sachets; the Spanish lavenders ('butterfly' lavenders), renowned for their blooms and for their impressive colours, from deep cobalt to luscious magenta; and of course the English lavenders, "Hidcote Blue" in particular, for their fragrance, as an aromatherapy oil, and as food grade. The different lavenders are all grown in rows to show off the spectacular effect of mass planting, and the beds are wheelchair accessible. There are geese on site - residents of the pond at the top of the lavender field - who demonstrate the benefits of synergy in agriculture: they clip the grass between the beds, eat the weeds, and leave great fertilizer behind them as they go. (Please note that the farm is part of a bird sanctuary and visitors are respectfully requested to leave their pets at home for the day).

With so much on show, and with the Barley Bros, the Marimba Band, classic cars, an art show, local lamb basted in herbs de Provence with lavender, and wild salmon in lemon and lavender pepper, who can resist a visit to The Saltspring Lavender Company farm? And with lavender's many uses, its fabulous aroma, its wonderful suitability to island garden conditions, and just for its sheer beauty as a flowering plant, why not come celebrate with The Saltspring Lavender Company, Sacred Mountain Lavender and Everlasting Summer this Sunday, July 11. There's no doubt that the growers' passion for this delightful herb will persuade you that lavender deserves a special place in every Salt Spring Island garden.

## ADVERTISING FEATURE



2<sup>nd</sup> Annual

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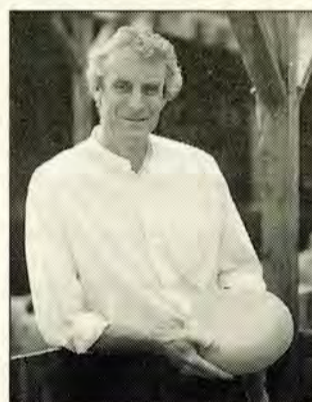
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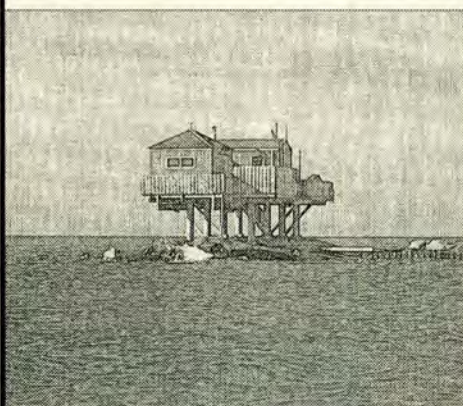
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# Peculiar passion found in wonderful world of worms

By GAIL SJUBERG  
Staff Writer

Most people working out a retirement plan look to financial advisors or the latest best-selling life strategy book.

That wasn't the case for well-known island elementary school teacher Stacia Kennedy.

While students will be glad to know Kennedy isn't yet ready to leave the classroom — she will be at Fulford Elementary this fall — she is already entwined with a “retirement” business that might make some people recoil.

When Kennedy thought about her life after teaching,



**FOR THE LOVE OF WORMS:** Stacia Kennedy, owner of Salt Spring Global Worming, holds a worm puppet — indicating her passion for worms. Photo by Derrick Lundy

ing worms.

Kennedy's admiration for the worms obviously hasn't paled, and she prides herself on treating her specimens well. Large vermiculture operations keep the worms in large trammel harvesters, with a pipe that turns on a big wheel.

“I think that is really hard on the worms,” she said. “I pull them out really gently.”

While there is ample manual work involved in growing worms, the results are rewarding. After four months, 1,000 of the critters can multiply by four times, and a pound sells for \$25 to \$35.

“I sell every worm I can grow,” she said.

Global Worming's mail orders often consist of equal parts of European night crawlers and red wigglers — which people should not get confused — nor mix together in the growing business. (There are also no “native” North American worms, she notes.)

“The men will buy [the night crawlers] for fishing and the women will buy [the red wigglers] for their great castings.”

Kennedy is also now a vermiculture expert, offering workshops and attending various fair events in the spring and summer. Science World in Vancouver has hired her to do demonstrations there.

Global Worming's cheerful motto is “Earth first . . . we'll compost the rest of the planets later.”

More information is available from Kennedy at 537-1111, [info@saltspringworms.com](mailto:info@saltspringworms.com) or [www.saltspringworms.com](http://www.saltspringworms.com).

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- \* **EMERGENCY FOOD BANK:** Open Tuesday 11-3.
- \* **COUNSELLING SERVICES:** Crisis and short-term counselling provided by Community Workers.
- \* **ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM:** Prevention & treatment service is free & confidential.
- \* **FAMILY PLACE: PARENT & CHILD DROP IN** - Monday closed, Tuesday 9-1, Wednesday 1-4, Thursday 9-1 - walk in Mouat Park 10-11am followed by Family Place Drop In and snack, Friday 10:30-2:30, Rughuggers 11-1pm. Family Place Coordinator Rona Robbins, M. Ed. Counselling by appointment 537-9176.
- \* **RECYCLE DEPOT:** Open Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00am-5pm, 349 Rainbow Rd., 537-1200.
- \* **COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS COORDINATOR:** Call Sharon Glover at 537-4607.
- \* **Emergency Mental Health Services available:** 4pm to midnight. Access is available through the Emergency Rm at Lady Minto Hospital call: 538-4840

she asked herself, “What can I do that is environmentally sound and I believe is good for the community and I can do from my home?”

The answer wiggled to the surface in the form of Salt Spring Global Worming. Kennedy now grows worms for fishing bait and vermiculture, and sells vermiculture supplies like specialized containers that take care of household compost entirely indoors — with a little help from amazing worms.

Kennedy also sells the “black gold” produced by the worms; their nutrient-rich castings considered among the best organic fertilizer anywhere.

“Worm castings are probably the finest organic matter you can have,” she said. Not only is its humic acid content high, but it provides natural insect resilience for plants.

She notes how Charles Darwin studied worms for 40 years and really considered it his life's work.

“He figured every particle of earth had moved through the bowels of an earthworm.”

There's been a recent resurgence of research into worms, notes Kennedy. They're even being tested to see if they can rehabilitate toxic sites and an initial study has found that “worms can actually ingest heavy

metals and get rid of them.”

Kennedy first became a vermiculture fan while teaching on Mayne Island several years ago and booking a Capital Regional District worm composting demonstration for her students.

From just a pound of worms and a specialized bin, Kennedy and the kids harvested all kinds of experiences.

“I was just so captivated by it. I thought, ‘this is just such a fabulous project for classrooms.’”

Vermiculture involved biology and mathematics (counting those worms!) and the kids successfully raised funds for a Nicaraguan water project by growing and sell-

## World War II nurse focus of new film

A fascinating profession and period of Canadian history comes to life on Thursday, July 15, 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpring with the Salt Spring premiere of Tabiji — She Journeyed With Them.

Tabiji is the story of a young nurse named Beth Shirley in her first professional nursing position caring for Japanese Canadians diagnosed with tuberculosis and interned at Hastings Park in Vancouver in 1942.

As filmmaker Denise Calderwood explains, “It is also the story of the

people she worked with and those she cared for, particularly Eddie Nishida, a young Japanese man from Woodfibre, B.C. who had been diagnosed with TB. The film follows their journey from Hastings Park in Vancouver to the newly built sanatorium in New Denver.”

Shirley — whose name is now Beth Shirley Edge — is Calderwood's aunt. Edge has been a summer resident of Salt Spring since about 1960, and Calderwood has also been a summer

visitor since that time.

The film is also described as “a story of care in the midst of a tumultuous period in Canadian history and how the care of these patients transcends the events of war.”

Both Nishida, 82, and Edge, 84, will be present for a question and answer session following the film.

Tabiji is a classical Japanese word meaning both a physical and spiritual journey, said Calderwood.

Admission to the event is \$6.50.

### COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMS

Coordinator: Sharon Glover 537-4607



**July 2004**

#### Important Support Service for Seniors: Peer Support Program

Individual support is available free to seniors who are experiencing difficulties emotionally or socially. Trained lay seniors will visit at home to listen and support. Do you, or a friend or relative, need this kind of caring?

Please call 537-4607 if you would like to participate or for more information.

This free service is offered through Salt Spring Seniors Services

#### Breast Cancer Visitor Program

If you have been recently diagnosed and would like to meet with a volunteer who has gone through a similar experience, please call Ros Woolley at 538-1902.

#### Heart Care Group

We see a need to form a support group to share information and lend support. Let's overcome the fear together! Call Sharon at 537-4607 if you would like to start this sort of group.

#### Grief Support Group

This group meets twice a month to offer sharing, support and information.  
**When:** 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month - 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Croftonbrook Meeting Room. Facilitators include members of The Grief Recovery Group, Bessie Dane Hospice, and Senior Peer Counsellors.

#### BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC - free!

Monday 26 July 10:00 - 12:00  
at Salt Spring Seniors (across from GVM)

Connect to your community! [volunteersaltspring.ca](http://volunteersaltspring.ca)

#### The Living Word

Luke 21:33

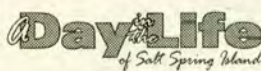
Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."

WINSOME WHITE

PLEASE READ:

PS. 119:152, LUKE 24:44, MATTHEW 5:17&18

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## Newcomers go to show

Salt Spring's Newcomers Group is inviting people to join them for a special Blithe Spirit outing on Thursday, July 29.

It will be preceded by a summer evening “bring-your-own” picnic on the ArtSpring lawns at 7 p.m.

The Graffiti Theatre production of Noel Coward's Blithe Spirit begins at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 per person and can be booked through the ArtSpring box office, or by e-mailing Maggie at [warner@saltspring.com](mailto:warner@saltspring.com).

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VILLAGE  
MARKET**

CANADA POSTES

POST CANADA

**POSTAL OUTLET**

**OPEN  
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DAILY**

**BARGAIN HUNTERS:  
CLASSIFIEDS START  
ON PAGE B16**



**BITTY BARGAIN HUNTERS:** The Itty Bitty Bazaar and Bake Sale at Ganges United Church drew more than an itty bitty crowd, as seen by the happy buyers outside the church Saturday morning. Photo by Derrick Lundy

## Toastmasters name top speaking guns

Salt Spring Toastmasters, the group that helps individuals face down public-speaking fears, re-elected President Chuck Goruk, DTM (Distinguished Toastmaster) for the 2004-05 term.

Bob Rogers CTM (Competent Toastmaster), one of the founding members, was chosen Toastmaster of the year.

The award Rookie of the Year went to Blair Howard who moved through the Toastmaster program with marked success to achieve the CTM distinction this year.

Organized only eight months ago, Salt Spring Toastmasters has 24 members meeting every Monday evening to get rid of public speaking nerves, and hone the skills that make an interesting, dynamic speaker.

Anyone wishing to gain confidence in public speaking in a friendly and non-judgemental atmosphere, contact Salt Spring Toastmasters at 537-8884 or 653-2015

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<b>FRESH AUSTRALIAN</b> <b>Leg of Lamb</b> 8.77kg <b>3.98/lb</b>	<b>Lamb Loin Chops</b> 17.59kg <b>7.98/lb</b>	<b>Rack of Lamb</b> 20.46kg <b>9.28/lb</b>	<b>CUT FROM CANADA GR. "AA" OR "A" BEEF BONELESS</b> <b>TOP ROUND OVEN ROAST</b> 6.57kg <b>2.98/lb</b>
<b>CALIFORNIA NECTARINES</b> 1.94/kg <b>88¢</b>	<b>RED CARRIBEAN PAPAYA</b> 2.62/kg <b>1.19</b>	<b>DOLE PINEAPPLE</b> 2.18/kg <b>99¢</b>	<b>BC HOTHOUSE TOMATO ON THE VINE</b> 1.94/kg <b>88¢</b>

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<b>DAIRY</b> <b>KRAFT PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese</b> 250g ea <b>2.49</b>	<b>BLACK DIAMOND Sliced Cheese</b> 500g pkg <b>3.39</b>	<b>SCHNEIDERS Big Cheese</b> 600g pkg <b>7.49</b>	<b>ISLAND FARMS VICTORIA STYLE Cream Cheese</b> 250g tub <b>2.49</b>
<b>KERR QUALITY Peg Top Candy</b> pkg <b>2/3.00</b>	<b>CATELLI Lasagna</b> 375-500g <b>1.77</b>	<b>DELI BLACK FOREST HAM</b> per 100g <b>1.29</b>	<b>BAKERY HOMESTYLE MINI-CINNAMON CRUNCHIES</b> 510g <b>2.99</b>

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<b>SCHNEIDERS FROZEN Outlaw Beef Burgers</b> 5lb box <b>9.98</b>	<b>Fresh Sole Fillets</b> per 100g <b>1.28</b>	<b>BC GROWN CARROTS</b> 2lb bag <b>75¢</b>	<b>BC GROWN ROMAINE LETTUCE</b> ea. <b>49¢</b>
<b>99¢</b> (Carnation Evaporated Milk)	<b>4.98</b> (Nestle Instant Coffee)	<b>1.97</b> (PG Tips Tea Bags)	<b>2/5.00</b> (Weetabix)
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<b>1.99</b> (Shirley Marmalade)	<b>2/3.00</b> (Bugles Corn Snacks)	<b>1.34</b> (GEROLSTEINER Mineral Water)	<b>5/2.00</b> (FRISKIES Cat Food)
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## LET'S EAT WITH LINDA KOROSCIL

The other day I bought the most gorgeous rib eye steaks from the old-fashioned meat display section in Thrifty's.

They were about \$10 each and worth every penny.

I just barbecued them quickly — I like rare, then topped them with the roasted garlic butter.

This makes a great summer meal with fresh greens from the garden and new potatoes.

### Rib Eye Steak and Roasted Garlic Butter

Roast the garlic — slice off a small portion of two heads of garlic, drizzle with olive oil, wrap in tin foil or bake in a garlic baker til golden brown — about 15 minutes at 375.

Bring 1/2 c. sherry to a boil with 1 tbsp. chopped thyme. Reduce to 1/2 volume, then strain off the thyme.

Squeeze out the roasted garlic cloves and mash with



## BRIDGE TRICKS

On June 21, the Laundrys came in first; second were Joan Conlan and Nancy Arnold, tied with Ron Hall and Bob Morrisette, and then came Marsha Flad and Gordon McNeil.

On June 28, Irene Hawksworth and Jean Elder were first, and Conlan and Arnold were second.

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**YARD SALES & OTHER GREAT DEALS FOUND ON PAGE B18**

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# Local coach Terry Stringer cheered for hard workers

By MITCHELL SHERRIN  
Staff Writer

Salt Spring lost a keen coach and sports enthusiast who contributed much to local athletes over the past 35 years when islander Terry Stringer died on June 13.

"He loved this island," said Terry's wife Cathy. "He was 18 when he left Ontario. He was going to Europe but he was going in the opposite direction that most of us would go; he was travelling west. He ended up on Salt Spring . . . and he never left."

An athlete who enjoyed many sports himself, Terry started coaching when their son Greg entered soccer and baseball over twenty years ago, she said.

"When Greg went up to the big leagues with Salt Spring FC, Terry continued with the Lower Island Soccer Association."

Terry coached, refereed and assisted the executive of the Salt Spring Island Youth Soccer Association (SSIYSA) for 25 years.

"A lot of young men grew up with Terry on the sidelines in one way or another," she said.

He continued as the scorekeeper for SSIYSA right up until this season, she said.

"Before he passed away, he was bound and determined to finish off this year completely and he made it."

She found it remarkable that such an extremely competitive athlete could support all athletes equally as a coach.

He was not prone to favour his most talented "hot shot" players but held a soft spot for "the grunts," players who worked hard without recognition, she said.

"My link to Terry was sports," said long-time friend Glenn Woodley.

They started playing basketball together in Fulford shortly after Terry moved to the island in 1969.

"We did a little ice hockey at the beginning of the Slugs. . . We didn't know how to skate at all but we

tried anything."

They also played fast-pitch and slo-pitch baseball, he said.

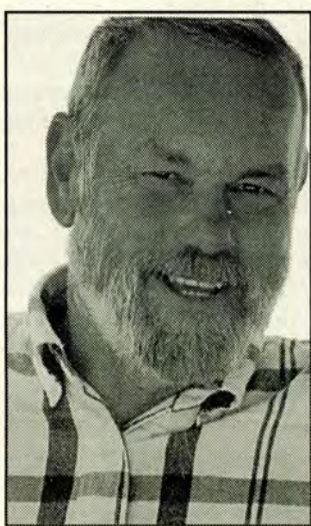
"As we got older, it got harder and we finally turned to golf."

Terry was the leader of the Thursday night league at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club.

"Even when he was in his wheel chair, he'd come up to the golf club and keep score," Woodley said.

"He was my daughter's very first coach," recalled SSIYSA president Ken Byron.

"He also served on the executive for a number of



Terry Stringer

years. He really cared about the club."

Byron first met Terry while the new islander was working at Brown Camp with youths on Stowell Lake shortly after he first arrived on Salt Spring back in 1969.

"We crossed paths a lot over the years."

And Byron grew to respect Terry for his work as well as his coaching with youth, he said.

"He was one of these guys who could read a compass and shoot levels and read instruments."

After a stint of working as a surveyor, Terry learned carpentry and worked with

Hans Hazenboom for 13 years.

"He was way ahead of what was going to happen for the overall job," Hazenboom said.

In a memorial service on June 19, Hazenboom honoured Terry in a speech he wrote with his wife Ellen.

"I hardly recall Terry ever taking a sick day and I think he lost more sleep over work than I did."

In a recent interview, Hazenboom described how Terry was very involved in the Meadowbrook project which was completed a week before he was diagnosed with cancer and Terry

worked up until the day he received his diagnosis nine months ago.

But while Terry left monuments of his hard work all around the island, Hazenboom remembered him at the memorial as someone who gave his time to help young islanders in sports.

"Terry watched a generation of island youth grow up on the soccer fields of Salt Spring and it warmed his heart to see so many of these youngsters, now parents themselves, on the sidelines cheering, coaching or refereeing their own children - giving back to the community that gave to them."

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**COLOURFUL DISPLAY:** An almost-full moon glimmers amid the fireworks as Canada Day celebrations get under way in Ganges Harbour last Thursday night.

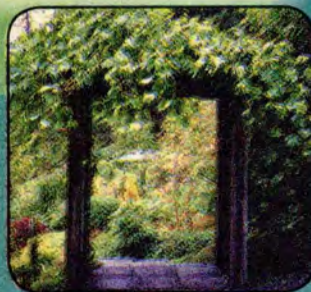
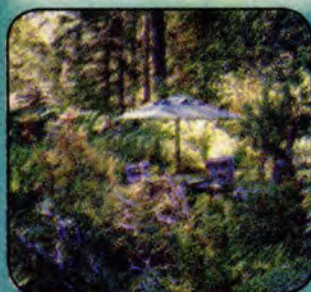
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## Bus driver puts on the brakes

By JENNIFER MCFEE  
Staff Writer

After 28 years on the job, bus driver Wayne Duke transported his last load of school kids last Tuesday morning before his retirement.

Duke will continue working for the district as a custodian until he retires at the end of December, but the last day of school on June 29 marked his last run on the route he has navigated for so many years.

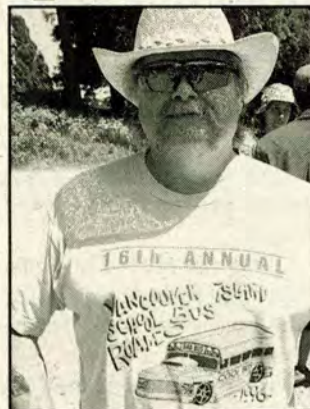
"He's had an impeccable driving record. It's been flawless. He's been a fabulous driver," said school district transportation supervisor Ken Garner.

"He's driven kids that have become parents, and he's driven their kids. The parents all know him. He's a familiar face. He will be missed. This is a new era for the school district, for sure."

Duke may continue to work as a spare driver after December, so his expertise won't be lost, said Garner.

"The bus is just alive when all the kids are on. He does a fabulous job. He hauls probably over 70 Fernwood kids when he leaves that school. Just being able to cope with that day in and day out is amazing."

Thea McCormick, a bus driver who retired last July, said she has known Duke for over 23 years.



Wayne Duke

"The two of us together worked a total of 50 years with the district," she said. "He was such a careful, caring person about his kids. He adores his kids. He's really going to miss them. They all like him. They all know him as Mr. Duke."

"There's even bus drivers he drove as kids. He's gone through generations."

Kathleen Mouat is one of Salt Spring's bus drivers who remembers being driven to school as a child by Duke.

"I can remember personally an incident when a person shot at the bus. It was not a hostage situation, but it was a time when Wayne had to keep his cool and keep us calm and just keep driving."

When Mouat was learning to be a bus driver, she was apprehensive to push open

the emergency windows because of lessons Duke instilled in her as a young bus rider.

"He always said to us as kids that if we ever touched an emergency window, they'd fall out and our parents would have to pay for them."

He loved to tell the kids tall tales, and would even stop along the way to get them to sing 'Happy Birthday' to a donkey, Mouat said.

In more recent years, Duke convinced his riders that he had a microwave on the bus.

"He would pop popcorn in the microwave before he left and tell the kids he had a microwave on the bus. He would pull the bus over and pull out a bag of already-popped popcorn and hand it out to the kids," she said.

Fernwood Elementary principal Richard Bennett said the students will miss their bus driver.

"They'll miss the fact that he actually knows them all and looks out for them. Their interactions with Mr. Duke set them up for a good day."

"Many of the kids now, he drove their parents. He knows all the families he's driving, not just the kids. He's an important link between the school and the community. That's really valuable."

Bennett described Duke as a calm and consistent driver, with set rules and regulations that the kids know to follow.

"Bus drivers probably have the hardest job in terms of supervising kids. He's one of the best at doing that. You've got to be very patient, but also very consistent, very firm and very kind. He has all of those attributes."

## Games team on island

Islanders will get to watch the Lower Islands U13 girls soccer team prepare for the upcoming B.C. Summer Games.

Local coach Sue Spencer has invited her Zone Six U13 team to Salt Spring for a two-day retreat to warm-up for the B.C. Summer Games in Abbotsford on July 15-18.

The Zone Six team featuring islander Meredith Raddysh will play a friendly match with an island-based U14/U15 squad at Portlock Park 5 p.m. Monday.

They will also assist a mini camp for girls aged 8-12 at the upper high-school field 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Tuesday morning.

The camp costs \$10 and all proceeds will go to the Salt Spring Island Youth Soccer Association. E-mail (technicaldirector@saltspringingsoccer.com) or call Sue Spencer (537-7775) to register.

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