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S.S.I. HISTORICAL ARCHIVES 129 MCPHILLIPS AVE. SALT SPRING ISLAND BC V8K 2T6 12/30/04

Driftwood Gulf Islands

Local arrested for Ganges bank robbery

Salt Spring RCMP are confident they've caught the man who held local tellers at gun point in the island's first bank robbery last month.

"We're pleased that an arrest was made early," said Salt Spring RCMP detachment commander Sgt. Mike Giles.

Islander Charles Gregory Crossland (34) appeared in Victoria Provincial Court for a bail hearing Tuesday in connection with the Salt Spring robbery of the Bank of Montreal on June 22.

But local police are not celebrating their success, Giles said.

"It's not a very triumphant thing when you arrest and charge someone for such a big offense."

No-one was hurt in the

robbery. A masked man carrying a gun went behind the counter of the Ganges bank and grabbed close to \$6,000 from cash drawers, reported the Times Colonist.

"We want to assure the public we are confident we have the person responsible for the bank robbery . . . The public-security risk posed by that person being at large is now gone."

Though the suspect had used a rifle in the robbery, local police did not require assistance from RCMP Emergency Response Team units.

"The arrest was conducted by me and only members of the Salt Spring RCMP. We didn't call for the assistance of any other service."



LOOKING THROUGH THE LAVENDER: Seen hiding in a field of lavender at Sacred Mountain Lavender is, from left: Sarah, Hannah and Gillian Richards. More lavender festival photos, Page B2. Photo by Derrick Lundy

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS
• Ganges • Field's Stores
• Pharmasave • Ganges Village Market
• Thrifty Foods

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MORTGAGE DEPOT

Murakami memories
A Salt Spring Japanese family remembers internment 50 years later. Page B1

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Weather
Sun and clouds for during the next few days are expected to turn to light rain by Saturday. Highs to 24 C on Thursday, overnight lows to 12 C, also on Thursday.

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Parking on Salt Spring: how bad can it be?

By MITCHELL SHERRIN Staff Writer

A friend of mine once told me about Gorm, the pagan god of parking, and he tried to convert me to the true path that would lead me to a sacred stall. He even had a statue of Gorm on his dashboard. It looked like a Buddha with a parking-meter head.

Now that I live on Salt Spring, where a lack of downtown parking is a favourite topic, I've considered invoking the great Gorm once again.

Many islanders shun Ganges or Fulford on a mid-summer Saturday and merchants complain about lost revenue because of parking problems.

Without dispute, it's easy to find vehicles stuffed into every nook and cranny

between Ganges Hill and Upper Ganges during peak tourist season.

But a new study will finally provide data to determine just how bad — or not so bad — parking really is on the island.

The Islands Trust, the Capital Regional District, the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce and B.C. Ferries are collaborating on a new parking study designed by local engineer Scott Iverson.

He teaches engineering part-time at the University of Victoria recently completed a parking study for Greenwoods and Lady Minto Hospital

The Ganges study calls for volunteers to seek out target destinations at particular times and measure their success at finding a

parking space. Target destinations and times were determined randomly for the study.

"We'll just see where you park."

Ganges will be divided into zones around each location.

"If you're in the first zone, that's the top level of service. If you have to go further away to park, that's a lesser level of service. If you have to search for a spot, go around, wait in traffic and make a second pass, that's a lower of level service again."

Armed with a survey provided by Iverson, this Driftwood reporter tagged along with Mouat's general manager Kevin Bell during a parking check at 10:25 a.m. Saturday.

PARKING STUDY A2

Company responds to cell tower fears

Islanders are buzzing with concern over a proposed cell-phone repeater for Ganges but their worries might generate more wattage than the facility itself, according to a company spokesperson.

"This [cell-phone repeater] produces less energy than you'd actually get standing beside a cell-phone user," said Rick Carlson, western-region director of network implementation for Telus Mobility.

"It's not a full cell-site, by any manner of means. It's a little repeater that will be taking an off-air signal from our Mayne Island site, which is a full tower serving a larger area, and rebroadcasting this service just in the downtown core of Ganges," he said.

The repeater proposed for installation in the Ganges Fire Hall tower will exceed federal Safety Code 6 requirements by 12,177 times, Carlson said.

"This installation is 0.048 microwatts per square centimetre, which is well below the standards set by the Islands Trust after a considerable review."

The Island Trust's Advisory Planning Commission (APC) recommends that no cell-phone antenna greater than two microwatts per square centimetre be installed within 500 metres of any facility concerned with continuous human activity.

"That's 200 times more stringent than the federal standard, which is one of the most stringent standards in the world," Carlson said.

The Island Trust standards were set after several community meetings in 2001, he said.

"Even IROCA (Island Residents Opposed to Cell-phone Antennae) specified

TOWER CONCERNS A2

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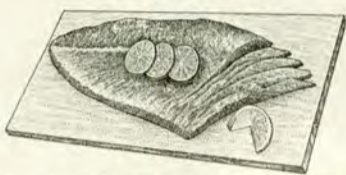
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PARKING STUDY:

From Page 1

"On a market Saturday in July? Good luck," one might say.

The first assignment was to find parking at the Bank of Montreal and it proved to be the most difficult zone. No spots were available in the core downtown lot.

The dock-side lot was also full. Several vehicles were abandoned illegally along our route and we could have snuggled up on the curb like many other motorists but Bell declined.

"The rule is, we have to find a legal spot, otherwise it defeats the whole thing," he said.

We cruised past throngs of people at the market, circled the core lots one more time and searched behind the Pharmasave, to finally find a spot near Island Star Video.

The entire search took only two minutes and we were parked just two blocks from our destination.

Bell assumed we could do no better finding parking for the Salt Spring Bagel shop but we found a stall behind Gasoline Alley on the first try.

Another search for parking near Moka House had equal success, with instant parking beside the building.

"I live a charmed life," Bell said.

We went to the Mary Hawkins Library and found

four vacant stalls. During his parking searches over last few weeks, Bell said he's never had to search more than two minutes for a spot in any location around town.

"I've never missed at the library."

A 1985 parking inventory found 800 spots in Ganges, he said.

But Bell estimates there can be 600 people working in town at any given time.

"Therein lies the problem."

Customers and visitors to Ganges would have ample parking if employees and store owners freed up stalls outside their businesses by parking further from the core, he said.

"You'll find a lot of business owners who park right in front of their stores."

Some 17 retail businesses are served by the spots near the post office, not including banks and lawyers' offices. It is estimated that these businesses generate \$30 million in sales each year, he said.

"If you do the math, each spot is worth \$150,000-160,000 in sales to the businesses in those areas."

South end parking

Fulford has a more difficult time with only 40 available parking spots (not including parking at Patterson's Store and Jambalya).

B.C. Ferries is helping with the study in Fulford but little can be done at this time, said Bell.

"There are no options in Fulford. In Ganges, you could always park up Rainbow Road and walk in."

He believes Salt Spring needs more parking but the growth could be incremental, he said.

"I don't think a parkade is in our lifetime. It's too costly."

Past parking studies have found that islanders want small parking areas instead of vast parking lots that will remain vacant in the off-season, said Iverson.

"There are those periods when the demand far exceeds the supply but I look at that from my standpoint as just adding to the energy level of the day."

Expectation is a major component of the parking study, Iverson noted.

"Even if people head to a mall in Vancouver or Victoria at certain periods when a mall is crowded, they sometimes end up parking a long way from those too," he said.

"The ambiance of walking through town is much more pleasant than a mall parking lot."

And I think even Gorm, in all his asphalt glory, would agree with that.

Vehicle trashed at hall Saturday

When Letitia Lane left Beaver Point Hall Saturday night, she found that her vehicle had been damaged by vandals while she was dancing inside.

"My car got flipped onto its passenger side. Now the door can't open, the window's punched in and the wheel alignment's all messed up. It may end up being written off. It also took out the window of the van next to me," she said.

"I have to wait until July 22 for the insurance adjuster to come to the island before I can even do anything about it."

In order to flip the blue Subaru wagon, between four and eight people must have been involved she said.

Sgt. Mike Giles said the investigation is ongoing.

"We believe it was several youth involved. It's not really typical behaviour," he said.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to contact the RCMP at 537-5555.

AT THE PUMPS

Gas pump prices as of Monday, July 12 were as follows:

Salt Spring Payless	104.9
McCull's Shell	97.8
Patterson's Store	96.9
Save-On Gas	104.9
Chemainus Shell	91.5
Parkdale Shell	93.9 (Victoria)
Pender Island	103.9
Mayne Island	105.9
Galiano Island	102.9

BARGAIN HUNTERS: TURN TO PAGE B12 FOR GREAT DEALS

TOWER CONCERNS:

From Page A1

that these are the standards that should be used and this installation meets it."

Telus had previously planned to install a larger facility on B.C. Hydro property near King's Lane but cancelled the plan in response to local controversy pinned on "fear, uncertainty and doubt," he said.

"One of the reasons [the plan was cancelled] is a concern with island residents and the strict standards the APC have put in place."

IROCA argued that electromagnetic

radiation emissions from cell-phone technology had been found to have detrimental effects on people, animals and the environment.

It could still be some time before Salt Spring can receive consistent cell-phone coverage on all areas of the island, Carlson said.

"In reality, the money we had allocated to go to Salt Spring, which would have benefited the island dramatically in my opinion, went to other communities."

Busy weekend for local police

Police attended Beaver Point Hall early Sunday morning after receiving a report of several youths flipping a vehicle onto its side, smashing the front passenger's window.

A second vehicle was also damaged with a broken window and some scratches. Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact Salt Spring RCMP or Crimestoppers.

RCMP REPORT

Police attended a two-vehicle accident on Friday afternoon at about 1:50 p.m. Four people in a Volkswagen Golf skidded on wet surface through the sharp corner on Fulford-Ganges Road at Isabella Point Road, where they struck a four-wheel-drive pick-up.

The vehicles were sub-

stantially damaged and towed from the scene.

Occupants of both vehicles were attended by ambulance crews and taken to the hospital for a check-up.

Over the past week, police issued eight violation tickets for liquor offences in the Ganges downtown area.

Two 24-hour driving prohibitions were issued on July 11 between 2:50 and 3:15 a.m.

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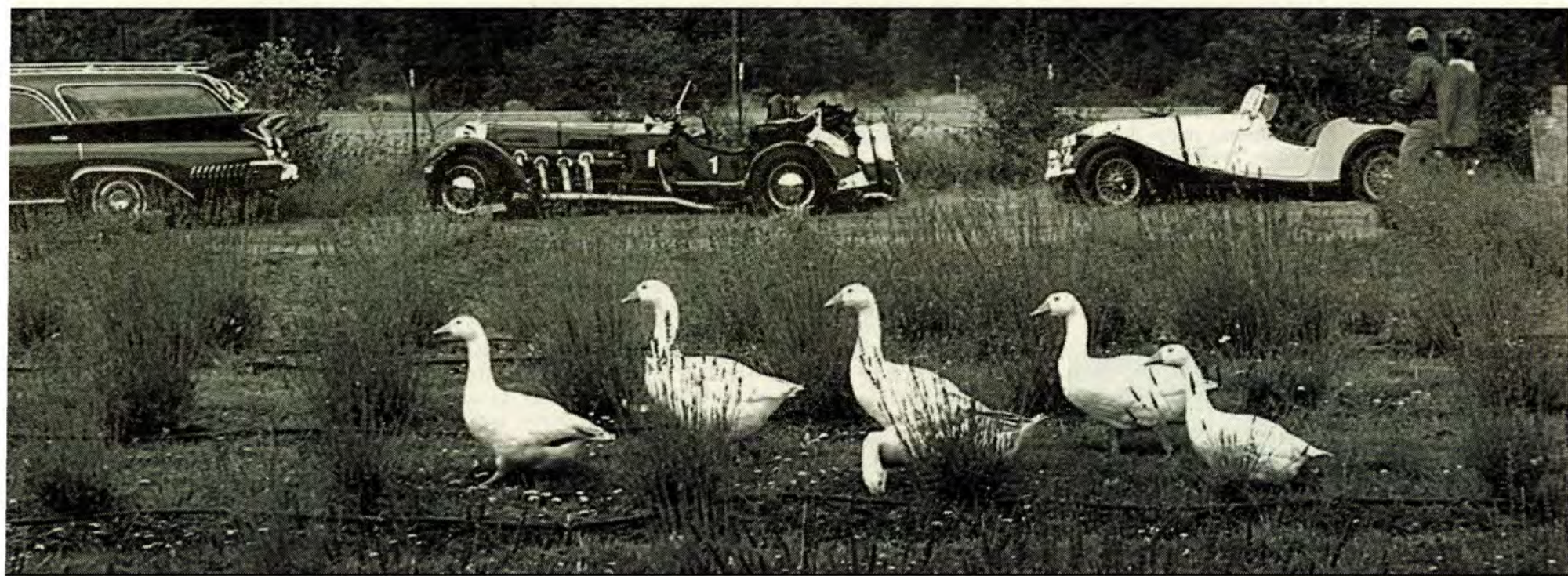
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GOOSEY GANDER: A flock of birds moves in to take a closer look at a line of classic cars parked at the Salt Spring Lavender Company during the annual Lavender Festival held Sunday. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Thermal equipment saves church

This week, the fire department responded to several medical emergency calls, including a motor vehicle accident on July 9.

They also responded to three fire alarm calls that turned out to be all false alarms.

On both July 9 and 10, they had smoke-in-the-structure calls.

At about 11:45 a.m. on July 9, trucks from all three fire halls responded to a call to the United Church.

"You always plan for the worst and hope for the best," said chief Dave Enfield. "It was a minor electrical problem in a fan in the floor of the basement.

"What really helped us was our thermal imaging camera. It is a \$16,000 piece of equipment, and it paid for itself right there. It pinpointed the exact point we needed to go to. We were able to alleviate that problem right away."



FIREFIIGHTERS FLOCK TO CHURCH: The Salt Spring Fire Department responded to a midday call Friday about a minor electrical problem at the United Church. Photo by Jennifer McFee

Water calls keep coast guard working at a steady pace

The Ganges Coast Guard had a quiet weekend, despite all the boats on the water. During the week, they responded to several calls.

• On July 7, the Coast Guard responded to a call about an overdue vessel.

A woman called in because she was unable to contact her parents on their sailboat, who were visiting the Gulf Islands from Vancouver.

The Coast Guard did a complete search of Ganges Harbour and Montague Harbour, and went on to search Miners Bay on Mayne Island and Sturdies Bay on Galiano

Island, then the north end of Prevost Island.

The search continued for about five hours with no results. The couple arrived safely in Vancouver the following day, and the problem was attributed to a lack of communication.

"Follow your plan and sail your plan," advised Marco Khalil of the Coast Guard. "It's the golden rule number one. A lot of these problems that use up Coast Guard resources occur when people don't follow plans."

• On Thursday morning, a ski boat was found drifting

off Tent Island, north of Salt Spring.

It was recovered with help from Ladysmith Coast Guard, and was found to have broken off from its mooring at Crofton.

"Golden rule number two is make sure you use a nautical knot," said Khalil.

• Later that day, the Coast Guard was called to investigate half of a canoe found adrift off Helen Point, Active Pass. It was identified as a derelict boat.

• The regular Coast Guard boat is away for refit and will be back in three weeks.

Soil movement may be regulated

The Local Trust Committee (LTC) has released a draft copy of a new Soil Removal and Deposit bylaw to seek public input prior to a first reading.

If approved, the Islands Trust bylaw will restrict deposit and removal of soil or compost material, including sand, gravel and rock, on Salt Spring.

Permitted exemptions would include deposits or removals less than 500 cubic metres per calendar year, removals directly related to preparing an approved sub-

division, and removals related to work authorized by a building permit or driveway permit.

Deposits or removals of soil would be permitted if the soil originated elsewhere on the same lot.

Farmers, florists, nursery operators and highways

crews are exempt from the bylaw for related soil work.

The Islands Trust bylaw would supersede existing bylaws governed by the Capital Regional District.

The LTC next meets on July 28. Copies of the draft bylaw are available through the Islands Trust office.

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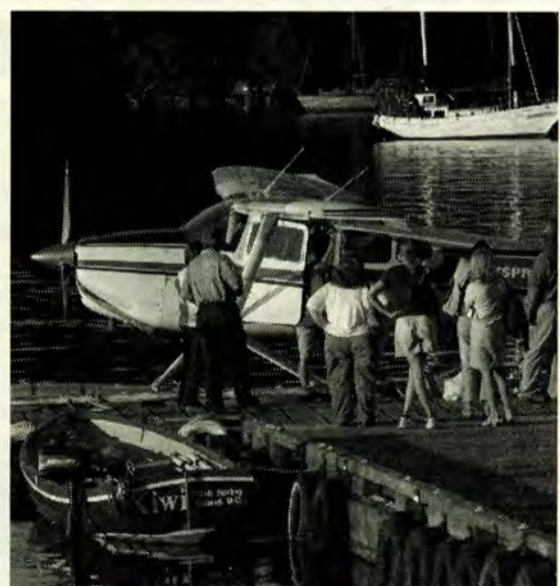
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Sewer expansion saves funds by cutting sludge

By MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

The Ganges Sewer Committee hopes to save money with an upgrade that will reduce liquid waste while maintaining top-quality effluent during an upcoming expansion of facilities.

"One of our on-going

problems has been the cost of removing sludge from the system," said Ganges Sewer Committee (GSC) chair Tom Toynbee.

The Ganges Sewer facility on Seaview Avenue uses a Zenon micro-filtration system that produces excellent effluent but residual waste

must still be hauled away from the facility at high cost, Toynbee said.

"What we are hauling to Burgoyne Bay is 98.5 per cent water at very substantial costs."

He estimates that hauling sludge to the Burgoyne Liquid Waste Disposal site takes roughly one third of the annual sewer budget.

"Last year it cost us in excess of \$150,000 to deal with sludge."

Consequently, the GSC has been looking for ways to reduce hauling costs and tipping fees. The sewer committee approved a trial to add Kubota flat membranes to the facility for de-watering last month, since those membranes operate in a thicker mixture.

"This membrane technology is relatively new but it just keeps galloping ahead. There is so much progress being made in it and new types of membranes are

coming along. They are learning a lot of things they didn't know six - seven years ago."

In combination with the existing system, the Kubota membranes proved to reduce sludge water volume by half which could also cut hauling costs significantly.

"We would be aiming at saving 40 per cent."

The GSC is now negotiating with both Kubota and Zenon for expanding service at the Ganges facility. They hope to make a decision on equipment within a month.

"The initial part of expansion we are doing now, which we feel we can do with just new membranes and de-watering, is to serve developments that may occur in the existing area."

Down the road, a further upgrade would allow the Ganges Sewer to serve applications from properties outside the current service

area, he said.

"With the current tankage, we have room to do double the current flows but it will take additional membranes and some upgrading of facilities. Beyond that, there would have to be additional tankage. That's quite a potential increase."

The GSC has received several applications from outside the current service area. Those applications include: the Rainbow Road Recreation Centre, an affordable-housing development on Norton Road and a development of property on Ganges Hill owned by the Victoria Catholic Diocese, he said.

"We can't make any commitments until we've determined we know the technology we want to proceed with."

Capital Regional District (CRD) director and GSC member Gary Holman expressed concern about

meeting Ganges-core area capacity and expansion while maintaining equitable funding.

"The problem is you've got these other [applicants] outside the core potentially coming on stream, if the Trust agrees; which means you might be using up [the increased volume] by the time you've got some other developments in that core serviced area. What do you do then?"

One way to pay for future expansion would be to charge new developments outside the core for expansion down the road, he said.

"The more it's out there the better; rather than having things percolating behind the scenes, which tends to happen with the CRD because you've got all these committees and commissions meeting at different places and different times and it's hard for people to keep track of what's going on."



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Invisible world needs better PR team

Scientists often lament about the loss of "biodiversity" occurring worldwide as a result of human activities.

It's an important issue because humans rely on this diversity of life to maintain the natural services that we depend on — things like clean air and water.

But protecting life diversity is exceedingly difficult if we don't even know what we're trying to protect.

Scientists are still a long ways from pinning down the number of species on our planet. Most common estimates range from 10 to 20 million species, although we have identified only 10 to 20 per cent of those.

Researchers are hard at work finding and identifying new species, and they discover them all the time. But the largest number of unclassified species are also the most difficult to find because we can't even see them.

In an impassioned plea for more studies into the

SCIENCE MATTERS

BY DAVID SUZUKI



invisible, Dr. Sean Nee of the University of Edinburgh, U.K., points out in the journal *Nature* that today's most important and interesting discoveries about biodiversity are being found at the microscopic level. Yet, he says, the vast majority of scientists are fixated on the visible world.

He makes a strong argument. Life on Earth would not exist at all if not for the actions of microscopic creatures that pumped first methane and then oxygen into the atmosphere billions of years ago.

Indeed, for over half of the time that life has existed on this planet, there were only microorganisms. Over some two billion years, they evolved all of the basic mechanisms that multicellular creatures like us depend on.

The majority of life on the planet still exists at microscopic levels. The soil that

we depend on for our food is a community of microorganisms that not only constantly recreate soil, but feed trees of the forest, filter water and fix nitrogen from the air. Both in terms of biomass (the weight of living matter) and individual numbers, microscopic organisms far outnumber life forms in the visual world.

Four out of five animals on the planet are actually microscopic nematodes. On the tree of life, Nee says, visible creatures are but "barely noticeable twigs."

If fact, we still owe our breathable atmosphere to microscopic creatures.

While most people think about trees and plants as the source of the oxygen we breathe (and they do produce 50 per cent of it), terrestrial plants also absorb much of that oxygen again through the process of respiration.

It's actually invisible phytoplankton practicing photosynthesis in our oceans that add enough oxygen to our air to prevent the world's supply from dwindling.

Some of the most fascinating recent discoveries of new life forms have not been

of mammals or birds, but unusual microscopic organisms. From creatures that breathe uranium, to those that thrive in hot acid or solid rock, new discoveries about microscopic biodiversity have raised new questions and challenged some of our views about the basic requirements for life to exist. Life, it seems, is extremely tenacious.

Given a chance, it will evolve and flourish in the most unlikely of places.

If we are to truly begin to understand the diversity of life around us, Nee argues, biologists must rid themselves of their bias toward the visible world. We are too emotional in our study of life diversity, he says, focussing on cute creatures and virtually ignoring the majority of life on Earth.

Humans must think more rationally, like Mr. Spock of *Star Trek* fame, and less emotionally in our study of biodiversity.

He has a point, and not just in regards to microscopic organisms.

Our insistent focus on threatened "charismatic megafauna" or "cute critters" has in some ways blinded us to the rapid degradation of entire systems. The fact that animals like tigers, gorillas and whales have been held back from the brink of extinction gives the public a false sense of security.

But popularizing the microscopic world is no easy task either. Humans are emotional creatures and we naturally feel more affinity to creatures that are more like ourselves. People just might not be ready to relate to things they can't even see.

Most of us are already so cut off from the natural world that we don't even recognize how dependent we are on healthy ecosystems. We need to reconnect with nature at all levels if we are to protect the diversity that underpins the basics of life we now take for granted.



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SEEPERS: Teachers Molly Lynes-Ford, Sarah Stoffelsma, Robyn Huntley Smith and Sarah Myers will be leading weeklong workshops as part of a Summer Ecological Exploration Program on Salt Spring.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Island kids can SEEP into ecology

A new hands-on summer program is bubbling around Fulford forests and tidal flats for local children with an ecological focus.

"When you're fascinated by the shapes of different cones from different trees, you start to ask questions and you want to be part of it," said local teacher Sarah Myers.

As part of the Summer Ecological Exploration Program (SEEP), Myers will be facilitating weeklong workshops in August for kids with fellow educators Robyn Huntley Smith, Molly Lynes-Ford, and Sarah Stoffelsma.

"We can find so much to be in awe of that's found in nature: Why does the arbutus bark peel like that? How do ants know how to find their way home?" Myers said.

SEEP is a collaboration between Fulford Community Nature School and the Gulf Islands Center for Ecological Learning (GICEL).

"There is so much potential for this type of education and this is the first step," Myers said.

GICEL has been running similar summer programs on Mayne Island for the past two years, she said.

"We have an incredible resource here for ecological learning," she said.

SEEP is based on Earth-education principals that take a decidedly ecological focus, she said.

"You go beyond the science of it, you go beyond playing in it, like kayaking or hiking, and you focus on connections and interconnectedness to get a better sense of what we're part of and where we are from."

In addition to hands-on investigation activities, there will be art, music, storytelling, team-building exercises and active games, she said.

"When people feel connected and more inspired by their surroundings, they will

act in ways that will protect and preserve their environment."

Several youth mentors will also help participants and a number of community specialists will enrich individual sessions, she said.

Maximum enrollment is set at 24 young naturalists for each five-day session.

Some 10 students had

already registered for the program before posters were completed Thursday, Myers said.

The first SEEP session runs August 2-6 (with a forest focus) and the second session (marine studies) runs August 16-20.

For more information and registration, call Judy Rad-dysh at 653-0025.

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Tourist numbers on the rise in July

By JENNIFER MCFEE
Staff Writer

After a slow month for tourism on Salt Spring, visitor numbers are now on the upswing.

"June was really, really slow for accommodations," said Chamber of Commerce manager Perry Ruehlen. "But our number of visitors is exactly the same as last year and the year before. I'm guessing we had a lot more day visitors."

The elections in Canada and the United States could be one contributing factor as to why June was so slow, Ruehlen said.

"In the States, the whole year leading up to an election is slower for tourism," she added.

But as soon as the July long weekend hit, tourism began to boom on the island.

"The stores definitely said they've picked up now that we're into July. They're coming in droves. That will carry on until the end of September," said Ruehlen.

Over 500 people came to the Visitor Information Centre on Saturday, July 3, she said.

Alex Simpson, who has worked at the Info Centre for the past two years, said

it gets incredibly busy in the small building.

"There's times when I wonder how people even move in here," she said. "Things are starting to pick up. Now people are really starting to call about reservations and are interested in coming. There are weddings every weekend."

Salt Spring is a destination for many French, German

and American tourists, she said.

"We definitely get a varied group of visitors. But the main place they come from is across B.C. We get a lot of people from the lower mainland and Vancouver Island."

Simpson said they respond to all kinds of questions and requests at the Info Centre.

"We even got somebody calling from Iowa asking

about a woman he'd known here 20 years ago. He wanted to track her down."

Most visitors are fairly good-natured, added Simpson. "The grumpier ones are the ones who are locals," she said.

Carey Magnusson, who has also worked at the Info Centre for the past two years, said he answers a lot of the same questions each day.

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Check out pages B14-B20 for the Salt Spring's Marketplace.

Manson Toynbee remembered as a 'quiet, gentle man'

By JENNIFER MCFEE
Staff Writer

William Manson Toynbee will be deeply missed by his family and the Salt Spring community following his death last Friday at the Lady Minto extended care unit.

Manson was born on Salt Spring in 1927, where he grew up with his brothers Dick and Tom.

"His mother was one of the Moutats, so they were very much involved in the store. Manson worked there when he was his boy," said Mary, his wife of 38 years.

As an adult, Manson was a respected school teacher on Salt Spring Island and in

West Vancouver, where he also became the principal of Gleneagles School.

"The kids that were in his classes at those schools would still remember him when they ran into him," his wife said.

After 10 years of teaching in B.C., Manson decided he was ready for a change. He accepted a job through the Canadian government to set up schools in Sarawak, a jungle region of Borneo.

Urged by an indigenous family he met while he was there, the bachelor adopted a nine-year-old boy who lived in the jungle. Manson helped to educate Paul, who

completed Grade 12 on Salt Spring Island.

Manson loved Borneo so much, he stayed eight years, said Mary.

"Meanwhile, during his last year there, we'd become acquainted through a Unitarian magazine and corresponded for a year. It took six weeks for letters to go back and forth. When he came back, we were engaged in six days and married in three months," she said.

The newlywed couple lived on Saturna Island for the first two years of their marriage. Manson taught in the community until the Canadian International Development Association offered him a position in the West Indies to be the principal of St. Lucia's Teachers' College.

"While we were in the West Indies, we discovered

a little island called Saba in Netherlands Antilles and fell in love with it. We sold our house on Saturna and thought we'd stay there for the rest of our lives," said Mary.

The couple remained on Saba for 13 years until they returned to Salt Spring in 1986 to care for Manson's aging mother, Jessie Mouat Toynbee.

"She was starting to have difficulties, so we came home to stay with her. She died in 1994. Meanwhile, Manson was involved in various volunteer things. He's been a pretty familiar face around town.

He stocked the food bank for several years. Then he got involved in the Visitor Information Centre. He helped in the extended care unit while his mother was sick and for two years after she died," Mary said.

Manson will also be remembered for his love of long walks. Mary said her husband would often take an early morning ferry to the other Gulf Islands and walk around all day.

On Salt Spring, he incorporated community clean-up into his morning strolls.

"He walked everywhere. He would get up every morning and walk around Ganges and clean up litter. Ganges was a very clean town when he was around. He took great pride in Ganges and Salt Spring, and he liked it to look nice. He found some extraordinary things."

He even found a \$50 dollar bill, which he donated to the Visitor Information Centre, Mary said with a smile.

Due to a long-term progressive illness, Manson was admitted to Lady Minto's

extended care unit in 2002, where he died on July 2.

"He was a quiet, gentle man. He liked to do things and be useful behind the scenes," said his wife.

With the help of her husband, Mary compiled the book *Jungle Schools*, published in 1997, from letters and articles Manson wrote while in Sarawak.

"This experience was definitely the highlight of his life. They seemed to think the world of him, and he was tremendously impressed with their way of living and caring for each other.

"If anybody would like to have a copy, I would love to let them have it," she said.

An endowment fund in Manson's name has been set up by his favourite charity, the Unitarian Service Committee.

PART-TIME CHIEF LIBRARIAN

Salt Spring Island Public Library Association

Applications are now being received for the position of part-time Chief Librarian.

The Chief Librarian works in concert with the Board and many volunteers of the Library to see that the day-to-day activities of the Library run smoothly.

A copy of the full job posting is available upon request or via the library's website: www.saltspringlibrary.com

Salary Range: to be negotiated, at an entry level

Hours: This is a part-time position of approximately 20 hours per week.

Completed applications will be received at the library up to Saturday, August 14, 2004.

Address applications and/or resumes to:

Hiring Committee
Salt Spring Island Public Library Association
129 McPhillips Ave
Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2T6
250-537-4666 library@saltspring.com

Mechanical problems down Queen of Nanaimo

The Queen of Nanaimo has been out of service since noon Saturday due to a hydraulic oil leak on the left propeller.

"It has been taken to the dry dock at Vancouver shipyards to repair that oil leak," said B.C. Ferry Services communications officer Stephen Nussbaum.

"We adjusted the existing schedules between the Southern Gulf Islands,

Swartz Bay and Tsawwassen to reroute customers as best as we could."

The Queen of Nanaimo, which regularly serves the Southern Gulf Islands and Vancouver, is expected to be back in service for the Thursday morning sailing.

Meanwhile, the Bowen Queen will take over the route temporarily.

"The Bowen Queen is a smaller ship. I don't think it will accommodate all the traffic that would have wanted to travel on it. Our customers do have the option of travelling through Swartz Bay on a through fare," said Nussbaum.

Updated schedule information is available online at www.bcferries.ca.

Crofton meeting discusses environmental issues

Norske Canada representatives from the Crofton pulp mill held their first multi-stakeholder meeting Tuesday afternoon to receive input over environmental issues.

The stated purpose of the community advisory forum is to "provide recommendations about community concerns and issues related to the Crofton Division and its role as a good

corporate neighbour." The community engagement process is led by the public relations consultant Tudor Williams on behalf of Norske Canada.

Prior to the recent meet-

ing, Williams conducted 20 interviews with a total of 70 citizens over three weeks of consultation with community groups and leaders in the Cowichan Valley and Salt Spring Island.

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BC Assessment

NOTICE: CAPITAL OFFICE MOVING

On July 26, 2004 the Capital Assessment Office located on Borden Street will relocate to:

**102 - 3350 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8Z 7X9**

The office serves the Capital Regional District. Telephone, fax and Internet contacts remain the same:

Phone: 250 479-7131
Toll free: 1 800 990-1159
Fax: 250 479-1849
Email: bca01@gems6.gov.bc.ca
Web: www.bcassessment.bc.ca



AIDS worker Lewis coming here

By JENNIFER MCFEE
Staff Writer

Stephen Lewis, United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Africa, is coming to Salt Spring in September to be the closing speaker at a two-day Community to Community conference.

Excitement is growing as SOLID (Saltspring Organization for Life Improvement and Development) and other HIV/AIDS related groups work to organize the September 18 and 19 event.

"Stephen Lewis has been invited here specifically for this. We've been campaigning to get him for two years. We've now become contributors to the Stephen Lewis Foundation, so he has been paying attention," said Peter Bardon of SOLID, a non-profit group dedicated to linking the Salt Spring community with South Africa's Vaal Triangle region.

Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) will house the events, with registration in the multipurpose room, workshops in adjacent classrooms and the Stephen Lewis address in the double gymnasium.

"The organizations are particularly hopeful that young people will get involved in the conference. The leadership group will participate in every way they can, like they did on World AIDS Day. For that, they were just superb.



STEPHEN AND FRIENDS: Salt Spring Islanders involved in the worldwide fight against HIV/AIDS congratulated United Nations special envoy Stephen Lewis (centre) when he received an honorary doctorate of laws at UVic last month. They are, from left, Peter Bardon, Judy Jackson, Peggy Frank and Gary McNutt. Lewis is keynote speaker at a Salt Spring conference set for September 19. Photo contributed

They were so fantastic I wept," said Bardon.

The weekend's nine workshops will focus on topics such as fundraising, the power of the individual, networking and organizational development.

Lewis, a Canadian visionary who recently received an honorary degree from the University of Victoria, will conclude the conference with a talk entitled "The Pandemic in Africa: What Can We Do?"

Gary McNutt, one of five

SOLID directors, said they plan to work with the Fall Fair to promote the event. They also plan set up in the Saturday Market to provide information.

A preliminary fundraising event will take place 6 p.m. tonight (Wednesday) at Barb's Buns, with guest speakers Dr. Jeffrey Fadiman from San José State University and Elizabeth Wallace from the Victoria International Development Education Association (VIDEA). The event costs \$20 and din-

ner will be provided.

"Any schools interested in helping out with grassroots projects in Africa might be interested in the talk on Wednesday. It can show them what kind of opportunities are out there," said McNutt.

For information about the events, contact SOLID at 537-8735 or drop by the office located above Apple Photo. Tickets for Lewis' address will be available through the ArtSpring box office (537-2102) as of July 20.

Calypso comment:
Jeff says "Always mix your paint well. (I simply use my mind motion.)"

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New CD aids fundraising effort

The Tim Lawson Band, a seven-musician group based out of B.C., has created a new CD that focuses on raising funds and awareness to combat HIV/AIDS.

Released in May by Timberholme Music and Books, the CD entitled So Many Stories was inspired by a David Suzuki program

about humanitarian leader Stephen Lewis' work in Africa.

The non-profit campaign will donate \$5 from every sale to the Stephen Lewis Foundation to help end the AIDS pandemic. The CD is available on Salt Spring and throughout the country.

CLASSIFIED HOTLINE:
537-9933

Ferries reservation system changed

As of June 24, B.C. Ferry Services Inc. (BCFSI) implemented changes to its telephone reservation system.

Customers can access services through an automated menu reached by calling 1-888-BCFerry. Cell phone users on Rogers or Telus Mobility Networks can call

*BCF to reach the system.

"The menu system that you hear has been made a little easier to follow. We've streamlined it," said BCFSI communications officer Stephen Nussbaum.

The new menu includes enhanced telephone reservations for passenger and com-

mercial vehicles, schedules and fare information and current conditions, according to a recent press release.

All existing phone numbers for BCFSI services will remain active during the transition to the new system.

For more information, visit www.bcferries.com.

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Do you Qualify?
The Salt Spring Affordable Housing Corporation is now accepting expressions of interest from moderate to lower income families and individuals living and working on Salt Spring Island.

If you "fit the profile" contact us at Salt Spring Affordable Housing Corporation
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250-537-1033
Email: info@ssahc.com

Salt Spring Affordable Housing Corp.

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O P I N I O N



Throwing a cloud over the mill

The effect of noxious emissions from Crofton pulp mill on local air quality remains a murky issue for many islanders.

Crofton Airshed Citizen's Group (CACG) volunteers should be applauded for organizing a benefit concert with the Bachmans, Neil Young and the Bare Naked Ladies to raise awareness and money and for an air-quality study of the area.

Their efforts also force government regulatory agencies and Norske Canada mill operators to consider environmental and health-related concerns.

But islanders should take care not to demonize the mill as an easy toxic target on the premise that — where there's smoke, there must be fire.

CACG hopes to raise money for a costly air-quality study that will duplicate a similar study to be completed next month.

Under government direction, Norske Canada hired the independent firm Jacques Whitford to conduct an environmental assessment that may have value to islanders.

Contrary to CACG claims, the Jacques Whitford study is not necessarily flawed or biased toward company interests simply because Norske Canada is paying the bill.

Government regulators set parameters for the environmental study and it will be subject to an independent peer-review process.

CACG might serve the airshed more ably if they meet with the company collaboratively as part of the community-review process.

Islanders should remember that our collective actions as individuals have far greater environmental impact than the plumes over Crofton mill. Additionally, it must be stated that those plumes are only serving our interests as consumers.

Every time we drive a car needlessly, choose not to recycle or waste resources, we are cumulatively causing a far greater problem than the Crofton mill.

Islanders should make sure our own households are in order before we start spewing environmental criticism across the water.

Gulf Islands Driftwood

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School trustee Boel tells parents: we have not deceived

By JUDITH BOEL

Recently the Board of Trustees of District 64, The Gulf Islands, voted to change the school calendar so that students would receive all of their instructional time in four days instead of five, although none of us wanted.

I wanted desperately to find a political solution rather than having to "tighten our belt" again here at home, voted against the proposed changes initially, consulted with colleagues on other school boards, talked to politicians.

The news was not good on all fronts. Trustees from all over the province were considering more school closures, charging for bus-

ing, increasing class sizes, and eliminating programs to deal with budget shortfalls and decreasing enrolment. Well-meaning parents were talking about taking their children out of the public system.

The government was having back-room discussions about eliminating school trustees altogether. So, if we had resigned without the support of other school boards it would have fit their agenda perfectly too. The consensus was that the Deputy Minister would not think twice to replace locally elected school trustees with a Public Trustee if we broke the law by bringing in a deficit budget. The per-

son assigned by the ministry to do the hatchet job would no doubt have followed our worst case scenario: the loss of the equivalent of more than eight teachers and several special education assistants, bigger classes from grade four on, elimination all the low-enrolling classes at the high school, whether or not your child needs them or loves them.

A recent widely circulated email, claiming that our district has a trust fund worth \$22 million dollars, which we could have used to keep schools open five days a week, is simply untrue. I know that our publicly audited financial statement may be difficult to interpret, but

I am deeply concerned to think that so many people, could believe that the Trustees of District 64, and myself especially, would be a party to the deception of our constituents. If no one trusts us, why have we been re-elected so often?

There is no hidden documentation, nor is there mismanagement of funds. We do, however, have funds which are externally restricted by the Ministry of Education and can only be used for certain purposes. These externally restricted trust funds are for minor capitol projects like sprinklers, annual grant money for small building projects, and incoming funding from the

public at large for our Gulf Islands Educational Trust Fund. As of June 30, 2003 this trust fund had \$86,000, and will show an increase in the next audited statement. This is comprised primarily of donations in memory of loved ones, and we are allowed to only use the interest, usually for scholarships. It also holds money collected by various school groups for items like playground equipment and gives donors receipts for income tax purposes. The remaining money in this restricted trust fund was unspent capital that was carried over to this current year and has now been spent on capitol improvements as required by the Ministry.

Our net assets — our total assets less our deferred capital contributions (our mortgage so to speak) amounts to \$21,162,630 and this refers to our land, buildings, vehicles, and equipment. We are not legally allowed to use this to make up the deficit in operational costs. Our next audited financial statement for 2003/2004 will be available to the public in September.

We have not deceived you. In my opinion the current government of B.C. has deceived us all and has succeeded in getting good people to fight one another I refuse to do so.

Judith Boel is a local school district trustee.

Has the school board become its own worst enemy?

BY RICHARD STEEL

Since the announcement of the impending four-day school week, I have felt that the school board was in an unenviable position. But also felt that the board has become its own worst enemy.

With that in mind it was good to see in last week's Driftwood, the contents of the board's letter accompanying the returned "balanced" budget, but I have to say I find it even more feeble than I feared. That'll really scare those pesky ministry critters in Victoria May!

It was also good to read Judith Boel's more heartfelt letter. But why leave it so long, and until the school holidays, to communicate?

The school board has been apparently aloof and silent since they went public with the decision to go to a four-day week. It has left us parents scared and uncertain for the future of our children's education, and scared

IN RESPONSE

the board. If they feel that people are unfairly upset with them, then maybe I can shed some light.

Last November parents were told at a meeting that a four-day week would not happen; it is a "red herring".

Consequently we were relieved and got on with life over the winter, only to be told a month before the final decision was made, that a four day week was the chosen solution to budgetary shortfalls. In six months we could have organized protests to the government, researched the implications of a four-day week, tried to find viable alternatives, and come to terms with it. Unsurprisingly, we feel misled.

To announce the intention, but to provide no information, or comfort on a four-day week incites panic and fear. You gave

us nothing to make us feel rational about your decision.

Did you expect us parents to do our own research and then thank you for allowing us to enlighten ourselves?

I listened to, and was somewhat comforted by a report from Tom McKeachie, who visited the Boundary school district with other teachers and board members.

It is a very glowing and comforting report, but why wasn't this timed to be presented to parents before the decision?

People might have felt much better. Despite the plus points from the Boundary district, it is however worrying that there is a 16% drop in grade 12 students getting at least a 'C' grade in math and 17% say that their children's achievement on tests and quizzes has dropped since going to a four day week.

The new calendar and shape of the school day has been set without general parental consultation.

I personally feel the calendar has serious flaws, others will think differently, but if you explained it then people might feel better and more inclined to support your decisions.

If you want to be respected, then you have to respect us.

Such an extreme lack of communication and apparent lack of consideration breeds nothing but discontent and leaves people feeling bruised and surrounded by rumour and speculation. Is it really that the teachers wanted a four day week all along? There are many, many others.

It is going to take a lot of effort and cooperation to make this new system work, and as ever us parents will do everything we can. For some this will mean finding schools off island; others home schooling, the bulk probably juggling with lost income, increased childcare costs and logistics, increased fatigue in our children (and ourselves).

But we'll do it because the edu-

cation and well being of our children is paramount. Whether or not we should have to is another matter.

The libraries were closed in schools all last year. No more cuts can be made. The alternative to a four-day week is not to cut more teachers and programs; it is to hold out for correct funding from the government. We should be working together and fighting for more funds for education. The board's absence at the education rally was apparent and saddening. Work with us. Support us. Give us a reason to have faith in you! Talk to us. Tell us everything you know.

Tell us why you haven't talked to us, and tell us what the hell you have planned for next year to meet the even larger shortfall, now that you have given the government carte blanche to continue walking all over us.

Richard Steel is a school district 64 parent and lives on Salt Spring Island.

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked: What is your opinion of B.C. Ferry service?



**John Hanson
(Edmonton)**

I have very limited contact with it. I've only had two ferry rides since we've been here. It was fine. I had no problems.



**Mark Doxon
(Seattle)**

I've never been on it. I took my own boat here. Every year, we come by boat to the islands.



**Irina Floercke with
daughter Katya**

It could be better. Sometimes it's very dirty. But how they park the cars when they're loading, they are doing a great job.



Ara Miles

For the amount of money we spend, where's the service?



Marilynne Cunningham

I've lived here all my life and I am leaning more and more in favour of a bridge. That probably tells you what my opinion of the ferry service is. It's too expensive.

Letters to the Editor

Simplistic

The CRD is amending a bylaw, which states in part "No person shall load or unload any truck, wagon, or motor vehicle in or upon any public or private place or premises before the hours of 7 a.m. or after sunset or 7 p.m., whichever is the latest" with a similar prohibition against use of construction equipment.

It appears the motivation to amend is to restrict noise from playing music on Salt Spring Island, but they propose minor changes to the foregoing and a related section.

Review of the quoted section and the related one shows how legislators and staff cannot even write a rule without major loop-holes, let alone one that does not hurt the good people.

My reading is that people will not be able to load a truck to catch the early ferry, not even if inside a warehouse with doors closed? (Is loading it any quieter than driving it down the street? Old-time milk delivery would be illegal?)

Even today's milk delivery person would not be allowed to load up from the refrigerated warehouse so she could be at your door at 8 a.m.

The Sysco truck could not bring breakfast supplies to your favourite restaurant at 5 a.m. People moving their residence could not work after 7 p.m. to recover from other people's lateness? (After all, they can sleep on the floor and pay for another day's truck rental — except someone else has reserved the truck for tomorrow.)

The Mac tool truck driver could not carry a box to his truck before setting out on the day's rounds? The post office or courier company cannot bring the package when you are home after work?

The bylaw has exclusions for some known noise generators, such as farming and some government activities. It is not clear if emergency repair of a water main meets its criteria — perhaps it will have to leak all night unless it can be fixed with pick and shovel (is a pick and shovel hitting rocks any quieter than a backhoe?).

Oh, you say, the water can just be shut off until next day? But hopefully the meaning of "unload" includes the Globe and Mail delivery which wakes people up at 3 a.m. (because the delivery car is noisy. This seems

to be a simplistic approach that will trap well-meaning careful people while not stopping many of the careless and noisy. Why isn't the law written in objectives not details?

Who elects the people who cannot think of obvious problems when they write laws? When will they throw the incompetents out of their offices?

KEITH SKETCHELEY,
Victoria B.C.

Not pigs

I just wanted to voice that in last week's front-page article on bears, Wolfgang Brunnewisser made an error in stating that pigs belong to the same family as bears. They most certainly do not.

I want to know how he qualifies this statement. Ursus americanus, the black bear, belongs to order Carnivora, Family Ursidae while pigs and boars belong to order Artiodactyla (the same family as cattle), Family Suidae.

In his defense, they are both mammals in subclass Theria but that is where the phylogenetic relationship ends. Perhaps he just meant to say that they have a similar diet. They are both omnivores or something of this nature. Anyway, I don't want

anyone to confuse between a bear and a pig here on SSI.

RACHEL OGIS,
Salt Spring

Housing

Salt Spring Islanders are facing two important issues that will affect our island life for many years to come: the lack of affordable housing for families and workers and the development of a new village in Channel Ridge.

The trustees of the school district have placed a study of affordable housing on the top of its priority list. Without more families and children the district faces continued difficulties in sustaining quality education.

Workers, especially those in minimum wage service jobs, cannot afford rental accommodation particularly in the summer when their jobs are in real demand.

At the same time, the Channel Ridge developers plan a Whistler-like community designed to attract off island, part time residents whose presence may well vanquish the very quality of community life that attracted them here in the first place.

I think that these two challenges have something to offer one another. Why not consider building some affordable hous-

ing in the Channel Ridge development? Think what permanent residents, including young families with children, would offer to a Channel Ridge village?

Stability, commitment, year round customers for commercial ventures in the village and purchasers for some of the 600 or so residences that will surely take some time to sell, are a few contributions. Ordinary workers and their families would have an opportunity to own their homes and build a community. An island way of life inclusive of many incomes, ages and, of course, opinions could be sustained.

It is important to bring together those who could make this happen. School trustees, board members of Channel Ridge Properties Ltd, sustainable housing groups on the island and the local Trusts committees are a beginning group.

Channel Ridge Properties has stated persistently that it is dedicated to doing those things that fit with Salt Spring Island's needs and traditions. Here is their chance to make good that commitment.

MARILYN CALLAHAN,
Salt Spring

Cell liability

Even though I use a cell phone, it seems clear to me the cell tower is located "point blank" to everyone in Ganges.

Less than 500 meters for sure, and therefore is a no go. Generally I keep my phone off and check in for mail, otherwise I don't trust it. Assuming we do not want to follow the preventative path, I would suggest this issue is a question of liabilities and litigation.

Easy way to smooth this over is for everyone involved in approving the installation be held liable financially. The firefighters and community should get those approving this to sign forms making them and their descendants financially responsible 10-20 years down the road. Like with cigarettes, after many years if the evidence comes in, personal assets are seized, etc. Hope we can do this provincially and federally too.

No one should be able to approve or install something without risk of personal loss. After all, if cell towers are so safe, you should have no problem putting your own head on the chopping block.

JAMES FALCON,
Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS A10

Looking for energy lessons from new islanders

First, big oops. Last column, I should have called Ronald and Nancy Reagan a "good Roman Catholic-influenced president and even more R.C.-influenced wife."

Although he was a Protestant, his numerous Catholic connections are nicely described on the Catholic Educator's website, www.catholiceducation_stories/cs0080.html.

Nancy put a surprising amount of faith in astrologer Jeanne Dixon, a fervent Roman Catholic. After the assassination attempt on Reagan, the Pope and Mother Theresa became important influences in his life and governance.

Now, something else entirely: buying or building a home on Salt Spring. A couple of months ago, I attended a Salt Spring sustainable energy workshop.

SPRINGBOARD BY BRENDA GUILLED



Of the eight groups looking at different ways to be energy smarter on the island, I joined one looking to help potential property buyers make energy-wise choices, to promote a happy landing in paradise.

I chose this topic because it's practical and do-able. A written guide can be produced, we hope, within a year.

It's obvious, too, that good choices regarding energy inputs and expenditures from day one of hankering to move here to settling in can make a huge difference to island energy-use averages.

Since I'm two years into buy-

ing raw land on Salt Spring and making it livable, I'm fresh to this experience.

The first piece of advice I got regarding energy on the island was from realtor Mike Hardy, who kept saying, "You've got to have sunshine."

You can be charmed by the thought of life snug in the trees, but a few dark winters of living this fairytale and you'll be on anti-depressants or clear cutting or selling.

You can make a sunny spot by clear cutting right away, but guaranteed, you'll piss off the neighbours immediately too. They might not say anything nasty outright, but you won't get to know them very quickly or well either. Good energy begets more good energy; pushing the wrong way brings us all down.

The energy advantages of a sunny house location are many. They can be practical in terms of

design, by taking advantage of the sun's heat through windows, for example.

Such houses can be upgraded sooner or later to be more energy self-sufficient, by putting in solar panels, which are increasingly an option as the technology improves by leaps and bounds.

The biggest advantage, I think, is that you'll love your place enough to limit trips up and down the island and off it for amusement and escapes.

The less we drive, the better in terms of energy use and abuse.

I continue to wonder about people who move here for the country life, then drive more than ever. Sure, you get to careen through green, rural landscape, but these islands aren't the suburbs with sheep and a shoreline.

If you have to tear around the place, then work on some alternatives, like ride-sharing or hitching or cycling or riding scooter or, at

least, joining those keen on a bus service, because critical mass will get us this.

It's all a balance, of personal energy, sun's energy, forested or cleared land, fossil fuel, etc.

Since island lifestyles are much more varied than city ones, there are more choices, and there's more juggling to do to get set up and to keep the good life going.

So here's the question: What should be in a guide for new homebuyers and builders on Salt Spring?

In particular, the group I'm working with would like to hear from those who've moved here fairly recently.

What have you learned about the energy, of every sort, it takes to make this place work for you?

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More letters

Air response

I was somewhat amused by Mr. Ableman's comment in last week's Driftwood article, "Big names flock to Clean Air Concert."

To quote, "I'm looking across at the strait right now and it looks like Los Angeles."

I would suggest Mr. Ableman take a look at a map or chart of the area he is living in. The only strait close to Salt Spring Island is Georgia Strait, east of Salt Spring Island.

Crofton is west. Guess what, Mr. Ableman? You have been looking at the smog from the Lower Mainland!

I have worked at the Crofton mill for over 40 years. The mill has always moved ahead with new technology and I am proud to be an employee there. The mill has always met or exceeded the standards set by the Ministry of Environment. I would suggest that if you check you will find Crofton is the cleanest mill on the coast.

I only have a couple of years to go before I retire and guess where I'll be living? Right here in Crofton, one of the nicest little towns on the island. And so I say to you Mr. Ableman, "If you don't like the area you are living in, move somewhere else. You must have known the mill was here before you bought your "organic farm" — we didn't hide it!" Even though I love Mr. Bachman's music, I'm afraid the same feelings apply to him.

PAUL FRIIS, Crofton

Votes

Peter Robinson (July 7 letters, The Driftwood) got it right when he showed that the NDP and Green votes combined would have carried the recent election.

He is on shakier ground to suggest that New Democratic and Green parties represent people of like minds aside from minor distinctions.

Certainly both have similar environmental objectives, so that agreement there should not be difficult.

The rest of the Green platform though, at least as expressed in election handouts, reflected the Tory roots of the Green federal leadership and called for lower taxes on income, profit and

investment.

New Democrats, on the other hand, feel that taxes provide service, and promote fair taxation rather than tax cuts.

A prime objective of fair taxation is, of course, to reduce income disparity. Experience shows that tax cuts have only benefited the rich.

In a recent letter to the Driftwood (June 30), Robert Bateman eloquently made a case for more sharing, and pointed out that taxation is the price of civilization.

"Those who love less taxes and less government should move to Somalia. It is a 'paradise' of no taxes and no government," he wrote.

He went on to equate lower taxes with cutting corners for health care, education, protection of nature, and other aspects of the common good.

For the Greens and NDP to find common ground, the Green platform would have to be less Harris and more Bateman. The Green Party claims a 'grassroots' origin for its platform, but as far as I know it has yet to hold a representative policy convention.

Perhaps party members can do something to swing the party in a more progressive direction before the next election so that the common front suggested by Peter Robinson could be a real possibility by next May.

TOM WRIGHT, Salt Spring

Courage

After reading the letter last week from the school board, three points come to mind.

First: if the only remedy the board can articulate to the Ministry of Education is to pass a motion and send a tame letter with their compromised budget, then we have been let down, again. These words "we urge you to seek increased resources..." will fall on deaf ears. If you were the Minister of Education would you increase funding upon receiving this letter?

Second: the motion passed says that the school board will, "attach a letter that clearly identifies the consultation process..." The letter's explanation was, "the culmination of a year long process..."

There is no further information or mention of parents' response. The first public meeting addressing this issue on Salt Spring

Island was held April Fool's Day at GISS. Public meetings were held on each of the islands, then on April 14, only two weeks later, a notice of motion was passed with the intention to change the school calendar to 30 days less. More public meetings were held. The board then voted May 19, against the wishes of the public, to implement the four-day week.

Third: the board should look up the word "transparency." Upon researching the websites of Cowichan and Victoria school districts, it became painfully obvious which districts were transparent and which weren't. The only information on the four-day school week on SD 64's site is a 2004/5 calendar. Budgets, minutes, motions, or other pertinent information on the issue are absent. Transparency is our right. We have not been fully informed.

Courage, consultation and transparency, essential words to remember for next trustee election campaign. A tsunami of problems may flood us in September.

PETER HAASE, Salt Spring

Saved by celebrity

In his recent concert announcement, Randy Bachman has obviously developed an environmental awareness and is directing his efforts and celebrity in an effort to inspire a change in the shabby habit of heavy industry. Bachman wants to save our little paradise.

It is becoming ever more obvious that this particular paradise is well in Phase III of its ultimate destruction (enhancement?) So, Mr. Bachman, what is paradise? For an urban refugee such as you, I would guess it was any place lacking traffic lights.

For many people a portion of wilderness was destroyed to build the large monuments that you and Mr. Bateman have built. That sort of activity is called conspicuous consumption or simply your attempt to symbolize your status in our society.

Randy, you should tell everyone how much plywood was burned as waste during the construction of your particular monument. And while the neighbourhood was impacted by this smoke screen, you got the attention of environmental authorities for renovating the

lakeshore to enhance your definition of paradise.

I would not have expected anything other than conspicuous behavior from an old rock star, but Mr. Bateman has always stood up to remind us of the folly of our excesses. You two have done nothing but bounce on the bandwagon of fashionable thinking and ride the resulting wave of publicity.

Saving us from the self-serving hypocrisy of celebrity would go a long way to restoring something of what this little paradise used to be.

M. HAMES, Salt Spring

Safe not safe

Last week, Peter Vincent clearly showed us several examples of how foolish the "our government permits it and says it's safe" idea can be.

But the situation is much worse than that. People tend to think that the so-called safe level of a toxin means that the government and industry are saying, "This is the level which we, in our hearts as sincere and good human beings, totally and unreservedly believe will cause zero harm to you and your children."

But that is not what 'safe level' means, at all! The actual language is "acceptable", as in "set minimum acceptable contaminant levels in drinking water supplied through the local municipal systems..."

When determining the acceptable level of a toxin the government balances three factors: the amount of harm (including death) per 100,000 population; the cost of keeping the toxin completely out of the environment; and the cost of removing it once it's there. In other words, if the toxic product is important to industry, or if it would cost billions to remove it from the environment, a certain number of deaths per year is deemed "acceptable." This is so for our famed island arsenic. It's the same for cell-phon antenna microwaves.

So don't even try to say "The government says it's safe."

In addition, contrary to your logic, it's not up to me to prove that you'll be killing my little boy — it's up to you to prove that you won't be.

MICHAEL LINEHAN, Salt Spring

MORE LETTERS A1

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More letters

Truth?

I can't believe that the fire chief or trustees would take a measly \$1000 to put a cell phone antenna right in the middle of town! My little boy plays at the park right across the street from the fire hall. He will be bombarded with radiation every time he goes there.

How can they claim it is safe? There are studies that say it's safe (funded by the cell phone industry).

There are independent studies that say it's not safe. Are they saying that they know the truth? How is it that they know the truth when the scientists disagree? If they don't know the truth then why are they risking my child's health — and the health of every little child who plays in that park — for \$1000, or \$100,000?

Surely there must be less controversial ways to raise \$1000. Perhaps the children could donate \$1 a year from their allowance to keep the antenna away from their playground.

CHRISTINA SCHLATTNER,
Salt Spring

Negativity

I continue to be amazed at the negatively surrounding Ganges Marina.

When I first arrived here on Salt Spring six years ago the marina was slowly sinking in the water. The docks were in terrible shape, the facilities for visitors were dismal.

Years later I see a thriving marina with an incredible assortment of power and sail boats tied up. Salt Spring is a destination for boaters.

I believe Rick Barbieri along with this management team Jim and Shirley are creating a world-class facility which brings tremendous spending potential.

All the way up the coast cities, towns and villages are working to improve facilities for boats because each boat that visits helps the local economy.

Whether they are buying fuel, supplies, food or visiting the many stores, restaurants, shops and galleries each visitor is directly helping each one of us in the community. I think it's about time that Salt Spring became boater friendly and say thank you to people like Barbieri who really do make a difference and directly help out community.

ALLAN SHERMAN,
Salt Spring

Tax hikes

The pool project is growing! We can now look forward to an indoor tennis



Name: **SARAH MORRIS**

537/538/653: 653

Occupation(s): Artist, mother

Hobbies: Singing, body art, thirt shopping.

Home finished/unfinished: A thousand acres would be ideal!

Favourite people: Teal, Carmen, my family, Adrien, Mel, Roy, Ron, Ora (I could fill the page).

Favourite read: The Biography of Frida Khalo.

Best thing about SSI: Spring, Beaver Point boogies and sushi at Admirals.

Worst thing about SSI: The cost of living.

Best place to kiss on SSI?: I am still conducting experiments on this matter..



DERRICK'S ISLAND PICS

facility at a "half million dollar cost." (June 30 Driftwood article.)

Why stop there? Let's go whole hog and add the ice rink and maybe a six-lane curling rink to match up with the six-lane indoor pool?

After all, the fact that Salt Spring is the warmest part of Canada in the winter should not stop us from having all of these indoor facilities. I guess we can live with an outdoor golf course which serves us well in the winter.

Why worry about the resultant increase to our taxes of over 10 per cent? Given what typically happens with large capital projects, this could easily turn out to be a 15 per cent increase or more.

And, lest we forget, our taxes for 2004 increased by over 10 per cent, mainly as a result of assessment increases, all of which was tidily absorbed into the operating budgets.

The problems in our community with funding for education, health, affordable housing — why, heck, that's someone else's problem — isn't it?

There must be another set of taxpayers that will look after those problems — isn't there?

BEN GOODMAN,
Channel Ridge

Cell concerns

One might wonder why fire chief Dave Enfield, Board chair Mike Schubart and other fire trustees are so invested in locating a cell transmitter in the Ganges fire hall? Why does Schubart assure us that this "not a big deal" (Driftwood, June

30), comparing the radiating antenna to a "toaster", when he is not considering what the non-industry health effects studies tell us - namely that electromagnetic radiation - EMR - from cell transmitters is unsafe for plants, animals and humans?

Oh it's a toaster alright! The citizens become "toast" from radiation damage, which acts in a cumulative way, ie the damage mounts up with each exposure, while the bread — i.e. rent money — stays with the fire hall. Wouldn't you like to know why fire trustees are ignoring scientific studies showing adverse health effects? Also why was our health signed away during a routine trustee meeting under the distraction of a fractious federal election with no public notice?

I have tracked the EMR health effects issue since the seventies, and have been involved in this area professionally since the late eighties, and advise that the pattern is to first install a small transmitter, thereby staking economic claim over a territory, then without the permission or knowledge of the community, signal strength and services — i.e. health-damaging radiation — slowly increases.

We've seen this type of thing before in, for instance, how "Crofton" grew gradually from a small one stack operation to one of the most polluting mills on the planet. And often huge cell towers are installed - with no public consultation - in the dead of night.

Property and business

devaluation is a major issue around these hazardous antennas, "Cell Towers Wireless Convenience or Environmental Hazard" (Levit, 2000), the definitive book on transmitter siting issues states: "Estimates range from two to 40 per cent devaluation, depending on location and other factors."

Mike states: "As far as I'm aware all equipment, is approved by Federal licensing authority and deemed safe, otherwise they wouldn't be allowed to use them."

In reality, "they" will do whatever "they" can get away with, to keep the money rolling in — that's how our system works. We should all remember examples of what used to "safe" such as thalidomide, lead in gas, DDT, asbestos, tobacco, nuclear power and fall-out, PCB, mercury in fillings - the list goes on and on. Years ago, many fire fighters regarded safety equipment as useless sissy stuff.

Only after many adverse health problems is it now standard issue.

The fire board would be acting responsibly by getting informed on the EMR health effects issue and following the International Firefighters Union (IAFF) lead, as they vote this August to ban all unnecessary wireless/cell antennas from all BC fire halls to protect their people and the public from harmful radiation exposure.

CHRIS ANDERSON,
IROCA - Island Residents Opposed to Cell phone Antennae.

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SALT SPRING GALLERY ART SOARS

The process of making art is as fascinating as the joy of looking at it. The bonus of Salt Spring's galleries is that the artist is often in attendance to discuss the work either because they're present at the opening or the gallery space houses the studio where they work.

Because they spend solitary hours sequestered away fulfilling their muses, all are gracious in answering questions and allowing the guest to experience their work with no time limit.

Looking at art, seeing a play, reading poetry all feed human nature's need for beauty and reflection. Going to galleries can spur one on to create something else. If you're wanting inspiration, spend a quiet hour absorbing some of the marvellous fine art Salt Spring galleries have to offer.

If learning something new intrigues, openings offer an opportunity to engage in dialogue about art with the people who make it.

Wim Blom sell out

Wim Blom's show at the J. Mitchell Gallery sold out to almost exclusively local area collectors 12 days after the opening.

In the oils, dark backgrounds give the still life objects a luminescence brought sharply into focus by the precision of the brushwork. Compositionally the everyday objects, like a loaf of white bread or the bolt on the sea green door, are articulate in their simplicity and stunning in their mastery.

Originally from South Africa, Blom's background as an art historian (Curatorial Administrator at the National Gallery of Canada), his vast travels and work in Europe's art centers have given his paintings the technique of European masters with a modern or post modern sensibility.

Seeing these exquisite paintings until July 15 is a must but that \$10,000 burning a hole in your pocket will have to be spent elsewhere.



Above right, Chris Stackhouse hangs his photographs at a recent showing held at ArtSpring. At left, a floral still life painting by Jae McDougall currently on display at Pegasus Gallery.



Stackhouse show

The beauty of the grain elevator rising out of the horizon and into the vast blue sky of the prairie inspired photographer Chris Stackhouse to "document the huge variety of shapes, colours and sizes as a record of what we were losing."

In the early eighties, he

traveled to every small town in Alberta and Saskatchewan through the frigid winters and blistering summers, no mean feat that put 160,000 kilometers on his car, to keep for prosperity the image of a prairie icon.

The recent Salt Springer has "tremendous respect for the intricate wood structures" and finds "beauty in the simplicity of prairies and desert."

The photographs ran at Artspring until July 12.

Bronze brought to life

Influenced by sculptors Henry Moore, Constantin Brancusi and painter Pablo Picasso, Morley Myers' sculpture is also influenced by indigenous forms like African, Pacific Rim natives' and Inuit art. "These art forms capture the essence of an animal or person or spirit," said Myers from his gallery at #7-315 Upper Ganges Road. With a background in the trades (carpentry and mechanics), there is not a tool or material that he hasn't worked with. His training in the humanities — social welfare — ensures the work is deeply personal and offers emotional depth that brings inanimate stone and bronze to life.

His process can involve "working with pure creative

ART BEAT ON THE ROCK

WITH ANDREA RABINOVITCH



bitions in Canada, the United States and Asia. Her work resides in corporate and private collections

worldwide.

Inspiration for this garden series came from her own huge garden and orchard with visits to her Salt Spring friends' gardens. Her and her husband David Dougall, her manager, moved to Salt Spring, "because of the beauty in nature" and that beauty is reflected in this show. Jae Dougall is in attendance at Pegasus, Seaside at Mouat's Mall from 1:00 - 3:00 on Saturday July 17.

World-wide appeal

Jewel-like colors and paint applied in layered thickness burst into floral still life paintings in Jae Dougall's oils on display at Pegasus Gallery of Canadian Art July 16 - 26.

Clearly influenced by impressionists Gauguin and Cezanne, the lushness of the vivid florals in Bloomsville, the name of the show, are offered to mirror nature's summer display.

Using the same colour palette and placement of objects as Gauguin and the play with perspective in Cézanne's still life paintings, Dougall adds her own life force to the work. A recent addition to Salt Spring from Vancouver, the daughter of Jose Trinidad-also shown at Pegasus, has had solo and group exhibi-

McPhee show opens

Like a creature trapped in million-year-old amber, Thomas McPhee's jewelry supplies the same wonder and revelation at its uniqueness. An artist and a marketer of his art from an early age, his latest passion for Pate de Verre crystal casting ensures that collectors who wish to own a piece can do so at a reasonable price.

His gem-carved pieces of minute mythic Romantic figures, articulately hand carved in a time intensive process, can go upwards of \$10,000 after being sent to be embellished with gold and precious gems.

The ancient (250 -260 B.C.) Pate de Verre technique appeals to the artist because, "it is more democratic. It is not the most expensive but it is the best."

He begins with sketches and then builds a mold. He and his wife Judy then fill up the molds with very expensive glass sourced from Czechoslovakia and New Zealand and arrange the colours ensuring the piece's individuality. After the glass is placed in the kiln, there is no guarantee that the process succeeded making each unveiling exciting.

Known for creating the sculpture of the mermaid outside of Thrifty's, his show at Thunderbird Gallery located in Grace Point Square also features small figurines, original drawings and lithostone plaques and runs this weekend. The artist will be in attendance on Friday, July 16 5-8 p.m., Saturday July 17 from 11a.. to 4 p.m., and Sunday July 18 from noon to 3 p.m.

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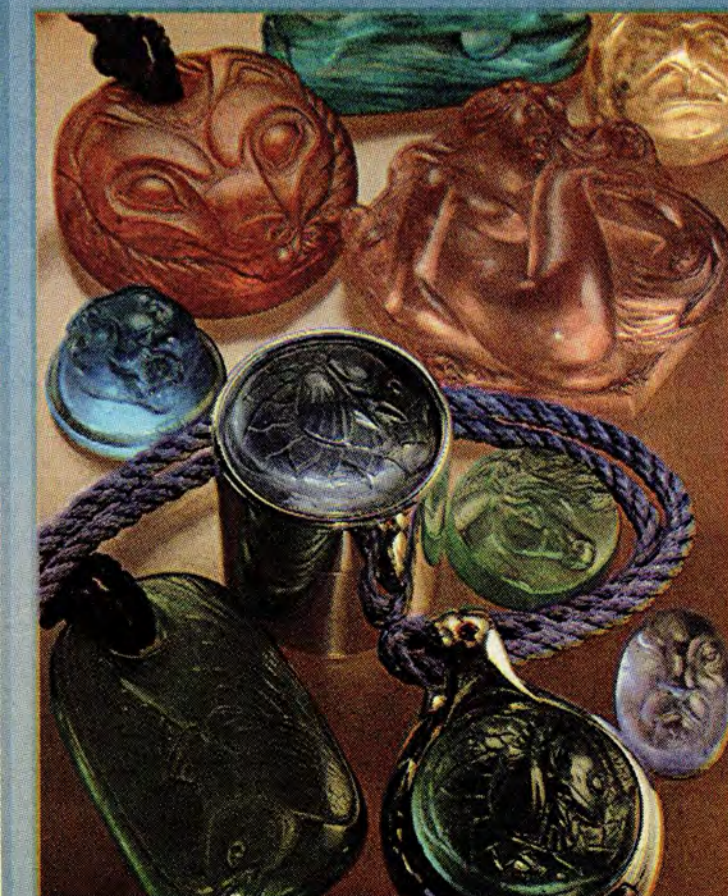
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HAPPY HATTER: Three-year-old Helena Cuddy gets a kick out of Salt Spring Island as she tries on a hat at the Saturday Market at Centennial Park.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Six Feet Under tops TV list

When it comes to popular culture, Salt Spring is typically a little bit behind the times.

Since half the people on this piece of paradise have wisely decided to not have cable, they find themselves missing much of the advertising that would otherwise be telling them what to watch.

Six Feet Under is a good example.

As a television series by HBO, it is not easily viewable here unless you have a satellite dish. Even if you have the show's appearances are rarely consistent.

As a result, there has been a lot of people seeing the show, taping it episode by episode, and lending it to friends.

These friends lend it to their friends, and so on — a chain of enjoyable version of the show. The tapes become commodities, and in the end, the show of Six Feet Under, it makes perfect sense.

Created by American comedy writer Alan Ball, it is a sardonic but funny depiction of a Pasadena family that has just moved to a funeral home. The episode begins with the family patriarch's death and the chaos that ensues.

The eldest son returns from the Northwest, another episode as a not-quite shocking twist, and the daughter gets bad news while tweaking a bad meth high. It

FLICK PICK WITH JASON TUDOR



gets messier from there.

This may not sound particularly humorous, but you really have to trust me on this one. Or, listen to the show's legions of fans that run around Salt Spring shopping the tapes like some kind of multi-level marketing scheme.

Six Feet Under may very well be the best thing on television.

Everything about it is top notch: acting, camerawork, even the music (by American Beauty alum Thomas Newman).

Along with the Sopranos, it marks a new and liberating trend in TV towards shows that are aimed at a more mature audience (that means: lots of sex, language, and violence).

For those of you without the local "connections", your local video store can help. Six Feet Under's first season is available on VHS and DVD.

However, the second season has only come out on DVD, so those of you holding out may just have to bite the bullet and fork up sixty bucks.

Pieces of Seven opens

Starting Monday, seven local artists will showcase their recent creations in "Pieces of Seven," an ArtSpring exhibition that runs until July 31.

The show includes works from Diana Dean, Susan Haigh, Donna Hall, Helen Ormiston Smith, Karen Reiss, Peter Schnitzler and Sandra Harrison.

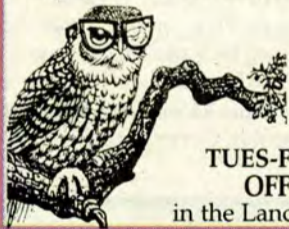
"Pieces of Seven" is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the show opening is set for July 20 from 7 to 9 p.m.

PHOTO REPRINTS

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Fibre festival festivities planned

The third annual Salt Spring Island Natural Fibre Festival will bring hands-on demonstrations, a fashion show and workshops to interested islanders.

Workshops run from July 22 to July 24, with one "Learn to Spin" class on July 26 and 27.

Salt Springers can learn about bending wool, spinning, weaving, beading, felting, basketry and knitting. To register, call 653-9637 by July 15.

On July 24, the Farmers Institute will display heritage fabrics, colourful quilts and current works of Salt Spring fibre artists.

That night, ArtSpring will host a natural fibre fashion show with work from designers across Canada.

Tickets cost \$15 and are available at the ArtSpring box office.

Events continue July 25 at the Farmer's Institute with demonstrations, sheep shearing and kids' workshops.

For more information, visit the festival website at www.fibrefestival.com.



FOCUS ON FIBRE: From woolly sheep to funky fashions, all things "fibre" will be celebrated at the third annual Salt Spring Island Natural Fibre Festival, which runs July 22-25.

johncameron.ca



J. Mitchell Gallery

Jerry Ringrose
Glass Artist & Designer

You are cordially invited to view this artist's premiere gallery exhibition of a large body of new work at the

J. Mitchell Gallery

Grace Point Square, Salt Spring Island

July 16 to August 12, 2004

Opening Reception

Friday, July 16, 5-7 pm

Come talk with the artist about his work and view the exhibit

Gallery Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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Celebrating 32 Years Seaside at Mouat's
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Jae Dougall

Solar Energy 24 x 24



FINE STUDENT ART: David and Lindsay Mundy enjoy a moment together at ArtSpring as they view the works of art students in a Val Konig workshop. The show, called *A Creative Journey*, ran last week at the local arts centre.

Photo by Derrick Lundy

Video tribute honours local Virginia Newman

By JENNIFER MCFEE
Staff Writer

Ron Max and Mark Perry will present a glimpse of Salt Spring history through a video tribute to long-time islander Virginia Newman at the United Church this Friday.

Six months ago, the two videographers embarked on a business venture focused on making films that preserve and pass on oral history.

"I think it's important that people know where they come from. It gives them a sense of balance," said Max, an experienced writer, actor and director.

Newman, who has lived on Salt Spring for over 30 years, was an easy choice as subject for the first heritage film, he said.

"She's a musician, actress, wife, mother, politician, humanist. And she was one of the original Raging Granies. She's such a wonderful, all-encompassing human being. She was very enthusiastic about the video. Now I know Virginia better than I know myself," he joked.

Newman said the experience brought back a lot of memories for her.

"You do start to remember things you haven't thought about for a long time. It was interesting. It was quite different from anything I've done," she said.

Along with the rest of the audience, Newman will see the film for the first time this weekend.

"I think the high point will be Friday when we see Virginia and the film at

the same time," said Max. "I feel really pleased with what we have done and what we have accomplished. It moves beautifully. It has nice momentum to it."

Perry added that he, too, is looking forward to the viewing, which will take place on a large screen TV provided by Island Star Video.

"It was a really fun thing to do. It was a real privilege to work with such a wonderful lady who, with her family, played such an important part in the entertainment history of Salt Spring. They're a great bunch," he said.

The July 16 event will begin at 7 p.m. with a finger food and dessert potluck and the screening will take place an hour later. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

ISLAND BARGAINS & SECOND HAND DEALS! YARD SALES ON PAGE B14

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Celtic tunes en route to Salt Spring

Islanders will get the chance to dance to one of the world's finest Celtic acts on Tuesday July 20 at Fulford Hall as part of the Salt Spring Festival of the Arts.

Scotland's Shooglenifty meld Scottish tradition with dance club grooves to create some of the most inventive and infectious music heard anywhere.

The six-piece Edinburgh outfit's last

island appearance was three years ago for a sold-out watershed benefit at the Farmer's Institute.

The band is famous for their extraordinary live performances, and Shooglenifty's amazing sound is certain to fill the wooden dance floor at Fulford on their much-awaited island return.

The dance starts at 8:30 p.m. and is a kid-friendly event.

There will be refreshments available as well as delicious food provided by the CORE Inn Youth Project as a fundraiser for that organization.

Tickets are available at Acoustic Planet and cost \$22.

The Salt Spring Festival runs throughout July with events scheduled all over the island. Call 537-4167 for more information or visit www.saltspringfestival.ca.

Tree House Cafe

music this week

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'Straight Up'
- thursday 15 - Mike & Simone
'Jazz, Soul & R&B'
- friday 16 - Shades
'Semi-Acoustic, Toddy 4 Body'
- saturday 17 - Carolyn Neopole
'Thoughtful Acoustic Rock'
- sunday 18 - Alan Moberg
'West Coast Balladeer'
- monday 19 - Vaughn Fulford
'Songs of Joy & Sadness'
- tuesday 20 - Open Stage with Tara Hollingsworth

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Cool library offers hot reads

By NADINE SHELLY
Driftwood Contributor

With the long summer days upon us, it's a great time to slip into the cool, quiet library and find some new books for the beach or the ferry line-ups.

The library is constantly adding new books to its collection so it's best to come in and look around for yourself, but here is a small selection of recent acquisitions to pique your interest.

If you're craving fiction, local author Anthony Bruce's novel, *The Gatekeeper of Lies*, is now in, as are *The Summer I Dared* by Barbara Delinsky and *Melymbrosia* by Virginia Woolf.

LIBRARY SHELF

A slew of mysteries has arrived, including *Past Due* by William Lasher and *The Narrows* by Michael Connelly.

If non-fiction is more your cup of tea, *Waiting for Snow in Havana* by Carlos Eire, a depiction of life in modern-day Cuba is now available, as are *In Praise of Slow* by Carl Honore, and a biography of the Virgin Mary by Lesley Hazelton.

Kids might want to check out *Hummingbird Nest* by Kristine George, *Muddle Earth* by Paul Stewart or *Class Trip to the Cave of Doom* by Kate McMullan.

Little ones will enjoy *I Took the Moon for a Walk* by Carolyn Curtis, *Sea Crow* by

Shannon Stewart and *Mouats of My Heart* by Margaret Wise Brown.

Poetry lovers will have to duel over the copies of local writer Joanne Bealy's collection, *At the Mercy of Gravity*, and *Early Modern Women Poets* edited by Jane Stevenson.

Crafty types will find inspiration in *515 Scrapbooking Ideas* by Ann Vassessa and *Encyclopedia of Craft Projects* in an Afternoon by Mickey Basket.

For the spiritually and ethically inclined, CDs of talks the Dalai Lama gave in Vancouver this past April are now available for your listening pleasure.

Good Heart, Full Life is a spiritual teaching, a Universal Responsibility, secular talk, are both at the library.

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"COMPELLING & FUN!" - The Driftwood

Ringrose show opens Friday at J. Mitchell in Grace Point

For 30 years Jerry Ringrose has been successfully designing and fabricating distinctive and innovative architectural glass art for commercial and residential interior and exterior spaces.

Emerging with a new body of work of sculptural intelligence that plays with light, colour, and form, he has clearly allowed his wild imagination to merge with the complexities of cutting edge technology.

Although Ringrose is capable of consulting, designing and fabricating important major art glass and mixed media installations anywhere in the world, he has devoted his time this year to creating a body of work

to exhibit locally, notes press material.

He has chosen the J. Mitchell Gallery as his venue.

The gallery is hosting a mid-summer reception this Friday, July 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. to launch the month long exhibition and to provide an opportunity for guests to talk with the artist about his work.

Ringrose has adopted a most appropriate by-line in his promotional materials when he describes himself as "creating signature pieces designed to complement and enhance any environment."

J. Mitchell Gallery is located in Grace Point Square.

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ECE DE SÉANCE: Graffiti Theatre's Amanda Spottiswoode (at left), Yvonne Adalian and Marek Wiedman summon playful ghosts during their production of *the Spirit* at ArtSpring. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Graffiti's Blithe Spirit serves martini punch

by MITCHELL SHERRIN
Staff Writer

Graffiti Theatre has served a deliciously dry martini of marvelous wit with its ethereal production of *Blithe Spirit* at ArtSpring.

Exceptional acting and direction by Burton Lancaster summons Noël Coward's delightful drawing-room comedy to full cocktail-hour exuberance.

Marek Wiedman plays the central character, Charles — clearly modeled after the "seedy grandeur" of Coward himself — with straight-up whimsy as he bounces between two romances.

And Wiedman shows great dynamic range in scenes with his two female counterparts.

Smug and supercilious with his domineering wife Ruth (played to glacially-hilled perfection by Amanda Spottiswoode), Wiedman offers vermouth-sweetened romance with his capricious ex-wife Elvira (played by the ever-versatile Eileen Bar-

rett) who has returned as a ghost from "the other side" to haunt him after a séance.

As the disembodied spirit Elvira, Barrett coyly flits around the stage to provide a wonderful foil for deadpan witticisms on past romances from Spottiswoode and Wiedman.

In her supporting role as Madame Arcati, Yvonne Adalian spoofs the whimsical spirit of island eccentrics as a medium who blends regimental discipline with school-girlish impetuosity.

In one scene, Adalian's portrayal of the enthusiastic bicycle-riding psychic caused paroxysms of laughter when she provided séance instructions like some sort of mystic stewardess.

Jade Shaw, playing the head-long-rushing maid Edith, also drew guffaws with her brilliant physical comedy as she bolted on and off stage at every beck and call.

Capable supporting per-

formances by Ann Stewart and Alan Clews as the affable Bradman couple rounded out the production with charm.

Subtle special effects added a hint of supernatural mischief and the show was augmented by a sumptuous set, crisp lighting design, lovely costumes and perfect musical selections that helped sustain illusions of time and place.

As one caution, audience members should be forewarned of two intermissions and a fairly lengthy production. For all its charms, the play ran two hours, 45 minutes after an 8 p.m. start on opening night, which can be a challenge for many viewers.

A second visitation of *Blithe Spirit* hits ArtSpring on July 29, 30 and 31. This professional production should not be missed by island theatre lovers with an inclination for droll wit, polished performances and a hint of magic.

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Spirit of Salt Spring

Team Spirit Award

in recognition of an outstanding display of team spirit in the Big Bike Ride event for the Heart & Stroke Foundation



Back row (from left): Mike Barter, Clayton Stewart, Lynn Stewart, Dave Sikora
Middle row: Donna Keown, Joy Clissold, Donna Robinson
Front row: Erin Bettger, Carron Carson (Team Captain),

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

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

Call Penny for details.

Driftwood
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SHOW & SALE

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JULY 30 - AUG 3 11-6**

Vessels at Mahon Hall

By APRIL CURTIS
Driftwood Contributor

What is a vessel? It could run the gamut from ship to chalice and fit the description.

Fourteen artists using 16 different mediums have explored the form resulting in an exciting range of shapes, functions, and materials in the newest Showcase feature at Artcraft in Mahon Hall. It opens Thursday, July 15.

The touch of creativity will provide an unexpected array of surprising interpretations as the archetypal form of the vessel is translated through each artist.

Nancy Van Patten has coordinated this themed showcase and feels "A vessel will become a tabula rasa or empty slate, taking whatever form the artist wants it to be while defining space and offering containment."

Lionel Demandre has used willow to create a 6-foot dome, woven cornucopia, and baskets. Karen Reiss has shaped a ceramic fountain containing the world. Morgain Cuddy catches the shape in wood while Deborah Gainer presents it in felt slippers and wall pieces.

Laura Keil will use both felt and clay. Rani Worotny

has woven a copper wire vessel and Linda Frost has created a Lotus blossom vessel for a goddess in fabric. Rachel Valdeboncoeur has used stained glass and metal to forge a fused vessel.

Ron Watts will honour the theme through photography as will Donna Hall on the canvas. Philippe Valerio will present an homage with wood including a boat and bowls. Johanna Hoskins has chosen paper with which to explore and Nancy Van Patten has made unique birch bark vessels. A series of clay wall pieces created by Gary Cherneff will allow another perspective on variety and inspiration.

"Varied Vessels" will open with an artists reception to which all are welcome on Thursday July 15 at 7p.m. in Mahon Hall and continues daily until Tuesday, July 27.



TOPNOTCH SOUND: Members of St. John's College, Oxford Chapel Choir take a bow at the conclusion of an afternoon performance last Friday at ArtSpring. The famed choir from Great Britain was a last minute addition to Sizzling Summer Nights, ArtSpring's sixth annual festival, which continues this week and runs right through August.
Photo by Derrick Lundy

Did you know?

BC's economic outlook is improving with Scotiabank raising its forecast GDP growth in 2004 to 3.0%, up from the 2.6% forecast in May.
(Scotiabank June 11, 2004)

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Second half of July as busy as first

The month of July is jam-packed with activities at ArtSpring.

Here's the line-up for the second half of the month.

- Catch Tabiji, a documentary film presentation set in 1942/43 during the time of Japanese internment at Hastings Park and in New Denver, B.C.

Produced and directed by Denise Calderwood. July 15, 7:30 p.m.

- Heart-stopping pulses, rhythmic sensitivity and the choreographed physicality of the martial arts combine to create an exhilarating experience that is as amazing to see as it is to hear.

Uzume Taiko dynamically fuses old and new styles, bringing a vibrant contemporary sensibility to the ancient art of Japanese drumming.

You will be charged with a high-voltage display of rhythm and movement. Friday, July 16, 8 p.m.

- Three days of exciting treasures and entertainment, this year's Island Treasure Fair will run July 15 - 17.

This is your chance to bid on all the fascinating treasures we've unearthed. The Silent Treasure Auction

WHAT'S ON AT ARTSPRING

opens on July 15.

Drop in Thursday, Friday and Saturday and join the excitement on Saturday at 7:15 pm when the closing bell decides who gets that great treasure.

- Saturday, July 17 will be action packed.

Circulate under the tents outside ArtSpring from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to find a treasure from the Community Swap Meet.

You'll be amazed at what you find! Fresh, tasty lunches for hungry treasure seekers can be found at the Pirates Picnic 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and street performers will entertain throughout the day.

Capping things off at 8 p.m. in the theatre will be the Grand Auction. Reserve your free tickets soon to get a chance to bid on many a treasure.

- Ranging from the large evocative canvases of Diana Dean to Susan Haigh's bright flowers to Karen Reiss' whimsical explorations in

ceramic, Pieces of Seven offers seven distinct points-of-view on art and artistic creation.

Also on display will be paintings by Sandra Harrison, Donna Hall and Peter Schnitzler and sculptures by Helen Ormiston Smith and Sandra Harrison.

One of the show's more unusual highlights will be a "mystery piece," a collaborative effort by members of the group to be unveiled for the first time at the exhibition opening.

Pieces of Seven can be viewed daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The exhibition opening will take place on Tuesday, July 20, from 7 to 9 pm.

- Discover "Elements of Nature," a Fibre Art Fashion Show July 24, 7 p.m.

Beautiful work from design students and fibre artists across Canada, in woven textiles, knitwear, felt techniques — and some creative surprises!

All these pieces contribute to the creation of what will be a truly spectacular show. Don't miss what promises to be an extravaganza of Canadian design.

- Inspired by the music of their native Chad, H'Sao incorporates gospel, soul and R&B in a mesmerizing performance that uses dance and a wide range of rhythms.

The children of two families who grew up together, the unity and the beauty of their combined voices are breathtaking. July 27, 8 p.m.

- Maza Mezé. Maza is Arabic. Mezé is Greek. Together these terms describe the delectable Eastern Mediterranean cuisine.

Think babaganoush, a plate of olives, and stuffed grape leaves drizzled with the greeny-gold fragrant oil.

This eclectic gathering of musicians adds to their varied musical menu exotic flavourings to serve up a tantalizing platter of tidbits and a feast of world music. Runs July 21, 8 p.m.

Call the box office at 537-2102 for tickets or further information or visit www.artspring.ca.

A sparkling start to your Sizzling Summer at Festival ArtSpring

ISLAND SAVINGS

Graffiti Theatre presents

BLITHE SPIRIT

A COMEDY BY NOËL COWARD DIRECTED BY BURTON LANCASTER

ArtSpring

July 8, 9, 10, 29, 30, 31 \$20 Box Office 537-2102
"Festival" pricing also available

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Driftwood

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SIZZLING SUMMER NIGHTS

**FESTIVAL ARTSPRING
JULY & AUGUST, 2004**

BLITHE SPIRIT

A comedy Noël Coward

Graffiti Theatre

Thurs-Sat, July 29, 30, 31 (8 pm)

Mischief, marriage and mediums mingle in this high-spirited fantasy.

VIVA! VENEZUELA WITH ELIANA

CUEVAS

Friday, August 6 (8 pm)

Breath-taking samba jazz and sexy, sultry salsa highlight an evening of irresistibly beautiful music.

(FAExtra: meet the musicians in a pre-concert chat about Latin rhythms at 6:50pm)

GEORGE BOWERING

Poet Laureate of Canada

Saturday, August 7 (8 pm)

A stimulating, witty and thought-provoking evening of readings. (FAExtra: meet the author)

STUTTGART CHAMBER CHOIR

Sunday, August 8 (8 pm)

A PORTRAIT IN JAZZ: BILL EVANS

Wednesday, August 11 (8 pm)

The Guy St-Onge Trio pays tribute to one of the towering, most influential figures in all of jazz history, pianist Bill Evans.

UZUME TAIKO

Friday, July 16 (8 pm)

(FAExtra: meet the musicians and discover their instruments at 6:50pm)

sold out!

HYPNOTIKA WITH

MAZA MEZÉ

Wednesday, July 21 (8 pm)

Feast on the sounds of Greece and Turkey in a tantalizing menu of world music.

(FAExtra: meet the musicians and discover their instruments at 6:50pm)

HADLEY J. CASTILLE & THE

SHARECROPPER BAND

Friday, August 13 (8 pm)

Direct from Louisiana—a musical gumbo of authentic Cajun music.

THE KILLER B'S

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Saturday, August 14 (8 pm)

Friday, August 20 (8 pm)

Two programs of evocative and unforgettable musical picture-painting featuring the music of Brahms, Britten, Bax, Boccherini and Mozart.

(FAExtra: pre-concert chats at 6:50pm)

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Island Treasure FAIR & AUCTIONS

OUR BIGGEST AND BEST YET!

Thursday, July 15

Silent Auction

Check out the treasures and cast your bids in the ArtSpring Galleries
10 am – 5 pm **ADMISSION FREE!**

Friday, July 16

Special Event: Uzume Taiko

8 pm — ArtSpring Theatre

Silent Auction continues

CAST YOUR BIDS in the ArtSpring Galleries
10 am – 5 pm, 7 – 10 pm **ADMISSION FREE!**

Saturday, July 17

Treasure Flea Market

under the tent on the ArtSpring Meadow
9 am – 3 pm **ADMISSION FREE!**

Silent Treasure Auction continues

WILL YOU LAND THE LOOT? Cast your bids in the ArtSpring Galleries
10 am to FINAL BIDS at 7:15 pm **ADMISSION FREE!**

Outdoor Picnic

FARE FOR HUNGRY TREASURE-SEEKERS Great lunches for sale in ArtSpring's Lobby, to eat on the patio provided by Oystercatcher Seafood Bar and Grill
11 am – 3 pm

Entertainers

ENJOY LIVE MUSIC ON THE FRONT PATIO
10 am – 3 pm **ADMISSION FREE!**

Live Auction

Prepare to do battle for spectacular treasures on the auction block!
8 p.m. ArtSpring Theatre **ADMISSION FREE!**

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Vineyard + dinner ♦ dinner and theatre in
Chemainus ♦ kayaking ♦ horseback
riding ♦ riding lessons ♦ golf (on Salt
Spring and at the Shaughnessy Golf Club
in Vancouver)

Sensational arts and crafts

baskets by Elna Gravelle and Donna
Cochrane ♦ wall hanging by Patricia
Gibson ♦ sculpture by Nicola Prinsen ♦
stoneware by Judy Weeden ♦ rug woven
by Victoria Olchowecki ♦ pottery by Gail
Coney ♦ Mexican black pottery urn ♦
Ruphi vase

Intriguing furnishings

small armoire ♦ bentwood rocker ♦
Muskoka chairs ♦ coffee table and end
tables ♦ cabinet ♦ chintz sofa ♦ drop-
front desk ♦ arrowback chair ♦ chest of
drawers ♦ captain's bed and dresser ♦
"back chair" ♦ metal bed frame ♦
Ethiopian carpet ♦ wool area rug ♦ mirror
♦ chandelier ♦ lamp

More great stuff for the home

appliances (sandwich toaster, bread
makers, espresso machine) ♦ ceramics ♦
limited edition plates ♦ wall plaques ♦
weaving loom ♦ chamber pot ♦
decorative frames ♦ two spinning wheels
♦ antique meat cooker ♦ pewter mugs ♦
lots of brass, sterling silver, and crystal
(some antique)

A selection of clothing and jewelry

"theatre jacket" ♦ his and hers kimonos ♦
women's cardigan ♦ hand-painted rain
boots ♦ Cowichan sweater ♦ evening
purses ♦ fleece pullover ♦ Thai silk jacket
+ top ♦ "I-Am-Canadian" man's top ♦
collection of T-shirts from Valdy ♦ baby gift
set ♦ Canucks hockey jersey ♦
ceremonial sari ♦ silk shawl ♦ silk dress
and jacket ♦ fabulous jewelry

Services galore

landscape consultation ♦ gardening
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hydrotherapy session ♦ haircuts ♦ dog
training lessons ♦ computer tune-up or
repair ♦ class in voice-overs for animation
♦ design and printing of business cards ♦
watercolour classes ♦ theatre workshops
for youth ♦ veterinary services

Sports'n'outdoor stuff

bicycle built for two ♦ inflatable boat ♦
small dinghy ♦ camp chairs ♦ sleeping
bags ♦ air mattress/bed ♦ tent ♦ fishing
rods and reels ♦ belly boat ♦ windsurfer
+ roof rack ♦ aluminum canoe ♦ gel-
padded bicycle seat ♦ autographed
Trevor Linden hockey puck ♦ folding bike
♦ pool table

Exercise equipment + classes

fitness classes ♦ weight training
equipment ♦ rowing machine ♦ exercise
bike ♦ Nordic Track treadmill ♦ Pilates
lessons ♦ membership at North End
Fitness

Other great stuff

Husqvarna chainsaw ♦ free-range turkey
♦ load of manure ♦ flower bouquets ♦
baby quilt ♦ a radio-controlled float plane
♦ radio-controlled Piper Cub ♦ the Rolls
Royce of corkscrews ♦ smoked salmon ♦
backpacks and luggage ♦ electric space
heater ♦ gourmet picnic basket ♦ model
roadster ♦ child's tea set ♦ computer
stuff (a computer, scanner, monitor) ♦
Bausch & Lomb spotting scope ♦ passes
for Sooke's Fine Arts Show ♦ two salmon
canners ♦ travel bar ♦ dog kennel ♦
worm castings ♦ toy xylophone ♦ plus gift
certificates for stores/coffee/restaurants

ISLANDERS in FOCUS

This week's Islanders in Focus highlights the opening of new works by artist Morley Myers. Patrons enjoyed a reception at the gallery Friday, July 9.

If your community group has a special event planned, call The Driftwood for coverage in Islanders in Focus.

ISLANDERS in FOCUS



Artist Morley Myers hosted the opening reception.



From left, painter Ron Crawford, artist and sculptor James Watt and patron Jamie Squier.



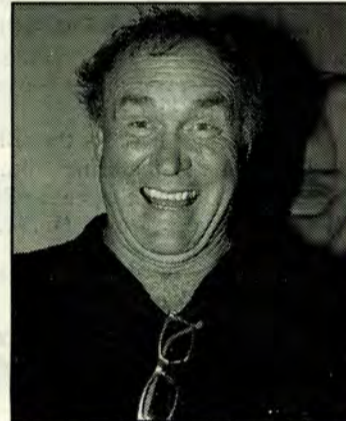
Dimensional artist Deborah Gainer enjoys the ambience.



Woodcarver Tom Volguardson and his wife Ruth view works on display.



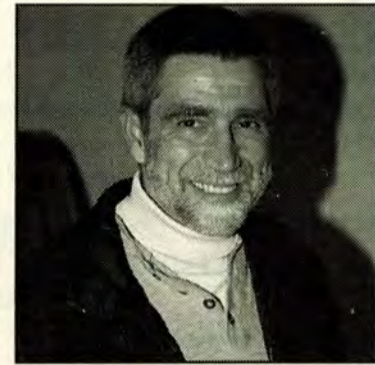
Sculptor Lynn Demers and her daughter Alli Hames drop in for a visit.



Artist Bill Rhodes, well-known for his eclectic chickens, was in attendance.



Susanne Dollheiser and Pirjo Raits view Myers' works.



Bob Mackay, a well known wood-turner from the island, smiles for the camera.



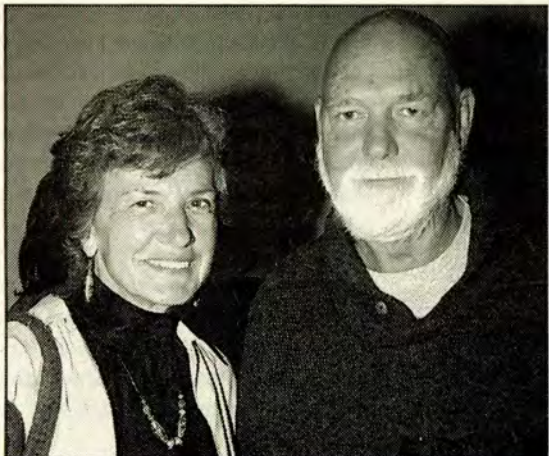
Painter Margie Korrison enjoys the reception.



Watercolor painter Judith Borbas and husband Robert were in the crowd for the Friday event.



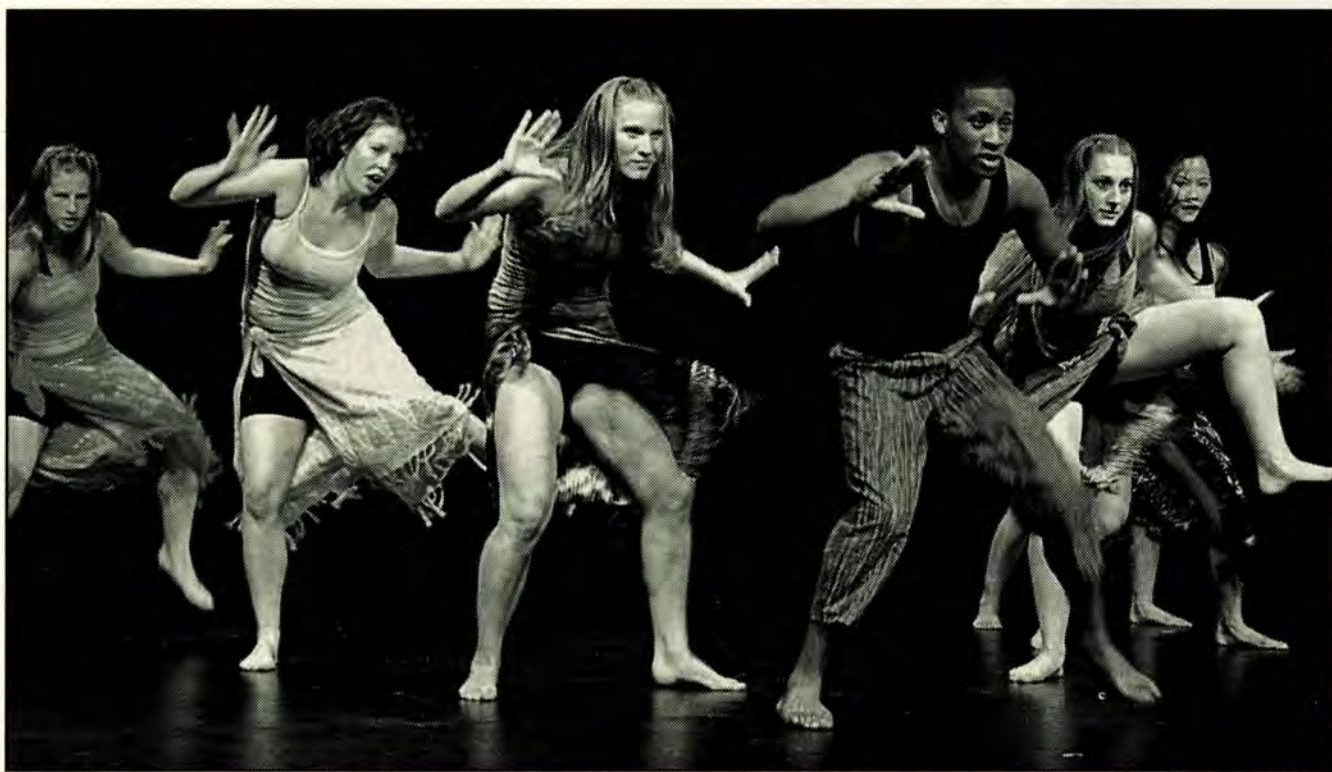
Michael and Leslie Colgan of the renowned Colgan Institute take a moment to enjoy this special evening.



Sculptor Bob Cooke along with his wife Judy were on hand for the Myers' event.



Musical artists Barb and Bruce Ruddell are well known islanders.



HOT STEPS: Members of the Impulse Dance troupe take the ArtSpring stage in a riveting performance held last Sunday as part of the annual Salt Spring Festival of the Arts. Photo by Derrick Lundy

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Salt Spring Girls CD released at Moby's

This Friday, Moby's Pub will serve as the launch pad for an exciting showcase featuring seven singer-songwriters from Salt Spring Island.

"Salt Spring Girls" is the title of a compilation CD featuring Julia Beattie, Sharon Bailey, Stephanie Rhodes, Rebecca Nygard, Stacy Burke, Sim-

one Lamers and Ora Cogan. The CD includes original works by the artists.

And they are taking to the road. Following Friday's show at Moby's, the tour stops at Vancouver's Railway Club on July 18, Mayne Island on July 22, Victoria's Namaste Café on July 30, and Saturna Island on August 5.

Stephanie Rhodes originally gathered the artists as a way to highlight Salt Spring's women in music.

An unexpected dynamic has risen through the collaboration, notes press material.

For information call Stephanie at 537-1657 or Ora at 653-4563.

Flower Festival with M&M

The Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island is hosting its second annual Flower Festival, which will embrace next week's Music and Munch program as part of a two-day event.

Supported by several local businesses last year, parishioners and visitors alike are hoping to experience again the island's community spirit and love of gardens.

On Tuesday, July 20, visitors to All Saints-by-the-Sea will be treated to a feast for the eyes. Parishioners will use their green fingers and creative flair to provide a cool and tranquil haven for islanders and friends to enjoy.

The church will be open in the afternoon with the indoor garden on display. Tea will be served in the hall overlooking Ganges harbour.

On Wednesday, July 21, Music and Munch will take place in the church, which will provide the backdrop for a program of music, song

and dance called, "In a Sunny Salt Spring Garden."

Musicians, singers and dancers will interpret the beauty of summer in the garden.

Organist Barry Valentine and a small band of talented award-winning young musicians will get together not only to provide accompaniment but also musical interludes. Brothers Robert, Geoffrey and Bradley Cronin on French horn, trombone and trumpet are joined by Daniel Millerd, trombone, and Sarah Weston, violin, to play renditions of catchy tunes and music of a more pensive nature.

Valentine has played as both a soloist and accompanist at Music and Munch many times in the past nine years.

Singers Connie Holmes, Anke Smeele, and Alan Robertson are perhaps best known as members of Salt Spring Singers as well as

Music and Munch's treasured Vocal Quartet. Soprano Janette Grey has appeared as a soloist in many recitals and has taken part in several island choirs. Singer/dancers Gale Hingston and Lottie Devindisch have contributed to Music and Munch and to Anglican worship in the form of liturgical dance for over 10 years.

To add to the talent on Wednesday are family members Robin and Daniel Millerd accompanied by their mother pianist Jennifer Howard.

The Flower Festival opens its doors Tuesday 1 to 4 p.m. and on Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Entrance is by donation and visitors have the opportunity to win floral door prizes.

Wednesday's event includes the Music and Munch recital, which begins at 12:10 p.m., followed by an optional lunch for \$5.50. Tickets for door prizes will be drawn after lunch.

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JULY 2004

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Barry Livingston Fri. 23 / All Saints

The Pucks July 23-24 / Moby's

Pierre Schryer Sun. 25 / All Saints

H'Sao Tues. 27 / ArtSpring

Filippo Gambetta Thurs. 29 / Lions Hall

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Festival Info: 537-4167 www.saltspringfestival.ca

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The Living Word

John 15:13

Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friend."

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JOHN 10:11, ROM 5:7&8

RANTS & ROSES

RANTS

Rants to the thief who stole my red fire emergency water container from the end of Trincomali heights. N. Braithwaite

Rants to the owner of the tiny terrier taken to Farenheit 9/11 terrorized by thunderous war sounds! Frequent tender kisses on trembling head cannot dispel trauma endured. D. Parsons

ROSES

A huge bunch of roses (or lavender) to all the volunteers, musicians, artists, vendors and suppliers who worked so hard to make the Salt Spring Lavender Festival such a resounding success. Thank you all and we look forward to next year. Alan Mayfield and the team at Saltspring Lavender.

Bouquets of roses to Thrifty Foods, Salt Spring Spa, and Dave for the wonderful gift package I won for Mother's Day. It was wonderful to be pampered. CF

Roses to the kind couple who found my camera on a bench on the boardwalk. They took it to the Jill Louise Campbell Gallery, leaving a note on the bench saying the owner could claim it there. I went back to where I had left it, found the note

and claimed my camera. As a visitor, I find this kind deed by both the couple and the gallery leaves me with a warm feeling for the people of Salt Spring Island.

Ferbie and Tully would love to thank all the generous people of Salt Spring that donated money for our veterinary care, and to the wonderful vets Dave and Sasha for taking great care of us. We're both doing great. SPCA

A garland of roses to the organizers of the Antique Car Show and to the entertainers. It was a perfect day. CF.

A bunch of roses to the "straight" community who embraced and befriended me, as an unpartnered gay person, unlike — well — others!

A shower of scented petals to all the nimble fingered divas who have descended upon our garden jungle and weeded their way into our hearts — yet again. With love and deep appreciation, Mark and Robert

Open wide, this won't hurt a bit

All this fuss about sleeping together. For physical pleasure I'd sooner go to my dentist any day.

WIT & WHIMSY
WITH ARTHUR BLACK



— Evelyn Waugh
I'm not a vengeful man, but I wouldn't mind running into Doctor Goldfarb in a dark alley some evening — preferably with a pair of heavy-duty Vice Grips in my mitt.

Goldfarb was my dentist back when I was a kid. Correction: he was my Yanker. "Extractionist" is the term I believe he used. Doctor Goldfarb did not straighten, brace, bridge, drill or fill his customers' teeth, he just pulled them out.

It was a dentally unenlightened era to say the least, and I came from a relatively large family living on a relatively small weekly paycheque. Hence, there was no mollycoddling of cavities. Got a toothache? We know how to deal with that, my lad. Plenty more where that came from (well, a couple of dozen, anyway). Open wide. Hold on. There. Keep that wadding in your mouth until the bleeding stops. Next.

Doctor Goldfarb had the forearms of a longshoreman and the compassion of a Nazi. He instilled in me a mortal fear of reclining chairs, white coats and anyone operating metal paraphernalia anywhere close to my mouth. For a time I couldn't even bear the thought of my own dinner fork touching (what was left of) my teeth.

And for about 20 years, I never arrived for a dental appointment without being snookered to the eyeballs with valium, painkillers or at least three and possibly six fingers of Crown Royal. I'm okay with dentists now. I go to my appointments unself-medicated and clear of eye. Dentists don't scare me anymore.

But it's not me that's changed; dentistry has. Consider a Montreal-based business called Galerie Dental — Canada's first combination dental clinic and . . . art gallery.

Galerie Dental is the brainchild of two Montrealers, Jean Fortin and Marc Raper. Monsieur Raper is a dental surgeon; Monsieur Fortin, a general dentist. They've banded together to

take the terror out of dentistry. Accordingly, you find no hard-backed chair circling a coffee table piled with furry-paged, 12-year-old copies of Macleans and Reader's Digest in the Galerie Dental waiting room.

Instead there are comfortable couches and plump armchairs. For diversion there are glossy art books scattered about and canvases of Quebec artists hanging on the walls.

Soft classical music oozes from the sound system. For the more culturally downscaled, there's a flat-screen TV showing movies (but not Marathon Man). M. Fortin says the idea was to offer "a peaceful feeling not like a dentist office, not institutional."

Why the artwork on the walls?

"It gives you another reason to go to the dentist," says one patient. "You get there early to look at the art. It's very, very peaceful place."

And for die-hard dental phobes, a relaxing treatment awaits even after their chime is up — a massage administered by a registered masseuse who also works out of the gallery.

Classical music . . . art exhibits . . . a massage . . . Doctor Goldfarb, are you listening?

And then there's HealOzone.

This device is a German invention only now showing up in select dental clinics across Canada. You know that part of the dental chair where the dentist cranks back in the chair, fixes Cyclopean hi-beam full your face and fires up a drill that sounds like a setto chain saw?

Well, forget it. With HealOzone you get a silicone cap snugged over your affected tooth, then a few painless squirts of oxygen gas pumped into it. The kills cavity-causing bacteria after which the tooth "remineralized" naturally. Proponents claim that HealOzone a dentist does per cent less drilling. All cavities require no anes at all.

Does it cost more? No, it does not. Delsey COURSE it costs more money has never been an issue with dental work avoidance is the point of my wallet, wife and born Doc, just don't me.

Of course there's an alternative way to handle Dental Experience. Mavis has no problem with her dentist. When she sits in the dentist chair she simply relaxes, waits 'til the dentist to open wide and the dental probe is a gentle enter her buccal cavity reaches her right hand grasps the dentist in other circumstances' be considered an intimate embrace at mums, "Now we're not to hurt each other, at

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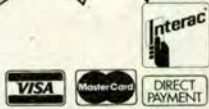
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SHELBY POOL FUN: A Hallowe'en theme hit Shelby Pool last Saturday, but most pool-goers seemed happy to just be in the water. Photo by Derrick Lundy

Open water meet this Sunday

Over 100 swimmers from around Vancouver Island will join members of the local Stingrays swim club for a first-ever region-wide swimming competition on Salt Spring this Sunday.

The Salt Spring Open Water Swim Meet will take place at two venues, with novice swimmers and those age nine and under competing "exhibition" events at Shelby Pool, and older athletes participating in open water races at St. Mary Lake.

The meet will be centred at Portlock Park, with lake swimmers shuttled in heats to the lake's public access on North End Road to start the races, and then driven back to the park from the Tripp Road finish line.

Organizers expect the one-kilometre course will take swimmers between 15 and 35 minutes to complete.

Younger swimmers will compete in four events at Shelby Pool, swimming freestyle, backstroke, fly and breaststroke.

Spectating at both venues will be limited, and public access to both beaches on St. Mary Lake will be restricted. The meet is expected to run from 11 a.m. to 3 or 4 p.m.

Organizer Jim Raddysh is excited about the meet, which he says has generated a fair bit of interest around the Vancouver Island summer swimming region.

"A lot of clubs are coming to see why Stingray swimmers swim as well as they do, (training) in this pool that everyone has heard about."

He added that athletes competing at Shelby Pool will face challenges they have never experienced before.

Instead of diving off blocks, they will start their races standing in the water; there will be no line to follow on the bottom of the pool; the lanes ropes do not stay flush with the water, but rise up at each end of the pool; and the design of the pool creates an unusual wave motion once a race is underway.

"The teams coming to swim in our pool will be challenged in the opposite way our swimmers are challenged when they compete elsewhere."

Swim teams from around Vancouver Island will set up tents at Portlock Park, where there will be a concession and silent auction.

All races will be exhibition only, and times achieved will not count according to B.C. Summer Swimming Association regulations. (Salt Spring cannot host a "sanctioned" swim meet because Shelby Pool does not meet the 25-metre length standard, and is not deep enough for diving.)

Organizers say this has limited participation somewhat — some Vancouver Island swim meets host up

to 500 swimmers — but the club hopes the open water component of the meet can be built upon in the future.

Sunday's meet marks the first time the swim club has held a region-wide competition on the island.

During the open water races on St. Mary Lake, swimmers will be accompanied by a flotilla of six canoes and several windsurfers, each holding lifeguards or recently-trained Tri-Star swimmers.

Members of the public are welcome to view the races from other non-motor-powered vessels.

Raddysh said six members of the masters swim club swam the course last Sunday, taking about 20 minutes to complete it.

Motor finish as sail event ends

Unable to meet the final deadline, islanders aboard White Cloud opted to motor the last stretch of the Victoria-Maui Race and arrived in Lahina Monday.

Plagued with light wind and torn sails after sailing some 3,700 kilometres over 16 days, the crew aboard White Cloud voted to motor the last 500 kilometres of the race on July 9 when it appeared they would not meet the final deadline, said Lorraine Morton, who spoke for the crew from Salt Spring.

"After so much work, to consider turning on the motor was an extremely difficult decision," she said.

A few islanders had gone to Hawaii to meet White Cloud crew members: Kelly Graves, Nelson Hill (of Sidney), Derek Hill, Tony Meek, Art Munneke, Rick Wallace, and Trevor Wilson.

"With family waiting already in Hawaii, they decided on taking a vote. With one exception, the youngest member of the crew, they were unanimous in deciding to turn on the motor. It was an emotional moment for all of them."

White Cloud arrived in Lahina on noon July 10, just six hours after the race closed.

"As a tribute to the crew and captain, Betsy [wife of Derek Hill]; Derek's niece, Chelsea, and her husband Francesco met White Cloud on a jet ski with leis for Derek and the crew," Morton said.

Four out of 19 boats in the race were not able to complete the 4,300-kilometre course before an extended deadline.

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Swimmers nab personal bests

Twenty-four swimmers swam a total of 53 personal best times (BTs) as more than 30 Salt Spring Stingrays competed at a meet hosted by the Juan de Fuca Royals at the Commonwealth Pool in Victoria last weekend.

The red-suited Salt Spring team also picked up numerous top-eight finishes, flooded the top breast-stroke spots, and saw four of its novice swimmers move up to timed 50-metre events.

Swimmers could compete in up to six events in this timed-finals meet, where the top-eight in each age-division were awarded ribbons.

Swimming to five BTs each were: Rebekah Lee, Sierra Lundy, Mack Rankin, James Cameron and Brendan Nickerson. Arlo Bryn-Thorn achieved four personal bests.

Lundy took first place in all six of her events, while Nickerson took five firsts and

a second. Miranda Logan-Webb, swimming only one day of the meet, took a first, second and third, and Nicola Temmel won three seconds and a fourth.

In a breaststroke sweep, eight swimmers — Connor Budd, Eryn Gix, Lundy, Liam Budd, Danica Lundy, Cameron, Victoria Budd and Logan-Webb — took top three placements in their events, while Grace Morgan, Tilly Morgan and Amy Zacharias also placed in the top six breaststroke spots.

Moving from novice events to compete in their first 50-metre races were Chloe Logan, Amelia Milner, Maggie Birch and Luke Hylands.

Top-eight placements and BTs at the Juan de Fuca meet were as follows:

Div. 1: Larissa Lee, 2 BTs; Zoe Hasenfrantz, 1 BT; Karissa Andrews, 2 BTs; Conor Budd, 3rd, 6th, 1 BT.

Div. 2: Eryn Gix, 2nd, two 6ths, 8th, 3 BTs; Kayla Jones, 1 BT.

Div. 3: Rebekah Lee, 6th, 7th, 5 BTs; Emily Gix, 2 BTs; Sierra Lundy, six 1sts, 5 BTs; Grace Morgan, three 4ths, two 7ths, 2 BTs; Tilly Morgan, 6th, 3 BTs; Arlo Bryn-Thorn, 7th, 8th, 4 BTs; Liam Budd, 3rd, 2 BTs; Mack Rankin, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 5 BTs.

Div. 4: Nina Fletcher, 6th, 8th, 1 BT; Jess Harkema, 3 BTs; Rebecca Hylands, 2 BTs; Danica Lundy, 3rd, four 4ths, 6th, 2BTs; Olivia Morgan, 2 BTs; James Cameron, 3rd, two 5ths, 6th, two 7ths; 5 BTs.

Div. 5: Victoria Budd, 3rd, 6th, 2 BTs; Amy Zacharias, 4th, 3 BTs; Brendan Nickerson, five 1sts, 2nd, 5 BTs.

Div. 6: Miranda Logan-Webb, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 1 BT; Noah McColl, 6th, 8th.

Div. 7: Nicola Temmel: three 2nds, 4th.



TENNIS ACTION: White clothing — some in period costumes — was mandatory for the Salt Spring Tennis Association's annual Wimbledon Cup and Saucer Tennis Tournament held last weekend at Portlock Park. Seen here, clockwise from top left, are: Ineke Vanhasselt, Arona Henderson, and Anne Stewart. Photos by Derrick Lundy

Tennis winners at Wimbledon

The Salt Spring Tennis Association had fun on Saturday at their annual Wimbledon Cup and Saucer Tennis Tournament.

"We were extremely lucky because of the weather," said tournament director Carol Wright.

Partners were assigned to each other at the mixed doubles event, which was played with wooden rackets.

"The wooden rackets are so much smaller, so it made for some interesting shots," Wright said.

White clothing was mandatory for the event, and some players even dressed in period costumes.

"One woman was wearing a shocking pink wig that attracted a lot of wasps flying around her head," said Wright.

Bob Weeden and Arona Henderson were the winning team, and Jeremy Winter and Ina Curran were finalists.

Henderson also took the prize for best dressed.

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4/5.00 Coke 2L btl	1.58 Pringles 163g tube	2/4.00 McVitie's Digestives 100's 250g pkg	Fry's Cocoa 250g tin 2.99	1.09 Shredded Cheddar 520g box	3.08 QUAKER OATS	1.77 Supreme Brownies
1.49 Mango Moments 440g pkg	2.88 Cherie Amaretto Original or Banana 25-350g box	1.99 Dana Bristle All varieties 200-450g box	Picnic Relish 375mL jar 1.08	2.49 Carriage Trade "Salsad Dressing" "Mayonnaise" 350mL jar	1.98 Real cream	2.99 SunSweet Pruned Prunes 680g tub
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Williams rows for Olympics

Salt Spring's Barney Williams is bound for Athens for a shot at Olympic gold in men's rowing.

Williams was named to the Canadian team by Rowing Canada on Friday.

His team won a silver medal in Switzerland during the World Cup last month.

William's wife Buffy will also row in the Olympics on Canada's women's-eight team and in the women's pair event. She won a bronze medal in the eights plus cox during the 2000 Sidney Olympics.

The Athens Olympic summer games are set to begin August 13.

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SWINGING IN THE RAIN: Mary Lou Bompas holds an umbrella for Deb Hamilton as she takes a shot in the rain at Saturday's Lady Minto Hospital Foundation Hewitson Memorial golf tourney. *Photo by Derrick Lundy*

Islanders support Minto fundraiser

Saturday's 13th annual Lady Minto Hospital Foundation "Hewitson Memorial" golf tournament and dinner was a hit, as 87 golfers teed off at the Salt Spring Golf and Country Club to support a good cause.

"It was fabulous," said Sharon Bond of the Hospital Foundation. "It was very successful. I would say it raised roughly \$10,000."

Golfers were in good spirits, adapting easily to the weekend's changeable weather.

"We had rain, we had sunshine, we had it all. It was all for a good cause, so people were happy and bright," said Bond.

The afternoon game was followed by a steak or salmon buffet dinner at the onsite restaurant.

The event received fabulous community support from both golfers and sponsors, said Bond.

"We had outstanding support from the community. The event was co-sponsored by Mouat's Trading Company, and many other local businesses donated a great array of prizes."

While the focus was on fun rather than competition, some of the day's noteworthy golfers include Karen Davies, who won ladies' long drive.

Denise Heaton took ladies closest to the pin (KP). Of the men, Vasu Drobyshev won longest drive and John Goring was the KP winner.

All funds raised by the yearly event go towards the purchase of new hospital equipment.

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Golfers hit the Ganges greens

At the July 8 Medal Play event, Lee Hurd and Bob Marshall won first net with a score of 65. Reg Winstone and Bruce Kirwin tied for third, scoring net 67.

Gundy McLeod took first gross with 78, followed by Carlo Rista with gross 80.

In the high handicap division 19 and over, Bob Marshall won closest to the pin (KP) #2 and #11. Ralph Quick won KP #6 and #15.

In the low handicap division 0 to 18, Carlo Rista won KP #2 and #11, while Tim McBride won for #6 and #15.

In other golf news: • Players at the July 7 Texas Scramble event enjoyed a beautiful day.

There was a four-way tie for low net between Shelagh Tulloch, Margaret Lowther, Susan Russell and Verity McKenzie, each scoring 27.2.

GOLF TEES

Isobel Heffernan was the day's chip-in winner.

• On July 6, the 18-hole ladies league participated in a nine-holes only medal play event.

Grace Murchie won low

gross with a score of 50, followed by Marlene Rista with 51.

Low net winner was Irene Hawksworth with a score of 36, and runner-up Kathy Darling trailed close behind with 36.5.

Mona Coulter was the KP winner, and Irene Hawksworth won putt pot with a score of 12.

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The Islands marketplace
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HOT SHEET

How things have changed in the Gulf Islands over the years:

Stats are for sales of single family dwellings only, including waterfront properties.

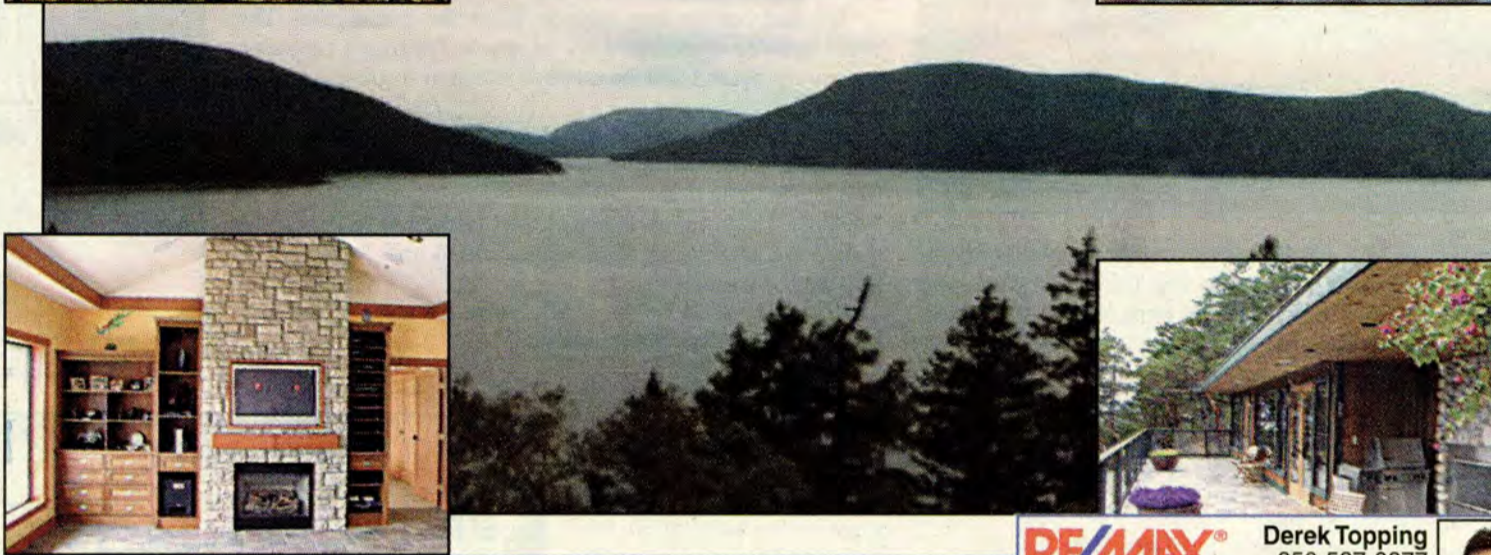
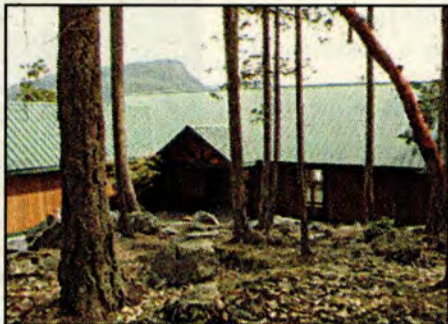
YEAR	# OF SALES	TOTAL VOLUME OF SALES	AVG SALE PRICE
2003	268	\$93,947,390	\$350,550
2002	229	\$68,040,275	\$297,119
2001	200	\$55,402,453	\$277,012
2000	168	\$50,534,353	\$300,800
1999	150	\$38,532,729	\$256,885
1998	131	\$35,188,334	\$268,613
1997	136	\$29,297,382	\$215,422
1996	105	\$26,134,774	\$248,903
1995	93	\$22,839,122	\$245,582
1994	122	\$29,310,353	\$240,248
1993	201	\$45,744,182	\$227,583
1992	173	\$30,860,650	\$178,385
1991	194	\$32,243,850	\$166,205

Please note that the average price is affected due to the inclusion of waterfront properties. Also, there are a number of sales in each year that are not listed on the MLS System. Stats received from the Victoria Real Estate Board.

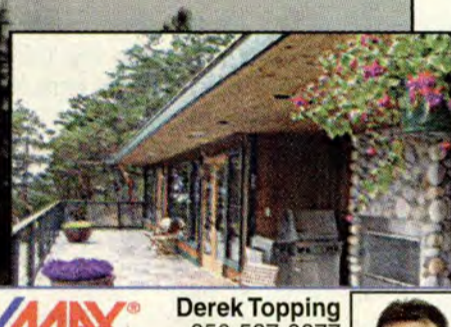
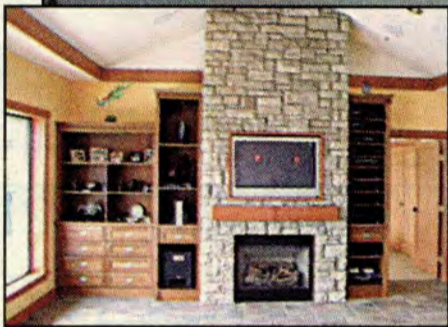


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room. This home was meant to entertain with its cobblestone slate floors that extend from the living area onto large covered decks that boast an exterior fireplace, hot tub, sauna, and gorgeous sunset views. Designed by local architect Neil Morie and built by Robert Huser, the home is west coast contemporary in design and has many intimate and luxurious features. The property is 1.46 acres of west

facing waterfront and includes a private access road to the beach front where there is a small boat launch. Truly a one of a kind Salt Spring residence where no expense has been spared in the design and finishing of this home. Quality construction combined with exceptional architecture and great location make this a waterfront home that stands in a class of its own.

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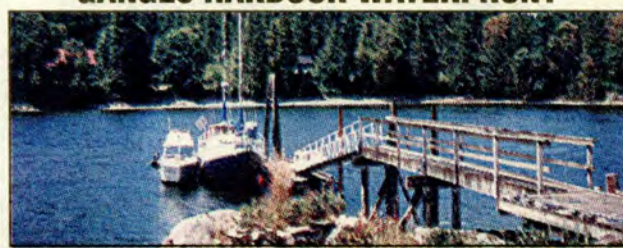
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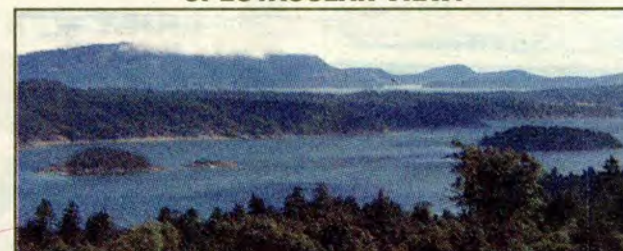
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